



## Poinsettia program to continue but none will be sold

*ISD manufacturing classes a success, Moore directors told*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Area investors looking for a product to manufacture may want to perk up their ears, as officials with the Big Spring

Independent School District announced Wednesday they will continue the high school manufacturing program but bow out of the sales arena.

Michael Downes, superintendent for BSISD, said the district won't be venturing out into the world of sales when it comes to the lighted poinsettias produced by the program.

"The attorneys have looked at it, and there's just no way to

escape the liability," Downes told members of the board of directors for Moore Development for Big Spring, the economic development company funding the program. "However, we are going to continue the program and simply donate the poinsettias to the city of Big Spring, which was the original plan for the program to begin with.

"We had close to 60 students



Downes

involved in the poinsettia project back in November and December," he added. "This has been a very successful and ongoing project that I'm looking forward to continuing. We knew, going into this, that there were some issues with liability and the possibility the school

system could not enter into a business type manufacturing process."

Lighted poinsettias manufactured by the high school program found their way onto the Settles Hotel and other area landmarks during the Christmas holiday, drawing comments from local officials that Big Spring had become the

See **POINSETTIA**, Page 3A

## Hitting the high notes

*BSHS Band still in need of funding for summer excursion to Carnegie Hall*

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Despite some unexpected expenses, officials are still optimistic that the Big Spring High School Band will raise the necessary funds to make its planned trip to Carnegie Hall this summer.

BSHS Band Director Rocky Harris said student-related expenses are close to being accounted for, but ancillary costs — such as transporting the musical instruments to New York — have pushed the final price tag even higher.

To date, Harris estimates that the band has raised \$120,000 for the trip, which still leaves the group about \$55,000 short of its goal.

With the Carnegie con-

**Donations should be made to Carnegie Hall Fund, Big Spring High**

**School, 708 E. 11th Place, Big Spring, 79720.**



Harris

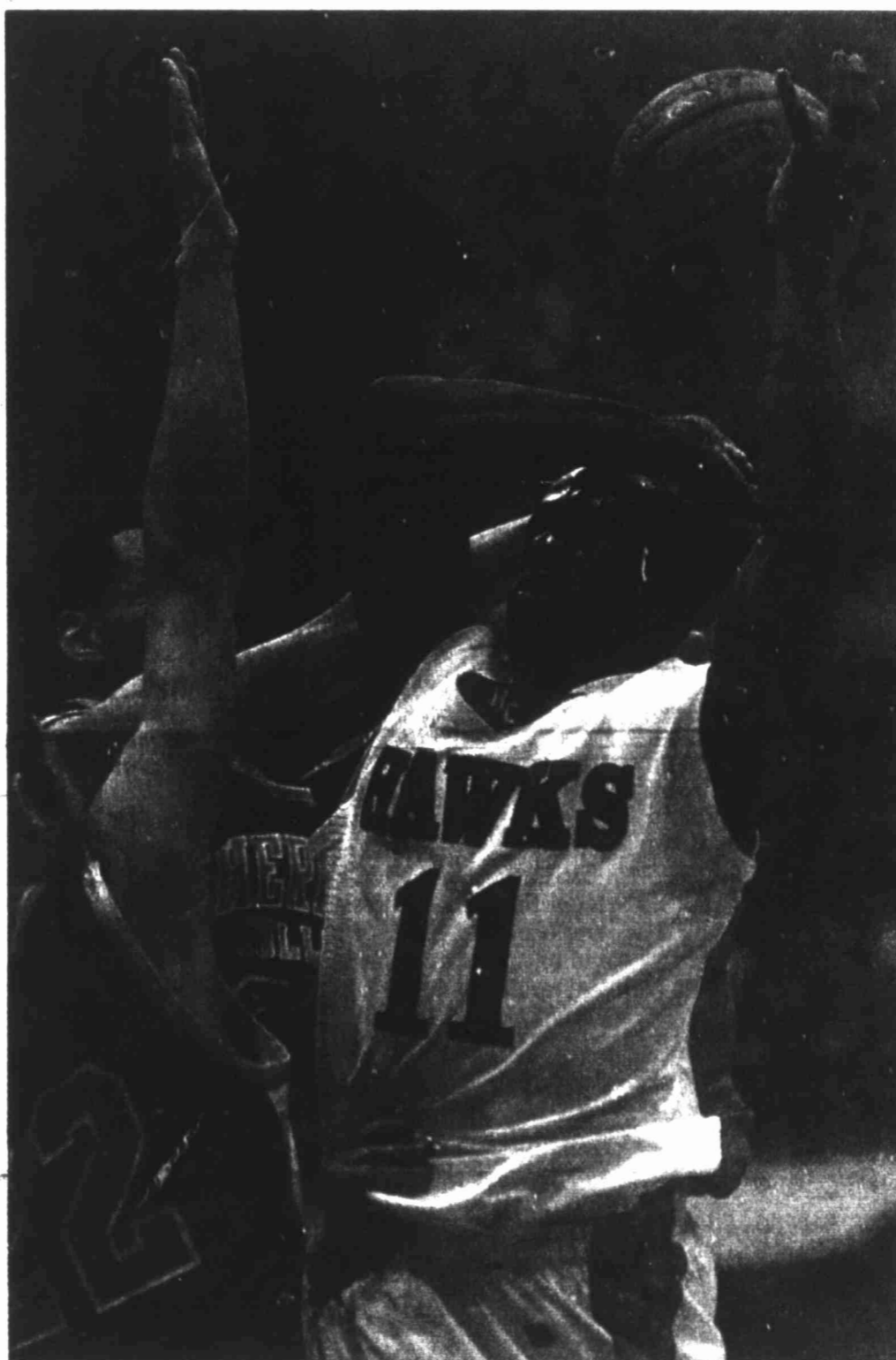
cert date of June 6 fast approaching, one would expect Harris and other band boosters to be nervous of reaching their goal.

Expect again.

"Oh, we're going — no doubt about it," Harris

See **BAND**, Page 3A

## HAWKS PREVAIL IN OPENER



Howard College's Richard Forbes (11) attempts a shot against heavy defensive pressure during the Hawks' 74-56 victory against Sheridan College of Wyoming in the first round of the National Junior College Athletic Association men's basketball tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. Wednesday. See story, Page 1B.

Herald photo/Troy Hyde

## Tour bus accident kills 12 Americans

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — A bus swerved to avoid an approaching truck and tumbled 300 feet down a mountainside in northern Chile, killing 12 American tourists, U.S. and Chilean officials said.

The two surviving Americans were in stable condition, John Vance, a U.S. embassy spokesman, told CNN in a telephone interview Wednesday.

Two Chileans were also hospitalized, said Juan Carlos Poli, a city hall spokesman in the Pacific port city of Arica.

The tourists were returning to Celebrity Cruises' ship Millennium from an excursion to Lauca National Park when the bus plunged off the rugged highway Wednesday near Arica, 1,250 miles north of Santiago, he said.

Poli said the bus, which had a capacity of 16 passengers, "was totally destroyed."

Vance said the embassy was sending consular officers to Arica.

The victims were all in their 60s and 70s, but authorities would not immediately confirm their identities.

The Millennium was docked in Arica, and the cruise line said the ship will remain there until further notice. It had been scheduled to leave for Peru early Thursday. The ship was carrying approximately 1,500 guests and 920 crew members.

## Howard County Republican Convention slated Saturday

All area Republicans who voted in the recent primary are invited to the Howard County Republican Convention to be held on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. in Judge Robert Moore III's courtroom of the 118th District Court Building.

The event is being scheduled half an hour earlier than former county conventions due to several other events going on simultaneously in Big Spring.

For more information, contact Melanie Gambrell at 267-7387.

## Tax-Aide program at Senior Center winding down

*Free tax return assistance will conclude April 10*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

AARP will begin to wrap up its annual Tax-Aide program,

which ends April 10, as the group continues to help area residents make sense of the tax laws and forms that seem to get more complicated each year.

Gloria Hopkins, coordinator for the annual effort, said the volunteer-based program is designed to help people that might not otherwise be able to file a tax return.

"The AARP program provides free federal tax preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, people with disabilities, those who don't speak English and people with low-to-moderate income," said Hopkins.

With more than a dozen volunteers helping people file their

tax returns, Hopkins said this year has gone smoothly thus far.

"We have 16 volunteers working in the program; we've been able to have anywhere between 10 to 14 working each Monday," said Hopkins. "They have just been outstanding this year, and with so many, we've really been able to make things go fast."

And while the annual tax dance doesn't seem to change much from year to year, Hopkins said the way people file certainly has.

"Last year we were begging people to e-file their taxes," said Hopkins. "This year, people are coming in and requesting it. I'd

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## Military frees peace activists in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. and British troops Thursday freed three Christian peace activists in rural Iraq without firing a shot, ending a four-month hostage drama in which an American among the group was shot to death and dumped on a Baghdad street.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, the U.S. military spokesman, said the hostages were being held by a "kidnapping cell," and the operation to free the

captives was based on information from a man captured by U.S. forces only three hours earlier.

No kidnappers were present when the troops broke into a house in western Baghdad. The captives' hands were tied, Lynch said.

"They were bound, they were together, there were no kidnappers in the areas," Lynch told a news briefing.

The Iraqi Interior Ministry said the captives were res-

cued northwest of Baghdad between the towns of Mishahda, 20 miles away from Baghdad, and the western suburb of Abu Ghraib, 12 miles away.

British officials in Baghdad said those freed were Canadians James Loney, 41, and Harmeet Singh Sooden, 32, and Briton Norman Kember, 74. The men — members of the Chicago-based Christian Peacemaker Teams — were kidnapped

Nov. 26 along with their American colleague, Tom Fox.

The body of Fox, 54, of Clear Brook, Va., was found earlier this month.

"We remember with tears Tom Fox," group co-director Doug Pritchard said. "We had longed for the day when all four men would be released together. Our gladness today is bittersweet by

See **RESCUE**, Page 3A







# Winning the FAMILY WEIGHT LOSS Game

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

**I**s weight weighing heavy on your mind? If you or someone in your family needs to lose weight, you have lots of company: Nearly two-thirds of American adults and a third of American children need to lighten up.

Since the family is one of the most powerful influences on a child's weight and health, a new book from Betty Crocker rallies family members to team up in tackling their weight concerns. *Win at Weight Loss: A Healthy Guide for the Whole Family* maps out a game plan of simple steps that parents can take for improving their own healthy habits while allowing their kids to become more active and "grow into" a healthier weight. Parents are the role models and coaches of the family team.

The family that plays together enjoys good health and has fun together. In becoming more active and enjoying a wide variety of delicious meals, any family can be winners and gain healthy habits for a lifetime. This new book from Betty Crocker provides realistic steps for any family to take toward better health.

Eating well is an important part of the plan: Always begin with breakfast and leave room for a healthy dessert! This cookbook can be purchased wherever books are sold.

## From the Doctor's Kitchen

**J**ames Hill, a nationally known weight loss authority, is a professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado and an adviser on obesity to the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Hill is co-founder in charge of the National Weight Control Registry and developed the "America on the Move" program. He is the co-author of *The Step Diet Book*.

■ Positive self-talk is a powerful motivating tool. Rather than putting yourself down, think and talk positively about yourself to your kids. It can go a long way toward building your child's self-esteem (as well as your own!).

■ Practice eating only until you are satisfied, not full. Over time this will easily become a habit.

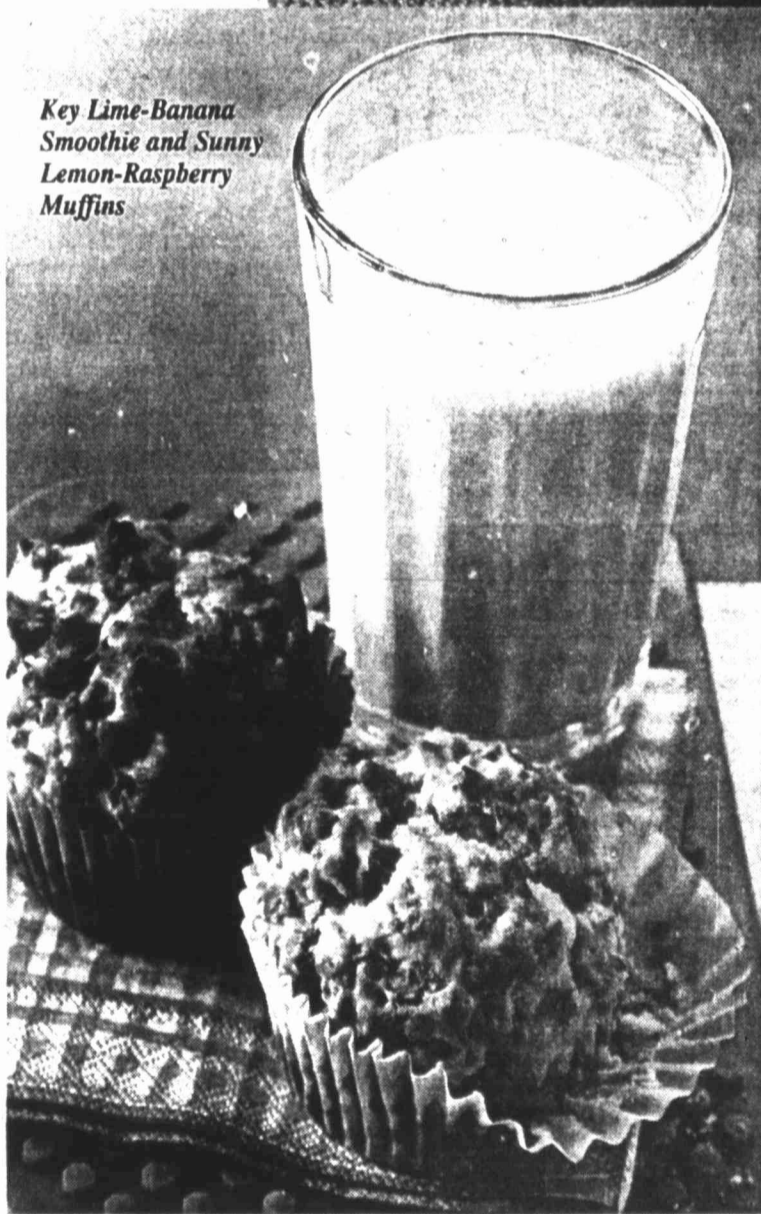
■ Focusing on what and how much you eat is important, but it's only part of the equation. The other big piece is how much you move. Become more active yourself, and encourage your kids to make moving a habit. You may all come up with a new discovery that it's fun!

■ Talk to your kids about the wholesome ingredients you use in baking and cooking. Involve them as much as possible in making dinner or breakfast on the weekend — chances are they'll be eager to help (and to eat what they've prepared!).

■ There may be many benefits in being active, but one of the most important is that activity strengthens your heart, allowing it to pump more oxygen to your muscles.

■ Encourage your kids to share their creativity by helping you in the kitchen. Kids feel proud when they are learning a life skill, understanding the benefits of good nutrition and its relationship to

**Key Lime-Banana Smoothie and Sunny Lemon-Raspberry Muffins**



### Key Lime-Banana Smoothie

Prep Time: 5 minutes  
Start to Finish: 5 minutes  
2 servings (1 cup each)

- 1 container (6 ounces) 99% fat-free Key lime pie yogurt (2/3 cup)
- 1 ripe banana, sliced
- 1/2 cup fat-free (skim) milk
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 1/4 teaspoon dry lemon-lime-flavored soft drink mix (from 0.13-ounce package)
- 1 cup vanilla frozen yogurt

- 1 In blender, place all ingredients except frozen yogurt. Cover and blend on high speed until smooth.
  - 2 Add frozen yogurt. Cover and blend until smooth.
- 1 Serving:** Calories 320 (Calories From Fat 90), Total Fat 3g (Saturated Fat 2g), Cholesterol 10mg, Sodium 150mg, Total Carbohydrate 62g (Dietary Fiber 2g), Protein 11g  
**% Daily Value:** Vitamin A 6%, Vitamin C 15%, Calcium 40%, Iron 2%  
**Exchanges:** 1 Fruit, 2 Other Carbohydrate, 1 1/2 Skim Milk  
**Carbohydrate Choices:** 4

### Sunny Lemon-Raspberry Muffins

Prep Time: 15 minutes  
Start to Finish: 35 minutes  
10 muffins

- 1 egg or 1/4 cup fat-free egg product
  - 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
  - 1 1/2 cups Whole Grain Total cereal, slightly crushed (1 cup)
  - 1/3 cup sugar
  - 1/4 cup fat-free (skim) milk
  - 1/4 cup canola or soybean oil
  - 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
  - 2 teaspoons baking powder
  - 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1 container (6 ounces) lemon fat-free yogurt (2/3 cup)
  - 1/2 cup fresh or frozen (partially thawed) raspberries
- 1 Heat oven to 400°F. Line 10 regular-size muffin cups with paper baking cups.
  - 2 In large bowl, beat egg slightly. Stir in remaining ingredients except raspberries just until moistened; gently stir in raspberries. Divide batter evenly among muffin cups.
  - 3 Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Immediately remove from pan.
- 1 Muffin:** Calories 190 (Calories From Fat 60), Total Fat 6g (Saturated Fat 0.5g), Cholesterol 20mg, Sodium 340mg, Total Carbohydrate 30g (Dietary Fiber 2g), Protein 4g  
**% Daily Value:** Vitamin A 2%, Vitamin C 10%, Calcium 30%, Iron 25%  
**Exchanges:** 1 Starch, 1 Other Carbohydrate, 1 Fat  
**Carbohydrate Choices:** 2

**Easy Corn Flake-Crusted Fish Family Favorite**

### Easy Corn Flake-Crusted Fish Family Favorite

Prep Time: 30 minutes  
Start to Finish: 30 minutes  
4 servings

- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1 egg
  - 1/4 cup water
  - 3 cups Country Corn Flakes cereal, crushed (about 1 2/3 cups)
  - 4 cod fillets (4 to 6 ounces each)
  - 2 tablespoons canola or soybean oil
- 1 In shallow dish, mix flour and salt. In another shallow dish, beat egg and water with fork. Place crushed cereal in third shallow dish. Dip fish in flour, coating well; shake off excess. Dip floured fish in egg mixture, then in cereal, coating all sides completely. Place coated fish on ungreased cookie sheet.
  - 2 In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium heat until hot. Keeping at least 1 inch between fish fillets and cooking in batches if needed, cook fish in oil 3 to 4 minutes on each side, turning once, until well browned and fish flakes easily with fork. If needed, place cooked fish on paper towels on cookie sheet and keep warm in 225°F oven while cooking remaining fish.
- 1 Serving:** Calories 320 (Calories from Fat 90), Total Fat 10g (Saturated Fat 1.5g), Cholesterol 115mg, Sodium 600mg, Total Carbohydrate 31g (Dietary Fiber 0g), Protein 26g  
**% Daily Value:** Vitamin A 10%, Vitamin C 4%, Calcium 20%, Iron 40%  
**Exchanges:** 2 Starch, 3 Very Lean Meat, 1 1/2 Fat  
**Carbohydrate Choices:** 2

**Note From the Nutritionist:** Using whole-grain cereals as a breading or in baking is an easy way to work in whole grains and boosts vitamins and minerals in your favorite recipes, because the cereal is fortified. You can pair these crispy fillets with seasoned rice pilaf, coleslaw and baby carrots.

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MAR 2006  
FILMED BY THE PROFESSIONALS AT  
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# Acura RSX; Low price, luxury brand

By ANN M. JOB

For The Associated Press  
All you young hot rods take note: Acura's 2006 RSX is the lowest-priced luxury-branded car in America — a powerful two-door coupe that has sporty and spunky written all over it.

Acura marks its 20th anniversary this year with an RSX that gives buyers more than a low, starting manufacturer's suggested retail price, including delivery charge, of \$20,940. The four-passenger car has quick-response steering and four-cylinder engine technology that provides horsepower akin to that of some V6s.

The RSX also comes standard with some luxury amenities, such as power moonroof, side airbags, six-disc, in-dash CD changer and automatic — not manual — climate control with air filtration system. Among the perks: a lengthy, six-year/70,000-mile limited powertrain warranty in addition to a comprehensive, bumper-to-bumper warranty of four years/50,000 miles, whichever comes first.

The next lowest-priced luxury-branded car is the 2006 Saab 9-2X, which starts at \$23,710 and is basically a rebadged Subaru Impreza WRX.

Other RSX competitors are a diverse lot. Among luxury brands, BMW's lowest-priced coupe is the 2006 326Ci and Infiniti's is the 2006 G35 coupe. But both start around \$33,000, which is some \$12,000 above the RSX price.

Coupes from non-luxury brands include the 2006 Scion tC, which has a starting MSRP, including destination charge, of \$16,840, and the 2006 Ford Mustang, which starts at \$19,935. But these models have shorter warranties than the RSX.

And you can take pride in knowing the RSX ranks in Consumer Reports' "Best Vehicles for \$25,000 or Less" list, which was released this month. Its reliability is rated at "very good."



Acura RSX

The RSX replaced the long-lived Acura Integra small car earlier this decade, and even though sales quickly peaked in calendar 2002, the RSX retained a loyal following.

Import tuners — guys who like to customize their vehicles with eye-catching wheels, lowered suspensions and engine enhancements — have taken a special interest in this car.

But the RSX is an impressive performer without modifications, too.

For 2006, it's available in two versions: A 155-horsepower with choice of five-speed manual or five-speed automatic transmission with shift-it-yourself SportShift, and a higher-performance, 201-horsepower Type-S with six-speed manual that was the test car.

The base model has 16-inch, all-season, high-performance tires, while the Type-S wears 17-inch rubber.

Passengers sit low to the floor in all RSX models. I dropped down into the seats, for example, as I entered and looked up at the trunks of bigger cars in the traffic ahead.

At least the sporty, bucket seat for the driver in the Type-S tester had manual height and lumbar adjustments. These features aren't available for the front passenger.

Riders in the two small back seats can feel cramped. Rear windows don't open, and I found my hair was brushing the ceiling. I liked that the

rear-seat floor was flat, though.

It's obvious that the driver has the preferred seat in the RSX, and it gets better when the car is turned on.

Engine power in the Type-S came on so readily, I squealed the tires on the car at startup one morning when the pavement was wet.

The uplevel, 2-liter, double overhead cam four cylinder with Honda's "intelligent" valve-control system known as i-VTEC has a high redline of 8,100 rpm.

The Type-S feels zippy, responsive, and torque peaks at 140 foot-pounds at 7,000 rpm while maximum horsepower is 201. Factor in that the RSX

weighs less than 2,900 pounds — versus the more than 3,300 for a Mustang with base V6 engine — and you can begin to understand why the RSX feels lightweight and spirited.

But be aware that unleaded premium gasoline is the recommended fuel for the Type-S. According to the owner's manual, using lower than 91 octane fuel "can cause occasional metallic knocking noises in the engine."

The RSX ride isn't quiet. I heard road noise on nearly all surfaces, except on fresh, smooth asphalt, and there's also a good amount of engine noise when the revs get above 4,000 rpm.

The basic suspension is the same on all models. It's independent, MacPherson strut up front and a double-wishbone independent rear.

But the Type-S model wears larger stabilizer bars, besides the larger tires.

Thus, the test Type-S rode so firmly it was almost jouncy over moderate to large road bumps.

The RSX stuck to the road stubbornly in curves and turns but understeered at the limits, as is typical with front-drive cars.



Acura RSX

## Young auto technicians like big, American cars

By RICK POPELY

Chicago Tribune  
CHICAGO

Conventional wisdom in the auto industry says young people don't want the same type of vehicles their parents drove, but the new-car buyers of tomorrow may not be all that different from today's.

Take Tony Ambrose, an 18-year-old senior at Downers Grove South High School, whose wish list includes a sport-utility vehicle or pickup with lots of power.

"I like the thrill of going fast and the versatility of a truck," said Ambrose, echoing many baby boomers. After all, light trucks pulled ahead of passenger cars in sales a few years ago.

Kristina Pszotka, a senior at Glenbard West High School, drives a Chevrolet Cavalier but likewise sees herself behind the wheel of an SUV or pickup, preferably a fuel-saving hybrid. "The Cavalier is so small, and I've always wanted to drive bigger vehicles," she said, also sounding like her parents' generation.

Pszotka and Ambrose were among several students from DuPage County, Ill., who toured

the Chicago Auto Show in a visit sponsored by Automotive Youth Educational Systems, a national program to recruit and train young people for careers in automotive technology.

All spend part of their school day taking auto technician classes at the Technology Center of DuPage, a career training facility in Addison, Ill., and all have strong opinions about the vehicles they saw at McCormick Place.

Among the surprises is that they sound willing to give domestic brands a shot. Another is that car-makers who think hatchbacks are a good way to hook young buyers may be headed down the wrong road.

Tony Kryger, a senior at Glenbard North, owns a 2001 Dodge Dakota pickup but sees himself behind the wheel of a BMW — and owning a BMW dealership.

More immediately, he'd like a GMC Envoy, a mid-size SUV, when he heads off to college next year because of its cargo space and towing capability, traits that come in handy when moving to a dormitory.

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# Sp

## IN BRIEF

**BSHS baseball team sets date for "Meet the Steers" night**

The Big Spring baseball team will host "Meet the Steers" night today at the high school baseball field from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Besides the high school baseball team being introduced, area little league teams will also be recognized. There will be a hamburger supper including chips and a drink for \$5.

**KBSB golf tournament announced for month of April**

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will be sponsoring a golf tournament April 22 at the Spring Country Club.

The tournament start at 9 a.m. cost \$60 per person. The tourney is a 4 person scramble.

For more information, contact the country club at 267-5355.

**Relay For Life set for dodgeball tournament**

The Relay For Life has scheduled a dodgeball tournament Saturday at Goliad Gym beginning at 10 a.m.

The cost is \$5 to and a team needs consist of four boys and four girls.

The tournament be sponsored by Yellow Dogs and more information contact Angel So at 264-4108.

**Mickey Owen baseball dates announced**

The Mickey Owen Baseball School announced this year's camp dates.

The camp will place at the Nat Little League Saturday.

The clinic features two different sessions. The first session run from 9:30 a.m. to noon, while the second session goes from 12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

The camp is for players age 6 to 18. The cost for one session is \$35, but participants can get sessions for \$55.

For more information or to register, contact the Mickey Owen Baseball School at 1-800-999-8369.

**Scramble set for country club**

The Big Spring Country Club host a three-person scramble golf tournament April 1-2.

Entry fee is \$6 per player plus golf. Private carts are come. Entry includes a bar dinner on the April 1.

The tournament begin with a 18-hole shotgun start. The field will be flighted by first-round scores, and the number of flights will be determined by number of entries.

For more information, call 267-5355.

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For more information or to register, contact the Mickey Owen Baseball School at 1-800-999-8369.

### Scramble set for country club

The Big Spring Country Club will host a three-person scramble golf tournament April 1-2.

Entry fee is \$60 per player plus golf cart. Private carts are welcome. Entry fee includes a barbecue dinner on the course April 1.

The tournament will begin with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days. The field will be fought by first-round scores, and the number of flights will be determined by the number of entries.

For more information, call 267-5354.

# Getting a 'W' with their 'D'

## Defensive pressure equals win for Howard at NJCAA

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

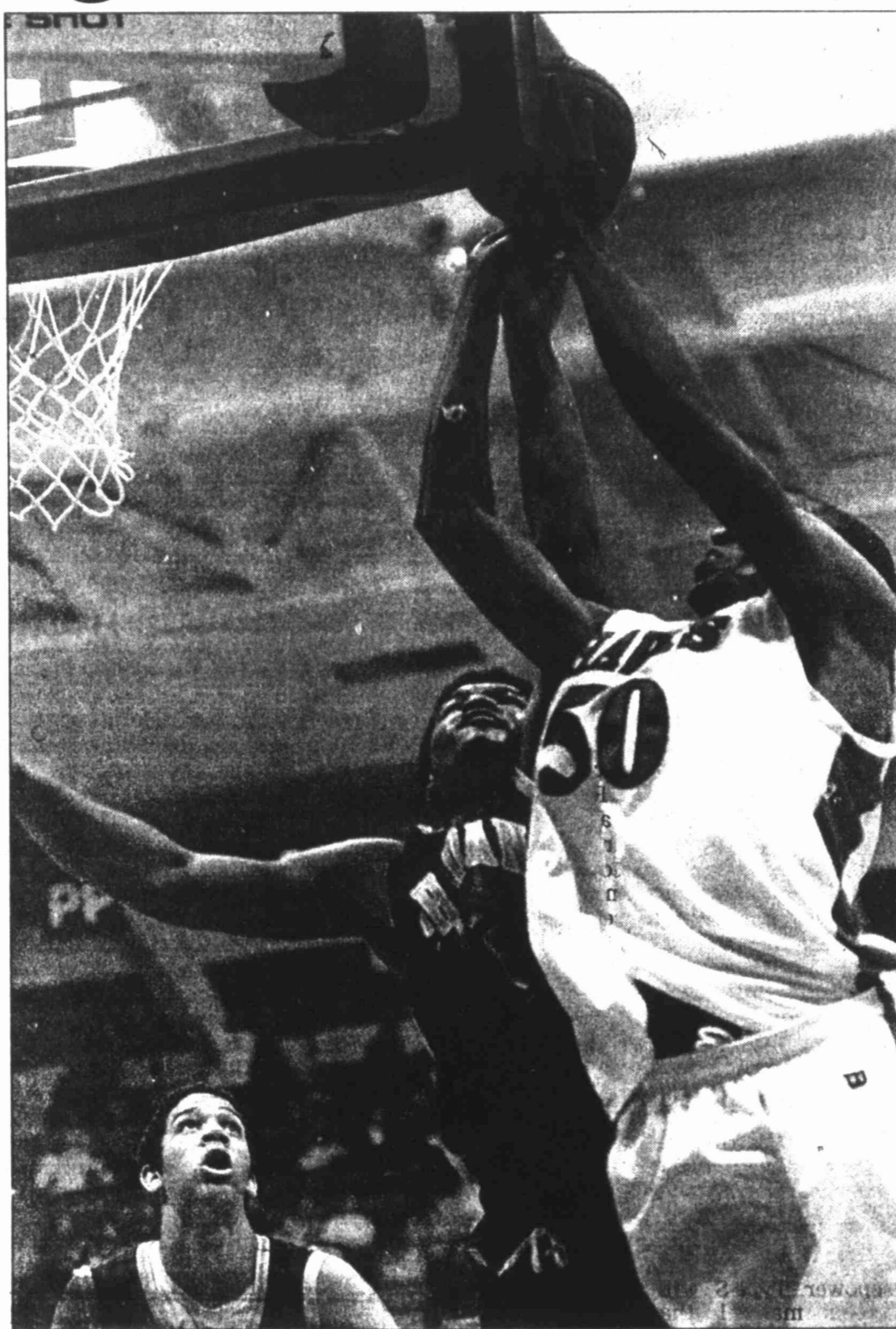
HUTCHINSON, Kan. — With their usual aggressive defense and two big performances off the bench, the top-ranked Howard College men's basketball team moved into the quarterfinals of the National Junior College Athletic Association Tournament with a dominating 74-56 victory over Sheridan College at the Hutchinson Sports Center here Wednesday afternoon.

The Hawks held a usually potent 3-point shooting team to just four of 16 shooting. Meanwhile, sophomore Richard Forbes scored a game-high 22 points off the bench and freshman Bougari Konate, who is playing in the tournament with a hyperextended elbow, added 13 points and five rebounds.

"Our game plan was to defend the (three-point) line and we were able to do that today," said Howard head coach Mark Adams. "Bougari and Richard both had big games for us off the bench. They both made our bench outstanding and were the difference in the game."

Howard improved to 33-1 on the season and will play Tallahassee in the quarterfinals tonight at 8:30 p.m. Tallahassee (29-3) defeated San Jacinto, 73-69, in overtime Wednesday afternoon.

In other first round



Howard College's Benson Akpan (50) attempts a shot against two Sheridan College defenders during the Hawks' first-round game at the National Junior College Athletic Association basketball tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. Wednesday afternoon.

action, Fort Smith defeated Monroe, Georgia Perimeter took down Williston, Highland beat Southwest Tennessee, Southwest Illinois defeated South Idaho, Iowa Western upset No. 2 Northwest Mississippi

and Arizona Western took down Coffeyville in overtime.

Howard's games against Sheridan was close early in the first half. The Hawks led by only five points with 8:33 to play until halftime, but back-

to-back 3-pointers by sophomore Charles Burgess and Konate later pushed the lead to 10 and then Burgess added a free throw to make it 26-15.

"We wanted to get off to a good start and we made some poor choices at

### Tonight's game

Hawks

vs.

Tallahassee (Fla.),

8:30 p.m.

times, but I liked the effort overall," said Adams. "The key now is to stay focused, trouble and get a good rest on the bench, possible."

If the Hawks' weakness in rebounding is the problem, it is the lack thereof or lack thereof to play just seven minutes. Sheridan players are playing throughout the tournament.

"Dezmon is right now he can do what we can't do him as many as possible," said Adams. "He and Bougari are going through it, that's something we control at this point."

The Hawks played at halftime and leading 26-15. Burgess and Konate, Benny Valente had four points, hit a 3-pointer. Howard's first half of the second half, then Valente went on a jumper, but they each scored points Wednesday. They went a combined 23 from the field.

"I felt good about the game," said Burgess. "I didn't score well, but we defend well. Tonight we'll be able to beat. We just need one game at a time."

Forbes scored straight points. Howard's stretch in the and his 3-pointers through made.

See HAWKS, page 2B

## Howard takes two from Westerners

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The Howard College softball team is putting itself in prime position to make a run at the Western Junior College Athletic title.

The Hawks, currently second in the WJCAC, appear ready to make a run for the league crown after sweeping Western Texas in a doubleheader at Foundation Field Wednesday afternoon.

The cold, blustery weather wasn't very hospitable to fans, but it did little to chill the Hawks bats in the first game.

Howard scored a pair of runs in each of the first three innings to grab a 6-0 win, then coasted to the victory.

Paige Ruiz, who was the

winning pitcher, helped her cause at the plate by going 2-for-3 with a double and triple.

But the big blow came from Jessica Garcia. The Burleson native had a home run and two RBIs, plus scored twice.

The second game was anything but one-sided, however — an extra-inning affair that wasn't settled until Nicole Dickson knocked in the winning run in the bottom of the eighth for a 5-4 victory.

Dickson also picked up the victory on the mound.

Howard improved to 24-6 overall and 14-2 in the WJCAC, good for second place behind league-leader Midland College.

"I thought things went

See HOWARD, page 2B



Jessica Garcia (3) is greeted by her Howard College teammates after hitting a home run in the first game of the Hawks' doubleheader with Western Texas College Wednesday at Foundation Field.

## Beauty of NFL system: It works as long as the money rolls in

The Dallas Cowboys got the receiver their fans loved to hate. The New England Patriots gave away the kicker their fans hated to lose.

Both moves were baffling, at best. And not just because it matters what fans think, because in the end it really doesn't.

Coaches and general managers can huddle in darkened rooms for weeks, emerge blinded by the



TIM DAHLBERT

The greatest thing about free agency in the NFL may be that teams can recover

from their mistakes quickly.

So what if Terrell Owens goes berserk and tackles Bill Parcells for taking him out of a game. All it costs the Cowboys is \$10 million, money Jerry Jones can quickly make up by charging more for nachos and beer when the new stadium opens in Arlington.

That's because Owens' \$25 million contract with the Cowboys isn't a \$25 million contract. If the Cowboys don't want

TO after a year, they can let him go and are out about a \$5 million signing bonus and \$1 million first-year salary.

Which is what happened Monday to Larry Allen, the guard who was the cornerstone of the Cowboys' glory days, but became disposable because of his age and the fact he was due \$2 million next week and was going to count \$7.5 million toward next

See NFL, page 2B

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# 2006





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<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p><b>Didn't Get Your Paper?</b> Call 263-7335 Mon-Fri. 8am-7pm Sun 8am-noon</p> 	<p><b>Garage Sales</b></p> <p><b>1107 STANFORD</b>, Sat. 10:00. Microwave, nice clothes, home decor., dishes, lots of misc. items.</p> <p><b>FOUR FAMILY Garage Sale:</b> 811 Highland Drive. One Day Only Saturday 8:30-12:00. Furniture, Children and adult clothes, toys, housewares and more.</p> <p><b>GARAGE SALE</b>, Saturday, 8:00-2:00. 1400 Lancaster, Nazarene Church. Lots of everything, furniture, toys.</p> <p><b>GARAGE SALE:</b> 2608 Oasis Road, Saturday 9:00-3:00. Lots of "Stuff" - Ya'll come by.</p> <p><b>INSIDE SALE</b>, 1903 S. Gregg. Thursday 1-5, Friday 10-5 &amp; Saturday 10-2. New scrub tops solid or print \$8.00 each. Scrub pants elastic or drawstring. Lots of misc..</p> <p><b>INSIDE SALE</b>, 702 West 18th. Saturday, March 25th. 8:00 a.m.-? Electric stove, computer, table, children's clothes, odds &amp; ends.</p> <p><b>MOVING SALE</b>, Four Families. Friday, 1:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-? 2706 N. Birdwell Lane. Lots of Treasures, clothes, furniture, tools, stove, china cabinet.</p> <p><b>MOVING SALE:</b> 2007 Runnels, Saturday 8:00-? Clothing, toys and lots of misc. items.</p>	<p><b>Garage Sales</b></p> <p><b>YARD SALE</b>, Saturday, 8AM-2PM. 202 Circle Drive. Boys, girls, adult clothes, toys, books, Beanie Babies, electric stove, Playstation One and much more. Priced to sell.</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted</b></p> <p><b>COOK/CHEF NEEDED:</b> Park-Place Retirement living is a full service retirement community. We're looking for an addition to our team. The position is a guaranteed 40 hours per week, 8 hour shifts, and days may vary. Some cooking experience is preferred, but not required. Must be patient and enjoy working with elderly. Please apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street, Big Spring, Texas.</p> <p><b>DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY.</b> Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt &amp; Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts &amp; needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A &amp; One year driving experience. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.</p> <p><b>ENVELOPE STUFFERS</b> Earn Serious Money Working at Home. Call our 24hrs Hot Line for Details (972)504-2690.</p> <p><b>FULL TIME RN</b> We are looking for caring and dependable RNs to cover the Big Spring, Midland and Odessa Area. We Offer competitive salaries and benefits. Contact Beckie (817)360-4354 or send resume via email to: hinzeb@fms-regional.com. You can also come by our office at 810 N. Dixie Ste 202A, Odessa, Tx to fill out an application, or call (432)335-5699. Sign-On Bonus Available for Qualified Candidates. It is an Honor to serve our patients.</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted</b></p> <p><b>HARD WORKING</b>, dependable Service Tech needed. Must have a valid drivers license. Oil field experience a plus. Call (432)413-5881.</p> <p><b>HIRING FOR 2006! AVERAGE POSTAL EMPLOYEE EARNS \$57,000/YR.</b> Minimum starting pay \$18.00/hr. benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience needed. 1-800-584-1775 ref#P6901.</p> <p><b>IMMEDIATE OPENING</b> for Full-time and Part-time clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.</p> <p><b>LOCAL PERSONAL Assistance</b> Company seeking part-time employee to help with Activities of Daily for elderly. Must work well with little supervision. Flexible hours. Please pick up application at 501 W. 17th. Office is located inside Park Place Retirement.</p> <p><b>PIZZA INN</b> Now Hiring wait Staff Must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted</b></p> <p><b>MARKETING DIRECTOR</b> for Caring Hearts Home Health. If you are self-motivated, outgoing, energetic, and have good time management skills apply at 1510 Scurry, Ste C. Must have good transportation. No experience is necessary.</p> <p><b>MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health</b> is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff. Must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.</p> <p><b>MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.</b> Tank Cleaners needed. In &amp; out of state travel &amp; work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid &amp; \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage &amp; bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas.</p>
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710 Scurry (432)263-7331

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2006



THURSDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	CFI (64)
6:30	News (CC)	News	Spanish	My Wife-Kids	College Basketball	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Joe McGee	News-Lehr	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET Style	Phil of Future	Kickboxing	SportsCenter	Movie: The Phantom
7:30	Extreme Make-over: Home	Extreme Make-over: Home	Barrera de Amor	70s Show	NCAA Tournament	Tierra de Pasiones	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Updates/Israel	TX Monthly Talk	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	Comancheros	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Jamie Foxx	Movie: High School Musical	Manfredo Jr. vs. Sergio	World	Movie: The Hulk (CC)
8:30	American Inventor	American Inventor	Alborada	The O.C. (CC)	Regional Semi. College	Corazon Part Decisiones	Name Is Earl	Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Strange UFO Stories	15 Movie: River (CC)	UFC Unleashed	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Rip the Runway	Comics	Emperor New	Manfredo Jr. vs. Pemberton	Movie: The Hulk (CC)
9:30	Prisetime (CC)	Prisetime (CC)	Aqui y Ahora	My Wife-Kids	Tournament	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Made in	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	15 Movie: Cahill, United States Marshal	UFC Unleashed	Las Vegas (CC)	In Living Color	Zack & Cody	Quite Frankly	Figure Skating	Movie: The Hulk (CC)
10:30	Ent. Tonight	Ent. Tonight	La Hora de la Risa	Primer Impacto	Regional Semi.	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Made in	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	15 Movie: Cahill, United States Marshal	UFC Unleashed	Las Vegas (CC)	In Living Color	Zack & Cody	Quite Frankly	Figure Skating	Movie: The Hulk (CC)
11:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Primer Impacto	Regional Semi.	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Made in	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	15 Movie: Cahill, United States Marshal	UFC Unleashed	Las Vegas (CC)	In Living Color	Zack & Cody	Quite Frankly	Figure Skating	Movie: The Hulk (CC)
12:30	News (CC)	News (CC)	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Primer Impacto	Regional Semi.	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Made in	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Dive to Bermuda Triangle	15 Movie: Cahill, United States Marshal	UFC Unleashed	Las Vegas (CC)	In Living Color	Zack & Cody	Quite Frankly	Figure Skating	Movie: The Hulk (CC)

DENNIS THE MENACE



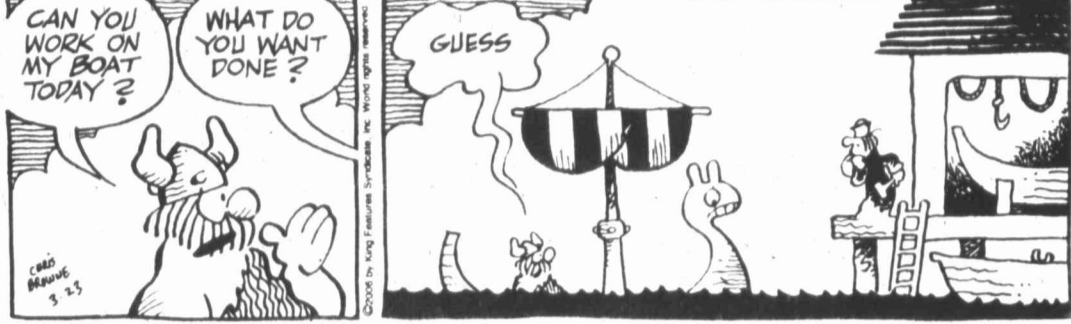
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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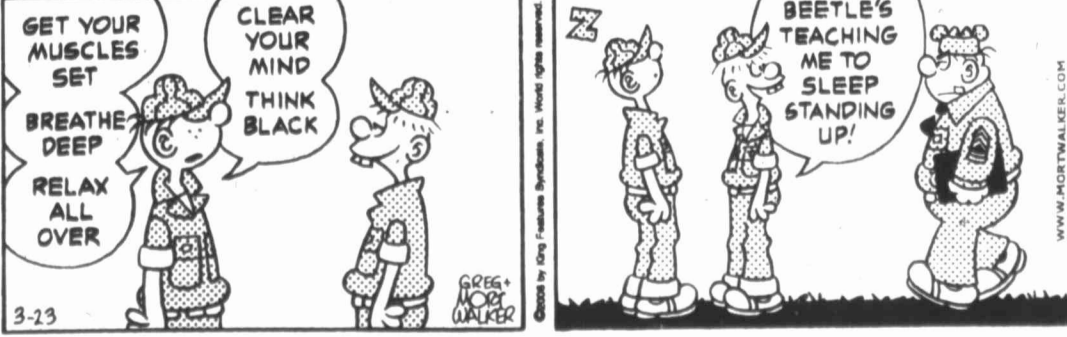
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, March 23, the 82nd day of 2006. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry made his famous call for American independence from Britain, telling the Virginia Provincial Convention, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

On this date:

In 1792, Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 94 in G Major (the "Surprise" symphony) was performed publicly for the first time, in London.

In 1806, 200 years ago, explorers Lewis and Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.

In 1919, Benito Mussolini founded his Fascist political movement in Milan, Italy.

In 1933, the German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial legislative powers.

In 1942, during World War II, the U.S. government began evacuating Japanese-Americans from their West Coast homes to detention centers.

In 1956, 50 years ago, Pakistan became an independent republic within the British Commonwealth.

In 1965, America's first two-person space flight began as Gemini 3 blasted off from Cape Kennedy with astronauts Virgil I. Grissom and John W. Young aboard.

In 1983, President Reagan first proposed developing technology to intercept enemy missiles — a proposal that came to be known as the Strategic Defense Initiative, as well as "Star Wars."

In 1983, Dr. Barney Clark, recipient of a permanent artificial heart, died at the University of Utah Medical Center after 112 days with the device.

In 2003, a U.S. Army maintenance convoy was ambushed in Iraq; 11 soldiers were killed, seven were captured, including Pvt. 1st Class Jessica Lynch, who was rescued on April 1.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Marty Allen is 81. Movie director Mark Rydell

is 72. Singer-producer Ric Ocasek is 57. Singer Chaka Khan is 53. Actress Amanda Plummer is 49. Actress Hope Davis is 42. Comedian John Pinette is 42. Actor Richard Grieco is 41. Country musician Kevin Griffin (Yankee Grey) is 41. Rock singer-musician Damon Albarn (Blur) is 38. Actress-singer Melissa Errico is 36. Rock musician John Humphrey (The Nixons) is 36. Actress Keri Russell is 30. Actress Nicholle Tom is 28. Country singer Paul Martin (Marshall Dyllon) is 28.

Thought for Today: "I speak the truth, not so much as I would, but as much as I dare; and I dare a little more, as I grow older." — Michel de Montaigne, French essayist (1533-1592).

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Newsday Crossword

NOISEMAKERS by Doug Peterson  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Moved sneakily
- Emulates Johnny Appleseed
- Stressed out
- Painter Rousseau
- Go cold turkey
- Despicable
- On the highest shelf
- Cold War inits.
- Faces the pitcher
- Exit memorably
- Saloon swingers
- Vocal inflection
- Mal de
- Ambulance attendant, briefly
- Part of a guffaw
- Singer Sumac
- Slender instrument
- Farming word form
- Cruise stopovers
- Baffler
- Kingdom near Fiji
- Clown fish of film
- Long ago
- Authorized CD forerunners
- Speakers' hesitations
- Family man
- Sitarist Shankar

DOWN

- Pet rescue org.
- Handed down punishment
- Timber wolf
- The West Wing actor
- Manilyn's birth name
- Actor Estrada
- Trucker, often
- The Academy Awards, e.g.
- DNA carrier
- Football-field division
- Freight haulers
- Weapons for Junior
- Sends packing
- Genie's bestowal
- Shale layers
- French spa
- Anaheim attraction
- Pouring sound
- "You got it!"
- Smith College graduate
- Antiseptic acid
- "Be prepared," for one
- Hi-tech reading material
- Tournament type
- Condiment with a kick
- Much-visited place
- Stought answers
- Silly Putty holder
- I-80, for one
- Sellout letters
- Divide evenly
- Vitality
- Buccaneers' business
- Script sections
- Responded to reveille
- Venomous reptile
- Superior to
- Folk stories
- Island off Tuscany
- Utah city
- Bus starter
- Yoga accessories
- Relay segment

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