Spring, 5-1

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

What he said

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 96

On the hurricane survivors...

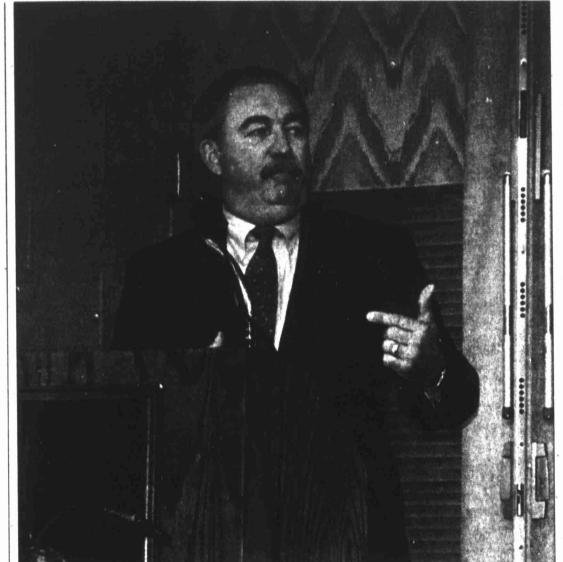
"We were ready for them, and that task is impossible. It can't be done, and we did it."

On the jail issue...

"My hope is that we can all take a step back, put personalities aside and make sure we're doing what is best for the taxpayers of Howard County."

On citizen responsibility...

"I close today by asking each and every one of you, what are you going to do to make Big Spring all it can



Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen recalls 2005 and explains his vision for 2006 during Tuesday afternoon's Community Luncheon at the Dorothy Garrett Collseum.

Mayor says city's future is 'up to us'

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

"We are on the cusp of greatness. How this plays out is up to us."

That's the message delivered Tuesday afternoon by Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, as he gave the State of the City Address during the Community annual Luncheon, organized by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

McEwen took a look back at many of the events of 2005 during the presentation, hitting on some of the high — and low — points of the past year.

"Last year, the Dora Roberts Foundation funded a pilot program to get rid of dilapidated and abandoned buildings,"

said McEwen. "Last year, buildings were removed from our community, and that's paying dividends for us. Our city looks better... And we'll continue that, as the funds have been provided for this year.

"The citizens of Howard County continue to fight hard for the VA Hospital," he added. "There was a task force formed and they gave testimony at the LAP (local advisory panel) meeting last September. And what was so amazing about it is they were heard so loud and clear, that it became part of the report we had. Now that is being proactive on an issue where you can sit back and be reactive."

See MAYOR, Page 3A

Developer won't pursue Settles renovation

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

developer has decided not to was not feasible at this time. pursue renovation of Big

Spring's Settles Hotel.

During his address Tuesday, Mayor Russ McEwen said the The only down note to an oth-city has terminated its agreeaddress was the announcement because the developer decided income housing. that a California-based land renovation of the historic hotel McEwen said termination of director) a few days later and

finance a number of studies to determine the viability of turning the Settles into a home for erwise upbeat State of the City ment with Evos Homes retail businesses and low

the agreement, which would ... asked them if they wanted to flow necessary for the project, The city council voted by a have cost the city a maximum terminate the agreement, and he said:

narrow margin in June to of \$55,000, was mutually agreed they said they did."

"They (recently) let us know they didn't think the plan was economically feasible," McEwen said. "I called (Evos'

Back in June, McEwen considered the contract a risk worth taking, an opinion he continued to hold Tuesday.

"It was their opinion that they just didn't have the cash

Council approves pacts with Siemens, CRMWD

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council approved first reading of a resolution that will enable the municipality to enter into an energy conservation agreement with corporate giant Siemens Building Technologies, one that could save the city more than \$5 million.

The council — with District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton not present — voted unanimously to authorize Mayor Russ McEwen to execute a performance contracting agreement with Siemens Technology. The council also gave a unanimous nod to a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of a master lease agreement, an escrow agreement and related instruments, con-



which funds saved gy conserva-

The

tion to pay for improvements to city structures — is expected to save the city approximately \$5.6 million over the next 15

"This allows the city to improve its buildings meaning lighting, air conditioning and water fund meters — without the need to increase capital or budget. Without having to raise tax rates, ing.' raise water rates. We're doing it all out of your current operating budget," said Chad Nobles, an account executive with

stituting the the process is we guaranfinancial side tee you, as a city, the results. If we don't make those savings that we promised here today then we have to cut the city a

uses check for the difference." McEwen said he's excitthrough ener- ed with the project and what it could mean for the city.

"It's great to be able to go into things we need to do in the city of Big Spring and not have to go back to the taxpayers and tell them they have to fund it," said McEwen. "We're going to be able to these projects through savings and increase revenues that we should have been collect-

Also in the realm of conservation, the council gave final approval to a resolution that will give

Siemens. "The beauty of See COUNCIL, Page 3A

FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home will celebrate its five-year anniversary Friday, March 24, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. State and local dignitaries will be present for the event, which is open to the public. Following comments and other activities, the public may tour the facility - one of six state veter-

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Find us online at: ww.bigspringherald.com

Sports

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.

Trustees expected to approve calendar

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees are expected to approve a calendar for the 2006-07 school year when they hold their regular monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday at the high school board room.

The calendar trustees are expected to OK includes an earlier-than-usual start date, a two-week break for the



lines,

Christmas holiday and an end to the school year by Memorial Day. Trustees recent-

ly sought and

received a waiver

from the Texas Education Agency to start the new school year Aug. 14, a week before state guide-Superintendent

Michael Downes said. The early start date will

allow the district to end the first semester before students break for the Christmas holiday, as well as making time for a week-long Spring break in March and one-day observances of Labor Day, Columbus Day, Martin

Day and Good Friday. The proposed calendar also calls for classes to let out for summer on May 24, with high school graduation following the next day.

Luther King Day, Presidents'

Teachers will precede students to class with a week of in-service training beginning Aug. 7.

Also Thursday, trustees will consider a change in policy regarding how many days of school a student can miss because of extra-curricular activities.

Downes said BSISD currently allows students to miss 12 days of classes

See BSISD, Page 3A

Obituaries

Dixie O'Briant Townzen



Dixie O'Briant Townzen, 75, of Midland, died Monday, March 13, 2006, in a Midland hospital. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 16, 2006, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating.

The family will receive friends and relatives today, March 15, 2006, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials made to the Hospice of Midland Inpatient Unit, P.O. Box

2621, Midland 79702.

She was born Feb. 28, 1931, in Roby. Dixie attended Stanton schools and attended Howard County Junior College. She owned and operated the

Music Box along with other businesses. She was a member of the American Legion and

Eagles Lodge.

Survivors include her daughter, Danon Kaler of Midland; two grandsons, Jesse Caddell and Joseph Caddell, both of Midland; one great-grandson, Ridge Wayne Simmons Caddell of Abilene; her brother and sister-in-law, Milton "Rip" and Juanita Lewis of Big Spring; several nieces and nephews; and her sweetheart, Arnold Pillows of Midland.

She was preceded in death by three sisters, Reba Johnson, Joyce Wells, Marion Enfield and one broth-

er, Cody O'Briant.

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

G.T. Warren

G.T. Warren, 87, of Odessa passed away Thursday, March 9, 2006, at his residence.

He was born Sept. 8, 1918, in Eula to Grace Howell

and M.S. Warren. During his early years, G.T. worked for Wasson

Clothing, Lincks Foods and Cash Wholesale in Big Spring. He moved to San Diego, Calif., in 1941 and worked on B-24 bombers for Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation. He married Marie Beasley, his high school sweet-

heart, in Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 7, 1941. They were blessed with a beautiful daughter, Lynda in February of 1944. G.T. entered the U.S. Army in September of 1944. He was assigned to the 7th Army, 3rd Infantry Division as a machine gunner and fought throughout France,

Germany and Austria. He was wounded at the Comar Pocket in France and received numerous awards before returning to

Abilene in 1947. They were blessed with a second child, Terry in 1948 while G.T. worked for West Texas Wholesale Supply as a warehouse manager. In 1952, they moved to Odessa and G.T. continued to work as a sales representative in the West Texas and New Mexico territo-

In 1978, G.T. and Marie moved to Ruidoso, N.M. He retired in 1988. They moved back to Odessa to be near their kids and families in 2002.

Preceding him in death are his parents, brothers, Carlos and Curtis and sisters, Estaleen Rice and Leta Metcalf.

G.T. is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Marie; daughters, Lynda Fournier and husband, Jacques of Palm Beach, Fla.; son, Terry Warren and wife, Phillis of Odessa; grandchildren, Melissa Warren Weaver and husband, Lance of Lubbock and Russell Warren of Odessa; great-granddaughter, Amie Weaver; brothers, Dr. Charles Warren and wife, Shirley of Big Spring and Billy Warren of Dallas; sister, Wanda Erickson of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews; and special dog, Max.

The family wants to thank Dr. Patel, RN Jennifer, charge nurse Susanne at Alliance Hospital and Rhonda, Kendra and Johnnie with Odyssey.

A private ceremony for the family will be held at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa.

Dixie Blissard Sims

Dixie Blissard Sims, 85, of Rayville, La., formerly of Big Spring, died March 9, 2006. Services were 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11, 2006, at Rayville United Methodist Church with the Rev. Ted Freeland officiating. **Interment followed** in Rayville Masonic Cemetery.

She was born March 2, 1921. She was a member of Rayville United Methodist Church and the Something More Sunday school class and a former Miss Big Spring 1939.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joe and Zola May Blissard; husband, DeSha Sims; daughter, Sherry Sims Williams; brother, Doris Blissard; and sister, Irene Deatheridge.

She is survived by her daughter, Jacklyn Sims Branch and her husband, Larry G. of Rayville, La.; a son, Hoytt DeSha Sims Jr. and his wife, Mary of Rayville, La.; son-in-law, Sam O. Williams of Rayville, La.; sisters, Betty Bain of Big Springs, and Joeann Ridgway of Lubock; eight grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; along with a host of nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, La., St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital or The Rayville United Methodist Church.

Arrangements were under the direction of Mulhearn Funeral Home in Rayville, La.

Around Town

- HERITAGE MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

• STONEY CASSELMAN, 44, 1601 Benton, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- ADRIAN JEROME PERRY, 38, no address given. was arrested on warrants from Collin and Dallas coun-
- PHYLLIS ANNETTE MCGEE, 45, 2412 Alabama, was arrested on capias warrants.
- JASON HEYER NEUMAN, 32, no address given, was arrested on charges of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1100 block of Goliad and the 2300 block of Wasson.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King. • CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 300
- FRAUDULENT USE OR POSSESSION OF IDEN-TIFYING INFORMATION was reported in the 2600
- block of Chanute. • THEFT was reported in the 600 block of Tulane.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

- · THOMAS BRADLEY CATES, 37, was arrested by sheriff's deputies on a charge of harassment and a ritotion to revoke probation for possession of marijua-
- ASSAULT was reported in the 5400 block of Opal
- 1 RECKLESS DRIVER was reported on West Interstate 20.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

- · MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Northwest Ninth. One person was transported to SMMC.
- · MEDICAL was reported at U.S. Highway 87 and Angela Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of West Interstate 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Peters. Service was refused. · MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of
- Northeast Second. One person was transported to
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of East Fourth. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1800 block
- · GRASS FIRE was reported in the 4000 block of Armstrong
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell.

Take note

- ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION at 6 p.m. Friday at the Eagle's Lodge, 703 W. Third. \$5 admission and food will be served until 8 p.m. Call 263-6862 for more information.
- VICTIM SERVICES VOLUNTEER TRAINING BEGINS MONDAY through March 25 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. These individuals assist victims of domestic crime as well as sexual assault. Volunteers carry pagers and work with law enforcement. For more information, call Victim Services at 263-3312.
- AMERICAN LEGION FISH FRY begins at noon Saturday. Delivery is available from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday. Dine in or carry out available. \$7 per plate. The legion is located at 3203 W. Highway 80. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- UNITED WAY ANNUAL MEETING is 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Thursday in the Dora Roberts Community Center. New officers and board members will be installed. RSVP by March 14 tp 264-5201.
- 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
- CELEBRATE THE JOURNEY, a community-wide memorial service, is set for noon until 12:45 p.m. Wednesday 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

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Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- · Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- · Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big
- Spring Country Club. • Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant. · Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet
- Shoppe. · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-
- · Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels. · American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call
- 263-2084 for more information. · Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building,
- 309 S. Main St. • Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

 Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

 AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell

• Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors

are invited.

- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third. • Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 10 to 20 mgh. Thursday. Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. North winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the northeast in the afternoon.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy in the evening. Then mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms after midnight. Lows in the mid 40s. East winds around 15 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cooler. Highs in the upper 50s. East winds around 15 mph. Friday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent

chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s. Saturday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the

upper 40s. Sunday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s. Sunday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent

chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$56 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$42 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 27, 28, 30, 42 and 50. The Mega Ball number was 22.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-27-33-35-36. Number matching five of five: none. Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-1-1

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(Main Switchboard)

432-264-7205 (Fax)

Susanne Reed

John A. Moseley Duane McCollum Tony Hernandez Dianne Marquez

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MAYOR

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BIG SPRING HERAL

Wednesday, Marc

McEwen also about the ongoing struction of the He College Performing Center and the effo Keep Big Beautiful, as well a annual American C Society Relay for which has drawn na accolades year after

According to Mc however, the h point for Big Spri 2005 came at some lowest points, as a scrambled to respo the tragedy on the Coast and local of learned the city had passed over by the Air Force for a pilot ing program. "One of the great

that happened to u the past year cou looked at as a failu it wasn't," said Mc "Our community d that they were go put a bid in for training for the Force, and we did We came togethe partnered with Aircraft. We came er and gave all th possibly could. I before you today you we left nothing table. It was all the we didn't get the p However, we four what we, as a comn can be because we together. "To this day, th

tions that I have b the (Hur Katrina) effort are whelming," said a eyed McEwen. "A of citizens got toge the Friday before Day to put toget effort to help out th uees. We didn't Chalmet County. never heard of C County, but guess Friday night we h first meetings. Saturday night we bus loads of ev from Chalmet Coul were ready for the that task is impos can't be done, and

As McEwen chan focus from 2005 to said one of the problems facing Spring and County is one nationwide - vot thy.

"We need to vo

vote in great nul said McEwen. Laura and I went t we met with natio ernment official

COUNCIL

Continued from Page

the Colorado Municipal Water first right of use city's effluent wat of a district-wide r tion project. According to

Darden, director o works, the water (is asking for righ currently being away" by the mui

"The purpose amendment is fo member city Spring, Odessa Snyder - to grant trict first right to

> Industrial, Medical & Spec Safety & Welding Sup 3210 E. 11th Place



Continued from Page 1A

McEwen also spoke about the ongoing construction of the Howard College Performing Arts Center and the efforts of Keep Big Spring Beautiful, as well as the annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life, which has drawn national accolades year after year.

According to McEwen, however, the highest point for Big Spring in 2005 came at some of its lowest points, as a nation scrambled to respond to the tragedy on the Gulf Coast and local officials learned the city had been passed over by the U.S. Air Force for a pilot training program.

"One of the great things that happened to us over the past year could be looked at as a failure, but it wasn't," said McEwen. "Our community decided that they were going to put a bid in for pilot training for the Air Force, and we did that. We came together and partnered with Boeing Aircraft. We came together and gave all that we possibly could. I come before you today to tell you we left nothing on the table. It was all there, and we didn't get the project. However, we found out what we, as a community, can be because we came

"To this day, the emotions that I have because (Hurricane the Katrina) effort are overwhelming," said a glassyeyed McEwen. "A group of citizens got together on the Friday before Labor Day to put together an effort to help out the evacuees. We didn't know Chalmet County. We had never heard of Chalmet County, but guess what? Friday night we had our first meetings, and Saturday night we got two bus loads of evacuees from Chalmet County. We were ready for them, and that task is impossible. It can't be done, and we did

together.

As McEwen changed his focus from 2005 to 2006, he said one of the largest problems facing Big Spring and Howard County is one shared nationwide — voter apa-

"We need to vote, and vote in great numbers," said McEwen. "When Laura and I went to Israel we met with national government officials over

there, and they were lamenting the fact that their voter turnout had gotten down to 90 percent... They were trying to figure out what to do to get their voter turnout

"We, as a country, go to the world and say, 'This is the way you should do it.' We are a democratic society, yet we really and truly set the poorest example of voter turnout. I talked to so many people in this last election, and they told me they didn't think they would vote now but they will vote in November. That's a sad commentary on who we are... Until we can get true voter turnout, we're not doing what we need to do as a community."

McEwen said a public McEwen, vote on whether to transform the local economic development agency, Moore Development for Big Spring, from a 4-A to perform structural and a 4-B taxing entity is also a vital part of the future.

The current struggle to design and construct a new county jail also weighed heavily McEwen's view of 2006.

a jail instead of two jails. It just makes economic sense. Why would we not do this? Plans were studied and designs were McEwen. "We face criticome up with, and all of a cal decisions in the comsudden controversy hit, ing years that will shape and we did not make a the future of Big Spring decision," said McEwen. "Guess what? Since the 1980s, that decision to make no decision has cost this community and this county millions of dollars. We are again faced with the prospect of building a jail that could be used by the county and the city to house their prisoners. The city can get out of the jail busi-

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we good or bad ideas. There posal from the commissioner's court to the counknow if it's a good idea. look at every single alternative while we're looking at this issue. My hope we're doing what is best ald.com

for the taxpayers of Howard County... There should be no other agenda."

The recent announcement of a \$8 million downtown project funded by private investors will also play a large role in the future of Big Spring, according to McEwen.

"I know of no rural community with any vitality that hasn't revitalized itself from within. Downtown is the soul of a rural community, and when your soul dies, you die," said McEwen. "The one ingredient that has been missing is private investment."

News of the impending downtown development couldn't come at a better time, according who also announced that Homes, the company that was under contract with the city of Big Spring to environmental testing at the historic Settles Hotel, had recently pulled the plug on the agreement.

In the end, according to the Big Spring mayor, 2006 will be all about hav-"It makes sense to have ing the courage to make tough decisions.

"I come to you today at a time that is unique in all of our history," said and Howard County. In some cases we'll actually make a decision that will impact our future viability. In other cases we'll decide not to decide, and that is a decision also. We'll say it's too painful and too difficult, so we're not going to make that decision.

"Today I challenge you to consider decisions that need to be made and encourage you to thoughtfully consider all alternaneed to get it right. No tives... There are no right one has a monopoly on or wrong answers. There are answers. We must not are strong differences of beat each other up. We opinion on this issue. I must take the emotion out would like to be in the of it and make the deciposition to bring a prosions we need to, or we're doomed to failure.

"We are on the cusp of cil that we look at a joint greatness. How this plays law enforcement facility. out is up to us," McEwen I don't know if it is finan- told the audience sternly. cially feasible. I don't "I close today by asking each and every one of That being said, it does you, what are you going not make sense not to to do to make Big Spring all that it can be?'

Contact Staff Writer is that we can all take a Thomas Jenkins at 263step back, put personali- 7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail ties aside and make sure at citydesk@bigspringher-

Students spend spring break doing hurricane cleanup

BEAUMONT (AP) - Students with various church groups from around the state are spending their spring break this week in Southeast Texas helping with cleanup and rebuilding following Hurricane Rita.

While most of Megan Borne's friends are enjoying beach parties in Mexico, the 18-year-old high school senior from Fort Worth said she decided to spend her time painting a home in West Orange.

"It's not as much a relaxing time, but it feels right," Borne said.

Borne is one of about 80 volunteers from Baptist churches in Beaumont, Austin and Fort Worth who are repairing hurricane damaged homes this

Colleen and Debi Adair, mother and daughter, were grateful for the help in fixing their home.

"It means so much," said Debi Adair, a 49-year-old Orange County jailer. "It's really a boost to my faith. We've never met these people before, and here they

Showing some responsibility?

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) -Whoever broke retiree Charlotte Papenbrock's windshield has made her believe that Spring Breakers can be rowdy, but also genteel.

Papenbrock, a "Winter Texan" from Blue Springs, Mo., was dismayed to find that the rear windshield of her 2004 Buick was busted.

"Initially, I was upset," she said in

Tuesday's online edition of the Island Breeze. "It was really smashed in. There was glass everywhere." She called police to report the crime,

but in the end didn't need uniformed help. The mysterious perpetrator, pre-

sumed to be a Spring Breaker, left \$200 worth of 20-dollar bills on the car's back seat, along with a note reading "Here you go. I'm sorry."

Papenbrock used the money to repair the windshield. "Tell those kids I'm very proud and their mothers would be too,"

Officials reviewing proposal after management shake-up

Papenbrock said.

SAN ANGELO (AP) - Tom Green County commissioners will take another look at a proposed faith-based prison after changes in the prison's management team.

County Judge Mike Brown said he still believes in the concept of a new 620-inmate prison in the San Angelo area, but said the plan has become "shakier."

The company selected to build the prison, Corrections Concepts Inc., replaced its chairman last week. Bill Robinson was reassigned to be the company's vice chairman, while Forrest E. Watson is taking over as chairman and chief executive officer.

Also, Jack Cowley, director of Alpha for Prisons and Re-Entry USA, said he will no longer work with Corrections Concepts and the county to select a

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

because of extra-curricular activities, a policy similar to those at Andrews, Lubbock Estacado and Wolfforth Frenship high schools, but considerably less than those at San Angelo Lake View and Plainview schools.

Downes would like to see the number of missed days allowed increase, primarily because of distances students have to travel to other schools.

"One of the problems is that our (UIL) district is so spread out, that our students who participate

at the sub-varsity level, will have to miss at least part of a school day," Downes said. "When you have to travel 147 miles like we do to Plainview, we're going to miss some classes.'

Noting that district and state academic standards require students participating in extra-curricular activities to keep their grades at an acceptable level, Downes sees little trouble with extending the local policy.

"If the students are able to participate in multiple activities, and keep their grades up, they should be allowed to play.'

In other business

in these events, especially Thursday, trustees will consider:

 Teacher contracts for the 2006-07 school year.

 Bids for athletic supplies and equipment.

• Enrollment report. · Reports on the district's technology program, wellness program and athletic uniforms.

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

the Colorado River Municipal Water District first right of use for the city's effluent water, part of a district-wide reclamation project.

According to Todd Darden, director of public works, the water CRMWD is asking for rights to is currently being "thrown away" by the municipali-

"The purpose of this amendment is for each member city — Big Spring, Odessa and Snyder — to grant the district first right to use of

Airgas

the city's surplus effluent explained to the council. water generated by each of city," said Darden. "Big Spring's surplus effluent comes from our wastewater discharge at the treatment plant just off 11th Place and FM 700. Currently, we are permitted by the state to dis-Lake, which they call Red Program. Draw, which part of the district's system."

be reclaimed through taker. Creek Grant, CRMWD,

"All three projects would reclaim 12,000 acre-feet of water in a year."

The council approved:

 Final reading of an agreement with the West Texas Water Ski Club.

· Emergency reading of trict into Evaporation the Solid Wastes Grants

 First reading of an agreement with Rick E. "The water that could Boiles as Moss Lake care-

charge all wastewater an application to the into Beals Creek, which is Permian Basin Regional then diverted by the dis- Planning Commission for

Electrolysis (Permanent Hair Removal)

What is Electrolysis?

Electrolysis is the only method which will permanently remove unwanted hair by use of a radio highfrequency wave. Safe, Medically approved, and is a modern scientific method that is also recognized and accepted by the Federal Drug Administration, and the A.M.A. as the only means of permanently removing unwanted hair.

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 Emergency reading of alone amounts to 1.8 million a resolution authorizing gallons a day," John an intensive archeologimanager of cal survey of Moss Creek recently Lake. **Certified Electrologist BEALLS HOURS** Prices starting as low as \$30.00

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TUMBLEWEED

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big

Managing Editor

Bill McClellar News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Commissioners need to regroup,

s Mayor Russ McEwen closed his State of the City Address Tuesday, he posed an important question — what are we going to do to make Big Spring all it can be? It's important that each of us ask ourselves that question or a question very similar: What can I do to positively impact this community and those around me?

The mayor, in his speech, listed projects where individuals and groups in Big Spring have done some wonderful things such as city beautification, reaching out to hurricane and cancer victims and standing strong on behalf of our veterans and the Veteran's Hospital. And he mention areas — voter apathy leaps to mind — where we need to improve.

Every time something positive has happened in this community, it is because people had a goal, worked together to overcome roadblocks and refused to give up.

Right now, there are roadblocks in front of the Howard County Commissioners Court as to how to go forward with a jail project. Each man and woman on the court knows that the issue will not go away. However, differences of opinion have stalled the issue. Outside parties have tried to influence those directly involved. And, it seems that not everyone is working from the same set of figures provided by architects, consultants and the Texas Commission

on Jail Standards. The mayor made a strong appeal Monday for those concerned to "take a step back, put personalities aside and make sure we're doing what is best for the taxpayers of Howard

He also encouraged commissioners to at least look at a jail project involving the city. It's something that gets mentioned, but keeps falling off the table before the city ever gets an opportunity to sit down for a discussion.

It's time for each member of the commissioner's court to ask themselves, what they can do to make Big Spring — and Howard County — "all that it can be," especially where the jail project is concerned. Then they should shake hands, roll up their sleeves and get to work in a positive and resourceful manner.

As for the rest of us, let's look to where we can do some good in our community. Then, let's resolve to do it.

How To Contact Us

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

 In person at 710 Scurry St. By telephone at 263-7331

• By fax at 264-7205

• By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan

at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com. By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

 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-

So you want to be a blacksmith?

ohn Frederick has a blacksmith shop just outside his house between New Summerfield and Jacksonville.

"We're 40 and plumb," says John, who wears a bowler hat and an old western shirt and vest. "We're 40 miles from nowhere, plumb in the middle of nothing and that's just really good."

John and his wife Polly live on land that's been in Polly's family for generations. There used to be a community nearby called

Lone Star.

"It was a town called Skintight and in the 1860s or 70s they applied for a federal post office. The post office department said they couldn't use Skintight, so they named it Lone Star."

John has made a living as a blacksmith for more than 40 years, creating everything from ornate staircase railings to jewelry.

"The secret to this is don't tell anybody what you're making before you get done, because if you tell them it's a widget and it comes out a wadget then you've got a problem."

John is now teaching others how to do blacksmith work. In his classes, he tells students if they don't see color in the steel, quit hitting on it.

"It's too cold. It goes red, orange, yellow and white. It kinda gives you a range so you'll know how hot it is. Cherry red is 1,450 degrees and white heat is 2,500 or 2,600."

Students pay \$350 for a two-day class on either Mondays and Tuesdays or Thursdays and Fridays. He shuts down his school after April because he says it's just too hot to work in a blacksmith shop during warm months.

"May through August you don't want to be in a blacksmith shop." He starts his classes in

September.

His students come from as far away as California and from all walks of life.

"We've had college professors, doctors, lawyers, police officers and a dentist. They build a fireplace poker, a heart trivet, a single tine barbeque fork with a twisted handle, a double tine fork, a railroad spike knife and a pair of blacksmith tongs. You're gonna work these two days. You're not going to lollygag around. The class is limited to four people. You take the projects home with you. Everybody gets a 32-ounce cross peen hammer that I set up for you in the shop. You take that home with you, too. It's a pretty good deal. If you don't like the blacksmithing, that's OK because you're gonna get two good homecooked meals by my wife Polly.'

John and Polly recently moved to the country from Hico, where they had a store and blacksmith shop. You can contact Frederick's Blacksmith School at 903 721-7962. The mailing address is RR5 Box 2088, Jacksonville, Texas 75766.

get back on track Lock up the uranium — now!

ammer all you want about who runs our ports. If you really want to keep an American city safe from a terrorist nuclear bomb, it's time to lock up the world's supply of highly enriched uranium. Fast. Right now, piles of this stuff are

sitting in about 40 different countries, sometimes protected by nothing more than a guard and a It only takes about 100 pounds of

highly enriched uranium to make a bomb as powerful as the one at Hiroshima. And a 100-pound bomb, maybe the size of a computer, doesn't even have to pass through a port to get into the United States. It can be driven across the border in a minivan, or quietly rowed onto a deserted beach. So much for worrying about who's running the ports.

The Dubai debate "is kind of focusing on the last 15 minutes of the problem rather than the first 15," says William Hoehn, Washington office director for Ransac, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the control and elimination of weapons of mass destruc- er 10 years before all the world's

tion. "Securing material at its source is a lot easier than trying to recover material after it has been lost or stolen.'

So why hasn't the United States been working to secure these stockpiles?

It has. It just hasn't been doing this fast enough, says Laura Holgate, who used to run the international weapons reduction program for the feds.

"The material [highly enriched uranium] is the one thing standing between terrorists and nuclear bombs," says Holgate, who is now vice president of the nonprofit Nuclear Threat Initiative.

"Setting up the bomb, transporting it and setting it off are all easy compared with just getting the raw material to begin with." And vet, she adds, the United States is only securing about three or four countries' stockpiles a year.

LENORE

SKENAZY

At this rate, it could take anoth-

nuclear material has been secured - 10 years during which the terrorists will be trying to get their hands on it.

Why can't we just go in and get it first? Well, part of the problem is that the government is not precisely sure where all of the uranium is, says Ransac's Hoehn. The other obstacle is simply this: political will.

To speed our global cleanup would require the kind of bipartisan outrage currently focused on port security.

Certainly, securing our ports is important because a bomb could pass through them. But securing the material to make those bombs is even more basic. And crucial.

Lenore Skenazy is a columnist at The New York Daily News (Lskenazy@nvdailvnews.com). To find out more about her, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Can't even win a war of words

ogether, America can do better." When you hear that, do you feel inspired?

I didn't think so.

The Democratic Party's current slogan seems to be leaving most people cold. It apparently went down well in focus groups, but that's only because the focus groups probably consisted of the recently embalmed and the alternative slogan was "Together, America can achieve mediocrity.'

Watching the Democrats stumbling around in search of a "message" is the only thing more agonizing than watching the Republicans destroy this country. Five years of Republican-controlled government have brought us an unwinnable war, a global reputation in tatters, incomprehensibly irresponsible fiscal policies, shameful neglect of our neediest citizens and a government incapable of coping with either natural disaster or terrorist

Yet somehow the Democratic Party still can't do any better than 'America can do better."

"You can do better" is what you say to a dim child whose grades were even worse than expected. Is this really the Democrats' message to the nation: that we don't need to be quite as pathetic as we now are, though excellence is certainly beyond our reach?

This slogan speaks not of hope but of hopelessness, of scaleddown ambitions, of dreams deferred and dreams denied.

It's the smallness of it that kills me. This nation began with a dream - a crazy, risky, breathtaking dream of freedom, justice and equality. Sure, we've never truly achieved that dream, but for much of the last century, it's been the Democratic Party that has helped keep that dream alive. So how can

it be that, today, Democrats don't seem to stand for anything at all? Part of the problem is ambition

and cowardice, which together make a lethal combination. Too many would-be Democratic leaders think that "playing it safe" is the



way to go. They're fine with criticizing the administration, but the minute they take any flak themselves, they go scurrying back into their holes. In place of a willingness to take risks and speak from the heart, they offer a

Rosa craven and misguided Brooks dependence on polls, focus groups and "expert strategists." Exhibit A for this was John

Kerry's astonishing campaign-trail failure to stand up for his own anti-Vietnam War beliefs. As far as his campaign strategists were concerned, the only permissible references to Kerry and Vietnam were those lauding his military valor. But Kerry's worrisome inability to own his own past beliefs left even many Democrats queasy about his candidacy and rendered him vulnerable to Republican charges of hypocrisy and disingenuousness.

Had Kerry spoken out honestly and courageously instead of just playing games with flags and staged salutes at the convention, the smear campaign of Swift Boat Veterans for Truth would have gotten no traction and Kerry might be president.

So far, the Democratic Party seems to have learned little from Kerry's defeat. Hillary Clinton continues to parse her words on Iraq while saving her carefully calibrated enthusiasm for a ban on flag burning.

If Democrats really want a better message, they've got to stop being so technocratic and careful and

learn how to be passionate and brave. Of course, they need policies, but they also need a little

poetry. The irony is that for a brief moment in the summer of 2004, Kerry actually hit upon a decent campaign slogan: "Let America be America again," a phrase inspired by Langston Hughes' poem of the same name. But the right quickly attacked, using Hughes' 1930s flirtation with communism to discredit the poet, the poem and any phrases or sentiments inspired by it. The result? Kerry disowned the slogan as quickly as he had disowned his own past antiwar con-

But if the Democrats want a new slogan for 2006, they could do worse than rescue Hughes' poem from the scrapheap:

Let (America) be that great strong land of love. . . .

O, let my land be a land where Liberty Is crowned with no false patriot-

ic wreath, But opportunity is real, and life Equality is in the air we breathe.

O, let America be America again

The land that never has been yet

And yet must be. ...

You don't need to share all of Hughes' youthful opinions to find that his poem captures the sorrow and the hope we should all feel and reminds us that the dream is still ours to reclaim.

And as a message, "Let America be America again" sure beats "Hello, you've reached the Democratic Party. We're not home right now."

Rosa Brooks is an associate professor at the University of Virginia School of Law.

BIG SPRING HERAL

Wednesday, Marc

Special to the Hera Big Spring Hospital's Relay for team - Mind, Bod Soul — raised more

\$500 during its

Annual Relay I

Razzmatazz. Nearly 40 childre ticipated in the Fe fund-raiser, which children to appea stage in their S Best and sing s recite their ABC answer questions by emcee Lisa Broo

"It is an opportun children to gain esteem and develop confidence appeari stage," said Billington, Relay coordinator. "And ents and grandpare able to capture li keepsakes and money to fight can our community."

The American (Society Relay for event is held each I communities money to fight can their region. Team pete in a race to ra most money for the

Ethics

By DAVID ESPO AP Special Correspon

WASHINGTON Stung by scandal, Republican leaders at least a tempora on privately funded for lawmakers, with a requireme lobbyists to discle food, drink and oth they bestow on

members. Lawmakers also be required for th time to disclose they direct federa

be spent on p officials jects. Tuesday night, th attempt in years earmarking.

The changes are several the GOP ship embraced 7 night, according cials who spoke or tion of anonymity, worked to (Democratic charg

Failed dam i

"culture of corrup

KILAUEA, Hawa One person wa and up to seven were missing v rain-weakened dai on this western H island, sending a muddy water, tre debris down the tainside and pro fears about the s other dams.

The water cut of to and from thous rural houses and condominiums



place.

Stewart,

awards

Heather Jennings, first

place; Kaidie Saverance,

daughter of Bryan and

Tonya Watson, second

Each child received a

participation ribbon, cer-

tificate and a coupon for a

Judges for the event

LaWanda

were: Bill Birrell, 3randi

Hamm, Ricky Belltrain,

Mildred Franklin and

Olga Solis. Judges were

either cancer survivors or

Each judge was present-

An added benefit this

year was a photographer

taking photos of each par-

ticipant following the

Participants and their

families were able to pur-

chase photos with a per-

centage of the proceeds

going toward Relay for

presentation.

ed with a plant donated

fighting cancer.

by local nurseries.

free ice cream cone.

5A

Razzmatazz raises more than \$500

Special to the Herald

Spring State Hospital's Relay for Life team — Mind, Body and Soul — raised more than \$500 during its 4th Annual Relay Rascal Razzmatazz.

Nearly 40 children participated in the Feb. 18 fund-raiser, which allows children to appear on stage in their Sunday Best and sing songs, recite their ABC's or answer questions posed by emcee Lisa Brooks.

"It is an opportunity for children to gain selfesteem and develop some confidence appearing on said Linda stage," Billington, Relay Rascal coordinator. "And parents and grandparents are able to capture lifelong keepsakes and raise money to fight cancer in our community."

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life event is held each May in communities raising money to fight cancer in their region. Teams compete in a race to raise the most money for the chari-

Spring Hospital's team typically is one of the top teams, Billington said by hosting the pageant, scheduling employee luncheons and conducting bake sales.

"The Razzmatazz is one of our favorite events," she said. "The children will just wow you with their personalities and charm. And even if you do not have children, just coming as a spectator helps raise money for this event and you have a relaxing, mesmerizing show to watch."

Winners of this year's event were:

0-12 months, females: Alexcia Divine Munoz, daughter of Leonard and Vanessa Munoz, first place; Sophia Biddison, daughter of Marty and Michelle Biddison, second

place. 0-12 months, males: Juan Luis Rodriquez, son of Juan and Sylvia Rodriquez, first place; Cebastian Martin, son of Jeff and Genesis Martin, second place.

13-23 months, females: Rodriquez, place. Mercedes daughter of Israel and Amber Rodriquez, first Miranda

State place; Alejandra A. daughter of Mike and Gutierrez, daughter of Alex and Abby Gutierrez, 2nd place.

13-23 months, males: Bryson Paul Kinsey, son of Paul and Brandy Kinsey, first place; Iain Joshua Preston, son of and Yvette Joshua Preston, second place.

2-3 years, females: Erin Lynn Yeats, daughter of Jeremy Yeats and Tiffany Miller, first place; Averi Alyson Tredaway, daughter of Cody and Kelli Tredaway, second place.

2-3 years, males: Jaden Woods, son of Brandon and Lindsay Woods, first place; Shane Deel, son of Jim and Jolene Deel, second place.

6-8 years, females: Keelee White, daughter of Marie White, first place; Karleigh Marie Moore, daughter of Michael and Jacque Moore, second place:

years, males: Nicholas Allen Billington, son of Dennis and Linda Billington, first place; Raul Robles IV, son of Natividad Robles, second

9-11 years, females:

would be a priority item.

Death toll stays at 11 as state braces for more firefighting

McLEAN (AP) three days battling wildfires that chewed away at 840,000 acres of the Panhandle braced for more difficulty as forecasts called for a return of strong winds.

"We're preparing for the worst," McLean Volunteer Fire Chief Clifford McDonald said. "The winds and all the burning embers we got, it could be bad."

40 mph. But the humidity will be as much as two forced the evacuation of times higher than Sunday when flames first erupted.

John Cockrell of the Weather National Service in Amarillo said the danger will not be as explosive as Sunday. There's a slight chance of rain in the weekend forecast.

Eleven people have Firefighters weary from died and numerous structures have been destroyed by the fires that have scorched the region. Preliminary estimates put the number of dead horses and cattle at 10,000, according to the Texas Animal Health Commission.

By Tuesday, nearly 840,000 acres of grassland had burned. In the 24 hours since midday Monday, the Winds from the south responded to more than were expected to pick up 200 fires covering 191,000 today with gusts of up to acres. Those blazes destroyed 15 homes, 45 people and closed at least one highway.

More state resources were being deployed, boosting the totals to 26 aircraft dropping fire retardant, 55 bulldozer crews clearing brush and digging trenches, 13 fire engines and more than 350 firefighters.

Health And Well-Being

Restoring Continence and Confidence

Dr. Rudy Haddad

Board Certified in Urology Fellow American College of Surgeons

when lifting or coughing. But it has gotten so much worse. Now, I never leave home without wearing a maxi pad and carrying another

An estimated 17 million American women share a common healthcare concern: the uncontrolled flow of urine from their bodies, a condition known as urinary incontinence. For some women, the condition is brought on with coughing, sneezing or exercise, For others, it is a strong urge to urinate and an inability to make it to the bathroom in time. For all of these women, the effects can be devastating.

"Stress urinary incontinence limits lifestyles and relationships because of the embarrassment that accompanies odor and wetness," explains Dr. Rudy Haddad of Haddad Urology clinic. "Typically the symptoms worsen over time, and so lifestyles and relationships are further compromised as the condition pro-

Stress urinary incontinence occurs when there is uncontrolled urine leakage during a physical activity like lifting, sneezing or coughing. It typically is the result of hypermobility, a shifting of the urethra and bladder neck from their normal positions, and intrinsic sphincter deficiency, a condition in which the urethral sphincter is unable to close tightly enough to hold urine in the bladder.

Any single condition or a combination of conditions can lead to stress incontinence. Pregnancy and childbirth, aging, medical conditions, infections and medications and obesity are common causes.

Currently, there are no medications available to treat stress incontinence. For some women, behavioral therapy (monitoring fluid intake), Kegel exercises, protective undergarments and bulking injections offer temporary

One such solution is the female "sling" system for stress urinary incontinence. Doctors treat incontinence by surgically placing a narrow strip of material-called a sling-under

highly effective procedure," says Dr. Haddad. "It generally takes less than 20 minutes and commonly is performed on an outpatient

Most patients are continent immediately following the procedure and can resume normal, non-strenuous activities within a few

patients and physicians alike have for sling systems. One manufacturer, American Medical Systems of Minnetonka, Minn., reports a study in which more than 95 percent of patients remained completely dry and did not need any protection following the procedure with its MonarcTM Subfascial Hammock.

"The potential to give someone back their lifestyle before incontinence set in is great with sling systems," says Dr. Haddad. "It is life changing for so many patients, and yet

As with any surgical procedure, inherent risks are present. Although rare, some of the most severe risks with transobturator sling procedures include infection, erosion and vessel or urethra perforation. Some of the most common risks include urinary track infections, urge symptoms and urinary retention. Sling procedures should not be performed on pregnant patients

Serving The People of Big Spring And Howard County Since 1980

Find out more about **Urinary Continence Solutions.** Contact Dr. Rudy Haddad at 1501 W 11th Place, Suite 103 432-714-4600

Ethics measures proposed

y DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent WASHINGTON

Stung by scandal, House Republican leaders want at least a temporary ban on privately funded travel for lawmakers, along with a requirement for lobbyists to disclose the food, drink and other gifts they bestow on House members.

Lawmakers also would be required for the first time to disclose when they direct federal funds

be spent on pet projects, officials said Tuesday night, the first attempt in years to rein in a practice known as earmarking.

The changes are among several the GOP leadership embraced Tuesday night, according to officials who spoke on condition of anonymity, as they worked to counter Democratic charges of a "culture of corruption."

Speaker Hastert's office issued a statement announcing he would speak publicly on the lobbyist legislation Tuesday night the leaderafter the rank and file had ship was calling for new a chance to review it this morning.

It was not clear when any of the proposals would reach the House floor, but the agreement around 'the leadership table signaled a renewed determination

Republicans to respond to an issue that flared unexpectedly early in the year. Companion legislation

is pending in the Senate. Lobbyist Jack Abramoff's guilty plea on corruption charges in January sent shudders Republican through ranks and led to former Majority Leader Tom DeLay's decision to step down from his House byists give lawmakers, leadership post.

Hastert vowed then that Otherwise, the House gift legislation to curtail the rules would remain influence of lobbyists unchanged.

Apart from provisions relating to lobbyists, Republican officials said restrictions on political organizations that currently can accept unlimited donations from individual contributors. The proposal would place a cap of slightly more than \$27,000 on contributions, along with a requirement that donors be disclosed by name.

Republicans claim that Democrats benefit far more than the GOP from such groups, and tried unsuccessfully late last year to reduce their clout.

The new disclosure requirement on gifts would apply to food, drink or other items lobaccording to officials.

Failed dam in Hawaii causes one death, seven missing

KILAUEA, Hawaii (AP) One person was killed and up to seven others were missing when a rain-weakened dam failed on this western Hawaiian highway were washed island, sending a wall of muddy water, trees and debris down the mountainside and prompting fears about the safety of other dams.

The water cut off access to and from thousands of rural houses and luxury condominiums along

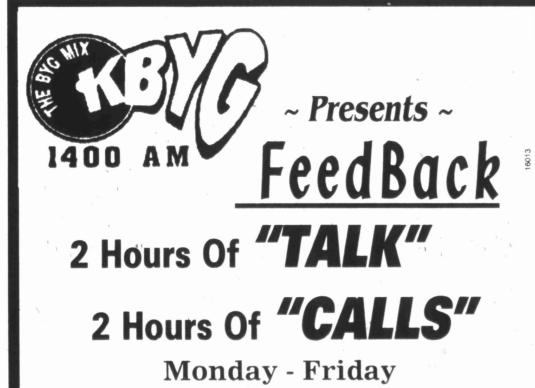
Kauai's rural north shore. At least two homes were swept off their foundations and several hundred feet of the island's main

"Sounded like a 747 jet crashing here in the valley, all the trees popping and snapping and every-Hawthorne. "It was just a horrendous sound, and it programs and services to never quit."

Search crews recovered recent rains and flooding.

the body of an unidentified adult male. Up to seven people were missing and residents said one family whose home was swept away is missing several children.

Gov. Linda Lingle, who planned to tour the area this morning, signed a said John proclamation Tuesday extending state disaster the residents affected by



1:00 p.m. 'til' 3:00 p.m.

NEW: www.feedbackkbyg.blog.com



BIG SPRING HERAL

Wednesday, Marc

Continued from Page 6

"Basically we sa

dare you to do Sanchez said. "And

of us never back

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Ledesma went to

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After three years

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Hood. Sanchez put

"We decided it wa

to go home," he said

to a unit in th

Infantry Division

Ledesma and their

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In March 2003, t

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After a year, Sa

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Easygoing, he lo tease people, just how they respond see if they could ta Soldiers liked to him about their ca os because ev agreed that Dez

He referred to ev

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Justin Miller, a

friend of Ledesma

On May 15,

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Vehicle he comma

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road in Baghda

Ledesma's vehicle

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"If things got too

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Infantry

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"kickin'."

Sanchez, who be

Fort Hood too.

lived

sergeant.

brother will lose."

Following in his brother's footsteps

U.S Army soldier joins his brother's unit to honor, remember his loss

FORT HOOD - Out in the dusty scrub of Bell County, as Humvees and Bradleys churn across the hills and roads of Fort Hood's range, Staff Sgt. Reyes Sanchez puts on his brother's boots for the

Size 8-wide. "Same pant size and hat size too." Sanchez said of himself and his brother. "Medium regular uniforms, large Tshirts."

They had big plans in the Army, big brother Reyes and little brother Rene.

visited Thev recruiter together in Abilene, took the physical the same day, had the same drill sergeant. They both went into armor, choosing to earn their stripes as cavalry scouts. They moved from Army post to Army post together over the years, occasionally serving in the same unit.

Retirement, after at least 20 years, would be together. They'd share a going-out party, maybe go into business together afterward.

But Reyes Sanchez is wearing his brother's boots now.

A remotely detonated bomb on a bridge inter-



Staff Sgt. Reyes Sanchez, above requested to be transfered to his brother's, Staff Sgt. Rene Ledesma's old unit, after Ledesma was killed in Iraq while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in March 2004. Sanchez commands his soldiers, below, during a training mission at Fort Hood in

are natives of the Rio Grande Valley. Born in Edinburg and raised in Pharr, the brothers came from a working-class family of seven brothers and one sister.

They have different last names because Sanchez carries his mother's maiden name. Ledesma carried his father's name.

Their father, Esteban, worked for an oil company but the family also did migrant farm work part of the year, picking vegetables and fruit.

When the children got into secondary school, their father took a job in Abilene and the family moved north.

Ledesma and Sanchez were close, more like best friends. They hung out together and served as listening posts to each other their whole lives. No decision, however minor, was made without consulting the other.

"We were like one," Sanchez said.

A few years after the brothers left Abilene High School, Ledesma went to work in Austin at the auto mechanic shop that Sanchez owned. But the benefits and pay weren't that good, especially after they started families, and the Army had both from their perspective.

In 1996, they went to see a recruiter in Abilene, started working out together and signed on. At the time, Ledesma was 26, Sanchez 30.

See **SOLDIER** Page 7A

 VICTIM SERVICES TRAINING SCHEDULE Victim Services has scheduled volunteer traini for the week of March 20-25 from 5:30 p.m. until 82 p.m. These individuals assist victims of domestic crime as well as sexual assault. Volunteers carr

pagers and work with law enforcement. For more information, call Victim Services at 2

· A CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN MUSIC GEORGE GERSHWIN'S "PORGY AND BESS with the Big Spring Symphony Chorus is scheduled for 8 p.m. April 8 in the Municipal Auditorium. For more information, contact Dr. Keith Graumann, symphony conductor, at 267-1626 or e-mail Graumann@cox.net.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Flying to help others

In the 1980's, groups of pilots began organizing around kitchen tables to give life-saving flights to people across the country. Today, Angel Flight flies nearly 25,000 of these "mercy" missions. Plus, the killer bee guy and chicken Kerali.



Celebrating Hometown Life



vened in 2004, and Staff Sgt. Rene Ledesma was dead.

Instead of giving up his and his brother's dreams, Sanchez channeled his grief in an unusual way — he took his brother's job in the 1st Cavalry Division.

"I want to finish what we started," he said. The Army, 492,000

strong, is full of brothers, cousins, even a mom and

But rare is the brother who moves into the same unit in which his brother was killed in action.

It happened Aug. 23, the day Sanchez signed in with 1st Platoon, Alpha Cavalry, known as Apache Troop.

Ledesma fought and died with 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry, but under a restructuring of the 1st Cavalry Division last year, it was redesignated the 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry.

time after Ledesma's his brother's death. death. But for reasons she does not understand herself, her husband's attitude about continuing in said. "But if it happens, it the Army changed with that one act.

"I know the fact that they told him he could go

Troop, 4th Squadron, 9th to Rene's unit was a lot of otherwise motivation for him," she said.

> For weeks Sanchez's troop has been preparing as if it might go back to Iraq later this year or next, although it has received no orders.

Sanchez, still openly grieving for his brother, Sanchez's wife, Debra may find himself in the said her husband was a uncomfortable position of very angry" man for a returning to the place of

Does he want to go

"No, not really," he happens. I will go if they need me. How could I face my soldiers if I didn't?" Sanchez and Ledesma



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Snyder, TX.

Soldier

Continued from Page 6A

"Basically we said, 'I dare you to do it',' Sanchez said. "And both of us never back down from a dare. Anyone who ever dares me or my brother will lose."

Ledesma went to basic training first, at Fort Knox, Ky., and his brother followed two months later. Sanchez ended up with the same drill sergeant.

It would set a pattern for the next few years.

Their first assignment was with the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment at Fort Riley, Kan. For a time, their families lived next door to each other, their wives forming a close bond too.

From there, they left for although Germany, lived Sanchez in Baumholder and Ledesma in Schweinfurt, separated by about 200 miles.

After three years overseas, Ledesma got orders to report to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood. Sanchez put in for Fort Hood too.

"We decided it was time to go home," he said.

Sanchez, who belonged to a unit in the 4th Infantry Division, and Ledesma and their families saw one another frequently, barbecuing and taking weekend trips.

In March 2003, the 4th Infantry Division deployed to Iraq, arriving just as the invasion was concluding and the occupation beginning.

After a year, Sanchez came home. But Ledesma had already gone for his deployment with the 1st Cavalry Division.

"He left in February," he said. "I didn't get to

Ledesma — Dez, to the men in the unit - was Apache Troop's funny

man. Easygoing, he loved to tease people, just to see how they responded, to

see if they could take it. Soldiers liked to consult him about their car stereos because everyone agreed that Dez's was

"kickin'." He referred to everyone as "guey," a Spanish slang word used like "dude," and exhibited a casual confidence, particularly with the junior soldiers he supervised.

"If things got too stressful, you could always count on him to crack a joke," said Staff Sgt. Justin Miller, a close friend of Ledesma's.

On May 15, 2004, Ledesma was riding with his head and torso out of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle he commanded as a patrol drove down a road in Baghdad. As Ledesma's vehicle passed beneath an overpass, a bomb was detonated.

He was 34 when he died. Sanchez took the phone call from Ledesma's hysterical wife that evening at his house. The chaplain was at her door.

He drove to his brother's house, about a mile away.

"I don't think anybody who has ever gone through that will forget what it feels like," he said. "I don't wish that on nobody."

After a service on post, Ledesma was buried in Killeen Memorial Cemetery.

"It was closed casket," Sanchez said. "That's how bad he was.'

Sanchez, who saw what widow, Ledesma's Martha, and two children were going through, was sure he needed to get out of the service. It wouldn't be fair to his family to stay in. Besides, he was angry, very angry, at the Iraqis, at the service, at his brother's death.

"I thought, 'I can't go back to Iraq, and I don't want to be reminded of it all the time'," he said. "My wife said, 'It's up to you'."

In April, President Bush came to Fort Hood, as he has done repeatedly on holidays in Crawford, to meet with relatives of soldiers killed in Iraq.

Sanchez and his family were waiting for Bush in the education center on post when Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, commander of Fort Hood, walked

"Staff sergeant, who do we have here today?' Metz said, according to

'Sir, this is my sister-inlaw, my mother, my father," Sanchez said he answered.

"You're here to meet the president?" Metz said, according to Sanchez.

"So I told him about my brother."

After visiting with Metz and the president, Sanchez said the general suggested that he move to his brother's old unit. Sanchez needed no convincing but still assumed that the comment would-

n't lead to anything. "Next thing you know, it's a done deal," he said. "I couldn't believe they

did it." At the front of Apache Troop's office is a color portrait of Ledesma in cavalry hat and a plaque with his biography.

"Rest Well in Fiddlers Green, My Friend," it concludes.

"That's where all cav troopers go when they die," one soldier offered as explanation.

When Sanchez reported to Apache Troop, he met the commanding officer, Capt. Lexie Gibbs. Told the story of these two brothers, he couldn't believe it either.

"It surprised the hell out of me," Gibbs said. "But I respected him for

making that choice."

Sanchez gets no special treatment, no free pass because his brother was killed in action. Not that he needs it anyway.

Men who have known both brothers said Ledesma never rode soldiers as hard as Sanchez does. In the Army, it falls to the sergeants to enforce standards, and few do it better or with more serious authority in Apache

Gibbs remembers one of the first encounters he had with Sanchez.

He asked a soldier to take care of something exactly what, he can't remember anymore and then walked away. Sanchez must have heard the soldier grumble or



KRT Photos/Tom Pennington

A plaque, above, honoring Staff Sgt. Rene Ledesma hangs In the troop headquarters at Fort Hood in Killeen. Ledesma, was killed in Iraq while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in March 2004. After Rene's death, Staff Sgt. Reyes Sanchez, Ledesma's brother, requested to be transfered to his brother's old unit. Sanchez, left, dismounts his Bradley Fighting Vehicle during a training mission at Fort Hood in Killeen.

maybe he just didn't move quickly enough. Gibbs never knew.

All he heard was Sanchez stand up and bellow: "When an officer gives you an order, you get up and do it! Now!"

He is a different soldier, Sanchez said, since his brother's death. Of the two, he was always the more serious one, but he's become more focused, more demanding, he and his wife said.

"I know what it feels like to lose someone, so to ride these guys so nothing happens to them over there.

It's changed him as a man too. He feels a greater appreciation for his wife and three children and for the frailty of life. He sees his sister-inlaw almost every day and said that his teenage niece and nephew know whom to call if they need

a father's help. "I made a promise to him that I would take care of his family," he said. "He made the same to me, that if anything happened to me, he would

take care of mine." But being in the Army, wearing the uniform every day, seeing the men his brother served with daily, has not been easy or without pain.

He ran straight at his step at a time together." grief, not away from it,

and that carries a price.

A few weeks ago, his platoon had to practice how to respond when a Humvee blew up on patrol.

In December, two soldiers with his old unit in the 4th Infantry Division, soldiers he "raised from private," were killed in

"Sometimes I ask him, 'Did I make the right decision? Talk to me, man, let me know if I was right',' he said.

With the hurt that it's made me a harder sol- comes with serving in the dier," he said. "I am going Army, sometimes there's also solace, in being near people like Miller.

Miller, a Clearwater, Fla., native who is acting platoon sergeant, keeps a photograph of Ledesma in his office. He and a buddy, Staff Sgt. Sean Jarvis, had Ledesma's call sign, Red 6, tattooed on their arms.

Motivations can be hard to explain or even understand, but that is part of why Sanchez wants to be near the men who served with Ledesma. They honor him by not forgetting him.

So Sanchez pulls on his brother's boots every day, the closest he can get to finishing what he and Rene started.

"I feel like he's right next to me," he said. "We just keep moving on one

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orary News

Fiction is in: From David Weber, we have received volumes 1 through 11 of his Honor Harrington Series. The complete list the of books can be found in the New Book Binder.

Honor is an admiral in the People's Republic of Haven's Navy and sort of like Richard Sharpe in the Sharpe's Rifles series, she is sent on suicide missions. Do come in and check this series out.

"The River of Doubt," (AUCD 918.113 MIL C) by Candace Millard is the of Theodore Roosevelt's humiliating defeat as a presidential candidate in 1912.

In order to remove that stain from his honor, he is determined to undertake a punishing physical challenge: to explore the unexplored upper reaches of the Amazon River.

If you think the TV show Survivor is rough, just wait until you listen to Teddy's travails. This book has had excellent reviews in many prestigious papers, an honor. for a first time writer's debut.

Some newish mysteries are also in: "Running With the Dead," by Jay Brandon; a new Mary Higgins Clark, Second Time Around;" "Dead Aim," by Iris Johansen; two by the Kellermans: Faye's "Stalker" and Jonathan's "The Web;" and finally but certainly not least, "The Cat Who Went Underground," by Lilian Jackson Braun.

computers or perform repetitive motions can sometimes sustain injury to wrist,

hand and forearm. "End Your Carpal **Tunnel Pain** Surgery,'

without (616.856)MON K) by

Kate Montgomery will help immensely. Included is a daily regime to prevent and treat repetitive strain injuries.

HOLLIS

MCCRIGHT

The author of "Rich Day, Poor Dad" has written another book "Rich Dad's Guide to Investing" (332.024 KIY R). Robert T. Kiyosaki will fill you in on the what and why of investing in any number of commodities, funds, stocks, real estate, etc. There is quite a bit of number crunching to do. but well worth the effort I feel sure.

Sarah Dunant's first novel, "The Birth of Venus" took place in Renaissance Italy. Her second novel "In the Company Courtesan" is in the same time period, but with a different twist.

Escaping from the sacking of Rome in 1587, La ion have only the clothes on their back and the jewels hidden, ahem, well hidden.

Fiammetta and Bucino seek refuge in Venice. Starved, stinking, her beauty destroyed, People who work on Fiammetta despairs "but

through cunning, will, Bucino's indefatigable loyalty and the magic of a mysterious blind healer called La Draga, she eventually recovers.'

Dunant's characters, "the steely courtesan whose glimpse of true love nearly brings her to ruin; the shrewd and passionate dwarf who turns his abnormalities into triumph; and the healer whose mysterious powers and secrets leave an indelible mark on the duo" are irresistible throughout their shifting fortunes.

Stephen King's new book "Cell" is pretty spooky. The king of horror's homage to zombie films (the book is dedicated in part to George A. Romero) is his goriest, most horrific novel in years, not to mention the most intensely paced. Casting aside his love of

elaborate character and town histories and penchant for delayed gratification, King yanks readers off their feet within the first few pages, dragging them into the fray and offering no chance to catch their breath until the very last page.

King will tap into readers fears of technological warfare and terrorism. Mobile phones deliver the apocalypse to millions of Fiammetta and compan- unsuspecting humans by wiping their brains of any humanity, leaving only aggressive and impulses destructive behind.

without cell Those phones, like illustrator Clayton Riddell and his small band of "normies,"

must fight for survival, and their journey to find Clayton's estranged wife and young son rockets the book toward resolution.

The Library has several copies so the wait will not be too long.

A couple of books on cassette are also in. You may have seen the movie with Tom Hanks and DiCaprio, Leonardo "Catch Me if You Can."

Now you can listen to the book by the same name. Written by Frank Abagnale, it is the witty story of a consummate con-artist.

Angela Thirkell was a prolific writer who skewed the upper-classes of Edwardian England. In a wartime episode of an imaginary village in Barsetshire, she writes of the machinations of weddings, infatuations and romance.

This is a specialized genre and perhaps not to everyone's tastes. The title is "Cheerfulness Breaks In," (AUC THI A) by Angela Thirkell.

The Howard County Library is open from 9 a.m. until to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.Saturday. Internet/video room closes one-half hour earlier and is closed from noon until 1 p.m. Saturdays. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. The phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us. The catalog is online.

Hollis McCright is the Howard County librarian.

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Forsan math team returns with two UIL trophies, more

Special to the Herald

The Forsan High School Math Team, coached by Susan Alexander, came home from the San Angelo Lake View UIL meet with two trophies, one for first place Number Sense team and the other for first place Calculator team.

They were also the fourth place team in the mathematics contest.

Winning medals in number sense were: Audrey Montgomery, second place, 12th-grade division, Jonathan Purcell, first place, and Courtney Holdampf third place, in the 11th-grade division, and Vince Penick, second place, ninth grade.

Receiving medals in the calculator contest were: Seth Johnson, third place, 11th grade and Charlene Stanley, second place, nath the grade. Ribbon winners were Jeremy Robbins, sixth place and Tim Ballard, seventh place.

In the mathematics contest, Montgomery won a second-place medal. Purcell and Stanley won fourthplace ribbons, Robbins, seventh place and Johnson, eighth place.

Policies for life! submissions

The Big Spring Herald accepts submissions for publication in the Friday and weekend edition.

Church and Club News should be concise and may not be written in first person. The goal of Church News is to inform the public about upcoming church events and opportunities. Club News is published to inform the public about meeting times and locations as well as activities. All submissions should contain a contact name and telephone number.

Wedding, 50th anniversary, engagement and quinceañera announcements with photos are published within three

months of the event in the Big Spring Herald's weekend edition at no charge.

Birth announcements, Who's Who and In the Military, with or without photos are also published free of charge.

All submissions are due by noon each Wednesday for Friday or weekend publication and will be edited for content, style and space. An information sheet for submissions is available at the Herald offices.

The Herald is not responsible for any misspellings of handwritten submissions.

Call 263-7331 or submit articles to life@ bigspringherald.com.

life@bigspringherald.com

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> 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. - Black, All Power, Dual Air/Heat, One NOW \$18,995

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> 2003 Ford Escape XLT - Red, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/50,000 Miles.

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sets date for " the Steers" nig The Big Spring ball team will "Meet the St

night Wednesday, Mar at the high s baseball field fi p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Besides the school baseball being introduce area little 1 teams will also b ognized. There v a hamburger s including chips drink for \$5.

Lady Steer Boo meeting annour The Lady Booster Club

meet Monday Athletic Tra Center (ATC) at All parents of involved in volle basketball, sof track, cheerle trainers and encouraged to a For more inf

Policky at 43 3800. **Big Spring Soft** Association se

tion, contact

date for signup The Big Spring Softball Assoc be he will signups to regist the upcoming s each through this we from 10 a.m. to at the Big S

The league girls and wome 4 and up. The tration fee is \$3 there is a so dis for a second chi For more in tion, contact Shafer at 432-213

Umpires neede B.S. softball s

The Big Girl's Association is la for umpires for upcoming seaso If interested, c Luci Ramirez 466-3670.

Coahoma sets for alumni con

The Bulldogs will b ing their fir alumni basebal Saturday at 12: at the Coahom ball field.

The softball alumni game w be that day beg at 3 p.m. For more in

tion or to play baseball game tact Donna Ma at 432-394-453. Contact Co softball coach Dickenson to softball at 517-0

Coahoma sets for softball sig

The United Girls Association wi gistration divisions in and T-ball Th at the Co Community from 6 p.m. to The signup

also take place and then again 21 and March For more in tact Pat Rob

Sports

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331. Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

> Page 1B Wednesday, March 15, 2006

BSHS baseball tear sets date for "Meet the Steers" night

The Big Spring base ball team will have "Meet the Steers" Wednesday, March 22, at the high school baseball field from 5

p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Besides the high school baseball feam being introduced, the area little league teams will also be recognized. There will be a hamburger supper including chips and drink for \$5.

Lady Steer Booster meeting announced

The Lady Steer Booster Club will meet Monday in the Athletic Training Center (ATC) at 6 pm.

All parents of girls involved in volleyball, basketball, softball, track, cheerleading and trainers are

encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Carol Policky at 432-466-3800.

Big Spring Softball Association sets date for signups

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding signups to register for the upcoming season Saturday each through this weekend from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Spring

The league is for girls and women ages 4 and up. The registration fee is \$30 and there is a \$5 discount for a second child.

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

Umpires needed for B.S. softball season

The Big Spring Softball Girl's Association is looking for umpires for the upcoming season.

If interested, 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 Saturday at 12:30 p.m. at the Coahoma baseball field.

The softball team's alumni game will also be that day beginning

at 3 p.m. For more information or to play in the baseball game, contact Donna Mansfield

at 432-394-453. Contact Coahome softball coach Robby Dickenson to play softball at 517-0604.

Coahoma sets dates for softball signups

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

The signups will also take place Friday and then again March 21 and March 23. For more info, contact Pat Robinson at

Roberts' arm, bat leads Coahoma past BSHS



Coahoma senior Kall Roberts delivers a pitch to the plate Tuesday in Coahoma during the Bulldogettes' 5-1 win over Big Spring. Roberts allowed just two hits and struck out eight

Bulldogettes use big inning to down Lady Steers in Coahoma

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor COAHOMA has been close to taking she got it," down I-20 rival Big Spring the past two years - losing in extra innings last the first five runs of the season — but a strong pitching performance and Coahoma gave Class 2A's eighth-ranked team a victory over the state-ranked Lady Steers as the Bulldogettes won, 5-1.

And Coahoma's strong play against Class 4A teams continued. The Bulldogettes Andrews, Crowley and others earlier this year and can now add No. 3 Big Spring to the list.

"We like to play the bigger schools because it gets us ready for district play," said Coahoma head coach Robby Dickenson. 'We'll play anybody really. We're not concerned with how big of a school they are."

the plate continued as the Lady Steers got just two hits off all-state senior in another run as pitcher Kali Roberts.

Spring head coach Jennifer Reyes. "Our defense is doing what it is See RIVALRY, Page 2B

supposed to do."

Roberts threw all seven innings for Coahoma and allowed one unearned run while striking out eight and walking two.

"She's been pretty dominant lately and when she Bulldogettes softball team needed a pitch tonight Dickenson.

The Bulldogettes scored game. They started off the scoring in the second timely hits Tuesday in inning as Roberts led off the frame with a triple to the left field fence. She later scored on an RBI fielder's choice by sophomore Christie Rich.

Coahoma added four more runs in the third inning. Big Spring starter Mandy Walker, a senior, ran into trouble in the inning as she hit two batters, walked another and allowed a single to senior Ashle New.

Junior Ami Martinez reached on an error to start the inning and advanced to second after sophomore Janice Gonzales was hit by a pitch. New singled to load the bases and then Big Spring's struggles at Roberts got an RBI after she was hit by a pitch. Senior Liz Conley walked Gonzales crossed the "We're struggling to hit plate. Freshman Laci right now, but everything Sterling knocked in the else is fine," said Big final two runners of the inning on a two-RBI field-

Bulldogs come from behind again, score five runs in seventh

early errors, gets win over former rival Crane

as she earned the win on the mound.

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor COAHOMA

Bulldogs are beginning to make coming from behind a habit, but as long as the Coahoma baseball continues to record wins under those circumstances no one will complain about it.

The Bulldogs trailed former district rival and state-ranked Crane 6-2 heading into the seventh inning, but scored five runs in their final at-bat and stole a 7-6 win at home Tuesday night.

It was the third time this year the Bulldogs have come from behind in the seventh inning to record a victory.

"The guys had confidence because they had been there before," said Coahoma head coach Brad Harman. "This team believes they can come back and get the job done if they have to."

Crane began the season ranked in the top 10,

• Coahoma withstands while Coahoma started out ranked No. 23.

> "This was a huge win for us," said Harman. "We had a little bit of motivation because they're ranked pretty high and we wanted to send a message that we're pretty good too when we want to play. It took us awhile but we were finally able to prove it."

Three errors in the second inning caused the Bulldogs to get down 5-0 early as Crane grabbed a commanding lead.

"We made some big errors in the second inning to give them a big start," said Harman. "Take away that inning and we didn't play bad

defensively." Coahoma scored one run each in the fourth and fifth inning to get

back into the game. Collin McMillan started off the fourth inning with a double and then was pinch ran for by Dakota Teaff.

David Hughes moved on a passed ball. Teaff to third on a sacrifice and Teaff later scored on a passed ball.



Coahoma freshman P.J. Daylong, right, tries to get back to third base Tuesday in Coahoma during the Buildogs' come-from-behind win against former district rival Crane. Coahoma was down 6-2 heading into its final at-bat but scored five runs in the seventh and won, 7-

inning and later scored

Junior Blaine Kerby began the five-run seventh inning with a double The Bulldogs second and then senior Cody and Garcia scored the See COAHOMA, Page 28

which scored Kerby and single. then after a walk by fresh-Griffith scored on a but they also struck out throwing error. Coberly

run was scored by fresh- Griffith walked. Kacee final two runs of the game man P.J. Daylong. He Coberly came through as Hughes delivered the doubled to start the next with an RBI double game-winning two-RBI

The Bulldogs had eight man Donnie Garcia, hits and six were doubles.

Miami trades for Culpepper; Dallas, Philly cut receivers

QB Brees bolts to Saints, signs six-year deal, shakes up draft

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -Daunte Culpepper's seven up-and-down seasons in Minnesota came to an

The Vikings agreed to trade the three-time Pro Bowl selection to the Miami Dolphins for a second-round draft pick, less than a week after Culpepper — who is still rehabbing his injured right knee - said he wanted out.

year's starter, Gus the 2004 season. Frerotte. He would have cost the team \$4.38 milcap this year.

a nightmare season that tuous, two-year relationended Oct. 30, when he tore three ligaments in er. his knee during a game against Carolina.

The Vikings were under pressure to deal Culpepper before the end of the month, or they paying him the money. would have been forced to

PHILADELPHIA (AP) lion against the salary The Philadelphia Eagles released the exiled Terrell Culpepper is coming off Owens, ending a tumulship with the wide receiv-

> Owens was due a \$5 million roster bonus on Wednesday, so the Eagles had to cut him or trade him before then to avoid

pay the \$6 million bonus the team in November fol-scheduled to make only Miami released last that was negotiated after lowing a series of inci- \$1.5 million this season. dents and infractions, Donovan McNabb.

> IRVING (AP) — The six touchdowns. Dallas Cowboys released receiver Keyshawn Johnson, avoiding a \$1 million bonus he was due and possibly creating room for Terrell Owens in the lineup and the locker

room.

Johnson, a favorite of Owens was kicked off coach Bill Parcells, was See NFL, Page 2B

Johnson turns 34 this including repeated criti- summer and is coming off cism of quarterback a solid season. He led the team in receptions with 71, and had 839 yards and

> NEW ORLEANS (AP) -Free-agent quarterback Drew Brees agreed to a six-year contract with New Orleans, providing the Saints with a proven replacement for Aaron

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Pape

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

10 times.

"We hit the ball hard, but we struck out way too much," said Harman. "We swung at some balls that

weren't

KERBY

strikes." Coberly started on the mound and lasted only two innings because his defense let

him down. He gave up five runs none of which were earned — on one hit, but walked three and struck out one.

"He wasn't pulled because he wasn't doing well," said Harman. "I just needed to make a change.'

The change was to go to senior Tad White, who was the beneficiary of the come-from-behind win as he earned the victory on the mound after giving up just one run — a home run in the sixth inning — and Coberly all doubled. "Coahoma.



Coahoma senior Tad White delivers a pitch to the plate against Crane Tuesday. White struck out 10 batters in five innings and improved to 6-0 this year as the Buildogs won the game in their final at-bat with five runs in the seventh

out 10 batters and improved to 6-0 on the Coberly added an RBI. year after giving up just three hits.

Kerby had two doubles and an RBI to lead Coahoma at the plate. Hughes had two RBIs and the game-winning single,

in five innings. He struck Daylong and McMillan each stole one base and

The Bulldogs finish their nondistrict season Friday at home against Sweetwater at 7 p.m.

The District 4-2A season begins Tuesday as the Bulldogs take on the while Daylong, McMillan Stamford Bulldogs in

RIVALRY Continued from Page 1B

er's choice. Conley was thrown out at home to end the inning.

"We got timely hits tonight and were able to get a big inning which always helps," Dickenson.

Walker, who used to play softball in Coahoma, took the loss on the mound for Big Spring. She was pulled after the fourth inning after giving up four runs on three hits. Walker walked three and struck out five.

She played the game with a lot of emotion and motivation, but could not get it done.

"Mandy came out with a lot motivation, but I think she tried to win it by herself and pressed too much," said Reyes.

The Lady Steers scored their only run in the fift' inning as Magen Watten walked and then scored on an error.

Big Spring's only two hits came from senior Courtney Rodriguez. She went two-for-two with a walk.

Roberts led Coahoma with a triple, two runs, a hit by a pitch and an RBI. New singled and scored and Gonzales singled, scored and was hit by a

Big Spring freshman Lake View.



Big Spring senior Heather Policky swings at a pitch in the dirt against Coahoma Tuesday. The Lady Steers lost the

game, 5-1. Shelbi Stewart, who pitched the final two our bats, but cooled off at innings of the game for the Killeen Tournament the Lady Steers, was hit in the nose with a ball before the game began and did not start the game in the field. According to Reyes, she

Big Spring is now 13-7 overall and begins District 4-4A action

will be fine though.

"We started off hot with and are still cold," said Reves. "We are going to work on it a lot the next two days. Once we get the bats back we'll be fine. Everything else is there."

Coahoma improves to 11-4-2. It travels to Clyde Friday and begin District 4-2A play at home against Friday at home against Stamford next Tuesday beginning at 7 p.m.

Parker leads Spurs past Hornets

SAN ANTONIO (AP) points and 11 assists, They have fallen below Brent Barry made four 3pointers and all six shots since Jan. 28 and are 0-6 from the floor, and the in March - with San Antonio Spurs beat the fading New Orleans Hornets 96-81 Tuesday night.

The Spurs (50-14) maintained a share of the lead in the Southwest Division and the top record in the Tuesday.

lost a season-worst seven his first, four shot from the foul line

.500 for the first time Tuesday's game being only the second one on the road this month.

Chris Paul and Marc Jackson each scored 16 points for the Hornets, who trailed by seven points with 7:43 left in the Western Conference with game but were outscored the Dallas Mavericks, 17-9 the rest of the way.

who beat Cleveland Jackson, a center The Hornets (31-32) have New Jersey Feb. 23, made

straight games and are 2-9 attempts to help the Tony Parker had 20 since the All-Star break. Hornets get off to a fast start. They opened the game 8-of-11, but made 10 of 25 the rest of the half. San Antonio outscored

the Hornets 43-25 the rest of the first half to take a 13-point lead at the break.

Barry, who came off the Spurs' bench with the Hornets holding a fivepoint lead, went 4-of-4 in the half, with three of those 3-pointers.

San Antonio was 7-of-21 from 3-point range. New acquired in a trade with Orleans was 1-of-6. The Spurs also were 23-of-30

Mavericks shift focus after injuries to Harris, Howard

Front row from left: lerrica White and Che

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks are suddenly less concerned about earning the top seed in the Western Conference. Their focus now is on going into the playoffs healthy.

not qualify anyone for state.

Injuries to starting small forward Josh Howard and backup point Devin Harris guard the forced priority change.

Both tried to come back and instead got hurt again, prompting team officials to decide Tuesday to let the players rest until the last few weeks of the regular sea-

"Both of those guys are out indefinitely," coach Avery Johnson said before facing the Cleveland Cavaliers. "I trusted some different sit-

Continued from Page 1B

Brees injured his throw-

ing shoulder with San

Diego in the final game of

the season. He underwent

surgery and said last

weekend he will take four

or five months to be

That contract guaran-

tees money only in the

first year? It calls for the

Saints to pay Brees about

\$60 million over the life of

NFL

Brooks.

ready.

uations (before), but now I'll bring them back when I want to."

Five members from the Coahoma powerlifting team advanced to regionals this season.

McCain and Gus Yanez. Yanez finished fifth in his 114-pound class, but Coahoma did

sea Gonzales, Back

Howard has been hobbled by a strained left hamstring. He missed four games, then left after playing 12 minutes Sunday night Sacramento.

Harris has a strained left thigh. After also missing four games, he aggravated it Saturday night against Utah in his third game back.

Making matters worse for Dallas, starting guard Adrian Griffin will miss several games with a strained hamstring and reserve Keith Van Horn still isn't back from a knee injury that's kept him out since March 3.

Dallas was tied with San Antonio for the best record in the West and in the Southwest Division going into play Tuesday night.

the contract, including a

\$10 million bonus up

front and a \$12 million

option in the second year.

(AP) - David Givens, one

of Tom Brady's primary

targets on two of New

England's Super Bowl

winners, signed a five-

year, \$24 million deal

The Titans also agreed

to terms with six-time

Pro Bowl center Kevin

Mawae on a four-year, \$13

the Tennessee

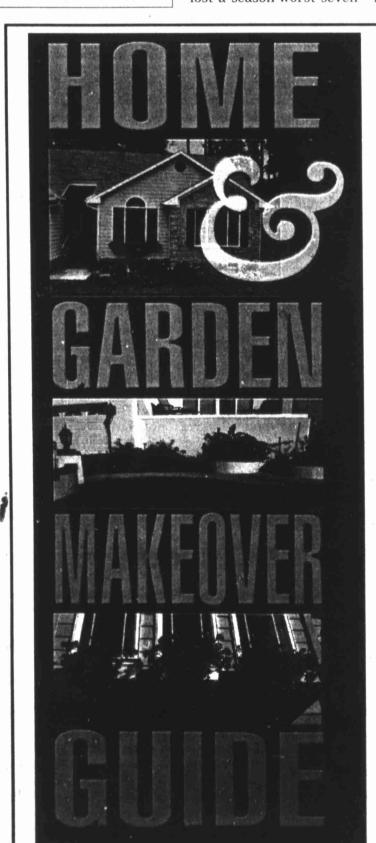
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dated July 9, 1864 March 8, 1864 in lg. hardback folders. These papers were made

Burl maple fancy sideboard, large walnut columned front sideboard with mirror - deer carving

on top splash board (marble top has been repaired), Duncan phife end tables, chest of drawers, large wall clock, small decorative piano, crockware, electric rascal wheelchair, six Eastlake

walnut chairs - two captain- four straight back (needs refinished) enamel rollers, beautiful wal-

nut triple wardrobe with beveled glass doors and carved center panel, massive table with 2"

solid wood top (two leaves), 1/2 size pool table, antique metal wall phone, two stunning

antique chandeliers (brass with crystal drops), two pickups full of new fabric and yarn, piano

stool with brass and glass ball feet, fancy carved slid mahogany child's dresser, old phonograph

case, sheet music, pictures, two music cabinets, old Hull Red Riding Hood cookie jar with

creamer and sugar and salt and pepper, four utility cabinets with drawers, small oak cabinets,

wicker loveseat and small cabinet, two tea carts, sep down dressing table, oak R.R. hi stool, three HD bar stoo's, gossip bench, stools, magazine rack, china ware (not unpacked as yet), electric oven, Capodimonte pieces, Limoges, small oak sideboard, glass minnow trap, under-

wood steroviewer and several cards, quilts, Burke & James camera with tripod and red bellows,

couple pair spurs, coins, large amount of antique glass crystal prisms, child's Red Riding Hood sewing machine, old ships compass, 1950's toy J.D. tractor with loader, few dolls (old), small Mosler house safe approximately 30 x 24 x 20", 1940's kitchen table, RCA console tv, console

stereo, old records, Magic Chef gas stove, Maytag washer and dryer, office chair, most unusu-

al double oak ox yoke and also a rare single yoke, refrigerator, pressure cookers, shop lights,

many different types of testers, usual antique kerosene lamp with iron base and etched glass,

several tractor yard waters, very large professional telescope electrified Celestron 8 (not-a-toy), new Farberware boiler, antique six leg lamp table, 1950's chrome dinette set table and two

chairs (yellow), very nice embroidery work, child's wagon, two Bear compound bows - one

OUTSIDE ITEMS - Troy built rear tyne tiller (looks new), Craftsman riding mower (two years old),

15 1/2 hp with 42" cut, John Deer 18038" cut (just out of shop), Sears 4hp air compressor looks new, small drill press, Dremel 4" table saw, jig saw, Meco cutting torch with bottles and cart, Craftsman arc welder 225 amp, china saw, Craftsman 10" table saw, work Mate, ladders, two 4' hydraulic cylinders, Maytag 1 cycle motor hooked to tree sprayer, vice and grinder, Saws-All in box, lots of hand and power tools, yard tools, chain, shop benches, jacks, rack saw on

bench (small), router on bench, cabinets and shelves, Shop-Vac, 500 gallon fuel tank on stand, pickup bed trailers, 10' stock trailer frame, 16' tandem stock trailer, 350 gallon propane tank

on trailer, 14' & 16' four wheel trailers with heavy metal 20' sides (military??), two 30 gallon

propane bottles, some odd small pipe, small harrow, fence posts (steel), some odd lumber (Inside shed), HD welding tables, complete antique table model cream separator (inside), space

GUNS: two 1860 Colt Army single action cap and ball pistols - 44 cal.; 50 cal. cap and ball buf-

falo gun -oct. barrel-receiver sight-set trigger and wt. is 23 1/2 lbs.; brass Colt pat. powder flask

made in Savannah, Georgia; Winchester 35-25 oct. barrel rifle (very clean gun); Winchester model 97 shotgun (very nice condition); Winchester Mod 100 22 cal. rifle; 16 ga. Newport shot-

BRICK HOME AND APPROXIMATELY 10 ACRES - 3 bedroom - 1 2/4 bath - large closed in

back porch - 2000 square feet of living area - fireplace - large rain water tank - reverse osmosis system - central air and heat - 12 x 20 storage (portable) building in back yard - fenced - 30' x 20' small barn one side is a open shed. For more information on property and home contact Karyon Clark at (325) 223-2848, Broker No. 0191477. Sold with conformation of family, water

Preview time for this auction is Friday, March 17th from 9 am. until 6 p.m. In case of bad weath-

er, auction will be rescheduled for March 25th at the same times. No buyers fee or premium.

For more information contact Larry Oxley **Oxley Auction Services**

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rigged with fishing reel, Tru-cold upright freezer, rockers, flip top day bed.

heaters, BB pit, wheel chairs, handicap items, scrap pile, yard wagon

gun; 22 pistol; 12 x 18 portable storage building (nice);

Visa and MasterCard accepted. Concessions at auction site.

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ald's office at 710 Scurry.

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ers. 5 Left! Call (432)264-0910.

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Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

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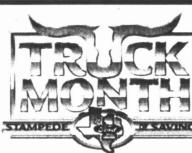
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS Though Mercury's retrograde cycle is spiced with mischief and muddle, what comes out of the

HOLIDAY MATHIS

the story is if you ask for what and how much you really want, and you just might get it. ARIES (March 21-April

aggravation

tremendous-

ly fortuitous!

The always-

generous

Jupiter, or

"Mr. Big," is

in a benevo-

lent mood

insofar as

Mercury is

concerned.

The moral of $\overline{}$

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19). Complete the project you've been putting off. This will jumpstart your personal affairs. To meet your own expectations is a challenge. That's what keeps you on the cutting edge.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Affairs of the heart are not what they seem. Be open to hearing someone else's side. You have an opportunity to help another see into a previously blind spot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The computer, the remote and your phone system will have you wondering whether you're up to figuring out the secrets of the modern world. Some days, it's better to go for a walk and appreciate the sky, the trees and the wind.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Financial issues are a Don't settle. focus — you'll solve at

least one! You get to know new people by doing business with them, and you get to know business associates by sharing friendly activities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The stars shine bright on your house of love. Magnetism is your strong suit — be careful how you wield it, though. Your aim is not to be a heartbreak-

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't expect wonders, but that difficult loved one is definitely improving! This morning's opportunity is a rare one — you won't get the same chance again. Grab this one, and later, you'll figure out what to do with it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stories, gossip and drama swirl around family life. Maybe what Freud said was really true: There are no jokes. Clear the air. Repressing your feelings gives you slow burn and harms intimacy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're through struggling with that certain situation. Besides, it's becoming pretty cleär that you're the one who created it. After all, the outer world is a reflection of your inner light. Finally, tonight, you like what you see.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You witness scenes that you want no part of. Run — don't walk — away. Here's a love tip: A companion on your intellectual wavelength isn't too much to ask for.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). Anything that is be used to power projects, stopping you from achieving your dream of getting a college degree, losing weight or amping up your love life will no longer have an effect you now. You're guided by a feeling more than practical sense.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You make sure that all goes according to plan, but it's personality that counts in the end. The charm you employ while delivering a message is more important than the message itself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're in a James Bond (or Jane Bond, as the case may be) mood, and you will attract the sophisticated accoutrements that go along with it. Now, all you need is James Bond's credit trayal of Samwise card. Someone thinks you're "totally hot."

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: This is the final week of the sun's journey through Pisces, and it promises to be eventful. Pisces is the sign of spirit, wisdom and unseen forces. Though spiritual energy, like wind, may be invisible on this plane of existence, the effects of spiritual energy can be as subtle as a stirring breeze or as dramatic as a hurricane. So, don't be fooled into believing only what you see. The Pisces sun likes to remind us that there is a field of electromagnetic energy available to those who know it's there. Think "Star Wars." "The Force" is with you, but you must seize it. It can DICATE, INC.

relationships and dreams. Whenever you get stuck this week, thinking you must do everything on your own, consider surrendering some of your responsibilities and pressures over to what has been called, among other things, "The Force." "The Field," and "The Higher Consciousness." Tuesday brings the full moon and a lunar eclipse in Virgo. Rocky weather and/or emotions come into play, but they can be ridden in the manner of someone who has paid to take a raft ride down through rapids — with an attitude of gleeful anticipation.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Pisces Sean Astin is so far best known for his por-Gamgee in the "Lord of the Rings." Pisces versatility is more of a tone than a look, though, and actors of this sign can create amazing changes through attitude alone. Astin will take on a role that distinguishes him from his hobbit past. A book about his strange childhood is forthcoming.

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Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My motherin-law visits our area every year for five months at a time. She doesn't ask if it's convenient, she just tells us when she's coming. She stays at our house on the weekends and with other family members during the week.

I love her dearly, but she is totally oblivious to how intrusive she is. During the week, she stops by our house and lets herself in without knocking. On the weekends, she wakes up much so that when I get out of bed, I find her sitting in my chair, reading my newspaper and drinking out of my favorite coffee

cup. Our youngest son started college last fall, and my husband and I were just empty house. How can I nicely tell Mom that we need our privacy and to quit walking in without knocking? And how do I get her to stop usurping my chair and coffee cup? Goldilocks' Daughter-

in-Law Dear Goldilocks' DIL: First, present Mom with her very own coffee cup (get one that has "Mom" printed on it), and say you hope she likes it. You won't be able to get her out of your chair without asking her directly (we suspect it's pretty comfortable), so either assign her a different chair, or live with it. As for entering your home without knocking, bolt the door. Tell her you feel safer that way. If none of this works, it's time for your husband to have a little talk with his mother.

Dear Annie: I am a 45year-old woman, happily married for 16 years. I also became a chronic pain patient after an accident. I had a spinal fusion, which stabilized my spine and improved my condition enough that I could go back to work.

Until this week, my hus-"Chuck," was incredibly supportive and understanding. He does a lot around the house, and



MARCY SUGAR

earlier than the rest of us, our children also pitch in. Suddenly, however, Chuck is starting to ques-

tion my treatment.

I thought he understood that in pain management, you don't expect to be cured, only to keep your pain levels manageable. had injections, beginning to enjoy our steroids, physical therapy and more. Sometimes treatment works, sometimes not, but I realize the goal is to control my pain so I can lead a semi-normal life. Now Chuck thinks I should find another doctor who will 'make me better.'

I've tried explaining things, and asked him to come to my next appointment, but nothing gets through. How can I make him understand that I'm never going to be the way I was before? — Still

Functioning in Georgia Dear Georgia: While your pain has been difficult for you, don't underestimate how stressful it has been for your husband. He is frustrated and disappointed, and having a hard time accepting that life has turned out differently than he expected. You both could benefit from some support. Please contact the American Chronic Pain Association (theacpa.org) at 1-800-533-

3231.Dear Annie: I'm still

upset after reading the solutions from teachers about how to deal with the "problem" of kids using the bathroom. I've taught middle

school for 20 years, and I

find these restrictions

demeaning. I let my stu-

whenever they need to. My colleagues say kids use it as an excuse to get out of my classroom. I say, so what? These kids have to sit at hard desks minds, they deserve it.

Never once has a student asked to use the bathroom in the middle of a lesson or test. Some actually have thanked me for this policy, since my class is the only time they can use the bathroom without feeling shamed or punished. It is a matter of dignity, biology and common sense. - Pissed Off (Pun Intended) in the Midwest

Dear Midwest: You have made some excellent points, and your students obviously aren't using bathroom breaks as a way to engage in less-thanacceptable behavior, but we suspect not all teachers are so fortunate.

Dear Annie: My dear mother-in-law was functioning pretty well at home until she had a heart attack. Now she can't care for herself. Since she is otherwise a competent adult, her medical information is private, yet we'd like to know what is going on so we can help. She won't tell us anything.

Mom currently has care from a temporary service during the week, and my sister-in-law takes care of her at night and on weekends. This is a tremendous strain on my sisterin-law, but I work during the hours when I'd be most useful, and my husband is recovering from surgery himself and cannot care for his mother.

Mom doesn't like the day help, and sometimes she talks as though she might consider institutional care. I've talked to the intake worker from the most reputable place in town. The worker was helpful, but stressed that they, too, would need to know more about Mom's medical condition, and

dents use the bathroom Mom won't open up.

Surely there must be people who help with this kind of situation. What can we do? — Concerned

in Kansas Dear Kansas: We spoke all day long with no to a geriatric care managbreaks other than lunch. er who said that the doc-If they want to take a few tor may offer information minutes to stretch their to your husband, since he legs and clear their is an immediate family member. Or the doctor might be willing to talk to Mom about sharing the details. You also can hire a mediator or a care manager to hold a family meeting, where everyone can get together with Mom and explain your inability to help her unless she permits you to

know what's going on. Mom may be very scared of how dependent she has become, and this could be part of the problem. Reassure her that you love her and will try to do the best you can for her. Your family also should consider a support group. Try the American Heart Association (americanheart.org) at 1-800-242-

8721. Dear Annie: I was one of those husbands who had his own chores around the home, but it rarely included regular housework. I would sometimes empty the dishwasher. My wife would tell me of all the things she had to do around the house, but it never made an impression.

Annie, I loved my wife beyond words. I was just turning a deaf ear to her really saying, "Please, I need some help around the home." Well, my love passed away holding my hand. To this day, I wish I had said to her, "What do you want me to do?" It is so sad that we realize too late what our real responsibilities as husband and wife are, but what I would give to go back and do it all over again. - Still Grieving

Dear Grieving: We can tell that your heart is breaking. Too many of us ignore requests for help with the mundane because it doesn't seem important. Until it's too

DENNIS THE MENACE



"EVEN IF I DID FIND A MONSTER UNDER MY BED, JOEY, MY MOM WOULDN'T LET ME KEEP IT."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"But don't quote me on that."

BC



NO. I'D CALL IT PROVIDENCE

WIZARD OF ID

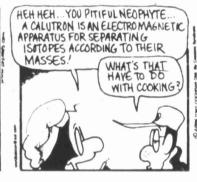






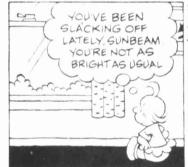
AGNES







HI AND LOIS







THE OTHER COAST







SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





HAGAR



BLONDIE







This Date In History

March 15, the 74th day of 2006. There are 291 days left in the year. This is the Ides of March _ and the day the buzzards return to Hinckley, Ohio.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on March 15, 1956, the Lerner and Loewe musical play "My Fair Lady," starring Rex Harrison as Professor Henry Higgins and Julie Andrews as Eliza Doolittle, opened on Broadway. On this date:

In 44 B.C., Roman dictator Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of nobles that included Brutus and Cassius.

In 1493, Christopher Columbus returned to Spain, concluding his first voyage to the Western Hemisphere.

In 1767, the seventh president of the United States. Andrew Jackson, was born in Waxhaw, S.C.

In 1913, President Wilson

held the first open presidential news conference.

In 1919, the American Legion was founded in Paris. In 1944, during World War

II, Allied bombers again raided German-held Monte Cassino. In 1964, actress Elizabeth

Taylor married actor Richard Burton in Montreal; it was her fifth marriage, his second

In 1977, the U.S. House of Representatives began a 90day test to determine the feasibility of showing its sessions on television. Birthdays: Today's

Country singer Carl Smith is 79. Former astronaut Alan L. Bean is 74. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 73. Jazz musi cian Cecil Taylor is 73 Actor Judd Hirsch is 71. Rock musician Phil Lesh is 66. Singer Mike Love (The Beach Boys) is 65. Rock singer-musician Sly Stone is 63. Rock singer-musician Howard Scott (War) is 60. Rock singer Ry Cooder is 59. Rock singer Dee Snider (Twisted Sister) is 51. Actress Park Overall is 49. Movie director Renny Harlin is 47. Model Fabio is

(formerly Terence Trent D'Arby) is 44. Rock singer Bret Michaels (Poison) is 43. Singer Rockwell is 42. Rock singer Mark McGrath (Sugar Ray) is 38. Rock musician Mark Hoppus (Blink 182) is 34. Actress Eva Longoria is 31. Rapper-musician will.i.am (Black Eyed Peas) is 31. Rock DJ Joseph Hahn (Linkin Park) is 29. Rapper Young Buck is 25. Actor Sean Biggerstaff is 23. Actress Caitlin Wachs is 17. Thought for Today "People are, if anything,

45. Singer Sananda Maitreya

more touchy about being thought silly than they are about being thought unjust." E.B. White, American author and humorist (1899-1985)

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Reindeer herders
- 6 Hotfooted it
- **14** Everglades
- wader
- 15 Gymnast
- Korbut
- 16 Scale down
- 17 Where to find TV dinners
- 20 One of the **Smothers**
- **Brothers** 21 Miniature-golf shot
- 22 Roofing pro
- 23 Buffalo Bill 24 Weightlifter's
- exercise
- 25 Head over heels
- 28 Young girl
- 31 Sheer fabric
- 32 Actress Winslet
- **33** Tanning-lotion letters
- 36 Place to find bargains
- 40 Sweetie
- 41 Be abundant 42 Stiller's mate
- 43 Disreputable nightspots
- 45 Army radioman's
- nickname 46 Long-eared
- equines
- 49 X marks it 50 Italian city
- 52 Abbr. on a
- phone 53 Bullring cry 56 Fast-food
- restaurant feature 59 Fall tool

747 SEATING by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 37 Off-road goer,

- 11 Waste maker, maybe
- 12 Van Gogh concern **62** Singletons locale
- 13 Brewpub lineup 43 Digs deeply 10 Melville's whaler 63 All-work, 18 Hosiery shade no-play student
 - 19 Mont Blanc's 64 City leader range
 - 23 Fountain
 - 1 Took off offering
 - 2 "Farming" 25 Allergy
 - starter 3 Year-end formal 26
 - 4 Dispenser
 - candy 28 Ceremonial
 - 5 Avoid, in a way staffs
 - 29 Tabloids couple 6 Easy mark
 - 7 Whodunit's essence

60 Abba of Israel

61 Grammarian's

DOWN

- 8 Freudian
- concern
- scoutmasters 10 Beehive's locale
- 9 Most

- symptom _ contendere
- 27 Creditor's claim
- **30** Dry, on
- wine labels
- 32 Patella's place
- 34 Exec's extra
 - 35 Become threadbare

- briefly 38 Marketplace

 - 39 In order

 - 44 "Understood"
 - 45 Cast out 46 "Male" word
 - form **47** Clear wrap
 - 48 Sports-shoe
 - feature
 - 49 Gumption 51 Hobo fare
 - 52 Algerian port
 - 53 Jazz singer
 - Anita
 - 54 Letterhead symbol
 - 55 Fancy jug
- **33** Have top billing **57** The Sopranos network
 - **58** Code-cracking
 - org. 10 11 12 13

3/15/06

17 18 19 20 25 26 27 33 34 35 36 40 43 44 46 47 48 50 53 54 55 56 59 60

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Board say forum if th

By BILL MCCLELLA **News Editor** Big Spring C Commerce board agreed Wednesday

the fray over whe



Landscape archit is on the design

TAKS: looking

☐ Big Spring IS trustees meet to 5:15 p.m. in the school board ro

By STEVE REAG!

Staff Writer Call it a case news and could-

news. Preliminary from the first Texas Assessn Knowledge and (TAKS) student in, and they s Spring Ind School District scoring above st

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To reach us

Obituaries

Please call 263a.m. to 5 p.m. I If you miss your 263-7335 before noon Sunday.