



Mesa Pipeline may be shut down

Refinery OK, Morris says, but producers and royalty owners could suffer

"This could drive down the price of oil in West Texas and have an adverse influence on the communities as well, impacting all of the taxing entities, including the schools."



Jeff Morris

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A proposed shutdown of the Mesa Pipeline system — the prime source of crude oil for the Big Spring Refinery — could have a serious impact on local producers and royal-

ty owners throughout West Texas, according to Alon USA CEO Jeff Morris.

Alon USA Energy Inc. announced Monday that it has received notice from Plains Pipeline, L.P. and another owner of the Mesa Pipeline System

that a dispute has arisen that could possibly shut the pipeline down. The Mesa Pipeline System currently supplies more than 90 percent of the crude oil refined by the Big Spring Refinery.

And while at first glance the shutdown may

seem like a heavy blow to the refinery, Morris said that's not where his concern lies.

"This won't have much of an impact on the Big Spring Refinery at all. In fact, it's more like a

See **MESA**, page 3A

Board asks AG for more control over textbooks

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Board of Education members aligned with social conservatives have asked the state attorney general to strike down restrictions on their power to review and reject the content of public school textbooks.

The request was initiated by Republican Terri Leo of Spring, one of five board members aligned with social conservatives and a major critic of the 1996 legal opinion that has limited board control over textbook content.

Leo requested the opinion with the approval of board chairwoman Geraldine Miller.

The ruling from Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott will be closely watched because of Texas' influence in the textbook industry. Many books are tailored to the state's wishes and then marketed in other states.

Battles over content could touch on the teaching of evolution, what students are told about birth control and sexual abstinence, and interpretations of history.

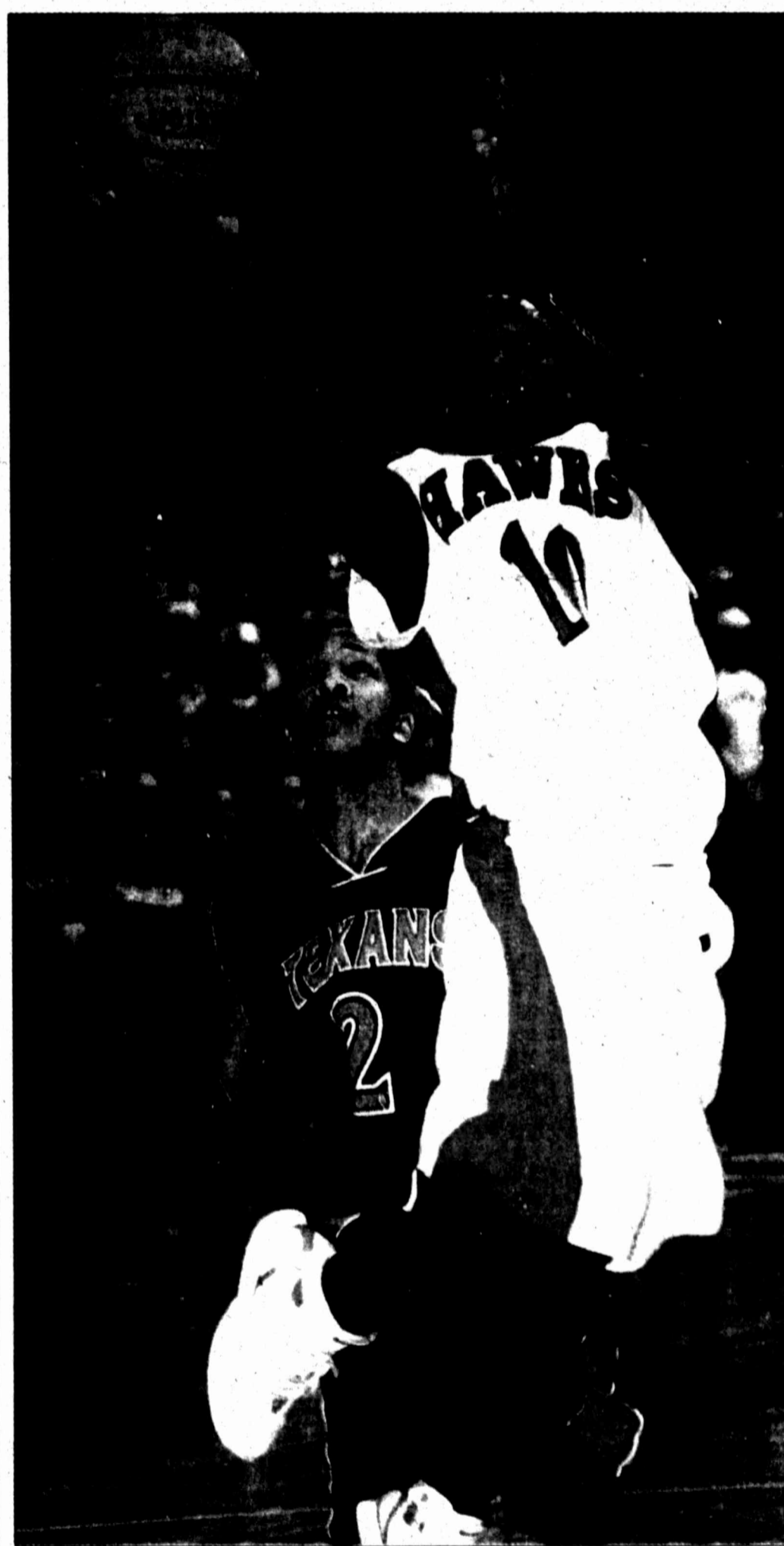
Leo's request for a new opinion argued that the original one issued by former Attorney General Dan Morales was "erroneous on its face" and should be reversed, restoring full board authority over textbook selection.

The letter did not mention that the Legislature has repeatedly rejected bills over the past decade that would have given the board more control to screening and reject textbooks it might deem inappropriate for students.

Former state Sen. Bill Ratliff, who wrote the 1995 law that stripped the board of many of its pow-

See **BOOKS**, page 3A

21 WINS AND COUNTING



Howard College freshman Benny Valentine scores two of his 19 points during action at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday. The No. 1-ranked Hawks defeated South Plains, 81-65. They improved to 21-0 on the season and are 5-0 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. See story, Page 1B.

Senate OKs Alito as 110th Court justice

By **JESSE J. HOLLAND**

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

Samuel Anthony Alito Jr. became the nation's 110th Supreme Court justice on Tuesday, confirmed with the most partisan victory in modern history after a fierce battle over the future direction of the high court.

The Senate voted 58-42 to confirm Alito — a former federal appellate judge, U.S. attorney, and conservative lawyer for the Reagan administration from New Jersey — as the replacement for retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who has been a moderate swing vote on the court.

All but one of the Senate's majority Republicans voted for his confirmation, while all but four of the Democrats voted against Alito.

That is the smallest



Samuel Alito Jr.

number of senators in the president's opposing party to support a Supreme Court justice in modern history. Chief Justice John Roberts got 22 Democratic votes last year, and Justice Clarence Thomas — who

See **ALITO**, page 3A

Several spots remain for workplace seminar

Herald Staff Report

There are still seats available for Friday's seminar, "Activating Professional Performance in the Workplace," to be held in the Cactus Room at the Howard College Student Union Building.

Business trainer and professional speaker Patrick H. McGaughey will provide the seminar from 7:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. McGaughey will also be speaking at Thursday's Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet. Tickets for the banquet are no longer available, but some remain for Friday's seminar.

Among the topics McGaughey will be discussing Friday morning

are:

- How to set yourself up for success.
- How to improve personal performance.
- How to make the customer feel like No. 1.
- How to improve communication skills.
- How to have success with difficult people.
- How to build an ownership attitude in the workplace.

Local business owners, managers and supervisors can register by calling the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce office.

Admission for the seminar will be \$39 per person or \$289 for a reserved table for eight.

To register, call 263-7641.

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Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King, dies

By **ERRIN HAINES**

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Coretta Scott King, who turned a life shattered by her husband's assassination into one devoted to enshrining his legacy of human rights and equality, has died. She was 78.

Flags at the King Center were lowered to half-staff Tuesday morning.

"We appreciate the prayers and condolences from people across the country," the King

family said in a statement. The family said she died overnight, but did not say where she died. She suffered a serious stroke and heart attack in 2005.

"It's a bleak morning for me and for many people and yet it's a great morning because we have a chance to look at her and see what she did and who she was," the poet Maya Angelou said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

"It's bleak because I can't — many of us can't hear her

sweet voice but it's great because she did live, and she was ours. I mean African-Americans and white Americans and Asians, Spanish-speaking — she belonged to us and that's a great thing."

Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young, the civil rights activist who is close to the King family, broke the news on NBC's "Today" show: "I understand that she



Coretta Scott King

See **KING**, page 3A

Obituaries

Laura Yvonne Scherer



Laura Yvonne Scherer, 81, died at 11:10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, 2006, in Farmington, N.M. following a long illness. Memorial services are 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Dennis Teeters, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born Feb. 24, 1924, in Goldthwaite to Winnie and W.O. Miller. Her family owned Miller's Pig Stand for many years. She grew up in Big Spring. She spent most of her life in Homestead, Fla., while her husband, Paul N. Scherer, was in the Air Force. She returned to Big Spring in 1990. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one daughter, Mayvonne Womack of Farmington, N.M.; one sister, Naoma Coleman of Big Spring; one grandson; two great-grandchildren; and one niece.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting, 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group meets at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. The next meeting is Feb. 6. For more information, call 398-5522.

Around Town

• **BEAUTY IN BIG SPRING AT THE HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is set for 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday. The new exhibit features barber, shoe shine and hair demonstrations at the opening, along with spa techniques from Uptown Salon and Day Spa. Register to win a full spa giveaway. The exhibit will be on display through April 16. Heritage Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

• **POTTON HOUSE**, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Take Note

• **A BLOOD DRIVE IS SCHEDULED AT MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Feb. 17 AT 2009 Virginia Ave. To sign up for the blood drive, call Jessica Paredes, director of marketing and admissions for Mountain View Lodge, at 263-1271.

• **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY PRESENTS "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOZART"** at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 senior citizens and \$5 for students and may be purchased at the door. For more information, visit www.BigSpringSymphony.com or e-mail BSSA@bigspringssymphony.com or telephone (432) 264-7223.

• **VALENTINE'S DAY CAKES** available from the Relay For Life Yellow Dog Dare Devils team. Delivery available. Eight-inch cakes are \$5 and 5-inch cakes are \$3.50. Call Angel Sosa at 264-4108 or Georgia Torres at 267-1312.

• **FOURTH ANNUAL RELAY FOR LIFE RASCAL RAZZMATAZZ** applications being accepted through Feb. 13. The event is 10 a.m. Feb. 18 in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

• **AARP TAX PREPARATION** will be available at the Senior Center every Monday from 8 a.m. until noon. The AARP program will wrap-up for the year April 10. Electronic filing will be available. For more information on the program, contact Gloria Hopkins at 267-6733.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES** to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1999 for recipe forms.

• **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

• **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Monday and 8 a.m. today:

- **REBECCA GARZA**, 27, of Pampa, was arrested Monday on eight local warrants.
- **DEBRA SHAEFFER**, 37, of 209 E. Eighth Street, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RAY CARL MCGEE SR.**, 50, of 809 Ohio, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **MANUEL LOZANO**, 33, of 2504 Chanute, was arrested Monday on a charge of no driver's license.
- **SONIA MORIN**, 21, of 805 Lorilla, was arrested Monday on a local capias warrant.
- **MICHAEL HARBERT**, 22, of 802.5 S. Nolan, was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.
- **JEROME MITCHELL**, 24, of 1213 Ridgeroad, was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.
- **SONYA BIDDLE**, 36, of 5203 Sterling, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

- **BONNIE RICO ANDERS**, 50, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of interfering with public duties.
- **MELVETT GENE FORD**, 49, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for terroristic threats on a family or household and resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- **JOSEPH EDWARD OLVERA**, 19, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for a motion to revoke probation for consumption of alcohol by a minor - third or more offense and a capias warrant for consumption of alcohol by a minor - third or more offense.
- **RICHARD EARL VANNORDEN**, 50, was arrested Monday by DPS on a bond forfeiture for driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **DAVID ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 19, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for evading arrest or detention.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Longshore and Ranch Road 33.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Longshore and Ranch Road 33. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of East 17th Street. Service was refused.

• **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

• **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• **CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH** is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.

• **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

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Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 1

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. South winds 15 to 20 mph shifting to the west 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the lower 60s.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 13-18-22-27-36.

Number matching five of five: none.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

...

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-14-18-25. Bonus Ball: 35.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$625,000.

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The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-9-5

BIG SPRING HERALD

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MESA

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minor nuisance to us," said Morris. "We have analyzed all our options for alternative crude supplies and we are confident that our sources will provide us our crude oil requirements should this shutdown occur.

"However, we are concerned that this proposed action will have a negative influence on local crude producers and royalty owners in the Permian Basin by reducing transportation alternatives for crude oils from Midland to Cushing, Okla.

This could drive down the price of oil in West Texas and have an adverse influence on the communities as well, impacting all of the taxing entities, including the schools. It could transfer value directly from the local crude producers and royalty owners in the region to the pipeline operators who are encouraging the shutdown of the Mesa System."

According to the notices, Plains and another owner of the Mesa Pipeline System support discontinuing the operation of the Mesa System effective July 1, while the third owner does not support closing the system, believing it is economically viable.

Although Plains and one of the other owners of the Mesa System have offered alternatives to supply crude oil to the Big Spring Refinery, Morris said because of the dispute, Alon has immediately begun to implement contingency plans to secure independent sources for its crude oil requirements.

Part of that plan is to have Alon's own Amdel Pipeline System — which is currently idle — up and running by June 1, a decision that was previously planned as part of the company's 2006 business plan. The Amdel Pipeline is a bi-directional, common carrier pipeline capable of delivering crude oil from Nederland to Midland.

"We would much rather buy our crude oil directly from the Mesa Pipeline System," said Morris. "However, we're prepared to utilize the oil producers in the West Texas area and use the Amdel Pipeline system if that's not available."

As for the dispute between the three companies that own interest in the pipeline, Morris said it's difficult to predict the future.

"It's really hard to tell right now," said Morris. "This is a commercial dispute and we can't get involved. We will, however, meet with the Texas Railroad Commissioners and the Attorney General about this and ask them to take the con-

cerns of the producers and royalty owners into considerations.

"There are thousands of people in West Texas that are getting small royalty checks from crude oil production. This shutdown would impact them the hardest, and is certainly not in their best interests."

Morris said he encourages those who could be touched by the closure of the pipeline to contact their elected officials.

"They need to express to them that this isn't what's best for them," said Morris.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

ALITO

Continued from page 1A

was confirmed in 1991 on a 52-48 vote — got 11 Democratic votes.

Alito watched the final vote from the White House's Roosevelt Room with his family. He was to be sworn in by Roberts at the Supreme Court in a private ceremony later in the day, in plenty of time for him to appear with President Bush at the State of the Union speech Tuesday evening.

Alito will be ceremonially sworn in a second time at a White House East Room appearance on Wednesday.

With the confirmation vote, O'Connor's resignation became official. She resigned in July but agreed to remain until her successor was confirmed. She was in

Arizona Tuesday teaching a class at the University of Arizona law school.

Underscoring the rarity of a Supreme Court justice confirmation, senators answered the roll by standing one by one at their desks as their names were called, instead of voting and leaving the chamber. Alito and Roberts are the first two new members of the Supreme Court since 1994.

Alito is a longtime federal appeals judge, having been confirmed by the Senate by unanimous consent on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia on April 27, 1990. Before that, he worked as New Jersey's U.S. attorney and as a lawyer in the Justice Department for the conservative Reagan administration.

It was his Reagan-era work that caused the most controversy during

his three-month candidacy for the high court.

Alito replaces O'Connor, the court's first female justice and a key moderate swing vote on issues like assisted suicide, campaign finance law, the death penalty, affirmative action and abortion.

Critics who mounted a fierce campaign against his nomination noted that while he worked in the solicitor general's office for President Reagan, he suggested that the Justice Department should try to chip away at abortion rights rather than mount an all-out assault. He also wrote in a 1985 job application for another Reagan administration post that he was proud of his work helping the government argue that "the Constitution does not protect a right to an abortion."

Now, Alito says, he has great respect for Roe as a

precedent but refused to commit to upholding it in the future. "I would approach the question with an open mind and I would listen to the arguments that were made," he told senators at his confirmation hearing earlier this month.

Democrats weren't convinced, with liberals even unsuccessfully trying to rally support to filibuster Alito on Monday. "The 1985 document amounted to Judge Alito's pledge of allegiance to a conservative radical Republican ideology," Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada said before the vote.

They also repeatedly questioned Alito at his five-day confirmation hearing after he would not discuss his opinions about abortion or other contentious topics. At one point, his wife, Martha-Ann, started crying and left the hearing room as

her husband's supporters defended him from the Democratic questioning.

"To Judge Alito, I say you deserve a seat on the Supreme Court," said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Alito's path to the Supreme Court is infused with New Jersey connections.

Born in Trenton as the son of an Italian immigrant, he attended Princeton University. He headed to Connecticut to receive his law degree, graduating from Yale University in 1975. His late father, Samuel Alito Sr., was the director of New Jersey's Office of Legislative Services from 1952 to 1984. Alito's sister, Rosemary, is a top employment lawyer in New Jersey.

Alito was not the White House's first choice — or even second choice — for the Supreme Court. Bush picked Roberts when

O'Connor first announced she was stepping down last year.

After Roberts was promoted to the top spot after Chief Justice William Rehnquist died, the White House against passed over Alito for the vacant seat, instead selecting White House counsel Harriet Miers.

Miers' withdrawal following a barrage of conservative criticism in late October finally brought Alito's name to the forefront, although he then had to contend with constant references as "Scalito" or "Scalia-lite," references to his judicial similarity to Justice Antonin Scalia.

"I'm my own person. And I'm not like any other justice on the Supreme Court now or anybody else who served on the Supreme Court in the past," Alito said at his confirmation hearing.

BOOKS

Continued from page 1A

ers and turned them over to local school boards, said he was "very clear" about his intention to include authority for textbook selection.

Ratliff, a Republican who later served as lieutenant governor, told The Dallas Morning News that Morales' opinion correctly interpreted the law.

"Nothing has changed," Ratliff said. "I am still sure that was the intent of the legislation."

While Republican members aligned with social conservatives have been the most ardent critics of the Morales opinion, other board members including some Democrats have supported restoring the panel's textbook review authority.

After the law was passed, upset board members asked for an opinion from Morales, who upheld the restrictions. He ruled board members were required to approve textbook that were free of errors and contained at least half of the essential

knowledge and skills in its subject.

Also supporting the Morales opinion at the time was Gov. George W. Bush's press secretary, Karen Hughes, and another GOP leader in the Legislature, Teel Bivins of Amarillo, then chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

Dan Quinn of the Texas Freedom Network, a nonprofit organization that often spars with social conservative groups over religion in schools, said textbook selection had become bogged down by social conservatives'

demands for changes on evolution, sex education and other sensitive topics.

"Every year, some board members demonstrate that given the opportunity, they would edit and change textbooks based not on the facts, but on their personal beliefs," he said. "This is a road you don't want to go down if you want a good education system."

Quinn said the board is now "trying to do an end run" around the Legislature.

An attorney general's opinion is a written interpretation of a law. It car-

ries the weight and force of law unless modified or overturned by a judge, the Legislature or a subordinate attorney general's opinion.

Americans for Prosperity, a group that promotes conservative causes, argued that a new attorney general's opinion affirming the board's authority over textbook selection is long overdue.

"We feel strongly they do have the authority and responsibility to review textbooks," said Peggy Venable, the group's director.

Venable said elected

officials should make decisions on textbook content.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Laverne Kimzey, 79, died Saturday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.
Laura Yvonne Scherer, 81, died Thursday. Memorial services will be at 3:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

KING

Continued from page 1A

was asleep last night and her daughter (Bernice King) went in to wake her up and she was not able to and so she quietly slipped away. Her spirit will remain with us just as her husband's has."

She was a supportive lieutenant to her husband, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., during the most tumultuous days of the American civil rights movement. She had married him in 1953.

After her husband's assassination in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968, she kept his dream alive while also

raising their four children.

King's death was a "monumental loss to the nation and the world at large," the Rev. Al Sharpton said in a written statement.

"She was truly the first lady of the human rights movement," he said. "The only thing worse than losing her is if we never had her."

She worked to keep his ideology of equality for all people at the forefront of the nation's agenda. She goaded and pulled for more than a decade to have her husband's birthday observed as a national holiday, then watched with pride in 1983 as President Reagan signed the bill into law. The first

federal holiday was celebrated in 1986.

King became a symbol, in her own right, of her husband's struggle for peace and brotherhood, presiding with a quiet, steady, stoic presence over seminars and conferences on global issues.

"I'm more determined than ever that my husband's dream will become a reality," King said soon

after his slaying, a demonstration of the strong will that lay beneath the placid calm and dignity of her character.

She was devoted to her children and considered them her first responsibility.

But she also wrote a book, "My Life With Martin Luther King Jr.," and, in 1969, founded the

multimillion-dollar Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

King saw to it that the center became deeply involved with the issues she said breed violence — hunger, unemployment, voting rights and racism.

"The center enables us to go out and struggle against the evils in our society," she often said.

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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YOUR VIEWS

When will trickling begin?

TO THE EDITOR:

As time comes around for us to submit our Income Tax Returns, we need to ask ourselves, as we perform this patriotic obligation, if our lives and the ability to support ourselves and to provide for our families have been enhanced by Bush's tax breaks for the rich, by the Republican's trickle down economics and by their supposedly conservative compassion.

Those who are considered members of the middle class, especially, need to keep in mind, while performing this joyous paperwork task, that they are expected to fund an unpopular and costly war, congressional pork, a lucrative retirement system for retired federal employees, and government programs and activities while the people's elected representatives live high off the hogs (lobbyists) in Washington DC, the corrupted capital that George Bush promised to reform.

Also, taxpayers need to reflect on the actions that many companies have recently undertaken. They are dumping their workers' company retirement on the US government; and, ultimately, taxpayer dollars will have to pay for what these companies are now saying they cannot afford anymore. Never mind that these companies' CEOs continue their sacrifices of earning multimillion dollar salaries and bonuses while their lucrative retirement packages remain secure and unaffected.

Consider also, especially if you will owe the government money, that the majority of these corporations pay little or no taxes while receiving government subsidies funded by taxes paid by hard working citizens.

And, if you work for a company that has asked you to make sacrifices by giving up benefits, be aware that something worse will come later as employees of Ford and GM, sadly, have come to realize.

However, if you are lucky enough to qualify for a refund and you have been laid off, will the return you are entitled to receive be enough to reeducate yourself for a new job as President Bush readily believes? And will you, then, run the risk that the new job will provide less pay, fewer benefits and will be outsourced later? For it is a fait accompli, that many U.S. companies have come to realize all too well that there are no punitive consequences for discarding and abandoning the U.S. work force.

With the blessings of President Bush and the Republican controlled Congress, more companies will leave the U.S. or will bring in more foreign workers.

Concerned taxpayers have to wonder how many of these companies are also receiving government subsidies while paying no taxes. I would ask President Bush or Senators Cornyn and Hutchison to provide me with the data; however, they have been staunch supporters of foreign labor and globalization and as the song goes, "Who can I turn to, when no body love me?"

Thank CNN for Lou Dobbs!

Anyway and finally, as I place my signature on my tax return, I can't help but wonder when the economic compassionate trickling will begin or could I have somehow missed it already?

BOB MONTANEZ
ODESSA

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Oh good grief! Lay off Pombo

If the scandal involving super-lobbyist Jack Abramoff — who pleaded guilty to scamming clients, conspiring to bribe a member of Congress and tax evasion — doesn't hurt Republicans during the 2006 elections, it will be because voters have figured out that Democratic leaders don't really care about ethics.

Consider how the left has targeted Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Calif., in the Abramoff scandal. This month, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi called for an ethics investigation of Pombo and Rep. John Doolittle, R-Calif., while admitting she couldn't cite a single fact as to why a probe is needed.

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington named Pombo one of the "13 most corrupt members of Congress." Its list targets 11 Repubs, some of whom are clearly dirty — Rep. Duke Cunningham, who pleaded guilty to taking bribes, and Rep. Bob Ney of Ohio, who is knee-deep in the Abramoff plea agreement. Other Republicans, however, seem guilty mostly of being targeted by Democrats for defeat in 2006. Take the prim Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa. He is cited — get this — because his kids attend a Pennsylvania charter school (instead of a school in Virginia) and because he supported legislation to clarify the mission of the National Weather Service after a group gave his campaign \$2,000. Oooooooo. (CREW's Melanie Sloan did not get back to me by my deadline.)

That's chump change, and that distracts from the real corruption in Washington and in the GOP. Go

after Tom DeLay for his luxury golf travel — now known to have been on Abramoff's dime. Stories linking Doolittle with Abramoff and other big donors make me want to know more.

But Pombo? Since 1999, the Center for Responsive Politics found, Pombo received \$40,500 from Abramoff or his client tribes. The center also found that Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., received \$40,980 from Abramoff tribes — but Pelosi and CREW aren't calling Murray corrupt.

"I've read that I was one of his closest allies in the House," Pombo told me over coffee last week. "I know that I've met him three times. I may have met him another time or two."

Pombo knows why Democrats don't like him. He's chairman of the House Resources Committee, and he has promoted opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. Now, since the Dems have failed to unseat him in a fair fight on issues, they're trolling in the muck and trying to tie Pombo to Abramoff.

The *Contra Costa Times* took an exhaustive look at the charges hurled at Pombo. The paper reported how Pombo used his clout, at times excessively — take taxpayer-funded pro-Bush mailers he sent out to snowmobile owners in battleground states before the 2004 election — but there is no smoking gun.

Do I have issues with him? Yes. As I told Pombo, some of his decisions emit the odor of having hobbled in D.C. for too long.

Pombo's wife has worked as a paid fund-raiser for his committee, and his brother as a treasurer. He told me: "I have had family on the payroll from the very beginning. When no one else would take my campaign, my brother left his job ... and worked for me."

As Pombo sees it, they are paid a fair wage — an average of

\$48,000 a year for his wife, \$43,255 for his brother, according to the *Contra Costa Times* — and "I can trust them." Where he sees only \$40-something, I think voters may see nepotism. Pombo should understand that it looks bad.

Ditto Steve Ding, who also makes more than \$150,000 as chief of staff for the Resources committee, but also makes money as Pombo's congressional chief of staff and on the side working for GOP candidates. It's odd for a committee chief of staff to live outside of the Beltway and let taxpayers foot the bill — some \$30,000 a year — when he visits the Capitol.

Pombo believes it's better to get committee staff out of Washington. He wants his aides to live in "the real world." Ding noted that his travel is covered by an operating budget. It doesn't cost extra, and it is customary for taxpayers to fund staffers' travel either to or from a member's district.

Cunningham's graft netted him a 19th-century Louis-Philippe commode. DeLay traveled and golfed in high style on Abramoff's dime, as he conveniently turned against a bill to curb Internet gambling. Pombo is made of different stuff. His idea of a good vacation is taking his family to Yellowstone in an RV.

As for Nancy Pelosi, she has shown that corruption doesn't bother her nearly as much as losing House seats. As long as she picks on Pombo, not the real Abramoff cronies, she deserves to lose more.

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Public must demand reform

The headline of the morning paper says it all: "Lobbyists Oppose Efforts to Impose New Restrictions." What a shock. Gambling in Casablanca.

According to John H. Graham, president of the American Society of Association Executives, the lobbying group for lobbyists, banning lawmakers and their staffs from taking trips paid for by groups with interest in legislation before Congress would deprive Congress of views from those outside of Washington.

Stop me before I start laughing. You need to go golfing with a bunch of lobbyists from Washington at some fancy resort to find out what "real people" think?

According to John Engler, the former governor of Michigan and now president of the National Association of Manufacturers, it's practically a constitutional duty. "I think elected leaders who cherish our unique freedoms outlined in the Bill of Rights of our Constitution should act very carefully to ensure the ability of Americans to educate and inform our elected officials is not restricted."

Since when do poor kids or single mothers or laid-off workers get to educate and inform our elected officials by taking them on trips to spend five days in a fancy hotel chit-chatting and playing golf?

The do-gooders joined in, seeking an exemption for do-gooder programs. Dick Clark came from the Aspen Institute to argue that five days in Aspen is a positive service to the country that should

be exempt from any ban. I like the Aspen Institute as much as the next person — I'd be happy to furnish my address for a free vacation — but what do we do when Exxon forms a nonprofit institute? What's so bad about congressmen actually paying to go, like the other rich people, in their case from their campaign funds or office travel accounts? If it really is a service to their constituents, their constituents won't complain.

Remember when Newt Gingrich came to town with his Contract With America, promising to clean up the scandal-ridden Congress presided over by former Speaker Jim Wright? Kindergarten cops compared to Jack Abramoff. Dan Rostenkowski took stamps. Jack Abramoff took millions. Hello?

Probably the single biggest goodie that Congress has to give to lobbyists, according to Sen. John McCain, who has been a leading advocate of reform ever since his own involvement with failed savings and loan bad boy Charles Keating, is something called "earmarks."

If you don't know what an "earmark" is, it's because you've never gotten one and never will. An "earmark" is one of those last-minute lines added to a piece of legislation that provides a special subsidy or a special tax exemption for a particular industry, or even a particular company within a particular industry. Reporters

describe them as legislators' "bread and butter," the payoff for the trips and the money and the courting.

Make no mistake. This is a bipartisan, nonpartisan sinkhole. That's why you see no reform. In a city in which the No. 1 rule, once you get there, is to stay there, the No. 2 rule is to always be raising money. Bribery is when you make an explicit change of money for a favor. Business as usual is when you give big bucks, offer big trips and then — on a completely different subject, of course — get exactly what you want.

And who do you think pays for all this? Look to your left. Look to your right. Look in the mirror.

"If we don't stop the earmarking, we're not going to stop the abuses of power here in Washington," McCain told a Senate committee. Don't hold your breath. The Senate would rather impose some superficial limits on lobbyists than impose any real limits on itself. In a city where staying there, once you get there, is the categorical imperative, and the advantage of incumbency is measured in the capacity to raise money, lobbyists are the cows who provide the mother's milk of politics. Until and unless the public truly stands up and demands real reform, there won't be any. Fore!

To find out more about Susan Estrich, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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SUSAN ESTRICH

On fire

Firefox taking major chunk of browser biz

Is Microsoft looking over its shoulder these days? If not, Bill Gates probably should be. Loyal MS product users are ditching the Internet browser they've used for years — Internet Explorer — in favor of the new kid on the block, Mozilla's Firefox.



THOMAS JENKINS

Mozilla Firefox is a free, cross-platform, graphical web browser developed by the Mozilla Corporation and hundreds of volunteers. That's right... volunteers.

The browser began as a fork of the Navigator component of the Mozilla Application Suite. Firefox has since become the foundation's main development focus — along with its Thunderbird mail and news client — and has replaced the Mozilla Suite as their official main software release.

Before its 1.0 release, Firefox had already gained acclaim from numerous media outlets, including Forbes and the Wall Street Journal. With over 25 million downloads in the 99 days after the initial 1.0 release, Firefox became one of the most downloaded free and open source applications, especially among home users.

On October 19, 2005, Firefox had its 100 millionth download, just 344 days after the release of version 1.0. Firefox 1.5 was released on November 29, 2005, with more than 2 million downloads within the first 36 hours. Hard to believe, right?

Not if you give it a test drive. Firefox includes an integrated pop-up blocker, tabbed browsing, live bookmarks, support for open standards, and an extension mechanism for adding functionality. Although other browsers have intro-

duced these features, Firefox became the first such browser to achieve wide adoption.

Dave Hyatt and Blake Ross began working on the Firefox project as an experimental branch of the Mozilla project. They believed that the commercial requirements of Netscape's sponsorship and developer-driven feature creep compromised the utility of the Mozilla browser.

To combat what they saw as the Mozilla Suite's software bloat, they created a pared-down browser, with which they intended to replace the Mozilla Suite.

Mozilla Firefox retains the cross-platform nature of the original Mozilla browser by using the XUL user interface markup language. Through Firefox's support of XUL, users may extend their browser's capabilities by applying themes and extensions.

In layman's terms, you can do much more to customize your Internet surfing experience and break away from the commercially-tainted information Microsoft feeds you through IE.

Initially, these add-ons raised security concerns, so with the release of Firefox 0.9, the Mozilla Foundation opened Mozilla Update, a Web site containing themes and extensions "approved" as not harmful.

Firefox has developed considerably since its first release — dubbed Phoenix — on Sept. 23, 2002. Pre-1.0 releases suffered many issues with extensions, as the code for handling them changed from version to version.

So, is Firefox all it's cracked up to be? Absolutely.

Security is one of the main reasons that people are trying Firefox, but it also has many features that are lacking in IE. It's not just free, it's open-source. If there's a security problem with Firefox, anybody can contribute a fix. No more relying on a MS think-tank somewhere in Seattle, which is really dumb when you begin to realize the level of talent that's simply surfing the net right now.

Firefox is also cross platform, with versions for Windows, Mac and Linux. That's a big plus, especially if you're a news reporter and forced to give up the bliss of your PC in favor of a Mac everyday.

Open source advocates argue that an important characteristic of Firefox security lies in the fact that anyone can

report a valid critical security bug receive a \$500 cash reward — for each report — and a Mozilla T-shirt. According to the Mozilla Foundation, this "bug bounty" system aims to "encourage more people to find and report security bugs in our products, so that we can make our products even more secure than they already are."

Also, all users can have access to the source code of Mozilla Firefox, to the internal design documentation, to forum discussions, and to other materials that can help in finding bugs.

Kinda' gives "for the people, by the people" a whole new digital meaning.

Switching to the Mozilla-based browser is insanely easy. Firefox can import your existing settings from

"itworld" in the URL field takes you directly to the site.

Firefox's "Smart Keywords" even let you search right from the URL field. Type "itworld ecommerce" in the URL field, and Firefox will take you to the index of "Ecommerce in Action" articles at the ITWorld site.

Firefox supports extensions — small add-on programs that add new features — has already developed a thriving community of developers creating extensions, with more than 70 already available.

And if you're trying to decide whether or not you want to make the break from IE, consider this. The US Department of Homeland Security recommends that Internet Explorer users "use a different web browser."

I'd say that's a pretty definitive suggestion.

Of course, Firefox — just like any software — has its drawbacks.

Firefox has at times attracted criticism for lacking features found in some other browsers. Most of these features, and many others, exist as installable

Firefox extensions, or third-party software.

However, not all users wish to install extensions for the features they want, preferring to see them included in the official software package.

Some note that Firefox takes longer to launch than other browsers such as Internet Explorer or Opera. The non-platform-native user interface may be the cause of this perceived delay. Other Gecko-based browsers such as K-Meleon, which use platform-native user interface implementations, generally run faster than Firefox. IE also launches faster than Firefox as some of its components are loaded on Windows startup.

In the end, it's certainly an adjustment to go from IE to Firefox, but it's worth it. For more information on Firefox and the Mozilla Corporation, visit www.mozilla.com.

Thomas Jenkins, a South Carolina transplant still fumbling through a case of Texas culture shock, is a Staff Writer for the Big Spring Herald by day and rock guitarist for local band Rustic Circle by night. Contact Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com



see its source code and that it therefore must rely upon sound security mechanisms rather than security through obscurity.

At least one person besides the coder reviews proposed software changes, and typically yet another person carries out a "super-review". Once placed in the software, changes become visible for anyone else to consider, protest against, or improve.

In addition, the Mozilla Foundation operates a "bug bounty" scheme. People who

Internet Explorer in the blink of an eye, including bookmarks, options, cookies and other data.

And for users still clinging to their dial-up connections, here's the really sweet part. Firefox is under 5 megabytes, so you won't have to sit there and wait a half hour like you're forced to do with IE.

Bookmark keywords let you create shortcuts for any URL. In the properties for each bookmark, there is a Keyword option. If you bookmark www.itworld.com and give it the keyword "itworld", typing

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Retired West Texas air base catches glimpse of its storied past

By LAURAN PAINE JR.

Things change. Old houses, airplanes, posts and bases where we were once stationed, buildings, and offices — all are at risk of going away at some point. And many do. Time simply marches on, so it's especially nice when something is preserved. I'm not talking about the big national museums, either. I'm talking about places that have meaning only to a relatively small number of people. When they are preserved, it's really special.

I recently attended a reunion at my former pilot training base, Webb Air Force Base in Big Spring. It's closed now. Has been for 27 years. The military is not in the habit of preserving the bases it closes, and Webb is certainly no exception. Buildings are decaying, the tower is faded and forlorn, and the bulk of the base is now operating as a federal prison.

But there is one hangar — Hangar 25, to be exact — that is preserved and is home to one of each type of airplane that served at Webb: The AT-11, T-28, T-33, T-37 and T-38. Preserved by whom? The townspeople. To what advantage? Precious little. Why? Because the town always had a special relationship with the base, and now it's honoring and preserving that relationship. That's why it's so special.

We're not talking about a big town here; we're talking fewer than 30,000 people. The hangar/museum exists because of the goodness in the hearts of the people in Big Spring, pure and simple. And they invited us all back — anyone who ever served at Webb — to share in the memories. More than 200 came because the place held special memories for them. Bombardiers were trained there, mechanics honed their skills there, pilots learned to fly there.

Memories? You bet. And they flowed for three days.

The townspeople were wonderful, absolutely wonderful, just as I remembered them to be 38 years ago when I first checked in at the base. At the reunion we toured Hangar 25, had a Texas-style barbecue and a Mexican fiesta dinner, attended a Commemorative Air Force air show, had a steak dinner, and danced the night away at the former Officer's club (now a senior center) to a band that played music where you could understand the words of the songs.

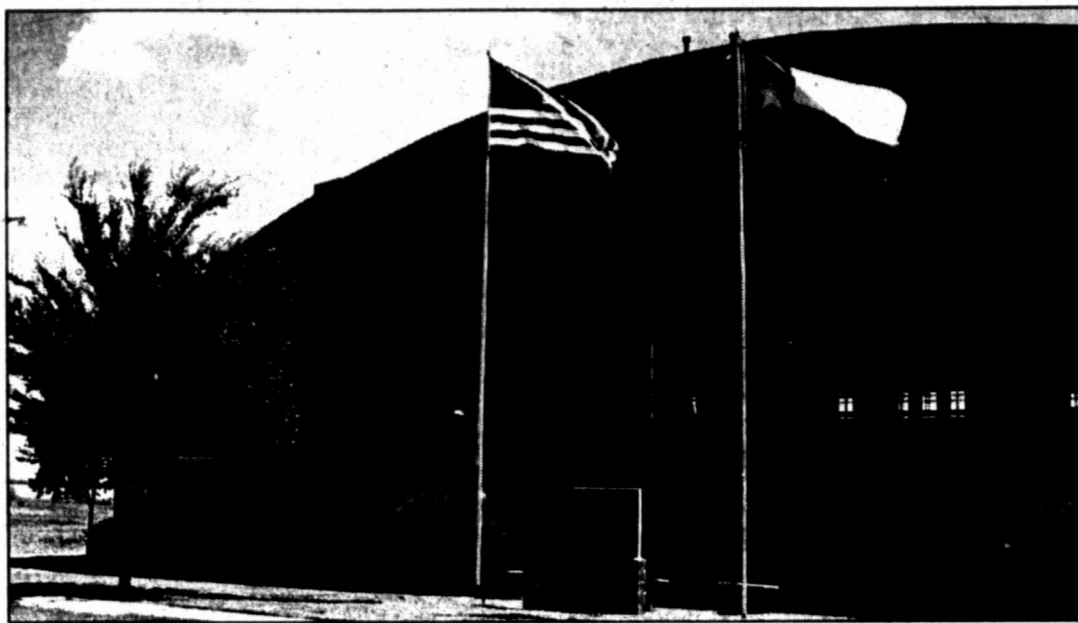
Along the way, we renewed friendships, made new ones and established connection after connection. And, oh yeah, some of the folks were known to tell some stories. The whole thing just made me feel good all over.

The base had its beginnings in 1942 when it was constructed and commissioned as the Big Spring Bombardier School. Students learned to use the then-secret Norden bombsight. Two bombardier students were at the reunion. One had been a POW. Nice to be in their presence.

The bombardier school was deactivated in 1945 after graduating 42 classes of cadets. The base was reactivated in 1951 with the mission of training pilots. It was named Webb AFB in honor of Lt. James Webb, a Big Spring native who died in the crash of his P-51 off the Japanese coast in 1949. Before the base was once again closed in 1977, nearly 14,000 pilots had received their wings at Webb AFB.

I believe the earliest pilot training class represented at the reunion was 52F. That was the class of fiscal year 1952, and here they were 53 years later. Several were there from 55D.

Del, from the class of



55D, has 3,700 hours in the T-33 from when he instructed at the base. He once had an engine failure in the T-bird. He got the airplane turned around and headed back to the runway only to be met head-on by a B-52 on the takeoff roll in the opposite direction. Del steered off the runway in a cloud of dust and walked away from the airplane. He later flew 300 missions in the A-37 in Vietnam.

John, his classmate, claimed the record for the most Article 15s (infractions) in the Air Force, with five. He later retired from the Air Force after more than 30 years of service and flying several fighters, the last being the F-105.

Al, another 55D classmate, met his wife at the Jet Drive-In in Big Spring; I met my bride at the Wagon Wheel Drive-In in Big Spring. Stories and connections. Great stuff.

Several of my classmates were there. The stories flowed. Gurk told me to be sure and not use his name. (Oops.)

Several were there from the class after mine, 68D. I remembered Gil when I heard him laugh. Another said, "I knew it was Gil when I saw him walk." Funny, the things we remember about people.

The connections continued. Kenny and my bride

were friends in grammar school. Turns out Kenny's sister, Regina, was at the reunion. She'd married Dan, who graduated from Webb, who later retired from Delta where he met Foghorn, who was in my class. And Jim, a reader of this magazine (a testament to his excellent literary taste), graduated from Webb and is airline-retired. Jim told me of Roger, also now airline-retired, who was in my class. And how about this one? Ziggy, my roommate at pilot training, went from Webb to C-7s (in Vietnam) to F-100s (Vietnam again) to F-4s to Peoples Express to Continental Airlines.

Along the way he married Jan, from Lubbock. Turns out Jan's dad instructed WASPs at Avenger Field in Sweetwater. Jan was born in Sweetwater and was delivered by Dr. Roseborough, the quintessential country doctor. My bride was born in Sweetwater and delivered by Dr. Roseborough. Not earth shattering stuff, by any means, but fun stuff.

Another guy (sorry, didn't get his name) got his wings at Webb, went to F-106s then to C-121s then to medical school. He flew his Mooney to the reunion. That's full circle. The retired general who graduated from Webb and who spoke at one of our reunion dinners reminded us that it was unoffi-

cial pilot training policy that if you got airsick more than two times were out of the program. He said he got sick a lot more than that, but his instructor took pity on him and let him throw his barf bags out before he parked so that no one would know. A former base commander then spoke and said, "So that's where all those little bags beside the taxiways came from!"

And then the mayor (with whom my bride used to skateboard back when a skateboard was a sawed off one-by-six affixed to a roller skate) spoke of the special relationship that always existed between the base and the community. He also spoke of how some of the Air Force guys took their girls away and mentioned my bride by her maiden name. I got to take a bow for that one and said, "Sorry, but 38 years later I'm still glad I did."

There were some poignant moments, too. Many who trained at Webb perished while serving their country. Their honor rested deep in the hearts of those at the reunion.

Others served long tours as civilians at the base. One secretary worked there for nearly 35 years. She came back, her stories wonderful. Another elderly gentleman, tall, slender and slightly

This article, printed with permission from Lauran Paine Jr., originally appeared in the January 2006 EAA Sport Aviation magazine.

stooped but still proud, walked up to a group of us and told of the battles he'd been in during World War II. When someone like that talks, you listen. After the war, the man worked at the base fire department for 25 years. He had been there for us, but we didn't even know it. We finally got to thank him.

There were lots of photos, too. We took a picture of my classmates with their wives, except Gurk (oops, there's that name again) doesn't have a wife so Heather, the museum director, was nice enough to stand by him to round out the photo. And we took photos of pilots holding signs (not suitable for printing in a family magazine) that were intended for two of the more conspicuous bottom-feeding, scum-sucking, algae-eating, dirt-bag (don't be alarmed: They love it when we talk like that) no-shows, Snapper and Foghorn.

It was an interesting sidelight to note how many of the guys had been retired by the age-60 rule. The continued spirit and vibrancy of these guys is testament to the wrongness of the rule.

Randy (aka "Railroad") had sent some 8 mm film that he had taken at the base in the 1950s. It showed lots of T-28s and T-33s (including his beloved No. 641) and the young kids flying and taking care of them. The film was made into a DVD narrated by those who lived the times. Touching and nicely done. As Randy asked, "Where have all those young people gone?" Indeed.

All this social reveling took place to the backdrop of a decaying, yet still proud, former Air Force base, represented by one preserved hangar, there because of a still-proud community with a very big heart. A past well remembered is good for the soul.

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Scenic Mountain Medical Center

Senior Circle Chapter 11

Invites you to join our...

February 2006 Activities

February 1 * Wednesday
Sit & Be Fit—10:30 AM
Senior Appreciation Day—11:30 AM

February 2 * Thursday
Mall Walking—8:00 AM
Coffee @ Gale's—10:00 AM
"BUNKO" - 5:00-6:30 PM

February 6 * Monday
GAMES 1:00-3:00 PM

February 7 * Tuesday
Mall Walking—8:00 AM
Coffee @ Parkplace—10:00 AM
Supper Club "Casa Blanca" - 5:30 PM

February 8 * Wednesday
Sit & Be Fit—10:30 AM
Senior Appreciation Day—11:30 AM

February 9 * Thursday
Mall Walking—8:00AM
Coffee @ Gale's - 10:30 AM

February 10 * Friday
Lunch Bunch & Birthdays
"Gale's" - 11:30 AM

February 13 * Monday
Supper Club "KC Steakhouse" - 5:30 PM

February 14 * Tuesday
Mall Walking—8:00 AM
Valentine's Pot Luck & Bingo - 11:30 AM

February 15 * Wednesday
Sit & Be Fit—10:30 AM
Senior Appreciation Day—11:30 AM

February 16 * Thursday
Mall Walking—8:00AM
Coffee @ Gale's—10:00AM
"BUNKO" 5:00—6:30PM

February 19 * Sunday
MCT "CATS" - 1:00 PM RSVP early

February 20 * Monday
SMMC Volunteer's Blood Drive -
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
GAMES 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

February 21 * Tuesday
Mall Walking—8:00AM
Supper Club "Al's Bar-b-que" - 5:30 PM

February 22 * Wednesday
Sit & Be Fit—10:30AM
Senior Appreciation Day—11:30AM

February 23 * Thursday
Mall Walking—8:00AM
Coffee @ Gale's—10:00AM

February 24 * Friday
Midland Shopping - 9:00 AM - ????

February 28 * Tuesday
Mall Walking—8:00AM
Supper Club "Cowboy's"—5:30 PM

Senior Circle Advisor / Volunteer Director

Anita Cline
268-4721

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Bird Food

The caller's concern for a bird trapped in the abandoned control tower at our local airport was genuine.

"It's an owl and can't get out. It keeps crashing into the windows. I'm afraid it'll hurt itself or starve," she said.

Telling her I'd call her back as soon as I talked to the manager of the airport, I learned that he had seen owls coming and going from the tower, since the panes of many windows in the stairwell were missing.

He felt the bird would be able to leave due to the open access from the bottom to the top. When I returned the call of the Western Container employee, I related that I had talked to the manager, and agreed with him that owls are notorious for getting into and out of structures.

I asked her to call if she saw the bird strike the windows again. My husband and I drove out to the tower several times, but no bird was visible. Only pigeons were availing themselves of this five-story birdhouse.

A few days later, the woman called to say the owl was still in the top of the tower. She had been out of town and upon returning to work, had seen the bird flying into the windows.

Once again, I called the manager; we agreed to meet at the tower to check on the bird. As Art and I drove toward the north side of the tower, I could clearly see the silhouette of a large hawk.

As the manager walked up to meet us, I informed him of a major problem.

"That's not an owl. It's a hawk. It cannot get out of the tower."

An owl could figure out how to leave. A hawk is a straight, open field flier and would never find an



The vintage control tower, right is attractive to bird life. A ferruginous hawk, buteo regalis, above, has a diet of prairie dogs, ground squirrels, rabbits and even meadowlarks during its winter stay.

exit. Unlocking the door, the manager waited to greet the game warden that had just arrived.

Art and I carefully started up the metal steps, which were coated with dried pigeon droppings and feathers. The final approach to the top floor, where controllers had instructed thousands of student pilots, was extremely steep.

As we entered the control room of the tower, the hawk spotted us and flew into the windows. Badly discolored, the windows were covered with the effects of numerous birds that had tried to escape. Unable to gain flight speed, the hawk did not impact the windows with enough force to hurt itself.

Above the entrance to the control room was a narrow space leading to the top of the structure. A door to the roof had been left open.

The hawk could have been pursuing a pigeon, and followed it down the opening and into the control room. This very large ferruginous hawk had managed to stay alive by catching

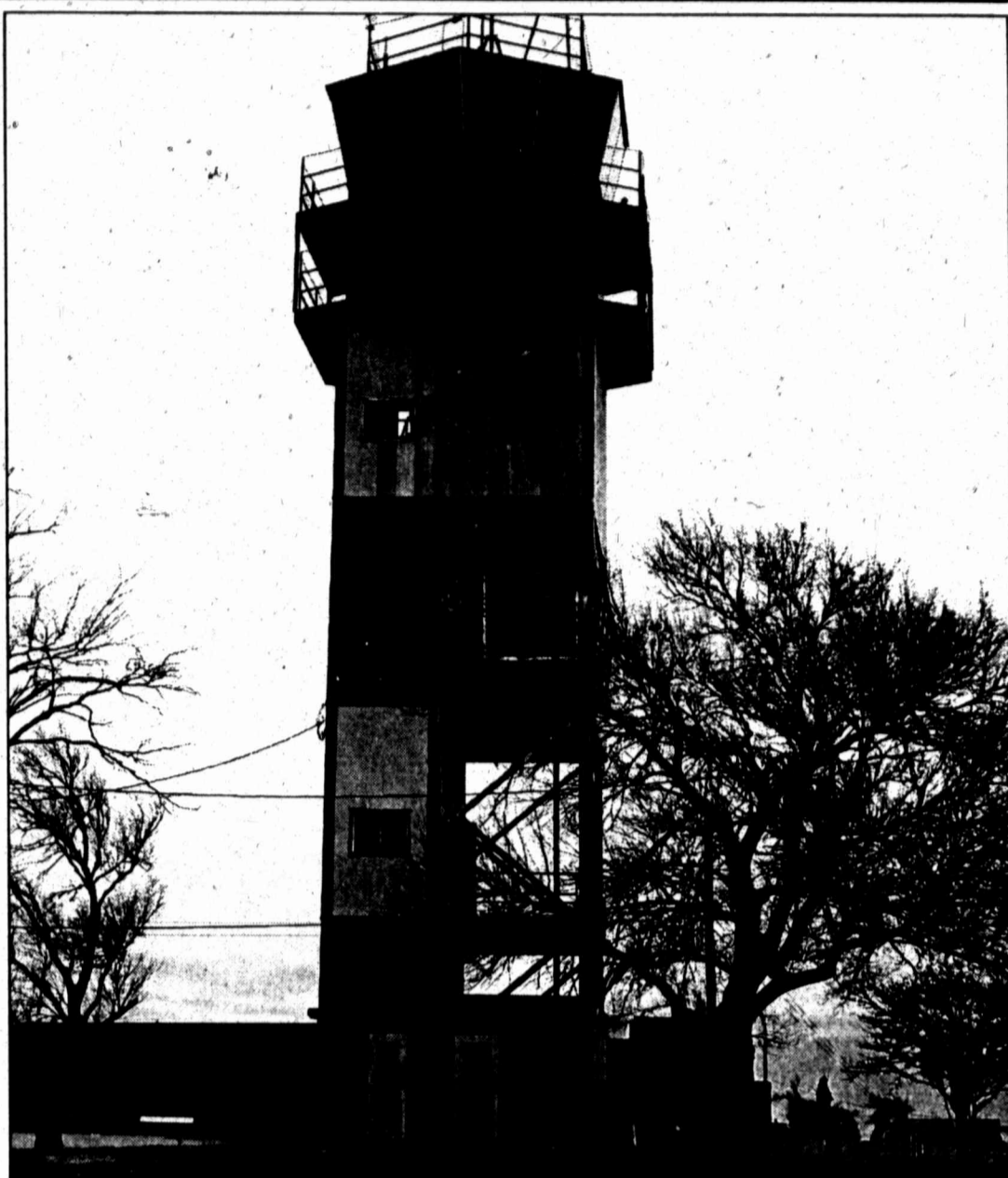
pigeons. With net in hand, I watched as the hawk flew from one side to the other. The span of its wings was almost six feet. Time and again it flew, only to hit the windows.

Able to put a net over it, I pressed it to the window, and allowed it to slide to the controller's console. As I caught its legs and had its feet under control, Art removed the net.

By the time the manager and game warden finished their climb into the control area, the bird was secure and ready to be placed in a carrier. We explained how grateful we were for being allowed to enter the structure, because the hawk would never have escaped.

After our climb down, we met the lady who had made the phone calls. She was heartily thanked for her persistence, because she was instrumental in saving the hawk's life.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.



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Bedtime Stories

THE BEAUTIFUL UGLY BIKE

Tommy was a boy who almost always got what he wanted. Do you always get just what you want? I don't, either! But, that is not a bad thing, as we will find in this story.

Tommy's birthday was two weeks away and he really wanted a bicycle. I would like



to have a new bike too, wouldn't you? But Tommy didn't want just any old bicycle! He wanted a Super Bike 3000! The Super Bike 3000 was the fastest bike in the whole world, and Tommy really wanted it. Most girls and boys would be happy with any new bike, but not Tommy. He almost always got what he wanted. Remember? Almost Always!

The big day finally came. It was Tommy's birthday. He was really excited! I am always excited on my birthday, too. Aren't you? Tommy opened a lot of presents but complained because he didn't see a Super Bike 3000! Then, his dad brought in the final present. It was a brand new

Super Bike—1000! Tommy said in a mean voice, "I wanted a Super Bike 3000! You are the meanest dad in the whole world!" Now, I am sure that Tommy's dad was not mean. He was a really nice dad! He always worked very hard all day, and even then, played with Tommy when he came home. And he was always there when Tommy needed help! Tommy's dad tried not to look hurt, but Tommy really hurt his dad's feelings. "Try the bike anyway, Tommy,

his birthday were not new anymore. Tommy decided to ride his new bike. He did-

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didn't like the new bike, but he did decide to ride it. He was riding the bike down the sidewalk when he thought to himself, "Hey, this bike isn't so bad." Tommy hadn't gone too far down the side-



you might like it," said Tommy's dad. "No," said Tommy. "I don't like it!"

The next week, when all of the new toys Tommy got for

walk when he came upon a little boy about his same age, sitting on the ground beside the sidewalk. "Wow," said the little boy, that is a

cool bike!"

Tommy then told the little boy the story about the bike and that his dad was mean because he didn't give him the Super Bike 3000 he asked for. Tommy's new friend told him how lucky he was to even have a bike at all. Tommy didn't ask him, but he thought that his new friend might not even have a bike. "What is your name?" Tommy asked. "Frankie," said the new friend. "Okay, Frankie, I'll see you later," Tommy said as he rode on down the sidewalk. As he was riding along, Tommy thought about what Frankie had said about being lucky to even have any bike. He also started to feel a little bad about saying those mean things to his dad!

Tommy was riding and riding down the sidewalk when he came upon another little boy sitting on the ground. This little boy was different, though! This little boy had metal things on his legs, which kept him from walking or running! "Wow, what a

cool bike," the little boy said to Tommy. "What is your name?" Tommy is my

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name. What is yours?" "Johnny," he said. As Johnny was looking at the bike, Tommy asked, "What are those things on your legs?" "They are called leg braces. I can't walk without them. My legs do not work like yours do. I could never ride that cool bike, like you do!"

"That's too bad, and I am sorry," Tommy said. "It's not that bad," Johnny explained. "I love to read, and play video games, and help my mom work around our home. I can do all kind of things. I just can't ride a bike like yours, and I never will!" Tommy felt so bad! He said to his new friend, "Well, I must go home now. There is something I have to do!"

All the way home, Tommy thought about his new friends and what they had said to him. Frankie did not have a bike and Johnny could not ever even ride a

bike! Tommy was a lot luckier than he had ever thought! And, all of a sudden, this bike wasn't so bad!

When Tommy finally got home, he ran inside and gave his dad a big hug. Bigger than he had ever given him before! "What was that for?" Tommy's dad asked. "I just wanted to hug you," Tommy said. "I'll be back in a little while."



Tommy ran towards the back door. "Where are you going now?" Tommy's dad asked. "I want to go wash my new bike," Tommy said. "I can't let that beautiful bike get dirty!"

And he never did! "Good Night!"

'Brokeback' leads the way with 8 Oscar nominations

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — The cowboy love story "Brokeback Mountain" led the Academy Awards field Tuesday with eight nominations, among them best picture and honors for actor Heath Ledger and director Ang Lee.

Also nominated for best picture were the Truman Capote story "Capote"; the ensemble drama "Crash"; the Edward R. Murrow chronicle "Good Night, and Good Luck"; the assassination thriller "Munich."

The Johnny Cash biography, "Walk the Line," considered a likely best picture nominee, was shut out, though Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon earned acting nominations for the film.

George Clooney picked up three nominations: as supporting actor for his role as a steadfast CIA undercover agent in "Syriana" and best director and co-writer for his Edward R. Murrow tale "Good Night, and Good Luck."

Along with best-actor contender Ledger, and directing nominee Lee, "Brokeback Mountain" scored nominations for Michelle Williams as supporting actress, Jake Gyllenhaal as supporting actor and Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana for their screenplay adaptation of Annie Proulx's short story.

The acting categories were a mix of familiar Oscar faces such as past winners Judi Dench and Charlize Theron, veterans like Clooney, Witherspoon, Rachel Weisz, David Strathairn



KRT file photo
Heath Ledger, left, and Jake Gyllenhaal star in "Brokeback Mountain," which received eight Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture, Best Actor (Ledger) and Best Supporting Actor (Gyllenhaal).

and Felicity Huffman gaining their first academy attention, and young performers such as Williams and Amy Adams.

Philip Seymour Hoffman, the best-actor favorite for his remarkable impersonation of author Truman Capote in "Capote," joined Ledger in the best-actor category. Hoffman has triumphed at earlier film honors, including the Golden Globes.

Along with Hoffman, Ledger and Phoenix, the other nominees were Terrence Howard as a

small-time hood turned rap singer in "Hustle & Flow" and Strathairn as newsman Murrow in "Good Night, and Good Luck."

The best-actress race presumably will shape up as a two-woman contest between Huffman in a gender-bending role as a man about to undergo sex-change surgery in "Transamerica" and Witherspoon as singer June Carter, Cash's musical companion and future wife, in "Walk the Line."

Huffman won the Golden Globe for best dramatic actress, while

Witherspoon earned the Globe for best actress in a musical or comedy. Witherspoon beat Huffman on Sunday for the best-actress prize at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

Also nominated for the best-actress Oscar were Dench as a society dame who starts a nude stage revue in 1930s London in "Mrs. Henderson Presents"; Keira Knightley as the romantic heroine of the Jane Austen adaptation "Pride & Prejudice"; Charlize Theron as a mine worker who leads a sexual-harassment lawsuit against male co-workers in "North Country."

"Brokeback Mountain" led a wave of lower-budgeted independent films that scored big in the nominations, instead of the studio fare that normally dominates the Oscars.

Other than "Munich," most bigger budget movies that had been on the best-picture radar, such as "Walk the Line," "Memoirs of a Geisha" and "Cinderella Man," were overlooked in the top Oscar category.

With key prizes at earlier Hollywood honors under its belt, "Brokeback Mountain" heads into the March 5 awards as the best-picture front-runner.

It is potentially the first film with explicit homosexual themes to claim the grand prize at the Oscars.

The film stars Ledger and Gyllenhaal as Western roughnecks who share a summer of love while tending sheep together in the 1960s, then carry on a lifelong romance they conceal

from their families. Williams co-stars as Ledger's wife, who overlooks her husband's affair to try to hold her family together.

Weisz, playing a humanitarian-aid worker in "The Constant Gardener," won the supporting-actress prize at the Golden Globes and SAG awards, giving her the inside track for the same honor at the Oscars.

Along with Weisz and Williams, supporting-actress nominations went to newcomer Adams as a big-hearted Southern waif in "Junebug"; Catherine Keener as "To Kill a Mockingbird" author Harper Lee in "Capote"; and Frances McDormand as a miner coping with debilitating disease in "North Country."

Besides Gyllenhaal and Clooney as a bullheaded CIA agent in "Syriana," nominees for supporting actor were Matt Dillon as a racist cop in "Crash"; Paul Giamatti as boxer Braddock's manager in

"Cinderella Man"; and William Hurt as a ruthless mobster in "A History of Violence."

Hurt was a bit of surprise since he only appears for a few minutes at the end of the film in scene-stealing role.

Lee, who won the Directors Guild of America honor Saturday for "Brokeback Mountain," is the clear favorite to win the best-director Oscar.

Along with him and Clooney, other directing nominees were Paul Haggis for "Crash"; Bennett Miller for "Capote"; and Steven Spielberg for "Munich."

The Screen Actors Guild Awards on Sunday threw up a potential roadblock for "Brokeback Mountain," which was shut out for the ceremony's five acting awards. "Brokeback Mountain" had been viewed as a likely winner of the guild's award for overall cast performance, a prize that went to "Crash" instead.

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IN BRIEF

Garrand match set for Sportsman Club

The Western Sportsman Club will be hosting a M1 Garrand match Sunday at 1 p.m. at the club range nine miles out on the Andrews highway (Highway 176).

For more information, contact 263-1345.

BSHS announces "Meet the Lady Steers" day

The 2006 Big Spring Lady Steers softball team, including new head coach Jennifer Reyes and assistant coaches Dee Dee Myers and John Sparks, will be introduced Saturday after a scrimmage against Greenwood.

Following the scrimmage, which begins at noon, the Lady Steers will take on the "Mad Cows" (BSISD faculty) in a rag ball game starting at 2 p.m.

There will be chili dog meals available for \$5 with all proceeds going to the Lady Steer Softball Booster Club. Purchasing a meal deal will also put your name in a drawing to win a Big Spring Steer Quilt. The meal tickets may be purchased at the concession stand.

Big Spring Softball Association sets date for signups

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding signups to register for the upcoming season and they will be held each Saturday from Feb. 18 through March 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall.

The league is for girls and women ages four and up. The registration fee is \$30 and there is a \$5 discount for a second child.

For more information, contact Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

Northern Iowa now ranked for first time

(AP) — Northern Iowa is ranked in The Associated Press' Top 25 for the first time. Michigan is back in for the first time in almost a decade.

Northern Iowa (19-3), ranked 25th this week, has made the NCAA tournament the last two seasons. Michigan (15-3) moved in at No. 21, the Wolverines' first appearance in the Top 25 since the final poll of the 1997-98 season, which was also the last time they were in the NCAA tournament.

The top of the poll stayed the same with Connecticut, Duke and Memphis in the first three spots. Villanova, Gonzaga and Illinois each jumped two spots to fourth through sixth, respectively.

Texas, which lost at Oklahoma Saturday, dropped from fourth to seventh and was followed by Florida, Washington and George Washington.

Burgess secures Howard's 21st straight win

• Top-ranked Hawks battle through late comeback by Texans

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Howard sophomore Charles Burgess scored 27 points Monday and the top-ranked Howard College men's basketball team remained unbeaten as the Hawks took down rival South Plains, 81-65.

The game was to decide first place in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference as both teams entered 4-0.

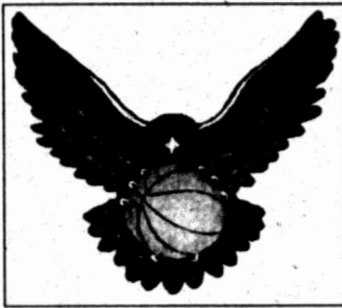
The Hawks controlled the first half, taking a 38-23 lead at the break, but South Plains came up with a big run in the second half to keep the game close before Burgess took over down the stretch and led Howard to its 21st win of the season.

"We came out hard tonight and were able to get it done down the stretch," said Burgess. "South Plains is a great team, but there was a

stretch in the second half when I just felt like I couldn't be stopped. I just took over the game and things worked out for us."

Burgess won the battle of big-time guards, but South Plains' Steve Harley did score 15 second-half points to finish with 21.

"Last year, South Plains came here and beat us so I wanted to get that feeling off my chest tonight and we were able to do that," said Burgess. "But we know its not over because we still have to go to their place."



The Hawks trailed

early in the contest, but the game was tied 10-10 with 12:51 to go until halftime. The Hawks were able to put some distance on the Texans a little later in the half after they went on a 13-2 run and grabbed a 25-14 lead. Howard scored five layups in the run and sophomore Dezmon Harris drained a 3-pointer.

South Plains battled back with six straight

points and cut the lead to five with 6:10 to go until the break. It remained a tight game until the Hawks closed out the first half with a 9-0 run, capped off by a 3-pointer from Marques Loftis from the left baseline. Harris also added four points during that stretch.

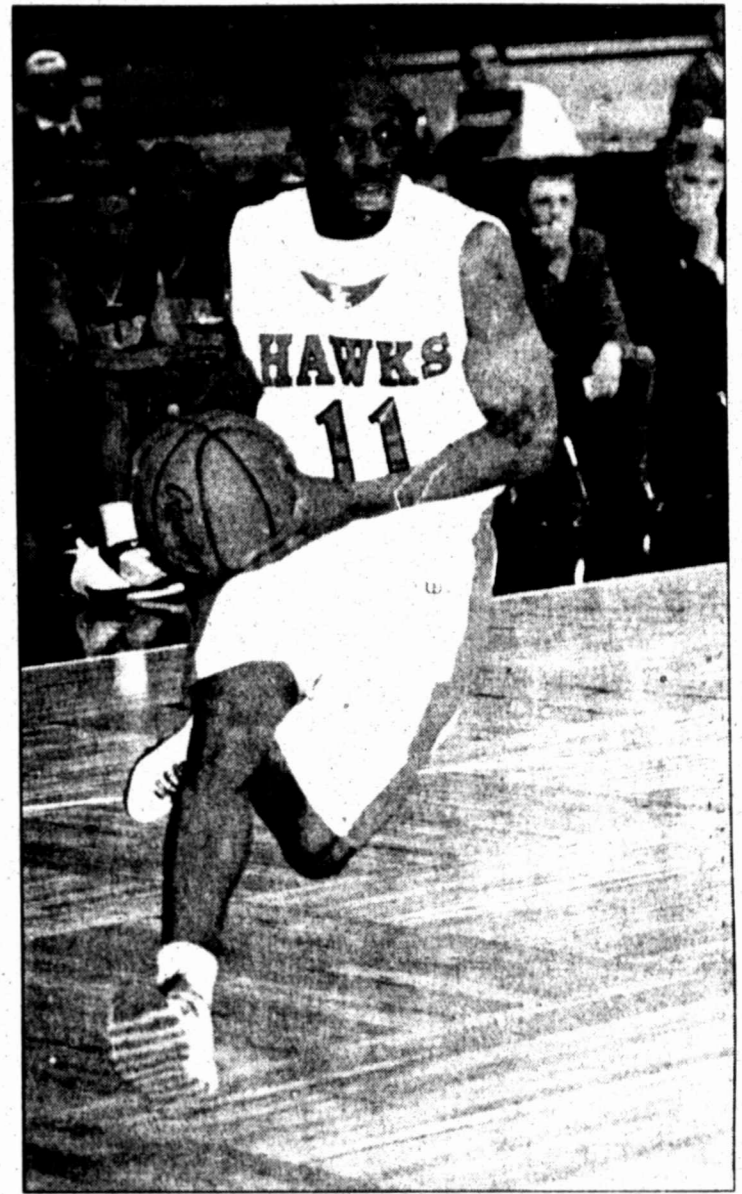
After Harley began the second half with a jumper, Burgess scored four straight on a jumper and a layup. Harley continued to score points for South Plains, but Howard answered most of them early in the half.

Howard led by 15 points when South Plains started to create turnovers to get back into the game. Three straight miscues by the Hawks led to easy baskets by the Texans and a 9-0 run got South Plains back to within six with 12:25 to play.

The Texans scored again off a turnover to close the gap to four and trailed by four two other times in the game before getting to within one on a Harley jumper.

At that point Burgess began to take over. He responded to Harley's jumper with a 3-point play and a 3-pointer and

See HOWARD, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Richard Forbes scores two points on a fastbreak layup during the Hawks' win over rival South Plains Monday. Top-ranked Howard improved to 21-0.

Hawk turnovers allow Lady Texans to pull away in B.S.

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Another turnover-plagued night for the Howard College women's basketball team resulted in another Western Junior College Athletic Conference defeat as the Hawks fell at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday to South Plains, 70-48.

"I thought the turnovers just sucked the life out of us," said Howard head coach Earl Diddle. "We lost everything, especially energy."

South Plains' Dominic Seals also had a lot to do with the loss as the Lady Texan scored 23 points — 14 in the second half — and grabbed nine rebounds.

"She got to the basket on us too many times and she's too big and too quick when she gets there," said Diddle.

The first part of the first half was a Seals against Latoya Fairley battle. Seals scored seven straight points for South Plains to put her team up 12-4, but Fairley, a sophomore for Howard, scored seven of her team's first 12 points and kept the Hawk women in the game in the first half.

The Hawks trailed 25-14

with 6:05 to play until halftime, then began to cut into the lead. Howard (6-16) scored seven straight points to trim the deficit to four. Sophomore Jennifer Pena scored five points during that stretch with a jumper and 3-pointer.

The Hawks got it back to four with 1:15 to play until the break after a put-back by freshman Felicia Kohli, but a

basket just before the buzzer put South Plains up six at halftime.

Seals and Fairley each had nine points at halftime, but the South Plains center took over in the second half. She also got some help from Fallon Thomas, who had a nice all-around game with 16 points, six rebounds, five assists, five steals and three blocks.

Howard quickly found itself down by double-digits in the second half and back-to-back baskets by Thomas made it 44-28. Freshman Kim Garcia hit a 3-pointer, but Seals scored two straight hoops

down low and South Plains wasn't threatened the rest of the way. The closest Howard got was 15 after Pena splashed one in from long range.

"I was disappointed in our response to pressure defense," said Diddle. "We didn't move the ball or screen anyone and that's why we didn't score a lot of points."

Fairley led the Hawks with 14 points and seven rebounds, while Pena added 13 points and two 3-pointers. Garcia scored nine points off the bench and Kim Gilyard added six.

"Kim Garcia is continuing to do a good job for us," said Diddle. "She is giving us some offensive punch off the bench. It shows what movement does. We just have too many players who want to stand around and watch the action happen."

Freshman Chanel Jones-Delas returned to the starting lineup, but was held scoreless after shooting 0-for-7 from the field.

South Plains also got double-digit scoring from Alana Rumph and Brooke DeGrate. Rumph scored

See HAWKS, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Latoya Fairley sends a jump shot flying during the Hawk women's game at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday. Fairley finished with a team-high 14 points.

No. 4 Nova sneaks by Cardinals

By DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer PHILADELPHIA — Allan Ray had rarely seen a 3-point shootout like this, certainly not since he's been at Villanova.

"Maybe AAU. I don't think anybody plays defense in AAU," Ray said. "Definitely not in college. This is one of those crazy games."

The No. 4 Wildcats finished with two more 3-pointers than Louisville in a game in which the long ball ruled and those six points turned out to be the difference in Villanova's 79-73 victory

Monday night.

Ray matched his season high with 26 points and hit five 3s, Mike Nardi celebrated his 21st birthday with 20 points and five 3s, and Randy Foye had 19 points and four 3s as the three guards accounted for all the 3-pointers — and all but 14 points.

"We hit a lot of shots early and once you hit shots early, you get a lot of confidence as a team," Ray said as Villanova ran off to a 7-1 start in the Big East for the first time since 1982-83.

In the only other game involving a ranked team,

No. 20 Ohio St. routed Florida A&M 95-53.

The Wildcats (16-2) twice seemed to have control of the game with a double-digit lead, but the Cardinals (14-7, 2-6) pulled close twice before losing for the fifth time in six games.

Taquan Dean had 23 points and seven assists for Louisville, which continues to struggle in its first season in the Big East. The Cardinals, who were ranked seventh in the preseason poll and reached as high as No. 4 during the season, fell out

See NOVA, Page 2B

This week's area basketball lineup

Tuesday

Lubbock Estacado @ Big Spring at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Stanton @ Coahoma, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
McCarney @ Foran, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Garden City @ Sands, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Klondike @ Grady, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Thursday

Howard College @ Frank Phillips, 5:50 p.m. and 7:50 p.m.

Friday

Big Spring @ Frenship, 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Coahoma @ Anson, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Foran @ Irian, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Borden County @ Garden City, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Grady @ Sands, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

added a layup to put Howard up seven with just under four minutes to go in the game. He later sealed the win with two free throws and a bomb from long range.

Freshman Benny Valentine was silent for most of the game offensively until he began to help Burgess down the stretch. He scored 12 of his 19 points in the final 10 minutes of the game.

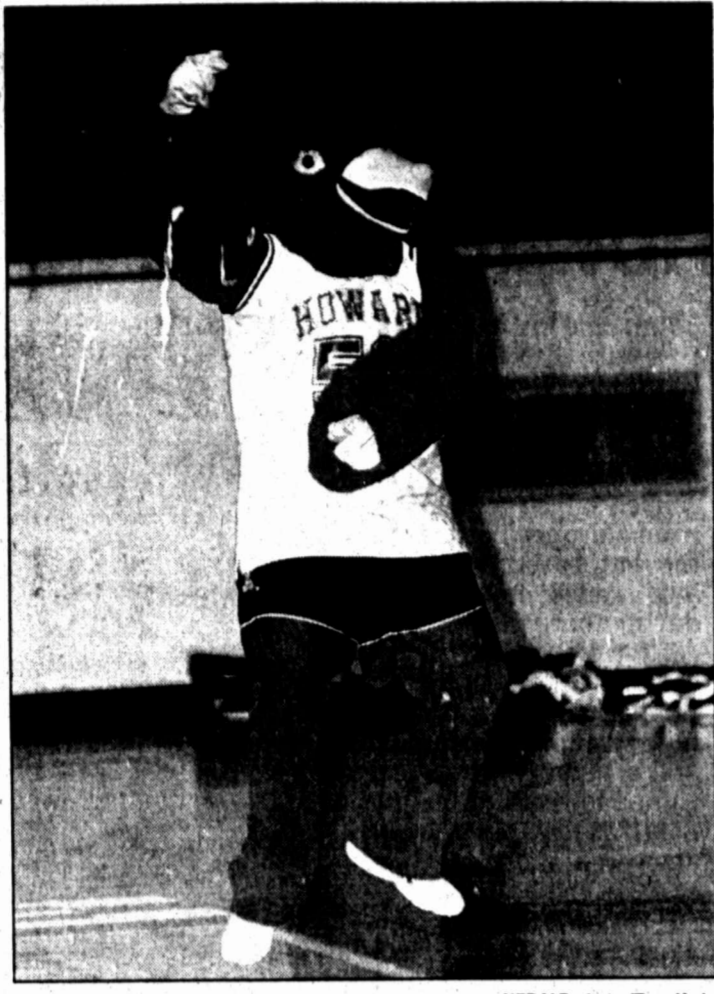
South Plains was held to just 23 points in the first half, but matched that total with just under 10 to go in the second half. The Texans scored 42 in the second half, but the first-half deficit was too much to overcome.

"We are shorthanded right now so a lot of us have to play a little harder than usual," said Burgess, who also had five steals and four rebounds in the game. "We just played better tonight."

Harris scored 11 of his 13 points in the first half. Freshman Phil Murphy scored nine points, including a second-half dunk, in his first start of the season.

Freshman center Benson Akpan pulled down a game-high nine rebounds and blocked four shots.

The Hawks played without Herve Banogle and Louis Rodgers. Banogle was ejected from the game against Odessa



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
The Howard College Hawk mascot enjoys a dance during a timeout at the men's basketball game Monday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

College Thursday and was not allowed to play Monday. He will also miss Thursday's game against Frank Phillips. Rodgers is continuing to serve out his indefinite suspension. There is no updated information on when his return might be.

Harley was the only South Plains player to score in double figures. Kendall Clark and Jeremy Baker each scored eight and Baker

added a team-high seven rebounds.

The Hawks shot 55 percent from the field and 72 percent from the line against South Plains, but Burgess wants to play harder and better against Frank Phillips Thursday.

"Whatever we did tonight, we have to do more against Frank Phillips," he said. "We have to go into the game with the mindset that all teams want our No. 1 spot."

WJCAC Standings
as of Monday night's games

Women			Men		
Odessa	5-0	20-0	Howard	5-0	21-0
Midland	3-1	18-4	South Plains	4-1	17-4
Clarendon	3-2	11-12	Midland	4-1	18-3
South Plains	2-2	15-4	Clarendon	3-2	12-8
Frank Phillips	1-3	13-7	Odessa	2-3	14-7
New Mexico	1-3	10-9	Frank Phillips	1-4	12-9
Howard	0-4	6-16	New Mexico	1-4	11-10
			NMMI	0-5	4-15

Monday's Results
South Plains 70, Howard 48
Odessa 85 New Mexico 71
Clarendon 73, Frank Phillips 67
Midland College did not play

Monday's Results
Howard 81, South Plains 65
Midland 97, NMMI 50
Odessa 61, New Mexico 59
Clarendon 103,
Frank Phillips 81

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

10 points and had six rebounds, while DeGrix finished with 12 points. The Lady Texans shot 53 percent from the floor and outrebounded Howard by 10.

"I think we understand what turnovers do for us," said Diddle. "That's something we should have learned tonight."

Howard will try to get in the win column in the WJCAC Thursday on the road against rival Frank Phillips. Tipoff is set for 5:50 p.m.

UT's Brown gets reward for title

AUSTIN (AP) — Longhorns coach Mack Brown is getting a raise that would put him among the highest paid coaches in college football, school officials said.

Brown, who won the national championship with a 41-38 Rose Bowl victory over Southern California earlier this

month, will receive an annual salary of at least \$2.5 million, Texas men's Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds said.

Brown, 54, earned \$2.159 million last season and is due for another \$100,000 as part of a 10-year that was announced at the end of the 2005 season.

"We've always wanted

to keep him in the top five in the country, where he belongs," Dodds said.

USC coach Pete Carroll is believed to receive \$3 million annually, while Notre Dame's Charlie Weis is paid as much as \$4 million. Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops, meanwhile, earned \$2.4 million this past season.

NOVA

Continued from Page 1B

of the Top 25 on Monday.

"That's as well as we've played. It was a great tempo," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "That's what we're trying to do more than anything else."

The tempo was set early by quite a 3-point exhibition. Both teams put on a stunning 3-point show during one nearly 6-minute span in the first half that sent the crowd into a frenzy after every basket and entertained the players just as much.

Villanova made seven 3s, the Cardinals had five and nine of the shots accounted for a lead change.

The last of the 3s was by Ray with 7:06 left in the first half and it gave Villanova a 34-20 lead. It was the Wildcats' 10th 3 of the half, matching the most Louisville gave up in a game this season.

"We're pretty defensive-minded and when you look at Louisville's defensive percentage and the 3s they hit, you just feel terrible about how you played," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "Then you look and we hit 14 3s and that's unbelievable. That was just an incredible college basketball game with two outstanding offensive teams drilling big shot after big shot."

Villanova finished 14-for-26 from 3-point range, while Louisville was 12-of-23.

Villanova had an 11-point lead in the first half that Louisville cut to five at the half.

The Wildcats again used the 3-pointer, they finished with 14, to pull away to a 63-48 lead, but the Cardinals chipped away by going inside and they got within 70-69 with 3:40 to play on a basket by David Padgett.

Ray made two free throws and scored on a

layup before Foye scored on a putback with 1:45 left that made it 76-68 before the Wildcats held on and won their fifth straight game.

Nardi scored 14 of his points in the second half, hitting two 3-pointers — and three free throws when he was fouled in the act — in a 13-0 run that made it 63-48.

Dean was 5-for-7 from beyond the arc and the Cardinals shot 55.8 percent overall (29-for-52), a huge improvement over their season-low 33.9 percent in Saturday's loss at Rutgers.

They ended a run in which they shot less than 40 percent in five straight games.

"When Taquan is playing, we're a pretty good team," Pitino said. "We're young and we have a great future, but I have to instill that the future is now and not next year. If we play like we did tonight, we'll be all right."

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Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a Liquid Plant Manager.

MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.
Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week.

NATIONAL GREETING Card Company needs part-time Greeting Card Clerk. For the Big Spring Area.

NEED ROUSTABOUT Pusher with experience and Roustabout Hands. Must pass drug test.

NEEDED CLASS A or B CDL Driver will be driving Pole Truck. Will train for position.

P/T MOBILE Home Inspector. internet access and digital Camera required. Fax name, phone number, e-mail address, city and state to (770)345-9287.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now Hiring for CNA position. 2pm-10pm Shift. Please apply at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

PEDIATRIC OFFICE Receptionist. Friendly. Excellent phone and communication skills. Good knowledge of computers. Submit resume: P.O. Box 1654, Big Spring, Tx. 79721.

SEA CONTAINERS now in stock - great for storing cotton tarps 20ft and 40ft available local company. Call (432)267-6006.

WAITRESSES NEEDED Also Dishwasher Split Shift Must be 18 Monday-Saturday Apply in person, Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg

WESTSIDE DAY Care needs (2) FT Workers. Call (432)263-7841 for more information. Must be 18 yrs, GED/Diploma, 1 year DC experience, Child Development a plus.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS Choose Your Own Monthly Rent Options \$299 Such As ALL BILLS PAID MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. 538 Westover 263-1252

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER
Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver.

INSTRUCTIONAL PIANO & VOICE LESSONS
Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

Items for Sale
KITCHEN CABINETS w/matching utility cabinets, stainless steel sink. Fireplace-Electric. Bath room vanity, sink and 1995 Toyota Avalon (Grey) with sun roof. Call (432)393-5279, 393-5712.

Jobs Wanted
EXPERIENCED SITTER with excellent references desires caregiving position with elderly or infirmed. Willing to work nights and weekends. Call (432)213-5953.

Miscellaneous
\$195. QUEEN PILLOW-TOP Set. New, NEVER used, full factory warranty. Call (806)549-3110.
FREE PALLETS. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry.

On the Farm
1981 JD 4440 QR 2000 hours OH \$18,000.00 OBO. Alloway Flail 25" \$9,500.00. Call (432)353-4828, 517-0326.

Real Estate for Rent

Knollwood Heights Apartments
1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (432) 264-1735
Grand New 1, 2 & 3 Bed. Apts \$385 - \$520 monthly New Appliances & Full Size Washer & Dryer in Apartments On Site Maintenance Swimming Pool Fitness Room 2 Playgrounds HUD Accepted

104 WEST 13TH. Between Main & Scurry. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, carpet, \$200.00/month. Call Pierce Group at (432)264-6611.

1406 YOUNG. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, \$235. month, \$100. deposit. 1807 YOUNG Brick, 2/1, CH/A, carpet. \$385. month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

1308 BIRDWELL. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, carpet, garage, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard No Pets!!! \$300.00 month \$200.00 deposit Call (432)263-7850 leave message.

1505 TUSCON. Four bedroom, two bath \$600.00 Month, \$200.00 deposit. Call (432)270-3848.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College. 1 Bedroom House. Stove & refrigerator, carpet, CH/A. \$350.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

712 GOLIAD. 2 or 3 Bedroom. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$500. month, \$275. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

914 EAST 6TH. 2 Bedroom 1 bath. No Pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

Real Estate for Rent

802 1/2 Nolan- 1 bedroom. \$400.00 All Bills. 2528 Fairchild 2 or 3 bedroom. \$350/\$450.. 3/2 Trailer- 5600 South Service Road. Call (432)264-9907.

805 ROSEMONT., 3/2, fenced backyard, carpet, \$200/month, \$250/dep. Call (432)268-5956 or 268-9180.

BUILDING for LEASE for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month + deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS 1 Bedroom - \$400. month \$200. deposit. All Bills Paid 403 East 8th Call (432)267-2771

SUNSET RIDGE APT. Cable TV Free! Playground No Water Bill Paragon Security 24 Hour Laundry On-Site Mgr. & Maint Family Friendly 2 BR \$285 1 BR \$185 Call Rhonda (432)263-2292

VERY CLEAN. Three bedroom, one bath, CH/A. No Pets! References. \$500. month. \$250. deposit. Call (432)213-2319.

Real Estate for Sale

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

20 ACRES on Hwy 176. Set up for Mobile Home. 43K, \$4,000.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 29 years. No Credit Check. (817)312-6322.
4109 DIXON. 4/2, refrig. air/gas heat, storm windows, large back yard with steel fence, work/storage bldg. Much more. \$39,000.00. Call 1-979-324-2072 or 267-3074.

5770 FM 2319 (Lorraine) \$197,000. 2511 N. Old Gail Hwy. \$160,000 2411 Allendale \$132,500 1313 Oil Mill Rd \$69,900 3309 Duke \$68,000 1405 Nolan \$59,900 1411 Sycamore \$22,500 1904 Runnels \$20,000 627 Ridgela \$20,000 366 E. 6th (Colorado City) \$18,000 Call Tammy or Lana at Coldwell Banker EPR (432)279-5570, 264-8166

"AS IS" 609 Holbert. \$285.00 per month for 180 months. Call 1-800-804-7110.

BRECK MOBILE Home 2 bedroom, 2 bath to be moved. Located 3 miles South of Lake Thomas. Needs work \$500 negotiable. Sold as is where is. Call (432)268-3802 or 270-4820.

BY OWNER 1906 Morrison. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, dining room, CH/A, utility room, storage building, tile brick fence, circle drive. \$70,000.00. Call (432)466-2066.

FISH PEACEFULLY or launch your boat from the privacy of your own backyard! Water Front on Lake Colorado City. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, CH/A. Partially furnished. Needs some repair. \$29,500. Call (432)270-8438.

FIXER-UPPER BARGAINS- 1 Bedroom \$2000., 4 bedroom, 2 bath \$7000., 2 bedroom, 2 story \$3000., 2 bedroom with \$5000. fence all around, \$3000.. Call (432)264-0510.

NEAR ELBOW School, 2 bedroom 2 bath with 3 car garage on 10 secluded acres. Shade trees, good water well plus 2 irrigation wells. A barn and two storage buildings..\$89,000 firm. Call (432)213-1800 after 5pm.

OWNER FINANCE 1804 Main. Two bedroom, one bath. \$18,900. Easy Terms. Call (325)893-1973.

OWNER FINANCE 2005 Runnels. Three bedroom two bath. \$27,300. Easy Terms. Call (325)893-1973.

OWNER FINANCE. 19605 North Hwy. 87 in Ackerly, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$26,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll Free 866-894-4591. 325-650-5900.

OWNER FINANCED 506 State 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large kitchen. \$1500 down, payment approx. \$240/month for 12 yrs. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The Pisces moon brings us the gift of wisdom, which is born out of empathy.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

The remarkable thing about wisdom is that it's innate — no new sense or power needs to be added in order to gain wisdom. We need only to understand what we already know and to assign the proper weight and meaning to our experiences.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're unique, and what motivates you is not the same thing that motivates others. The key to working with your colleagues is finding that one thing that inspires you both.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone wants to join your parade. You didn't even know you were marching in one. You are. You're a crusader for your cause. To attract more followers, you only have to invite them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're leaning in the right direction, but no one ever won the Olympics by leaning. Go with your whole body and soul. Take that small impulse, and embolden it. There is genius in a strong intention.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The stars indicate an oppressive force in your personal life. First, put your finger on exactly what or who it is. Then, you can counteract it by

resolving not to be affected by it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Who is rich? The one who enjoys what he has. For you to enjoy what you have, some organizing must take place — right now, you don't even know what you have. You need more shelving.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What an unusual day this is! Jupiter challenges your ability to stop when you've had enough — of food, love, risk, "stuff." Build some quiet time into your schedule, and you should do just fine.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The planets align to send you a muse — this could be someone from your past who visits you in a vivid memory or someone new who sparkles up your day. Either way, you experience divine inspiration and sing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The stars shine on foundational relationships. The bottom line is that all parties need love, and all parties are capable of giving it. Seeing problems as simple will allow you to move past them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your focus is on thriving instead of merely surviving. If you're a part of a couple, let nothing get in the way of your private time with your sweetheart. Schedule a date night, and keep the date — no matter what!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). At the banquet of life, the food is terrific and the portions are ample. So, when someone tries to fight you for crumbs on the floor, it's best to be big about it and let him win.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you're still hurting from a past injury, be it physical or mental, it's now time to call in a professional to help your healing process — one of the many ways you can be good to yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People have a tendency to trigger your emotions in unexpected ways, not knowing what words, phrases or tones of voice can make you react. Be gentle with yourself and others.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Comedian Christopher Guest practically invented the modern "mockumentary" genre through his hilarious films "Waiting for Guffman," "Best in Show," and "A Mighty Wind," not to mention the seminal cinema of the genre, the great "Spinal Tap." Eccentric Aquarians thrive on this type of kooky creativity. Guest will tap into more creative impulses in 2006, channeling his humor into new a book that his wife, actress and children's book author Jamie Lee Curtis, will co-write with him.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 41-year-old female, recently divorced after a monogamous 18-year marriage, and I have herpes. My ex-husband had it before we met, and I contracted it from him years ago. We mistakenly believed it would not be transmitted if we abstained from sex or used a condom during a suspected outbreak. We were wrong.

I have learned a lot about this disease, including the fact that a large number of adults have it and don't know it. Now that I am back in the dating world, I had myself tested for STDs in order to start out with the full



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

knowledge of my sexual health status — which brings me to the reason I am writing.

My doctor told me that one test would cover almost everything, including HIV, but it would NOT test for herpes. I had to push my doctor into telling me that I would need a separate test to determine if I'd been exposed to herpes. Not one of my friends knew that a different test was required.

Would you please find out why the medical community does not advise people that they also must have a specific herpes test in order to screen for that as well as other STDs? — Dating Dilemma in Boston

Dear Boston: According to the American Social Health Association, many Americans assume they are tested for STDs as part of routine medical care when, in fact, they are not. We were surprised to learn that in some instances, even when patients request testing for STDs, they aren't checked for all of the most frequent infections — including herpes. For more information, check out ASHA's new consumer guide to STD testing, available on their website, www.ashasite.org.

Dear Annie: I dated

"Jerry" for seven years, and recently, he broke up with me. Jerry is a truck driver and seems to change jobs a couple of times a year. Every time that happens, we break up for two or three months, but we always seem to find our way back to each other. When we are alone, it is wonderful. However, when the kids or family members get involved, it simply falls apart.

I know this kind of on-and-on relationship is neither healthy nor good for either one of us. My problem is letting go. I still love him and am afraid I'll never see him again.

This is not my first relationship. I've even been married before. But this is the first time I've been so affected. How can I get over him? — Fist Full of Love

Dear Fist Full: It takes time to get over a breakup, especially since you dated Jerry for seven years, and experience says he could come back to you. But you must accept that this relationship has never been stable and you probably are better off.

Call a couple of girlfriends and go somewhere fun. Read a good book with a cup of hot tea. Rent a romantic movie and have a good cry. Fill your evenings and weekends with activities that keep your mind and body occupied, and eventually, you'll find that life without him is getting a little easier.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611.

Real Estate for Sale

PRETTY HOME with hard wood floors, new paint and carpet. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath with single car garage. Pretty yard with inground pool needs liner & deck. 40's. Call Joe Hughes Home Realtors (432)263-1284 Cell 270-7877 Home 353-4751.

WESTBROOK BRICK home on 2 lots. 3/2, large living with formal dining, newer carpet, 50x24 workshop/ garage, storage building with metal privacy fence. Call (432)267-3074.

Vehicles

Several New 2005 Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings

Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 4th 267-7121
1990 CHEVY Pickup. 3/4 ton extended cab. Good Condition. \$3500.. Call (432)264-6960.
1997 OLDS Regency. Excellent condition. All options. \$3,500. Call (432)267-6406.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sale of District Surplus Equipment
The Howard College District has contracted with the Big Spring State Hospital Recycling Program to sell the District's Surplus property. Please contact the Big Spring State Hospital Recycling Program at (432)263-0618 for the dates and times to view and bid. Auction Location: Big Spring Recycling Program 1405 North Hwy. 87 Big Spring, TX 79720 #4856 January 29, 30 & 31, 2006

TUESDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (64)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classica	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Science Fic.
6	3:30 News (CC) Ent. Tonight	3:30 News Wheel-Fortune	3:30 Plai de Otono	3:30 My Wife-Kids Raymond	3:30 News Ent. Tonight	3:30 La Tormenta	3:30 News Be a Millionaire	3:30 Raymond	3:30 Booker John Hagee	3:30 News-Laher	3:30 Dirty Jobs		3:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	3:30 Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	3:30 Live Movie: Baby	3:30 Zack & Cody	3:30 Interruption NFL Films	3:30 College Basketball	3:30 Movie: Interceptor
7	3:30 According-Jim Rodney (CC)	3:30 According-Jim Rodney (CC)	3:30 Contra Viento y Maree	3:30 American Idol (CC)	3:30 NCIS (CC)	3:30 El Cuerpo del Desaso	3:30 Fear Factor (CC)	3:30 Friends (CC)	3:30 Update/Israel Jimmy Philips	3:30 Secrets of Lost Empires	3:30 MythBusters (CC)	3:30 Movie: White Men Carr	3:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	3:30 Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	3:30 Boy	3:30 Movie: The Proud Family	3:30 College Basketball	3:30 Illinois at Wisconsin	3:30 Force (CC)
8	3:30 State of the Union (CC)	3:30 State of the Union (CC)	3:30 Alborada	3:30 State of the Union (CC)	3:30 State of the Union	3:30 State of the Union	3:30 State of the Union	3:30 Sex and-City	3:30 Light of the Southwest	3:30 State of the Union	3:30 Dirty Jobs	3:30 Jump	3:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	3:30 Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	3:30 (CC)	3:30 Florida at Mississippi	3:30 Winter X-Games (CC)	3:30 Movie: Interceptor	
9	3:30 News (CC)	3:30 News Nightline	3:30 Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	3:30 70s Show Raymond	3:30 News Late Show-	3:30 Noticias Laura	3:30 News Tonight Show	3:30 10 Movie: The Thomas	3:30 The Hour of Healing	3:30 Announced Roadshow FYI	3:30 MythBusters (CC)	3:30 Reaction (CC)	3:30 UFC: Liddell vs. Couture 3	3:30 Cold Case (CC)	3:30 In Living Color	3:30 Zack & Cody	3:30 Suite Franky With Smith	3:30 SportsCenter (CC)	3:30 Movie: They Live
10	3:30 Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	3:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	3:30 La Hora Derbez	3:30 Becker (CC)	3:30 Letterman Late Late	3:30 Al Rojo Vivo-	3:30 Late Night- (CC) (DVS)	3:30 Crown Affair	3:30 Joe McGee Rabbi Richman	3:30 Sign Off	3:30 MythBusters (CC)	3:30 45 Movie: The Blues Brothers	3:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	3:30 The X-Files (CC)	3:30 Jamie Foxx	3:30 Phil of Future Kim Possible	3:30 Season Weekly	3:30 NFL Live	3:30 NBA Fastbreak
11	3:30 Live (CC)	3:30 Extra (CC)	3:30 Amigas y Rivales (SS)	3:30 Becker (CC)	3:30 Show The Insider	3:30 Maria Celeste Pagado	3:30 Conan O'Brien Seinfeld (CC)	3:30 25 Movie:	3:30 Update/Israel John Hagee				3:30 Real TV	3:30 The X-Files (CC)	3:30 Comicview	3:30 Lizzie McGuire	3:30 X-Center	3:30 SportsCenter (CC)	3:30 Twilight Zone
12	3:30 News (CC)	3:30 Paid Program																	

DENNIS THE MENACE

1-31

"HEY, MOM! DID YOU KNOW THAT THE DISHWASHER WORKS ON MUDDY SHOES?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

1-31

"Bein' a smart aleck doesn't seem very smart to me."

HAGAR

1-31

AFTER A TWO-MONTH SIEGE, THE OWNER OF THE LARGEST CASTLE IN ENGLAND SURRENDERED HIS CASTLE TO ME...

BUT I HAD TO GIVE IT BACK!

WHY?

I COULDN'T AFFORD HIS PROPERTY TAXES!

BC

1-31

JUNIOR WANTS A PET

OK, OK, ... GET THE KID AN APHID.

APHIDS ARE A BIG RESPONSIBILITY FOR KIDS, YOU KNOW!

AH, WHAT THE HECK. IF HE DON'T TAKE CARE OF IT, WE'LL HAVE IT FOR DINNER.

BLONDIE

1-31

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I USED TO SAVE MONEY IN THIS PIGGY BANK.

THAT'S REALLY NICE, MR. B.

I PUT MY MONEY IN LONG-TERM CO'S AT 5% PER ANNUM.

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2006. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Four hundred years ago, on Jan. 31, 1606, Guy Fawkes, convicted of treason for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot" against the English Parliament and King James I, was executed.

On this date:

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna, Austria.

In 1865, Gen. Robert E. Lee was named General-in-Chief of all the Confederate armies.

In 1917, Germany served notice it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare.

In 1934, President Roosevelt devalued the dollar in relation to gold.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces began invading Kwajalein Atoll and other parts of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands.

In 1945, Private Eddie

WIZARD OF ID

1-31

A GOOD BARTENDER NEVER DISCUSSES POLITICS OR RELIGION.

IS THAT WHY THERE'S NO ONE IN HERE?

AGNES

1-31

ARE YOU MEDITATING YET?

YES. I AM MEDITATING MOST FURIOUSLY AND INTENSELY.

I WANT TO MEDITATE, TOO!

WELL, DON'T MEDITATE HERE. YOUR SCENT IS A BIT HAMPSTERISH AND WILL INTERFERE WITH MY PROFOUND UNTHINKING.

HAMPSTERISH?

I CAN NOT ACHIEVE NIRVANA WHEN ALL I THINK ABOUT IS BAGS OF CEDAR SHAVINGS.

HI AND LOIS

1-31

MR. FOOFRAM WANTS TO SEE "WHAT'S HIS NAME" IN HIS OFFICE RIGHT NOW.

HOW DO YOU MEAN HE MEANS YOU?

I'M ALSO "YOU-KNOW-WHO."

THE OTHER COAST

1-31

TOULOUSE, MEET AMY. SHE'S A SINGER, DANCER, ACTRESS AND WRITER.

THESPIAN BOB. WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?

WOW. WHAT ELSE IS SHE?

UNEMPLOYED.

I'M WRITING AN OPERA ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE PLAYING A SINGING COUCH OFF BROADWAY.

SNUFFY SMITH

1-31

I AIN'T WASHIN' NO DISHES, THAT'S WOMEN'S WORK !!

YOU'RE RIGHT, JUGHAID !!

WHY, A LI'L FELLER LIKE YOU IS WAY TOO WEAK AN' PUNY !!

NO I AIN'T !!

WHAT JEST HAPPENED ?!

BEEBLE BAILEY

1-31

I WANT OTTO TO SNIFF ALL THE BOXES IN THE MAIL ROOM.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR... DRUGS?

COOKIES FROM BEETLE'S MOTHER.

GREGG MOOT WALKER

SNIFF SNIFF

Newsday Crossword

KEEP WARM by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Lose fur
5 Sheep sounds
9 Young cow
13 Stories
15 Singer Guthrie
16 Computer owner
17 Klutzy
18 Hang on to
19 Queue
20 Town near Cape Canaveral
22 See socially
23 Singer Eartha
24 Hwys.
25 Suffix for suburban
27 Dallas sch.
29 Health-spa offering
33 ___-CIO
36 On a cruise
39 Art stand
40 Decorative touches in sewing
43 Lake boat
44 Uncorks
45 ___ out a living
46 Get out of one's chair
48 ___ Aviv
50 Chip off the old block
51 British title
53 Leisure
57 One pill a day, perhaps
60 Decoration on armor
63 Solemn assent
64 Tulsa's loc.

DOWN

1 Adhere
2 Vietnam's capital
3 Vote in
4 Bus terminals
5 Prepared, as popovers
6 Vicinities
7 Actor Baldwin
8 Actress Loren
9 Dead end
10 Largest continent
11 Ash
12 On the house
14 Bus terminal: Abbr.
21 Cruel one
26 African fly
28 Manage somehow
29 Husband or wife
30 Arthur of tennis
31 Nerd
32 Ultimatum conclusion
33 Kindergarten lesson
34 Like a pancake
35 Turner of films
37 Discontinue
38 Sixth-sense letters
41 Baloney
42 Opening statement
47 Not with it
49 Band boss
51 Soup alternative
52 Where Venice is
54 Sports stadium
55 Brains
56 Road curves
57 Numerical info
58 Sign of the future
59 Shipped out
61 Gumbo ingredient
62 Turkish fruit

PROFILES: Christopher Guffman

Jan. 20- you're still a past physical or essional to ing process many ways od to your-

19-March e a tenden- your emected ways, es of voice a react. Be ourself and

PROFILES: Christopher ally invent- n "mockure through us films "Guffman," w," and "A 1," not to eminal cine- re, the great " Eccentric ive on this creativity. p into more leses in 2006, his humor ok that his and chil- author Jamie will co-write

Answer to previous puzzle

A	B	C	S	I	T	U	P	P	T	S
T	R	A	C	T	A	R	B	A	R	O
M	A	N	A	L	L	A	B	O	R	I
D	E	L	H	I	N	E	A	S	M	O
P	I	N	G	S	T	A	T	E		
S	P	A	T	T	E	R	S			
U	R	N	I	D	I	O	M	E	M	C
G	I	N	A	M	N	O	P	O	R	E
A	D	U	L	T	M	E	T	A	L	I
R	E	A	I	R	S	T	R	E	S	T
N	E	V	E	L	A	I	R	O	M	I
A	V	A	T	L	A	S	R	O	C	K
P	E	G	A	L	L	E	R	T	N	O
E	R	E	H	E	R	B	S	M	A	T

Newsday Crossword

13 14 15 16

17 18 19

20 21 22

23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31 32

33 34 35 36 37 38 39

40 41 42

43 44 45

46 47 48 49

50 51 52 53 54 55 56

57 58 59 60 61 62

63 64 65 66

67 68

69 70 71

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Wacky Facts

■ Marian Anderson was the first African American to sing with the Metropolitan Opera. She also served as a UN delegate and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
—World Almanac for Kids

KID NEWS

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Chatter Box

"The quality, not the longevity, of one's life is what is important."
"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."
—Martin Luther King, Jr., on www.brainyquote.com

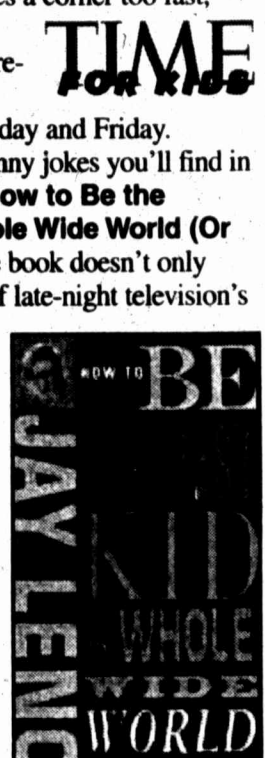


Elizabeth Eckford, right, is turned away by Arkansas National Guardsmen as she approaches Little Rock Central High School in this Sept. 4, 1957, photo. The guardsmen were instructed by Gov. Orval Faubus not to allow nine black students to enter the school, despite federal court orders.

In The News

Joking around with Jay Leno

Is it true that when it takes a corner too fast, a Mercedes-Benz?
And now the five-day forecast: Monday, followed by Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
These are some of the funny jokes you'll find in Jay Leno's second book, "How to Be the Funniest Kid in the Whole Wide World (Or Just in Your Class)." The book doesn't only have jokes. Leno, the host of late-night television's "The Tonight Show," included sections called Ask Jay, about becoming a comedian, and Comedy 101, which shares tips on how to get started in comedy. Time For Kids kid reporter Emily Doveala recently interviewed Leno in New York City.



TFK: What was your motivation for writing this book?
Leno: I would hear from a lot of kids. They would want to know how I got started. Initially we just started writing a joke book and then we thought: Let's give some tips and hints.

TFK: What advice would you give to a child who wants to grow to be a comedian?
Leno: Try and get as much of what we call stage time as possible. Speak in public. Maybe get up at your church. Get up at your synagogue. Learn how to speak in front of people and learn how to speak so you can be understood and stand up straight and that type of thing. Because if you stand on stage and you're telling a joke and you're looking down like this (looks down at floor), then people are going, "What, what?" They need to see you ... so you need to learn how to stand in front of people and talk. Then you can start to put the funny stuff in there.

TFK: How can kids be funny without hurting the feelings of others?
Leno: Even as a kid you know when you hurt people's feelings. If you tell a joke and you see only half the people are laughing, and the other half look really upset, then you're probably doing something wrong. You can be a bully with comedy the way you can with your fists. I know people that are bullies as speakers or performers and people don't really like them. And they never really become as popular as people who are nice people.

TFK: Were you a troublemaker or class clown as a kid?
Leno: 'Jay has the ability, but does not apply himself.' That's what I was told. I remember Mr. Simon: 'If Jay spent as much time studying as he does being a comedian, he'll be a big star.' Yeah, I was a troublemaker. ... It was just silly kid things.

TFK: What was your big break?
Leno: I never really had a big break. I had a bunch of little tiny breaks that if you add them all together made a big break. You find in show business, like everything else, there is no really one big break. Just kind of keep working and try to get better and better. To answer your question, my big break was probably the first time I did "The Tonight Show." That was the kind of show that really launched a career.
—Emily Doveala, 10

KID POWER

In the fight for equality, kids played a leading role

BY EMILIE LE BEAU
Chicago Tribune

During Black History Month, Americans remember the brave men and women who fought for equal rights. But children also were part of the civil rights movement, and their experiences are marked with both triumph and tragedy. Here are a few kids to remember:

LINDA BROWN

As a 3rd grader in Topeka, Kan., Linda had a long and dangerous haul to school. But a whites-only school was nearby, just a few blocks away. Along with 13 other families, Linda's father sued in 1951 for her right to attend. Linda's last name was first alphabetically, so her name went on the landmark case, Brown vs. The Board of Education. The case went all the way to the Supreme Court, where justices declared the idea of "separate but equal" as unconstitutional. The ruling began the long journey toward desegregation.

EMMETT TILL

Fourteen-year-old Emmett lived in Chicago and traveled to Money, Miss., to visit his great-aunt and great-uncle on their farm in August 1955. Emmett was nicknamed "Bobo" by his mother and had a slight stutter. His mother says she told him to whistle when he had problems speaking. While in town with his cousins, he was accused of whistling at a white woman, Carolyn Bryant. He was abducted from his relatives' home and murdered. His body was returned to Chicago where tens of thousands of mourners lined up outside the church on South State Street to remember Emmett. Some historians say his death sparked the civil rights movement.

THE LITTLE ROCK NINE

In 1957, nine black students were allowed to enroll at the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Ark. The students — Minniejean Brown, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Thelma Mothershed, Melba Pattillo, Gloria Ray, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas and Carlotta Walls — received so many threats, then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent the Arkansas National Guard to keep the students safe. But the guards didn't always help. These brave nine faced physical and verbal abuse daily. Minniejean was doused with soup in the lunchroom, and lit firecrackers were hidden in Melba's locker. Three graduated from Central, the others continued their education elsewhere.

THE FOUR LITTLE GIRLS

On Sept. 15, 1963, Sunday school had just let out at the Sixteenth Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., when bombs exploded. Four little girls were killed: Denise McNair was 11. She loved dolls and was saving money to donate to a muscular dystrophy charity. Carole Robertson was 14 and a clarinet player, Girl Scout and avid reader. Addie Mae Collins was 14, the peacemaker among her eight siblings. She loved hopscotch and was a star softball pitcher. Cynthia Wesley, 14, was an excellent student, a member of the school band and popular with her classmates. After the bombing, only one member of the Ku Klux Klan was convicted, in 1977. A second suspect died before charges could be made. In 2001, two more KKK members were sent to jail for the crime.



Some historians say the murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till sparked the civil rights movement.

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