Page 1B

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

# **Award-winning** play to go on stage March 16

By ANDREIA MEDLIN

**VOLUME 102, NUMBER 89** 

Staff Writer

Following a successful weekend during the Texas Community College Theater Festival at **Tarleton State University** in Stephenville, the Howard College theater department is bringing its award-winning play to Big Spring.

Individual acting awards were given to Becky Garcia, a freshman from Westlaco, Eric Barton, a freshman from Coahoma, Ray Robles, a freshman from Westlaco, and Clay Vickers, a sophomore who graduated from Forsan. The costume designer award went to Kourtney Graves, sophomore Stanton.

The production, "The Boys Next Door," which depicts the lives of four mentally challenged men, won the festival's award of excellence.

The awards came as lit- See PLAY, Page 3A

"It has been around for a long time and high schools put it on all the time. The problem is that they make it into a comedy

 Clay Grizzle director of "The Boys Next Door"

and it's not."

tle surprise to Clay Grizzle, associate professor of theater, given the quality of the play and its performers.

'We did really well," he said. "I was pleased."

"The Boys Next Door" is about the men who share an apartment and how they overcome life's challenges. Grizzle hopes to bring some awareness about how people with these types of disabilities are not much different

## SOME OUT-OF-SCHOOL PLAYTIME



Jessie and Joshua Chavera get ready to take a plunge down a slide at the Comanche Trail Park Monday afternoon. Like most area children, the Chaveras are taking advantage of the spring break holiday, which continues through this

## Levee fixes falling short, experts warn

By JOBY WARRICK

The Washington Post

NEW ORLEANS — The Army Corps of Engineers seems likely to fulfill a promise by President Bush to rebuild New Orleans' toppled flood walls to their original, pre-Katrina height by June 1, but two teams of independent experts monitoring the \$1.6 billion reconstruction project say large sections of the rebuilt levee system will be substantially weaker than before the hurricane hit.

These experts say the Corps, racing to rebuild 169 miles of levees destroyed or damaged by Katrina, is taking shortcuts to compress what is usually a years-long construction process into a few weeks. They say that weak, substandard materials are being used in some levee walls, citing lab tests as evidence. And they say the Corps is deferring repairs to flood walls that survived Katrina but suffered structural damage that could cause them to topple in a future storm.

The Corps strongly dis-

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Washington Post photo/Joby Warrick

Louisiana State University researcher Ezra Boyd examines a crack in a flood wall in Jefferson Parish, west of New Orleans. Scientists say many levees that survived Hurricane Katrina are compromised and may fall in another storm.

### MARCH BLOOD DRIVES

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

United Blood Services will be conducting several drives in Howard County next

March 9, a drive will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Star Tek. Coordinator is Anna Osborne, 264-2700.

March 11, a drive will be at the Eastside Baptist Church Fellowship Hall from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. To reach coordinator Troy McClendon, call 267-6025.

March 29, the USB Bloodmobile will be at Coahoma ISD from 11 a.m. uptil 4 p.m. All of the drives are open to the public. To donate blood, a person must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be 17 or older.

# Effort gearing up locally for state's annual Trash Off

Special to the Herald

Texas" Trash Off is just around the corner.

Local officials are gathering manpower and materials to participate in a community wide cleanup April 1, according to Pat Simmons, a local beautification advo-

Keep Texas Beautiful is encouraging organizations in affiliate communities to participate in the 21st anniversary of Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup (GAC) program.

GAC is the nation's community improvement program.

Several million volun- unteering their time to teers clean, beautify and the effort, Simmons said. The "Don't Mess with improve several thousand communities in the United States during the event, which runs March through May.

Don't mess with legas

'Don't Mess Texas" Trash Off is part the partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and Texas Department

Transportation, and is the largest one-day cleanup event in the state, with almost 200,000 people vol- See TRASH, Page 3A

The April 1 Trash-Off is

Texas' signature in the Great American Cleanup. Volunteers from Keep Texas Beautiful, along with Texas Adopt-a-Highway groups, will collaborate in one of the nation's largest single-day cleanups, Simmons said.

Last year, more than 70,000 volunteers collected an estimated one million pounds of litter and debris from Texas highways, roads, waterways, parks, schools and other public areas, she said.

"This year, more than ever, the Trash-Off is

# Big Spring man killed in Lubbock

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A Big Spring man was killed in a vehicle/pedestrian accident in Lubbock early Sunday morning, according to Lubbock law enforcement officials.

Terry Dooley, 57, was pronounced dead shortly after he was hit by a vehicle in the 3000 block of Brownfield Highway.

"We received the call at 2:36 a.m.," said Sgt. Ted Perez, an official with the Lubbock Police Department. "Dooley was attempting to cross the road when a vehicle traveling northeast on the highway struck him.'

Perez said Dooley was identified at the

scene by a patient bracelet from University Medical Center. "Apparently, Mr. Dooley had just

recently been released from University Medical Center," said Perez.

Perez said no citation was issued to the driver of the vehicle and no charges have been filed at this time.

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

### POLLS OPEN UNTIL 7 P.M. IN MARCH PRIMARIES

Polls for the March primary elections are open until 7 p.m. today at the following

All polls will have both Republican and Democratic ballots for this election.

**Howard County:** 

· North Side Fire Station, 100 NE Eighth, Big Spring — Precincts 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114 and 115.

• Life Church, 600 E. FM 700, Big Spring Precincts 202, 203, 204 and 205.

 Goliad Middle School, 2000 Goliad, Big Spring -- Precincts 302, 303, 304 and

 Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring — Precincts 401, 402, 403, 404, 406 and 410.

 Coahoma Community Center, 306 North Ave., Coahoma -- Precincts: 207, 405, 407, 408 and 409.

 Forsan School, 411 W. Sixth, Forsan ---Precinct 208.

Martin County:

• The Community Center is the location for Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Grady ISD Administration Building is

the location for Precinct 3A. Flower Grove Gin is the location for Precinct 4A

## **Obituaries**

### **Mickey Hernandez**



Mickey Hernandez, 47, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday, March 5, 2006, at his residence following a long illness. Vigil services are 7 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services are 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Burial will be in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born July 26, 1958, in Big Spring. He lived most of his life in Big Spring and moved to Midland in 1997. He had done landscaping and farm work and he was a Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Luisa Hernandez of Midland; four sons, Joe Prieto, Michael Hernandez and Jesse Hernandez, all of Big Spring and Jeremy Escobedo of Midland; three daughters, April Bustamante of Arlington and Marissa Jernigan and Marilea Hernandez, both of Midland; father, Jesus Hernandez of Big Spring; two brothers, Eddie Hernandez of Big Spring and Raymundo Hernandez of Midland: three sisters, Sylvia Hernandez of Greeley, Colo., and Debbie Torres and Letisia Hernandez, both of Midland; and 17 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Maria Loya

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

### Johncal Woody



Johncal Woody, 69, of Midland died Saturday, March 4, 2006, in a Midland hospital. Graveside services are 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton with the Rev. James Otterness officiating and the Rev. Daniel Armstrong assisting. Masonic rites will be conducted by the Stanton Masonic Lodge

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

He was born Aug. 27, 1936, in Stanton and married Ruby Faye Ross Dec. 28, 1989, in Midland. He graduated from Stanton High School and worked for General Tire & Rubber Company in Odessa retiring in 1986. He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Stanton.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby Woody of Midland; one son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Peg Woody of Midland; one daughter and son-in-law, Rhonda and Ty Holloway of Rockwall; two stepdaughters, Debra Hudson of Lewisville and Sheri Hill and husband, Chris of Corinth; and one stepson, Darren Ross and wife, Shantell of Bedford; one brother, Pete Woody and his wife, Marie of Stanton; one grandson; six stepgrandchildren; and numerous cousins, nieces and

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Inez Woody and one brother, Wayne Houston Woody.

The family suggests memorials made to a favorite charity or The Texas Scottish Rites Hospital For Children, 2222 Welborn St., Dallas, 75219 or Shriners Hospitals For Crippled Children/Burns Hospital-Galveston, 815 Market St., Galveston, 77550-9969.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

### **Ester Mary Collins**

Ester Mary Collins, 76, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 5, 2006, following an auto pedestrian accident. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Terry Lynn Dooley

Terry Lynn Dooley, 57, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 5, 2006, in Lubbock. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

# **Support Groups**

• The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. The next meeting is March 28. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

### **WEDNESDAY**

· RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. March 8 at 213 Circle. Call Tena at 267-1883 or Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

### **THURSDAY**

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

### FRIDAY

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

# **Police blotter**

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

- SUZANNE MURPHY, 41, of 2500 Ent, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license sus-
- MARGARITO RODRIQUEZ, 26, of 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested Monday on a charge of criminal mischief/family violence.
- ERICK HERNANDEZ, 27, of 1202 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on four local warrants and a charge of driving while license invalid.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
- in the 1400 block of Highway 87. - in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2600 block of Dow.
- ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2100 block of Nolan.

# Sheriff's report

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

- · LANCE GREGORY NEWELL, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of criminal trespass of a habitation, possession of a controlled substance and burglary of a building.
- LISA ANN CHAVARRIA, 39, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ANNETTE DUTCHOVER DOMINGUEZ, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief. .
- · JOSE MARTINEZ, 25, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a warrant for failure to appear.
- · ROY DWIGHT BIDDLE III, 45, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of failure to identify giving false information, making a false statement for credit or property and theft by check.
- KEVIN DUANE RUTIEDGE, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft of services.

# Fire/EMS

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

- · MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of Connally. One person was transported to the VAMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of West
- Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of East 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 7700 block of South Service Road Interstate Highway 20. Service was
- · TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 200 block of Marcy. Service was refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Stadium and Settles. Service was refused. MEDICAL was reported in the area of Val Verde.
- One person was transported to SMMC. • GRASS FIRE was reported in the 1500 block of 11th Place.

## Take Note

- AN ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT CITIZENS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION for 21-monthold Madysyn Hillger, in care of her grandmother, Debra Hillger. Madysyn has been diagnosed with a rare neurological-genetic disorder, Rett Syndrome. Donations will be applied to travel, medical and lodging expenses. For more information, call 264-7340 or 816-1024.
- BLOOD DRIVE at Star Tek Thursday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Call Anna Osborne at 264-2700 for more
- CELEBRATE THE JOURNEY, a community-wide memorial service, is set for noon until 12:45 p.m. March 15 at Comanche Trail Lake, presented by Odyssey Healthcare. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be moved to the Old Settler's Pavilion. Call 263-5999 for more information.
- LIFE AFTER LOSS, presented by Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., continues Monday and is scheduled for the next five weeks from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. each Monday. The workshop is free. Call 264-7599 for more
- SPRING CRAFTING creating mini spring blossoms at the Spring City Senior Center March 16, sponsored by Mountain View Lodge. Call 267-1628 to
- LIMITED BOOTH SPACE FOR THE ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR, with this year's theme, "Don't Gamble on Your Health" is available now until March 17 for \$80. From March 18-31, booths are \$100. For more information or to reserve a booth, call Nancy Newell at 264-7641 or e-mail nnewell@bigspringcham-



### **RE-ELECT Ben Lockhart**

Republican Candidate For **COUNTY JUDGE Howard County** 

Early Voting Feb. 21 - March 3, 2006 **ELECTION DAY MARCH 7, 2006** 

# **Bulletin Board**

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

TODAY

· Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

· March meeting of the Big Spring Symphony Association Board is at 5:30 p.m. in the symphony office, 808 S. Scurry.

 League of Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 6 p.m. in the board room of the YMCA. For more information, contact Jennifer Patton at 714-4185 or 263-6351 or 816-6962. • Texas Motorcycle Rights Association meets at 7

p.m. in the Spanish Inn. The public is invited. Call 268-6421 for more information. • VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall,

500 Driver Road. Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse

on the Andrews Highway. · Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

 Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

### WEDNESDAY

- · Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- · Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
- · Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- · Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.
- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-
- · Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

# Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. South winds 15 to 20 mph.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Windy. Highs in the upper 70s Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph increasing to 25 to 30 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Windy...Cooler. Lows in the upper 40s. Southwest winds 20 to 30 mph shifting to the northwest 15 to 20 mph after midnight. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. West winds 15 to 20 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

# Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-10-11-13-28. Number matching five of five: none.

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-23-27-31. Bonus Ball: 24. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball:

AUSTIN (AP) - The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-5-4

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Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

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ly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

**BIG SPRING HERA** 

Tuesday, March

Agent charged in WACO (AP) — A authorities foiled 1killing of a parole Janie Sue Paulin McLennan County charge of conspira

said. Waco police inve tried to hire sever parole officer in W After her arrest, that Moss filed a m

companion, Jones "A number of inc vide information effectively put ou Jones said.

He said Jones ru business is not list A jail official v whether Pauling interview request

Three killed in c **BROWNSVILLE** charges of intoxic that killed three p

# **LEVEES**

Continued from Page putes the assertion

engineers from a N Science Foundatio ed panel and a Lou team appointed to tor the rebuilding substandard mater being used in co tion. Agency o maintain that th levees are rigo inspected at each But they ackno that much more wo be needed after J the beginning of cane season, and t finished system st not be strong end withstand a stor magnitude of Katri

Orleans need to g to at least the level ricane protection before Katrina,' pokesman Jim id. "We were

"The people o

rized to do that, ai quickly. It's Congress to decide it to a higher level

# **PLAY**

Continued from Page

from the rest of us "It's about being son, being huma said.

Two of the play acters are m retarded, one is de and one has schi

"They have hor dreams just like said Grizzle. "Bu obstacles are differ

Although not bil comedy, the pla moments of h according to Grizz

# **TRASH**

Continued from Page

about community Simmons said. neighborhood an munities reflec sense of pride in we live, and we want it to be trash litter. Lets work t to accomplish thi 1. We want to be a joining volunteer all over Texas to up, green-up, and up on this one day."

For more infor contact Simmons 4607.



# Texas briefs

### Agent charged in plot to kill parole officer

WACO (AP) — A Waco bonds agent was jailed after authorities foiled her alleged attempt to arrange the killing of a parole officer, police said.

Janie Sue Pauling, 58, was being held Tuesday in the McLennan County Jail on \$950,000 bond. She faces a charge of conspiracy to commit murder, a jail official

Waco police investigator Chris Jones said Pauling tried to hire several people to kill Judy Moss, a state parole officer in Waco.

After her arrest. Pauling told police she was upset that Moss filed a motion to revoke the parole of a close companion, Jones said.

"A number of individuals have come forward to provide information to investigators that Pauling has effectively put out a contract on Mrs. Moss' life,'

He said Jones runs GNS Bail Bonding in Waco. The business is not listed in the phone book.

A jail official would not release information on whether Pauling has a lawyer or grant a telephone interview request with Pauling on Tuesday morning.

### Three killed in crash with SUV

BROWNSVILLE (AP) - A motorist faces three charges of intoxication manslaughter after a crash that killed three people, including two off-duty U.S.

exist."

**Border Patrol agents.** 

Brownsville police say Ivan Angel Arellano, 27, of Brownsville, was behind the wheel of a speeding sport utility vehicle that drove past a stop sign early Sunday. The vehicle then crashed into a car, killing three people inside, said Sgt. Jimmy Manrrique.

The dead are identified as Border Patrol Agent Mario Gonzalez, 24; Border Patrol Agent Cynthia Hernandez Carreon, 23 and her husband, 24-year-old Jorge Carreon.

Investigators believe Arellano was driving his SUV from one party to another when he hit a dip and lost control at about 55 mph. The SUV went airborne and slammed into a car driven by Hernandez. Both vehicles came to rest in a nearby canal. The Brownsville Herald reported in its Tuesday editions.

The bodies of Hernandez and Carreon were trapped underwater, inside the vehicle when officers arrived. Gonzalez was ejected from the backseat of the car. His body was found floating near the car in the canal.

### Prosecutor won't seek charges against sheriff

AMARILLO (AP) - The investigation into allegations of domestic assault by Potter County Sheriff Mike Shumate has been closed and no criminal charges will be filed, a special prosecutor said Monday.

Shumate had been accused of shoving Beverly Shumate, his wife of 18 years, while trying to get inside their house shortly after filing for divorce in January and obtaining a restraining order against

Special Prosecutor Rod Hobson Jr. issued a statement saying no criminal charges would be pursued and no additional comment would be made.

Shumate said he was pleased that the investigation was concluded and that it found no wrongdoing.

He said he testified before a grand jury last week, the Amarillo Globe-News reported in its Tuesday edi-

"I'm very pleased at the fact that it's all over. I am going to go back to being the sheriff of Potter County. It's been distracting and hard to kind of keep my mind focused," Shumate said. "I appreciate your patience and your fairness, and I'm glad it's over. Let's go on down the road."

### Corrupt union head sentenced to two years

FORT WORTH (AP) - A former union president who admitted to using union funds to buy herself lingerie, music and other items was sentenced Monday to two years in prison.

Cynthia Wright, who headed up the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 1298, will also have pay \$32,000 in restitution to the union and her government employer, federal prosecutors said.

Wright, 45, worked for the Bureau of Prisons' Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth. She pleaded guilty in October to a federal charge of making false statements.

She told federal authorities she charged personal items and expenses to the Union credit card and wrote numerous union checks out to herself.

## **LEVEES**

Continued from Page 1A

putes the assertion - by engineers from a National Science Foundation-funded panel and a Louisiana team appointed to monitor the rebuilding — that substandard materials are being used in construction. Agency officials maintain that the new levees are rigorously inspected at each step. But they acknowledge that much more work will be needed after June 1, the beginning of hurricane season, and that the finished system still will not be strong enough to withstand a storm the magnitude of Katrina.

"The people of New Orleans need to get back to at least the level of hurricane protection we had before Katrina," Corps pokesman Jim Taylor id. "We were author" rized to do that, and do it quickly. It's up to Congress to decide to take it to a higher level."

But Ivor van Heerden, a Louisiana University engineering professor and leader of a state-appointed team of experts investigating the failure of the levee system during Katrina, charged that "the government is trying to create a sense of security that doesn't

"What we have today," he added, "is a compromised levee system that failed during a fast-moving Category 3 hurricane. Absolutely nowhere are the levees ready to stand up to the same kind of test."

The Corps said several steps that could help the levee system survive a major hurricane will have to wait until next year. For example, systematic testing for weak soils beneath the levees will not be completed until 2007. Two of the most devastating flood breaches during Katrina have been blamed in part on weak, peatlike soils beneath the walls' founda-

concrete — a process known as "armoring" is not expected to begin when." until summer, and then only if Congress provides additional money. Levee armoring significantly lowers the risk that a levee will collapse when it is overtopped by floodwaters.

A recent report by a prestigious panel of the American Society of Civil Engineers described the lack of armoring in New Orleans' levees as a "fundamental flaw" that demands urgent attention. The same report also faulted the Corps for making predictions about the system's safety before the agency officially determined what caused the levees to fail in the first place.

"Overtopping during Katrina caused catastrophic flooding and destruction of the levees themselves," said David Daniel, president of the

In addition, a plan to University of Texas at \$3.1 billion for repairing line the bases of certain Dallas and a member of critical levees with a pro- the engineers panel. "It is region's hurricane defenstective layer of rock or inevitable that the levees the only question is

Katrina breached the region's 350-mile levee system in dozens of places, blasting out huge chunks of concrete flood walls in central New Orleans and obliterating miles of earthen levees south and east of downtown.

The breaches put 75 perdestructive but ordinary storm to a monumental disaster that claimed more than 1,300 lives.

tion has requested about tions.

and strengthening the es. In addition to the \$1.6 will again be overtopped billion approved by Congress for rapid repairs to broken levees, the administration is seeking additional money for armoring, new floodgates and more pumping sta-

When all that is completed, New Orleans will have a levee system that is still designed to withstand at most a weak Category 3 hurricane. The cent of New Orleans Bush administration and under water and trans- many in Congress have formed Katrina from a resisted calls for building higher levees that would protect against a Category 5 storm, to the frustration of Gulf state governors The Bush administra- and congressional delega-

### **MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Mickey Hernandez. 47, died Sunday. Vigil Services will be at 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Services will be at 11:30 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Ester Mary Collins, 76. died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Relaxation Station

- \* Senior Citizens \*25 per hour
- .\* All Other Massages \*45 per hour
- \* Hot Stone \*55 for 1 hr. 30 min.
- 213-2614 267-8566

### **PLAY**

Continued from Page 1A

from the rest of us. "It's about being a person, being human," he said.

Two of the play's characters are mentally retarded, one is depressed and one has schizophre-

"They have hopes and dreams just like we do," said Grizzle. "But their obstacles are different."

Although not billed as a comedy, the play has moments of hilarity, according to Grizzle. "It's terribly funny, but it's not a comedy," he explained. "It's real warm and there were times when you could hear the

one, Grizzle is optimistic that everyone will enjoy the show.

March 16 at the practical arts building at Howard College and there will be no charge, but donations will be accepted. Performances will be held through March 21. A matinee is Sunday, March 19, at 2:30 p.m.

To contact Andreia newsdesk@big-

Republican for State Representative, District 85

### COMMON WEST TEXAS VALUES

- Strong Public education
- No public tax dollars for private schools

David Wright

Myra Robins

- Competitive teacher salaries
- Protect our water, and other property rights
- Fiscal responsibility throughout state government
- "A" rated by NRA, TSRA

### Uncommon Leadership and Experience

Throughout his 28 years in West Texas, Drew has proven his commitment to our West Texas communities.

Carroll & Joyce Choate

Bob & Joann Brock

Bonnie Fraley

### Some of Drew's Supporters in District 85

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# **TRASH**

Continued from Page 1A

about community pride," Simmons said. neighborhood and communities reflect our sense of pride in where we live, and we don't want it to be trashed with litter. Lets work together to accomplish this April 1. We want to be a part by joining volunteers from all over Texas to clean up, green-up, and paintup on this one special day."

For more information, contact Simmons at 263-



and it's not.' opportunity to see the 263-7331 or send an e-mail

audience crying." The play was written by Tom Griffin and a movie starring Nathan Lane was

make it into a comedy

For those who have seen it before, this will be the play in its entirety. With to something in it for every-

based on it. "It has been around for a long time and high schools put it on all the time," said Grizzle. "The problem is that they

"It's just a warm little

piece.' The play will open

Medlin call the Herald at springherald.com



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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Managing Editor

**Bill McClellar** 

**OUR VIEWS** 

# Polls are open today until 7 p.m.

of you've put it off this long, you're almost out of time. The March party primaries end at 7 p.m. today and your vote is needed. Don't put it off until November — your candidate may fall one vote short of winning the primary, all because you didn't cast a ballot.

Maybe you think Ben Lockhart has done a good job as county judge and you'd like to see him re-elected. Or maybe you think it is time for a change, and want to give his Republican opponent, Mark Morgan, an opportunity. Or, perhaps you believe one of the Democratic candidates — Woody Jumper, Ron L. "Smurf" Sawyers or Mark Barr — would be best for the job.

The fact is, only two of these men will eventually emerge with their party's nomination. So if you feel strongly, now is the time to let your voice be heard. It would be a shame if "your" candidate lost by a few votes because you and a handful of others decide it isn't worth the effort to get to the polls today.

These are important elections — from the selection of federal and state leaders to local officials. We urge you to take the time today

You have until 7 p.m. Time's a wastin.'

## Your Views

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to tell you about a wonderful lady, Trudy Sherrill, who lives at Lake Thomas.

I left my bill fold at the check out counter at Wal-Mart last Wednesday, March 1. She found it and tried to find me. I came home without realizing what I had done. Later that afternoon, she called me from her home to tell me that

she had found my bill-

fold and wanted to return

We met in Big Spring and she handed me my billfold yesterday. What a wonderful feeling it was to get it back! Thanks so much, Trudy. I'm so glad that we have honest people in our area. She use to live at Elbow where I taught and she knew me.

> MRS. CLEO S. BAILEY **FORSAN**

# 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

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- 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

# What guest workers want

about the need for a guestworker program "to fill jobs Americans will not take." But in his last State of the Union address, Bush called for "a

rational, humane guest-worker program that rejects amnesty [and] allows temporary jobs for people who seek them legally" — as if most illegal immigrants want temporary jobs. In that disingenuous spirit, the Senate is explorguest-worker proposals - the lat-



SAUNDERS

est was introduced last week by Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa. My initial reaction is to oppose said programs lest they provide yet another incentive for people to immigrate here illegally.

The very notion that Americans won't take some jobs is absurd. After all, Americans will take any job, if it pays enough. There is no such thing as cheap labor. There are only cheap wages.

When employers hire illegal workers at a cut rate, they pass onto taxpayers the cost of health care and other government services used by workers and their families. I can't help but see the business lobby's support of guestworker programs as anything but an attempt to get working people to subsidize cheapskate corporations so they can sell their products at bargain prices and make bigger profits.

Taxpayers with little education get the shaft twice - as their wages are depressed by a glut of unskilled workers.

Tamar Jacoby of the conservative Manhattan Institute takes the other side. On the phone yesterday, she argued that Americans won't work on farms or in meat-packing plants.

resident Bush used to talk Try to make meatpacking plants pay higher wages, she added, and owners will respond by moving operations to another country.

She has a point, but so does Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies. "How do you offshore homebuilding?" Krikorian asked. He added that industries will develop new technologies to substitute for illegal labor.

Then there are the moral arguments. People who support immigration laws, like moi, bristle at the notion of rewarding people for breaking the law, whether they use the a-word — amnesty — or not.

Jacoby has her moral argument, too. As she sees it, the immigration system has enabled some 11 million illegal immigrants into this country, allowed them to work for years, yet denies them citizenship and legal status. "It's like having 'untouchables,'" Jacoby noted. "I don't think we want to be that kind of country."

Too bad Jacoby's America also will be the kind of country where low-skilled Americans have to live on even less.

Besides, if guest-worker proposals are so moral, why do their authors include dishonest provisions? For example, the Specter bill purports to be tough and temporary because it would require that guest workers leave America after six years. Ha! I laugh out loud.

Jacoby objects to that provision because she understands that after six years, Specter's immigrants won't leave — they will simply go underground.

Other bills, such as one by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., might work better because they would allow illegal immigrants already in America to pay \$2,000 in fines in return for which they could apply for permanent residence, and eventually for citizenship. There would SYNDICATE INC.

be no need for those workers to go underground.

To meet the demand for new immigrant workers, the McCain-Kennedy bill would allow some 400,000 people living outside America to apply for guest-worker status each year.

But here's the problem: The Pew Hispanic Center estimates that the number of illegal immigrants in America grows by 500,000 each

Jacoby advocates laws that "make it so nobody comes through the back door." But if the demand for immigrant workers exceeds the McCain-Kennedy cap, well, you get more "untouchables." If there is no cap, there can be a flood of unskilled workers, and they'll be using government services.

Speaking to reporters last month, Sen. John McCain said of the 11 million illegal immigrants in America, "We believe that sending them back is something that is not only not humane, but not possible."

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif., bristled at McCain's words. "I have never advocated massive deportation," Rohrabacher responded.

"The whole theory is, if you quit giving people benefits and make it hard for them to find jobs, after that, they themselves will decide to

I want smart policies that don't cost America jobs. But it can't be smart to send another green light to would-be immigrants who already think it may be worth their while to break U.S. immigration

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists. visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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# Lousy issue, but great politics

hat makes a Great Political Issue? If you're a Democrat, and you've been floundering in search of one for months as most Democrats have — two ingredients seem to be essential. First, the issue has to allow you

to score points against President Bush. After all, what's the point of having a lame duck if you can't try to cripple him even further?

Second, and just as important, the issue needs to NOT leave you vulnerable to the worst of all accusations: "soft on terrorism" - or, as Karl Rove puts it, "pre-9/11 mentality." Indeed, the perfect issue is the one that lets you accuse the administration of this ultimate sin.

By this standard, the "Dubai Ports Deal" is manna from Political Heaven. Call Chicken Little: The president is giving our ports to the Arabs. It is a demagogue's delight, and Democrats have been playing it like a picco-

Forget about the fact that nearly ever port in American has elements of foreign ownership - or that, according to the president's own revelations, al-Qaida was planning to use South Asians, and not Arabs, in a subsequent attack on Los Angeles. Who's afraid of South Asians?

Forget about the fact that in recent years, the United Arab Emirates has been among our closest allies in the region in fighting terror, and in helping us supply our military. "The water I drank as a soldier in Afghanistan came from Dubai," one of my students told me. "If they wanted to harm us, they don't

need to run ports to That's not to say that there are not legitimate questions being raised. I'm troubled by the Emirates' participa-

tion in the Israeli Susan boycott, and there ESTRICH are questions as to whether the Coast Guard's concerns are

fully addressed. But is this really the best Democrats can do?

Will it make anyone's life any better - help any child, feed any mother, save any senior — if Democrats "win" on this issue? Will stopping the ports deal

make American cities safer or stronger? Of course not. This is a political exercise. So much easier than the other headlines of the day -10,000 dying in Darfur, intractable combat in Iraq. Does anyone have any answers on those? They are

not the sort of "yes-no" questions that fuel our political discourse.

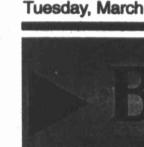
Former President Clinton, no Bush supporter he, has expressed confidence in the people of the United Arab Emirates, and urged others to focus on the facts in this

But the facts are less important than the fear factor and the demands of politics. Bill Clinton isn't running for office. He doesn't need a political issue. His wife and her colleagues do, and unfortunately, they've found a beauty. Even Republicans can't resist. They're no fools. They know a losing argument when they see one.

And it's working like a charm. The country is, for once, with the Democrats and their Republican/talk-show allies. If all you care about is politics, this is the definition of success. If only it merited the hysteria it has generated. Unfortunately, it doesn't. Meanwhile, they die in Darfur. No points to be made there. Sorry. Lousy issue.

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

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**BIG SPRING HER** 

Sitting on a sidi train crew heard s ting the windows the late winter arrived. Soon mesquites and were encased in a opaque glaze.

The crew's day h one of frustration problems up and the line. It seemed ahead to re-ent mainline would come.

Finally given th light to proceed, t motive surged to l its cargo in to ahead, barely vis the headlight, wa thing standing middle of the trac Accustomed to

the crew had ev rattlesnakes between the rails. This thing, h did not move. To c meant the engine

bobcats, fox and

saunter across the

hit it. Since they ha moved a few ya engineer stopp train and gave tl to investigate the By this time th had coated eve with ice; the c had difficulty in the door of the ca

Carefully leav slick ladder on th the train, the mai

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# Bircl Poor

Sitting on a siding, the walking train crew heard sleet hitting the windows when the late winter storm arrived. Soon the mesquites and grasses were encased in an eerie, opaque glaze.

The crew's day had been one of frustration, with problems up and down the line. It seemed the goahead to re-enter the mainline would never

Finally given the green light to proceed, the locomotive surged to life with its cargo in tow. Far ahead, barely visible in the headlight, was something standing in the middle of the tracks.

Accustomed to seeing bobcats, fox and coyotes saunter across the tracks, the crew had even seen rattlesnakes coiled between the rails.

This thing, however, did not move. To continue meant the engine would hit it.

Since they had only moved a few yards, the engineer stopped the train and gave the order to investigate the object. By this time the storm had coated everything with ice; the crewman had difficulty in opening the door of the cab.

Carefully leaving the slick ladder on the side of the train, the man started

and slipping toward the dark image down the

tracks.

Even as

he broke

through

McCasland

the ice a n d crunched in the ballast.

the shape did not move. When he was finally close enough to see it clearly, he discovered it was a large great horned owl, which had probably landed between the tracks

as it hunted for prey. Once down, the bird had huddled against the icy blasts of the storm.

It had taken very little time for the moisture accompanying the sleet to adhere to the bird's feath-

The weight of the ice had prevented the owl from seeking refuge away from the tracks.

Because the owl had not

flcwn away as he

approached, the man hoped it was still alive and not frozen. Taking off his coat, he

wrapped it around the bird and brought it back to the engine.

Once inside, the crewman removed the coat. He and the engineer could

detect movement in the owl's chest.

It was still breathing. They placed the bird in a box for the trip into town.

By the time we received the great horned owl, some of the ice had melted, but remnants still coated the wing feathers and parts of its head.

The crew wondered if there would be any lasting effects from the ice.

We told them the ice could very well have saved the bird's life, because it provided additional insulation as protection from the storm.

The crew's alertness in spotting the bird, and their efforts in helping it, had been a major factor in the bird's survival.

After several days of recovery and well supplied with mice and rabbits, the owl was released one evening during a week of good weather.

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

With large tuffs of feathers on its head that resemble horns, the great horned owl is aptly named.



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on went on a business trip to a faraway city, so naturally, the kids and I went on a shopping trip out of town.

As I was trying to get to a super electronics store, I hit the back of

another vehicle. Thankfully, everyone in my car and hers was ine. What

wanted to write about the was officer who answered the acci-

ALTON dent call. After the other party called the police number, I got into my vehicle to turn on the hazard lights. Ten minutes later, I found them and

CHRISTY

Then, the officer arrived. (He was very quick considering I was in a much larger town than our own.)

promptly turned them

When he got to the scene of the accident, there were bits and pieces of my front bumper and grill in the road. The nose of the van was bent up into its neck.

The young lady had a slit in her back bumper. We had all been wearing seatbelts and were not remotely hurt. I was disgusted with myself, but other than that, fine

All the while, the hazard lights were click, click, clicking.

After the officer finished the whole paper-~ owork ~ procedure, he to made sure there were no leaks in the radiator.

Then, I turned the key.

Nothing.

Zippidee doo dah. Dead. The emergency flashers had sucked the juice out of the battery

I was thinking of all kinds of people I might call that would make the long drive to bail me out.

To my surprise, the officer went to his car and fished out jumper cables. He lifted my erunched hood and recharged my battery.

As is usual with a broken nose, it wouldn't close properly. He took a long piece of plastic and handcuffed my hood down.

My yellow light was hanging by a thread, so he duct taped it down. After doing all this, he even picked up some debris out of the street and handed it to me.

He said, "Don't want to litter.'

Those who serve and protect us have my applause.

I am grateful that there are men and women who not only will deal with the mess I've made, but help me clean it up as well.

I just want to say a great big thank you to all public servants who turn bad situations into a less grueling experi-

KUDOS!

Christy Alton is married to her park ranger, Ron and they have two children, Autumn and Aaron. She is a full-time student and works as a substitute teacher.



Signature

# You had me at howdy: Aggie charm lures visitors to Texas A&M

By ALLEN HOLDER

COLLEGE STATION -Texas; Howdy.

Say it with me, now. Nice and friendly. How-

dy.
There. You've just had your first lesson in what it means to be a Texas A&M Aggie. Not that there won't be more.

Saying howdy is a tradition at A&M, the central Texas university whose sprawling 5,200-acre campus seems as big as Texas itself.

"Howdy is our official welcome at Texas A&M,' said Ann Melson, a senior from the Dallas area who leads campus tours for prospective students and visitors. "I remember my freshman year, it was kind of hard getting used to, but I think it is our way of being a little more welcoming, a little more friendly."

A stranger on campus is almost certain to be greeted with half a dozen or so "howdys" as he tries to navigate from the student union to the Bush Library, often as not from a student wearing the crisp, khaki uniform of the A&M Corps of Cadets, an Aggie tradition that dates to the university's beginning in 1876.

A visit to A&M, to anywhere in the College Station and Bryan area, really, is an immersion in Aggie lore.

"This place absolutely bleeds A&M," Melson said.

Attend a football game at the 82,600-seat Kyle Field and you'll encounter the 12th Man, a custom in which Aggies stand ready to help their team.

Especially if the game is against Texas, "that other school in Austin," you

may run into a "maroonout," blanketing the stadium in a sea of A&M color.

Visit the Memorial. Student Center and you'll be asked politely not to step on the grass or wear your cap inside. The union is a living memorial to Aggies who have given their lives in service to their country.

One of the best-known sites on campus honors a tradition that ended in tragedy after 90 years -Bonfire.

On the campus's east **Bonfire** the side, Memorial is a 170-foot ring on the site where a huge bonfire was erected each fall before the football game with rival Texas. Sixteen-foot granite portals honor the 12 persons who died there in 1999 when the log pile collapsed.

It's a moving tribute that not only honors those 12 but also the students injured that year and those killed in previous bonfire accidents.

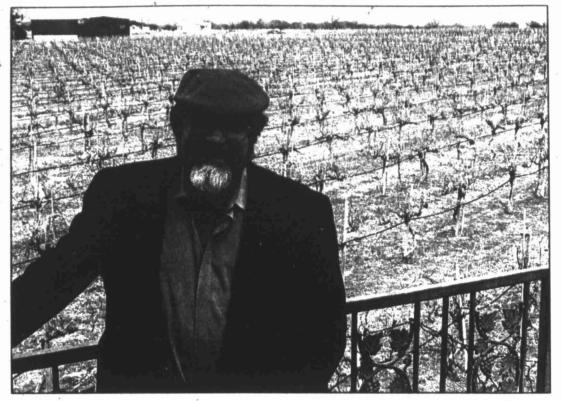
Tradition is no Aggie joke.

"The biggest thing to me about A&M and why it captured me so much." said Katy Jackson, an A&M alum, "is everything means something, and they stand behind it.'

Jackson ought to know something about tradition, although hers are a bit less serious. Her family has run the Dixie Chicken since her father co-founded it in 1974.

It is one of the country's best-known college bars.

The Chicken, in College Station's popular Northgate Entertainment District adjacent to campus, has plenty of traditions of its own, including tables that hear decades of student-carved initials and the keeping of caged



Paul Bonarrigo, pictured near College Station, Feb. 26, created romance and a thriving vineyard on the Texas prairie.

rattlesnakes.

Better known is the custom of the Aggie class ring, honored by countupperclassmen through the years.

"When you get your Aggie ring," Jackson Mechanical College was said, "you dip it into a Dixie Chicken mug, drop it into the mug and drink till there's nothing left."

Well, some traditions make more sense than that has two presidential others. You'd understand libraries, George Bush's if you were an Aggie.

"There's a phrase we have and all Aggies know it," Jackson said. "'From the outside looking in, you can't understand it. From the inside looking out you can't explain it.' That's very true.'

**A&M Facts** 

Bryan was founded in 1859. Its namesake is William Joel Bryan, a nephew of Texas pioneer Stephen F. Austin.

College Station didn't become a city until 1938. It was named as a railway stop by the Postal Service in 1877, a year after classes began at Texas A&M.

The Agricultural & placed away from Bryan so students would be away from its saloons and gambling halls.

Texas is the only state in College Station and Lyndon B. Johnson's in Austin. The area between College Station and Austin is considered the Presidential Corridor. George W. Bush has not announced where his presidential library will be built.

Thirty-four 6-foot fiberglass locomotive models are on display in Bryan and College Station through August in honor

of the area's railroad history. It's the area's version of the Cow Parade and is tied to an exhibit at the Bush Library called "Trains: Tracks of the Iron Horse."

If you go

Getting there: Bryan and College Station are about 110 miles northeast of Austin and about 100 northwest miles Houston.

To learn more: Contact the Bryan-College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau at (800) 777-8292 or www.visitaggieland.com. Texas A&M's Visitor

Center at Rudder Tower, next to the Memorial Student Center, is open 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. until 4 Sunday. p.m. www.tamu.edu or (979) 845-5851.

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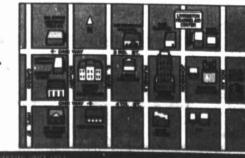


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C.G.A. annou scramble for The Chicar

try club at 26'

Association hosting its Membership a four-person ble — at Co Trail Golf March 12. The tour begins a shotg

at 10:30 a. teams must b tered by 10 a.n will be refre served after nament as we For more tion, contac Pineda at 264

Sweetwater set for early

The Sixth Sweetwater Classic Ba Tournament held May Sweetwater. This tourna open to boys a in age divis and under varsity divisi For more

nauey 6757. Umpires nee

tion, contac

B.S. softball The Big Girl's Association for umpires upcoming Anyone inte umpiring g ball games

Coahoma se for alumni c

466-3670.

Luci Ramire

The Bulldogs wil ing their alumni base March 18 at at the Coah ball field.

For more tion or to tact Donna at 432-394-453 Barr at 432-9

Coahoma se for softball

The United Girl Association registration divisions i and T-ball March 16, Coahoma C Center from 8 p.m. The sign also take pla 17, March March 23 day will l p.m. to 8 p. Tryouts signups

place March 25, Pat Robins

## NERIEF

KBSB golf tourner announced for month of April

Keep Big Spring seautiful will be hosting a golf tournament April 22 at the Big Spring Country Club. The tournament will t at 9 a.m. and cost \$60 per person. The tourney is a fourrson scramble.

For more information, contact the country club at 267-5354.

### C.G.A. announces scramble for March

The Chicano Golf Association will be hosting its annual Membership Drive a four-person scramble — at Comanche Trail Golf Course March 12.

The tournament begins a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m., but teams must be registered by 10 a.m. There will be refreshments served after the tournament as well.

For more information, contact Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

### Sweetwater Classic set for early May

The Sixth-Annual Sweetwater Spring Classic Basketball Tournament will be held May 5-7 in Sweetwater.

This tournament is open to boys and girls in age divisions 10 and under through varsity divisions.

For more information, contact Mike Hatley at 1-800-658-

### Umpires needed for B.S. softball season

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association is looking for umpires for the upcoming season. Anyone interested in umpiring girl's softball games, contact Luci Ramirez at 432-466-3670.

### Coahoma sets date for alumni contest

The Coahoma Bulldogs will be hosting their first-ever alumni baseball game March 18 at 12:30 p.m. at the Coahoma baseball field.

For more information or to play, contact Donna Mansfield at 432-394-453 or Dutch Barr at 432-965-3408.

### Coahoma sets dates for softball signups

Coanoma The United Girls Softball Association will begin registration for all divisions in softball and T-ball Thursday, March 16, at the Coahoma Community Center from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The signups will also take place March 17, March 21 and March 23 and each day will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tryouts and late signups will take Saturday, March 25, beginning at 10 a.m. at the soft-

The fee is \$30 and or more info, contact Pat Robinson at 393-



Former Minnesota Twins outfielder Kirby Puckett acknowledges the crowd in April 2001 in Minneapolis, Minn., as his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame neared. Puckett died Monday after suffering a stroke. He was 45.

# Hall of Famer Puckett, 45, dies after suffering stroke

By DAVE CAMPBELL

**AP Sports Writer MINNEAPOLIS** 

Kirby Puckett didn't need much time to make a big impact. Those who felt it, near and far, can only wish he had stayed around longer. The bubbly Hall of

Famer with the boyish enthusiasm for baseball, who led the Minnesota Twins to two World Series titles before his career was cut short by glaucoma, died Monday after a stroke. He was

"He was revered throughout the country and will be remembered wherever the game is played," commissioner Bud Selig said. "Kirby was taken from us much too soon — and too quickly."

Indeed, Puckett was the second-youngest person to die having already been enshrined at Cooperstown, Hall of Fame spokesman Jeff Idelson said. Only Lou Gehrig, at 37, was younger.

Puckett died at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, where friends and family had gathered. Puckett, who was divorced, is survived by his children, Catherine and Kirby Jr. He was engaged to be married

Funeral arrangements were pending.

to Jodi Olson this sum-

Puckett's post-retirement weight gain over the past decade concerned friends and family, who were saddened but not shocked by his stroke.

"It's a tough thing to see a guy go through something like that and come to this extent," former teammate Kent Hrbek said.

Puckett led the Twins to championships in 1987 and 1991 after breaking into the majors in 1984. With a career batting average of .318, six Gold Gloves and 10 All-Star game appearances, Puckett woke up one morning during spring training Stricken early Sunday in 1996 and never played

ness in his right eye. "That's what really hurt him bad, when he

was forced out of the game," Hrbek said. "I don't know if he ever recovered from it." A makeshift memorial began to form Monday

night outside the Metrodome, with a handful of bouquets, caps and candles laid on the sidewalk. "I grew up in centerfield yelling down on him. It's just not right," said fan Daniel Boche, who knelt down to pay his respects. "He was my idol growing up."

"It's tough to take," Twins general manager Terry Ryan said from the team's spring training camp in Fort Myers, Fla. "He had some faults, we knew that, but when all was said and done he would treat you as well as he would anyone else, no matter who you were."

Though he steadfastly refused to speak pessimistically about the rremature end to his career, Puckett's person-

at his Arizona home, again because of blind- See PUCKETT, Page 2B

# Big Spring girls win JV team competition

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor SNYDER — The Big Spring girl's track team ran in the Canyon Reef Relays in Snyder this past Saturday. The Lady Steers, for the most part,

competed junior varlevel sity and ran away with the title in the team standings. B i g

points.

Spring fin-AGUILAR ished with 224 points in the JV team standings. Lamesa finished second with 67

Monica Fierro recorded the only significant places at the varsity level as she took first in the discus and third in the shot put.

Whitney Lewis, Leslie Leal and Mistie Aguilar first-place finishes. Lewis Odessa.

won both the triple jump and long jump, while Leal took home golds in the shot put and discus. Aguilar won the mile and two mile races as well.

Traosha Walker finished with a first place, too, as she won the 100meter dash and also took home third in the long jump.

Esther Tobar scored a second in the 800-meter run and finished third in the mile run. Kaylea Pope finished second in the 200 meters and 100 hurdles and came in third in the long jump and triple jump.

Brittney Randle and Ambrie Schaffner each scored second-place finishes. Randle took the silver in the 100 meters, while Schaffner scored a second in the 400-meter dash.

The Lady Steers will run in the West Texas each came home with two Relays this weekend in

# Tucker, Aldridge, Self lead all-Big 12 squad

forward P.J. Tucker, who named Defensive Player lead Longhorns to a share of whose Kansas team the Big 12 Conference shared the Big 12 title

title, was named Player of the Year by the conference's coaches

Monday. Tucker, who was declared ineligible and forced to miss the final 14 games of last season, returned to lead the team scoring, averaging

16.1 points percentage with .531.

Tucker's teammate, See BIG 12, Page 2B

DALLAS (AP) — Texas LaMarcus Aldridge, was the of the Year. Bill Self,

with Texas, was named Coach of the Year. Brandon Rush Kansas was n a m e, d Freshman of the Year and Michael Neal Oklahoma was selected Newcomer of the Year.

Aldridge leads t**he** league with 59 blocks, including 27 in confer-

per game. He led the ence games. He ranks league in rebounding third in the league with with nine per game and 81 defensive rebounds was fourth in field goal and leads the conference

# Howard slugs way to sweep against LCU JV

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK Howard College baseball team's offense woke up Monday to the tune of 34 runs in two games as the Hawks swept the Lubbock Christian junior varsity in doubleheader action in Lubbock.

Seven batters had multiple hits in Game 1 as the Hawks rolled to a 23-3 five-inning victory and then used a seven-run third inning in Game 2 to win, 11-5.

Lubbock Christian led 2-0 after the first inning in Game 1 before Howard's offense erupted. The Hawks scored four in the second inning to take the lead and never looked back. They added eight in the third, four in the fourth and seven in the fifth. Lubbock Christian got its other run in the

Several Hawk hitters had monster games at the plate.

Barrett three runs and three from the cycle. RBIs. Sophomores Daman



**HERALD photo/Troy Hyde** Howard sophomore Jeff Storms puts the ball in play during action this past weekend at Jack Barber Field. The Hawks swept LCU's JV team Monday in Lubbock. The current fourgame win streak improves Howard's overall record to 10-6.

went five-for-five with were each one but away four RBIs down

Lowenstein Aaron and Jeff Storms four with four man and 'double away from the first home run of the year

Storms had three hits, Aaron went four-for- and also tripled, but was a including his first home

run of the year, scored three runs and had six RBIs. He also doubled and was a single away from the cycle.

Kenny Smalley and Dustin Dallas each had three hits as well. Dallas scored three times and had three RBIs. He also hit his first home run of the season. Smalley added three runs and one RBI. He doubled and tripled in the game.

Will Basom and Jacob Bordeau each had two hits for Howard, which improved to 10-6 after the two-game sweep.

Sophomore Matthew Shepperd (1-0) got the win on the mound as he threw four innings and gave up two earned runs on five hits and struck out two batters. Sophomore Parker Sisk threw the fifth inning and gave up no runs and no hits.

The Hawks fell behind early in Game 2 as well, but it was again a shortlived lead for Lubbock Christian. Howard grabbed a 2-1 advantage

### **HOWARD**

Continued from Page 1B

in the second and scored seven runs in the third to go up 9-3 after three innings.

Aaron, Fonseca and Basom all had two hits each to lead Howard at the plate. A a r o n

**s**cored

DONOVAN

twice and had one RBI. With a sixfor-six performance on The day, Aaron takes over the team lead in batting average. He is now hitting .455.

Dallas hit his second home run of the day with a grand slam in the third. Fonseca had two walks and scored once to go with his two hits.

Sophomore Darby Brown had a hit, two RBIs and scored once. He is now hitting .423 on the year.

Eamonn Donovan started the game on the mound, but only stayed in the game long enough to record five outs. He gave up one run on one hit and struck out two, while walking three.

Big Spring graduate J. Rich Sparks (1-0) pitched the next 2.1 innings and got the win. He gave up two runs on three hits, but recorded five strike-

Matt Hennig and Lance Brown also pitched for Howard.

**Howard begins Western** Junior College Athletic Conference play this weekend against Frank Phillips.

The Hawks will play two games Friday and two more Saturday.

## **BIG 12**

Continued from Page 1B

with 13 double-doubles. Self is in his third season as Jayhawk coach. The Coach of the Year award is his first with Kansas. The team finished the regular season 22-7, the 18th straight season for at least 22 victories

Neal leads the conference in 3-point field goal percentage (.495) and 3point field goals per game (3.86). He leads the team in scoring with 14.8 points per game.

Rush is the leading freshman scorer in the conference, averaging 15.1 points per game. He is the fourth Kansas player to score more than 400 points in his freshman season. He has 408.

# **B.S.** takes advantage of three errors in win over Lubbock Cooper

 Freshman Stewart strikes out 14, throws near no-hitter in win

By TROY HYDE Sports Editor

LUBBOCK Stewart struck out 14 datters Monday and the Lady Steers took advantage of three first-inning errors from Lubbock Cooper (2-5) and recorded a 7-3 road

Stewart took a no-hitter into the sixth inning before Karisa Wieberg broke up the no-no and the shutout with a two-RBI single in the sixth Big inning. Stewart also led Spring freshman Shelbi the Lady Steers at the

plate with a double. No. 3 Big Spring scored three runs in the errorfilled first inning and added four more in the



Howard sophomore Matthew Shepperd tries to pick off a runner at first base during action this past weekend at Jack Barber Field. Shepperd got the win in Game 1 against LCU's JV team Monday as the Hawks swept the doubleheader.



### **PUCKETT**

Continued from Page 1B

al life began to deteriorate after that.

Shortly after his induction to Cooperstown, then-wife Tonya accused him of threatening to kill her during an argument he denied it - and described to police a history of violence and infi-

In 2003, he was cleared of all charges from an alleged sexual assault of a woman at a suburban Twin Cities restaurant and kept a low profile after the trial, eventually moving to Arizona. He stopped coming to spring training as a special instructor in 2002.

Puckett was elected to the Hall of Fame on his first try in 2001, and his plaque praised his "everpresent smile and infectious exuberance."

He spent his entire career with Minnesota.

"I wore one uniform in my career and I'm proud to say that," Puckett once said.

Puckett's signature performance came in Game 6 of the 1991 World Series against Atlanta. After the Twins to victory that night at the Metrodome, he made a leaping catch against the fence and then hit a game-ending homer in the 11th inning

to force a seventh game.

The next Minnesota's Jack Morris went all 10 innings to outlast John Smoltz for a 1-0 win, Minnesota's second championship in five

"If we had to lose and if one person basically was the reason — you never want to lose — but you didn't mind it being Kirby Puckett. When he made the catch and when he hit the home run you could tell the whole thing had turned," Smoltz said.

"His name just seemed to be synonymous with being a superstar," the Braves pitcher added.

Hall of Fame catcher Carlton Fisk echoed Smoltz's sentiment.

Puckett's birth date was frequently listed as March 14, 1961, but recent research by the Hall of Fame indicated he was born a year earlier.

The youngest of nine children born into poverty in a Chicago housing project, Puckett was drafted by the Twins in 1982 and became a regular just two years later. He got four hits in his first major league start and finished with 2,304 in only 12 seasons.

Though his power numclaiming he would lead bers, 207 home runs and 1,085 RBIs, weren't exceptional, Puckett won an AL batting title in 1989 and was considered one of the best all-around players of his era.

## **Region V Tournament**

Men's basketball @the Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock Howard (29-1) vs. Grayson (18-12), Thursday, 7 p.m. Midland (25-5) vs. Collin County (21-9) South Plains (23-7) vs. Temple (24-6) Odessa (19-11) vs. McLennan (22-8) Howard is the top seed in the tournament

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# RUSSEL RABBIT AND HOMA JR. THE CONDOR

was time for yet another Spring. Do you know what time of the year that might be? Is it the time of the year when all the leaves on the trees are new? Is it the time of the year when most of the flowers start

blooming again? Do you like to smell the beautiful flowers? Is it also the time when all of the animals and birds seem to come to life again, after being asleep all winter? Is it Springtime now? Do you like Springtime? I

Bernice Bluebird loves the Springtime, tool She has a new family now and she must build a brand new nest for them. Have you ever seen a bird nest? That is their home, just like you and I have a home. It is okay to look at a bird nest, but we must never bother one. If we did bother a bird nest, then the mother birds

leave never come back to visit us. That would be sad for us, wouldn't it? It would be sad for the birds, tool

Bernice Bluebird worked very hard to build her nest. She worked day and night, just taking enough time from her work to bathe and brush her teeth. I am just kidding about Bernice brushing her teeth. mice has no teeth! I hope you brush your teeth every day so you won't be like Bernice. She didn't build her nest out of small sticks like most birds. She liked to build soft, comfortable nests with dead grass. Oh, the dead grass felt so good to her and her family. But this is Springtime and all the grass is green now. Where could Bernice find the dead grass she needed for her home? She looked and looked for her

dead grass. She asked all of her friends if they might know where she could find dead grass. One such friend was Russel Rabbit. Russel knew where

just about anything might be. He is a rabbit, and he can run fast, and he goes everywhere, looking for green grass to eat. Surely,

he could remember where all the dead grass might bel And he didl Russel Rabbit had seen lots of

grass high up on a mountaintop a long time ago. And even though it was now Springtime and very warm in the valley, it would still be very cold on that high mountaintop, and the grass there would still be dead from all the frost and cold! But, how would Bernice get to the grass? It was too cold for her to go up on that mountaintop, and she was afraid to fly that high, tool Poor Bernicel Would she have to let her family sleep on those rough sticks because she could not get the nice soft dead grass she wanted for her nest? Is there someone

who could help her get the dead grass from that mountaintop? Of course there is, and his name is Homa Jr., the Condorl Do you remember how Homa Jr. saved all the little birds and animals from a



ever hear that story? Homa Jr. is still here and he is still a very nice condorl Homa Jr. still lives on the side of

the cliff, high up on the mountain. He loves living way up there. And he can see everything that happens down in the valley. He could see Bernice Bluebird searching and searching for her dead grass. But Homa Jr. is a Condorl And condors bigger than most condors. He could not fly down into the thicket where Bernice was trying to build her nest. He was just too big! And he wanted to help because he is a

nice condor. Homer Jr. saw Russel Rabbit coming out of the thicket that bright Spring morning. He knew that Russel was trying to help Bernice, too. 'Is there anything I can do to help Bernice? asked Homa Jr. "Why yes," said Russel Rabbit, "She needs some of the dead grass from your mountaintop so she can finish building her nest for her family.

And it is too cold for me to go up there and get the grass for her, and it is too cold and too high for her to get it herself."

'Wait right here,' Homa Jr. said to Russel Rabbit. Homa Jr. started flapping those big wings and off he went, straight up toward that mountaintopi The wind from those big flapping wings blew Russel rabbit completely over, but he stood back up, laughing at himself for not being prepared for Homa Jr. and his huge wings. He will know better next time!

In just two minutes, Homa Jr. was on top of the big old mountain

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are very big. Homa Jr. was even , where he saw a nice clump of dead grass. The grass was nice and soft, and even the color that Bernice would want. With his big claws, he grabbed enough grass for Bernice and her nest. He even had enough grass for several more bluebirds if they wanted to build their nests the same way Bernice did. Then, off he went, down to the edge of the valley, where Russel Rabbit was waiting, with two claws full of dead

> Russel Rabbit saw Homa Jr. coming with all that grass and he did look funnyl When Homa Jr. landed with his claws full of grass.

he could not stop very quickly. He landed very close to Russel, then flipped over and dead grass went everywhere, especially all over Russel Rabbitl Homa Jr. stood back up, laughing at himself, and wondered where Russel Rabbit was hiding. Russel rabbit wasn't hiding. He was covered up with all that dead grass that went flying when Homa Jr. tried to land! Russel Rabbit stood up too, laughing at the w a y Homa

Jr. landed with his big

load of dead grass. They laughed and laughed because it was so funny to both of them. After the laughing stopped, they

both began to see that only one of them could get through the thick briars and brambles to get the dead grass to Bernice. It had to be Russel Rabbit! All rabbits love to run through the thickets and briars, and brambles! Russel grabbed all of the dead grass he could carry and off he went to find Bernice. When Bernice saw him with all that grass, she

almost cried with joy. Now she could build the nice, cozy

nest for her family. She worked and worked on her nest, while

dead grass to her. Soon, she was finished. It was a beautiful nest. It

had soft floors. It even had a soft bed for her family!

She ran outside to call her family to come on home. There they were. All of the bluebird family, in their own home! Bernice felt really good about her new home. She ran over to thank Russel Rabbit for all his help. 'Thank you Russel,' she said, 'For all of your help. Now, my family will have a nice home, and all because of youl' 'No, no, do not thank me, Russel said. 'Thank Homa Jr., the Condor, for without

him. could never have gotten dead from grass the mountaintop! 'Who and



where is Homa Jr.?' she asked. No one knew where Homa Jr. had gone. 'I wish I could find him so I could thank him,' said Bernice. 'I owe him so much! He has made a family of bluebirds very happy."

Homa Jr. had already gone back to his home on the mountainside. But he knew that he had made a family of bluebirds very happy. He could see them from his home! He could see them smiling. He knew that he had put the smile on their facesi And, next year, when Springtime comes again, he will do the same

Russel Rabbit, Bernice Bluebird and her family, and Homa Jr. the

Announcer



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Must be able to fabricate (Must have 2 yrs plus experience) Service Person With CDL A or B (must have HazMat endorsements) **Drivers** Class A CDL (With HazMat and Tanker endorsements)

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Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation Now Hiring for Charge Nurse position. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway. IMMEDIATE OPENING for

Full-time and Part-time r/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

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LOOKING FOR (3) Part-time Personal Banker/Teller. Experienced preferred but not required. Apply at www.woodforest.com

MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff. Must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 fax resume (432)756-4510.

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Pollard Chevrolet is seeking an ACCOUNTING CLERK. Accounting experience required. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at 1501

RECEPTIONIST for small office. Supervised position to perform simple, routine & repetitive office duties. 0-2 years experience, telephone skills. clerical skills. Word & Excel all preferred. Send resume to: c/o P.O. Box 1431/107, Big Spring, TX 79721.

RECEPTIONS-DATA ENTRY Position Opening. Resoponsibility will be to answer the phones, data entry, filing and other duties. We are looking to file this position as soon as possible. Must pass a drug test and background check. Please send resume: c/o P.O. Box 1431/140, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

RESTAURANT MANAGER needed. Experience preferred. Call Mary for appointment, (432)213-0828

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full and part time cashiers, Assistant Managers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Drug Free Environ-Spring.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Needs students to work all types of jobs. Housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen and maintenance Salary room board & bonus. For information and application write Personal Director, 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury, Tx. 76049.

THE MARTIN COUNTY HOS-PITAL DISTRICT OF STAN-TON IS SEEKING FULL TIME RN's FOR NIGHT SHIFT 7P-7A AND FULL TIME LVN's FOR NIGHT SHIFT 11-7. PLEASE CONTACT JEFF VIDAL, DON AT 610 N. SAINT PETER, STANTON, TEXAS OR CALL (432)756-3345 EXT.

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2401 Gregg WANTED **EXPERIENCED** Mechanic and Operator at Natural Gas Processing Plant, North East of Big Spring. Fax resume to (432)399-4290 or e-mail mwcol@crcom.net

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up for Mobile Home. 43K, \$4,000.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 29 years. No Credit Check. (817)312-6322.

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SALE/ RENT 4109 Dixon. 4/2, Newer carpet, CH/A, storm windows, work/storage bldg. \$500. Deposit, \$500. month or \$39,000.00. NO PETS. Call 1-979-324-2072 or 267-3074.

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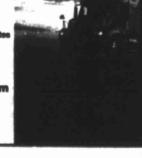
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

friend,

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS Oh, Mercury! Why do you tease us so? The trickster of the zodiac has been transiting retrograde since last week, and you are likely starting to get his jokes by now. He's especially fond of messing with e-mail, faxes and cell-phone communica-tion lately. Remember to think past the "static" to feel out what people are really trying to say.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're keen to what people. motivates Therefore, you listen past all the niceties in order to get to the point. You are able to speak to other people's "bottom line," and that helps you both in business and in pleasure. TAURUS (April 20-May

20). Nature is restorative. Being an earth sign, you are in a unique position to immerse yourself in it right now. You don't have to find a forest. Cut open a zuechini, and look at the beautiful design of its seed placement. Really look.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Reading some poetry is a cumbersome process. Understanding it? Nearly impossible. Creating it? Easy, for you. You're living it! At various times throughout the day, you may even feel you are in love.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The end is the beginning of something new, and the beginning is the end of whatever came right before. So, there's no reason to feel sad when you're waving goodbye, which you will be doing. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

There is an ancient Peruvian belief that solar eclipses can trigger earthquakes — now proven by modern scientists to be true. You personally have an ancient belief that creates a tiny earthquake in your life today.

22). You're an excellent ators.com.

details, being there for the important stuff and valuing even the faintest good qualities in others. Just don't let this take up all of your time — you have big work to accomplish. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're feeling bright and

remembering

peppy, which is the attitude that attracts new deals to you and various ways to make more money. Business and pleasure can be harmoniously combined.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you stare at the ceiling, walls and floor of your home long enough, everything will start to look crooked. It is. The trick is to keep moving. Dwelling only brings up imperfections that don't really matter.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The people around you are so touchy - or is it that you've toughened up? This is the benefit of all the risk taking you've been doing. Either way, it's not a bad time for diplomacy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're doing mighty fine. Everything seems taken care of you don't even know what to wish for. So, don't wish for anything. Sit, and feel fulfilled. It's luckier than wishing anyway.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). High-maintenance individuals and rocky relationships are vehicles of learning. This is all well and good if you are a saint, but mere mortals may just decide to skip "school" today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Important people and projects depend on you. Try the easy way first. It's bad time management not to! It also helps to separate what is "your problem" from what is "their problem."

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. please go to www.cre-

Annie's Mailbox •

Dear Annie: I have been living with "Derek" for four years. I love him, but I'm not sure why.

I moved in with Derek because he basically asked me to marry him. Well, I thought he did. He said, "How would you like to change your last name?" I took that as a proposal and said yes. I have had an engagement ring for three years.

When I ask Derek when, or if, he plans to get married, he either says he is gun shy, or he gets furious and says I am trying to back him into a corner. I say I have a right to know, but he doesn't seem to think so.

Derek has three children from a previous marriage, and one is getting married soon. The other two are living with us as their mother is moving out of town. I buy all the groceries, pay the water bill and the phone bill, and I do all of the cooking, cleaning and laundry while working a full-time job.

Am I just being used or what? - Confused in South Dakota

Dear Confused: Derek obviously feels no great urgency to marry you. Right now, he has everything he wants. Move into your own place and stay there. Then you will find out whether Derek wants to make a legal commitment or if he just needs a chief cook and bottle washer.

Dear Annie: I am 16 years old, and my father's parents are very rude to my mother. Mom has always been there for me. and she is the person I lean on. Mom holds our family together.

I don't like it when my grandparents say bad things about my mother, but I do try to be respectful, since that is what my mom has taught me. My dad does not stand up for her at all. For the life of me, I don't know why she stays with him. I'm at the point where I can't stand it anymore. I have tried to talk to my dad, but no luck. Mom says just ignore it.

We are going to family counseling because of all the hurt, but if my grandparents can't be decent to my mother, whom I love, I don't want anything to do with them. — Billings, Mont.

Dear Billings: Being respectful does not mean you have to put up with nasty remarks about your mother. It's OK to tell your grandparents, politely, that you do not like it when they speak ill of your mother and you want them to stop. If they keep at it, say, "Excuse me," and leave the room. Meanwhile, we hope all of you will work with the family counselor resolve these issues and strengthen your bond.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox. and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com • 2006 CREATORS SYN-DICATE, INC.

**TUESDAY** 

**BIG SPRING HERALD** 

Tuesday, March 7, 20

WFAA(2) KMIC News (CC) World Vision: 7 :9M World Visit Daught 8 :30 Daughters :PM Boston Legal 9 :30 (CC) (CC) 10 :9M News (CC) Nightline :PM Ent. Tonight Jimmy :30 Jimmy Kimmel Live (C

**DENNIS THE I** 



BC

WIZARD OF I





HI AND LOIS WHAT'S THE E





**SNUFFY SM** I WOULDN'T GIVE



YOU'RE LUCKY YOU WEREN'T KILLED WHEN YOU FELL OFF THE CLIFF!



# **5B**

TUESDAY																					
		,	WFAA(2) Dallas	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS(1) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odesea	KOCV (3)	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE 22 Spike TV	TNT 23 Atlanta	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN (27) Dianey	ESPN2	ESPN 29 Sports	SCIFI 64 Science Fic.
	6		Ent. Tonight	Wheel-Fortune			News Ent. Tonight	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Booker John Hagee	•	Dirty Jobs (CC)		Scene Invistgtn.		Live Movie: Back in	Phil of Future That's-Raven			Movie: Dog Soldiers (CC)
	7	:30	Kindness	According-Jim	y Marea	(CC)		Tierra de Pasiones	Joey (CC)	Friends (CC)	Jimmy Philips	(DVS)	(CC)		Scene Invetgtn.	(CC) (DVS)	the Day	Movie: Double Teamed	Basketball:	Mid-Continent Final	: "
	8	:30	Daughters	Daughters	•	,,	(CC)	Corazon Part Decisiones	Scrubs (CC) Scrubs (CC)	Sex and-City	Light of the Southwest	Masters (CC)	Dirty Jobs		Scene Invstgtn.		:			Basketball:	Movie: Painklier Jane
	9	:30	(CC)	(CC)	Premios Furia Musical	70s Show	Race 9 (CC)	•	Law & Order: SVU	Seinfeld (CC) Seinfeld (CC)	:	Crown-Contin.	Stunt Junides Stunt Junides	Movie: Point of	King of Vegas	(CC)	-		Sun Belt Final	League Final	(CC)
	10		News (CC) Nightline	Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	:15 Movie: Lost & Found	The Hour of Healing	(CC)	Catch (CC)	No Return	Videos	(CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	That's-Raven	- Teams TBA Quite Frankly	(CC)	Code Red: The Rubicon
	11	:PM :30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel		La Hora de la Risa	Maloolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night-	(CC)	Joe McGee Biblical Israel	Sign Off	MythBusters (CC)	:45 Movie:	Scene Invstgtn		Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Kim Possible	UEFA	NBA Fastbreak	Conspiracy
	12	:AM :30		Extra (CC) Paid Program		Becker (CC) King of the Hill	Show The Insider	Maria Celeste Pagado	Conan O'Brien Seinfeld (CC)		Update/Israel Booker	:	Dirty Jobs	Narc (CC)	Real TV (CC) Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	Cornicview "	Lizzie McGuire That's-Raven	Champions League Soccer	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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TO A HOCKEY GAME WHEN THE

ANNOUNCER TALKS ABOUT A

POSSIBLE "NO-HITTER."

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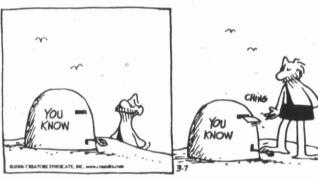
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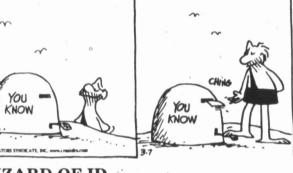




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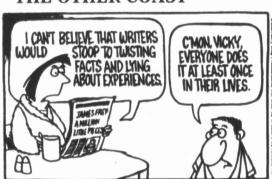
RETURN.

HI AND LOIS

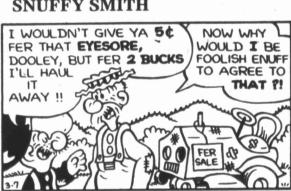


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**SNUFFY SMITH** 



BEETLE BAILEY





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MARRIED

MAN !!

## This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 7, the 66th day of 2006. There are 299 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On March 7, 1965, a march by civil rights demonstrators was broken up in Selma, Ala., by state troopers and a sheriff's posse. On this date:

In 1849, horticulturist Luther Burbank was born in Lancaster, Mass.

In 1850, in a three-hour speech to the U.S. Senate, Daniel Webster endorsed the Compromise of 1850 as a means of preserving the Union.

1876, Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for his telephone.

In 1911, the United States sent 20,000 troops to the Mexican border as a precaution in the wake of the Mexican Revolution.

In 1926, the first successful trans-Atlantic radio-telephone conversation took place, between New York and London.

In 1936, Adolf Hitler ordered his troops to march into the Rhineland, thereby breaking the Treaty of Versailles and the Locarno

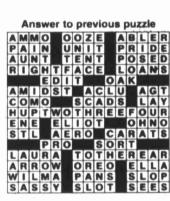
In 1945, during World War II, U.S. forces crossed the Rhine River at Remagen, Germany, using the damaged but still usable Ludendorff Bridge. In 1975, the Senate revised

its filibuster rule, allowing 60 senators to limit debate in most cases, instead of the previously required twothirds of senators present. In 1981, anti-government guerrillas in Colombia exe-

cuted kidnapped American Bible translator Chester Allen Bitterman, whom they accused of being a CIA agent. Today's

Comedian Alan Sues is 80. Photographer Lord Snowdon is 76. TV personality Willard Scott is 72. Autoracer Janet Guthrie is 68. Actor Daniel J. Travanti is 66. Former Walt Disney Company chief executive officer Michael Eisner is 64. Rock musician Chris White (The Zombies) is 63. Actor John Heard is 60. Rock singer Peter Wolf is 60. Rock musician Matthew Fisher (Procol Harum) is 60.

**Football** Hall-of-Famer Franco Harris is 56. Football Hall-of-Famer Lynn Swann is 54. Rhythm-and-blues singer-musician Ernie Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 54. Actor Bryan Cranston is 50. Actress Donna Murphy is 47. Tennis Hall-of-Famer Ivan Lendl is 46. Actor Bill Brochtrup is 43. Opera singer Denyce Graves is 42. Comedian Wanda Sykes is 42. Singer-actress Taylor Dayne is 41. Rock musician Randy Guss (Toad the Wet Sprocket) is 39. Actor Peter Sarsgaard is 35. Actress Rachel Weisz is 35. Classical singer Sebastien Izambard (Il Divo) is 33. Rock singer Hugo Ferreira (Tantric) is 32. Actress Laura Prepon is



## **Newsday Crossword**

**63** Sugar shape

performance

65 Football-shoe

feature

64 Diva's

70 Dates

regularly

**DOWN** 

gear

1 Dog walker's

4 Watermelon

throwaways

5 Glossy fabric

**6** Pronto, in

memos

7 Late-night

TV host

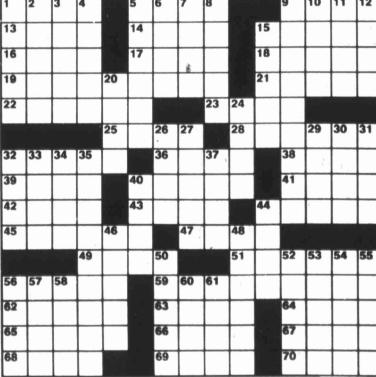
### **ACROSS** 1 Hasty escapes

- 5 Pretzel covering 9 Shopping
- center 13 Toledo's lake
- 14 On the ocean
- 15 Star Wars
- weapon 16 First-class
- 17 Sits in the sun
- 18 Get out of bed
- 19 Fruit-tree protector
- 21 Glide on ice 22 Bother
- 23 Sunrise direction
- 25 Football positions 28 After-bath
- application 32 Wear away 36 Hotel price
- 38 German automaker
- 39 Long skirt **40** Dinner course 41 Rural
- stopovers 42 Hardly (rarely)
- 43 Army offense: Abbr. 44 Move
- stealthily 45 Video-store offering
- 47 March Madness org. 49 Nile queen,
- for short **51** Purple flowers **56** Like a
- gymnast 59 Stage lamp
- **62** Theater employee

### WASHDAY WOES by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman

- 8 Take a bite of 9 Tom Sawyer's creator
- 10 China's continent
- 66 Part of U.S.A. 11 Remainder 12 Family
- 67 Depend (on) 68 Hang onto diagram 15 Rodeo rope 69 Sunbeams
  - **20** Joy 24 Acted like **26** Make a
  - sketch 27 Hair stylist's
- shop 2 Pleasant scent 29 Sandy hill
- 30 Author Ferber 3 Arithmetic sign 31 Hazard
  - 32 Part of EMT:
  - Abbr. 33 Speak wildly **34** Yoked animals
  - 35 Very inexpensive

- www.stanxwords.com 37 After-bath
- application 40 After-Christmas
- event 44 Go yachting 46 Watchful
- 48 Changes, as a hemline
- 50 Hollywood award 52 Deceitful ones
- 53 Come to the same conclusion
- **54** Argentina neighbor 55 Hangs around
- **56** Good fortune **57** Spot in the
- ocean 58 You, Biblically 60 Mountain lion
- 61 Follow orders



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Chatter Box

■ "Hoodoos," found in Utah's Bryce Canyon National Park, are colorful spires and pillars of rock shaped by erosion over millions of years. Paiute Indians believed that the hoodoos were people turned to stone by Coyote, a god who liked to play tricks on humans. — World Almanac for Kids

of the Irish EMILIE LE BEAU/KRT Sisters Siobhan and Eilish F.

# For some kids, scary folk tales are just a part of their heritage

BY EMILIE LE BEAU Chicago Tribune

Think of St. Patrick's Day and you probably picture green paper shamrocks, big parades and a delicious corned beef dinner.

But for some kids, celebrating Irish heritage also means exploring Irish folklore. These traditional stories are packed with scary stuff, such as deformed ghosts, evil fairies and wicked trolls.

Brendan R., 11, usually hears these types of stories when he attends Irish language and culture classes at the Irish-American Heritage Center in Chicago. They "are myths that some people believe," he says. "They usually involve things like leprechauns, banshees."

There is good reason why Irish folklore is heavy into ghost stories, says Eamonn O Ciardha, a professor of Irish studies at the University

of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. Some rural Irish areas didn't receive electricity until the 1930s. "People saw things in dusk when it was really (just the darkness)," O Ciardha says.

A cry of a banshee — a female ghost who wails to warn of a pending death could really have been another animal. "If you've ever heard a fox crying in the night, it sounds like a child or a woman," he

Telling ghost stories was a pastime in the area of Northwest Ireland where O Ciardha grew up. "People would come around, play cards and tell stories, mainly ghost stories," he says. "It was a form of one-upman-

ship. People jousted with

each other to tell the most outrageous stories."

Those old tales have been passed on to some American kids, such as Siobhan F., 10, of Justice, Ill. Her dad is from Ireland, and she has visited the country

several times. Siobhan's favorite Irish story is "Billy Beg and the Bull," a sort of Cinderella story involving a wicked stepmother, dragons and man-eating giants. These tales "are pretty

scary," she says. "People in a lot of the stories are told that if they don't do a certain thing, they'll get killed." Irish folk stories don't always have a happy ending either, but that's part of the

fun, says Sinead H., 10, of

Skokie, Ill. "That's perfectly

fine. Irish stories are just dif-

ferent," she says.

The banshee tales are the most frightening to Sinead. "The stories say if you don't believe in banshees, then they will come after you to make you believe," she says.

Banshees warn of death but folklore says a Dullahan kills. This headless man is said to ride a headless horse after nightfall. Whenever he stops riding, someone dies. Only a piece of gold can fend off the Dullahan.

The Dullahan may recoil from gold, but leprechauns hoard it. In Irish folklore, leprechauns are moody, miniature men who resemble trolls and can cause trou-

And there will be trouble if a Taise appears. That is an apparition of a living person. Folklore says a person who sees the image will have an accident. Even creepier is seeing an apparition of yourself — that means death is coming.

### In The News



The Philadelphia Soul's Eddie Moten is congratulated by fans after breaking up a pass. In arena football, players are allowed to celebrate with the fans in the stands.

# AFL celebrates its 20th season

The Arena Football League (AFL) is celebrating its 20th season in 2006. The NFL is the only professional football league that has been around longer. The AFL is an indoor football league that is played on a 50-yard field. It has teams in 20 cities.

Fans flock to see this hardnosed, high-scoring, fan-friendly game. There is even a fans' Bill of Rights to outline the strong connection between players and fans. Whenever an AFL player scores a touchdown, he's allowed to celebrate with the fans in the stands!

Time For Kids kid reporter Steve Helmeci met the owners of the Colorado Crush and the Philadelphia Soul, John Elway and Jon Bon Jovi, in New York at a press conference to kick off the league's 20th season.

**TFK:** How did you get interested in the Arena Football League?

**ELWAY:** I looked into it when I retired from football. Actually, one of my partners now asked me if I was interested in getting into the AFL. So, when he brought that up to me, that's when I started exploring what arena football is all about.

BON JOVI: For me, I love football and was sad after the Super Bowl ended because then I had to wait until September for football to start again. A friend of mine told me about arena football and I looked into it and started to think of it as a really great idea for football to continue after the NFL season. This was a place that was really affordable for parents to be able to take their kids or their kids' friends and go and see a game.

TFK: What do you like most about being an Arena Football League owner?

**ELWAY:** I like the competition, even though I'm not playing anymore. Since I have played sports my whole life, I like being part of a team. As a quarterback, I had all of the control inside — who got the ball first, did I hand off or throw it. So now as the owner, I make the decisions on who is on the team (and) who is coaching the team. My main love for it though is that I like being part of the team and accomplishing things as a team.

BON JOVI: Oh boy, I like everything about it. It's

probably the look I see on audience members' faces the fans and their kids, the kids your age — when they get that close to the game.

**TFK:** What are the main differences between the NFL and the AFL? **ELWAY:** We score a lot more points in our games than the NFL does. And

we are also set up to be a lot more fanfriendly. We as teams have a relationship with our fans, and our players form relationships with our fans. After every game the players sign autographs for 30 minutes. I think that we are able to develop a personal

- Steve Helmeci, 10

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Ba

After 15

By THOMAS JENK Staff Writer

And then there The race for judge was pared candidates to two Mark J. Barr tool nod and Repub Mark Morgan ma incumbent Ben

general election in Barr managed cent of the Democ lots, bringing h

Landtro gets G( nod for **District** 

By STEVE REAG Staff Writer

Plainview in agent Jim La overcame a "ho advantage" fro Spring's Drew M claim the Dis state repres Republican nomination Tuesday

night. Landtroop, who defeated Mouton by 3,923 votes to 3,038, f a Democrat Joe Heflin in the N general election who succeeds Pe as this area's sta

sentative. Jones County man Gerald Middleton ran third in the prin ting 522 votes.

"We are very with the results. ly," Landtroop s today. "It's the tion of a lot of ha not just by me family, but the of workers th the district."

Early returns to indicate that tion would be vs. south" bat Landtroop strong in the part of the distr Mouton counte support from t ern counties.

As expected, ran very stron Spring and County, taking base by an alm margin. He al carried Glasscock Cou

See HOUSE, Page

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