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shooting
puts Hawks
on ice at
national
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Powwow and how

Two-day event opens Saturday

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Features Editor

The second annual Big Spring Powwow provides an opportunity in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum this weekend to view original Native American regalia dancers in competitions.

"We have put together a spectacular powwow and these contests will really be something to see," said Randy McKinney, treasurer of the committee that promotes the event.

Everything gets going at 10 a.m. Saturday with gourd dancing, followed by the grand entry, where all the dancers enter, he said.

The Southern Drum host this year is Southern Renegade from Albuquerque, N.M. The Northern Drum host is Eagle Point Singer from

See **POWWOW**, Page 3A



The second annual Big Spring Powwow is Saturday and Sunday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Admission is \$2 for adults and children under 12 are admitted free.

Plan now for 2006 Trash-Off

Herald Staff Report

Pat Simmons, coordinator for the Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off in Howard County, is asking groups and individuals who plan on helping with the Saturday, April 1, event to contact her.

"We'd like everyone to help clean up, spruce up and beautify our community," said Simmons, who has coordinated the local effort for years. "We hope everyone plans to participate. We really need a good cleaning of our community again."

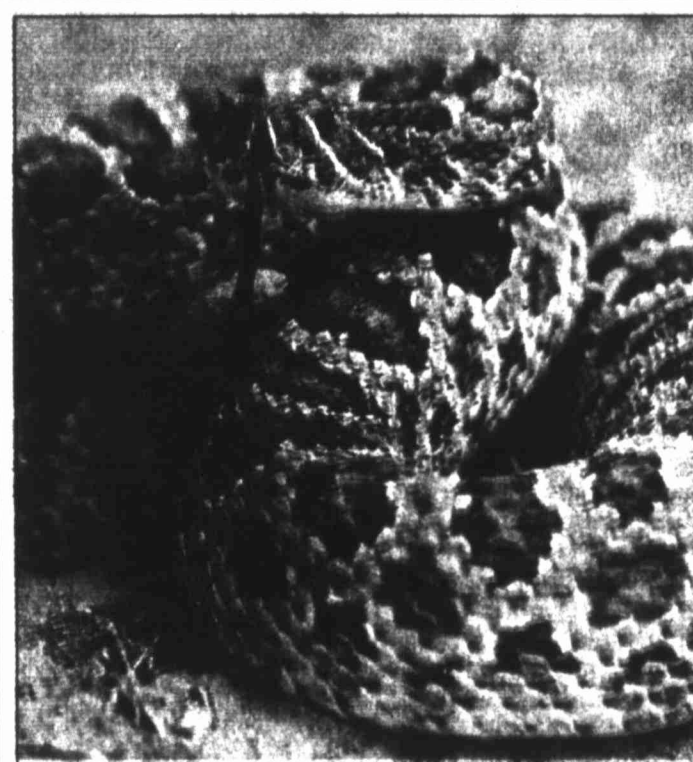
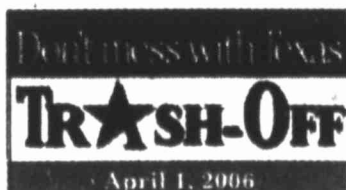
"She'd like to know who plans on participating, how many volunteers will be helping, the number of trash bags the group estimates it will need and what area they plan on cleaning."

Bags will be issued from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, March 31, at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce for those who need them.

Hot dogs will be served at the Heart of the City Park starting at noon on the day of the Trash-Off. There will also be a drawing for prizes and gifts for children who participate.

"Bring your trash to the park as we will have huge dumpsters for the trash," said Simmons.

See **TRASH**, Page 3A



Rattlesnake Roundup slithers into fairbarns

Reptiles begin
arriving at noon today.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Excuse the pun, but this weekend should be a "high-snakes affair" at the Howard County Fairbarns.

After a year's absence, the American Business Clubs' Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup returns to the fairbarns Saturday and Sunday.

Longtime snake handler/purchaser Monty Staulcup's sudden death last year proved to be an insurmountable obstacle for event organizers, causing the cancellation of last year's roundup.

But with a new handler secured, hunting season on rattlers is once again open.

Jackie Bilby is a world-renowned handler who has appeared on national television and holds several Guinness world records, organizers said.

Ken Darnell will show the proper way to "milk" a snake — how to safely extract its venom, in other words. In addition, there will be snake races and other demonstrations, including how to skin a rattler.

Also, fried rattlesnake — which is purported to taste just like chicken — will be offered.

Hunters can begin bringing in snakes at noon today. The event

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 3A

Farm Bureau seeks to help fire victims

Special to the Herald

In response to the destructive wildfires that had been sweeping the Texas Panhandle, the Texas Farm Bureau is asking members in other parts of the state to step forward to help fellow farmers and ranchers recover from the damages.

According to the Texas Forest Service, more than 800,000 acres have been consumed by the blazes. "Widespread devastation from these fires is not only con-

suming land but also claiming lives," said Mike Moates, president of the Howard County Farm Bureau. "Intervention is vital for the recovery of farmers and ranchers after a disaster like these infernos."

News reports said the wall of flames, traveling on 55-mile-an-hour winds at times, literally burned livestock where they stood in some places.

"The losses are detrimental to all farmers and ranchers hit by the fires," said Moates. "Much of

the livestock is lost, along with grazing land. Hay supplies are nonexistent."

Visit the Texas Farm Bureau Web site at www.txfb.org for more information on the wildfires along with a slideshow containing images of widespread destruction. Please note, the slideshow contains some horrific images; view at your own discretion.

If you would like to help provide hay, fencing materials, even financial contributions, phone or

e-mail your pledge to Gene Hall, (254) 752-2246 or ghall@txfb.org.

Locally, Farm Bureau members Ronnie and Diane Woods, owners of Big Spring Farm Supply, have agreed to be a drop-off location for fencing supplies and cattle feed. They are located on North U.S. Highway 87 in Big Spring across from the Big Spring State Hospital, or you may call them at 432-263-3382.

For more information, call the Howard County Farm Bureau office at (432) 267-7466.

Differing ideas emerge prior to special session

By **APRIL CASTRO**

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — While some key lawmakers are working on school reform measures like a \$2,000 teacher pay raise, Gov. Rick Perry reaffirmed Thursday that he would not allow consideration of such initiatives until a

court-mandated overhaul of the state's tax structure is settled.

The Legislature is preparing for a 30-day special session on school funding. It starts April 17.

"If the speaker and lieutenant governor bring me a reform bill that both chambers agree on, I will gladly add it to the call

once the tax issue is addressed," Perry said.

In the meantime, Perry said he would write the official call for the session so narrowly focused that lawmakers could not legally stray from the task at hand: fixing the tax structure that was ruled unconstitutional by the Texas Supreme Court.

"The first and most important issue in front of us on this is dealing with what the Supreme Court said we had to do. I don't get confused about what they said ... you will address this unconstitutional property tax issue that you have in the state."

The court gave lawmak-

ers until June 1 to fix the tax system, which has become an unconstitutional statewide property tax because many school districts no longer have the discretion to set their own rates. If the system is not fixed before the deadline, money flow to the

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EASTER BUNNY BANNED

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The Easter Bunny was spotted at City Hall — briefly. A small Easter display was removed from the lobby on Wednesday out of concern that they would offend non-Christians.

The display — a cloth bunny, pastel-colored eggs and a sign with the words "Happy Easter" — was put up by a City Council secretary.

The council president, Kathy Lantry, said the removal wasn't about political correctness. "As government, we have a different responsibility about advancing the cause of religion, which we are not going to do," she said.

GOP COUNTY CONVENTION

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

The convention is being scheduled half an hour earlier than previous county conventions because of several other activities going on Saturday morning throughout the community, including the Big Spring Powwow and the AMBUCS Rattlesnake Roundup.

For more information on the Republican Convention, contact Melanie Gambrell at 267-7387.

WEEKEND EDITION



Profile, the Herald's annual special edition featuring stories about local individuals, will be in this weekend's edition.

Obituaries

Alberto Smithwick



Alberto Smithwick, 88, of Alice died Thursday, March 23, 2006, at Hospice House in Odessa. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel led by Elvira Gandar. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Nov. 11, 1917, in Alice to Francisca and Juan Smithwick. He lived most of his life in Alice except for 12 years in Big Spring. He was a cowboy, farm and ranch hand and later worked for Jim Wells County. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by four sons, Albert Smithwick and his wife Celia and Johnny Smithwick, all of Big Spring, Joe Smithwick and his wife Jerri of San Angelo and Benny Smithwick of Odessa; seven daughters, Alejandra Doporto, Beatrice Ramirez and her husband Hector, Janie Frausto and her husband Joe, and Dorothy Bridges, all of Odessa, Frances Haro and her husband Joe of Big Spring, Mary Harrison and her husband Eddie of New Braunfels, and Nancy Qualls and her husband James of North Richland Hills; one brother, Juan Smithwick of Alice; one sister, Kena Ochoa of Big Spring; a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren; and several great great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Salome Smithwick; two brothers, Ismael and Amilio Smithwick; and a sister, Maria Garcia.

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

Patsy Stanley

Patsy Stanley, 74, of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 23, 2006, in a Houston hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday each month at 6 p.m. The next meeting is April 3. For more information, call 398-5522.

TUESDAY

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

Take Note

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM PRESENTS JOHN-NIE LOU AVERY** at 6 p.m. March 30 at the museum. In honor of Women's History Month, Avery will speak about the achievements of women in the development of aviation and World War II. For more information, call the museum at 264-1999.

• **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY GUILD FUND-RAISER** is 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at the St. Paul Lutheran Church educational annex, 811 Scurry. A Tupperware cooking demonstration is planned, with recipes available and door prizes. All proceeds benefit the Guild. For more information, or to learn more about becoming a member of the Guild, call 263-4033.

• **SECOND ANNUAL BIG SPRING POWWOW** is 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Admission is \$2 with children under 12 free.

• **BIG SPRING 42nd ANNUAL RATTLESNAKE ROUNDUP** is 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday and noon until 5 p.m. Sunday in the Howard County Fairbarns. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 4-11.

• **RELAY FOR LIFE DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT** at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Goliad gym. \$5 per person to play; four men and four women to a team. Sponsored by the Yellow Dogs. For more information, call 264-4108.

• **AN ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT CITIZENS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** for 21-month-old Madysyn Hillger, in care of her grandmother, Debra Hillger. Madysyn has been diagnosed with a rare neurological-genetic disorder, Rett Syndrome. Donations will be applied to travel, medical and lodging expenses. For more information, call 264-7340 or 816-1024.

• **LIMITED BOOTH SPACE FOR THE ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR**, with this year's theme, "Don't Gamble on Your Health" is available until March 31 for \$100. For more information or to reserve a booth, call Nancy Newell at 264-7641 or e-mail nnewell@bigspringchamber.com.

• **AARP TAX PREPARATION FREE INCOME**

Police blotter

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

- **ERNEST CLARK**, 65, transient, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **FRANCISCO CERVANTES**, 26, of 1301 Park, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **AMBROSIA MARIE RODRIGUEZ**, 19, of Nevada, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- **JOSE GOMEZ**, 28, of El Paso, was arrested Thursday on two local citations and a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **TERESA FAYE LANGSTON**, 48, of 1706 Goliad, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 1800 block of FM 700.
 - in the 1100 block of Fifth Street.
- **CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR** was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 4000 block of Highway 80.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported:
 - in the 4000 block of Highway 80.
 - in the 1000 block of Wood.

Sheriff's report

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

- **DANIEL JASON PIKE**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **ALBERT SMITH JR.**, 33, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
- **JOSE T. CANTU**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for evading arrest or detention, bondsman off bond for interfering with an emergency phone call, possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, driving while license invalid and violation of a protective order.
- **JORGE ANTONIO ESCAJEDA**, 30, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a sentence/judgment for driving while license invalid.
- **MICHAEL S. SUTTON**, 40, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of fraudulent possession of a prescription (two counts).
- **ERNESTO M. MALDONADO**, 31, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Third Street and Birdwell Lane. Service was refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. Service was refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Caroline. Service was refused.

TAX PREPARATION is at the Senior Center Monday from 8 a.m. until noon. The AARP program will wrap-up for the year April 10. Electronic filing will be available. For more information on the program, contact Gloria Hopkins at 267-6733.

• **FIFTH ANNUAL CITYWIDE EASTER EGG HUNT** is set for noon April 15 at the Birdwell Lane Park featuring an Easter bunny. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call Jennifer Patton at 432-263-6351 or e-mail jennifer.patton@kbyg.net.

• **KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL FLEA MARKET** is 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. May 6 in the Big Spring Mall parking lot and booth space is available. Applications are available at the mall office or the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 263-9231.

• **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1986 20th REUNION** needs addresses and contact information for classmates. Call Kelly at 816-4540.

• **FORSAN EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL ALL-CLASS REUNION** is Aug. 5. Names, addresses and class years for Forsan exes are needed. Submit information or pictures for a newsletter before June 15 to Ida Lou Raney, 5216 Dawson Dr., Big Spring or call 432-267-2414, Jimmy Anderson at 432-267-6143 or Opal Stout at 325-574-2150, or e-mail hiraney@crcom.net.

• **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1977** is gathering address for the 30th reunion. Mail contact information to Emily Boyd, 10817 Sandpiper Lane, Dallas or e-mail emilyboyd1@aol.com.

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Bulletin board

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

TODAY

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

SATURDAY

- **Eagles Lodge Dance** at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

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. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- **Evening Lions Club** meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.
- **Prospector's Club** work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- **Big Spring Rotary Club** meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY

- **Optimist Club** meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- **Senior Circle** meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- **Downtown Lions Club** meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- **Line dancing** begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center at the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- **Duplicate Bridge Club** meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

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.

Around Town

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

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

• **POTTON HOUSE**, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-14-27 (numerical order). Bonus Ball: 4.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$1 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-6-20-24-33.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$32,222.
Winning tickets sold in: Baytown.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-7-9

BIG SPRING HERALD

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POWWOW

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Austin.

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Arena direc Fabian Galva Lubbock and er the event is Tim Ada, Okla.

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ROUNDUP

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will open to th from 10 a.m. un Saturday and no p.m. Sunday.

Admission is

TRASH

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"The trash is and reported Texas Beautifu will be a separa ster for the cans

"We ask that the cans by plac

SESSION

Continued from Page 1

state's 1,037 sc tricts will be cut

The school issue has dogged ers through tw sessions and thr sessions. Each a revamp the w ers pay for the \$ a-year system failure.

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Charles W. D.D.S. in

Announce transfer of p records

Dr. Reg Cr

501-B Gregg

Big Spring,

POWWOW

Continued from Page 1A

Austin.

The drum hosts are responsible for keeping the event flowing without interruptions, and the names indicate what type of music and songs the hosts perform, according to bulletin provided by the Powwow committee.

The Southern Drum host plays music that is low in pitch and slow, while the Northern Drum host will provide music that is fast-paced with a high pitch.

The head male dancer for the event this year is Robert Soto from McAllen. The head female dancer is Sharon Roberts from Ada, Okla.

Arena director is Fabian Galvan of Lubbock and emcee for the event is Tim Harjo of Ada, Okla.

"To many people, the songs, drums and dance might seem random. However, each song is different, drum beats are different and the steps the dance uses are different and very defined to the experienced eye," McKinney said.

Some of the competitions this year include:

— Northern Traditional Dance or War Dance. This is an aggressive dance where the participants keep step with the drum and tells the story of a battle or hunt.

— The Southern Straight Dance is a graceful dance that also tells the story of a hunt for prey or for an enemy.

— The Men's Grass Dance has a tradition

Schedule of Events

Saturday, March 25

10 a.m. Gourd Dancing

11 a.m. Grand Entry

Contest Dancing

5 p.m. Dinner Break

6:30 p.m. Gourd Dancing

7 p.m. Grand Entry

Contest Dancing

10 p.m. Close

Sunday, March 26

9:30 a.m. Christian Worship Service

10 a.m. Gourd Dancing

11 a.m. Grand Entry

Contest Dancing

5 p.m. Closing

with origins that go back beyond memory. In the Men's Grass Dance, dancers imitate the grass blowing in the wind and may have originated when the dancers flattened the prairie grasses for a new camp site for the tribe.

Other contest dances are the Fancy Dress Dance, the Jingle Dress, Fancy Shawl, Hoop Dance, Tiny Tot Dance and other categories.

The Jingle Dress Dance originated in Canada and started as a means to help heal a dying girl. The Ladies Fancy Shawl Dance is a modern dance style, introduced into the powwow in the 1960s.

All of these dances have specific regalia the dancers wear to signify and establish the type of dance. McKinney said dancers create their own regalia and most are very expensive items.

"The powwow is a

social event and there is no Native American religion involved; there will be no medicine men and no ceremonies. A powwow is a wonderful experience; the drum alone will lift your heart and make your feet want to dance," McKinney said.

The event also features a Texas Tech University Archeological Museum exhibit to the coliseum. The grand entry features the color guard from the U.S. Marine Corps recruits from Midland. Vendors offering many different wares will be available and a food drive is scheduled with all donated canned goods given to local food banks.

Sunday, the event begins with a special Christian worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the arena, followed by gourd dancing and the Grand Entry.

For more information about the powwow, contact McKinney at 267-4843.

adults and \$3 for children 12 and under, Burns said.

Aside from the practical purpose of helping rid property of the dangerous snakes, the event provides a number of practical benefits.

The venom extracted from snakes is bought for

medical research purposes, and the hides and rattlers are used to make a variety of objects, including boots, wallets and key chains.

Proceeds from the roundup go toward funding AMBUCS charitable activities.

in a separate bag. This is a fund-raiser for Keep Big Spring Beautiful," Simmons explained.

A number of groups and individuals who have participated in the past have been sent e-mails asking for them to respond if they plan take part in the Trash-Off again this year. Any group or individual

that has not been contacted and would like to take part is encouraged to contact Simmons at 263-4607 or by e-mail at psimmons4660@sbcglobal.net.

"Thanks again for all your great help in this event in working to make Big Spring a better and cleaner place to live," Simmons added.

policy in that chamber, said she wants lawmakers to approve a \$2,000 raise for all Texas public school teachers. She hopes to be able to take up measures aimed at improving college readiness in high school.

She said waiting until the regular, 140-day legislative session starts in January would be too late.

Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick was noncommittal about what he wants accomplished in the upcoming session, but indicated an inclination to tackle school reforms in addition to the tax issue.

"The governor controls the call," he said Thursday.

"Obviously, we can't do everything and everywhere, but I think we need to look at things like teacher pay raise. We need to do a teacher pay raise and focus on it."

After the Legislature's continued gridlock on the issue, Perry appointed a special task force of state

business leaders to study possible alternatives to the tax structure and make recommendations.

Those recommendations, expected to be made to lawmakers next week, tentatively include a \$1 cigarette tax increase and a revamped business tax that would be levied on a company's gross receipts with deductions for employee salaries and benefits or cost of goods.

In addition to \$1 billion from the state's \$4.3 budget surplus, the new taxes would generate enough money to give homeowners a one-third reduction in school property taxes.

Some Republicans, led by Pampa Rep. Warren Chisum, are trying to gain support for solving the court mandate by swapping the state's surplus for property tax relief. That would allow them to put off the major tax overhaul until January — after November re-election campaigns.

U.S., Iraqi troops sweep oil-rich north for insurgents

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division joined Iraqi troops in a sweep of five villages outside the city of Kirkuk, 180 miles north of Baghdad. Forty suspected insurgents were picked up in Hawija, police said Thursday.

A day earlier, the U.S. military spokesman in Iraq asserted that major violence is largely confined to just three of the country's 18 provinces, where fighting raged on Thursday with at least 58 people killed in execution-style slayings, bombings and gunbattles.

For the third straight day Thursday, Sunni insurgents hit a major police and jail facility — this time with a suicide car bombing that killed 25 in central Baghdad. The attacker detonated his explosives at the entrance to the Interior Ministry Major Crimes unit in the Karradah district, killing 10 civilians and 15 policemen, authorities said.

As insurgent forces raised the stakes with the attacks, the U.S. military announced late Thursday that it was in the second day of an operation with Iraqi soldiers "to disrupt anti-Iraqi forces and to find and destroy terrorist caches in the Abu Ghraib area west of Baghdad."

The military statement said 1,400 personnel were involved in the operation — termed Northern Lights — and had captured "two persons of high-value interest and 16 suspected terrorists." Two large weapons caches also were discovered, the military said.

Abu Ghraib, also the site of the infamous prison, is where U.S. and British forces stormed a house Thursday morning and freed three Christian peace activists held hostage since Nov. 26.

The Interior Ministry unit that was targeted Thursday investigates major crimes, and its jail held about 20 suspected insurgents, police Lt. Col. Falah al-Mohammadawi said. The ministry is a predominantly Shiite department and is heavily infiltrated by members of various Shiite militias.

In a rundown of recent military activity, Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, the U.S. military spokesman, told reporters Thursday that most Iraqi violence was focused in three central provinces, including Baghdad.

"There is not widespread violence across Iraq. There is not. Seventy-five percent of the attacks still take place



DoD photo/Tech. Sgt. John M. Foster, U.S. Air Force
Army Spc. Joe Browning uses a metal detector to search for buried weapons caches and materials used to make improvised explosive devices during a neighborhood patrol in Mosul, Iraq. Browning is attached to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172nd Infantry Brigade.

in Baghdad, al-Anbar or Salaheddin (provinces). And in the other 15 provinces, they all averaged less than six attacks a day, and 12 of those provinces averaged less than two attacks a day."

He said attacks nationwide were averaging 75 a day, a level that has been generally sustained since last August.

The three provinces he cited, however, are home to about 9 million people, according to the Iraqi Ministry of Planning and Development — a third of the country's population of 27 million.

Lynch's list omitted Diyala province, which stretches north and east of Baghdad to the Iranian border and is home to nearly 1.5 million people. It was the scene Tuesday of the first of the series of attacks on police facilities, when 100 insurgents stormed a jail and freed 33 prisoners, 18 of them their own men captured two days earlier.

That attack killed 20 police and wrecked the jail, police station and courthouse in Muqadadiyah, 60 miles northeast of Baghdad. Ten insurgents were killed.

As Iraqi soldiers and police have begun patrolling more territory, U.S. forces have become less visible in many areas in the country and harder

to target. Also, the nature of the violence in the country has shifted from assaults on American troops to battles rooted in sectarian conflict between Sunni and Shiite Muslims.

Well over 1,000 people have died violently in Iraq, mainly in and around Baghdad, since the shrine bombing in Samarra, a city north of Baghdad in Salaheddin province.

The sectarian killings since then have been running at dozens a day. The bodies of hundreds of victims have been dumped after being shot execution-style, hands bound and bearing signs of torture.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- United Way of Big Spring and Howard County on raising \$254,340 for area agencies. While it was short of the \$300,000 goal, it was a tremendous feat considering the outcry for funds to assist the victims of several natural disasters in 2005.

- Area Boy Scouts, on an entertaining Pinewood Derby last Saturday, and to leaders and parents who help put on the event.

- Big Spring Independent School District trustees, for making it possible for students to devote more time to extracurricular activities, providing of course, the students keep their grades up.

- The Big Spring Model Airplane Association, on another successful Fun Fly. The indoor event — held at the coliseum — drew 50 model plane enthusiasts.

- The Big Spring High School Cross Examination Debate team of Logan Wright and Will Shipman, who placed sixth in the Class 4A State Cross Examination Debate Contest. Way to go!

- Gary Crittenden, newly appointed postmaster for the Big Spring Post Office. Welcome to the Crossroads, Gary!

ADDRESSES

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

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative (19th Cong. District)
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

• **RICK PERRY**

Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
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Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
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• **PETE LANEY**
State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (512) 463-0604

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

Durbin's 'no-plan' to peace

Democrats are constantly accusing Republicans of blindly defending President Bush's Iraq War policies, but how about their steadfast refusal to make leaders of their own party accountable for their ridiculously irresponsible positions on the war and national security matters generally?

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman, writing after the 2004 election, complained that the "red states" re-elected President Bush "despite an utterly incompetent war performance in Iraq and a stagnant economy. 'This was not an election. This was station identification.'"

Democrats are still saying the very same thing. While I strongly reject their premise, I believe we ought to turn the tables on them and ask how they can support the whining leaders in their party who have abandoned any pretense of sober judgment concerning the war.

A revealing exchange occurred on "Fox News Sunday" when Chris Wallace, interviewing Sen. Dick Durbin, read a quote from Zbigniew Brzezinski, former President Carter's national security adviser. Brzezinski said, "Democratic leaders have been silent or evasive. They have not offered an alternative to the war in Iraq. It's easy to criticize."

Wallace then pressed Durbin to explain the Democrats' plan for Iraq. Anyone who still maintains the Democrats have a plan after witnessing their utter failure to produce anything remotely resembling one for the past three years ought to read this Fox News transcript.

Durbin first tried to pass off the question by offering only criticism of President Bush. Commendably, Wallace would have nothing of it, saying, "Well, that's criticism, sir.

What is your plan?"

Durbin, after promising to "be very specific," proceeded to offer an embarrassingly vague three-point "plan." He said Democrats support the "bipartisan" Senate approach to: 1) establish 2006 as "a year of transition, where the Iraqis take control of their own security and defense;" 2) put Iraqis on notice that "they have to form a government that embraces all of the factions within Iraq so that we can see finally a government of unity leading to some sort of progress for the people of Iraq;" 3) demand accountability from President Bush, by making him report our progress in Iraq every three months.

With respect, this tripe wouldn't be taken seriously in a high-school debate. The third point cannot reasonably be considered part of a plan at all; merely a reporting requirement. And, President Bush is already trying to accomplish the first two points, but they are broad goals, not specific elements of a strategic plan.

As for point one, everyone knows the administration has been trying feverishly to train Iraqi security forces to take over the primary role of defending Iraq. But neither Durbin nor any other Democrats offered specifics to expedite the transition because even they know it is a matter for the generals to handle, not officious, micromanaging politicians.

Indeed, their chest-pounding about training Iraqi troops faster reminds me of the weaselly President Charles Logan on the phenomenal TV series "24," demanding, with all the authority of the late "Barney Fife," that CTU "find those terrorists right now before they release their nerve gas." Like the Democrats, there is an inverse relationship between the shrillness of Logan's demands and the rationality and constructiveness of those demands. Like the Democrats, Logan brings nothing to the table. He just criticizes and impedes those genuinely trying to protect America's interests.

As for point two of the plan, President Bush clearly envisions Iraqis working together in the newly formed government. But he hasn't issued threats in case of their noncompliance.

But how about Durbin? What does he propose we do if Iraqis don't demonstrate the degree of unity that he and his fellow uniters demand? Precisely how would he suggest that we Americans compel greater sectarian harmony in the new government structure? Again, they offer nothing specific. In fact, what they offer doesn't even rise to the level of vagueness. It's just nothing. Nothing at all but more insultingly vacuous rhetoric.

Moving on, Durbin's responses to Wallace's questions about Sen. Feingold's attempt to censure President Bush were equally revealing of the Democrats' unfitness on national security matters.

First, he said Feingold's frustration with the Republican Senate for not holding Bush accountable is what led to the censure resolution. Second, he admitted that they needed more information to determine whether the NSA surveillance program "violated the law."

So here we have a leading Democratic senator refusing to condemn a like-minded colleague for trying to censure a president — an extremely serious act — for violating a law they don't even know for sure was violated — all because they are frustrated with fellow legislators — not the president. Talk about a reckless transfer of hostility.

Isn't it time for Democrats to demand more from their leaders?

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com. And to read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank the employees of the Big Spring VA Hospital on

the third and the fifth for my hip.

four and the rehabilitation center for the excellent treatment I received

Thank you so much.

JOHN STAULCUP
BIG SPRING

Let's get behind election reform

Good news: The Bush people have put out a new "strategy." The bad news is it's the same as the old one.

The Pentagon's strategic review plan again commits us to promoting democracy hither and yon through such effective means as pre-emptive war, bombing and other good stuff.

This is the same plan we've been working from, with mixed results so far. In the Middle East, the Palestinians had an election and put Hamas in charge. That didn't seem to make anyone happy. Lebanon had an election and put Hezbollah in charge. The theory that democracy would solve all problems is especially dicey in Iraq. The Iraqis have now elected an entire government, but they don't seem to be able to get it to gel. Meanwhile, we are committed to forcing democracies into existence as though they were so many slow spring bulbs.

I do like the idea of supporting democracy, however, and think we should try it — especially here in the U.S. of A. To this end, a couple of dandy ideas are now circulating, and I think they're worth your support and excitement. For ages, all good reformers have wanted to get rid of the Electoral College and have direct popular election of presidents, instead. The disastrous election in 2000 finally culminated in Bush v. Gore, a Supreme Court decision so bad even the court disowned it at the time.

Every nightmare scenario about just how screwed up things could get with the Electoral College all came true. What a giant mess: a textbook case of why the Electoral College is toxic piffle. But the desire to Do Something about the mess in 2000 burned itself out. The Republicans who took over Congress are just not natural reformers.

Trouble is, the system has just about "ruin" presidential elections, which now turn on a hand-

ful of swing states, while everyone else is ignored. While millions of dollars, hours of political ads and hordes of politicians descend every four years on the swing states, you can barely tell there's an election going on in the rest of the country. Should you live safely tucked into a solidly red or blue state, your vote is

unsought, uncoun-
ted and unnecessary — we know how your state's votes will be cast whether you vote or not.

There is a new move promoted by the Campaign for a National Popular Vote to end-run all the problems normal-

ly associated with abolishing the Electoral College. This is a state-by-state effort to instruct each state's electors to vote for whichever candidate gets the most popular votes nationwide. Look at 2004: A switch of 60,000 votes in Ohio would have thrown the entire election to John Kerry, despite the fact that George Bush was 3 million votes ahead nationwide.

The Campaign for a National Popular Vote has a dandy new approach. Instead of trying to amend the Constitution through a long, difficult process that can and will be stalled by small states, the campaign proposes a simpler, elegant solution. According to the Constitution, each state legislature can instruct its own electors to cast their votes however the state decides, usually as winner-take-all for whichever candidate carries the state. But there is no reason a state legislature cannot instruct its electors to vote for whomever wins the popular vote.

Democracy! What a concept! The states can do this one-by-one, subscribing to an interstate compact that would take effect when enough states join to elect the actual winner — a majority of the 538 electoral votes.

Wouldn't it be fun? Candidates campaigning everywhere — everyone's vote wanted? Democrats in Texas, Republicans in New York, all sought after, cared about as though we actually matter. Yes, this would make campaigns harder on candidates and probably more expensive, as well. And that in turn makes public campaign financing all the more likely. Yea!

Another potentially hopeful development lurks in the Texas redistricting case. True, if the Supreme Court reverses the appalling Texas plan, the guy most likely to benefit is Rep. Tom DeLay (he would get back a slew of Republican voters he gave away), but *sest la vie*. Gerrymandering congressional districts — an art form long practiced by both parties — may have an aged pedigree, but like money in politics, it has gone so far that it is destroying democracy.

With computers, districts can be drawn to such perfect political one-sidedness that there is, in fact, no point in holding elections at all. The Supreme Court is highly unlikely to stop this process entirely, but even a check on it would be useful.

There is another simple, elegant solution for this problem. Iowa already uses it — a nonpartisan redistricting commission. The result is that four of Iowa's five congressional seats are competitive. Politicians actually have to go out and listen to voters in order to get elected.

In most districts, re-election is so automatic it might as well be a hereditary right. When at least 98 percent of Congress gets re-elected every year, one really has to question whether democracy exists at all in this country. Now's our chance — sign us up for the Pentagon democracy plan.

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

Texas

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Texas brief

Two women face capital murder charge in South Texas man's death

HARLINGEN (AP) — Two women face capital murder charges in the death of a man found stabbed inside his mobile home this week.

The women, whose names and ages weren't immediately available, were scheduled for arraignment Friday, said Cameron County Chief Deputy Gus Reyna.

Both women confessed to stabbing Bart Ellis, 38, who lived near La Feria. The women took his wallet and tried to steal his truck, Reyna said.

Deputies responding to a call found Ellis' truck abandoned one block from his home Wednesday afternoon. They went to Ellis' home and saw a body on the floor when they looked through a window, Reyna said.

Officers entered the home and discovered Ellis had multiple stab wounds made with a kitchen knife that was recovered at the scene, authorities said.

Park police officer arrested on sex assault case

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Authorities arrested a Park police officer accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl.

Ricardo Rodriguez, 37, was taken into custody Thursday night by San Antonio police officers.

A 16-year-old girl alleged Rodriguez sexually assaulted her over a two-year period, according to an affidavit.

Rodriguez was held in Bexar County Jail on a \$50,000 bond.

Memorial service honors five pre-med students

AUSTIN (AP) — Family, friends and faculty members gathered at the steps of the University of Texas tower Thursday to remember five students killed in a car crash earlier this month.

More than 100 people braved the freezing weather to attend the memorial organized by Alpha Epsilon Delta, a pre-medical honor society four of the students had joined.

A slideshow of Lan Nguyen, 21, of Sugar Land; Nikolaos Simeon, 20, of League City; Fan Sun, 18, of Spring; Stephanie Wilson, 20, of Houston; and Michael Woodward, 22, of Austin, played during the ceremony.

"We grieve so deeply and send so much love to the families," Dr. William Nethercut, the honor society's advisor, said.

The five friends were headed to a student conference in St. Louis when their car collided with an 18-wheeler in Missouri.

Honor society officers announced creation of an endowment for pre-med students dedicated to the five

students.

Soldier, wife accused of forcing 3-year-old to fight

KILLEEN (AP) — A Fort Hood soldier and his wife have been accused of injury to a child for allegedly forcing their 3-year-old daughter to beat up an older boy as they videotaped it, Killeen police said.

Dennis Michael Bittinger, 22, was arrested Wednesday and his wife, Rhonda Nicole Bittinger, 23, was taken into custody Thursday, police said.

The fight allegedly occurred Saturday while the couple babysat for the 5-year-old son of a friend, police said. When the boy's mother arrived to pick him up, she turned on the couple's video camera, which had previously been used to tape the children playing.

Police said the tape shows the soldier commanding his daughter to knock the victim down, kick him and hit him in the face. The girl follows her father's instructions as the boy cries and pleads for her to stop, police said.

The tape also shows the man declaring his daughter the "winner," and he shoves the boy and demands to know why he didn't defend himself, police said.

The incident left the boy with bruises.

Bond has been set at \$100,000 each for the husband and wife, who were being held in the Bell County Jail Thursday night. It wasn't immediately clear if they had a lawyer.

Texas begins cracking down on drunks in bars

AUSTIN (AP) — Get fall-down drunk in a bar and it may cost more than a bruised backside: Try \$500 or a few hours in jail.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is sending undercover officers into bars to look for the exceedingly drunk, issuing citations or making arrests for public intoxication even if patrons haven't left the building.

"Drinking is fine," said agency spokeswoman Carolyn Beck. "But when people drink too much, they become dangerous to themselves and other people."

The program was started as a way to reduce drunken driving. It targets not only those who are drunk, but the bars and bartenders who continue to serve them and those who serve underage

drinkers. So far, it has resulted in about 2,200 arrests or citations around the state.

According to the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Web site, Texas had 1,264 alcohol-related traffic fatalities in 2004, the most in the nation.

"We're trying to reduce that and save lives," Beck said.

B.J. Hassell, manager of victims services with

MADD Texas State, which serves a 29-county area in Central Texas, said her organization supports the crackdown.

"Can you imagine if TAEC had not stopped those people from leaving the bar, how many more drunk drivers we might have had on the road?" Hassell said.

The most recent sting was March 10, when agents infiltrated more

than 30 bars in Irving, arresting or citing dozens of people.

Greg Turnbow, who sipped a beer in a downtown bar during happy hour Thursday, was on a business trip from Nashville, Tenn. He said the Texas policy surprised him.

"This almost seems like entrapment," he said. "If somebody's in a bar causing trouble, they should

be arrested. I can see why it's being done for the safety of other people, (but) that's just too much."

Panel to find a way to track child abuse cases

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Supreme Court on Thursday appointed seven judges, a lawmaker and an assistant district attorney to a new task force charged with finding a way to track child abuse cases as they move through the courts.

The task force, chaired by Bexar County District Judge John Specia, will develop a plan for a uniform statewide computerized data system that will help judges track cases' progress, identify children that need attention and pinpoint sources of delay in court proceedings.

"As gatekeepers for families in crisis, courts must have the tools necessary to ensure children a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible," Supreme Court Justice Harriet O'Neill said in a statement. "A uniform case-management and tracking system is a critical step."

The task force, which also includes court clerks, college professors and a representative from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, will look for federal and national funding sources to help pay for the new program.

Texas may be able to tap into \$50 million Congress appropriated last month for grants to states willing to work with child welfare agencies to collect and share data to improve case tracking and the analysis of child abuse and neglect cases.

F. Scott McCown, a former judge turned advocate for abused children, applauded the panel's creation and said it could have a big impact on the child welfare system.

"It's a wonderful idea," said McCown, who heard about 2,000 child abuse cases involving about 4,000 children in a little more than a decade. "The goal is to move children to permanency as quickly as can be done, and to do

that judges have to be able to track their cases."

McCown juggled hundreds of child abuse cases, at a time in his decade on the bench. Each case involved multiple deadlines, some involved multiple deadlines for each of the family's children.

It got so overwhelming that Travis County created its own tracking system, he said. But not every county had the money to do that, and the systems that do exist aren't compatible with each other.

That makes it hard to track families that move from one part of the state

to another and to identify children that keep coming back into the foster care system, he said.

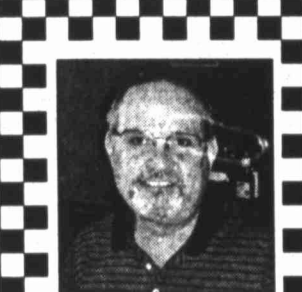
Strengthening the courts that handle child abuse cases was a top recommendation in a 2004 report by the Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care, a national panel of child welfare experts.

Courts that have implemented data management systems have changed practices that caused needless delays, demonstrated the need for additional resources or the redeployment of existing resources and hastened

children's movement out of the foster care system, the commission said in its report.

"If you want to be able

to see how you're doing and know where your challenges are you've got to have good data," McCown said.



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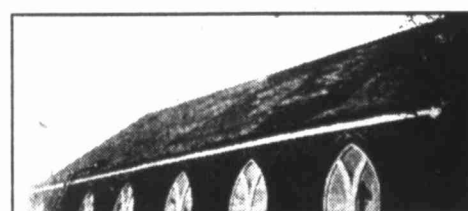
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Church News

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and church worship is at 11 a.m.

Easter season celebrations through praise and worship continue Sunday. Wednesday, the Mid-High Youth meet at 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary for food, Bible study and buddy projects.

Coahoma United Methodist Church is located at 401 N. Main in Coahoma. The Rev. Donita Lea is the pastor. For more information, call 432-394-4432.

"The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances." ~Robert Flatt

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matt Miles will speak on text taken from John 3:14-21 Sunday at worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday school begins at 9:45 and Take 10 starts at 10:35 a.m.

A fellowship luncheon is scheduled for after church Sunday, hosted by the church youth. This is a youth fund-raiser to help pay for their mission trip in July. Hamburgers will be served and the theme of the luncheon is Lizard Rock Café. The youth are also selling Easter lilies.

Other activities for the week are: Presbyterian Women at 2 p.m. Tuesday; Youth group meeting from 5 to 7 p.m.; Bible study at 5:17 p.m. in the chapel and choir practice at 6 p.m., all held Wednesday.

First Presbyterian is located on Runnels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. Father Liggett's topic this Sunday is "Where is our help?"

The Episcopal Church Women have a meeting this Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in the library.

The Inquirers' Class meets in Tuesday at 7 p.m. This is a class for adults who are interested in learning more of the ways and teachings of the Episcopal Church. For more information about this class, call the church office at 267-8201.

St. Mary's Lenten program continues Wednesday. This year's theme is the Seven Deadly Sins. The all-parish meatless Pot Luck Supper is at 6 p.m. This ends with a brief service of Compline.

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

Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

The public is invited to the 82nd church anniversary Sunday at 3:30 p.m. The Rev. E.C. Wilson of Terrell, former pastor of Mt. Bethel, is the guest speaker.

Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. and morning worship is at 11 a.m. every Sunday. Youth ministry meets each Sunday at 5 p.m. and each Wednesday at 6 p.m. The church is located at 630 Sgt. Paredez St. (NorthWest Fourth). The Rev. William Vaughn is pastor.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Sunday is youth night from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. with pizza and ice cream floats. They will be getting shirt sizes to order Christian shirts and discussing upcoming summer camp and other activities.

Birdwell Lane Baptist is located at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church

Elder Joseph Weyel of Bethany P.B.C., San Antonio, is scheduled to be the guest minister at the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church is located at 201 E. 24th St.

Bible study is every Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information, call John Wayne Metcalf at 394-4067 or Dennis Walker at 264-1363.

First United Methodist Church

Worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. The Rev. Dave Ring's message is "Receive Your Sight;" the gospel Scripture text is Mark 10:46-52. Sunday school meets at 9:45 a.m.

The Centered in Praise Ensemble meets at 3 p.m. Rehearsal for the children's musical is from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday. The GIGsters fellowship is from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. The junior high youth meet at 5:30 p.m. and the senior high youth meet at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Pardee building. There will be a joint worship service at Baker's Chapel A.M.E. Church at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Tuesdays Kid's Club meets from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. The symphony chorus meets at 7 p.m.

Wednesdays begin with Children's Day Out at 9 a.m.; Lunch/Bible study is at noon. The Hispanic Ministry has Bible study at 6 p.m. in the Men's Bible Class. Also, Wednesday is handbell practice at 6 p.m., Combined Youth Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7 p.m.

The McMurray Chanters, a premier vocal

choir, perform at 7 p.m., March 29 at the church.

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

Friday at 9 a.m. is Children's Day Out.

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

St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church is located at 810 Scurry Street. Sunday worship services are 9 a.m.; Sunday school and adult Bible classes are at 10:15 a.m. A pot luck dinner, sponsored by Lutheran Women's Missionary League, is set for 5 p.m. Sunday in Parish Hall.

There will be a Tupperware Party benefiting the Symphony Guild Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in St. Paul Lutheran church annex, 811 Scurry Street.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

The church is located downtown at 401 E. Fourth Street. Bible study and fellowship in the Sunday school program begins at 9:45 a.m. It is for all age groups - babies through adults. Morning worship service begins at 11 a.m. Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action and Mission Friends are offered for children and youth Sunday nights at 5.

The evening worship service begins at 6 p.m. Sunday. Wednesdays at 7 p.m., there is prayer and Bible study for youth and

adults. A new ministry, "Backdoor Bible Clinic," is for ages 4-12 year olds. Exciting music, puppets, stories and crafts are part of this new work.

The church offers a family atmosphere of worship. The Rev. Rex Clayton is pastor. For more information, call the church office at 267-2291.

Salem Baptist Church

Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. with the morning service following at 11 a.m. The Wednesday evening service is at Parkplace at 6 p.m. Salem Baptist is located at the corner of Salem Road and the Old Colorado City Highway and pastored by the Rev. Monroe Teeters. Contact the church at 394-4655.

Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

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

College Baptist Church

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

Cornerstone Church

Worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday and the message is at 11 a.m. A special demonstration

of faith through water baptism is planned. Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities. Childcare is available for newborns through preschool during regular services.

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

YoungLife

The Web site is working. Visit <http://site.younglife.org/sites/bigspring>. For information or to donate to YoungLife, a nondenominational organization for high school students, or WyldLife, a comparable organization for junior high school students, call Shelly Warren, area director, at 432-213-4819.

New Covenant

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

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

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Berea Baptist Church

The church is located at 4204 Wasson Road. Service times are Sunday Bible study at 9:45 a.m.; worship at 11 a.m.; evening worship at 6 p.m. Youth meet for a mid-week Bible study

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Adults also meet Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. for Bible study and prayer. The church office is open from 9 a.m. until noon Monday through Thursday. For more information, call 267-8438.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church

The annual chili supper is 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Saturday. The meal is free although donations will be accepted. There is also a book fair for donations only. The church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell. Worship service is Sunday at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:45 a.m. Sunday night devotion services are at 5 p.m.

East Side Baptist Church

Worship is at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and services are 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. The youth meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, followed by a church Bible study. There is a nursery for children 4 and younger and a juniors church for children 5 through 11. The church is located at 1109 E. sixth St. Call 267-1915 for more information.

Easter Sunrise Service

Youth from area churches are conducting the Easter Sunrise Service April 16 in the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheatre. The event is scheduled for 7 a.m. until 7:50 a.m. and will feature a speaking choir and videos. To participate, contact Jason Archuleta at First United Methodist Church, 267-6394.

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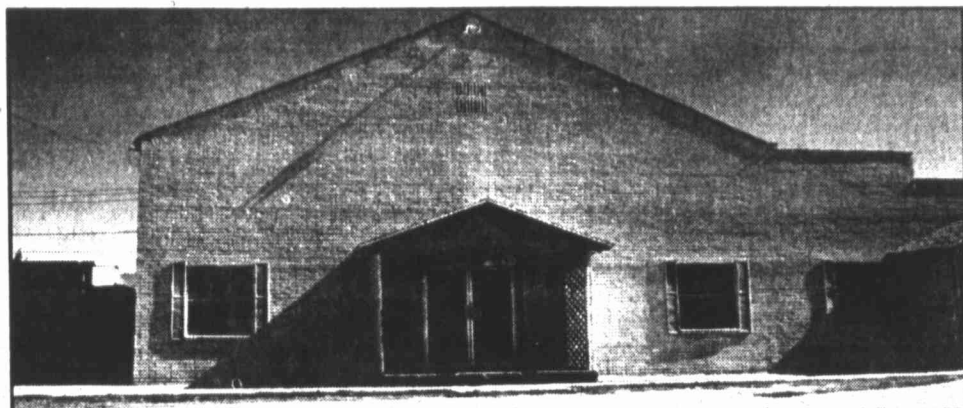
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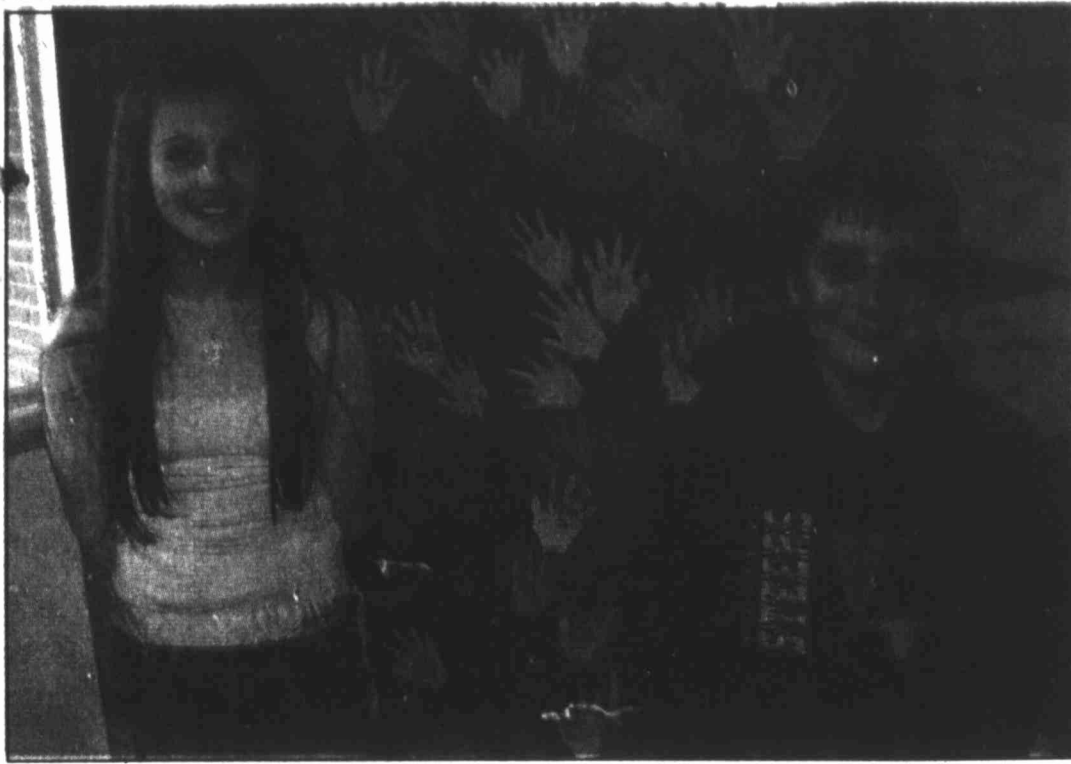
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Herald photo/Steve Reagan
Big Spring High School students Keith Vincent, left, and Samantha Lucas qualified for the Texas State Science Fair, to be held March 30 and April 1 in San Antonio.



Herald photo/Steve Reagan
Scarlet Robertson, left, and Trey Lowery will represent Goliad Intermediate School when they compete in the Texas State Science Fair March 30 and April 1 in San Antonio.

Big Spring ISD students qualify for state science fair

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Several Big Spring Independent School District students have qualified for the upcoming state science fair.

Students from Goliad Intermediate School, Big Spring Junior High School and Big Spring High School qualified for the state science meet, scheduled for March 30 in San Antonio, on the strength of their showing at the recent regional science fair at the University of Texas-Permian Basin in Odessa.

Representing Big Spring ISD at the competition will be:

- Goliad Intermediate — Trey Lowery and Scarlet Robertson, both sixth-graders.

- Big Spring Junior High School — Seventh-graders Meagan McElroy, Chad Bowles, Andrew Fillingim, Aaron Vera and Jonathan Futrelle and eighth-graders Hannah Weber, Mary Kincaide and Jonathan Womack.

- Big Spring High School — Juniors Keith Vincent and Samantha Lucas.

Darrell Ryan, director of curriculum for BSISD, said the students had to survive a series of strenuous competitions to qualify for the state science fair.

"Each year science students from all across the state prepare projects for science fair competition," Ryan said. "There is a local school competition where students compete against one another at their own campus to determine the best projects."

The winners of campus competition then proceeded to a district judging

where again students competed against fellow local students to determine which had the best projects, Ryan said.

Local winners advanced to the Regional Science Fairs at UTPB Saturday, where they competed against students from across the Permian Basin.

For elementary students in grades 3 through 5, this was their highest level of competition this year, while students in grades 6 through 12 vied for the opportunity to compete at the state level.

BSISD elementary winners were:

- Bauer Magnet — Shalee Franks, first place in Life Science; and Clarissa Rodriquez, Special Award.

- Kentwood Elementary — Zachery Hollis second place in Earth/Space Science; and Brianna Kight, Special Award.

- Moss Elementary — Carlee Daniel, second place in Behavioral Science; and April Valle,

third place in Earth/Space Science.

- Washington Elementary — Ashely Garza, second place in Behavioral Science; Jasmine Rios, third place in Behavioral Science; and Charles Dykes, third place in Environmental Science.

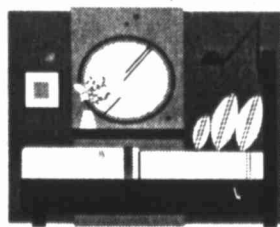
- Goliad Intermediate — Brady Weber, second place in Chemistry fifth grade.



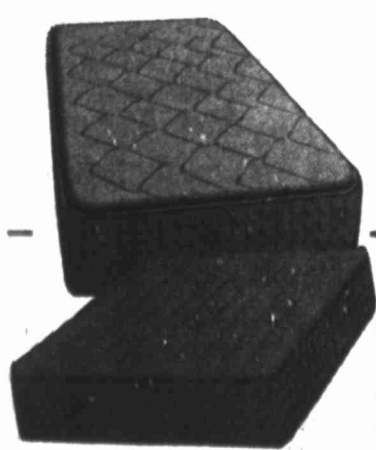
Herald photo/Steve Reagan
Big Spring Junior High School students who qualified for the Texas State Science Fair March 30 in San Antonio are, front row, left to right: Hannah Weber, Meagan McElroy and Mary Kincaide; second row, left to right: Chad Bowles, Andrew Fillingim; Jonathan Womack, Aaron Vera and Jonathan Futrelle.

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IN BRIEF

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

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

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

KBSB golf tournament announced for month of April

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

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

For more information, contact the country club at 267-5333.

Relay For Life soccer and dodgeball tournament

The Relay For Life has scheduled a soccer and dodgeball tournament Saturday at Goliad Gymnasium at 10 a.m.

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

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

Scramble set for country club

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

Entry fee is \$10 per player plus golf. Private carts are welcome. Entry includes a bar dinner on the day of April 1.

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

For more information, call 267-5333.

4-man scramble set for CTG

A four-man scramble golf tournament will help defray expenses for the Mendoza is scheduled April 2 at Com Trail Golf Course.

Entry fee is \$10 per person, which includes a meal.

The tournament begin with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Carlos Mendoza at 267-7116 or Billy Pineda at 267-7116.

IN BRIEF

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

The Big Spring baseball team will have "Meet the Steers" night today at the high school baseball field from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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

KBSB golf touney announced for month of April

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

The tournament will start at 9 a.m. and cost \$60 per person. The touney is a four-person scramble.

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

Relay For Life sets dodgeball touney

The Relay For Life has scheduled a dodge ball tournament for Saturday at the Gollad Gym beginning at 10 a.m.

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

The tournament will be sponsored by Yellow Dogs and for more information, contact Angel Sosa at 264-4108.

Scramble set for country club

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

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

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

For more information, call 267-5354.

4-man scramble set for CTGC

A four-man scramble golf tournament to help defray medical expenses for Willie Mendoza is set for April 2 at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Entry fee is \$20 per person, which will include a meal.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Charille Mendoza at 267-7757 or Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

Cold shooting ices HC title hopes

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — The top-ranked Howard College men's basketball team picked the worst time to have a bad shooting night.

The Hawks made just 22 percent of their shots from the field, including a four-for-25 3-point shooting performance, and their run to a national championship came to an sudden halt Thursday night as Howard (32-2) lost to No. 14 Tallahassee, 43-39, in the quarterfinals of the National Junior College Athletic Association Tournament at the Hutchinson Sports Center.

"We had no answers on the offensive end," said Howard head coach Mark Adams. "The ball didn't bounce our way and you have to credit Tallahassee for most of that."

The shooting woes did not come from just one or two shooters. Sophomore Charles Burgess was 2-for-12, sophomore Richard Forbes made just 2 of 11 and sophomore Dezmon Harris went 0-for-8. Freshman Phil Murphy was also 1-for-5.

"I apologize to the fans for having to watch this game," said

Adams. "It was ugly."

The Hawks shot just 16 percent in the first half and only trailed by seven at halftime. That was in large part due to Tallahassee's inability to shoot the ball as well. Tallahassee made 35 percent of its shots and was 0-for-16 from behind the 3-point line, but held Howard to its lowest point total of the season. The final score was the third-lowest point total in the history of the NJCAA Tournament and the 39 points set a Tallahassee school record for the fewest points allowed in a game.

"When you get two very competitive teams the focus usually shifts to defense and that is what happened tonight," said Tallahassee head coach Eddie Barnes. "I thought we did a good job of stopping their penetration and cutting down their angles."

If there was a sure thing in the game for Howard, it was freshman Benny Valentine.

He finished with a game-high 18 points, but made only 7 of 17 shots from the floor and was 2-for-8 from behind the 3-point line.

Valentine had nine points at halftime and the Hawks trailed 24-17. A jumper by Valentine and

3-pointer by Forbes made it a three-point deficit for Howard, but four straight points from the Eagles pushed the momentum back into their favor.

The Eagles led by as many as 12 in the second half until a Valentine layup with 12:19 to go made it 33-26. That keyed a 9-0 run which got the Hawks back in contention as they tied the score at 35-35.

"We sped up the game a bit and got some easy baskets with our defense," said Adams.

From the time the game was tied until the final buzzer, action was nip and tuck. The game was again tied at 37-37 as freshman Benson Akpan scored inside. The Eagles scored four straight but Burgess made two free throws with 33 seconds to play and then Howard had a chance to tie the game with 10 seconds to play, but Harris missed a wide-open jumper from the baseline.

"We got a good look and thought we were due for a basket, but the shot didn't fall for us," said Adams. "That was the story of the night really."

Tallahassee was fouled after the miss and two free throws by Corey Famer finalized the victory for the Eagles.

"I knew if I knocked down the free throws the game was over," said Farmer.

Burgess finished with a season-low six points, but grabbed 10 rebounds. Forbes had eight points and four rebounds. Howard won the second half, 22-19, but the poor shooting was too much to overcome.

Famer finished with seven points and eight rebounds. The leading scorer was Abdullahi Koso, who finished with 10 points and he also grabbed six rebounds.

Howard's season is not over with the loss, however. The Hawks can still win fifth place in the tournament with wins today and Saturday.

They take on Arizona Western today at 3 p.m. and a win would put them in the fifth-sixth place game Saturday at 2 p.m. against Southwest Illinois.

Arizona Western lost to Iowa Western in the quarterfinals Thursday and Southwest Illinois lost to No. 4 Highland but defeated Georgia Perimeter.

The semifinals of the tournament features Arkansas Fort-Smith against Highland and Iowa Western against Tallahassee.

Fierro inks track scholarship with NMJC

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Monica Fierro, a two-time regional track and field qualifier for Big Spring High School, Thursday signed a letter of intent to attend New Mexico Junior College.

Fierro, who will throw the discus and shot put for the nationally ranked NMJC track team, signed the letter of intent while her parents, coaches and teammates looked on at the Big Spring ISD Athletic Training Center. "This is a blessing," Fierro said. "This is allows me to (continue) doing something I enjoy ... The program is very good. They just went to nationals and finished seventh."

The BSHS senior has been a stalwart for the Lady Steers track team the past few seasons, having qualified for the

regional track tournament her sophomore and junior years.

"This couldn't happen to a nicer person," BSHS girls track coach Robert Ridgley said. "Monica is a hard worker and ... and leader. She's always working to make herself better, plus she's always helping out the younger girls on the team."

BSHS field events coach Keith Barnes said the key to Fierro's success is her meticulous preparation.

"Nobody works harder than her in practice," Barnes said. "When she goes out there (for practice), she throws it like she's at a meet — she throws to win, and that's the way you have to do it."

This season, she has thrown distances of 110 feet on the discus and 36 feet, five inches on the shot put.



Monica Fierro, front row center, signed a letter of intent to New Mexico Junior College Thursday afternoon. With her at the signing were, front row, left to right: Her mother, Olga and Big Spring ISD Athletic Director Tim Holt; back row, left to right, her brother, Steven, and father Elroy.

Longhorns advance to Elite Eight

By CHARLES ODUM

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Texas' Kenton Paulino made the biggest 3-point shot of the game against a West Virginia team that knows all about long-distance shots.

Paulino, a senior who ranks second in school history in career 3-point percentage, hit a 3 as time expired Thursday night and Texas outlasted West Virginia 74-71 in the third round of the NCAA tournament.

"Whenever we needed a shot, K.P. made it," Texas guard Daniel Gibson said. "I kind of had a feeling it was going to go in."

Paulino's shot saved Texas from an overtime period just after Kevin Pittsnogle's fifth 3-pointer for West Virginia, which ranks second in the country in 3s, tied it with 5 seconds left.

Paulino took a pass from A.J. Abrams before launching his winner just before time expired. Officials quickly huddled in front of a TV monitor to confirm Paulino's shot was good.

"I put a hand up," said West Virginia's Frank Young, who was guarding Paulino.

"I think he actually double-pumped it. It was just a great shot. ... Everybody left it all on



Texas' Daniel Gibson, left, takes a shot over West Virginia's Kevin Pittsnogle during the second half of the NCAA regional tournament at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta Thursday.

the floor. He just made a tough shot."

Paulino's shot sent Texas to the round of eight for the first time since 2003, when it advanced to the Final Four. The Longhorns

will play LSU on Saturday in the Atlanta Regional final. LSU beat top-seed Duke 62-54 earlier Thursday.

"That's the kind of player he is," Gibson said of Paulino.

LSU sends top-ranked Duke home

By PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer

ATLANTA — No need for LSU and Big Baby to cry in this NCAA tournament.

The Tigers left the tears for J.J. Redick.

Glen "Big Baby" Davis and a pair of defensive-minded freshmen have LSU just one win away from the Final Four, stifling Redick and sending top-seeded Duke to yet another loss in the round of 16.

Davis scored 14 points despite foul trouble, freshman Tyrus Thomas swatted away five shots and another freshman, Garrett Temple, shut down Redick to lead No. 4 seed LSU to a 62-54 upset Thursday night in the Atlanta Regional.

"It feels good, but it's over," Davis said. "There's another task at hand."

That comes Saturday, when the Tigers (26-8) will face Texas in their first regional final since 1987. The winner of that one can book a flight to Indianapolis.

Duke (32-4) is heading home, having flickered out at a familiar point in the tournament. The Blue Devils lost in the regional semifinals for the third time in four years.

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1107 STANFORD, Sat. 10:00. Microwave, nice clothes, home decor., dishes, lots of misc. items.

FOUR FAMILY Garage Sale: 811 Highland Drive. One Day Only Saturday 8:30-12:00. Furniture, Children and adult clothes, toys, housewares and more.

GARAGE SALE, 1704 Alabama. Saturday, 8:00-1:00. Girl's clothes 24 months to 3T, women's clothes and lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday, 8:00-2:00. 1400 Lancaster, Nazarene Church. Lots of everything, furniture, toys.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday, 8:00-2:00. The old Ward's Western Wear Store, 212 Runnels. Men's, ladies, children's clothes, pool table, couches, beds, workout equipment, lots of toys!

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 1501 East 3rd., Friday 9:00-4:00 & Saturday 9:00-3:00. Living room suite, books, clothes and stuff.

GARAGE SALE: 2608 Oasis Road, Saturday 9:00-3:00. Lots of "Stuff" - Ya'll come by.

INSIDE SALE, 1903 S. Gregg. Thursday 1-5, Friday 10-5 & Saturday 10-2. New scrub tops solid or print \$8.00 each. Scrub pants elastic or drawstring. Lots of misc..

INSIDE SALE, 702 West 18th. Saturday, March 25th. 8:00 a.m.-? Electric stove, computer, table, children's clothes, odds & ends.

MOVING SALE, Four Families. Friday, 1:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-? 2706 N. Birdwell Lane. Lots of Treasures, clothes, furniture, tools, stove, china cabinet.

MOVING SALE: 2007 Runnels, Saturday 8:00-? Clothing, toys and lots of misc. items.

MOVING SALE: 2603 E. 25th. Saturday 9:00-1:00. Washer, dryer, side by side fridge, end tables, futon, etc.

MOVING SALE: 3902 Gail Hwy., Saturday 8-4. 1 Year old gas range, furniture and too much to list.

YARD SALE, Saturday, 8AM-2PM. 202 Circle Drive. Boys, girls, adult clothes, toys, books, Beanie Babies, electric stove, Playstation One and much more. Priced to sell.

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AMERICAN STATE Bank is currently accepting applications for a Part-Time Teller in Big Spring. Qualified applicants should be available to work Monday - Saturday. Must be customer service oriented and have cash handling and sales experience. Apply at American State Bank, 1411 Gregg Street.

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HARD WORKING, dependable Service Tech needed. Must have a valid drivers license. Oil field experience a plus. Call (432)413-5881.

HIRING FOR 2006! AVERAGE POSTAL EMPLOYEE EARNS \$57,000/YR. Minimum starting pay \$18.00/hr. benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience needed. 1-800-584-1775 ref#P6901.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for Full-time and Part-time clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

LOCAL PERSONAL ASSISTANCE Company seeking part-time employee to help with Activities of Daily for elderly. Must work well with little supervision. Flexible hours. Please pick up application at 501 W. 17th. Office is located inside Park Place Retirement.

MARKETING DIRECTOR for Caring Hearts Home Health. If you are self-motivated, outgoing, energetic, and have good time management skills apply at 1510 Scurry, Ste C. Must have good transportation. No experience is necessary.

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

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE accepting applications for the following opening:

L.V.N. -Second Shift
We are accepting applications for possible future openings:

**R.N.
C.N.A.**
Please contact Linda Ashford, RN, DON at (432)263-1271 or complete an application at Mountain View Lodge, 2009 Virginia Ave., Big Spring.

NEED BODY Tech with at least five years experience. Must be I-Car or ASE certified. Call or apply in person at Gillihan Paint and Body, 821 West Fourth Street, Big Spring, TX. Telephone (432)263-6528.

Help Wanted

NEED MAINTENANCE person with plumbing experience. Apply within, 2501 Fairchild, or call (432)263-3461.

NOW HIRING drivers to transport railroad crews. 25 Years old, pass a drug screen, good driving record. Retired Men and Women are encouraged to apply. (866)303-4100 Leave message with name, number and location.

NOW HIRING for lead maintenance position! Experience preferred & Great Benefits! Please call Schriener (432)263-7300 or fax resume (432)263-7301.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation We are now increasing our Certified Nurse Aid staff. Qualified person will be a friendly and compassionate team player. If this sounds like you, please apply in person at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

PIZZA INN

Now Hiring wait Staff must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.

Pollard Chevrolet is seeking an **ACCOUNTING CLERK**. Accounting experience required. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER. Daytime hours. Apply in person at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan. Prior applicants, please reapply. No phone calls please.

PRIVATELY OWNED group home looking for two people to fill evening slot, providing assistance to developmentally disabled individuals. Applicant must be dependable, have 3 references, personal transportation and exhibit high level of maturity. Will train right candidate. Must be drug free with high school diploma or GED. Willing to work weekends. Serious inquiries only. Contact Teresa @ 263-1408 for more info.

TAKE CARE of Elderly Woman. Spanish speaking. Call (432)267-4345 or 816-4919.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for Class A or B CDL Driver. Experience with line work a plus but not necessary. Call (432)267-6006.

TRANSIT MIX Concrete has an opening for a Mixer Driver at our Big Spring location. Must have a Class A or B CDL license, good driving record and verifiable work history. Full benefit package and 35 hour guarantee offered with wages starting at \$9.75 or \$10.25 with 6 months mixer driving experience. Apply at Transit Mix Concrete: 605 N. Benton, Big Spring (432)267-6348. Transit Mix Concrete is an EOE/AA employer.

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

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER

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

TUBING TESTER operator/derrick person. Must pass drug test. Good wages. Call Jesse, (432)213-0739 after 7:00 p.m. only!

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Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

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

LARGE SOFA and loveseat. Good condition. \$250. Call (432)264-7567 after 5:00 p.m.

MAYTAG WASHING machine. Heavy duty, super capacity, quiet series. \$200.00.

CRAFTSMAN REAR - Tine Tiller, 5 HP. \$75.00 Call (432)263-7518.

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FOUND FEMALE calico cat, very affectionate. Washington Blvd area. Call (432)263-3400, after 5:00 p.m.

LOST FEMALE red & white Springer Spaniel. \$50. Reward. (432)935-1160.

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\$299 Such As ALL BILLS PAID
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\$145. NEVER USED Full size mattress and box. In plastic from manufacturer. Warranty. 806-549-3110.

14X14 OFFICE Bldg. with bathroom or excellent storage shed to be moved. Make Offer. 1210 E. 4th. Bill Chrane (432)213-0426.

2 PIECE Queen Mattress Set, Brand New, Factory Plastic Wrapped, Factory Warranty. Only \$165. 806-549-3110.

BASEBALL BATTING cages equipment- 3 machines, netting, helmets. Office Bldg. 14x14. Pipe & fencing. Priced to Sell. Make Offer. 1210 E. 4th. Bill Chrane (432)213-0426.

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarios. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

CHERRY Solid Wood Sleigh Bed, NEW IN ORIGINAL BOX, Asking \$359. Call (806-549-3110).

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HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA at home. 6-8 weeks. Low payments. Free brochure. 1-800-915-4458. www.diplomatohome.com

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100's of movies, also records, furniture, clothes, electronics, collectible knives of Hollywood stars. Cheap Prices!

Miscellaneous

WOLFF TANNING BEDS Full body units from \$22 a month! Buy Direct and Save. Free color catalog. Call today! 1-800-711-0158 www.np.etstan.com

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South Plains Apartments
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Efficiency Apt. • \$175*
One Bedroom • \$225*
Two Bedroom • \$300*
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• All Utilities Except Electric Paid
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• On-Site Manager
• Security System In Place
• Laundry & Vending Facility
• Housing Assistance Accepted
3304 W. Hwy 80

1406 YOUNG 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$235.00 month, \$150.00 800 E. 13th 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$385.00 month, \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

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

BUILDING for LEASE for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month +deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

Real Estate for Rent

FOR RENT, 2 Bedroom house. Stove & Refrigerator furnished. Call (432)267-6179.

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1 Bedroom furnished \$450. month \$200. deposit. All Bills Paid 403 East 8th Call (432)267-2771

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

Real Estate for Sale

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

What's LAST!

20 ACRES on Hwy 176. Set up for Mobile Home. 43K, \$4,000.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 29 years. No Credit Check. (817)312-6322.

4207 DIXON. Three bedroom, one bath. \$34,750. Call 1-800-804-7110.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION. The former Dollar General building in McCamey, Texas is being auctioned March 25 at 10 a.m. Request information regarding this property. Call 1-866-323-3111 or e-mail ptaylor@rt66.com. www.ranchline.com.

FOR SALE, Extra Clean 2 Bedroom, 2 bath Brick Home near College. Den w/fireplace, util. room, single garage, new carpet. Call (432)263-6887 or 270-1743.

LIMESTONE RIDGE 2 MONTHS FREE!
Big Spring's finest affordable rental community is now offering two month's free rent on a 12 month lease.
1 bedroom - \$386.00 2 bedrooms - \$459.00 3 bedrooms - \$516.00
Please call for an appointment today!
1401 North Hwy. 87 HUD ACCEPTED (432) 263-7300

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Telephone _____ Date: _____

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Write one word on each line:

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Up to 25 words: _____ Sunday Only \$19.50 _____ One weekday only \$12.25 _____ Two Consecutive Days \$16.50 _____ Three Consecutive days \$20.25 _____ Four Consecutive Days \$23.50 _____ Five Consecutive Days \$25.75 _____ Six Consecutive Days \$27.00 _____ Two weeks \$51.00 _____ Three Weeks \$64.50 _____ Four weeks \$75.00 _____ Garage Sales (3 days) \$16.75
Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day.

Enhancements Price per word for entire run: _____ Bolding \$1.00 _____ Centering \$1.00 _____ Italics \$1.00
Price for entire run: _____ Blind Box \$10 _____ Photo \$4.00 _____ Graphics \$1.00 _____ Logos \$1.00

Prices include placement on Internet at www.bigspringherald.com

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12 noon Fri. for Sunday; 4:15 Fri. for Monday; 12 noon Mon. for Tues; 12 noon Tues. for Wed.; 12 noon Wed. for Thurs.; 12 noon Thurs. for Fri.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements; Business Opportunity; Cemetery Lots; Financial; Garage Sales; Help Wanted; Instruction; Items for Sale; Jobs Wanted; Lost and Found; Miscellaneous.; Mobile Homes; National Ads; On the Farm; Pets; Public Notice; Real Estate for Rent; Real Estate for Sale; Services Offered; Vehicles; Legals

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2006

Real Estate for Sale

EIGHT LOTS Moss Lake Road, 4.89 acres @ \$14,900. City water, electricity, phone, fireplugs. Coahoma School. Call Joe Hughes @ Home Realtors (432)263-1284 Cell 270-7877 Home 353-4751.

MANY LOTS Some Double. Monticello Addition. Pickens, Graff & Blackmon \$750.. North Monticello \$1250-\$2250. Barnes \$1250-\$1750.. Michael \$1250-\$1500. Call (432)213-0099

OLD 2 story house with 2 acres on Davis Road (West of Gail Highway). Lots of work but tons of potential with wood floors, high ceilings, leaded glass and original doors and hardware. \$11,000. (432)218-6511.

OWNER FINANCE 1508 Vines. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$28,500. Easy Terms. Call (325)893-1973.

PRICE: \$29,900 Newly remodeled Duplex: 706 13th St. Each side: 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, central air/heat, washer/dryer connections, new paint/carpet, gas stoves. Fenced backyard. Great investment property. Call (432)935-6163.

REFI AND PURCHASE. Rates as low as 1.5%, all credit. Hablo Espanol. 1000+ programs. 1-866-305-8778.

TIME SHARE Condo at "The Ridge" on Lake Granbury, Granbury Tx. For information call (432)263-3173.

Vehicles

Several New 2005 Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings
Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 4th 267-7424

2002 FORD Mustang, green, 64,000 miles. \$9,800.00 or best offer. Call (432)935-6235 or (432)267-1014 ask for Ray.

2004 TOYOTA Camry Solara, 4 cylinder, 30,000 miles, power & air, CD, alloy wheels, tilt wheel, cruise, excellent condition, economical. \$16,500. (432)263-3723 After 6:00 p.m.

Freebies

TO GIVE away Free Computers. Call (432)264-0910.

Legals

On March 20, 2006, Prime Time Christian Broadcasting, Inc. filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C. to renew the license of Television Station K46FO. The current license expires on August 1, 2006. This station serves Big Spring, Texas and operates on Channel 46 with 560 kilowatts ERP. Its transmitter site is located at 32-10-59.0 N and 101-27-54.0 W. Station K46FO rebroadcasts the signal of Station KMLM, Channel 42 Odessa, Texas. Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to K46FO's renewal application and whether the station has operated in the public interest should file comments with the FCC by July 1, 2006.
#4914 March 24, 2006

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sueella Pool, deceased, were issued on March 16, 2006, in Cause No. P-13386 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas to Betsy Pool Thornton, Independent Executor. The address to which claims should be presented is as follows:
Betsy Thornton
c/o Timothy D. Yeats
P.O. Box 2801
Big Spring, Texas 79721
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, in care of the representative at the address above set out.
Dated this the 20th day of March, 2006.

LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY D. YEATS, P.C.
P.O. Box 2830
Big Spring, Texas 79721-2830
432/267-5211
432/267-1907 (Fax)
By: Timothy D. Yeats
State Bar No. 22151200
#4913 March 24, 2006.

ATTENTION

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Legals

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
OIL AND GAS DOCKET
NO. 08-0246430

IN RE: CONSERVATION AND PREVENTION OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS
Austin, Texas
March 15, 2006

NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION TO CONSIDER UNITIZATION AND SECONDARY RECOVERY AUTHORITY FOR THE WOULD HAVE EAST SIDE UNIT, WOULD HAVE (CLEARFORK) FIELD, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public and to all interested persons that under the legal authority and jurisdiction of Title 3, Oil and Gas, Subtitle A, B, and C of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 26, 27 and 29 of the Texas Water Code, and TEX. GOVT CODE ANN. art. § 5001 et seq. (2006), the RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS will hold a hearing on April 27, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. This hearing will be conducted in conformity with the TEX. GOVT CODE ANN. art. § 5001 et seq. (2006). For room assignment, on the date of the hearing please check the bulletin board in the first floor lobby. Persons planning to attend this hearing are urged to contact the applicant (see service list) immediately prior to the hearing date to be sure that the hearing will proceed on the scheduled date.

This hearing will be held to consider the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation for unitization and secondary recovery authority for the Would Have East Side Unit, Would Have (Clearfork) Field, Howard County, Texas. Applicant will submit evidence showing that the unit has been approved by in excess of 65% of the royalty interest and in excess of 85% of the operating interests in the unit.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Michael McElroy, at (512)327-8111. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Railroad Commission, Office of General Counsel, at (512)463-6848.

IF A CONTINUATION IS NECESSARY, this hearing will proceed at the William B. Travis State Office Building, Austin, Texas, and, to the extent possible, on subsequent working days. The room number and exact time of the continuation will be announced on the record in this proceeding and recorded with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas.

PURSUANT TO SAID HEARING, the Commission will enter such rules, regulations, and orders as in its judgment the evidence presented may justify.

ANY REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT of this hearing must be received no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled date shown above. Copies of such request must be forwarded to all parties shown on the service list.

TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. A copy of the notice of intent to appear should be served on the applicant and any other parties of record.

IF ANY PARTY DESIRES A WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT of the hearing, that party should notify the Docket Services at (512)463-6848, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. If a written transcript is requested the Commission may assess the cost of the transcript to one or more parties, unless any party requests a written transcript, the record will be made by audio tape recording.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in this hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the scheduled hearing by notifying the Personnel Office of the Railroad Commission of Texas by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by telephone at (512)463-7327 or TDD No. (512)463-7284.

ALL EXHIBITS FILED AS A PART OF THE RECORD in this cause must be submitted in duplicate. Data in Commission records may be incorporated by reference, but the reference must be specific, and if it includes exhibits filed in prior proceedings before the Commission, a copy of such exhibit properly identified shall be submitted for this record.

THE APPLICANT MUST review this notice and the attached service list for accuracy and completeness. The applicant shall immediately notify Docket Services, Office of General Counsel of any discrepancy or omission.

THIS HEARING REQUIRES NOTICE BY PUBLICATION.
#4910 March 17, 24, 31 & April 7, 2006

NOBODY ASKS FOR IT

Help STOP Sexual Assaults
Call 263-3312
Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

In the cosmic band, the Aquarius moon is like a giddy trill of flutes

against the steady march of the Aries sun's snare drum. In order to move forward with projects, new associations must be made, and they are best made in the spirit of frivolity, lightness and friendly grace. In regard to social interaction, it's better to go wide than deep.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Treat your colleagues, neighbors and loved ones as if they are special. They are! They're also your passport to a happy place. The world is friendly and interesting because you see it that way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Those you love are also your biggest distractions now, but no worries. What you think is a distraction may be the most memorable thing that happens this month. Accept interruptions gladly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): If there's not enough excitement and fun on the schedule, you'll likely be in a bitter mood. So, buy a ticket to something you can look forward to or plan a distant dinner date.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): In the poker game of life, you're dealt an odd hand today. However, you can convert anything neutral or low into a fabulous play. Really. Anything.

Dear Annie: I have been seeing "Chet" for two months. I feel like he is rushing us. He has been over every weekend since we met. Even his friends joke about it, saying things like, "Well, maybe you should ask your 'wife' before hanging out with the boys."

We met through a phone dating service. Before I talked to Chet, I was single, by choice, for nearly four years. Two days after our first phone call, we met face-to-face. After he took me home, it seems we were an instant couple.

I have asked him to take his time and back off a little, but he says we are in a "relationship" and his behavior is normal. Am I wrong to ask him to go slow? Or is he right that I should act like he is my one and only? — In Desperate Need of My Space

Dear Desperate: The only relevant factors are that you feel crowded and rushed, and Chet isn't listening when you ask him to slow down. It's way too soon for him to be your "one and only," and he isn't giving you enough space to figure it out. In about a month, you are going to resent him so much, it will be over. It's quite possible that you are a bit gun-shy after four years of being single, so you may need a little more time to be comfortable in a relationship. Tell him quite clearly that he must respect your feelings on this and slow down. If he keeps pushing, say goodbye.

Dear Annie: I've been married to "Claire" for 20 years. When we started a family, we decided she should quit her job and stay home with the kids. She hasn't worked since, and the kids are now 10 and 12 years old.

We currently are faced with high credit card bills, and our house is mortgaged to 110 percent of its current market value. Over the last few

Believe it, and it is so.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You might be surprised to know that your presence can be intimidating. Some around you are feeling particularly inferior now. So, be gentle and kind. Speak in words your listeners can understand. Use terms they can relate to.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Any neurotic tendencies you have will depart now. Even obsessions need a vacation once in a while! You're so at peace with yourself and the world that you could even settle conflicts others are having.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): The morning brings extraordinary lucidity. Develop a plan to care for yourself, build up the enjoyable side of your life, and let go of some nagging and unfulfilling obligations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Financial luck is on the rise. Your correct assessment of risk is your chief moneymaking tool. If the facts of a deal are still unknown, wait as long as it takes to get the information you need — don't go ahead until you get it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A certain degree of detachment helps your project along. If the first method doesn't work, there are 1,000 other solutions on your list to try. Persistence will bring success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The ground rules at work are shifting and shaking — it's like a continental drift that will eventually change the

landscape of your profession. In regard to a relationship issue, take action now. Note: Nagging isn't action.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Unfortunately, you can't expect the person who suffers from an impersonal upbringing to be effusive and warm on his or her own. However, with a little effort you are charming enough to melt that iceberg.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be caught in the act of doing something right, and it feels great. This may inspire you to be on the lookout for success in others. Search for evidence that everyone is doing his or her best.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: During the Aquarius moon, walk into rooms with the intention of making others feel warm and welcome.

ARIES: Mix and mingle. Sweethearts see something fresh in you when you're around different people. **TAURUS:** You don't need to know what's at the top of the ladder in order to take the first step in a relationship. **GEMINI:** You have the urge to diversify in your love life.

This can be done without changing partners. **CANCER:** You learn much about love while in the vicinity of the one you admire. **LEO:** Do a little flirting by phone, e-mail or fax. **VIRGO:** Exceptional people enter your life if you are willing to receive them with an open mind. **LIBRA:** Dates require planning, but when the details work out nicely, you feel smugly

satisfied. **SCORPIO:** Dressing well helps you feel comfortable, if not gorgeous, in social settings. **SAGITTARIUS:** Relationship issues are complex and deserve thought. You needn't make decisions too quickly. **CAPRICORN:** A partner stands by you. Grandly show your appreciation. **AQUARIUS:** Romantic games can be wonderful when you remember that they are only games. **PISCES:** What you can accomplish alone pales in comparison to what you can get done with a sweetheart.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Aries feels quite powerful now that the sun is transiting the first sign of the zodiac. Aquarius is attracted to that power but knows better than to let Aries feel superior. Aries learns much from observing Aquarius in social settings, and their attraction grows stronger while in public. Aquarius would do well to accept advice and casual leadership from Aries, who wants nothing more than to help.

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.
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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

years, I have mentioned more than once that Claire should find a part-time job to help pay off some of these bills. She refuses, saying she already has worked for 20 years. I work two jobs just so we can get by, and we still are barely able to pay our monthly bills. At this rate, I will have to work for another 44 years.

Is it unreasonable to ask her to find a job? — Broke in Ohio

Dear Broke: It isn't unreasonable. With two children in school most of the day, there's no reason Claire cannot find part-time employment, but you cannot force her to do it. It's time to give Claire an allowance and limit her access to credit cards and checking accounts. It isn't punishment, it's realistic. When she sees that her lifestyle is restricted, she may decide to get a job in order to pay for those things she wants or needs. Until then, it's important to keep the household budget in check.

Dear Annie: I'd like to reply to "Spinning My Tractor Wheels," whose husband is a farmer and never has time for his family. I understand how frustrated she is. My suggestion? Have the kids help Daddy. Even a 2-year-old is not too young to hand Daddy a wrench when he is working on equipment.

Both my husband and I worked full time with three kids, yet kept the

family close by involving the youngsters with our car repair work and with helping around the house. By the age of 8, all of them could change the oil in our cars, and by age 10, they could rotate the tires. Our daughter paid her way through medical school by fixing other students' cars. — Happy and Busy in Anchorage

Dear Anchorage: We're impressed. We heard from many farmers and their wives, and they all pointed out that farming is a 24/7 job and the wife and kids should help more. Thanks for writing.

Dear Annie: My husband likes to do chores around our large, deserted property in the nude. Last summer, he went for three days and never once put clothes on. I like to see him naked, but I worry we could get into trouble with the law if a police officer drove down our road and saw him out there au naturel.

My husband says we are in the country minding our own business and, therefore, it's OK. I wonder if one needs to stay a certain distance from the road. We have no children, so that's not a concern. The only person who drops by is the milkman, but he always comes at the same time, so we make sure we are clothed.

There are rare occasions where I will join my husband outside in the nude. It feels great and makes life more fun, but I am a little nervous. We aren't doing anything indecent — just having fun. Should we be concerned? — Need An Answer in Wisconsin

Dear Wisconsin: It's against the law in Wisconsin to be nude in public. Although this is your private property, if you can be seen from the road, it's considered public indecency. Whether or not the risk is worth it is entirely your choice, but you might want to limit the nudity to those sections of your property that are less visible to the

local traffic, no matter how sporadic.

Dear Annie: Our sons, ages 20 and 22, gave us nothing for Christmas. In past years, their father or I have suggested gifts ("Let's get Dad a watch..."), and they would contribute a little cash. This year, however, we said nothing to either of them and got exactly that.

After a few days of feeling hurt, I confronted them. They told me because of their limited funds, they decided not to get us, or each other, anything (although they bought gifts for their girlfriends). Their dad suggested they could have written a card, but to do nothing, say nothing and apparently not feel bad about it is disappointing.

While we have taken care of all our sons' needs and most of their wants, we don't feel we have overindulged them. In fact, they both are required to hold down campus jobs to pay for books and spending money.

I'm thinking of letting their birthdays go by this year, to help them understand how it feels to be ignored. Where did we go wrong, Annie? — Sad Mom

Dear Sad: You didn't go wrong. Your expectations were unrealistic. Your sons have never purchased gifts for their parents without your help. You suddenly decide not to help, knowing they have limited funds and girlfriends to impress, and you are surprised by the result. Was this a test?

Yes, they should at least have given you a card. So teach them how to be considerate young men. Explain that parents like to know their children are thinking of them and if they cannot afford a gift, you would appreciate a card. You may have to remind them once more, but after that, we think they will get it.

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FRIDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMH
6	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
7	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
8	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
9	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
10	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
11	PM News (CC)	News Wheel
12	PM News (CC)	News Wheel

DENNIS THE



"DON'T BOTHER CALLING BABYSITTING! IT WAS I

BC



WIZARD OF



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER



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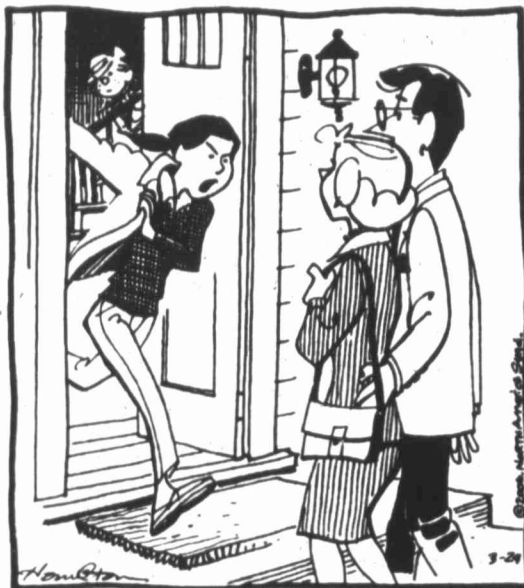
BEETLE BA



FRIDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (33)
6	News (CC)	News	Spanish	My Wife-Kids	College	La Tormenta	News	Raymond	N. McBride	News-Laver	The FBI Files	Classics	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	Phil of Future	Kickboxing	SportsCenter	John Doe
7	Ent. Tonight	Wheel-Force	Paragirl	Nanny 911	NCAA	Tierra de	Deal or No	Friends (CC)	Update/Alan	Wash. Week	The FBI Files	Murder	CSI: Crime	Movie: The	BET com	Movie: Cow	Kickboxing	World	Doctor Who
8	Funnies Home	Funnies Home	Barrera de	Trading	Regional Semi	Decision Part	Heist (CC)	Movie: My	Light of the	Sol. Frontiers	I Shouldn't Be	Movie: The	CSI: Crime	Daughter	Movie	Movie: Friday	Boxing: Friday	World	Doctor Who
9	In Justice (CC)	In Justice (CC)	Alborada	Spouses	College	Decisions	Conviction	Wedding	Light of the	Tavie Smiley	A Haunting	Movie: The	CSI: Crime	Daughter	Rip the	Zack & Cody	Boxing: Friday	World	Doctor Who
10	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Casos de la	My Wife-Kids	NCAA	Decisions	Conviction	Wedding	Light of the	Monry Pylton	A Haunting	Movie: The	CSI: Crime	Daughter	Rip the	Zack & Cody	Boxing: Friday	World	Doctor Who
11	News (CC)	News	Spanish	My Wife-Kids	College	La Tormenta	News	Raymond	N. McBride	News-Laver	The FBI Files	Classics	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	Phil of Future	Kickboxing	SportsCenter	John Doe
12	Ent. Tonight	Wheel-Force	Paragirl	Nanny 911	NCAA	Tierra de	Deal or No	Friends (CC)	Update/Alan	Wash. Week	The FBI Files	Murder	CSI: Crime	Movie: The	BET com	Movie: Cow	Kickboxing	World	Doctor Who

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DON'T BOTHER CALLING AGAIN! THAT WASN'T BABYSITTING! IT WAS HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"This is a good look."

HAGAR



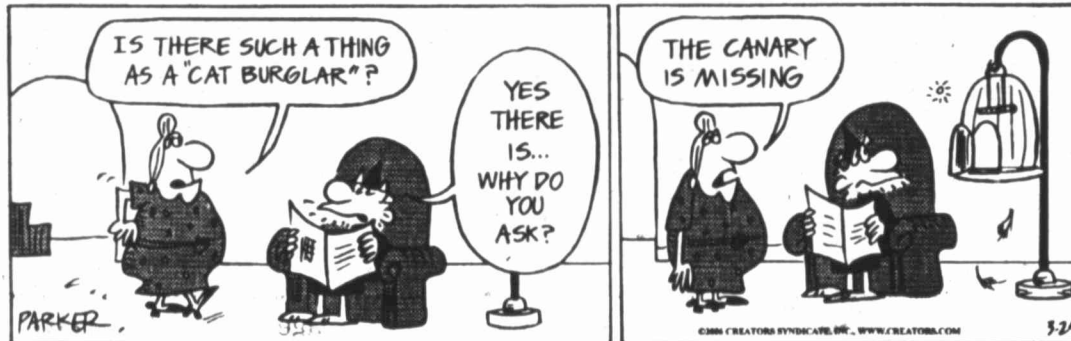
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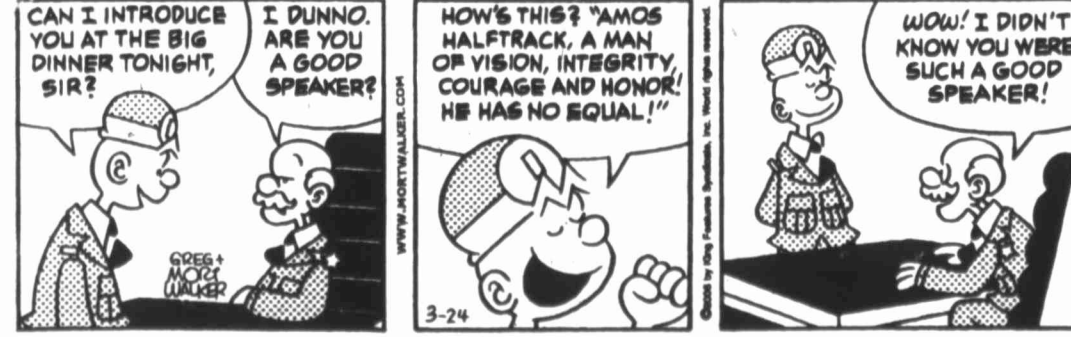
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today's Highlight in History:
On March 24, 1765, Britain enacted the Quartering Act, requiring American colonists to provide temporary housing to British soldiers.
On this date:
In 1883, long-distance telephone service was inaugurated between Chicago and New York.
In 1934, President Roosevelt signed a bill granting future independence to the Philippines.
In 1944, in occupied Rome, the Nazis executed more than 300 civilians in reprisal for an attack by Italian partisans the day before that killed 32 German soldiers.
In 1955, the Tennessee Williams play "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" opened on Broadway with Barbara Bel Geddes as Maggie, Ben Gazzara as Brick and Burl Ives as Big Daddy.
In 1976, the president of Argentina, Isabel Peron, was

deposed by her country's military.
In 1980, one of El Salvador's most respected Roman Catholic Church leaders, Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, was shot to death by gunmen as he celebrated Mass in San Salvador.
In 1989, the nation's worst oil spill occurred as the supertanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on a reef in Alaska's Prince William Sound and began leaking 11 million gallons of crude.
In 1995, for the first time in 20 years, no British soldiers were patrolling the streets of Belfast, Northern Ireland.
In 1999, NATO launched airstrikes against Yugoslavia, marking the first time in its 50-year existence that it had ever attacked a sovereign country.
In 1999, 39 people were killed when fire erupted in the Mont Blanc tunnel in France and burned for two days.
Today's Birthdays:
Animator Joseph Barbera is 95. Fashion and costume designer Bob Mackie is 66. Actor R. Lee Ermey is 62.

Movie director Curtis Hanson is 61. Rock musician Lee Oskar is 58. Rock musician Dougie Thomson (Supertramp) is 55. Comedian Louie Anderson is 53. Actress Donna Pescow is 52. Actor Robert Carradine is 52. Actress Kelly LeBrock is 46. Rhythm-and-blues DJ Rodney "Koolhaio" Terry (Ghostown DJs) is 45. TV personality Star Jones Reynolds ("The View") is 44. Actress Annabella Sciorra is 42. Rock singer-musician Sharon Corr (The Corrs) is 36. Actress Lara Flynn Boyle is 36. Rapper Maseo (aka P.A. Pasamaster Mase) is 36. Actress Alyson Hannigan ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") is 32.

Answer to previous puzzle
CREPT SOWS EDGY
HENRI QUIT VILE
UPTOP USSR ISUP
GOOUTWITHABAB
DOORS TONE
MER EMT HAR YMA
OBOE AGRO ISLES
TOUGHNUTCRACK
TONGA NEMO ONCE
OKD LPS UMS DAD
RAVI ASPCA
LOWEREDTHEBOOM
LOBO ALDA NORMA
ERIK CBER EVENT
GENE YARD SEMIS

Newsday Crossword

IT'S ONLY A MOVIE by Merle Baker
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Not fully closed

5 Last of a series

10 Old Testament book

14 "No problem!"

15 Voting places

16 Delete

17 Movie disclaimer word

19 Frost product

20 Vast quantities

21 Slanted type: Abbr.

23 Made over

24 Taxpayer's ID

26 List separator

30 Movie disclaimer phrase

33 Davis' org.

36 Office helper

37 Rib

38 "and Away"

40 Food and water

42 Construction area

43 Celestial belt

45 Sleep symbols

47 Saturn or Mercury

48 Movie disclaimer word

51 What's Up, Doc? star

52 Publishing execs.

53 Sherpa's land

57 Tempest in a teapot

59 Audiophile's purchase

60 Time 2005 Person of the Year

63 Movie disclaimer word

DOWN

1 Concerning

2 Energy, so to speak

3 Moved in a curved path

4 Full price

5 Makes a choice

6 Miss Piggy's query

7 "Evil Woman" group

8 Bonding

9 Mgr.'s helper

10 Goes off

11 Madhouse

12 Wish undone

13 Twenties source

18 Mumbai's land

22 Lot measurement

24 Dish or street

25 Expelled, in a way

27 M*A*S*H extra

28 Spot near Sicily

29 "Doe, ..."

31 Leonardo's hometown

32 Beginning

33 Capital of the Inca empire

34 Stirrer

35 WWII hero Murphy

39 Little House on the Prairie garment

41 Family rooms

44 Rights org.

46 Father Christmas

49 Crave

50 Looked impolitely

54 Roaring group

55 Prudential competitor

56 True-blue

58 USAF NCO

59 Iditarod vehicle

60 Sack

61 Caesar's eggs

62 Final amount

64 Plan, with "out"

65 Here, in Martinique

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71

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Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Set then fold for swing leverage

By T.J. TOMASI
Universal Press Syndicate

There are two stages involved in setting swing leverage, i.e., creating the two main levers in a golf swing.

The first stage is the cocking (setting) of the wrists, which PGA Tour player Brian Davis demonstrates in the first photo below. Note the 90-degree angle formed by the left arm and the shaft.

The second stage is folding the trail elbow into a 90-degree angle, which Davis is doing in the second photo.

The wrist set

When you set your wrists for your full swing, you create an angle (90 degrees) between your front arm (left for right-handers) and the golf club. The club sets in response to the momentum of the swing while the trail arm folds to elevate the club head.

Your right wrist bends back toward your forearm, creating wrinkles across the top of the wrist, a most important move that keeps the club on plane. Thus the club is set correctly without the hands being drawn inside the toe line during the takeaway, a move that often causes the error commonly referred to as "over the top."

The left wrist angle also increases as the club swings away along the toe line. As the right wrist hinges, it causes the left wrist to cock upward (creating wrinkles at the base of the left thumb), giving height to the club head. The correct angle is created by moving your wrist so your thumb travels toward your body, much as you would cock the hammer of a pistol.

Once your takeaway is completed and your wrists have set correctly, all the relationships you need to complete your backswing are in place. All you have to do is allow your right elbow to fold as your shoulder turns.

The elbow fold

By folding your right elbow, you elevate the club to the top of your backswing with minimal exertion. Because it's a hinge joint, the elbow doesn't lift or fly (jut away from the body), it simply hinges into a right angle, providing the correct amount of club head height as the upper part of the arm comes level with your back shoulder.

The leverage, or the angles that these two actions (cocking and folding) create, literally multiplies your strength, and this manifests itself through impact in the form of club head speed. You'll notice a huge increase in the distance your shots fly when you maximize leverage in your swing.



Above: In the wrist set stage of the swing, a 90-degree angle is formed by the left arm and the shaft. Below: In the elbow fold stage, the elbow simply hinges into a right angle.



Rory Sabbatini is now in his eighth season on the PGA Tour and says he has matured a bit since his rookie season of 1999 (left, celebrating a putt at the BellSouth Classic).



BRANT SANDERLIN / Cox News Service

Mature Sabbatini gains control of himself, game

By STAN AWTREY
Cox News Service

A great example of Rory Sabbatini's maturation was on display recently at the Nissan Open in Los Angeles. During the final round, a fan made a disparaging comment to Sabbatini as he walked to the 12th green following a nice recovery shot.

A year ago Sabbatini might have forced his way into the crowd and challenged the heckler. He certainly would have launched a verbal comeback.

But that was the old Sabbatini, the one who sometimes spoke or acted without thinking. This time he just took a deep breath and walked away in silence.

Seems you don't have to fight when you're "The Man."

Sabbatini, who wore a Superman belt buckle during the final round at the Riviera Country Club "because I have the same initials," has held steady on top of the PGA Tour money list this year. The South Africa native and Dallas resident slipped recently but is still currently 20th in the World Golf Rankings, a jump of 51 spots since December.

With the win at the Nissan in February, two second-place finishes and six top-20s in seven

"It's not that I don't care about what other people say. It's just the fact that it's more important to me that the people that are close to me, their opinions are valued, and those are the ones that I follow."

RORY SABBATINI

On his maturation process on the PGA Tour

starts, Sabbatini was the Tour's best player not married to Elin Woods. However, Sabbatini has not played a stroke-play tournament in more than a month and lost to Miguel Angel Jimenez in the first round of the Match Play Championships on Feb. 22.

Still, Sabbatini, who turns 30 next week, has started converting some of his critics.

"He was starting to play really good golf at the end of last year, and now this year it's come through," fellow South African Retief Goosen said. "It's nice to see Rory making a break for it."

It's not that he's lost his edge; he still sometimes acts like there's a chip on his shoulder.

He's just more selective about when to fight back.

"It's not that I don't care about what other people say," said Sabbatini. "It's just the fact that it's more important to me that the people that are close to me, their opinions are valued, and those are the ones that I follow."

Part-time player and television commentator Paul Azinger publicly scolded Sabbatini last year after his antics at the Booz Allen Classic in Washington.

Sabbatini, one of the fastest players on the PGA Tour, walked off the 17th green and onto the 18th tee instead of waiting for slow-paced playing partner Ben Crane to finish. The act was viewed as poor sportsmanship by most; Sabbatini apologized to Crane and has since taken steps to slow his own game down.

He went on to finish 89th on the 2005 money list, his worst since joining the PGA Tour in 1999 when he was 22. This year, he's already won \$2.2 million.

"I think me focusing more on what I'm doing is what's definitely paying off," he said.

Sabbatini is in the field for this week's The Players Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. The tournament, which paid the winner \$1.44 million last year, will feature most of the world's top-ranked players.

Scientifically constructed with strategic padding and designed by Dr. Jim Kleinert, a hand surgeon, the glove has earned an "Ease-of-Use Commendation" from the Arthritis Foundation. And the USGA has approved the glove for use by arthritic golfers if local tournament committees agree.

Suggested retail price, in a choice of sizes, is \$24.95. To order, Google "bionic golf glove" and take your pick.

SCHEDULE

All Times EST

PGA TOUR

The Players Championship
• Site: Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
• Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
• Course: Tournament Players Club at Sawgrass, Stadium Course (7,098 yards, par 72).
• Purse: TBA (\$8 million in 2005). Winner's share: TBA (\$1.44 million in 2005).
• Television: ESPN (Thursday-Friday, noon-6 p.m.) and NBC (Saturday, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday).

NATIONWIDE TOUR

Louisiana Open

• Site: Broussard, La.
• Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
• Course: Le Triomphe Country Club (7,061 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$500,000. Winner's share: \$90,000.
• Television: None.

PGA EUROPEAN TOUR

Madeira Island Open

• Site: Santo da Serra, Madeira Islands.
• Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
• Course: Santo da Serra Golf Club (6,826 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$852,180. Winner's share: \$142,025.
• Television: None.

LPGA TOUR

• Next event: Kraft Nabisco Championship, March 30-April 2, Mission Hills Country Club, Dinah Shore Tournament Course, Rancho Mirage, Calif.

CHAMPIONS TOUR

• Next event: Puerto Vallarta Blue Agave Golf Classic, March 31-April 2, Vista Vallarta Golf Club, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

LEADERS

WORLD RANKINGS

1. Tiger Woods	17.81
2. Vijay Singh	8.70
3. Retief Goosen	7.54
4. Phil Mickelson	7.24
5. Ernie Els	6.84
6. Sergio Garcia	6.43
7. David Toms	5.60
8. Jim Furyk	5.32
9. Adam Scott	4.95
10. Luke Donald	4.94
11. Chris DiMarco	4.83
12. Colin Montgomerie	4.26
13. David Howell	4.25
14. Michael Campbell	4.13
15. Kenny Perry	4.10
16. Henrik Stenson	4.04
17. Darren Clarke	4.03
18. Davis Love-III	4.02
19. Chad Campbell	4.01
20. Rory Sabbatini	3.94

MONEY LEADERS

PGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Rory Sabbatini	2,219,294
2. Geoff Ogilvy	2,180,459
3. Tiger Woods	2,092,583
4. David Toms	2,048,800
5. Chad Campbell	1,765,877
6. Vijay Singh	1,422,219
7. Luke Donald	1,409,603
8. Stuart Appleby	1,341,902
9. Aaron Oberholser	1,324,363
10. Rod Pampling	1,174,639

LPGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Juli Inkster	\$235,243
2. Seon Hwa Lee	\$217,523
3. Meena Lee	\$196,751
4. A. Sorenstam	\$195,577
5. Joo Mi Kim	\$175,452
6. Lorena Ochoa	\$140,825
7. Natalie Gulbis	\$140,815
8. Sarah Lee	\$131,700
9. Cristie Kerr	\$128,850
10. Paula Creamer	\$118,398

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Player	Money
1. Loren Roberts	\$62,680
2. Brad Bryant	417,515
3. Tom Kite	377,102
4. Don Pooley	337,366
5. Jerry Pate	332,290

BY THE NUMBERS

53

Tiger Woods' tie for 53rd at last year's Players Championship was his worst finish since 1999 in tournaments in which he made the cut.

15

Consecutive tournament starts without a victory for former player of the year Vijay Singh. The streak dates to July of 2005 when he won the Buick Open.

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Stage fright

The first tee can be like opening night with you as the star of the production and an audience made up of your playing partners, the group behind you, the starter and whoever else is nearby. The audience must keep quiet while you perform, and for the time it takes you to hit your shot, you are the center of attention.

So it's not unusual that, as a golfer, you have to deal with stage fright, the bane of all actors. It's something they fear more than a bad review in The New York Times.

Self-care coach Linda Dessau writes on her Web site (www.genuinecoaching.com): "Stage fright comes in many different forms. For some, it's a nervous

energy that disappears as soon as they begin performing, or a familiar sensation that's always under the surface but feels manageable most of the time. For others, it's so debilitating that they can't get through an audition to even be part of a performance. Stage fright has huge repercussions to the health and well-being of the performer."

It has huge repercussions for the well-being of your golf game, as well. When you get stage fright in golf, it's not that your swing has left you — it's still there, but you don't have complete access to it. Due to the pressure of the situation (or better, due to your perception of the pressure of the situation), your brain is using "fight or flight" emergency responses that are more concerned with crisis management than getting the ball

from point A to point B.

What's the solution? In both golf and show business, it's the same: You have to learn how to relax in order to gain full access to your preparation. Here's what Dessau recommends for stage fright:

• **Diaphragmatic breathing** ("belly breathing"): Why? It allows you to move more air into your body and also to send more stale air out on the exhalation.

How? Practice this type of breathing while holding your hands on your belly, to feel it expand as you inhale, and contract as you exhale. Your back and sides should expand and contract as well. Watch a baby sleeping to get a really good demonstration of belly breathing.

You can practice this at home in a quiet place for about 15 minutes per day.



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is a teaching professional at Nantucket Golf Club on Nantucket Island, Mass. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.

tion from off-center hits can set your hands on fire. This is where the bionic golf glove can be helpful.

Discuss to jail is for com

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will Monday morning to sider mostly rou items, with the excep of possible discussio the current pligh design and build a county jail facility.

The county jail has a major point of di sion and division a county level for the several years. The ing jail fails to meet

Collego to cano

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

With no contested this year, Howard Co trustees are expectt officially cancel the 13 trustee election they hold their re meeting at 12:30 Monday in the East of Dorothy Ga Coliseum.

Trustees Harold and Don McKinney have combined for than 60 years of se on the board of tru faced re-election year, but no cand came forward to o



State Rep. Pete L. Instrumental in the resident at the Lar anniversary presen

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To reach us:
Please call 263-7335 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mo if you miss your p 263-7335 before 7 noon Sunday.

