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BIG SPRING

HERALD



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VOLUME 103, NUMBER 75

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2007

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Incumbents begin filing in school elections

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Slowly but surely, people are declaring for area school board elections.

A week into the filing season, a majority of area schools have candidates who filed for school

board elections, although, to date, there are not any contested races on the boards.

Three of five area school districts holding trustee elections in May reported candidate filings as of Tuesday afternoon.

Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan, Stanton and Sands school dis-

tricts are scheduled to hold school board elections May 12. Glasscock County and Grady districts will hold their trustee elections in November.

Big Spring Independent School District's three incumbents facing elections this year have filed their candidacies,

officials said.

Seats currently held by Ricky Robertson (District 6), Mike Dawson (District 5) and Phil Furqueron (District 7) are up for election in BSISD this May. All three positions are for three years.

At-large seats currently held

by Allen McDowell and Tom Bill Kuykendall are up for election in Forsan ISD this May. Both incumbents have filed for re-election, officials said.

Coahoma ISD, which has two at-large seats currently held by

See **FILING**, Page 3A

Neugebauer: We must stay the course in Iraq

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

There might have been a change in Congressional leadership, but Randy Neugebauer wants his constituents to know that little has changed in how they will be represented in Washington.

Neugebauer, who was recently elected to a third term in the U.S. House of Representatives, was in Big Spring Tuesday and told a group of Rotarians that despite a Democratic takeover in the House, folks back home can expect the same representation they've received for the past four years.

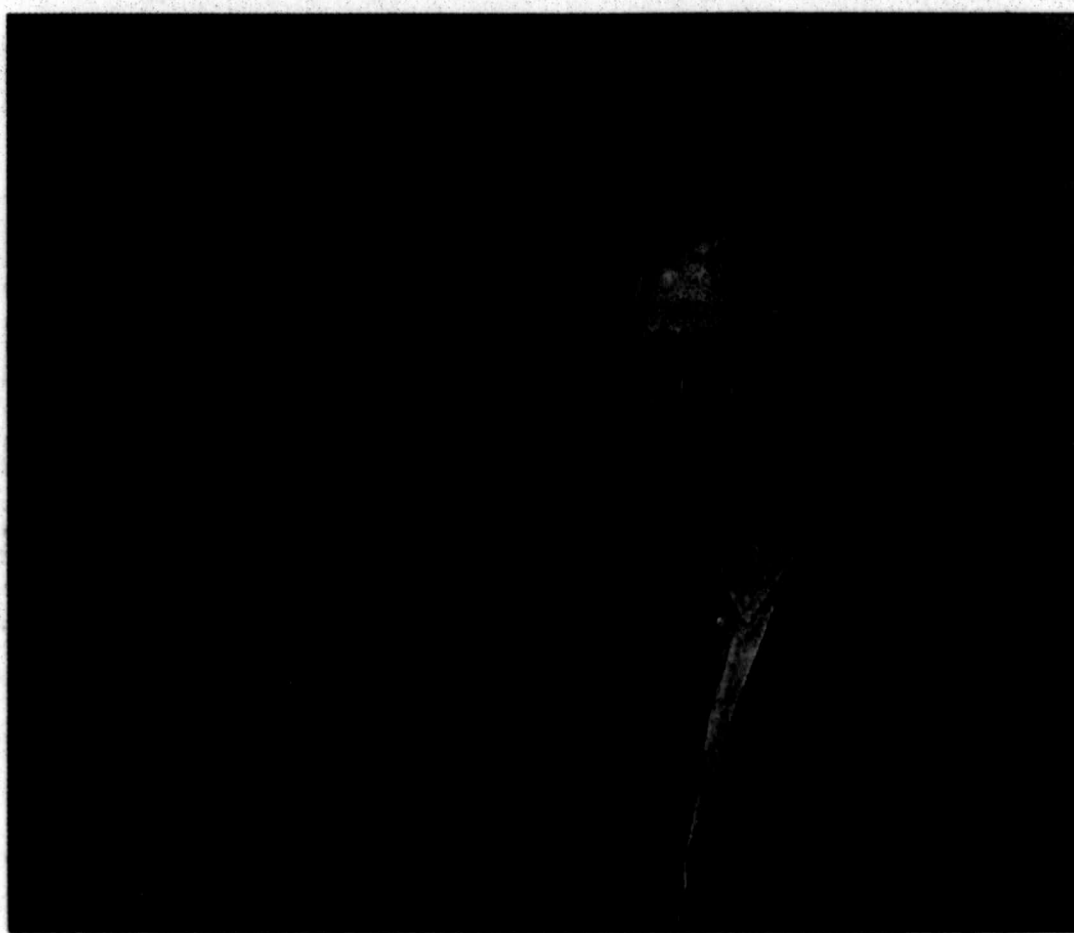
"There may have been a change in the leadership, but I want you to know

"... I want you to know that Randy Neugebauer has not changed. I'm going to support a strong national defense, I'm going to support our veterans and I'm going to support family values."

—U.S. Rep. Neugebauer

that Randy Neugebauer has not changed," he said. "I'm going to support a strong national defense, I'm going to support our veterans and I'm

See **CONGRESS**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
U.S. Representative Randy Neugebauer addresses the Big Spring Rotary Club Tuesday afternoon. Neugebauer spoke on a variety of topics, including the war in Iraq and the need to develop alternative energy resources.

7-Eleven robbed

Police seek male suspect

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department is investigating an aggravated robbery that occurred in the 900 block of Willia during the early morning hours Tuesday.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, the robbery was reported at approximately 2:44 a.m. at the 7-Eleven convenience store located at 902 Willia.

"The clerk informed officers the suspect had pulled a knife and demanded cigarettes," Everett said.

Everett said cigarettes may seem like a trivial item for a stick-up artist to demand, but when the final value is tallied, it's no laughing matter.

"He got out of there with approximately \$300 in cigarettes," said Everett. "With prices what they are today, that's really only a few cartons."

No injuries were reported as a result of the robbery and no arrests have been made, according to Everett.

The suspect is a male, possibly in his 30s. He is approximately 5 feet, 7 inches tall, weighing 130 to 135 pounds, wearing a dark pullover, dark-colored jeans and a white handkerchief on his face.

"Anyone with information on this or any other crime is encouraged to contact the police department at 264-2550," said Everett.

U.K. troops to leave Iraq
Withdrawal plan announced

- 7,100 British troops are currently deployed in southern Iraq
- 1,600 troops to be pulled out within the next few months
- Denmark to withdraw 460 troops under British command

Source: Reuters, BBC
Graphic: John Schell, Earl Park © 2007 BCT

Blair announces withdrawal of some British troops from Iraq

By **DAVID STRINGER**
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Britain will withdraw around 1,600 troops from Iraq in the "coming months," aiming to cut its force to below 5,000 by late summer if Iraqi forces can secure the southern part of the country, Prime Minister Tony Blair said Wednesday.

British troops will stay in Iraq until at least 2008 and work to secure the Iran-Iraq border and maintain supply routes to U.S. and coalition troops in central Iraq, Blair told the House of Commons.

"The actual reduction in forces will be from the present 7,100 — itself down from over 9,000 two

years ago and 40,000 at the time of the conflict — to roughly 5,500," Blair said.

He told lawmakers that "increasingly our role will be support and training, and our numbers will be able to reduce accordingly."

Blair said Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had agreed to the plan.

Dependent on Iraqi capability Britain would draw down further, "possibly to below 5,000" once a base at Basra Palace is transferred to Iraqi control in late summer, Blair said.

"What all of this means is not that Basra is how we want it to be. But it does mean that the next chapter in Basra's history can be

written by Iraqis," Blair said.

Denmark also said Wednesday it will withdraw its 460-member contingent from southern Iraq by August. The decision had been made with the Iraqi government and Britain, under whose command the Danish forces are serving near Basra, Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen said. He added that Denmark would replace the troops with surveillance helicopters and civilian advisers.

And a government spokeswoman in Lithuania said the Baltic nation is "seriously considering" withdrawing its 53 troops from Iraq.

Defense Ministry spokeswoman

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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.

Indicted woman booked into jail

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A Howard County woman accused of trying to kill herself and her 12-year-old daughter was arrested on attempted murder charges Tuesday afternoon following an indictment handed down in 118th District Court late last week.

Callie Jo Nickle, 51, of 1811 S. Nolan, was arrested at approximately 4 p.m. Tuesday, and is accused of trying to kill herself and her 12-year-old daughter by means of an overdose of medication on June 7, 2006.

According to police reports, The two were discovered by Nickle's 24-year-old daughter and were subsequently transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Nickle quickly recovered from the incident, but her daughter had to be transported to a Lubbock hospital, where she remained for some time before recovering.

According to investigators, the 12-year-old has recovered and is currently living with relatives.

Nickle faces a possible prison term of between two and 20 years.

BELL RECEPTION SLATED

The public is invited to meet Michael Bell, new director of the West Texas VA Health Care System between 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. Friday at the Big Spring VA Medical Center.

The reception will be held in Room 219.

Coffee and refreshments will be served during this come-and-go activity which is co-sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

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Obituaries

Hollis L. Puckett



Hollis L. Puckett, 90, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 19, 2007, at his residence. Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Randy Cotton, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Hollis was born June 4, 1916, in Bell County to Houston and Louella Puckett and attended school in Drasco. He married Mildred Gill June 22, 1938, in Winters and they moved to Big Spring. She preceded him in death on Aug. 25, 1996.

He was a member of the Bethel Baptist Church in Luther and was a veteran of World War II. He loved farming, ranching and people. He was a very special person and will be missed by all.

Survivors include his children, Horace Puckett of Austin, and Ocoee Moore and husband, Mike of Big Spring; grandchildren, Robert Houston Puckett and wife, Karilee of Orange, Lyle Moore of Big Spring, and Danene Moore of Lubbock; great-grandchildren, Hunter, Kale and Heston Puckett of Orange, and Autumn Moore of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by a grandson, Trevor Moore; three brothers and three sisters.

Pallbearers will be Gary Radford, Gary Jones, Tommy Wegner, Loyd Underwood, Edward Kennemer and Kenneth Puckett. Honorary pallbearers will be Hollis Kennemer, Joe Blassingame and Sonny Anderson.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the Julie Wennik Scholarship, c/o Big Spring High School, 707 11th Place, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Ruthie Nell Smith

Ruthie Nell Smith, 48, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007, at Mountain View Lodge. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s. Light and variable winds.

Thursday...Increasing clouds. Highs in the mid 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds around 15 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Windy...Cooler. Highs in the mid 60s.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Sunday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

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

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

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

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Take Note

• **NORTH BIRDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** Angelfood Ministry pickup date is Saturday, Feb. 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 2702 N. Birdwell. Doors close at 1 p.m. and all orders not picked up will be donated.

• **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY CHORUS REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN** at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room. The rehearsals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.

• **THE 5TH ANNUAL RELAY RASCAL RAZZMATAZZ** will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 24, in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at KBST and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Entry deadline is today.

• **MY WAY, A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA**, will be held at Howard College's Hall Center for the Arts at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26-27 and 7:30 p.m. March 5-7.

• **MOSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** will host a retirement party for Kaye Clawson from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, in the school's library.

• **THE PET PATROL** helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7 a.m. today:

- **KENNETH MILLHEIM**, 48, transient, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ISSAC RIVERA VASQUEZ**, 24, of Snyder, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **MICHELLE WILLIAMS**, 19, of Snyder, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER** was reported in the 500 block of Goliad.
- **POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 Owens.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1300 block of Fourth Street.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
 - in the 1300 block of Princeton.
 - in the 500 block of Goliad.
- **AGGRAVATED ROBBERY** was reported in the 900 block of Willia.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 49 inmates at the time of this report.
- **LANA RUTH MUNOZ**, 43, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid - enhanced.
 - **LEON JAMES SCROGGINS**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of interfering with an emergency phone call and assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence.
 - **CHANCE HAYS HANSON**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment.
 - **BILLY WAYNE HAYNES**, 30, was transferred to the county jail from Winkler County on a charge of first-degree murder.
 - **LUIS ALBERTO GARFIAS**, 18, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and evading arrest.
 - **CALLIE JO NICKLE**, 51, was arrested by the HCSO Tuesday on a charge of attempted murder.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the area of Wasson Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3800 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$177 million Tuesday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 1, 9, 26, 46, and 51. The Mega Ball number was 11.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 14-23-27-28-35. 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: 7-7-6

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY
• **RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease)**, a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

• **Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA)**, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at 263-0027, ext. 236 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• 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. Call 267-6479.
• Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 221 Main. Meal served. Meeting at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 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 Lane.
• Spring City Senior Citizens 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.

SATURDAY
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
• American Heart Association annual gala, 8 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club. Dining, dancing and an auction. Admission at the door is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple.

MONDAY
• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.
• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Correction

In a recent edition of the Herald, it was reported that the Howard County commissioner's meeting is shown at 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays on local cable channel 17. The meetings are aired at 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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FILING

Continued from Page 1A

Sissy Franklin and Jim White to be contested, had no announced candidates as of Tuesday morning, said Judy Dobbs, administration secretary.

Stanton ISD has two single-member districts to be decided.

Daniel Ramos has filed for the District 1 seat, which is currently open, while Darren Patrick has filed for District 5, currently represented by Terry Shanks. Shanks has not yet filed for re-election, officials said.

There have been no filings at Sands CISD, where at-large seats currently held by Michelle Zant and Stan Blagrove will be decided.

School districts which have no contested races at the end of the filing period can choose to waive the elections. The filing period ends March 13.

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

Music companies target colleges in latest crackdown

By TED BRIDIS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Cracking down on college students, the music industry is sending thousands more complaints to top universities this school year than it did last year as it targets music illegally downloaded over campus computer networks.

A few schools, including Ohio and Purdue universities, already have received more than 1,000 complaints accusing individual students since last fall — significant increases over the past school year. For students who are caught, punishments vary from e-mail warnings to semester-long suspensions from classes.

The trade group for the largest music labels, the Recording Industry Association of America, identified at the request of The Associated Press the 25 universities that received the most copyright complaints it sent so far this school year. The trade

group long has pressured schools to act more aggressively against online pirates on campus.

"It's something we feel we have to do," RIAA President Carey Sherman said. "We have to let people know that if they engage in this activity, they are not anonymous."

The top five schools are Ohio, Purdue, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Tennessee and the University of South Carolina. The RIAA complained about almost 15,000 students at those 25 universities, nearly triple the number for the previous school year.

"They're trying to make a statement," said Randall Hall, who polices computers at Michigan State University, seventh on the list with 753 complaints. Michigan State received 432 such complaints in December alone, when students only attended classes for half the month.

Hall meets personally with

students caught twice and forces them to watch an eight-minute anti-piracy DVD produced by the RIAA. A third-time offender can be suspended for a semester.

"I get the whole spectrum of excuses," Hall said. "The most common answer I get is, 'All my friends are doing this. Why did I get caught?'"

At the University of Massachusetts at Amherst — which received 897 complaints — first- and second-time offenders receive escalating warnings about piracy. After a third complaint, the school unplugs a student's Internet connection and sends the case to a dean for additional punishment.

The music group said each university should set its own penalties for stealing songs and said campuses are rife with such thefts. "When we look at the problem, it's particularly acute in the college context," RIAA chief executive Mitch Bainwol said.

The music group said popular

software programs it has targeted at schools include AresWare, BitTorrent, eDonkey and other programs that operate on the Gnutella and FastTrack services.

Under federal law, universities that receive complaints about students illegally distributing copyrighted songs generally must act to stop repeat offenders or else the schools can be sued. The entertainment industry typically can identify a student only by his or her numerical Internet address and must rely on the school to correlate that information to trace a person's real-world identity.

Some schools aggressively warn students after they receive complaints. Others don't. Purdue, which has received 1,068 complaints so far this year but only 37 in 2006, said it rarely even notifies students accused by the RIAA because it's too much trouble to track down alleged offenders. Purdue said its students aren't repeat offenders.

BRITISH

Continued from Page 1A

Ruta Apeitkyte told The Associated Press that the Baltic country was considering not replacing the contingent when its mission ends in August.

Blair and President Bush talked by secure video link Tuesday about the proposals, U.S. National Security Council spokesman Gordon Johndroe said. Bush views Britain's troop cutbacks as "a sign of success" in Iraq, he said.

"While the United Kingdom is maintaining a robust force in southern Iraq, we're pleased that conditions in Basra have improved sufficiently that they are able to transition more control to the Iraqis," Johndroe said.

Blair said "the situation in Basra is very different from Baghdad — there is no Sunni insurgency, no al-Qaida base, little Sunni on Shia violence," adding that the southern city is nothing like "the challenge of Baghdad."

The Iraqi capital had suffered from an "orgy of terrorism unleashed upon it in order to crush any

Denmark to withdraw its Iraq contingent by August

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Denmark's prime minister said Wednesday that his country will withdraw its 460-member contingent from southern Iraq by August and transfer security responsibilities to Iraqi forces.

Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen said the decision had been made in conjunction with the Iraqi government and Britain, under whose command the Danish forces are serving near Basra.

Fogh Rasmussen said Denmark would replace the troops with surveillance helicopters and civilian advisers to help the Iraqi government's recon-

struction efforts.

"The Danish battalion will be brought home by August," Fogh Rasmussen told reporters in Copenhagen.

"We expect that the Iraqis during 2007 will take over security in southern Iraq."

Denmark would also boost training of Iraqi soldiers and increase support to Iraqi refugees in nearby countries, the prime minister said.

He added that the government was planning to increase its presence in Afghanistan, saying Denmark will deploy "more troops if there's a need for it."

Lithuania 'seriously considering' withdrawing troops from Iraq

VILNIUS, Lithuania (AP) — Lithuania is "seriously considering" withdrawing its 53 troops from Iraq, a government spokeswoman said Wednesday.

Defense Ministry spokeswoman Ruta Apeitkyte told The Associated Press

that the Baltic country was considering not replacing the contingent when its mission ends in August.

It was the first time that Lithuania, a staunch U.S. ally, indicated it would reduce its commitment in Iraq.

possibility of it functioning," he said.

"If Baghdad cannot be secured, the future of the country is in peril. The enemies of Iraq understand that. We understand it," Blair said.

Besides the United States, Britain and Denmark, the major part-

ners in the coalition include South Korea (2,300 troops), Poland (900), Australia and Georgia (both 800) and Romania (600), according to the Brookings Institution.

The U.S., meanwhile, is implementing an increase of 21,000 more troops for

Iraq, mostly in and around the capital. Analysts claim there is little point in boosting forces in the largely Shiite south of Iraq, where most non-U.S. coalition troops are concentrated.

Yet as more countries draw down or pull out, it

could create a security vacuum if radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr stirs up trouble.

A British withdrawal is not likely to have much effect on the stepped-up U.S. operation in Baghdad or the war against the Sunni-led insurgency focusing on Anbar province west of the Iraqi capital.

"We want to bring our troops home as well," Johndroe said. "It's the model we want to emulate, to turn over more responsibilities to Iraqis and bring our troops home. That's the goal and always has been."

Blair, who has said he will step down by September after a decade in power, has seen his foreign-policy record overshadowed by his role as Bush's leading ally in the unpopular war.

As recently as last month, Blair rejected opposition calls to withdraw British troops by October, calling such a plan irresponsible.

"That would send the most disastrous signal to the people that we are

fighting in Iraq. It's a policy that, whatever its superficial attractions may be, is actually deeply irresponsible," Blair said on Jan. 24.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Mildred Raye "Nema" Gamble, 79, died Sunday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Morgan Marion, 82, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Saturday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Dennis E. Black, 63, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Friday. The family will receive friends from 6:30 until 8:30 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ruthie Nell Smith, 48, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

CONGRESS

Continued from Page 1A

going to support family values."

Iraq and energy were the two major themes covered in Neugebauer's address Tuesday.

The House recently passed a non-binding resolution opposing President Bush's Iraq strategy, an action Neugebauer opposed.

"It was harmful in every respect to our nation," he said. "(The resolution) was not in our best national interest, but to throw rocks at our president."

He said a reversal of policy in Iraq would be disastrous in that it would dishearten America's allies and embolden its enemies.

"Nobody likes the war in Iraq. Nobody likes the fact that young men are

fighting and dying in Iraq," Neugebauer said. "But this is a time for Americans to be united and come together, so our soldiers aren't looking over their shoulders, wondering if Congress and this country is behind them."

On the energy front, Neugebauer said he strongly supports research into a variety of alternative energy sources, including wind, biodiesel, nuclear, ethanol and other sources, as well as increasing efforts to expand efforts in the oil and gas sector.

"I can't think of another area as energy-diverse as my district," he said. "I think West Texas is once again going to be a dominant energy producer, just in a different way than it was 20 to 30 years ago."

Neugebauer said this

country desperately needs to wean itself of the need for foreign oil.

"We are woefully lagging behind in our goal of becoming less energy dependent," he said. "One of the greatest security risks we face is that we depend on other people to keep our country going... we have got to start producing our own energy

resources."

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

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February 21, 2007

Readings and Ashes

Big Spring State Hospital	9:30 AM
VA Medical Center	11:00 AM
Immaculate Heart of Mary	12:15 AM
Immaculate Heart of Mary	5:00 P.M.
Mass	
Immaculate Heart of Mary	7:00 P.M.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

AHA gala offers a very good time for a good cause

Need to get away from the grind for a few days? How about a trip to the Dallas-Fort Worth area for a PGA Tour event or maybe a weekend in Ruidoso? Well, if that sounds good, the Big Spring chapter of the American Heart Association may have just what you're looking for.

The local AHA chapter is holding its annual gala Saturday at the Big Spring Country Club and everyone is invited.

The gala, set for an 8 p.m. start, is an opportunity to "win and dine" with friends, dance to Los Gringos and bid on an array of auction items.

Two of the top items up for bid during the auction are passes to the Byron Nelson Golf Tournament and a two-night, three-day trip to Ruidoso, N.M.

The event is sponsored by Scenic Mountain Medical Center with key help from State National Bank, Alon USA, Parkplace Retirement/Parkview Nursing, H-E-B, Partee Drilling Inc., the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, St. Jude, Wells Fargo, Dr. Manish Shroff, Home Realtors and Dr. Rudy Haddad.

Admission is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple with all proceeds benefiting the American Heart Association. Tickets will be available at the door.

Funds raised from the evening event go to help with the Heart Association's research programs, as well as educational efforts to prevent heart attack and stroke.

To our way of thinking, that's a cause absolutely no one could disagree with.

For more information or to make reservations for the party, contact Brenda Thomas by calling 213-0918 or Vicki Cole at 213-1112.

So, block off Saturday night on your calendar, get your partner and a few of your friends together and head on out to the country club.

The way we see it, you'll be doing yourself and lots of other folks a lot of good.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You acknowledge and love us, Lord, may we acknowledge and love You.

Amen

Immigrant bigots cause indigestion

When your mail is filled with hatred and vicious remarks from xenophobic native-born Americans who are inexplicably offended by your calls for compassion for illegal immigrants, somehow you get used to it. You accept the fact that intolerance is prevalent in this "nation of immigrants."

But when those remarks come from foreign-born Americans, immigrants who want to deny other immigrants the opportunities they had when they came to this country, you can't help it — you get indigestion. At least I do. They make me want to puke.

The moment they arrive here, they want to shut the door for everyone else. And if they came legally, these immigrant bigots act as if somehow they are superior to other immigrants who came without papers.

Take the two Cuban-American women who used numerous obscenities in an e-mail recently. They heard me on TV, advocating a legalization plan for illegal immigrants. And, since these "ladies" came here legally, they had to express their superiority.

On CNN, I was discussing a controversial comment by White House adviser Karl Rove, who explained the Bush administration's support for a guest-worker program by saying, "I don't want my 17-year-old son to have to pick tomatoes or to make beds in Las Vegas."

I argued that Rove was only recognizing that many immigrants — legal and illegal — do the work that many Americans don't want to do. I explained that Rove's comment struck a special chord with me, since my own relatives came here legally and my mother once

made beds in Miami Beach hotels and my grandmother worked at a tomato farm in Florida.

I used that opportunity to express my gratitude for the sacrifices my deceased relatives made so that I could get an education. But these two vipers used my comments as an opportunity to release their venom.

"Until today, we believed that you were Mexican," they wrote. "You do not know the shame that we feel, to have known that your mother and grandmother were Cubans. Why don't you go to Mexico, if you like the Mexicans so much?"

So here's more shame for them: I'm Cuban, too — born and raised — except I'm not the kind of Cuban who looks down on other Latinos. Unfortunately, although these warped attitudes are rare among Cuban-Americans, those who express them give all Cubans a terrible image. They are the reason why other Latinos often see Cuban-Americans as elitists and racists.

"You are not Cuban, you are ... a liar, saying that those damned illegals do the work that the Americans do not do," they wrote. "Those damned illegals are everywhere, not picking tomatoes and lettuce, as you say."

But their problem is not only with illegal immigrants. Since they came from Cuba in the 1960s, they think they are better than other Cubans who came later.

"We Cubans, had (to go through) a very long process to leave Cuba," they wrote. "I say, the Cubans that came in the '60s. The real Cubans came here legally, we did not jump any fence, we did not swim any river."

Neither did I. I also came legally, on an airplane, in the 1960s, and it doesn't make me better than any other immigrant.

But there are many other Cubans who, since the 1960s, have been coming here on rafts, without legal papers, and have been

able to stay — thanks to the compassion and generosity that has not been offered to other undocumented immigrants.

Of course these two "ladies" don't recognize that.

In fact, using language even stronger than that of the most extremist American bigots, they wish death for their fellow Cubans who are coming on rafts.

"Those are not Cubans," they wrote, "nobody is persecuting them in Cuba. And we are glad when they (U.S. authorities) intercept them and return them to Cuba, and also when they drown at sea."

Is that sick or what?

What about the children who drown on their way here — do they deserve to die too? And if these rafters are no longer persecuted in Cuba, why don't these "ladies" return to Fidel Castro's Communist paradise?

While some Cuban rafters are economic refugees, surely most of them are fleeing to escape political persecution — just like the Cubans who came in the 1960s.

The e-mail is so coarse and vicious that several sentences simply cannot be quoted. They suggest that I defend Mexicans because I must be part of a ring of smugglers bringing drugs across the Mexican border. They say that Mexicans will never get legal papers, unless it's toilet paper. They even make an unsavory remark about my dead mother.

And yet these two vulgar vipers consider themselves superior to the millions of decent illegal immigrants who humbly toil as the hardest working and most exploited people in the United States.

They say they felt shame upon discovering my Cuban heritage. I know that feeling.

That's precisely how I feel about them.

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MIGUEL PEREZ



SO FAR, I'VE FISHED OUT THE REMAINS OF TWO KORANS, ONE BILL OF RIGHTS, A GENEVA CONVENTION, A HABEAS CORPUS... YOU GUYS EVER HEARD OF TOILET PAPER?

Some Irish fun with the language

I ran across this quotation the other day: "That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it." That's on the back cover of *A Browser's Book of Texas Quotations* compiled by Steven Jent. The quote is credited to a congressional candidate.

Politicians and lawyers are forever letting loose with some uncanny combinations of English words. There is a name for those ponderous flights of prose. They are called Irish bulls. The definition is "a verbal blunder which seems to make sense but after a moment's reflection is seen to be wildly illogical."

An 18th century Irish parliamentarian, Sir Boyle Roche, reportedly inspired the term. He once said,

"The cup of Ireland's misfortune has been overflowing for centuries, and is not full yet."

In one of his orations, Sir Boyle stated, "All along the untrodden path of the future, I can see the footprints of an unseen hand."

My favorite: "Why should we put ourselves out of our way to do anything for posterity? What has posterity done for us?"

In 1968, during the riotous Democratic convention in Chicago, Mayor Daley told the press that the police were not there to create disorder but to preserve disorder.

Movie mogul Sam Goldwyn was a prolific breeder of Irish bulls: "A verbal contract is not worth the paper it's printed on," and "anybody who goes to a psychiatrist should have his head examined," and "I'm living beyond my means but I can afford it," and "if I could drop dead right now I'd be the happiest man alive," and "we're overpaying him but he's worth it," and "I never liked him and I

always will."

An ex-governor of Arkansas, Frank White, once said, "a proposal would open a whole box of Pandoras."

Yogi Berra: "Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours."

One day a young Irishman told his uncle that he had begun studying for the ministry. The uncle replied, "I hope that I may live to hear you preach at my funeral."

These jarring and amusing absurdities are created by hastiness or lack of attention to speech or writing. Webster defines an Irish bull as an incongruous statement and gives this example: "It was hereditary in his family to have no children."

Other random Irish bulls: "A lot of people in the empty pews are watching the game. According to my best recollection I don't remember. At first, I had second thoughts. Be quiet and yell. An Irishman is never at peace unless he's fighting."



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News in brief

Former New Deal Police chief indicted

LUBBOCK (AP) — A former New Deal police chief accused of using a city credit card for personal expenses and stealing water from the city was indicted Tuesday.

Sam Butler, 43, was charged with four counts of credit card abuse, one count of aggravated perjury, one count of theft and one count of theft by a public servant.

Each credit card abuse charge carries a maximum penalty of two years in jail. The other charges have maximum prison sentences of 10 years.

Butler is accused in the indictment returned by the Lubbock County grand jury of using a city credit card to purchase personal medication, making a false workman's compensation claim and stealing water from a city water for years, court records show. The crimes are alleged to have happened between 2004 and 2007, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported in a story for its Wednesday editions.

The New Deal City Council fired Butler in December, after 16 years of service.

New Deal is about 11 miles north of Lubbock.

Lubbock man accused of terrorizing cyclists

LUBBOCK (AP) — A Lubbock man who claims he was trying to protect the environment stands accused of terrorizing cyclists by stringing wire between two trees on a mountain biking trail.

A Lubbock County grand jury indicted David G. Knappe, 62, on Tuesday on one count of attempted aggravated assault with a weapon and one count of attempted aggravated assault with intent to cause serious bodily injury.

Investigators say Knappe strung a wire between two trees at Canyon Lake No. 6 in eastern Lubbock with the intent of hurting passing cyclists.

Riders who use the trails say they have seen traps there for at least a year, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported in a story for its Wednesday editions.

Cyclist Dewayne Wallace said he has seen bottles, nails, and large rocks pushed into the trail and had been watching for the person responsible for about six months. Wallace said he reported Knappe to police on Nov. 6 when he saw him stringing wire.

Knappe told investigators he was trying to protect the environment.

DNA test confirms wrong brother was imprisoned for rape

CONROE (AP) — Recent DNA tests confirmed that a Conroe man sexually assaulted a 13-year-old girl in 1986 — the crime for which his innocent older brother spent 18 years behind bars.

Marc Brumberger, Montgomery County assistant district attorney, said the statute of limitations has expired and it's too late to try Charles Mumphrey, 36, for the sex assault in Conroe, about 40 miles north of Houston.

"It's a closed case," Brumberger said. "Unfortunately justice was not served for any brother."

Charles Mumphrey's brother, 43-year-old Arthur Mumphrey, was released from prison last year based on DNA evidence that cleared him of the crime. He was pardoned by Gov. Rick Perry and awarded \$450,000 in restitution from the state.

DNA test results released last week showed Charles Mumphrey committed the crime, as he had already told an investigator last year.

On Tuesday, Charles Mumphrey apologized to the victim, her family and his older brother.

"I'm really sorry for what happened to the girl and I apologize to her and her family," he said. "I have two daughters myself. If I could ever replay that night, it would have never happened."

Charles Mumphrey said he's been conflicted for the past 20 years over his brother's wrongful conviction. He hopes his brother will eventually forgive him.

"It was like a cancer eating me up," he said. "I cried many times about it. I thank God he's home."

Charles Mumphrey, who was 14 at the time of the assault, said he was drinking wine and smoking marijuana near the railroad tracks when he joined Steve Thomas, an older teenager, in sexually assaulting the girl at knifepoint.

Thomas agreed to a plea and received a 15-year sentence for testifying against Arthur Mumphrey.

Charles Mumphrey said he told police what he had done shortly after the crime occurred.

But he claimed the police were more interested in arresting his brother and accused him of making up the story to cover for his brother.

Police have said Charles Mumphrey recanted his story.

Ag officials levy fines in deaths of 27 horses

AUSTIN (AP) — State agriculture officials said Tuesday they have fined two men who violated state pesticide laws last summer at an equestrian facility where 27 horses died.

Necropsies suggested the horses ate toxic feed in July at Carousel Acres Equestrian Center and Stable in College Station.

Brad Raphael, co-owner of the stable, was fined \$4,000 related to five violations in applying a restricted-use pesticide in July, the Texas Department of Agriculture said in a release. Each violation brings a \$1,000 fine but the cap for a single incident is \$4,000.

According to the release, Raphael used the pesticide

without a license, without the direct supervision of a licensed applicator and in a manner inconsistent with the product's label.

He also received a warning for failing to notify employees before fumigating the horse feed.

Raphael and Walter Cronin, the other man fined, each declined to comment Tuesday.

Cronin, who said he was a friend of Raphael's, was fined \$1,000 for failing to properly supervise the use of a restricted-use pesticide, according to the release. He also received a warning for failing to maintain records for the first time the pesticide was applied.

Dr. H. Richard Adams, dean of the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine, said shortly after the deaths that three of the animals' stomach cavities contained phosphine gas — a product of a fumigant that is released from the pesticide tablets, which are designed to kill weevils in horse feed.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Healing power of pets

Although the therapeutic effect that animals have on people is well documented, many say it is the pure, unadulterated love between a human being and an animal that works the most wonders. Plus, the Gospel Chicken House and creamy white chili.

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Judge blocks Perry's coal plant permit order

By KELLEY SHANNON

Associated Press Writer
AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry's executive order fast-tracking the permitting process for coal-fired plants is not binding on state hearing administrators, who must reconsider environmentalists' requests for a hearing delay, a judge says.

Judge Stephen Yelenosky listened to arguments in state district court Tuesday then agreed with citizen environmental groups who claimed Perry didn't have the constitutional authority to issue his fast-track order in October 2005.

A major permitting hearing for six coal plants was set for Wednesday in Austin.

Yelenosky's temporary injunction did not cancel the hearing, but he said administrative judges should reconsider the schedule.

"What he's saying (to administrative hearing judges) is the executive order does not tie your hands."

"It is without merit. You are now free to make your own decisions," said plaintiffs' attorney Jim Blackburn.

Lawyers for citizen groups argued before Yelenosky that Texas and Oklahoma residents opposed to the coal plants were at a disadvantage because there hadn't been enough time to prepare for the high-stakes permit hearing.

The Texas Attorney General's Office, which represented Perry in the case, referred all comments on the judge's ruling to the governor's office.

"No one should be surprised that a single liberal Austin judge would rule against Gov. Perry and his efforts to increase energy capacity in Texas," spokesman Robert Black said. "We will take a close look at the ruling and make a determination on how we will proceed."

At issue is Dallas-based TXU Corp.'s proposal to build six coal-fired plants in North, East and Central Texas.

"We're obviously disappointed in this decision," TXU spokeswoman Kim Morgan said. "Every day of delay means that meeting the goal of providing newer, cleaner power generation is denied."

TXU contends the coal plants will lower utility costs and help provide needed power supplies for the future. The hearing should be held and the plants should be built, Morgan said, or the state will move closer "to the potential of widespread rolling blackouts."

Unless action is taken now the electricity supplies in Texas will fall below reliable levels by 2009, she said.

Plaintiffs' attorneys said the Texas governorship is intentionally weak under the Texas Constitution and that Perry's executive order interferes with the legislative branch.

"The governor is doing something that he has no power to do," said attorney David Kahne, representing Citizens Organizing for Resources and Environment, known as CORE, along with other plaintiffs.

The Legislature set up the State Office of Administrative Hearings as an independent forum

for contested cases, and the governor doesn't have the authority to direct the way it holds its hearings, Kahne told the judge Tuesday.

State attorneys said the plaintiffs failed to show how they would be irreparably harmed by the upcoming environmental hearings.

"There is no injury based on this purported accelerated schedule" of hearings, said Shelley Dahlberg, an attorney for the state. She said the citizen groups don't have legal standing to make the argument that they've been harmed at this point, though they might after the hearings, depending on the outcome.

But Yelenosky disagreed and found that the plaintiffs did have standing.

A number of Texas cities and citizen groups oppose the plants.

"We're actually in the ring of fire," said Robert Cervenka, a rancher in McLennan County who lives amid proposed coal plant sites.

Outside the courtroom Tuesday, he said he and his wife worry that the proposed plants would hurt the air quality for animals and people.

Katrina Baecht, whose family farm is six miles from the site of a proposed plant in Fannin County near the Oklahoma border, said she also worries about air pollution if the coal plants are built.

"I'm concerned about what it's going to do to the health of the area where I was born and raised," she said, "and I want to leave a better legacy behind."

Group open to death penalty for the worst sex offenders

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) - A victim's advocacy group that has opposed the death penalty for second-time violent child molesters is softening its stance, saying it would likely be a rare situation and left up to a prosecutor to decide.

The Texas Association Against Sexual Assault had opposed the death penalty provision of "Jessica's Laws" bills filed in the House and Senate. A House committee scheduled a public hearing on its version Tuesday night.

Because child sex victims are often the only witness to the crime, the group worried it could lead offenders to kill the child to silence the witness.

But after discussions with the bills' sponsors, the group has been assured the death penalty would be an option for the worst cases and not mandatory for all repeat offenders, a spokeswoman

said.

"It doesn't completely resolve the concern," said Torie Camp, deputy director for the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault.


"It would be an unusual case," she said. "That would be the rare circumstance where the death penalty option is used."

Shannon Edmonds, spokesman for the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, would not speculate how often prosecutors would seek the death penalty against repeat sex offenders.

But he noted Louisiana has had a similar law for years with only one offender sent to death row.

"They're not afraid to use the death penalty over there, but so far, it's only been one case," Edmonds said.

Legal experts question whether the death penalty is constitutional in cases where the victim was not killed.


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News in brief

Suicide blast kills 11 people in the Shiite holy city of Najaf

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide car bomber struck a police checkpoint Wednesday in the Shiite holy city of Najaf, killing 11 people in the spiritual heartland of the militia factions led by radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

In Baghdad, political tremors grew following claims that a Sunni woman was raped while in custody of the Shiite-dominated police — a case that threatens to escalate the sectarian friction that drives many of the bombings and attacks across the country.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki fired the head of the influential Sunni Endowment after the official called for an international investigation into the rape allegations.

The Najaf blast hit while streets were filled with morning shoppers. At least two of the victims were police and the rest civilians, authorities said. It was the first major bombing in months in the city, which is heavily guarded by police and al-Sadr's powerful Mahdi Army militia.

On Aug. 10, a suicide attack near the Imam Ali mosque killed at least 35 people and wounded more than 100.

U.N. nuclear watchdog prepares report that could trigger further U.N. sanctions

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The U.N. nuclear watchdog on Wednesday put finishing touches on a report expected to confirm that Iran continues uranium enrichment activities, a finding that could trigger harsher U.N. Security Council sanctions against Tehran.

Officials at the International Atomic Energy Agency said the report by Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the Vienna-based IAEA, would likely say that Iran has expanded enrichment efforts instead of freezing them.

Once it is ready — likely Wednesday but possibly Thursday — the report will be sent to the agency's 35-nation board and to the Security Council. The council set a 60-day deadline on Dec. 23 for such a freeze and said continued Iranian defiance past that ultimatum, which runs out Wednesday, could lead to sanctions additional to those it imposed last month.

On Tuesday, the eve of the expiry of the deadline, top Iranian officials showed no signs of compromise. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, speaking to a

crowd of thousands in Iran, said his country was ready to stop its enrichment program, but only if Western nations do the same — something the United States and others with similar programs are unlikely to even consider.

Rice, Abbas to hold meetings on Palestinian power-sharing pact with Hamas

BERLIN (AP) — World powers sought common ground Wednesday to confront Palestinian Hamas militants who are politically emboldened by a new power-sharing pact with moderates.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas were scheduled to hold separate meetings in Berlin on the pact he made with Hamas. The deal, although not final, falls far short of international demands that Hamas drop its signature anti-Israeli policies. Hamas has refused to bend despite a boycott of vital international aid.

Diplomats from the United States, Europe, Russia, and the United Nations were conferring Wednesday on the changed circumstances since Abbas announced the agreement two weeks ago. The group, known collectively as the Quartet, are stewards of a mothballed 2003 peace plan that would eventually establish an independent Palestinian state.

Rice planned to brief foreign ministers from the group about her meeting Monday with Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. The United States pointed to positive momentum from the talks, the first of their kind in six years.

Weary residents join with rowdy visitors at New Orleans' Mardi Gras

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Thousands of hurricane-weary residents joined with rowdy visitors for Fat Tuesday, taking a break from rebuilding New Orleans to put on wild costumes and celebrate the second Mardi Gras since Hurricane Katrina.

John Ferguson, who is still rebuilding his house almost 18 months after the storm, said of the celebration: "We never needed it more."

"I work all day at my job; then I work all night and all weekend on my house," Ferguson said. "I just want to eat, drink and have fun today."

Many spectators spent the day along the parade routes or in the French Quarter, where the first Mardi Gras parade of the day was staged by the 1,250-member

Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, a predominantly black group that wears grass skirts and black face makeup in parody of stereotypes from the early 1900s, when it was founded.

"I'm hyped up," said Ike Williams, a 42-year-old Atlanta contractor.

Climbers line up against bill that would require them to carry locators on Mount Hood

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Two days after electronic locator units helped rescuers locate three missing climbers on Mount Hood, veteran mountaineers pleaded with state lawmakers not to require them to carry the devices every time they head for the summit.

Some warned Tuesday that requiring locators would foster passivity among climbers who get into trouble and activate the beacons.

"They will wait for a rescue, and not do enough to rescue themselves," said Leslie Brown, a spokeswoman for Access Fund, a national mountaineering group.

Another said nothing can replace basic common sense when it comes to keeping people safe, and requiring electronic beacons would not be a "panacea."

"Pulling the cord (on a locator unit) doesn't turn the sky black with helicopters coming to pick you up," said Scott Russell, a veteran of numerous search-and-rescue operations. "Self-reliance and knowledge are what's going to keep you alive on the mountain."

Court upholds Bush anti-terror law

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a victory for President Bush, a divided federal appeals court ruled Tuesday that Guantanamo Bay detainees cannot use the U.S. court system to challenge their indefinite imprisonment. A Supreme Court appeal was promised.

The 2-1 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit dismisses hundreds of cases filed by foreign-born detainees in federal court and also threatens to strip away court access to millions of lawful permanent residents currently in the United States.

It upholds a key provision of the Military Commissions Act, which Bush pushed through Congress last year to set up a Defense Department system to prosecute terrorism suspects. Now, detainees must prove to three-officer military panels that they don't pose a terror threat.

Odds and Ends

NORTH LOGAN, Utah (AP) — A University of Southern California hockey goalie put on a show, but it had nothing to do with stopping shots. Mickey Meyer rode his stick like a horse, dropped his bulky pants, mooned the crowd and slapped his buttocks during a game against Brigham Young University, police said.

He was ejected and ticketed for lewdness, a misdemeanor, after an officer who was working security at the rink said he witnessed the scene Saturday.

"I had my fill of these refs," Meyer said on an Internet broadcast of the game, according to The Herald-Journal of Logan.

It will be up to prosecutors whether to pursue a case against him.

"This is a small town," North Park police Sgt. John Itasano said. "This was a college team playing and hockey's a wild game."

"Sometimes things get out of hand."

Meyer's antics occurred while play was stopped and referees were trying to sort out penalties in the third period of a consolation game in the ACHA West Regional tournament at Eccles Ice Center.

The junior from Clinton, N.Y., was "riding his hockey stick like a horse and slapping his butt," North Park Officer Mike Stauffer said in a report.

After pulling down his pants, Meyer slapped his bare bottom several times, Stauffer said.

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IN BRIEF

Basketball playoffs here for area teams

Boys:
In Class 2A action the Coahoma Bulldogs received a bye for being district champions.

The Bulldogs will play the winner of the Brady vs. Van Horn game scheduled for tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Crane.

In Class 1A Division I, Forsan will play Iraan at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Junell Center in San Angelo.

In Class 1A Division II action the Garden City Bearkats will face Ira Thursday at 7 p.m. in Lamesa.

Girls:
Garden City will play Westbrook tonight at 8 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Lady Bearkats defeated Buena Vista in their first playoff game, 58-36.

Howard Hawks athletic schedule

The Howard College women's basketball team will return to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Thursday, when they host New Mexico Junior College.

The women's game is scheduled for 6 p.m.

The men's team will face New Mexico Junior College at 8 p.m. at the Coliseum.

The women's softball team will begin conference play at home when they host Midland College, Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Hawks fundraiser has been set

Tuesday, Feb. 27, the Howard College Rodeo team will conduct a Cow Pattie Bingo fundraiser.

The event will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the east grounds of the Student Union Building and all squares are \$ 10. Tickets are now available.

For more information contact Coach Greg Kernick at 816-9477.

Big Spring girl's softball registration

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association will be holding sign-ups to register for the upcoming 2007 season.

Females from ages 4 to 7 (as of Jan. 1st) are eligible to participate in the league.

Sign-ups will be held each Saturday, beginning Feb. 24th, through March 17th at the Big Spring mall.

The registration fee is \$40 and there is a discount for the second child. This fee will cover all uniforms.

A division for boys between 4 and 6 years old will be available this season.

For more information contact Ron Shaler at 313-3747.

Woods faces a huge hurdle at Match Play



Tiger Woods makes a face as he misses a putt this season. This weekend Woods will be playing for his eighth straight tour victory in the Accenture Match Play Championship.

Tiger seeking 8 wins in a row

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

MARANA, Ariz. — Tiger Woods has compiled some amazing numbers during the longest PGA Tour winning streak in 62 years. He has won those seven tournaments by a combined 22 shots, is 109 under par and has posted 24 of his last 28 rounds in the 60s.

The math is much more simple at the Accenture Match Play Championship.

To make it eight in a row, he has to win six in a row.

"This has always been one of the tougher events to win just because of the nature of the format," Woods, the No. 1 seed, said Tuesday. "Match play, anything that happens is unpredictable. Sometimes, it takes a great round to advance. Sometimes, you can shoot over par and advance. All I know is you have to beat one guy at a time. You don't have to beat a whole field. Just six guys."

The 64-man field assembled in the high desert of The Gallery Golf Club represents the best in the world from 17 countries. The only guy Woods cares about Wednesday is Ryder Cup teammate J.J. Henry, his first opponent.

How fickle is this tour-

nament?

Woods won in 2004 during his worst season on tour, when he went through another overhaul of his swing. He was in top form two years earlier, winning the Masters and U.S. Open, yet he couldn't get past Peter O'Malley in the first round of the Accenture.

"You can shoot 65 and lose. You can shoot 73 and win," Henry said. "You never know what you're going to get. Of course, I know if I play Tiger and shoot 73, I might as well pack my bags."

Henry is fortunate to even be in the field.

He was expecting to be the first alternate until Charl Schwartzel of South Africa decided to withdraw on Sunday and play at home in Telkom PGA Championship on the Sunshine Tour, where he has a chance to win the Order of Merit.

Jim Furyk is the No. 2 seed and will play Brett Quigley. Third-seeded Adam Scott faces Shaun Micheel, and Phil Mickelson has the No. 4 seed and will play fellow lefty Richard Green of Australia.

The most compelling matches feature Ryder Cup teammates — Sergio Garcia against Darren Clarke in one match, Padraig Harrington against Lee Westwood in another. And in a

See TIGER, Page 2B

Stars lose shoot out to Wild

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — When the Minnesota Wild and Dallas Stars get together, 65 minutes is rarely enough.

The teams went to shootout for the third time in four games this season, with Minnesota earning the 2-1 victory on Tuesday night to avoid a sweep by the Stars and climb within two points of sixth-place Dallas in the Western Conference.

Wild goalie Niklas Backstrom stopped all three shots he faced in the shootout and Mikko Koivu scored on a backhand to the top right corner to give the Wild its league-leading 10th shootout and 15th overtime victories this season.

"It feels good to beat them," Backstrom said. "The important thing is for the team to know that we can beat these guys. But the biggest thing in all is the points we got."

Minnesota, which ended its longest winless streak against any team after going 0-3-3 in its last six contests with Dallas, outshot the Stars 39-24 —

including 16-6 in the second period.

Marty Turco, who has been battling the flu, took the loss for Dallas despite 38 saves in regulation and overtime, while Backstrom earned his first win against the Stars this season after going 0-1-2 in the previous three contests. Turco had not faced as many as 39 shots since October 15 at Anaheim.

"I felt focused despite being a quart down," Turco said. "But it's not an issue. I've played through a lot worse."

After a scoreless first period and several good scoring chances for both sides, Minnesota's first goal was set up by Marion Gaborik and Demitra — who combined for 15 goals and 30 points in the Wild's previous nine games. The countrymen found themselves in a 2-on-1 break and Gaborik missed wide right after getting a late pass from his teammate. But Stars defenseman Philippe Boucher sent the puck sailing into the seats and

earned a 2-minute delay of game minor.

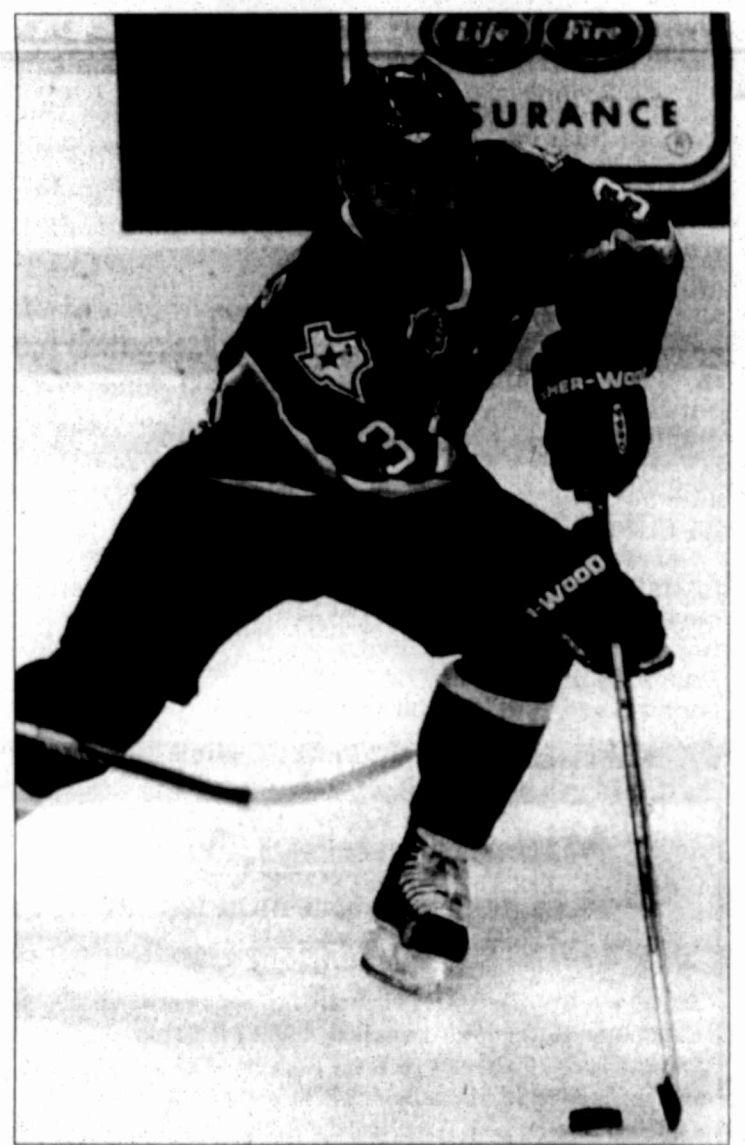
On its third power play of the evening, Minnesota needed only 12 seconds to take advantage of a Turco miscue.

Brian Rolston dumped the puck in and Turco decided to give chase behind the net. Turco was hit from behind by Koivu, who managed to tap the puck away and bounce it in front of the net — where Rolston was waiting to bury his team-leading 26th goal of the season.

"He plays a lot of pucks out there," Dallas coach Dave Tippett said. "When you do have a blip like that everybody talks about it, but for every one of those he has probably 200 times he touches and does a good thing with it."

But Minnesota's lead was short-lived, as Dallas left-winger Niklas Hagman got behind Wild defenseman Kurtis Foster and put what had been a dump-in by Jussi Jokinen

See STARS, Page 2B



Stephane Robidas of the Dallas Stars looks to get a shot off in the 2-1 loss to Minnesota.

Red Raiders gets ripped by No. 19 Longhorns

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — A.J. Abrams scored 18 points and No. 19 Texas stayed in the thick of the Big 12 race with an 80-51 win Tuesday night over Texas Tech.

Kevin Durant added 17 points for the Longhorns (20-7, 10-3), who had all five starters score in double figures but didn't have a 20-point scorer for the first time this season.

The win keeps Texas a half-game behind Texas A&M for second in the Big 12 and a game behind leader Kansas. The Longhorns play both in their last three games.

Alan Voskuil scored nine points to lead the Red Raiders (17-11, 6-7), who shot just 29 percent. Jarius Jackson, who came in averaging 20.7 points, was 2-of-10 for 7 points.

It was the Longhorns' second rout of the Red Raiders at home in the last two seasons. Texas beat Tech by 34 in Austin last season.

This one left Tech coach Bob Knight sitting and stewing on the bench most of the game as the Longhorns built a big early lead and never let the Red Raiders threaten.

Texas is 17-2 against Tech in nine seasons under coach Rick Barnes, who is 12-2 against

Knight, the winningest men's coach in college basketball.

Durant, who scored 30 or more points in six of his first nine Big 12 games, hasn't scored more than 21 in the last four.

Justin Mason provided the Longhorns' scoring punch in the first half, hitting all five of his shots.

Durant, who had 37 points and 23 rebounds in a win over Tech in Lubbock earlier this season, scored his first basket on a steal and dunk and hit two 3-pointers in the first half. All of them came in a 24-8 run that opened up a 37-15 lead.

With Durant drawing Tech

defenders, Mason had all kinds of room to roam to the basket or pull up for open jumpers. Texas shot 58 percent and led 48-26 at halftime.

Durant, who has made a case for national player of the year honors, is finding his shooting touch going through long dry spells as the season wears on. His first shot of the second half was an airball 3-pointer, but he followed it with a lightning-quick spin and 10-foot fade-away jumper.

D.J. Augustin hit a 3-pointer to open the second half and Mason fed Damion James with

See TECH, Page 2B

STARS

Continued from 1B

past a sprawling Backstrom just 39 seconds later. Defenseman Jaroslav Modry was credited with the second assist. "The one mistake we made was in the net," Wild coach Jacques Lemaire said. "They had scoring chances, but they had to create them. The goal

they got, we just gave it to them." But Minnesota maintained momentum — outshooting the Stars 14-7 in the third period and overtime — to keep Dallas off the scoreboard and force the shootout. Koivu's shootout winner came after Turco stopped Pavol Demitra and Brian Rolston, while Backstrom turned away shots by Sergei Zubov, Jussi Jokinen and Mike Ribeiro.

Tech

Continued from 1B

nifty pass for a dunk. Abrams' second 3-pointer made it 62-35 with 12 minutes to play. Durant took over the game late in the second half against the Red Raiders last month but didn't have to do much but watch his teammates score in this one. Texas

kept bombing away from 3-point range, with Durant hitting one and Abrams popping two more to make it 73-40. Defensively, the Longhorns never let Jackson become a factor. He had only one basket in the first half and didn't score in the second until making two free throws when Durant was hit with a technical foul with eight minutes left and Texas leading by 29.

Cowboys name Garrett offensive coordinator

IRVING (AP) — Jason Garrett finally has a title with the Dallas Cowboys nearly a month after being hired to the coaching staff. And it's not a surprise. Garrett was named the offensive coordinator Tuesday for new coach Wade Phillips, who also elevated Tony Sparano to assistant head coach with a contract extension through 2009. Cowboys owner Jerry Jones hired the 40-year-old Garrett to the coaching staff Jan. 25 after interviewing him for the head coaching vacancy. It had been expected since then that Garrett would be the offensive coordinator, even though his only coaching experience was the last two seasons as quarterbacks coach in Miami. "We believe that Jason is one of the bright young offensive minds in the NFL," Phillips said. "He has extensive experience in working with some outstanding offensive coaches through his years of professional football, and he is well prepared for this position." Garrett was the backup to Hall of Fame quarterback Troy Aikman for two Super Bowl titles in Dallas from 1993-99. He later played four seasons

with the New York Giants before splitting 2004 between Tampa Bay and Miami. He played in 40 regular season games, and his only nine starts came with the Cowboys. Sparano, the offensive line coach, shared in play-calling duties for coach Bill Parcells' staff last season. "Tony's past performance with the organization and the respect that he has from our players made this an easy decision," Phillips said. "His contract commitment will provide stability for our staff for a long time, and that was also an important factor in this decision." The Cowboys scored 425 points (26.6 per game) and averaged 361 total yards per game last season, their best since 1995. It was their most productive offense since 1995, when they won the last of their five Super Bowl titles.

Spurs come home to beat Iverson-led Nuggets

By ELIZABETH WHITE

Associated Press Writer SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs were happy to finally play at home again. The Spurs returned home for the first time in more than three weeks on Tuesday night in a 95-80 win over Denver. Tony Parker scored 17 points, Manu Ginobili added 14 and Tim Duncan had 12 during the Spurs' first home game since they went on a lengthy road trip, where they split their eight games. "It was very important to establish not only a win here, but to come home and have a good game," Duncan said. Not even the return of Allen Iverson could boost Denver. Iverson missed nine of the Nuggets' last 10 games before the All-Star break with a right ankle sprain. He scored nine points on Tuesday. "The shots that I took, I know I can hit with my eyes closed," said Iverson, who went 3-of-11 from the field. "Maybe I should have closed them. I took 11 shots, and I thought I got 11 good looks." Iverson said his ankle bothered him on a couple of plays "but for

the most part I was all right. "Usually when I come back from injury, I have my rhythm back. I didn't today," he said. Carmelo Anthony led Denver with 15 points, Nene had 13 and DerMarr Johnson had 11. Anthony and Iverson combined for just 24 points. Their previous low when playing together was 49. "It's going to take some time," said Marcus Camby. "And those guys haven't had a lot of time together." It was the Spurs' third straight win. It was Denver's second loss in a row. "I said all along I'm surprised we haven't already had one of these flat games with all the changes and all the craziness we've had," said Nuggets coach George Karl. "I would have thought we'd have already had one." Playing at home this season hasn't been as good to the Spurs as in the past. They've lost eight at home so far, one more than all of last season. Still, after the road trip, which has brought the team more success in previous years, San Antonio's AT&T Center was a welcome sight. "We've lost too many games in

this building to start the season," Duncan said. "And to come out of the break and continue to win like we did the last two on the road and then win one at home does a lot of good here." After trailing for most of the first, the Spurs took a 25-21 lead into the second quarter. Parker helped them extend the lead scoring 10 of his points in the quarter. San Antonio led 49-38 at the break. The Spurs broke the game open in the third quarter outscoring the Nuggets 30-10. Anthony and Iverson were just a combined 1-for-10 in the quarter as Denver had nine turnovers. The Nuggets ended up with 20 turnovers for 26 points, while San Antonio had nine turnovers for 15 points. The Nuggets rallied in the fourth, but it was too late as the Spurs improved to 36-18 on the season while Denver fell to .500 (26-26). It's back on the road again for the Spurs, who take on the Hawks in Atlanta on Wednesday. The Nuggets play the Utah Jazz in Denver on Friday. "The last thing we want to do is leave home again," Duncan said.

TIGER

Continued from 1B

reminder that anything goes in this event, Geoff Ogilvy plays Steve Stricker in a match of past champions who were seeded No. 55 (Ogilvy) and No. 52 (Stricker) when they won. Woods is a pro at match play, even though most of his success came as an amateur. He learned as a teenager how frustrating this format can be, taking on a kid named James Mohan in the Southern California Junior Match Play. Woods said he shot 69 that day, posted the lower score and got eliminated. "I didn't quite understand that," he said. "I just came home and told Dad, 'I shot a better score than he did, but he won the match. That doesn't seem right.' He explained it to me. We went out the next couple of days and played match play." After that, it was rare when Woods didn't win. He captured three straight U.S. Junior Amateur titles, followed by three straight U.S. Amateurs. His record at the Accenture is 23-5, and his singles record in match play including exhibitions is 36-11-2. Someone once asked

Woods why his record in match play was so much better as an amateur, and his answer was telling. "The field," he replied. Jack Nicklaus believes Woods' amateur record is what has carried him to 53 stroke-play titles, including 12 majors. "Each day is a tournament in match play," Nicklaus said. "And you've got to finish that day if you want to go to the next day." Nicklaus also is proud of his match play record. The only match he says he lost in 1959 was the quarterfinals of the British Masters. He lost two matches in 1960, and only one in 1961. "As a result, I was a lot tougher when I got to the tour and got to medal play," Nicklaus said. "When I had to finish a tournament, I was able to finish it. Tiger's record as an amateur was fantastic. He knew how to finish as a kid, and when he got here, he didn't have to go through that. Absolutely, that was no coincidence." For all the lore over Woods' record in match play, he might be tougher to beat over 72 holes of stroke play. Furyk was asked whether he would rather face Woods in an 18-hole match or 18 holes of stroke play. "I guess the point there would be it's not really a

good scenario either thought, he chose match play because "it's a little bit more volatile." After some more bit more volatile."

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Delicate Art of Defense

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ J 5 3
♥ K 7 4
♦ K 10 9 8 5
♠ 10 4

WEST
♦ 9 7 6 2
♥ J 10 9 8 3
♦ 6 4 2
♠ 3

EAST
♦ A 10 4
♥ 5 2
♦ A Q 7
♠ Q J 9 8 7

SOUTH
♦ K Q 8
♥ A Q 6
♦ J 3
♠ A K 6 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Pass 1♦ Pass
2NT Pass 3NT
Opening lead — jack of hearts.

There are players who spend so much time memorizing complicated bidding conventions, or trying to master squeezes and other advanced plays, that their ability to reason correctly — which counts more than anything else you can name — frequently gets lost in the shuffle. Take this case where East, playing more by rote than reason, misdefended three notrump. Declarer took West's opening heart lead with the queen, led the jack of diamonds and let it ride. East won with the queen and returned a heart, taken by South with the ace. Declarer then led a diamond to dummy's eight, ducked by East, and a third diamond lead dislodged the ace. East shifted to a low spade, but declarer won and finished with 10 tricks, losing only a spade and two diamonds. If East had taken the time early in the play to work out declarer's probable values for the jump to two notrump, he would have held South to just the eight tricks he was entitled to make. To begin with, South had to have the K-Q of spades, A-Q of hearts and A-K of clubs for his two-notrump bid. This in turn meant that unless declarer had four spades, he could score only two spade tricks, three hearts and two clubs and would therefore need to make two diamond tricks. East's defense consequently should have been aimed at limiting South to one diamond trick. To accomplish this, all East had to do was to let South's jack of diamonds hold at trick two. That would have effectively killed dummy's remaining diamonds, and no matter how South continued, he could not have come to nine tricks.

Tomorrow: Sylvia plays duplicate.
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WEDNESDAY

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU'RE REALLY MY BEST FRIEND, RUFF, BUT DON'T TELL JOEY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"When you're dunkin' cookies in milk, you're not supposed to let go."

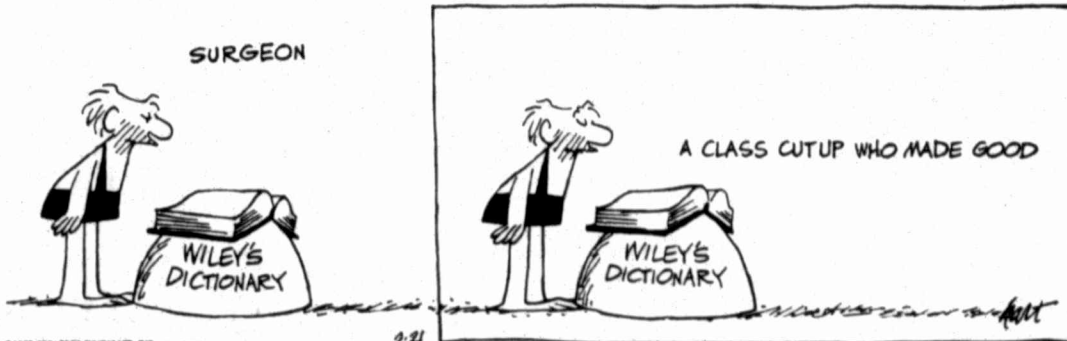
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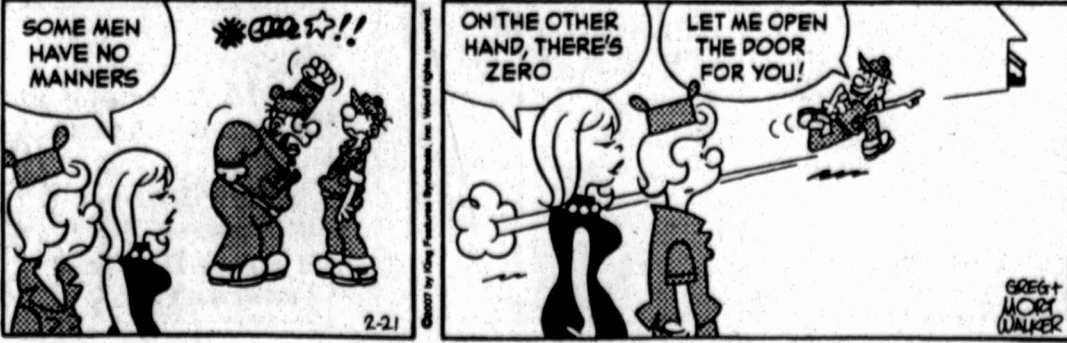
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, the 52nd day of 2007. There are 313 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 21, 1965, former Black Muslim leader Malcolm X, 39, was shot to death in New York by assassins identified as Black Muslims.

On this date: In 1885, the Washington Monument was dedicated.

In 1916, the World War I Battle of Verdun began in France.

In 1947, Edwin H. Land publicly demonstrated his Polaroid Land camera, which could produce a black-and-white photograph in 60 seconds.

In 1972, President Nixon began his historic visit to China as he and his wife, Pat, arrived in Shanghai.

In 1973, Israeli fighter planes shot down Libyan

Arab Airlines Flight 114 over the Sinai Desert, killing more than 100 people.

In 1975, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman were sentenced to 2 1/2 to eight years in prison for their roles in the Watergate cover-up.

In 1995, Chicago adventurer Steve Fossett became the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean in a balloon, landing in Leader, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Today's Birthdays: Fashion designer Hubert de Givenchy is 80. Movie director Bob Rafelson is 74.

Actress Rue McClanahan is 72. Actor Gary Lockwood is 70. Actor Peter McNery is 67.

Film/music company executive David Geffen is 64. Actor Alan Rickman is 61.

Actress Tyne Daly is 61. Tricia Nixon Cox is 61. Sen. Olympia J. Snowe, R-Maine, is 60.

Rock musician Jerry Harrison (The Heads) is 58. Actress Christine Ebersole is 54.

Actor William Petersen is 54. Actor Kelsey

Grammer is 52. Country singer Mary Chapin Carpenter is 49.

Actor Jack Coleman is 49. Actor Christopher Atkins is 46.

Rock singer Ranking Roger is 46. Actor William Baldwin is 44.

Rock musician Michael Ward is 40. Blues musician Corey Harris is 38.

Country singer Eric Heatherly is 37. Rock musician Eric Wilson (Sublime) is 37.

Rock musician Tad Kinchla (Blues Traveler) is 34. Actress Jennifer Love Hewitt is 28.

Singer Charlotte Church is 21. Actor Corbin Bleu is 18.

Thought for Today: "You owe it to us all to get on with what you're good at."

— W.H. Auden (1907-1973).

© 2007 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

RAM PLATE HEAT AUTO RISES IDLE UPTO THAPY HAVE KEYLIMEPTE GMAN SESAME DELE

PREP MOUNTS PEAL IRIS SPARE ELMO BALES OMEN ELEYE SEAT NEEED RANKED SLUM

HEED MOUSSE TACO BELLBOTTOM ODOR REOTIL TAUT FERN TRATE ERRS USES SEDER RTS

Newsday Crossword

COMMANDO TACTICS by Hy Hickman

Edited by Stanley Newman

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Apply at: Basic Energy Services
2206 North Hwy 87 • Big Spring, TX 79721
We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service; and paid holidays.
EOE-M/F/D/V • Drug Free Environment

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FAST OIL CHANGE CENTER
WANTED
Individuals who would love to deliver HIGH QUALITY AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE with SUPERB CUSTOMER SERVICE
Apply at 410 E. 4th Big Spring, Tx
Pro Lube Management Group
Drug Screen Required • EOE

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Do you want to be exposed to the most exciting trends in cosmetics and fashion?
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Success is a beautiful thing and we can help you achieve it! Not only do we supply the best line of products, we can also provide you with the training you will need to shine.
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Big Springs, TX 79720
432.263.0273
or email to: capatterson@stagesstores.com

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501 Birdwell, Suite 10
Big Spring, Tx 79720
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Real Estate for Rent

SEVERAL OFFICES available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

Real Estate for Sale

#30 MEADOWBROOK Rd. C1SD. 3/2, large 2 car garage, large front verandah. New Carpet & Paint. 3 Extra Lots. \$129,500. Vicki Dahmer 432-264-8048 or Dana Baker 432-816-6258.

1.05 ACRE. 305 Driver Rd. Water well, great view. Forsan District. Call (432)213-2400.

1812 BENTON. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, 1224 sq. ft. Close to Goliad school. Covered patio and yard. \$44,900. No Owner Finance. Call (432)264-8983, (432)263-0118.

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

803 E. 15th., 2 Bedroom, 1 bath w/garage & carport. Updated Bath. Call (432)816-1107 or 264-0051.

FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$49,500! Spacious Must See! For listing Call 800-544-6258 ext F906.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY-- Two houses on 1 lot. Both 2 bdr., 1 bath with a shared 2 car garage. Current income 8100/year. \$56,900. Please call 9432)263-8005 after 5:00 p.m.

MOBILE HOME, 2 year old doublewide, great area, carport, storage buildings, hot-tub. Excellent condition! Owner transferring, priced for quick sale! Serious inquires only! (432)213-3235, (432)213-0917.

Real Estate for Sale

OWNER FINANCE! Two nice 3 bedroom properties to choose from. Call Janet @ Home Realtors, (432)263-1284 or 213-5454.

OWNER FINANCE, \$4000 down. Four to choose from. Call (432) 264-9907.

OWNER FINANCING-- Homes from \$49,900. Down payments of only 5%.

Open for Inspection- Every Sunday in February, 12 P.M.-5 P.M. tough credit OK. We know bad things can happen to good people. Get your credit back on track. Stop renting and enjoy full home ownership.

For a listing of homes available. Call 432-687-2696, ext. 4 or pick up a list at 1611 W. Texas Ave., Midland.

THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/ Owner.

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500 W. 11th 267-7124

Vehicles

2002 CHRYSLER Sebring (grey). Runs great, new tires. Blue Book \$9,100.00 Asking \$8,000.00. Perfect interior and exterior. Call (432)213-6353.

2005 GMC pickup. 20,000 miles. Southern comfort conversion. On star, satellite radio, 20 in. tires and wheels, ground effects, tonneau bed cover, six way heated leather seats, fully loaded. Call 325-235-1127 or 325-665-6047. \$25,500.

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ANSWERS

5	7	9	8	3	1	6	2	4
6	1	8	2	9	4	3	5	7
4	3	2	5	6	7	9	1	8
3	6	5	9	4	2	8	7	1
2	4	7	1	8	6	5	3	9
8	9	1	3	7	5	4	6	2
9	8	6	7	2	3	1	4	5
1	2	4	6	5	9	7	8	3
7	5	3	4	1	8	2	9	6

Legals

Public Notice
SUBJECT: Text Book Adoption
Big Spring Independent School District is in the process of adopting mathematics text books for grades 6-12. There will be a Public Text Book hearing in the District School Board Room 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 22, 2007, for public comments and/or questions to the individuals responsible for local text book selections. The selected text books will be available for viewing at that time.
#5261 February 21, 2007

BUY-SELL-TRADE
In the
Big Spring Herald Classifieds
263-7331

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Lovely lady Venus catches hearts on fire as she enters the realm of Aries. We fall for ultra-seductive people, projects and situations. Is it appropriate love? Is it deep, sensitive and true? Is it healthy? Well, the answer may be "no" on all accounts, but that doesn't keep us from heading straight in.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A relationship is straining under the weight of endless obligations. Let someone off the hook, and that person will do the same for you. Together you lighten up the atmosphere.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's no accident that you run into a friend in the supermarket or get a call from just the person whom you've been thinking about. Synchronistic events are a gift and a signal that you're on the right track.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When someone asks you what your dream is, take this person seriously. People who are interested in you are also able to help you now. This evening you conquer chaos, one drawer at a time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You keep saying there's no time to do what you love, but it's not true.

Consider that this might be an old belief running your reality. Tonight, a silly kid gets you to play along.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's the little things that make you smile — a funny group of words from the mouth of a baby or a new gadget to save you time in the kitchen. Hurrah for small pleasures.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The spare change on the dresser is a metaphor for the way you approach finances in general. Attack old attitudes about money. Whatever financial plan you choose, pay yourself first — this is a must.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Optimism is infectious, so you don't have to preach to anyone about looking on the bright side — just walk the talk. Your shared joke with a colleague is team building at its best.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No one is you. Oh, how you wish it weren't so. Because if there were more "yous," you could do all the work on your list that only "you" can do. Since no one is you, you'll have to improvise with "them."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're open-minded and threatened by no one. Listen to the odd-

ball. You won't be sorry. Tonight, you draw people in like a magnet, but paradoxically, alone time is what you need most.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You make it better. Not because it's your job, but because it's your nature. Tonight, a Virgo person you trust can help you minimize stress and maximize your earnings.

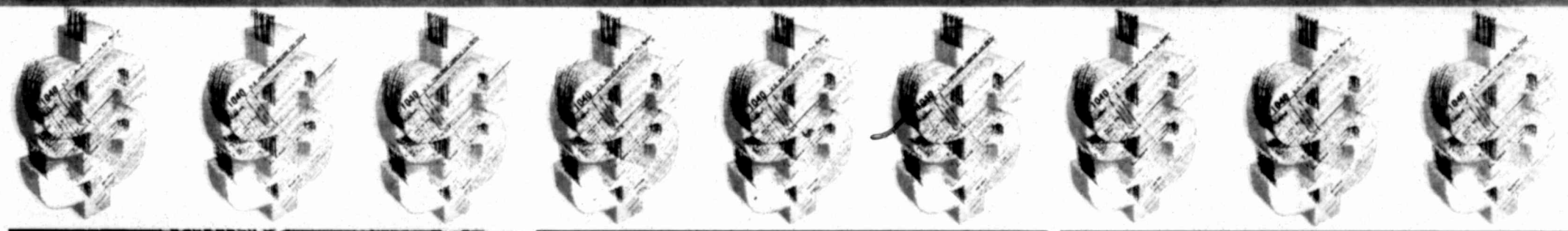
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're given a second chance. Take advantage because you won't get another as easy as this one. Tonight, a slight adjustment could make a huge difference in your finances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What's interesting to you is perhaps not so interesting to those around you. So don't be surprised if you're the only one wide awake in a room full of people who are nodding off.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2007 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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sorry. people ut par- lime is t. ec. 22- it bet- s your s your Virgo an help ss and nings. n. 20- iven a Take e you as easy ght, a could ence in March tting to not so those on't be re the ke in a e who

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FEBRUARY 21, 2007



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CEMETERY LOTS. Payout plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$50.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

DIRECT CREMATION \$695.00. Monarch Cremation Society. Pre-need or at need. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-714-4808.

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www.scinow6.com
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AVON WANTS you! 15 immediate openings in this area. For a limited time- no start up fee. Up to 50% commission and a great benefits. Call 432-270-2125 (Independent rep)

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

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COBS is HIRING: Police Officer, Certified & Non-Jailer
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Big Spring, Texas 79720
Phone: 432-264-2346
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www.ci.big-spring.tx.us

COMMISSARY MANAGER-

Big Spring, TX
Keefe Group, a national diversified company, has an excellent opportunity for a Commissary Manager. Duties include all aspects in providing commissary operations and services to the correctional facility as well as acting as a liaison with Department of Corrections and Keefe Group. Qualified candidates must possess a valid driver's license, pass security/drug clearance, lift at least 55 lbs, and be able to work in a correctional environment. We offer comprehensive benefits including 401(k) and profit sharing.
Please apply online at: <http://employment.centricgroup.com>
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OTR TRUCK Drivers Needed. Excellent Pay and Benefits. Quality Home Time. For more information call 1-800-624-5919 ext. 116 or visit our web page at www.taylorexpressinc.com

Help Wanted

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

DRIVERS WANTED

Find out why our Average Length of Driver Employment is 9 years. Reagent Chemical, a Family Owned Company dedicated to providing great service to our customers and taking care of our employees, is currently hiring Professional Drivers in West Texas. Requirements include Class A CDL with tank and hazmat endorsements. Minimum of 2 years driving or 1 year tanker experience. Paid weekly by Check or Direct Deposit. Benefits include Family Health & Dental Insurance with no premium contribution by the employee. 401K with company match plus profit sharing. Life insurance and Long Term Disability is available thru Group Coverage. 10 Days Vacation starting First Year plus 10 Paid Holidays. Uniforms provided. Call 432-458-3446 or 432-661-4079.

Help Wanted

ENJOY COOL Colorful Colorado - Summer Employment

Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado needs STUDENTS, YOUNG ADULTS and ADULTS for the full season or part of the 2007 season for all types of jobs: Kitchen, dining room, housekeeping, stores, maintenance, horse wrangler, office. (Salary/room or RV site/meals/activities). ADULTS must have their own RV for their housing. STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS live in the girls or boys dorm. For information, write Personnel Director, Fun Valley Family Resort, 6315 Westover Drive, Granbury, Tx 76049.

EVENING DISHWASHER supervisor. Apply in person 2401 S. Gregg. Good pay to the right person.

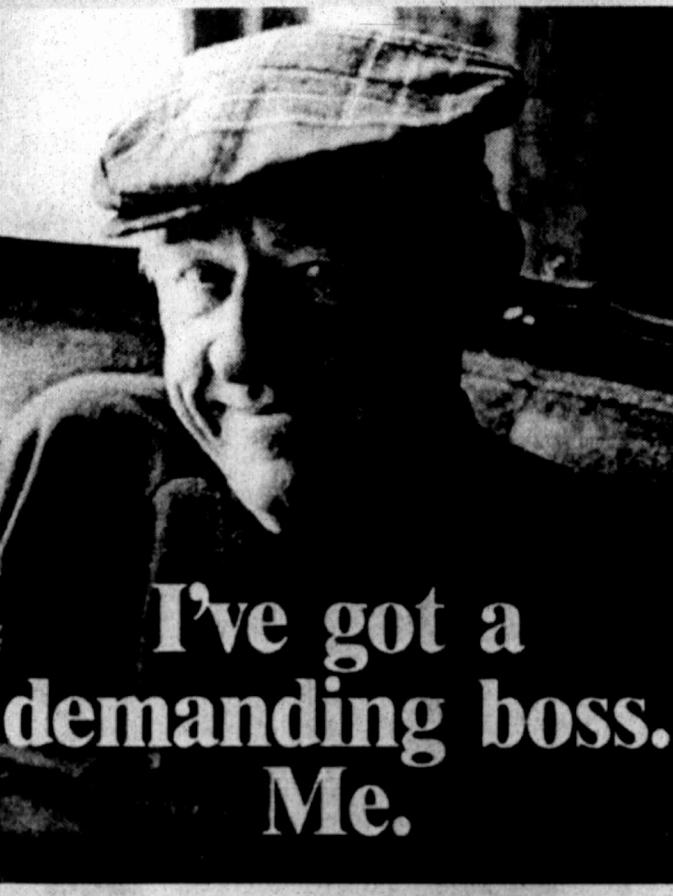
EXECUTIVE CHEF Midland, TX. Retirement Community. Upscale neighborhood- Modern Kitchen. Great Benefits- 401K, sick leave, vacation. Phone (432)682-5772 for appointment or fax resume (432)682-2478.

EZMONEY ONE of the fastest growing signature loan companies is in search of experienced retail/service industry CSRs. Starting wage is based on experience to a max of \$9.50/hr. Associates will work a 40 hr week. Stores are closed on Sunday and work a limited schedule on Saturday. Mon-Fri hrs of operation are 9am-7pm. E-mail resumes to roger_primer@ezcorp.com

GREAT PAY! GOOD BENEFITS!

A Great Career Opportunity. Now Hiring Drivers for: Pump Trucks, Transports, Hot Oiler, Vacuum Trucks. Requirements: Valid CDL, 21 years of age, Clean MVR. Must pass drug screen. Call 432-756-2875. Apply in person at Key Energy, West I-20 South Service Road, Stanton, TX.

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But the rewards are great! I work for myself and make a good living. I take responsibility for my performance - it's all up to me. A lot of people depend on me, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

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HOUSEKEEPER WANTED
part-time for Assisted Living facility. Marcy House is now accepting applications. Experience in institutional housekeeping a plus. Part-time, flexible hours. Applications accepted in person at Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Rd., Big Spring, TX. Background check required.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE
Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

Help Wanted

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT
must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction. Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to:
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
PO BOX 60708
MIDLAND, TX 79711

Help Wanted

WIS INTERNATIONAL is now hiring for Inventory Clerks. Starting pay \$7.00/hr. up to \$9.00/hr. for Crew Managers. No experience required for inventory clerks. Must have some management experience for Crew Manager. All who are interested please call Natasha, (806)543-1778. Apply, Monday, Feb. 19, 9:00-5:00, at the Workforce Network of Big Spring.

Help Wanted

HOWARD COLLEGE Bookstore, a Texas Book Company Store, is looking for a highly motivated individual to fill the position of accounting clerk. Prior experience in an accounting environment and attention to detail are a must. Proficiency in MS Office and Excel as well as the ability to learn new software quickly are also required. Must be customer service oriented, a team player and be willing to go the "extra mile." Salary depending on experience. For a full job description and to apply online go to www.texasbook.com/career.html.

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OPENING for Derrick person/floorhand. Excellent wages with lots of overtime. Call Gene (432)517-0784.

OPPORTUNITY IN Big Spring, Texas. Need feed store salesperson/ bookkeeper. Competitive salary and benefits. Call Bob Traylor, (800)299-4496.

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Come join our team! Be part of our devoted staff providing resident care. Now Hiring for LVN's, which offers competitive pay, great benefits and a fantastic working environment. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

Help Wanted

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation now hiring for Cook position. Experience preferred, but not required Full time position, evening shift. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation now hiring for C.N.A. positions. Offer great benefits and competitive pay. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PERSONAL SERVICE attendant/ care giver desired for an Assisted Living. Responsibilities include providing quality service to the such elderly such as housekeeping, meal services, social-recreational activities and delegated tasks. Apply in person, Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Rd. Background check required.

PHILLIPS FABRICATION is now expanding business. Looking for welders, fitters & helpers. We have a 401K and training program for any one interested in a new career. Contact us at 432-264-6600.

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NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

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ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

February 21, 2007

Readings and Ashes

Big Spring State Hospital	9:30 AM
VA Medical Center	11:00 AM
Immaculate Heart of Mary	12:15 AM
Immaculate Heart of Mary	5:00 P.M.
Immaculate Heart of Mary	7:00 P.M.

Mass

Warren Chiropractic Center

STOP THE PAIN
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Dr. Jay Warren • Dr. Howard Hornsby • Dr. Jody Reid
1707 Lancaster Big Spring 432-267-2915

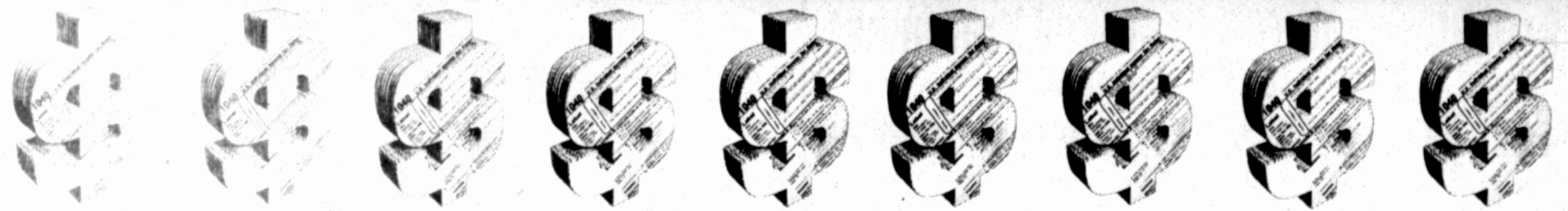
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*These services are not eligible for insurance reimbursements & will not be billed to any insurance plan

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Help Wanted

ENGINEER/SOLID WASTE COORDINATOR
The Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission (PBRPC) is seeking applications for the position of Engineer/Solid Waste Coordinator to monitor and direct municipal solid waste management related services and support activities for the 17 county Permian Basin region. Requires a minimum of Bachelor degree in Civil Engineering and 8 years of engineering experience, including solid waste, and possession of, or ability to obtain registration as a Professional Engineer in State of Texas. Salary commensurate with experience.

Send resume to:
PBRPC

Attn: Director of Personnel
P.O. Box 60660
Midland, TX 79711
Fax: 432/561-5671
Email: lmoores@pbrpc.org
Closing Date:
March 2, 2007

POLLARD CHEVROLET is seeking a Finance & Insurance Sales person. Sales experience required. Benefits, 401K, Health Ins.. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid training, vacations. PT/FT. 1-800-584-1775 Ext. 6901 USWA

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full & Part time cashiers and assistant managers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

THE MARTIN County Hospital District is seeking Registered Nurses, for full-time high positions. Please contact Rance Ramsey, DON at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or (432)756-3345 ext. 228.

Help Wanted

STATE LICENSED JOURNEYMEN ELECTRICIANS and HELPERS
Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. All interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

TRUCK DRIVERS needed - 2 years experience, current CDL Class A, current DOT physical, clear record. Apply at Price Construction 2701 North Hwy. 350, Big Spring, TX.

VACUUM TRUCK driver needed at Westbrook, TX. CDL & tanker endorsement. 6 Months experience a plus. Please call JD's Services (325)575-0851.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Items for Sale

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Miscellaneous

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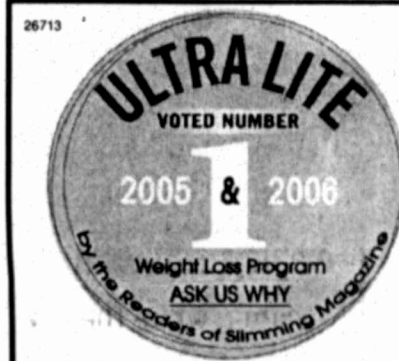
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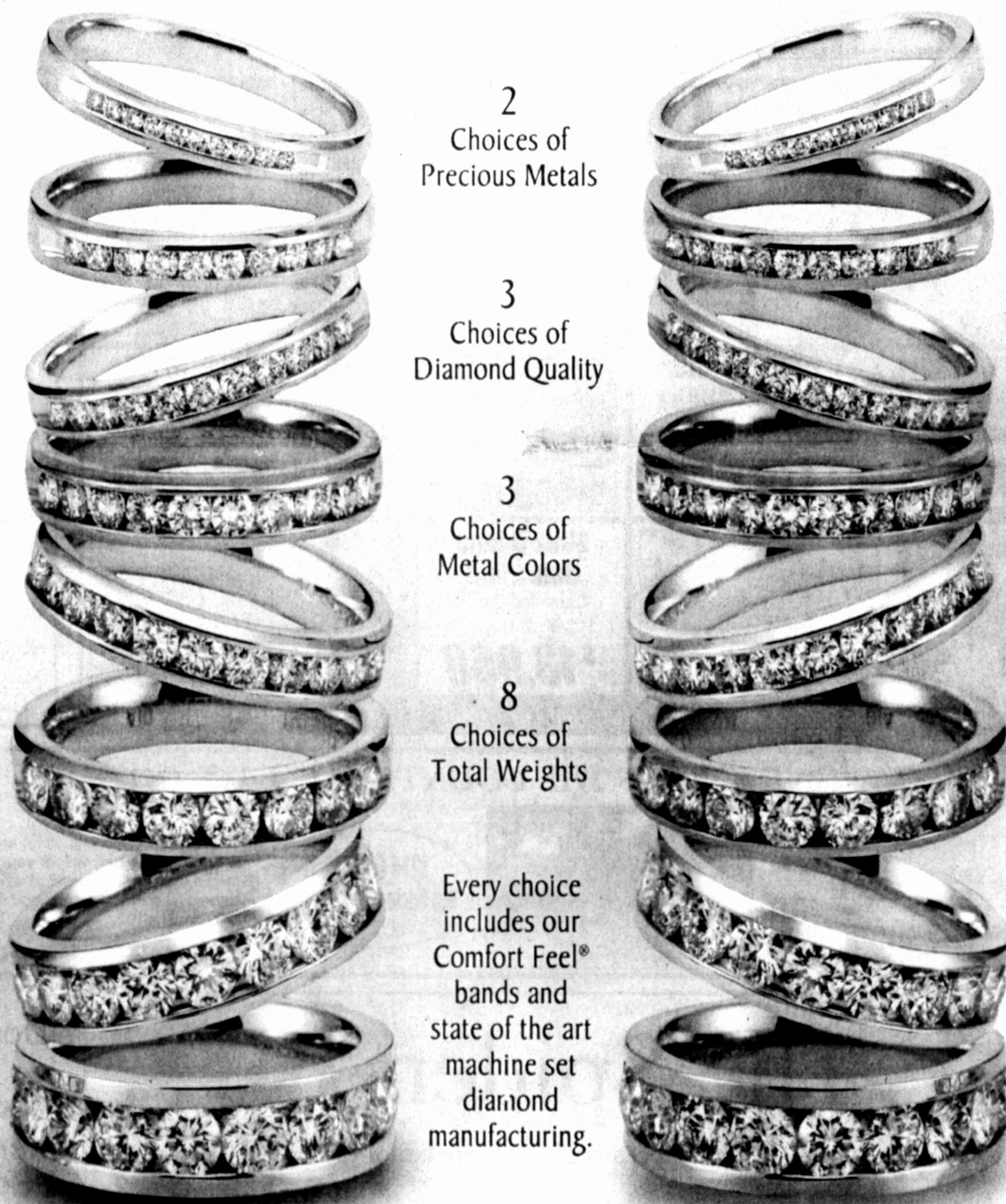
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