

Moss fourth grader Bee-comes local spelling champion

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The smallest contestant came up very big at the 2006 Big Spring Independent School District Spelling Bee.

Diminutive Moss Elementary fourth-grader Gabbie Trevino survived 18 rounds and a tough challenge from Goliad Middle School's Derek Payton to claim the spelling crown Thursday afternoon at the junior high school cafeteria.

With the victory, Trevino advances to the Regional Spelling Bee in Lubbock March 4. The winner there advances to the Scripps-Howard National Spelling Bee later this year in Washington D.C.

Stage fright may have played a big role in thinning out the list of contenders Thursday, as everyone but Trevino and Payton were eliminated in the first two rounds.

But it seems that the last thing Trevino was scared of was speaking into a microphone.

"We have this karaoke machine at home," she said. "We turned off the music part,

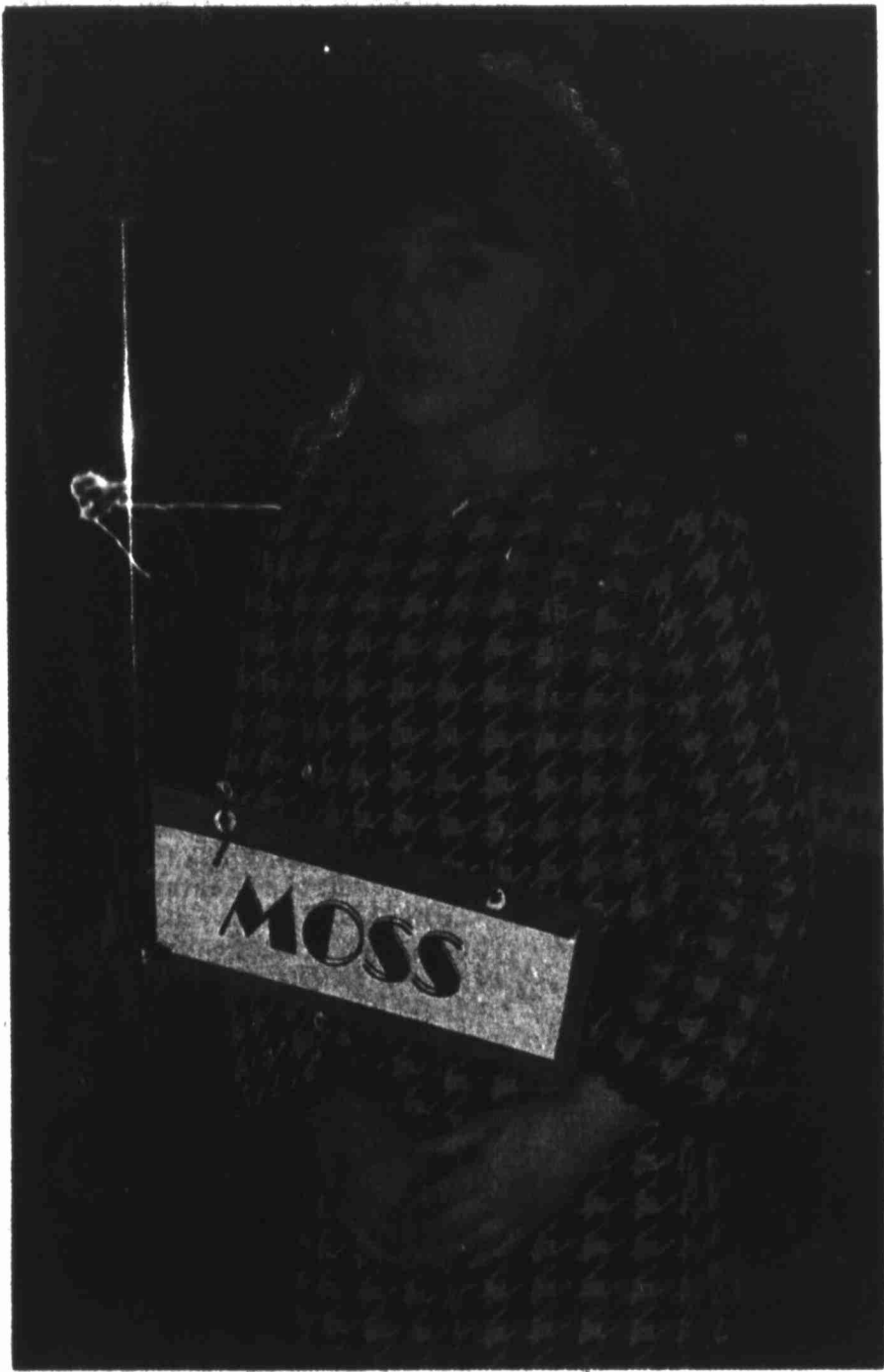
and I just practiced with that." All that practice paid off.

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Moss Elementary fourth grader Gabbie Trevino, at right, survived a tough challenge from Goliad Middle School's Derek Payton, above, to claim the championship of the 2006 Big Spring Independent School District Spelling Bee Thursday afternoon.

Herald photo/Steve Reagan



State sued

ESL, bilingual programs fall behind, Latino groups contend

TYLER (AP) — Latino advocates filed a federal lawsuit Thursday asking that Texas improve supervision over English as a Second Language and bilingual education programs to ensure students who are learning English don't lag behind others.

The lawsuit contends Texas has failed for years to appropriately oversee the programs at public schools, leaving thousands of children with limited English skills to fail exit tests, drop out or be held back.

Officials with the Texas Education Agency had not yet seen the lawsuit and couldn't comment, said agency spokeswoman DeEtta Culbertson.

See SUIT, Page 3A

DRA planning on 'upscale' Funtastic Fourth Festival

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

July may seem pretty far in the future for most, but for Big Spring's Downtown Revitalization Association it comes entirely too fast — every year.

That could have something to do with the local

organization's Funtastic Fourth Festival, which draws thousands from all over West Texas to downtown Big Spring for plenty of food, fun and music.

The group met Thursday at Country Western Fare restaurant to elect its officers — which yielded the decision to keep the same offi-

"We're really pumped. We're really excited about this year's festival."

—John Bryans, DRA president

cers the group had in 2005 — and talk about the Funtastic Fourth.

John Bryans agreed to stay on as president,

while vice president Jo Ann Staulcup — who was unable to attend the meeting — was re-elected as well. Dana Baker, who

was also unable to attend, was named secretary, and Ellen Barefoot agreed to serve a second term as treasurer.

Bryans said he hopes to see the 2006 Funtastic Fourth become a more "upscale" event.

"We want to do an upscale deal on it this year," said Bryans. "This

is going to be our fifth anniversary for doing this, and we feel like that's a small milestone that we're going to kind of work off. We want to get people excited about it. We're going to be looking for better bands, better contests and better ven-

See DRA, Page 3A

A better education

Rotarians give time, books to Goliad students

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club has decided to put its money where its mouth is in its attack on illiteracy.

For the past several months, local Rotarians have been volunteering their time as reading assistants at local schools, according to chapter president Walter Brumley.

But club members decided that wasn't



Goliad Middle School students, from left, Sierra Hinojosa, Reba Smith, Matthew Tompkins and Alex Rodriguez, examine some of the books donated to the school by the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club. Club members, back row, from left, Debye Valverde, Walter Brumley, Troy Tompkins and Carl Condray look on.

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BSISD trustees mull teacher salary hikes to stay competitive

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Apparently, it's never too early to start working on a budget.

Although several months still remain in this fiscal year, Big Spring Independent School District trustees began discussing a general outline of next year's budget at their regular meeting Thursday at the high school board room.

The majority of discussion centered on how BSISD can make its teacher salaries more competitive with other school districts in the

area. Superintendent Michael Downes told trustees that, despite the fact that BSISD pays its teachers above state mandates, it still lags behind several school districts in this area. For example, he noted that the average actual salary for Big Spring teachers this school year is \$37,840, compared to \$39,372 in Midland and \$40,202 in

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BLACK TIE CRIME

FORT SMITH, Ark. (AP) — Police can't classify a break-in at Beau's Tuxedos as a white-collar crime: the thieves took only tux jackets.

Burglars broke into two vans in the store's parking lot early Wednesday and stole 186 black tuxedo jackets, police spokesman Sgt. Jarrard Copeland said Thursday. No shirts or any other items were taken.

Copeland said it was unclear what inspired the theft, but he hoped the thieves were conspicuous.

"Somebody has them (the tuxes) and somebody is trying to get rid of them," he said. "We hope somebody drops a dime."

BLOOD DRIVE COMING

Mountain View Lodge is having a blood drive through United Blood Services from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Feb. 17 in the Bloodmobile at the nursing home, 2009 Virginia Ave.

Blood donor requirements are that the donor be at least 17 years old, be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, know names of all medications currently being taken and have valid identification, such as driver's or donor ID.

Call UBS at 561-5539 for qualifications. To sign up for the blood drive, call Jessica Paredes, director of marketing and admissions for Mountain View Lodge, at 263-1271.

EQIP APPLICATIONS DUE

The deadline for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to accept applications for 2006 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding is Friday, Feb. 17.

Applications for EQIP funds received on or before that date will be ranked and funded from the initial allocation to Howard County. Last year EQIP funding in Howard County totaled \$280,145.00.

Those interested in signing an EQIP application should visit the USDA Service Center office in Big Spring at 302 West IH 20, Suite 101 or call 432-267-1871, ext. 3 or access the information on the Texas NRCS Web site at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

Obituaries

Rex A. Shive

Rex A. Shive, 75, of Coahoma died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at the Coahoma Cemetery with Tom Koger, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma, officiating and the Rev. Allen Guthrie, retired Presbyterian minister, assisting.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

He was born Jan. 11, 1931, in Big Spring and married Cleo Little Aug. 8, 1948, in Coahoma.

Mr. Shive was a lifelong resident of Howard County and farmed near Coahoma before retiring in 1996. He had also worked for Cosden for 19 years. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Cleo Shive of Coahoma; one son, Rob Shive of Austin; two daughters, Sharon Van Den Houten and husband, Walter of Abilene and Janene Shive Gryder of San Angelo; three grandchildren, Lisa Vasile of San Antonio, Kimberly Godines of Abilene and Amy Gryder of San Angelo; and three great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Percy Nolan and Ruth Wolf Shive.

The family suggests memorials be made to the First Presbyterian Church, Box 94, Coahoma 79511 or to Odyssey Hospice, 1003 E. FM 700, Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Lonnie Gene Webb

Lonnie Gene Webb, 64, of Big Spring died Friday, Feb. 3, 2006, at his residence. Private family services were held in San Antonio.

He was born Sept. 19, 1941, in Big Spring.

Lonnie was a musician, entertainer and an architectural engineer. He served as a Spec 4 in the United States Army.

Survivors include his mother, Beatrice Webb of Big Spring; his sister, Glenda Cruse of San Antonio; and other extended family in East Texas.

He was preceded in death by his father, Leon Webb.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Dr. Odis Lynn Avant



Dr. Odis Lynn Avant, 60, of Lubbock died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2006 in Lubbock. Services are 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at Broadway Church of Christ in Lubbock with Rodney Plunkett officiating. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 28, 1945, in Big Spring to the late Reginald and Lola Avant and married Verlene Garrett in Lamesa in 1963. He graduated University of Texas at San Antonio Medical School with a doctorate in medicine in 1970 and was a senior partner at Lubbock Urology Clinic, practicing in Lubbock for 31 years. He was staff at Covenant Medical Center, University Medical Center and Highland Hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Verlene Avant of Lubbock; three children, Steven Avant of Lubbock, Lecretia Jones and husband, Jeff of Hurst and Keith Avant and wife, Jennifer of Lubbock; four grandchildren; brother, Roger Avant of Big Spring; sister-in-law, Carolyn Garrett of Lubbock; two nieces; and six nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Lubbock Children's Home, or to your favorite charity.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Sergio Gonzalez Jr.

Sergio Gonzalez Jr., 5, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2006, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support groups

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.

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over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

Police blotter

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

- ELDA BERNAL, 35, 3612 Hamilton, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- AMBER ALEXANDER, 26, of 1907 Runnels, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- JULIE ANN MINCE, 33, of 16 Kinley Lane, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- ALISHA AMITH, 33, of 4202 Old Colorado City Highway, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- CRISTOVAL MORENO, 46, of 1105 N. Nolan, was arrested Thursday on a charge of theft of a firearm.
- RAUL MARTINEZ, 48, of 1510 Oriole, was arrested Thursday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
 - in the 1000 block of Third Street.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 900 block of 11th Place.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 1600 block of Third Street.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 400 block of Main Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- TONY DREW WYRICK, 22, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of harassment.
- EPIFANIO HINOJOSA, 21, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
- CRISTOBAL LIMON MORENO, 46, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of a firearm.
- DENISE KAYLA HORTON, 42, was arrested Thursday on a charge of bondsman off bond for driving while license invalid.
- RICARDO CASTILLO, 27, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of bondsman off bond for theft.
- CLETE MATTHEW STONE, 22, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Ent. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Sunset Boulevard. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take note

• ISAAH 58 FOOD DISTRIBUTION is moving to the old West Texas Food Bank building, 1208 E. Third St., this Monday and Tuesday only. Monday food will be distributed from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. and Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and again from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. When the road in front of the Isaiah 58 building, 107 Runnels, has been repaved, operations will resume at that location. For more information, call 268-1270.

• VALENTINE'S DAY FASHION SHOW at the Big Spring Mall begins at 2 p.m. Saturday. Prizes and discounts will be offered at this free event. Sponsored by Uptown Salon and Day Spa, this features the merchants of the mall. Call 267-1544 for more information.

• BSHS SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM SILENT AUCTION beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday in the high school library to raise funds for State UIL competition in Pharr San Juan March 2-5. Also, the students are also sponsoring A Mile of Pennies to raise funds for the trip and will be at Wal-Mart at 9 a.m. Saturday, collecting change for the project. For more information, call 264-3641, ext. 151.

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

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

- Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. in the Event Center, 1607 E. Third.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-9677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the La Posada Restaurant.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at 1st and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the mid 20s. North winds around 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the mid 40s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 20s. Northwest winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Not as cool. Highs around 60. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

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

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

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

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

Tuesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

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

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

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 19-24-27-32 (numerical order). Bonus Ball: 20.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$250,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-7-9-15-36.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-0-9

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Magers' condition remains critical

Herald Staff Report

Ellihue Magers is stable, but in critical condition in the surgical intensive care unit at the University Medical Center in Lubbock after being struck by an automobile in Big Spring recently.

Magers has two broken legs and major head trauma and remains unconscious at the medical center, according to daughter, Rose Magers-Powell.

"We're just praying right now," said Magers-Powell.

Magers, 82, was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center Jan. 27 following a vehicle/pedestrian accident on Anna Street, near the 2900 block of Highway 80.

According to officers at the scene, a woman traveling south on Anna hit Magers while traveling around a curve in the road.

DRA

Continued from Page 1A

dors come in, so we have a really nice-looking, dressed up show for the people."

DRA member Skip Burcham said he would like to see more upscale vendors at the festival.

"We need to be more particular with the vendors," Burcham told the board. "We don't want someone just coming in and setting up a cardboard box for this. We need to be more careful and be picky about the

vendors, because a day is coming when there will actually be a waiting list for this event. And we have to start by bringing the level up, especially with our vendors."

While the group discussed adding a more distinguished air to the annual event, which will be slated for the Fourth of July holiday, Bryans said they aren't losing sight of family fun and games for the children.

"We've also thought about having some things that are a little more old fashioned," said Bryans. "We want to have family

ROTARY

Continued from Page 1A

enough.

"As part of the program, we applied for a matching grant from Rotary International for use toward the purchase of books for school libraries," said club member Troy Tompkins.

Local Rotarians donated \$500, and that amount was matched by the parent organization, Tompkins said. Books were purchased, then presented to Goliad Middle School librarians and students on Wednesday.

Staff at Goliad selected the books, predominantly biographies and U.S. history.

"We decided on Goliad, because all the students in the district eventually go through there," Tompkins said. "We thought it would be better that way than splitting them up among the campuses."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

BEE

Continued from Page 1A

although it did little to shake off Payton's challenge.

The two survived 17 rounds — and a few stumbles — before the matter was decided.

Each had chances to finish the competition earlier, but tripped up on the potential winning words — Payton in round 14 when he mis-spelled "nozzle" and Trevino two rounds later when she missed "oppressed."

Trevino missed again in round 18 when she tripped up on "sabbath." Payton spelled the word correctly,

but lost out on a chance at winning when he failed to correctly spell "fatality." Given another chance, Trevino aced that word, then "adhesion" to claim the championship.

No one was prouder of her accomplishment than her parents, although they did admit to suffering a bad case of nerves.

"We were just nerve-wracked," said Art Trevino, Gabbie's father. "We were probably more nervous than she was. It was really exciting, and we're just very proud of her."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

BSISD

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Odessa.

To bring local salaries more into line with area averages, trustees reached tentative consensus on a sliding pay scale that would pay \$28,000 at the bottom and \$44,300 at the top.

With Texas ranking in the lower third nationally in teacher pay, Downes said it was incumbent on local districts to offer the best pay package they can to attract and retain teachers.

"I think we need to increase teacher pay," he said. "And it's only a matter of time before we have to do it to remain competitive."

Trustees stressed that

all talk of teacher raises was preliminary only. Much is dependent on what direction the state legislature takes when dealing with education finance this spring.

In other business, board members:

- Approved a waiver to allow BSISD students to start the 2006-07 school year a week earlier than state requirements. The waiver must be approved by the Texas Education Agency before it is put into effect.

- Learned that the district will receive more than \$500,000 from Austin ISD as part of the "Robin Hood" school finance plan.

The money is interest and profit from the sale of attendance credits by BSISD — a "property poor" district — to

Austin, a "rich" district. Business Manager Sandra Waggoner said \$315,000 of the money must be spent on instructional technology, while the remainder (\$176,000) will go into the district's general fund.

- Approved contract extensions or renewals for all district administrators, directors and coordinators.

- Learned that district enrollment was 3,764 students as of Feb. 3, an increase of 39 from the same time last year.

- Approved bids for athletic equipment and the sale of old school buses.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

SUIT

Continued from Page 1A

Filed in federal court in Tyler by Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and the Multicultural Training, Education and Advocacy, Inc., the lawsuit requests that the TEA be ordered to establish a system to monitor students who are learning English. It asks for the agency to monitor bilingual and ESL programs on-site, ensure access for students and make sure the instruction offered is appropriate.

The lawsuit, filed on behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens and the American GI Forum, also wants intervention for schools where the achievement gap, retention rate and drop out figures of students learning English is significant.

Citing Texas Education Agency figures from the 2004-2005 school year, the suit said more than 8 out of 10 seventh-graders with limited English proficiency failed to meet the state's standards on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test.

By the secondary educa-

tion level, students must take the TAKS in English to graduate. In the 10th grade, 9 out of 10 non-English speaking students failed the exit test.

From the class of 2004, more than 16 percent of non-English speaking students dropped out of school, compared to 1.9 percent of white students and 3.9 percent of all students, the suit said.

On the day the suit was filed, members of the State Board of Education were debating the merits of bilingual education versus immersion, a method that tries to teach students a new language by giving all instruction in that particular language. Some board members want Texas schools to have the option of English immersion instruction instead of bilingual programs to teach public school students to read, write and speak English.

Immersion proponents believe that students will absorb English when given constant exposure. Critics say immersion students can't learn basic

skills when they are being taught in a language they don't understand.

Following a previous lawsuit, the United States District Court for the Eastern District in 1981 found inadequacies in the state's bilingual program that were made worse by the state's failure to monitor and enforce local compliance. An appeals court later said the program was unsound, largely unimplemented and yielded unproductive results.

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to attract the bigger bands," said Johnson. "Our quality of music and the battle of the bands needs to be something very special."

Johnson suggested a substantial increase in the prize for the competition, an idea the board agreed it would consider.

There was considerable talk about the proposed laser light show for the festival, with several board members saying

they would rather see a "big-name" musical act in that part of the events. According to Johnson, last year's light show cost the DRA \$7,500.

Bryans said the details are beginning to come together, and he and the rest of the DRA are excited about the upcoming event.

"We're really pumped. We're really excited about this year's festival," said Bryans. "It's been kind of

a long journey, and you can get tired and weary at times, but we have some new energy and some new blood involved. So we're really ready to run with it."

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

ROBBY WRIGHT FAMILY IN CONCERT

Seeking People... Seeking God

East Side Baptist Church
The Robby Wright Family appears in concert at 7 p.m. Saturday and again at 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday at East Side Baptist Church.

The gospel singing group, including Robby, Cheryl, Amber and Heather Wright, appeared at the Fourth of July celebration in 2005. Their song, "Miracle in Me" was named the Song of the Year at the Southern Gospel Music Association convention in 2005.

The event is free and a nursery is provided for children 4 and younger. For more information, call 267-1915.

Let's Go Dancin' At The Eagles!

803 W. 3rd 263-6862

*** Saturday Night ***
February 11th, 2006 • 8:30 pm - 12:30 am

SILVER NUGGET

EAGLES BINGO: Sunday, Wednesday & Friday
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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Bobbie McCracken, 53, died Monday. Graveside Services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Sergio Gonzalez, Jr., 5, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

RITZ

401 S. Main 263-7480
Movie Hot Line: 263-9477

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Daily: 7:10, 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 5:00
Underworld: Evolution (R)
Daily 7:00, 9:10 Sat. & Sun. 4:50

CINEMA 4

***Firewall (PG-13)**
Daily: 4:40, 7:10 Fri.: 9:30 Sat. & Sun.: 2:10

***The Pink Panther (PG)**
Daily: 5:00, 7:30 Fri.: 9:50 Sat. & Sun.: 2:30

Annapolis (PG-13)
Daily: 4:50, 7:20 Fri.: 9:40 Sat. & Sun.: 2:20

Glory Road (PG)
Daily: 7:00 Sat. & Sun.: 2:00

Last Holiday (PG-13)
Daily: 4:30 Fri.: 9:20

ADULTS: \$6.00
\$4.00 ALL MATINEES, CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS
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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.

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Big Spring High School theatre students and instructor Tracie Lindsey who put together Thursday's "We Love the 80s" winter review. It was great fun!

- The West Texas Health Care System on its Four Chaplains Memorial Service — in remembrance of U.S. armed forces veterans who died during the previous year — and also to Raymond Stuckel, Floyd Hickman and Greg Aguilar, who were presented with the Legion of Honor, which the VA awards to employees and volunteers for outstanding service to veterans.

- Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Big Spring "students," who held their first class Thursday.

- Howard County area Boy Scouts, on another successful food drive, and area Girl Scouts, for getting their annual cookie drive off the ground with special sales going to airmen and women deployed out of Dyess AFB.

- Heritage Museum and the volunteers and local beauty shops and individuals who participated in last Saturday's opening of the "Beauty in Big Spring" exhibit.

- 2006 Big Spring ISD Spelling Bee champion Gabbie Trevino, runner-up Derek Payton and fellow participants Jana Stiles, Hannah Biemeret, Kenan Lewis, Clarissa Medina and Brianna Knight. Thanks, too, to all moderator, judges and staff who conducted the event.

Letters

To the Editor:

My name is Marillyn Mears, and I am looking for any persons that live in the Big Spring area that has RSD, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy. Our daughter Debbie Rawls has RSD now for nearly two years and we would like to get a support group started. There are so many that have this horrible disease that we want to make it

known to all. As you know, RSD is not a new disease and is very much understood, and a lot of people either do not believe you or just do not want to now about it.

My daughter and I are planning a bake sale for RSD Awareness on May 13, at our local Wal-Mart. So, if there is anyone here that has this and would like to help us spread the word about RSD, you can call me at 935-6278

Marillyn Mears
Big Spring

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

Heard enough on 'domestic' abuse

I hereby expressly consent to the NSA eavesdropping on any telephonic, Internet or other electronic forms of communications I may have — whether I initiate or am on the receiving end of the communication — with any person or persons the government has reasonable basis to conclude is a member of al Qaeda, affiliated with al Qaeda or a member of an organization affiliated with al Qaeda.

I aver that I have no expectation of privacy with respect to any communications I might have with suspected or known al Qaeda members or persons linked to al Qaeda or related terrorist organizations. Indeed, I'd like to meet the person who would pretend to be victimized by an interception of a call he had with al Qaeda.

As usual with the Democratic leadership, it's difficult to tell for sure whether its motivation in attempting to scandalize the president's wartime electronic surveillance of the enemy is purely political, based on legitimate civil-liberties concerns or a combination of both.

But given its overt misrepresentation of the president's program and its disregard for the historical practice of warrantless electronic surveillance of the enemy by the presidents of both parties, my bet is that their motivation is partisan.

If Democratic leaders were truly concerned about potential infringements of privacy rights, would they repeatedly mischaracterize the program as "domestic" spying? Would they have pretended the president conducted this

program completely clandestinely when he briefed key members of Congress from both parties more than a dozen times?

Would they all repeat the same hollow mantra, "We are in favor of spying on al Qaeda"? Isn't that what's going on here? Sorry, boys and girls, you can't have it both ways. Explain to us how you would protect the nation by always requiring warrants in this fast-moving, high-tech world, with ever-shifting phone numbers and disposable cell phones — a world the drafters of FISA couldn't possibly have envisioned.

Let's be clear what we're talking about here. The NSA surveillance program involves intelligence of a foreign enemy during war. None of the interceptions of communications is for the purpose of criminal law enforcement but instead for the detection and prevention of terrorist attacks against the United States.

The program clearly does not apply to purely domestic communications, where all parties to the communications are located in the United States. The Justice Department has specified that the president "has authorized the NSA to intercept international (emphasis mine) communications into and out of the United States of persons linked to al Qaeda or related terrorist organizations." (For the record, it wouldn't bother me if the program included purely domestic communications as long as one or more parties to the conversation were reasonably believed to have ties to al Qaeda.)

In light of the Democratic leadership's exaggerated displays of concern, one might infer it suspects the president of having assimilated a list of political enemies and authorized warrantless wiretaps of their calls. But it's difficult to imagine how anyone could think

this president, who considers Ted Kennedy a friend and Bill Clinton a brother, even believes he has political enemies. It's not as if President Bush has hired the Clintons' favorite private eye, Anthony Pellicano, to dig up dirt on Howard Dean.

If Democrats were not engaged in partisan shenanigans here, why did they wait for *The New York Times* to leak news of this program to raise objections to it when important members of their party had been briefed well ahead of the publication of the story?

Would they be attempting to criminalize the president's surveillance program or suggest that it constitutes an impeachable offense instead of civilly debating him over his constitutional authority? Perhaps we should call for impeachment of members of Congress every time they arguably exceed their constitutional authority, which happens to be almost daily.

The Democratic leadership insists it is as vigilant on national-security matters as the president. If that's the case, why does it always rush to err on the side of civil liberties, even when there are no known victims of any NSA surveillance abuses — or of the Patriot Act, for that matter?

Based on the evidence before us, it appears once again that the Democratic leadership is willing to politicize anything, including our national security, and that its cacophony over the Fourth Amendment is just a lot of hot air designed to singe the president, who is manifestly engaged in a good-faith effort to honor his constitutional duty as Commander in Chief to protect the nation from enemy attack.

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ADDRESSES

• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
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The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

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U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510-4305

Phone: 202-224-2934

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U.S. Representative (19th Cong. District)
1510 Scurry
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Phone: (432) 264-0722

• **RICK PERRY**
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1

P.O. Box 12428
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Phone: (512) 463-2000

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(432) 268-9909

Republicans are such cards

I like to think that Republicans are having fun. They're such cards. What a wheeze, what a jape. Talking about energy independence in the State of the Union Address! President Bush said, "America is addicted to oil" and we will "break this addiction." Oh what a good trick to see if anyone thought he actually meant it!

I'm not going to embarrass the perennial suckers who fell for it by identifying them, but I assure you they include some well-known names in journalism. Boy, I bet they feel like fools, having written those optimistic columns pointing to how Bush had made a fine proposal — cut oil imports from the Middle East by 75 percent by 2025 — and people should take it seriously and stop dissing him.

Of course, the next day the administration trotted out Energy Secretary Sam Bodman and Alan Hubbard, director of the president's National Economic Council, to assure us the president didn't mean it. Bodman explained, "That was purely an example." A "for instance." Like, we could set a goal like that. Actually, we could do that without breaking a sweat: set fuel efficiency standards at 40 miles per gallon in 10 years (hybrids already get higher mileage now), and you save 2.5 million barrels a day, just what we import now from the Mideast.

According to Knight Ridder, "Asked why the president used the words 'the Middle East' when he didn't really mean them, one administration official said Bush wanted to dramatize the issue in a way that 'every American sitting out there listening to the speech understands.' The official spoke only on condition of anonymity because he feared that his remarks might get him into trouble."

Aw. Let's see, Bush lied so "every American sitting out there

listening to the speech understands." It's our fault. We're so dumb, if he doesn't lie, we don't get it. Of course, those sophisticates who pay attention to stuff

like the budget, where they decide how to spend the money, were already aware that the \$150 million (a truly pitiful amount by Washington standards) Bush promised would go to making biofuels more competitive is \$50 million less than what was in last year's budget for that purpose.

But, you are not to assume that Bush has given up on the Dick Cheney plan to drill our way to energy independence just because he didn't mention it in his speech. Last month, the Department of Interior released a plan that will open 590,000 acres in Alaska's Western Arctic Reserve for drilling. The land has been protected for decades.

The head of the Natural Resources Defense Council's Alaska Project, Chuck Clusen, said: "Scientists, sportsmen and conservation groups all agree we should protect the last 13 percent of the most sensitive habitat in the Western Arctic's Northeast area. Eighty-seven percent was already open. The Bureau of Land Management decided to hand all of it over to the oil companies. ... We can drill every last acre of wilderness, and it won't make us any more secure. We only have 3 percent of the world's oil, and the Middle East has 66 percent. Do the math. We can't drill our way to energy independence."

What a good joke. And this guy Boehner, John Boehner, the new Republican majority leader, elected because of Tom DeLay's unfortunate indictment, what a gagster this guy is,

what a zany madcap. He ran as a reform candidate! Har, har, har, har! This is a guy who's up to his neck in the K Street Project, in which conservative lobbyists and politicians walk hand-in-hand. Boehner has such a highly developed sense of ethics, he once distributed checks from the tobacco lobby on the floor of the House of Representatives.

But now that he's been elected, it's time to get serious, and Boehner has already backed away from Speaker Dennis Hastert's proposal to actually ban (gasp!) gifts and trips from lobbyists. Boehner figures it's enough just to report them. That'll take care of everything.

I tell you, this bunch of cut-ups just keeps the fun coming. Just a few weeks ago, the House of Representatives cut \$16 billion from Medicare over 10 years, which means states will increase co-payments on poor people and drop preventive care — which will cost more in the long run, but what the hey. They also cut \$12.7 billion in student aid and loan programs over five years, because who needs that? And cut another \$1.5 billion in child support enforcement in the next year, which is positively brilliant and will result in a drop of at least \$8.4 billion in child support collected over the next 10 years. Oh, and a measly cut of \$577 million in foster care over five years, making it harder to take care of neglected and abused children, who probably did something to deserve it in the first place.

Now here's a little howler: Bush proposes cutting \$36 billion from Medicare over the next five years only ... wait for it ... he's not cutting the money, he's saving it! A \$36 billion Medicare savings. That's so clever.

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Church News

First United

Methodist Church

Sunday worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sunday is Drama Sunday and the Rev. Dave Ring's message is "First Person Monologue: The Ups and Downs of a Christian Life" (Luke's Personal Testimony).

The New Testament Scripture text is from Acts 28: 1-10. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m.

"God's Call" Lay Leadership Retreat is scheduled for March 31 - April 2 at the Circle Six Baptist Camp in Stanton. Deadline for registration is Feb. 17.

Sunday at 1:30 pm is the Worship Committee Meeting.

The Centered in Praise Ensemble meets at 3 p.m. There will be a Valentine's Day Party for fourth, fifth and sixth graders from 4 p.m. until 6:30 pm. Rehearsals for the children's musical is Sunday from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Junior High Youth meet at 5:30 p.m. and Senior High Youth meet at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Partee Building.

Tuesdays Kid's Club is from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. and the Disciple I Class meets at 6:45 p.m.

Wednesdays begin with Children's Day Out at 9 a.m.; Lunch/Bible study is at noon and Hispanic Ministry holds Bible studies at 6 p.m. in the Men's Bible Class.

Also on Wednesdays is handbell practice at 6 p.m., Combined Youth Bible Study is at 6:30 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal is at 7 p.m.

Thursday Women's Bible Study is at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Special prayer times are observed in the chapel Thursday at noon and Friday at 7 a.m.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

St. Paul

Lutheran Church

Services are 9 a.m. Sunday, Sunday school and adult Bible classes are at 10:15 a.m.

Small group Bible studies are Exodus, Monday at 7 p.m.; Tuesday at 7 p.m. is Relying on the Holy Spirit; Wednesday at noon is Lord, I want to know You; Thursday at 6:30 p.m. is a study of Hebrews; Friday at 6 a.m. is The case for Christ; and Sunday at 6 p.m. is a study of the Book of Acts.

Call the church for locations. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has cookbooks for sale at \$10. with proceeds going to the

high school Bible classes. The church is located at 810 Scurry. Call 267-7163 for more information. The Rev. Wayne Frost is pastor.

Salem Baptist Church

Salem Baptist Church meets Sunday at 10 a.m. for Sunday school, 11 a.m. for morning worship and again at 6 p.m. for evening worship. Nursery service is available for those with small children.

The Wednesday evening service is at 6 p.m. at Parkplace. The Rev. Monroe Teeters is pastor of Salem Baptist Church. The church is located at the corner of Old Colorado City Highway and Salem Road. Call 394-4655 for more information.

East Fourth Street

Baptist Church

A Valentine Banquet immediately follows the Sunday worship service. The youth are hosting the event and donations will be accepted. This event spotlights the senior adults, as we honor them. The Sunday School program which begins at 9:45 a.m. This is for all age groups, babies through adults.

The morning worship service begins at 11 a.m. Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children and youth Sunday nights at 5. The evening worship service begins at 6 p.m.

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., there is prayer and Bible study for youth and adults.

The Rev. Rex Clayton is pastor. The church is located downtown at 401 E. Fourth Street. For more information, call the church office at 267-2291.

Mt. Bethel

Baptist Church

Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m., followed by morning worship at 11 a.m. Evening Bible study and Youth Church are both at 5 p.m. Sunday. Wednesday, Youth Church is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 630 Sgt. Paredez (NW Fourth St.)

College Baptist

Church

The church, located at 1105 Birdwell Lane, offers Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. and Sunday worship services at 11 a.m. Evening worship is at 6 p.m. Sunday and a Bible study meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 267-7429.

Cornerstone Church

Worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday and The Rev. Craig Felty presents "Back to the Basics - When all else fails, read the directions," Sunday at 11 a.m. Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities. Childcare is available for newborns through preschool.

The church is located at 12th and Owens streets. Call 263-3072 with any questions.

YoungLife

YoungLife Banquet is Feb. 27. Table hosts are needed. Call Shelly Warren, area director, at 432-213-4819.

New Covenant

Sunday morning worship services are 11 a.m.; the doors open at 10:30 a.m.

The church is located at 1607 E. Third street. For more information, call 264-0015 or e-mail nccwcl@yahoo.com.

McGee Chapel

New leaders are Bennie and Debra Johnson. Sunday school is 10:30 a.m. and morning worship is 11:30 a.m. Wednesday service is 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 1000 N.W. Third St. For more information, call 267-6605 or 325-944-4891.

Iglesia de Cristo

Iglesia de Cristo Anderson y Green, con Predicador, Miguel Bustillos. Domingos servicios 10 a.m., Miercoles 7 p.m. Telefonos 432-689-6374 y 432-684-7852. Ofrecemos estudios biblicos en su hogar sin costo ni obligacion.

Berea Baptist Church

The church is located at 4204 Wasson Road. Service times are Sunday Bible study at 9:45 a.m.; worship at 11 a.m.; evening worship at 6 p.m. Youth meet for a mid-week Bible study Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Adults also meet Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. for Bible study and prayer. The church office is open from 9 a.m. until noon Monday through Thursday. For more information, call 267-8438.

Birdwell Lane Baptist

A Valentine Banquet is Sunday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214. Birdwell Lane Baptist Church is located at 1512 Birdwell Lane.

East Side

Baptist Church

A Valentine Concert is set for this Saturday at 7 p.m. presenting "The Robby Wright Family."

The Wrights are also singing during the Sunday morning services at 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. A nursery is provided for ages 4 and younger. For more information, call 267-1915. East Side Baptist is located at 1108 E. Sixth St.

First Christian Church

Last Sunday, young people at First Christian Church joined thousands of teens in hundreds of cities across the country to collect dollar bills to feed the hungry, transforming Super Bowl Sunday into the nation's largest youth-led day of giving.

Started in 1990, the Souper Bowl of Caring has raised more than \$28 million for local charities through the efforts of teen-agers.

The goal of Souper Bowl of Caring is to demonstrate to young people how small efforts can make a huge difference.

Using football collection canisters, the First Christian teens stood at the church exits to collect \$1 for each church member as they left. They decided to donate their special collection to Isaiah 58.

To monitor Souper Bowl of Caring's progress online, visit www.Souperbowl.org.

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and worship service is at 10:50 a.m.

Friends of Unity

The Center is a place that is openly and powerfully conducive to teaching and learning and giving thanks to the One Source. At 2 p.m. Sunday, the group studying the Gospel of John meets. This is an in-depth Bible Study.

Philadelphia Primitive

Baptist

The Rev. Elder Barry Brown of Aledo is scheduled to be the guest minister at the Sunday morning worship service of the

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Services begin at 10:30 a.m.

Bible study and prayer meeting is each Wednesday night at 7. For more information, call John Wayne Metcalf at 394-4067 or Dennis Walker at 264-1363.

St. Mary's

Episcopal Church

Holy Communion is celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

Youth Sunday and Church Appreciation Day is Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. service. St. Mary's Vestry meets Monday at 6 p.m.

For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site at www.stmarysbt.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

First Presbyterian

Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles speaks text taken from Mark 1:40-45 at worship Sunday. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take 10 is at 10:35 a.m. Worship service begins at 11 a.m. This is Commitment Sunday. Members are encouraged to bring their pledge cards to worship.

Members are reminded to sign up for the Fueling the Faith workshop at the Midland First Presbyterian Church Feb. 24-25. In conjunction with this workshop, the youth will be attending a youth rally at Trinity Presbyterian Church Feb. 24 with all area Presbyterian Youth.

Men of the church are also asked to sign up for the Mo Ranch Men's conference by March 1. Anyone planning to attend should notify the church office.

Wednesday, the Men's Breakfast is at 7 a.m.; the youth group discusses friendships from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.; Bible study is in the chapel at 5:17 p.m.; and the choir meets at 6 p.m.

The church is located on Runnels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

First Baptist Church

The Rev. Dennis Teeters, pastor of First Baptist Church, shares the sermon, "Yeast Infections: Its Cause and Cure," during the Sunday morning worship service which begins at 10:50 a.m.

The Sunday Night Live classes begin at 4:30 p.m. Susie Teeters is leading the Beth Moore Bible study of the patriarchs. The pastor is leading the study based on the TV series, "Bonanza." The third study is an evangelism outreach course, "FAITH," led by Chris Tucker.

Also at this time, the youth meet for choir and the children are involved in Bible drill.

Any questions about the church or any of its other activities? Call 267-8223.

Put Some Representation In Your District.



Elect

Gerald (Jerry) Middleton As Your Congressman for the Texas Congressional 85th District.

There are many issues that are facing all of us, coming up in the near future.

My main goal if I am elected is to bring the voice of the people of the 85th district to Austin. Small Business Owner Jerry's for the last 18 years. Married to Joyce, two boys, Robert & Carl. NRA "A" rating for the 2006 Election Cycle.

Education: High school with some college
Business background: Efficiency expert, machinist, tool & die maker.
Bookkeeper, purchasing agent, inventory controller, heavy equipment operator, welder, luthier & farming.

E-Mail electjerry@aol.com

Paid political ad by citizens to elect Gerald Middleton Congressman for the 85th District.

Healing Hearts on Valentine's Day. To benefit CASA of West Texas Feb. 11 thru 14. Buy your flowers and gifts for Valentine's Day at Dakota's Flowers and they will donate a portion of the proceeds to help CASA recruit, train and support Howard County volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children. Dakota's FLOWERS & GIFTS. 1110 11th Pl. • Big Spring, TX • (432) 263-8323

Make sure every foster child has a CASA. You can also make a donation to CASA when you purchase your Valentine's Day gifts at Dakota's Flowers & Gifts. Questions? Call 263-4162 or 1-877-316-8346

ATTENTION MEDICARE D Prescription Insurance Plan Cardholders. WE Accept Any Medicare D Prescription Insurance Plan. The Leonard's Family Of Pharmacies will honor your Medicare D-Prescription Insurance Plan. Pay the same co-pay with the added convenience we have to offer. We Have 3 Locations To Serve You: Leonard's Pharmacy, Professional Pharmacy, Leonard's Clinic Pharmacy. 701 Scurry 263-7344 Drive Thru Service. 10th & Main 267-2546 Drive Thru Service. 1501 W. 11th Clinic Location 267-1611. Leonard's Pharmacies



Church Directory



Howard County Abstract & Title Co.
SERVICES... CLOSING...
BONNIE... 267-1822

Employees Credit Union
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www...net

Pizza Hut
210... 267-4153

Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel
301 E. 2nd... 267-8208

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821 W. 4th
Big Spring, TX

Maxwell Green
432-263-039... 267-4720

Home
111 E. 7th St. 267-7599

Country Corner Cafe
111 E. 7th St. 267-7599

SAUNDERS OIL EQUIPMENT
ALL TYPE...
Dwight Perkins
OWNER

FIRST Bank of West Texas
www.first.com
Big Spring... 267-1113

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High.
Psalm 92: 1

St. Thomas Catholic Church

Father James Plagens

605 N. MAIN 263-2864

ADVENTIST

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
1319 Parkway 267-5381

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4th & Lancaster 267-7971
TEMPLO BELEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
2205 GOLIAD 267-2111

BAPTIST

AIRPORT BAPTIST
1208 Frazier St. 263-7451
BAPTIST TEMPLE
400 11th Place 267-8287
BEREA BAPTIST
1204 Wason Rd. 267-8438
BIRDWELL LANE BAPTIST
1512 Birdwell Lane
CALVARY BAPTIST
1200 W. 4th. 263-4242
CENTRAL BAPTIST
Elbow Community
COLLEGE BAPTIST
1165 Birdwell Lane 267-7429
CRESTVIEW BAPTIST
Gatesville Street
EAST FOURTH BAPTIST
401 East 4th 267-2291
EAST SIDE BAPTIST
1108 E. 6th 267-1915
FIRST BAPTIST
705 Marcy Drive 267-8223
FIRST BAPTIST
Knott
FIRST BAPTIST
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FIRST BAPTIST
Sand Springs 393-5565
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Forsan, TX
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IGLESIA BAUTISTA L/ FE
408 State Street 267-7512
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Gail Rt.
MIDWAY BAPTIST
E. I-20 263-6274
MORNING STAR BAPTIST
403 Trades

MT. BETHEL BAPTIST
630 Sgt. Paredez 263-4069
PRAIRIE VIEW BAPTIST
Farm Mkt. Rd. 2230
PRIMERA BAUTISTA MISSION
701 N.W. 5th 263-1139
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
201 East 24th
SALEM BAPTIST
Old Colo. City. Hwy - Salem Rd
TRINITY BAPTIST
810 11th Place 267-6344

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What fine arts teach us

Recently the children of Big Spring were again blessed by a wonderful performance presented by the Big Spring Symphony Association.

To watch and listen to a young man such as Peng Peng was a thrilling experience. What wonderful talent he exhibits.

His personality is equally impressive. I was amazed as he allowed his personality and emotions to flow from the keyboard.

Later, as I thought about that performance I had to reflect on the 25 years I spent as a high school choral director.

The participation and teaching of one of the "fine arts" was a tremendous pleasure and a wonderfully satisfying career.

I highly commend our symphony association and our fine arts instructors — those teaching music, band, choir, theater arts, speech and visual arts.

Since the fine arts are part of the curriculum of our schools let's look at some lessons our children learn through the arts.

The arts teach children to make good judgments about qualitative rela-



DARRELL RYAN

tionships. Unlike much of the curriculum in which correct answers and rules prevail, in the arts, it is judgment rather than rules that prevail.

The arts celebrate multiple perspectives, such as discovering the many ways to see and interpret the world.

The arts teach children that complex forms of problem solving purposes are seldom fixed, but change with circumstance and opportunity.

Learning in the arts requires the ability and a willingness to surrender to the unanticipated and sometimes unexpected possibilities of the work as it unfolds.

The arts abound in subtleties.

The arts teach students to think through as well as within a subject.

All art forms employ some means through which images become real.

The arts help children learn to say what cannot be said.

When children are invited to disclose what a work of art helps them feel, they must search their poetic capacities to find the words that will do the job.

The arts' position in

the school curriculum symbolizes to the young that adults believe the arts are important.

TAKS question of the day is taken from Grade 11 Social Studies:

The purpose of the system of checks and balances in the U.S. Constitution is to:

- a. grant most legislative power to the House of Representatives.
- b. establish judicial guidelines at the state and local levels.
- c. balance the interests of large and small states.
- d. prevent one branch of the federal government from becoming too powerful.

The answer can be discovered in the first and last letter of the word "discovered!"

Darrell Ryan is director of curriculum for Big Spring Independent School District.

Club News

Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association meets Monday, Feb. 20, in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Clyde McKimmy will share his knowledge about racing homing pigeons.

All retired school personnel are invited to attend the meeting.

FHS math team medals at Midland Lee meet

Special to the Herald

FORSAN — The Forsan High School Math Team participated in a UIL meet at Midland Lee on Feb. 4.

The freshman calculator team won the first place trophy with Charlene Stanley winning a first place medal, while Sandi Golleher was fourth, Jeremy Robbins sixth and Alyx Pappajohn 10th.

The freshman number

sense team won the second place trophy with Vince Penick winning the first-place medal and Haylie Burleson placing eighth.

The freshman mathematics team also won the second-place trophy with Vince Penick third, Charlene Stanley eighth and Haylie Burleson and Alyx Pappajohn 10th.

In the upper-class number sense competition, Audrey Montgomery won a second-place medal, Jonathan Purcell won a

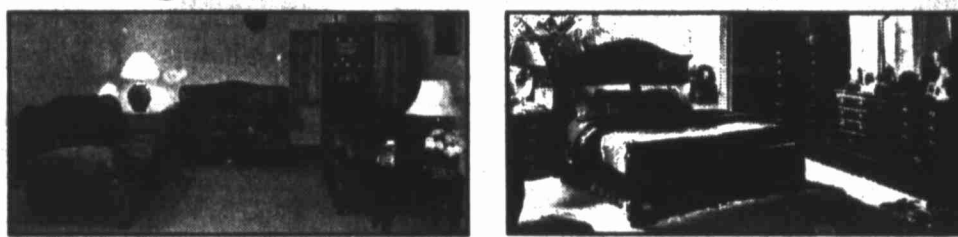
third-place medal and Courtney Holdampf was fourth. The number sense team was third.

In the upper-class calculator contest, Eric Ellis won a second-place medal and Seth Johnson won a third-place medal. The calculator team was third.

In mathematics, Audrey Montgomery was fourth, Courtney Holdampf was fifth, Jonathan Purcell was seventh and Eric Ellis was ninth.

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- 2002 Ford Taurus SE - Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/22,000 Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2001 Ford Crown Victoria L.S. - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/40,000 Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,995**
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- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab STX 4X4 - Yellow w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/33,000 Miles. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**
- 2004 Ford F250 Supercab XLT 4X4 - Silver w/Cloth, V-10, All Power, Local One Owner, w/58,000 Miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2003 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Blue, Cloth, All Power, Extra Clean. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X4 - Blue/Silver, 5.4 V-8, All Power, Local One Owner, w/46,000 Miles. **Was \$23,995** **NOW \$22,995**
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- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Tan, V-8, Cloth, All Power. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2000 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT V-10 - Red, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner, w/79,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 1999 Chevrolet Classic C1500 Ext. Cab L.S. - Pewter, 350 V-8, All Power, Local One Owner w/56,000 Miles. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 1998 Nissan Frontier King Cab XE - Tan, 5 Speed, 4 Cyl., Air, 45,000 Miles. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$8,995**

*** SUVs ***

- 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. - White w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/12,000 Miles. **Was \$26,995** **NOW \$25,995**
- 2005 Ford Escape XLT - Light Green, All Power, Local One Owner w/14,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2004 Ford Expedition - Tan, Leather, DVD, Power 3rd Row Seat, w/46,000 Miles. **Was \$30,995** **NOW \$29,995**
- 2004 Expedition XLT 4X4 - Red/Tan, All Power, Leather, w/62,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. - Black, All Power, Dual Air/Heat, One Owner. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**

*** SUVs ***

- 2003 Ford Explorer XLS - Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2003 Ford Escape XLT - Red, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/50,000 Miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter, w/Leather, Loaded, One Owner w/45,000 Miles. **Was \$21,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2002 Cadillac Escalade AWD - Sandstone w/Leather, Fully Loaded, Local One Owner w/40,000 Miles. **Was \$32,995** **NOW \$29,995**
- 2002 GMC Yukon XL SLT 4X4 - Red, Leather, All Power, OnStar, Local One Owner. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - White/Silver, All Power, Local One Owner w/51,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White, Leather, All Power, One Owner. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer Spt 4X4 2-DR. - Blue, All Power, w/57,000 Miles. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer XLT - All Power. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 2000 Chevrolet Suburban LT 4X4 - Black w/Leather, All Power, One owner w/73,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2000 Chevrolet Blazer LS 4X4 - Red, All Power. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$8,995**
- 1999 GMC Suburban - Tan w/Leather, All Power. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 1998 Ford Explorer - Local One Owner, With Only 25,000 Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,995**

*** VANS ***

- 2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, Fully Loaded, One Owner w/58,000 Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$13,995**

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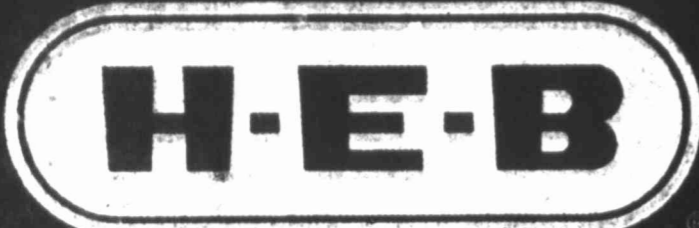
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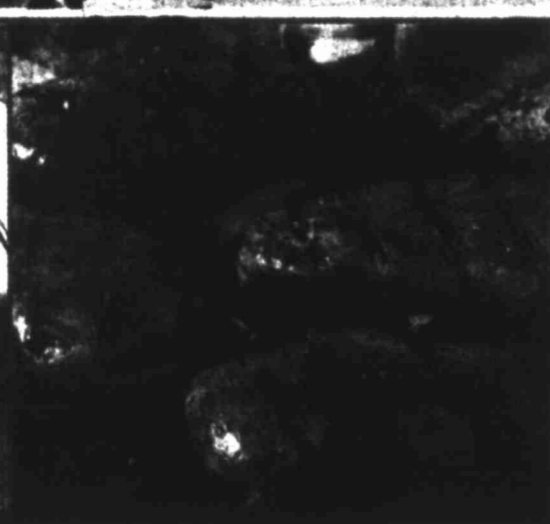
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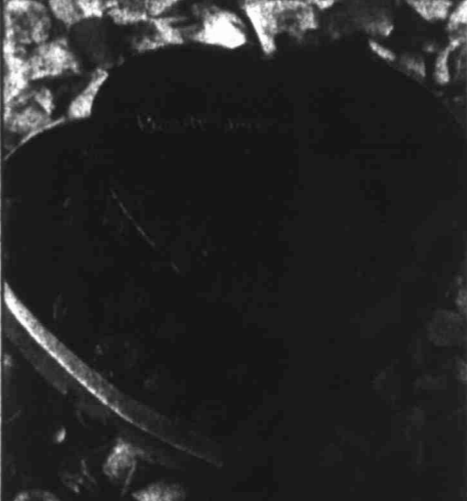
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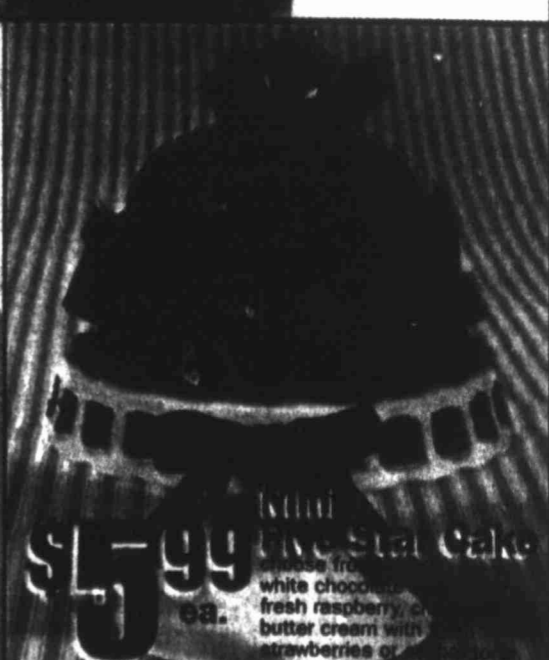
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IN BRIEF

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.

HC to host regional cheer competition

The Western Junior College Athletic Conference Regional Cheer Competition will be hosted by Howard College at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Saturday, beginning at 1 p.m.

The Howard College cheerleaders will perform in the co-ed category against Midland College. There will also be an all-girl category. The competition is free to the public.

For more information, contact Linda Berry at 264-5024.

B.S. Country Club sets golf scramble

The Big Spring Country Club has announced a four-person golf scramble will take place Feb. 25-26.

The entry fee is \$75 per player plus golf cart, but private carts are welcome. The scramble will have a shotgun start at 1 p.m. both days. The entry fee includes BBQ on the course both days and practice rounds are available Friday.

For more information, contact the pro shop at 432-267-5354.

Little League umpires needed for upcoming season

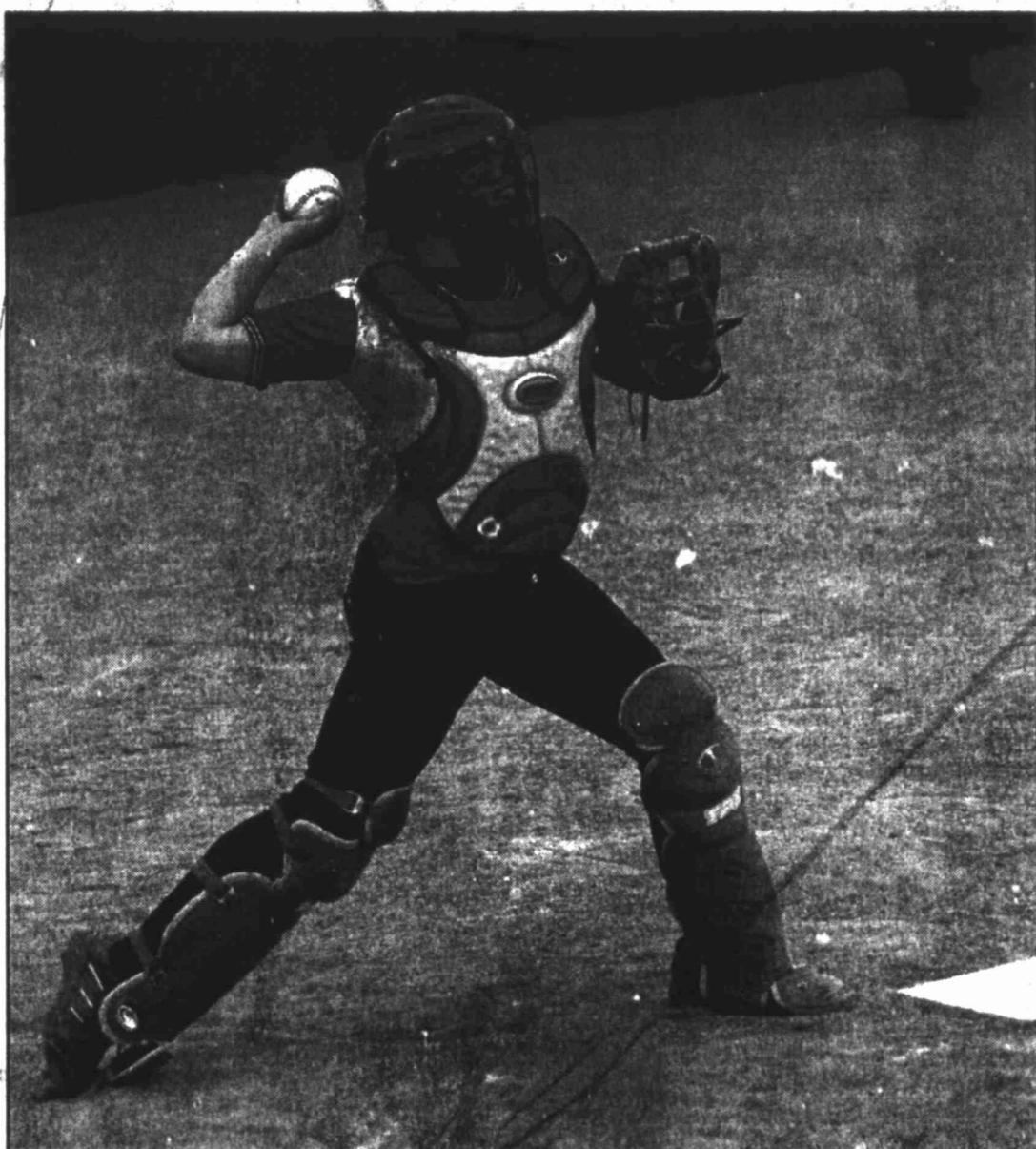
Anyone interested in umpiring little league baseball games can contact Chuck Rosenbaum at 432-816-9984 or Randy Phillips at 432-264-6600 (day) or 432-263-5314 (night).

New MNF lineup set for ESPN's first year

NEW YORK (AP) — Al Michaels appears headed to NBC after ESPN hired former quarterback Joe Theismann, Washington Post columnist Tony Kornheiser and Mike Tirico as its Monday night broadcast crew. Michaels had been with ABC since 1976 and had been the play-by-play voice of "Monday Night Football" since 1986, when he replaced Frank Gifford.

NBC takes over Sunday night games next season from ESPN. John Madden, Michaels' broadcast partner for the last four seasons, agreed in June to a six-year contract with NBC.

Two shutouts are better than one for Howard



Howard freshman Laura Lopez throws down to second base in attempt to throw out a runner from Western Nebraska. The Hawk women won both games of a doubleheader at Foundation Field Thursday. Lopez went four-for-six and had four RBIs at the plate in the two-game sweep.

Hawks sweep DH in home openers at Foundation Field

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Two solid pitching performances led to two more wins for the Howard College softball team as the Hawk women recorded two shutouts against Western Nebraska Thursday in the team's home opening doubleheader at Foundation Field.

Sophomore Paige Ruiz struck out 10 in the first game and Howard won, 9-0, in five innings, while sophomore Nicole Dickson threw seven strong innings in Game 2 and led Howard to a 6-0 victory.

"They both pitched very good games for us," said first year head coach Kelly Raines. "Paige was dominating with 10 strikeouts."

The wins improves Howard's record to 6-0 on the season.

"I think we have a ways to go still, but we are playing well right now," said Raines. "They have come together as a team real well."

Howard started slow in the opener as they scored three runs in the first

four innings before blowing the game open in the fifth and final inning with six runs. Dickson singled in the inning to score two runners and freshman Laura Lopez added a double.

Paige's 10 strikeouts came in just five innings of work as she improved to 2-0 on the season and is yet to give up a run. She allowed just one hit and walked two.

Dickson hit her first home run of the season in the second inning. She scored twice and added two RBIs. Lopez went two-for-three and scored a run, while freshman Alisha Rams went three-for-four with an RBI and a run. Freshman Honda Rodriguez got just one hit in Game 1, but scored three times.

The Hawks scored two runs in the first inning of Game 2. Rodriguez started the inning off with a single and then stole second. She advanced to third on a bunt single by Rams and then stole home for the first run of the game. Rams stole both second and third base before Lopez knocked her in with an RBI single.

The Hawks left the bases loaded in the sec-

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 2B

NMMI no trouble for top-ranked Howard

Burgess' 23 points leads Hawks to easy victory in WJCAC

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

The Howard College men's basketball team, which is currently ranked No. 1 in the nation, extended its school-record winning streak to 24 games Thursday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum after taking down the Western Junior College

Charles Burgess.

The Hawks extended the lead to 20 points midway through the first half as freshman Bougari Konate led the way with eight points. Valentine picked up his third foul with 15 minutes to go until halftime and was forced to the bench. He finished with just nine points, but had four assists.



Howard maintained the 20-point lead until just before halftime when Burgess hit two free

throws just before the break to send the Hawks up 41-20.

A big run by the Hawks to start the second half pushed the advantage to 33. Howard started the second half with a 12-0 run. It scored five layups — three by sophomore Richard Forbes — and two free throws from Valentine.

The Broncos got four straight points to end the run, but Howard scored 84-43. The Hawks remain undefeated on the season and improved to 8-0 in league play. The game was close early as the Hawks led 7-4, but a 13-0 run soared Howard to a 20-4 advantage. The run was highlighted by a dunk from freshman Phil Murphy and a 3-pointer each by freshman Benny Valentine and sophomore

throws just before the break to send the Hawks up 41-20.

A big run by the Hawks to start the second half pushed the advantage to 33. Howard started the second half with a 12-0 run. It scored five layups — three by sophomore Richard Forbes — and two free throws from Valentine.

The Broncos got four straight points to end the run, but Howard scored

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

Howard bats quiet in loss to Texarkana

Hawks get just two hits in Tyler, lose 6-1

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

TYLER — The Hawks had just two hits at the plate Thursday in Tyler against a tough Texarkana team and lost their first baseball game of the year on the diamond.

Sophomore Darby Brown doubled off the wall in the fourth and scored on a sacrifice fly by freshman Kenny Smalley, but Howard lost, 6-1, as the offense didn't do much the rest of the game.

"They kicked our tails," said Howard head coach Britt Smith. "There guy (Zane Lynch) threw great and we never adjusted. We put too many guys on base with walks."

Texarkana scored four runs in the third and added one each in the seventh and the ninth.

"They made all the plays," Brown. "The story of the game was our walks and Zane's ability to get us out. We hit the ball hard, but just couldn't get anything to fall in play."

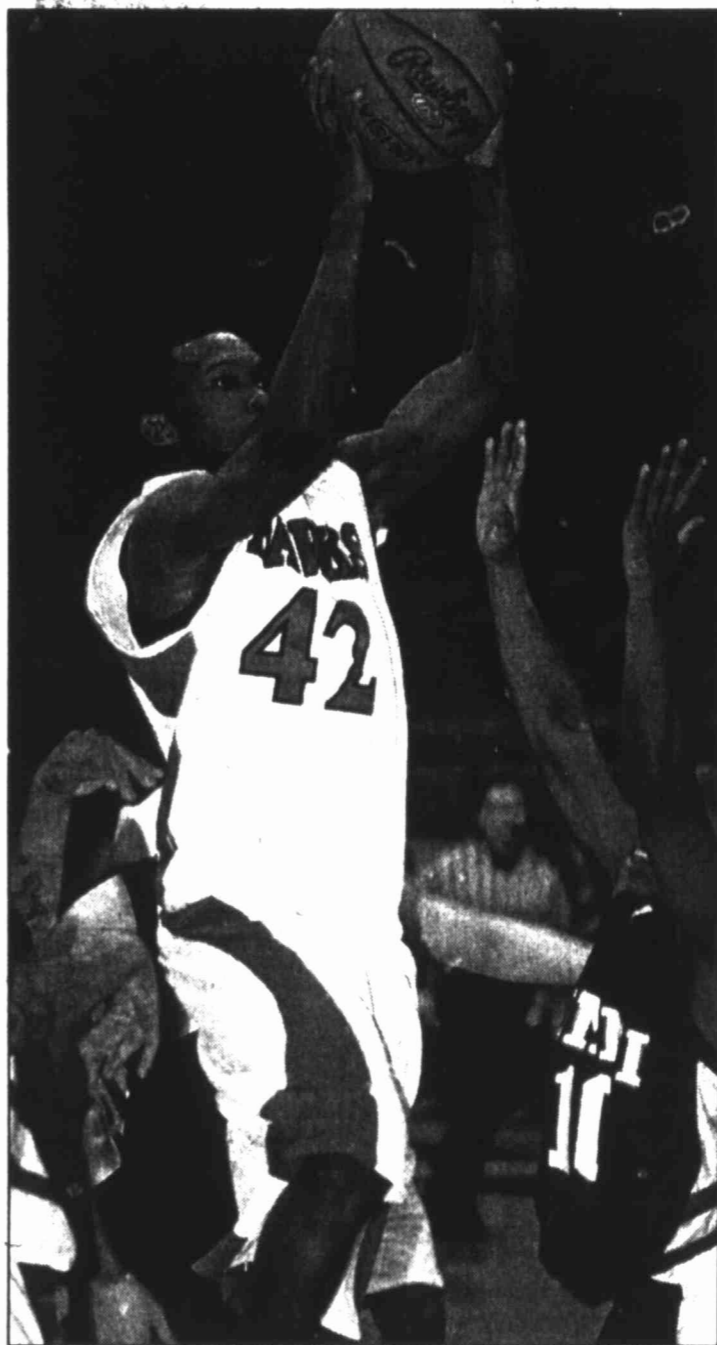
The Hawks flew out to the wall six or seven times, turned four double plays and freshman catcher Ryan Pruitt threw five guys out on the base paths.

"Ryan was outstanding behind the plate and Gabe (Marchant) smoked the ball all day with nothing to show for it," said Smith.

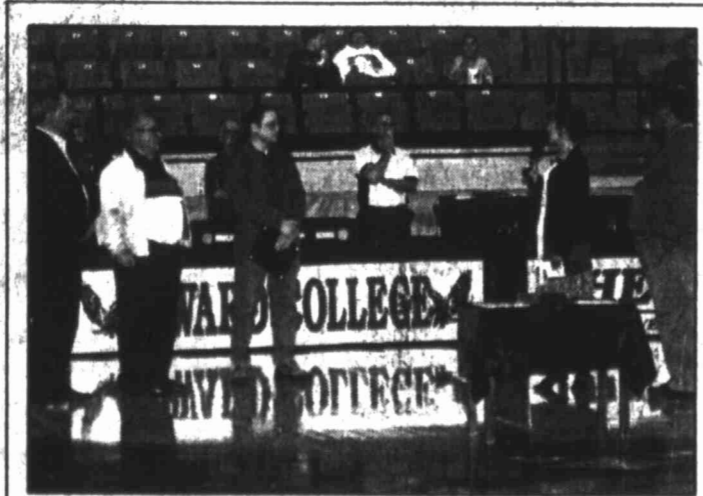
Sophomore Jeff Storms got the team's only other hit as he singled in the third.

Bobby Gonsoulin took the loss on the mound after throwing 6.2 innings. He gave up four earned runs and walked eight, while striking out just one. Adrian

See **BASEBALL**, Page 2B



Howard sophomore Charles Burgess goes into the lane for two of his game-high 23 points Thursday as the No. 1 ranked Hawks defeated the New Mexico Military Institute easily in Western Junior College Athletic Conference action.



From left: Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, Bill Chrane, Brad Bell, Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks and KBST announcer Tom Ruiz gather at Harold Davis Court at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Thursday to honor former voice of the Howard Hawks Bob Bell. Bell died last April. McEwen officially named Feb. 9 "Bob Bell Day."

Big Spring Bass Club

Lake Alan Henry Tournament (Jan. 14)

First: Ryan Ward, 10.5 pounds
Second: Dennis Witt, 10.24 pounds
Third: Jon Pearson, 6.09 pounds
Fourth: Benny Radde, 5.83 pounds
Big Bass went to Dennis Witt, 4.88 pounds
Marty Richter set a new spotted bass record Jan. 28. His bass weighed 4.28 pounds.

Upcoming Tournament Schedule

Feb. 25 — Lake Leon
March 25-26 — Lake Amistad
April 22 — Lake Alan Henry
May 20 — Lake Coleman
June 17 — Lake Proctor
July 29-30 — Brady Lake
Aug. 26 — Lake Leon
Sept. 23 — Lake Stamford
Oct. 7 — Brady Lake
Nov. 4-5 — Lake Amistad
For more information, contact Jon Pearson at 264-8859

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 1B

ond inning and two runners got on base in the third inning, but did not score.

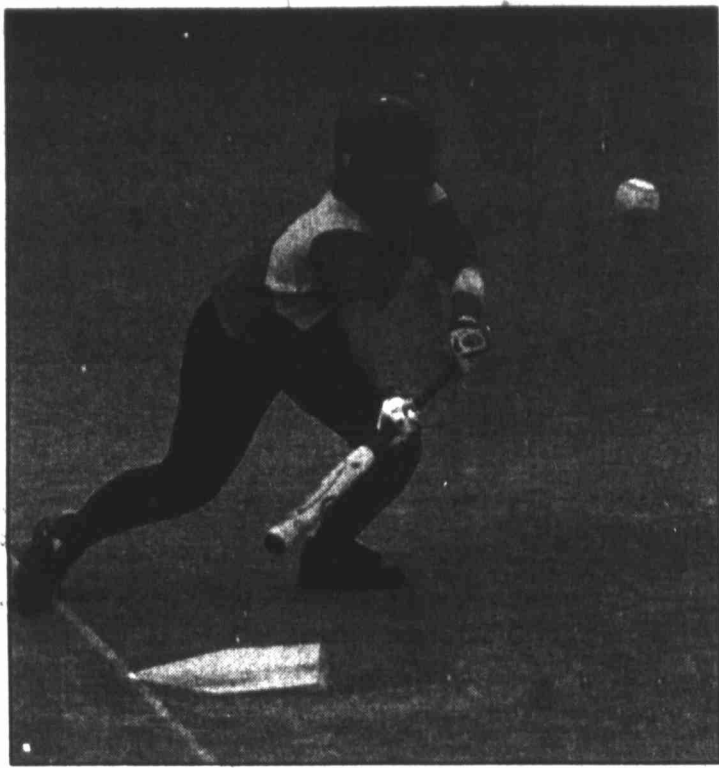
"We left way too many runners on base in the second game," said Raines. "That was one concern I had. We have to come through with runners on base."

The fifth inning produced three more runs for Howard. Sophomore Bethany Rose and Rodriguez both singled to start the inning. Rose was thrown out at third on a fielder's choice by Rams. Jessica Garcia also reached base on a fielder's choice later in the inning and Lopez drove in all three runners with a double down the right field line.

The final run of the game was scored by Rodriguez as she crushed a home run over the fence in deep left-center field. She went four-for-four in the second game and scored three more runs.

"She's been awesome for us and is hitting for power this year," said Raines. "We work on hitting a lot and it has paid off for her. The best defense, to me, is a good offense and the girls have been hitting the ball well so far this season."

Lopez had two hits and four RBIs in Game 2,



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard freshman Honda Rodriguez lays down a bunt single during action at Foundation Field Thursday. Rodriguez went four-for-four with a home run in Game 2 against Western Nebraska as the Hawks swept a doubleheader. She has three home runs in the team's first six games.

while Dickson added three singles. Rose was two-for-three and Garcia added a hit and scored once.

Rams and Rodriguez were also responsible for several nifty plays in the middle infield as the duo took away several would-be hits from Western Nebraska.

"Both of them not only got on base today, but they made some awesome plays in the infield," said Raines.

Howard will participate in another tournament in

Odessa beginning today. The Hawks played Western Oklahoma State College at 11 a.m., but results of the game were unavailable at press time. They will also play Navarro (1 p.m.) and Western Nebraska (5 p.m.) Friday and will take on Alvin C.C. and Northern Oklahoma College Saturday at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., respectively.

"We'll face some good teams and then be able to see where we are at," said Raines. "It'll be a challenge for us."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

10 of the game's next 12 points after that and pushed its lead to 63-27 before putting on the cruise control.

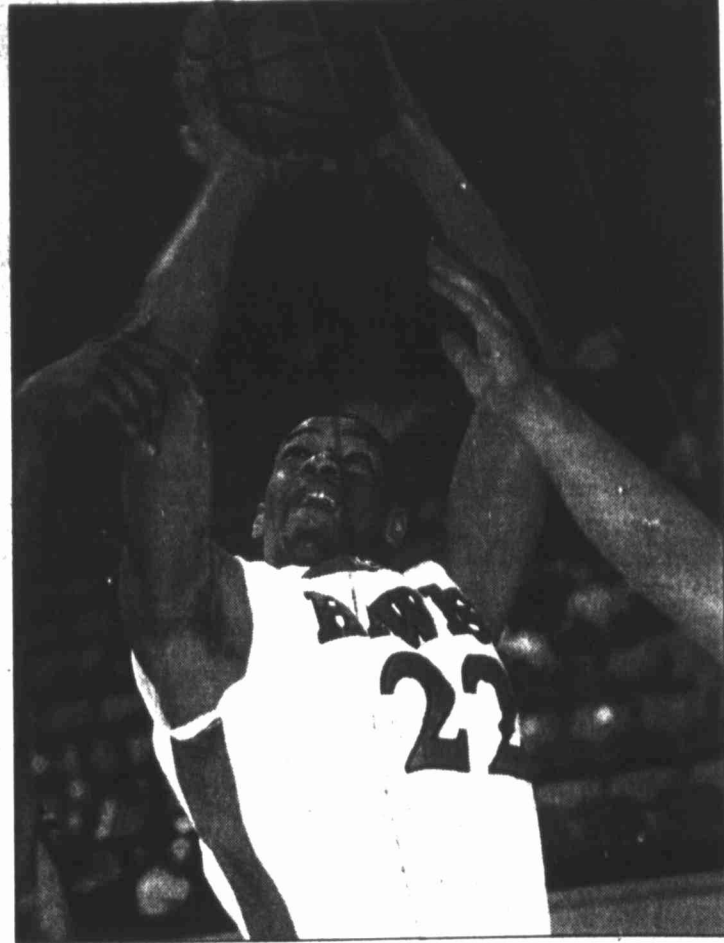
Burgess scored eight of Howard's final 10 points of the game — the other two points were scored by freshman Terrace Sullivan — and the final margin was 41 points.

Burgess finished with 23 points and 11 rebounds to lead Howard. He was 10-for-12 from the free throw line.

Forbes scored 20 points, while Konate scored 12 of his 13 points in the first half.

The Hawks will look for win No. 25 against New Mexico Junior College Monday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The game will follow the women's 5:50 p.m. game and will start at 7:50 p.m.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard freshman Bougari Konate scores two points inside against New Mexico Military Institute Thursday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Konate finished with 13 points.

BSJH girls end season in defeat

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

The Big Spring girl's junior high basketball team ended its season this past Monday against Snyder and the Lady Tigers won four games.

The Big Spring eighth-grade black team lost, 32-19, and was led by Paula Mills' seven points and

Macy Graves' five rebounds, while the eighth-grade gold team lost, 49-15, and was led by Iesha Simpson's five points and five rebounds.

The seventh-grade black team lost to Snyder, 32-25. Valerie Ross had 10 points to lead the way. The seventh-grade gold team lost, 36-29. Taryn Kennedy led the way with

nine points, while Stormi Smith added eight.

Both Big Spring JH black teams took on Lubbock Trinity Jan. 30. The eighth-grade team lost, 50-8, and was led by Linzee Yarbar's six points and Lauren Porras' six rebounds. The seventh-grade team lost a close one, 30-27, as Valle led the way with eight points.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 1B

Bermudez gave up one run in 2.1 innings of relief.

"He pitched well for us, located well and his arm is getting better," said

Smith in reference to Bermudez' recovery from Tommy John Surgery.

The weather forecast in Tyler today calls for rain and Smith was unsure if the Hawks would be able to play Vernon and the team may have to play a doubleheader Saturday.

Mavs extend streak to 13

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — With Jason Terry and Dirk Nowitzki having their own 3-point shootout, the Dallas Mavericks didn't really need any help.

The Miami Heat still

did plenty wrong to turn Dallas' NBA-best 13th straight victory into a rout.

"It is just an old-fashioned Texas beat down," Shaquille O'Neal said after the Heat's 112-76 loss.

Local Weekend Schedule

Friday
Steer basketball vs. Lake View, 7:30 p.m.
Lady Steer softball scrimmage vs. Lubbock, 3 p.m.
BS tennis @ Wichita Falls Tournament
BS golf @ Big Spring host meet
* 8:30 a.m. tee times for both boys and girls at Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club.
Big Spring regional swim meet @ Lubbock
Howard baseball vs. Vernon @ Tyler
Howard softball @ Odessa Tournament, 11 a.m./1 p.m./5 p.m.

Saturday
BS tennis @ Wichita Falls Tournament
BS golf @ Big Spring host meet
* 8:30 a.m. tee times for both boys and girls at Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club.
Big Spring regional swim meet @ Lubbock
Lady Steer softball scrimmage @ Midland Lee, 10 a.m.
Steer baseball scrimmage vs. Midland Lee, 11 a.m.
Howard baseball vs. Tyler JC @ Tyler
Howard softball @ Odessa Tournament, 9 a.m./1 p.m.

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Call Lupe Villalpando 432-265-6406

Help Wanted

HOME CARE RN

Are you a patient advocate and looking for a job where people value your expertise? We are looking for a caring, qualified and dependable RN who would love to work in home care. If interested, send resume to Alicia Anderson of Accolade Home Care at 810 N. Dixie Ste 202A, Midland, Tx to fill out an application, or call (432)335-5699 or come by.

HOWARD COTTAGE
Part-time Position
Child Care Classroom/
Clerical Aide

High School diploma, formal child development training/coursework and one year experience in a licensed child care facility required. Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred. Must be at least 18 years of age. For more information call (432)264-5185. Application available at the Howard College Personnel Office.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for a Physical Therapy Tech/ Assistant at Big Spring Physical Therapy. Experience preferred but will train a self-motivated, eager person. Fax resumes to (432)267-3581 or come by 1707 Lancaster for an application.

LIQUID PLANT ASSISTANT
Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a Liquid Plant Assistant. This position includes loading and unloading liquid and dry fertilizer, weighing trucks, fertilizer spreaders, and general warehouse duties. Requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person: Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED. Professional individual with 10-key, basic office skills, medical insurance experience. Salary D.O.E. Apply at Texas Workforce Network.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for the following positions: Backhoe operators, CDL Class A or B Dump truck drivers, General Laborers, GOOD DRIVERS LICENSE REQUIRED or come by 1807 N. FM 700.

TRUCK DRIVERS
\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS
Drivers earn up to \$50 thousand per year plus a \$500 signing-on bonus. Benefits include: Medical, Life and Dental Insurance and paid vacation. Applicants should have 3 years driving experience. Oilfield driving experience hauling sand, dry cement, or other equipment operating experience helpful. Class A CDL, good driving record, DOT drug & alcohol testing required. Call 432-563-0722 M-F from 8am-5pm to schedule interview.

REMODELING COMPANY in need of Laborers. Call (432)213-4925

Help Wanted

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.

Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60-hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas.



MW BUILDERS of Texas, Inc.
Construction Managers for the New Snyder Elementary School Project

Now taking applications for the following positions:
Carpenters, Rod Busters, Concrete Finishers, Laborers
Please apply at MW Builders project offices, 3601 El Paso Ave.

Scaled Wages
E.O.E.
Drug Test Required

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY
Big Spring Area Routes
Midland Reporter-Telegram
The Midland Reporter-Telegram

has delivery positions available in the Big Spring Area for both Home Delivery and Retail Outlet distribution. General knowledge of the Big Spring area, good organization for customer tracking, a reliable vehicle and a dependable commitment to early morning deliveries ranging from 2:00am-6:00 am. If interested please call 432-687-9002

Help Wanted

THE DEPARTMENT of State Health Services, WIC Program Clerk II Position. Seeking a person with clerical experience to work in the Big Spring WIC Clinic. Will be responsible for assisting in eligibility screening, physical assessment of clients, data entry of client information, issuing program benefits, preparing monthly reports, teaching group classes and outreach activities. Must enjoy working with the public. Bilingual/Biliterate (English/Spanish) required. For Complete Job Description and state application please access the State of Texas Web Site at <https://hhsjobs.hhsc.state.tx.us>. Reference Job Posting #20331. State applications must be completed and received by 02/17/06. FAX 866-245-3646 or apply online.

THE SAN Angelo Standard Times is seeking a mature individual for home delivery of newspapers in Big Spring. Make approximate \$650.00 per month. Running your own business. Must like working early morning hours. Call today 1-(800)588-1884 ext. 8294.

TRUCK DRIVER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. Requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person: Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

WAITRESSES NEEDED

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

WANTED QUALIFIED High Speed Mechanic at Natural Gas Processing Plant, North East of Big Spring. Fax resume to (432)399-4290 or e-mail buncej@crcom.net

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY
Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Checks are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person. Circuit World, 1611 Gregg

Items for Sale

BEAUTIFUL GRANDFATHER clock for sale. Call (432)267-3013.

HUGE SAVINGS on Furniture, Electronics and Appliances. Come by 501 E. Birdwell Lane #14 or call (432)263-0076.

NEW BALANCE Elliptical & Bow Flex. Sell both for \$1200. Call (432)267-7449 or (432)557-6504.

ORLANDO/ DISNEY Area. 7/6 night stay. Paid \$600.00 Will sell for \$199. Good for one year. Call 915-233-2010.

Lost and Found

FOUND in vicinity of Yale Ave. Like golden retriever puppy, blonde-haired. Call (432)264-7828.

FOUND LHASA Apsco on Midway Road. Call (432)263-4528.

FOUND YORKIE in Highland area. Call (432)466-1859 to identify.

LOST BROWN Chihuahua, wearing green collar, in the Oasis Edition. Call (432)268-3603.

Miscellaneous

42" WHITE Westinghouse double electric oven. \$200.00 Call (432)263-0087.

A MATTRESS, Queen set, PILLOWTOP, New in plastic, factory warranty. \$199.00. Call (806)549-3110.

AAH! NO Motion King Memory Foam mattress and foundation, New in plastic with warranty. \$799.00 Must Sell. Call (806)549-3110.

BARGAIN! KING PILLOWTOP Mattress and box. Warranty, Still in package, \$299.00. Call (806)549-3110.

FAMILY HEALTHCARE w/prescription plan! \$69.95/mo. Nationwide coverage, no limitations. Includes: doctors, dental, vision, hospital and more. Everyone accepted! Call WCG 800-228-9214 X2303.

FED UP WITH HIGH gas prices? Increase gas mileage by 35%. Customers and bilingual partners also needed for USA, Mexico and Columbia. 1-888-378-8418.

FREE DIRECTV SATELLITE for 4 rooms. Free TiVo/DVR Add HDTV, 220 channels including locals. \$29.99/month. First 500 orders get free DVD player. 866-641-7031 Promo #16026.

FREE PALLETS. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA at home. 5-8 weeks. Low payments. Free brochure. 1-800-915-4458. www.diplomafromhome.com

ORLANDO/ DISNEY area. 7/6 nights stay. Paid \$600. Sell \$199. Good for one year. Call (915)233-2010.

SALE: 12'X16' Metal insulated portable building on skids, with bathroom and 2 windows. \$8500.00 or Best Offer! Call (432)756-2888.

On the Farm

ROUND BALES of Hay Grazer. Saint Lawrence, Texas. Call (432)268-3084 or 268-3083.

Pets

TO GIVE away to good home. Gray & white cat, neutered, all shots, tags. Call (432)816-7163.

Real Estate for Rent

Knollwood Heights Apartments
1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (432) 264-1735
Now Leasing!

Brand New
1, 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts
\$385 - \$520 monthly
New Appliances & Full Size Washer & Dryer in Apartments
On Site Maintenance
• Swimming Pool
• Fitness Room
• 2 Playgrounds
HUD Accepted

1111 MULBERRY. Clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath, CHA, washer/ dryer connections. \$425. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1607 JENNINGS. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. \$300. month, \$150. deposit. 448 Armstrong. Large 4 bedroom, 1 bath, CHA. HUD approved. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

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

Real Estate for Rent

1408 DONLEY. Extra Clean, Furnished 1 bedroom 1 bath Apartment. Water & Gas Paid. \$325. month, \$150. deposit. Sorry No Pets. (432)263-4622.

1413 SYCAMORE: 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CHA. New paint & carpet. \$14,00.00 Cash or Owner Finance with \$2,000.00 Down. Call (325)695-6100 after 6:00 p.m.

2 Bedroom 1 bath @ 807 Anna - \$300.00. 1 Bedroom, 1/2 duplex @ 502 Goliad - \$240.00. Partially furnished. Call (432)267-7380.

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

2600 CARLTON: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, CHA. Nice neighborhood and yard. New paint inside/out. New carpet. \$485. Month, \$500. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)213-2681.

3005 CACTUS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Unfurnished. Call Mary, (432)213-0828. 9:00-7:00 p.m.

407-1/2 East 8th- 1/1 bath. Stove & refrigerator. \$275. month, \$175. deposit. CHA. No HUD and no pets. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

4207 PARKWAY, 3 Bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

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

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 APTS
Family Friendly
Free Cable TV
Playground!
No Water Bill
Paragon Security
24 Hour Laundry
On-Site Mgr & Maint
2 Bdrm \$345
1 Bdrm \$255
(432)263-2292

Real Estate for Sale

Real Estate Auction
3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath
On 1 Acre in Forsan ISD
Located At 4900 Wasson Rd.
Sold With Owners Approval
Feb. 18th.
For More Info Or To View Call:
Crossroads Auction
264-9900 or 263-8200
David Lefever-Auctioneer Lic. #13251

1150 SQ. ft. brick home, 2 bedroom, one bath, 2 car garage. Total electric, on two acres, with large barn, three water wells. 8-1/2 miles northwest of Big Spring. Call (432)816-6042.

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

WON'T LAST!
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.

COUNTY HOME 3 Bedroom, 2 bath in Forsan School District. Horse barns w/huge pipe fence, riding corral, 1 acre. \$65,000. Firm. No Owner Finance. (432)466-1850.

FOR SALE, Deeded lot. Covered roof on. 1990 29' Wilderness travel trailer. West of Cherry Creek bridge. \$14,500. Call (325)282-2095 or (325)721-530.

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. 1980s 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.

Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
With Mercury now exploring the realm of the spirit, Pisces, there's an impressive level of psychic communication happening. When the phone rings, you probably know who it is before you pick up. Even more cosmic, you catch a loved one's message along the telepathic wires of the Cancer moon. Words are practically unnecessary.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Wisdom is available, but you're looking for things to be spelled out exactly. If the universe were really to thunder from the clouds, "Do this!" or "Do that," you'd defiantly shake your fist in response. So, try to read and heed the signs.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Let your sister-in-law borrow the money she needs. (Or, maybe it's a sister-like person in your midst who's wanting.) You won't get it back, but in your old age, you'll be glad for this kind act.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The planets indicate the need for compassion — that state that lets you see someone else's side, even if (especially if) you don't agree. This is useful for you in dealing with a loved one or in understanding your own shortcomings.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sure, there will be at least three problems to tackle before you eat lunch. You have the innate sensitivity to detect the answer beneath the problems. Everyone will be better for applying your solution.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A secret doorway opens where once you saw a wall. Recognition is key. You don't need new eyes, but you will want to keep the internal chatter to a dull roar. Music helps.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may be oppressed by the very thing that is supposed to be serving you ... probably your car, phone or computer. It's mostly a maintenance issue. Kind of like life itself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've been working hard. The stars suggest today is prime for immersion in music, movies, chocolate — whatever makes you feel good. This allows your heart to speak its current volume of feelings, including joy and delight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are super aware now. In fact, you can easily predict the future. You may as well take charge because you're just not in the mood to follow anyone else.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Challenge conventional attitudes — your fresh thoughts are needed. You shine in the eyes of family and friends. Now, what must you do to impress yourself? There is no shortage of ideas about how to have fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is said that children and drunks always speak the truth. Today, it would be appropriate to add "and Capricorns" to that proverb. Forget diplomacy! You have something to get off your chest!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's a rush to the finish line as far as work goes. You sense that if certain things don't get accomplished, they'll simply never happen. Do as much as you can in the way of sending messages and resolving conflict.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have the powers of Neptune now and can turn the tide from choppy waters to calm. Use your innate sense of timing. A baffling situation clears up as if by magic.

Real Estate for Sale

NEW CONSTRUCTION Owner Anxious. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Wonderful closets, pretty cabinets with marble counter tops. Priced Reduced \$180's. Call Joe Hughes @ Home Realtors (432)263-1284 Cell 270-7877 Home 353-4751.

OWNER FINANCING. Attractive 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath w/Shop. Ready to Move In. Great Starter Home. Can be yours with Minimum Down and Low Monthly Payments. Call (432)599-1003.

Vehicles

Several New 2005 Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings
Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 11th 267-7424

2004 TOYOTA Tacoma pickup. 5-speed, A/C, cruise, bedliner. 91K miles. \$9775. Call (432)965-3486 or (432)321-2775.

CLASSIC 1975 Chevy Monza with factory V8. New exhaust & engine. \$5,000.00. Call (432)267-3564.

TRUCK TIME IS HERE!
We're Loaded With NEW Trucks & SUV's
Important Message From Bob Brock:
We **NEED** Pre-Owned Trucks - Cars And SUV's
SO We Will Put **TOP-MONEY** In Your Trade

Example Of Savings
#715
Ask Us About **0% APR** For 60 mos. Option

2006 Ford Expedition XLT 2WD
Rear Entertainment - 3rd Row Power
Fold Seat - 6 CD - And Much More.

TBD -	\$39,655
Pkg. Discount -	\$1,000
MSRP -	\$38,655
Customer Cash-*	\$3,500
*Ford Credit Cash -	\$1,000
Brock Discount -	\$3,000

Sale Price +TTL **\$31,155.00**

Almost 100 Trucks & SUV's to Select From

BlueOvalCertified

BOB BROCK
Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan
500 W. 11th 267-7424

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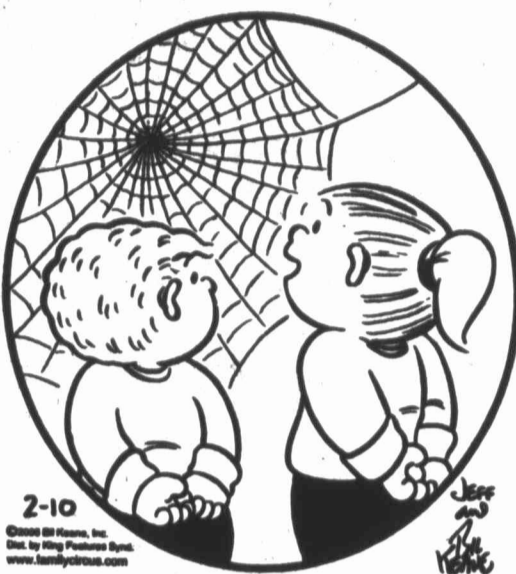
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6	News (CC)	News (CC)	Midland	My Wife-Kids	News (CC)	La Telenovela	News (CC)	Paymond	R. McBride	News (CC)	Going Tribal	Music: The Day the Earth Stood Still	CSE: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET.com	Phil of Future	Interruption	NBA	John Doe (CC)
7	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Contra Viento y Marea	Arrested Development	Ghost Whisperer	El Cuzpo del Desaso	XX Olympic Winter Games	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	Wash. Week NOW (CC)	Going Tribal	Music: The Day the Earth Stood Still	CSE: Crime Scene Investigator	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Movie: How Stella Got Her Groove Back	Phil of Future	2005 Road to the Pro Bowl	NBA Basketball	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
8	In Justice (CC)	In Justice (CC)	Alborada	Arrested Development	Close to Home (CC)	Construccion Decisiones	Opening Ceremony (CC)	Movie: The Mask (CC)	Light of the Southwest	TBA	Going Tribal	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	CSE: Crime Scene Investigator	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Mr. Whiskers	Golden State Warriors at Indiana Pacers	Golden State Warriors at Indiana Pacers	Stargate Atlantis (CC)	
9	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Marco Antonio Solo	My Wife-Kids 70s Show	NUMB3RS (CC)	Not-Telenovela	News (CC)	News (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Going Tribal	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Video Justice	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Phil of Future	Soccer: Japan vs. United States (CC)	Basketball: Mavericks at Nuggets	Stargate SG-1 (CC)	
10	News (CC)	News (CC)	Primer Impacto	Bocker (CC)	Bocker (CC)	Late Show	News (CC)	News (CC)	Update/Israel	Sign Off	Going Tribal	Movie: A Name for Evil	Video Justice	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Phil of Future	Soccer: Japan vs. United States (CC)	Basketball: Mavericks at Nuggets	Stargate SG-1 (CC)	
11	Ent. Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Bocker (CC)	Bocker (CC)	Late Show	News (CC)	News (CC)	Update/Israel	Sign Off	Going Tribal	Movie: A Name for Evil	Video Justice	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Phil of Future	Soccer: Japan vs. United States (CC)	Basketball: Mavericks at Nuggets	Stargate SG-1 (CC)	
12	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Bocker (CC)	Bocker (CC)	Late Show	News (CC)	News (CC)	Update/Israel	Sign Off	Going Tribal	Movie: A Name for Evil	Video Justice	Movie: U.S. Marshals	Phil of Future	Soccer: Japan vs. United States (CC)	Basketball: Mavericks at Nuggets	Stargate SG-1 (CC)	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Hey, Mom, check this out. This soap knows how to swim."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"That spider sure knows how to build a website."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Feb. 10, the 41st day of 2006. There are 324 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 10, 1949, Arthur Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" opened at Broadway's Morosco Theater.

On this date:

In 1763, France ceded Canada to England under the Treaty of Paris, which ended the French and Indian War.

In 1840, Britain's Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

In 1846, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Mormons, began an exodus to the west from Illinois.

In 1942, the former French liner Normandie capsized in New York Harbor a day after it caught fire while being refitted for the U.S. Navy.

In 1942, RCA Victor presented Glenn Miller and his

Orchestra with a "gold record" for their recording of "Chattanooga Choo Choo," which had sold more than 1 million copies.

In 1962, the Soviet Union exchanged American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for Rudolph Ivanovich Abel, a Soviet spy held by the United States.

In 1967, the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, dealing with presidential disability and succession, went into effect.

In 1968, Peggy Fleming of the United States won the gold medal in ladies' figure skating at the Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France.

In 1981, eight people were killed, 198 injured, when fire broke out at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel casino.

In 1989, Rog Brown was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee, becoming the first black to head a major U.S. political party.

One year ago: Britain's Prince Charles announced he would marry his divorced lover, Camilla Parker Bowles, in April.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Leontyne Price is 79.

Actor Robert Wagner is 76. Singer Roberta Flack is 67. Singer Jimmy Merchant (Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers) is 66. Olympic gold-medal swimmer Mark Spitz is 56. Country singer Lionel Cartwright is 46. Movie director Alexander Payne ("Sideways") is 45. ABC's "This Week" host George Stephanopoulos is 45. Actress Laura Dern is 39. Country singer Dude Mowrey is 34. Pop singer Rosanna Taverz (Eden's Crush) is 29. Actress Emma Roberts is 15.

Thought for Today: "Maybe all one can do is hope to end up with the right regrets." — Arthur Miller, American playwright (1915-2005).

Answer to previous puzzle

APAGE	HITUP	POD
RELAX	AROMA	ERA
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SPOTTY	MBO	GME
KENYA	SPEECH	
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Newsday Crossword

POLITE COMPANY by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 68 Senator Kefauver | 12 Betelgeuse's constellation | 42 Actress Cannon |
| 1 Remove, as a dowel | 69 Red-carpet walkers | 13 Bookstore purchases | 43 University of Wyoming city |
| 6 Court call | | 18 Pull down | 44 Electricities |
| 11 Private bed? | | 23 Arachne's tool | 45 Thimble Theatre character |
| 14 Tex-Mex topping | | 24 Tango quorum | 47 Foot fractions |
| 15 Sao | | 25 Surreptitiously follows | 48 Soft mineral |
| 16 Have life | | 27 Small-scale racer | 49 Political talk channel |
| 17 Start of a quip | | 28 Post-WWII grp. | 50 MP3 players |
| 19 Touchdown total | | 29 Droxie alternative | 51 Radner of SNL |
| 20 Unenviable grade. | | 30 Antiquated | 54 Swindles |
| 21 Moo goo pan | | 31 Abbott's first baseman | 55 Pursue prey |
| 22 "The Hollow Men" poet | | 34 U2 frontman | 57 Greek peak |
| 24 Changes course | | 35 Sauce brand | 58 Catcall |
| 26 Bugs and Porky | | 36 Way over there | 59 Vegas calculation |
| 27 Part 2 of quip | | 38 London's Gardens | 62 Reason for overtime |
| 32 Man in Exodus | | 39 Charged particle | 63 Granola tidbit |
| 33 Moorish palace | | | |
| 37 Numbered rd. | | | |
| 38 Buddy | | | |
| 40 Big galoot | | | |
| 41 "So long!" | | | |
| 44 Polynesian kingdom | | | |
| 46 Part 3 of quip | | | |
| 49 Groucho trademark | | | |
| 52 Traffic tangle | | | |
| 53 Antioxidant source | | | |
| 56 MDX divided by X | | | |
| 57 Eye, in Uruguay | | | |
| 60 D.C. denizen | | | |
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Golf Insider

By T.J. TOMASI

BIRDIES AND BOGEYS

Holmes and Watson

An injured lady, half a million in treasure, a cannibal and a wooden-legged ruffian — all are characters in the famous Arthur Conan Doyle story "The Sign of Four."

Modern-day golf has its own version of this thriller, which could be titled "The Hollering of Fore," also starring Holmes and Watson, albeit John Holmes and Bubba Watson. These bruise brothers are rookies on the PGA Tour who routinely hit the ball 340 yards, but often into places you'd need a scout and a compass to navigate from.



WATSON



HOLMES

They are part of the new breed, the ones Tiger Woods predicted would be coming in the future. Well, the future is now.

Holmes recently won the FBR Open, just his fourth tournament since joining the PGA, and became the fastest to win \$1 million on the tour in PGA history.

They take playing routes over trees and around hazards that the course architect never imagined. And like Tiger Woods, they aren't afraid to hit it into trouble because they've been doing that all their golfing lives. They hit it big, putt it good and scramble like the Road Runner in between.

USA Today described Bubba Watson's play on his way to a fourth-place finish at this year's Sony Open: "At the par-5 ninth, he hooked a bomb off the tee and hit a fairway — on the adjoining fourth hole. He cut his second around a tree line and over some portable toilets to 20 feet in front of the green. Watson calmly chipped up and made a 3-footer for a birdie."

So much for 50 years of fairways and greens.

GOLF BY THE NUMBERS

The Big 26

The newest college football conference? No, it's the 26 players active on tour who are at least 6 feet, 3 inches tall, according to the 2006 golf media guide. Another 16 players weigh 220 pounds or more. Maybe it should be the Big 42.

100 or IDO

Mark Calcavecchia's fiancée wrote "IDO" on his golf ball, but he mistook the proposal acceptance for a predication: He thought she was predicting he'd shoot 100. He didn't shoot a hundred, and they were married.

71

The score Tiger shot in the first round of this year's Buick Invitational at Torrey Pines, even though he hit only one fairway. If you want to be a player, you have to learn how to score when you don't have your "A" or even your "B" game.



WOODS

Woods and the person he's chasing in the record books, Jack Nicklaus, both have learned how to salvage a balky round and hold themselves in position until their game turns around. Woods, by the way, still in contention after the first round, went on to win in a playoff.

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Power from the core

I know a number of golfers who injure themselves trying to lift heavy weights, and I know a few more who so build up the size of their chest, that it hinders rather than helps their golf game. Keith Clearwater is a prime example of a golfer who ruined his career lifting heavy weights.

I am all for "getting under some iron" because, everything else being equal, the strongest machine wins, but most golfers have very little time to workout. So I'd like to offer some advice on how to make the most of the time you do have to become "golf strong."

Cut your current weight-lifting workout by two-thirds (studies show you can maintain 90 percent of strength if the one-third you do is intense) and add pilates, a series of exercises designed to develop core strength and overall fitness.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME



A line drawn down from the shoulder at 90 degrees to the ground shows the back knee inside the shoulder line where it should be in the left-hand photo above. In the right-hand photo, the knee juts out so it's even with the shoulder, robbing this swing of power. The trail knee has moved up and out rather than rotating toward the target as it should.

Knock knees

The correct position for the knees throughout the swing is almost directly under the shoulders. During the downswing, the back knee chases the front one, almost catching up at impact because the front leg has firmed up (just like the home run hitter in baseball) to form a wall to hit over.

But if either leg strays outside your shoulder line, you'll lose power.

If you let your back knee jut outside your shoulder line at the top of your backswing, you'll ruin your coil by removing most of the torque created when you turn the top of your body against the bottom. Golfers who do this decrease their leverage during the backswing so dramatically that, at impact, they're forced to lunge with

ABOUT THE WRITER



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their body and hack at the ball with their hands.

The same goes for the back knee coming down — if your knee moves up and out, you're going to get flippy at impact. The back leg must continue to rotate to the target rather than follow the ball after impact. If it points out toward the ball (or the target line), the proper

sequential motion is ruined, forcing you to come up and out of the shot.

When your front knee collapses and moves outside the front shoulder line through the hitting area, you create a soft front side, a power-weak position that guarantees you a mistimed release.

The solution is simple: Keep your legs underneath you while you swing. As a reference point, draw an imaginary line from the outside of each shoulder to the ground at address. When your knees get overactive, they buckle outside of these shoulder lines, setting both your body and your golf club at odd, powerless angles.

For a power-packed, well-balanced swing, keep your knees inside your shoulder lines during your entire swing.

DON'T MISS IT

The right touch

At the PGA merchandise show, I always save a morning for just browsing, and that's how I met Mickey Moose. I'm not into trick products or gimmicks, and if my friend and colleague Mike Adams hadn't been standing there, I would have walked right by the booth featuring a man in a moose suit. But then I would have missed

The Right Touch.

This teaching aid helps you achieve correct posture for an efficient turn and promotes power and accuracy in your swing. It's a plastic probe-like finger that fits on your belt or the rim of your pants. An instructional DVD helps you position it just so.

For help to "feel the slot on every shot," don't miss it at www.campmoosegolf.com.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I'm a big believer in flexibility and muscle tone. In terms of maximizing your power, increased flexibility should be the goal of most of your workouts. If you have a greater range of muscle movement, you'll be better equipped to control the club head throughout the swing."

— Scott Hend, who was first on the PGA Tour in driving distance — at almost 320 yards per drive — in 2005.

TEERING OFF

Celebrate your good shots

Most golfers over-emotionalize their bad shots and under-emotionalize the good ones. It should be just the reverse: You should heavily mark the good shots and lightly mark the bad.

You want to remember the bad shots, but only as information for your strength and weakness profile. Bad shots serve as guidelines that will make you a better player, while good shots are proof that you can be a good player. To do this effectively, you have to be good at anchoring.

An anchor is a tag that allows you to recall an experience. For example: A song (the anchor) that played at your school prom can trigger a flood of remembered feelings and images when you hear it 25 years later.

So an anchor is a stimulus, and if you so choose, it can take the form of a unique physical gesture that's tied to an emotion. The procedure unfolds in two steps.

First, you anchor the good shot with a pre-arranged physical gesture (mine is a smile and a nod of my head). Some golfers pump their fist, some twirl the club, but it doesn't matter as long as it's consistent. The point is that when you do something good, you want to make the neural loop stronger, so you anchor it with emotion. You tell the brain: "This is important; this is good. I want to remember this."

In golf, it's all too easy to anchor negatively. Then, when a situation presents itself again, your brain matches it to the previous negative experience with the same result — another bad shot. Thus, if you negatively anchor, you're going to stock your database with negative experiences that influence how you hit the shot.

The goal in the tagging process, therefore, is to positively anchor experiences so that your database becomes a springboard for excellence.

Second, you must be dispassionate about a bad shot so as not to leave a deep neural trace in your memory that will surface in the future to destroy your performance. If you are consistently recalling failure, it will become the template for subsequent failure.

When you are dispassionate, you make the neural loop weaker. You "register" the bad as a piece of information, but you do not tag it.

Next week we'll see how an expert does all this.

SCHEDULE

All Times EST
PGA TOUR

AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am

- Site: Pebble Beach, Calif.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
- Courses: Pebble Beach Golf Links (6,737 yards, par 72), Spyglass Hill Golf Course (6,993 yards, par 72) and Poppy Hills Golf Course (6,833 yards, par 72).
- Purse: \$5.4 million. Winner's share: \$972,000.
- Television: USA (Thursday-Friday, 3-6 p.m.) and CBS (Saturday, 3-6 p.m.; Sunday, 3-6:30 p.m.).

PGA EUROPEAN TOUR/AUSTRALASIAN PGA TOUR/ASIAN TOUR

- Site: Perth, Australia.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
- Course: The Vines Resort and Country Club (7,089 yards, par 72).
- Purse: \$2.17 million. Winner's share: \$365,340.
- Television: The Golf Channel (Thursday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-noon).

LPGA TOUR

- Next event: SBS Open at Turtle Bay, Feb. 16-18, Turtle Bay Resort, Kahuku, Hawaii.

CHAMPIONS TOUR

- Next event: The ACE Group Classic, Feb. 17-19, Twin Eagles Golf Club, Naples, Fla.

GOLF SPOKEN HERE

"SHAFT FLEX"

During the swing, the shaft of a properly fit club will flex from side to side and bow downward. This is intensified during the downswing, where the shaft kicks into the ball at impact. Shafts come in various flexes. Too stiff a shaft causes a loss of distance and a low trajectory. In my opinion, you should swing the most flexible shaft you can handle.

ASK THE PRO

Q: Do you have any tips on practicing? I know how to practice, but what are you thinking? — D.Q., from the Web

A: I won't even comment on your initials, D.Q., except to say that the only worse set may be O.B. In any case, here are some guidelines that should apply to your practice sessions:

- Tee all shots.
- Lay down alignment clubs to form your practice station.
- When you've done what you came to do, stop.
- Limit each session to 45 minutes, then take a break.
- Hydrate your body by drinking plenty of water (12 ounces every hour).

Have a plan for each session and follow it.

Keep a journal. Don't practice in a cross wind.

Don't let other golfers distract you (you're there to practice, not to chat).

If it's not working, go back to square one or leave.

If you can't do it on your own, go to a good teaching pro. Don't listen to the golfer who is two strokes better than you, and definitely don't listen to the one who's two strokes worse.

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