BIG SPRING HERALD

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THURSDAY

March 23, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT	FRIDAY
43°-45°	72°-77°

BSHS Key Club members selling *Herald* subscriptions

Members of the Big Spring High School Key Club have begun going door-to-door in several areas of the community selling subscriptions to the *Herald* as a fund-raising project.

The students will be wearing Key Club shirts and will have a Herald identification card. The Key Club will receive between $5 and $7.50 for each subscription its members sell during the drive.

Key Club members will be asking for payment in advance, but will only be taking checks from subscribers. Those wishing to pay cash will be contacted by a *Herald* employee.

The neighborhoods the Key Club will visit include the areas west of Goliad Elementary School and east of College Heights Elementary School, the area south of Washington Street to 15th Street, areas west of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, areas south of Comanche Trail Nursing Home and the area between East 15th and East 18th Streets.

Census Questionnaire centers ready to help

Census 2000 Questionnaire Assistant Centers (QACs) are open in various locations in Big Spring. The centers are designed to assist individuals in filling our their questionnaires. They will also have questionnaires available for those who have not received theirs by Saturday. The centers will be opened from through April 15.

Centers will be at Howard College Student Center, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon, and the Big Spring Area Chamber, 215 West Third, every Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 4 p.m.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

❑ Masonic Lodge. No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

FRIDAY

❑ Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch.

❑ The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Tom Guess throws hat into ring for District 6 on Big Spring council

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer


GUESS

And then there were four.

Former Big Spring city councilman Tom Guess threw his hat into an already crowded District 6 race late Wednesday.

Guess joins incumbent Greg Biddison, who filed after an unsuccessful attempt for the mayor position, Judy Robertson, and Brenda Weatherby Davis.

Biddison was the first to file for the position and was soon followed by Davis. Last week, Judy Robertson joined the group of hopefuls.

Guess is no stranger to Big Spring. He has lived here for 34 years and ran a business for 28 of those. He is a retired Air Force Msgt (E-7), retiring after over 20 years of service. He is 72 years old.

"I believe the time I spent in the military will be helpful as well as my experience running my own business," Guess said.

Guess said he now has more time to devote to the city council.

"In my earlier days I was too busy and didn't have the time I needed to participate and devote fully to it," said Guess. "Now I have that time and would devote myself to it."

According to Guess, the city has some problems that need to be addressed and addressed soon.

"We still have problems with water leaks," said Guess. "Our sewer lines are very old and we need to do something about them. Another concern of mine is our current ambulance service because they don't have any sense of job security and they should be able to have that."

Guess said he is also interested in the economy and the continuation of Big Spring's recent growth in that area.

"The economy is very important to me and I want to see it continue to grow," said Guess. "I'm looking for a good quality of life for the residents of Big Spring. I also have the utmost respect for the new mayor and agree with what he wants to accomplish. I believe we would be able to work well together."

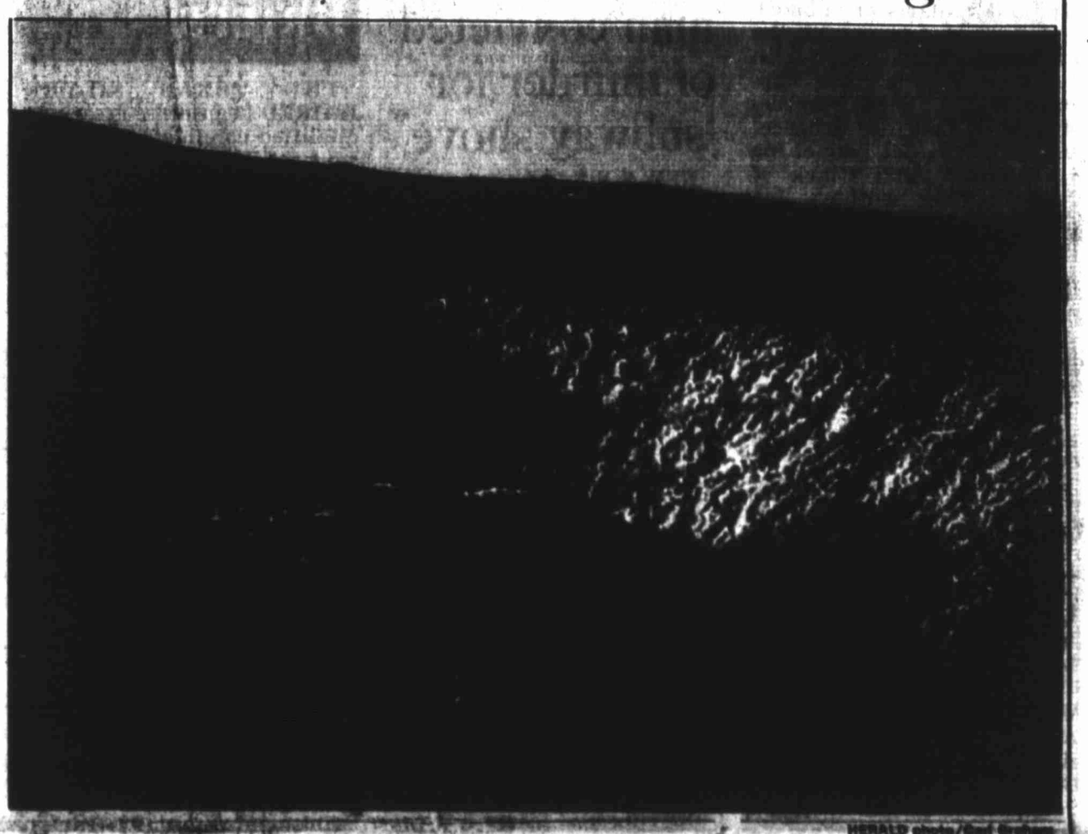
Both Oscar Garcia, incumbent for District 2, and Tommy Tune, District 4 incumbent, are unopposed in the May 6 election.

In Coahoma, Randy Overton filed for a two-year seat on the city council. Since these posi-

See **COUNCIL**, Page 2A

Thunderstorms leave Crossroads Area soaking wet

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor


HERALD photo/Carl Graham

Water was flowing over the Comanche Trail Park Lake spillway this morning following thunderstorms which rolled through the area Wednesday night and early today. It is the first time the spillway has overflowed since May 10, 1994.

Thunderstorms thoroughly doused most of the Crossroads Area Wednesday night and early today, replenishing stock tanks and providing some moisture hoped to allow farmers to begin planting their crops.

But the storms brought bad news to some local families, as three people were reported missing. This morning law enforcement officials were searching in the Mustang Draw area, off the Elbow Road, Highway 818.

A helicopter was brought in to assist with that search, and reports came in at mid-morning that a submerged car had been found in the draw. The road near the area was closed this morning, law enforcement officials said.

Both Comanche Trail Park Lake and Moss Creek Lake were overflowing this morning. Moss Creek recorded an 8-foot rise, according to the Colorado River Municipal Water District (CRMWD), and the lake road was reported closed this morning.

Rainfall amounts ranged from 2.6 inches in the Knott area to 7 inches 15 miles south of Big Spring. Most areas reported between 4 and 5 inches. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Research Service Center reported that the last time the area received this much rain was in May of 1994, when 4.92 inches fell in one day.

"It's the best rain we've ever got," said Horace Tubbs, who lives south of Big Spring along U.S. Highway 87.

Tubbs reported 5 inches of moisture at his residence and 7 inches some 15 miles south of the city.

Boyce Hale, who lives on Wasson Road, reported 4.28 inches during a 24-hour period ending at 6 a.m. today.

"It's the largest rainfall I have recorded since 1986 — at which time Comanche Lake ran over and the dam gave way," said Hale.

Other amounts included 6 inches on Jeffrey Road, 4.4 inches at Luther, 4.8 inches along the Old Colorado City Highway north of town and 2.6 inches near Knott.

Mamie Lee Dodds reported 4.5 inches on the east side of Big Spring.

Officially, the city received 3.6 inches, according to the United States Department of Agriculture Research Center. That brings the total to 3.76 inches for the month and 4.71 inches for the year so far.

Beals Creek was running at 7,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) early this morning. City and county crews reported several areas where debris had washed on to roads. Particularly hard hit was Wasson road, which for a time was impassable this morning. Another problem area was Birdwell Lane.

Those areas were clear by mid-morning, according to city of Big Spring officials.

Some low-lying areas in Sand Springs and Coahoma were still under water at mid-morning today. Farm-to-Market 821 was blocked off, according to Tommy Sullivan, Howard County Volunteer Fire Department chief.

"If they cross barriers and call to be rescued, they can be charged for that," said Sullivan.

Near Westbrook, Beals Creek was showing a steady increase and at 10 a.m. flow was in excess of 7,500 cfs, according to the CRMWD.

Near Gail in Borden County, the Colorado River was flowing. Sources said that the flow began to peak at 1,400 cfs at 6:15 a.m. today. At 7:15 a.m., flow was at 635 cfs.

Lake J.B. Thomas near Vincent was up three-quarters of a foot this morning and expected to continue rising.

At Colorado City, it was reported that the Colorado River began flowing about 7:15 p.m. Wednesday as was at 4,500

See **RAIN**, Page 2A

Jehovah's Witness convention to draw 2,000-plus here

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

More than 2,200 Spanish-speaking Jehovah's Witnesses will converge on Big Spring for a one-day convention Sunday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

According to Eliseo Gamboa, convention overseer, Big Spring hosts two of these conventions a year.

"We have two assemblies a year," said Gamboa. "In March we have a one day assembly and then we will have another one in October which is a two day assembly."

Gamboa said the last gathering drew approximately 2,300 people to Big Spring.

"We are anticipating at least 2,250 but we hope we can have more than the 2,300 we had last year," said Gamboa. "We will have people coming from Abilene, San Angelo, Fort Stockton, Pecos, Kermit Monahans, Midland, Odessa, Lamesa and from Big Spring."

Gamboa said that Big Spring had three different congregations and there would be at least 21 congregations altogether that have intentions on coming.

"Our theme this year is Examining The Deep Things of God," said Gamboa. "We will start the convention with a musical program at 9:50 a.m. and at 10:15 a.m. Tomas Abril, circuit overseer will be speaking."

The main speaker of the convention, Enrique Negron from Brooklyn New York, will speak twice, according to Gamboa. He will speak first at 11:05 a.m. and then again in the evening session at 2:55 p.m.

"We want to emphasize that Mr. Negron will be speaking just prior to the dedication and baptism service," said Gamboa. "The baptism service is a special service to us and we want to make mention of it."

Gamboa said they are expecting to baptize approximately 25 new members.

The program is in Spanish and there is no charge to come and no collections will be taken. There will be donation boxes however for those who wish to help with expenses of the convention.

"We have been very fortunate in that the convention and visitors bureau have been helping with our rental expenses," said Gamboa. "The rest of the expenses have come from individual donations."

Southwest Festival coming to Big Spring Friday night

By GINA GARZA
Staff Writer

If you want to enjoy good, clean music, then Trinity Baptist Church auditorium is the place you want to be Friday.

The Southwest Festival of Gospel Music starts at 7 p.m. and is expected to last about 3 1/2 hours.

Tickets are $8 at the door and are available at Trinity Baptist, East Side Baptist, KBYG, The Masters Touch and Nannie's Attic.

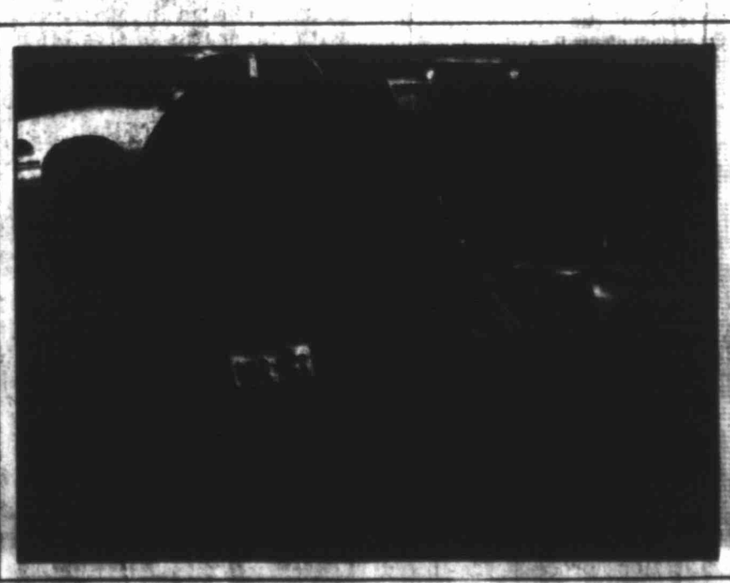
Big Spring's own local group, Homeland, will be among those performing. The group is made up of Steve Moses, Tim and Debbie Dunn.

Moses is the music minister of Trinity Baptist Church, and Tim Dunn is associate pastor and youth minister there.

The event will also include other groups.

"We will bring The Brashears out of Russellville, Ark., the Revelation of Midland, Kings River from the Fort Worth area,

See **GOSPEL**, Page 2A



A major accident occurred early this morning at 3315 E FM700. The two-car accident was still under investigation at press time but one individual had to be cut out by the jaws of life, according to Big Spring Emergency Medical Services personnel.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham

Ag

'Shorty' Barr named year's top producer

By GINA GARZA
Staff Writer

David "Shorty" Barr was named Ag Producer of the Year for 1999 during the annual Ag Expo and Appreciation Day Luncheon today at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Barr started farming at a very early age. "Shorty," as he is known, graduated from Coahoma High School and attended Howard College before going to Texas Tech in 1961.

Today, he has expanded his family operation to approximately 3000 acres of cultivated row crops, primarily cotton. He was one of the first in our area to begin bed planting and using precision planters to reduce seed cost and cut down on tillage practices in order to conserve moisture.

Barr has been involved in ranching since the early '60s. He operates 6 1/2 sections of grassland. His first herd was the traditional Hereford cattle then progressed to the European Cross breeds in order to raise more beef with a higher quality.

He has raised show steers and heifers that have been successful in livestock shows around the state. Because of the drought, he has been forced to reduce his herd from 175 to 35 head of mother cows.

Barr is said to have met his wife, Patricia, with the help of a friend. He had a friend who would borrow his 1958 Ford Fairlaine to take a Houston girl on dates. Soon the friend was walking and Barr was the one taking the Houston girl out. He married the girl, Patricia, in 1963, but their honeymoon was cut short when it rained and he had to get home to operate the sand fighter.

He brought the Houston girl, who didn't know a turn row from a flagpole, to live on the 160-acre home place in Vincent.

Barr has lived in Vincent all of his life and he and Patricia have two children, Dutch and Lindy. They also have one grandchild.

"Shorty" is active in the Vincent Baptist Church and served on the Coahoma School Board, was a county commissioner for 12 years and is currently serving on the Big Spring Co-op Gin board. He has been recognized as Conserva-

See **EXPO**, Page 2A

MAR 23 2000

Obituaries

John "Sonny" Whetsel



John "Sonny" Whetsel, 59, of Big Spring, died on Tuesday, March 21, 2000, in a local hospital. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 24, 2000, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Raymond Bugg, chaplain with Vista Care Family Hospice, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Dec. 11, 1940, in Shreveport, La., and married Sharon Vaughn on Aug. 11, 1962, in Big Spring.

Mr. Whetsel came to Howard County as a young boy. He worked as a pumper for D.L. Dorland for a number of years and for Titan Resources for the last seven years, until November 1999.

He was a Christian and enjoyed playing golf and playing the guitar and making music with his family.

Survivors include: his wife, Sharon Whetsel of Big Spring; a son and daughter-in-law, Terry and Twila Whetsel of Big Spring; a daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Dusty Davis of Mason; his mother, Emily Whetsel of Forsan; four grandchildren, Jordan Whetsel, April Whetsel, J.J. Davis and Steven Davis; two brothers, Lee Doyle Whetsel of Allen and Marty Whetsel of Forsan; and one sister, Jackie Whetsel of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his father, Doyle Whetsel Sr.

The family suggests memorials to: Vista Care Family Hospice; 3210 East 11 Pl.; Big Spring; 79720.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

Ray O. Weir



Ray O. Weir, 74, of Big Spring, died on Wednesday, March 22, 2000, in a local hospital. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, March 24, 2000, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Ed. Williamson, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Aug. 25, 1925, in McCrae, Ark. He married Betty Moore on May 31, 1947, in Griffithville, Ark., and she preceded him in death on May 22, 1996. He then married Lorrie Schaedel on April 2, 1998, in Big Spring.

Mr. Weir served in the United States Navy during World War II. He came to Big Spring in the early 1950s from McRae, Ark., and worked for Prudential Insurance Co. for a number of years. He then started his own insurance agency and retired from Weir Insurance Agency in 1991. He was a charter member of the Highnoon Optimist Club.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include: his wife, Lorrie Schaedel Weir of Big Spring; a son and daughter-in-law, Danny and Marcy Weir of Big Spring; a daughter and son-in-law, Kay and Don Cook of Big Spring; a step-son, Ken Schaedel and his wife, Karen, of Big Spring; a step-daughter, Lynn Clark of Coppell; seven grandchildren, Jessi Weir, Whitney Weir and Kelsey Weir, all of Big Spring; Lt. Jeff Cook and wife, Tina, with the United States Air Force, Casey Cox and husband, Kent, of Ranger, Mickie McAdams of Lubbock and Todd McAdams with the United States Navy in Jacksonville, Fla.; four step-grandchildren, Rendi Schaedel of Hawley, Courtney Schaedel and Kelli Schaedel, both of Big Spring and Lori Clark of Coppell; three brothers, Joe Weir of Jacksonville, Ark., James Weir of Houston and Charles Weir of Searcy, Ark.; and one sister, Trish Bean of Fort Worth.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, Thurman and Mattie Weir.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 5 p.m. to 7.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH
Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331

John "Sonny" Whetsel, 59, died Tuesday. Services will be 10:00 AM, Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Ray O. Weir, 74, died Wednesday. Services will be 2:00 PM Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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GOSPEL

Continued from Page 1A

West Texas Watchmen of Andrews and of course, Homeland," said Don Clevenger, coordinator of Southern Gospel Music Promotions.

"Jerrel Brashear, of The Brashears, is the founder of the Southwest Festival of Gospel Music," he said.

West Texas Watchmen, Kings River and Southern Gospel Music Promotions are all part of the Texas Southern Gospel Music Association.

"Most of these groups do this part-time so, we have to give them plenty of time to arrange time in their schedules to come perform in these festivals," he added.

Clevenger, along with his wife Pat, have been coordinating these events for about 10 years.

"We usually get people asking why they don't have one of these events in their area after the festival," he said. "That's how it started in Big Spring."

"People should attend this event because it is family oriented. Nothing said or done will embarrass any man, woman or child," said Clevenger. "This is when we get a chance to bring together the best groups we can afford from all over the state to come out here and perform for us."

RAIN

Continued from Page 1A

cfs as of 10 a.m. today.

Some hail was recorded in the Crossroads Area, but no major damage from hail, wind or lightning was reported.

EXPO

Continued from Page 1A

tionist of the Year by the Soil Conservation Board.

The Expo started at 9 a.m. today and includes exhibits by implement dealers, farm supplies, seed suppliers, financial institutions and insurance providers.

Seminars, which are hosted by the Howard County Extension Service, included: Reduced tillage by Dr. Randy Bowman, Boll weevil program update by David Murray, Update of farm legislation by Jason Skaggs and Mark Lundgren, Chemical weed control in reduced tillage by Dr. Wayne Keeling, Market hedging by Bryce Mireck of the Texas Farm Bureau, and Worker protection training by the Texas Department Agriculture — certification process for hired hands to handle and apply chemicals.

The Ag Expo is presented by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and the West Texas Ag Expo Committee and more than 500 area farmers and ranchers attended.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

tions are at-large there will be a race now. The others seeking a seat are incumbent Eleanor Garrett, Paulette Lindsey and Dan Shelburne. The three highest vote getters will win those positions.

In Stanton there will not be a need for an election. Jim Smith filed for the council seat left vacant when Kyle Averitt filed for county commissioner. Lester Baker will return to his mayor's post as well as mayor pro tem James Jenkins and councilman Ronnie Christian. All those seats are two-year, at-large positions.

Mentally ill man convicted of murder for 'subway shove'

NEW YORK (AP) — A schizophrenic man was convicted of murder Wednesday after his second trial for shoving a woman to her death in front of an oncoming subway.

Andrew Goldstein faces 25 years to life in prison when he is sentenced in April for the second-degree murder of Kendra Ann Webdale. He will likely serve the sentence in a state prison that can give him psychiatric care.

Goldstein's first trial ended with a deadlocked jury.

He showed no emotion after the verdict was read, but members of Webdale's family wept and hugged each other.

"It's been such a nightmare that I wouldn't want to use the word happy, but I feel like jumping for joy," said her mother, Patricia Webdale.

"I have no comment," Goldstein's attorney, Kevin Canfield, said as he left the courtroom.

Goldstein, 30, was charged with murder in the Jan. 3, 1999, death of Webdale, 32, who aspired to a career in the recording industry.

Canfield admitted that Goldstein pushed Webdale in front of an oncoming train at the 23rd Street-Broadway station, but says he did it because he is mentally ill.

But Assistant District Attorney William Greenbaum argued that it was revenge, not mental illness, that drove Goldstein. Rebuffed by one blonde woman on the platform, he targeted Webdale to get even, Greenbaum said.

Because Goldstein attacked Webdale while refusing to take his anti-psychotic medicine, the case led to a law last year that allows violent mental patients to medicated by force. It is called "Kendra's Law."

Body linked to former employee held in shooting at car wash

IRVING (AP) — A body that might be that of a woman who vanished in November was found Wednesday after police questioned the man suspected of killing five car wash employees this week.

The body was found in a grass-covered ditch near Lone Star Park in Irving, a Dallas suburb, said David Tull, a spokesman for the Irving Police Department.

Robert Wayne Harris has been arraigned on a capital murder charge in connection with the deaths of five Mi-T-Fine Car Wash employees early Monday morning. A sixth victim remains in critical condition at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas.

Harris was fired from the car wash just days before the shootings.

Information from Harris helped lead detectives to the body found Wednesday, Tull said.

Sandra Gaye Scott was reported missing Nov. 29 and her pickup was found Dec. 3. Harris was linked to her disappearance because his phone number was the last number on her pager, police said. He was questioned after she vanished but at the time there was not enough evidence against him, police have said.

Big Spring Around the Town

Briefs

THE TEXAS SILVER HAIRED Legislature is seeking qualified candidates to represent the older Texan population, those 60 and older. Potential candidates must be 60 years or older as of Jan. 1, 2000; live in one of the 17 counties served by the Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging and be a registered voter.

Candidates are required to complete several application forms which include an official candidate petition with 25 signatures and a $5 filing fee.

All travel and associated costs will be the responsibility of the elected representative throughout their two year term in office.

Interested individuals must call Dorothy at the Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging office at 1-800-491-4636 to receive a candidate's packet.

BIG SPRING FAMILY YMCA is offering a lifeguard certification course on March 31, April 1 and April 2. The course is taught by Harlan Smith and cost is $150 per person. First Aid and CPR certifications are included in the fee. You must be at least 16 years of age and be able to swim 500 yards.

Class will meet Friday, 5 to 10 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Class registration is limited to 12 people.

To register, come by or send registration with fee to Big Spring YMCA; P.O. Box 1428/801 Owens St.

For more information call 267-8234

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE is available for the last time on Monday, 9 a.m.-noon at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive.

All citizens are eligible to receive this free assistance.

Interested persons should bring their tax booklet, all W-2 and 1099 forms, as well as anything else received showing 1999 income and their 1998 tax return. Please call Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522, or the center, 267-1628, for more information.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

•A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

•Alzheimer's support group, noon, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, third Thursday of the month. Call Janice Wagner at 263-1211.

•Grief Support related to the death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-6523.

•Alzheimer's Association Support Group, last Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m. Call 267-9459.

•Narcotic Anonymous, 8 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager no.)

•Al-Anon support group, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

FRIDAY

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

•Al-Anon support group, noon, 615 Settles.

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

Markets

May cotton 59.60, down 36 points; April crude 27.53, up 7 points; cash hogs steady at 42 even; slaughter steers steady at 71 even; April lean hog futures 62.32, down 20 points; April live cattle futures 72.87, down 25 points.

courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

ATT	57 +⅛
Atlantic Richfield	81⅛ - 1⅛
Atmos Energy	17⅞ -⅛
BP Amoco	50⅞ -⅞
Chevron	82⅜ - 1⅛
Compaq Computer	31⅞ -½
Cornell Correc.	10⅜ nc
Dell	56⅞ - 1⅛
DuPont	53⅜ + 1⅛
Exxon	74⅛ -⅛
Halliburton	37⅜ - 1⅛
IBM	113⅜ - 1⅛
Intel Corp	140⅛ - 3⅜
Mid Amer Energy	35 nc
NUV	8⅜ nc
Palex Inc.	8¾ nc
Patterson Ener	29⅛ -¼
Pepsi Cola	33⅜ -⅛
Phillips Petroleum	42¼ +⅜
SBC Com.	43⅜ -¼
Sears	30⅜ - 1⅛
Texaco	51⅛ -⅛
Texas Instruments	176⅛ - 1½
Texas Utils. Co	30⅜ +½
Total Fina SA	69 -⅞
Unocal Corp	27⅛ -⅛
Wal-Mart	54 - 1⅛
Wal-Mart De Mexico	25½ - 26
Amcap	20.44-21.69
Europacific	44.26-46.96
Prime Rate	9 %
Gold	284.40-286.20
Silver	5.06-5.13

Fire/EMS

Following is a summary of Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reports:

WEDNESDAY

9:59 a.m. — 2400 block Marcy, medical call, patient transported to residence.

11:40 a.m. — Scenic Mountain Medical Center, patient transferred to Stanton.

12:09 p.m. — 3200 block Parkway, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

1:18 p.m. — 1000 block Nolan, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

2:06 p.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to residence.

3:03 p.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to residence.

Texas Lottery

Pick 3: 1,2,6

Lotto: 5,8,17,35,38,41

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriffs Department reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. today:

• **CAROL THOMPSON LIPSCOMB**, 44, 1406 Sheppard, was arrested for driving while license suspended/invalid.

• **AMANDA LEIGH ROBERTSON**, 24, 1105 Runnels, was arrested for possession of marijuana under four ounces.

• **JOEL ADRIAN FLORES**, 17, 401 Young, was arrested for theft.

• **AMBER MICHELLE GUTIERREZ**, 24, 3608 Calvin, was arrested for theft under $500.

• **FREDDIE O. SOZA**, 17, 901 Sgt. Peredez, was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol/minor and driving while license suspended/invalid.

• **JASON LEE DIAZ**, 20, 1105 Scurry, was arrested for theft under $50.

• **RICHARD MONROE BAILEY**, 35, 1305 Jeffrey, was arrested for motion to revoke probation/driving while intoxicated.

Police

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

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 4200 block of Hamilton, 1900 block of Alabama.

• **ACCIDENT/MINOR** was reported at 87 and I-20, FM 700 and Birdwell, Seventh and N. Scurry and 1100 block of N. Lamesa.

• **CHRISILDA LEYVA**, 23, 1407 Virginia, was arrested on Tom Green County warrants.

• **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 2900 block of Cherokee.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell, 1100 block of Nolan, 300 block of Owens and 1000 block of Stadium.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1700 block of E. 15th, 1500 block of Main, 1400 block of Mt. Vernon.

• **DISTURBANCE/FIGHT** was reported in the 100 block of Airbase Road.

• **MAURICIO HERNANDEZ**, 46, 1300 Lamar, was arrested for public intoxication.

• **ATANISO GUTIERREZ**, 45, 602 Abrams, was arrested for driving while license suspended.

• **BETTY NEWBERRY**, 32, 2411 Alabama, was arrested for Class C assault family violence.

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Democrats will chose between Kelly, Gandy for U.S. Senate nomination

AUSTIN (AP) — Former state legislator Charles Gandy advanced to a runoff election for the Democratic U.S. Senate nomination to face Republican incumbent Kay Bailey Hutchison in the fall, party officials determined Wednesday.

Gandy had a margin of 1,372 votes over his nearest competitor. Unofficial returns from the March 14 primary indicated Gandy was second, but by a slimmer margin.

In the April 11 runoff, Gandy will meet retired Air Force lawyer Gene Kelly, who lost six statewide races in the 1990s but still got about 80,000 more votes than Gandy and led the five-man primary.

The party's official canvass of the voting gave Kelly 221,037 votes, or 35.7 percent. Gandy, of Austin, got 140,763, or 22.8 percent. Don Clark, a computer systems analyst from Mesquite, finished third with 139,391, or 22.5 percent.

Hutchison, who first was elected to the Senate in 1993, has amassed a campaign treasury that tops $6 million.

"Mr. Kelly has gotten on the ticket many times. He's got a name people recognize. He's not a person who's ever done anything for the Democratic Party or the people of this state, and we need to make sure that we take the message back to our home towns that we want Charles Gandy as the nominee for the U.S. Senate," she said.

Sharing the same name as the movie star, Kelly, 73, lost two Bexar County judicial races in the 1980s and six statewide races in the 1990s, including bids for the Texas Supreme Court, the Court of Criminal Appeals, attorney general and the 1993 Senate election won by Hutchison.

But he said he's confident both of winning the party's nomination and of his chances in the fall.

"Time and time again, I have presented myself to the public and they have come to accept me because I've never had my honesty, integrity, basic honor or values attacked in any way," Kelly said.

Although the Democratic Party failed to field candidates in six of the nine statewide races on this year's ballot, Gandy said he is optimistic of victory in April and November.

"People haven't given up on this party at all. They're hungry for some leaders, for some fresh attention. They're hungry for us to take on the ...Republicans who seem to want to own this state," said Gandy, 41, who served one term in the Texas House in the mid-1980s.

The Texas GOP also canvassed its primary votes Wednesday.

Republican runoffs will include races for all three Court of Criminal Appeals seats. And in Houston, state Rep. John Culberson and businessman Peter Wareing will compete for the GOP nomination to the U.S. House seat of retiring Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer.

Party chair Molly Beth Malcolm said she would vote for Gandy and urged State Democratic Executive Committee members to do the same.

Primary elections in Texas are functions of two political parties, said Ann McGeehan of the secretary of state's elections division. County party officials certified their results last Friday, and the state executive committees finalized results Wednesday.

Gandy's narrow margin was the latest close race in what's become something of a tradition in Democratic Senate primaries.

In 1984, a six-way primary ended with about 1,000 votes separating the top three finishers.

The runoff was equally close but hardly mattered. Eventual winner Lloyd Doggett lost in November to Republican Phil Gramm, who remains in the Senate today.

The most famous, or infamous, canvass occurred at the Blackstone Hotel in Fort Worth in 1948. It was a pivotal moment in history. Fifteen years later, the winner — Lyndon B. Johnson — would become president.

"Landslide Lyndon" became a senator thanks to an 87-vote runoff victory over former Gov. Coke Stevenson. Johnson's win was due to Ballot Box 13 from the small South Texas town of Alice, in Jim Wells County.

New system needed for younger criminals, panel told

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas needs new laws and new institutions to accommodate violent children younger than 10 years old, juvenile justice experts told legislators Wednesday.

"It would be inappropriate to try to put these kids in the juvenile system," said Robert Dawson, a law professor at the University of Texas.

The Senate Committee on Juvenile Justice is considering whether to place violent offenders younger than 10 into the current juvenile justice system or create a new system to handle them.

At present, Texas lacks policies for dealing with killers still in elementary-school, like the Michigan case where a six-year-old shot a classmate Feb. 29, the lawmakers were told at a hearing.

It is hard to say how many violent youths are in Texas because the Department of Public Safety does not collect data for crimes committed by children 9 years old or younger, Dawson said.

Dawson told Legislators that 10-year-olds committed no more than 75 violent offenses in any year since 1995 — a small figure compared with the 170,000 juvenile offenses in Texas each year.

"It is my opinion that we are dealing with a very small number of cases of children under 10 who commit acts of violence that would be of community concern," he said.

Dawson is working with a group of several state agencies — including those dealing with mental health, education, juvenile probation and law enforcement — that will recommend changes to lawmakers.

Dawson said the juvenile justice system, which has jurisdiction for children 10 to 16, places the blame for crimes on the offender, something that is unfair for a very young child.

"It becomes very difficult to apply that kind of system with any sort of integrity to children under 10" because they have so little life experience and knowledge of right and wrong, he said.

He said common law dating back 150 years says that children under age seven should not be held responsible for criminal acts. "These were common law judges during the time of Charles Dickens, these were not bleeding hearts," Dawson said. "These were hanging judges."

Dawson said the group of state agencies is developing an alternative system that would provide emergency intervention, temporary care and treatment without blaming the child.

"You are responding to these situations and you are providing treatment and control in a responsible way," he said.

Man wounds four in church office before shooting himself

PASADENA (AP) — A man apparently spurned by a love interest walked into a church and opened fire with a gun, wounding the young woman and three others before he shot himself to death, police said.

It was the second incident of church violence in Texas in the past six months.

The assailant died in a parking lot after Wednesday night's attack inside the crowded office of the Iglesia Cristiana Esposa del Cordero Pentecostal Church.

The gunman was identified in broadcast reports as Oscar Castillo, 32.

Carlos Matamoros, the 43-year-old pastor, and 38-year-old Angela Contreras were hospitalized today at Hermann Hospital in critical condition. Matamoros was shot in the chest and Contreras was wounded in the abdomen, said Lisa Lagrone, a hospital spokeswoman.

Contreras' 18-year-old daughter, Leslie, was in fair condition at Ben Taub Memorial Hospital with a bullet wound in her neck. An unidentified 32-year-old man was only grazed by a bullet, police Sgt. Mike Baird said.

"We are going through, and making sure we dot all the i's and cross the t's. But we are confident that the four that were shot were attacked by the guy who killed himself," Baird said. "We're just trying to pick up the pieces."

During a meeting after church services, the gunman professed his love for the younger woman, Baird said.

She told him "she liked him like a brother, but just didn't want to be his girlfriend," Baird said. He said the man then told her "something bad was fixing to happen."

Following the confrontation, the suspect left and then returned with a gun, police said. He opened fire inside the church office, walked outside and shot himself, police said.

Baird said authorities had recovered the semiautomatic pistol.

Church member Jose Montana, 34, said he saw the man early Wednesday at a nearby Wal-Mart. He said he was making small talk with the man — whom he knew only as "Oscar" — when "he said he was going to kill someone."

"I thought he was kidding," Montana said.

Mother in baby sale case found in Texas, wants custody

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — The mother of a 10-month-old girl whose father tried to sell her to undercover police said she will return to Macomb County to gain custody of her children.

Police in Garland, Texas, which is near Dallas, located Idora Schaub, 29, Wednesday morning working at a gas station. Chesterfield Township police listed her as a missing person Monday.

[redacted] his daughter for $50,000 last Wednesday to undercover investigators who were posing as a childless man and woman and the man's father. Schaub had made a promotional video hawking the girl, authorities said.

The girl, her 5-year-old brother and 6-year-old sister have been placed in the temporary custody of the state Family Independence Agency.

Garland Detective Curtis Hale told The Macomb Daily that Mrs. Schaub told him she was unaware of published reports that her husband had attempted to sell her daughter.

"She seemed about as surprised as anything in the world," Hale told The Detroit News.

She said she and Schaub have been estranged for the past several months and she has a new boyfriend.

Idora Schaub told police she bought a bus ticket for Texas after a fight with Larry Schaub. The argument was over Schaub fathering a child with another woman and his refusal to sign papers to put the couple's 10-month-old daughter up for adoption in Texas, said Chesterfield Detective James Gates.

"But apparently Larry didn't want that," Gates said. "He told his wife he wouldn't let her go because he could sell her. He told me the same thing."

Gates said Idora Schaub told him Wednesday that she will be returning to Chesterfield Township immediately to try to gain custody of her three children.

"The court, I think, will be very suspect of her living arrangement and leaving (the children) in the first place, not bothering to call," Gates said. "No way she's getting those kids back. Not on those terms, anyway."

Larry Schaub, 30, is being held in the Macomb County Jail on a $500,000 bond. He was charged with child abandonment, which carries a maximum 10-year prison sentence upon conviction.

He could be charged as a habitual offender because of three previous felony convictions on larceny and drug charges. He faces a March 30 preliminary hearing in 42-2 District Court in New Baltimore.

Speaker tip-toes by endorsement

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas House Speaker Pete Laney, the state's highest ranking Democrat, refused to say Wednesday if he would endorse Vice President Al Gore over Republican Gov. George W. Bush for the White House.

"I'll make that decision later on," Laney said at a Democrat Party event to release results of the vote canvass of the March 14 primary. "We're a long way away from all of this."

When asked point blank if he endorsed Gore, a Democrat, Laney said, "I'll be working for my House members and I'll talk about all of that later."

Maintaining control of the state House of Representatives is especially important for Democrats this year. The 2001 Legislature will draw new voting districts for Congress and the Legislature.

Republicans today hold a 16-15 majority in the Senate. Democrats hold a 78-72 edge in the House.

Court hears argument in shoreline boundary case

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A battle between a charitable foundation and the state over oil-producing land in the Laguna Madre went before the Texas Supreme Court on Wednesday.

At stake are 35,000 acres along the Texas coast south of Corpus Christi. The state and the foundation each want to control millions of dollars in oil money that potentially could be produced on the land, known as the mud flats of the Laguna Madre.

The John G. and Maria Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation and the Corpus Christi Diocese, owners of the adjacent land, argued the state should adhere to a 1958 court decision that determines the Laguna Madre boundary using certain high-tide calculations.

The method determines the shoreline for property originally conveyed by Spain and Mexico in civil law grants.

The state, however, wants that boundary calculation rule set aside and contends the property line should be where vegetation begins at the end of the Laguna Madre mud flats.

The Texas Supreme Court will rule on a later date.

The Laguna Madre, a long, shallow bay, is located between the mainland of southern Texas and the 200-mile-long Padre Island.

The Kenedy Memorial Foundation, a Corpus Christi-based foundation that supports Catholic charities, controls about 200,000 acres of the Kenedy Ranch adjoining the bay.

The foundation distributes about $4 million to $6 million each year and would use any revenue from oil production for its charitable work, said its attorney, Richard Leshin.

Under civil law at the time of the Spanish land grant, the Laguna Madre boundary was set at the "margin" or "edge" of the water body, said John J. McKetta III, arguing on behalf of the state before the Texas Supreme Court. He noted the Laguna Madre mud flats can be wet or dry.

"This is an area where one can find wrecked ships coming right up to the 'margin' that I refer to," McKetta said.

Representing the charitable foundation, attorney Shannon Ratliff argued the boundary for the foundation's property should be set at a point that would include the 35,000 acres in question.

As for wording contained in Spanish land grants, Ratliff said after court: "We don't even know that we're using a lot of the words the same way they used them."

The trial court and an appellate court in Travis County sided with the state.

The Texas General Land Office wants the money the state receives from leasing the land to oil producers to go to the state's Permanent School Fund, which generates about $700 million annually for public schools.

Approximately $1 million the state has collected from the land since the lawsuit began in 1995 is in escrow pending the lawsuit appeal.

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Everyone Is invited to stay for lunch on Sunday

EDITORIAL

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

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

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Managing Editor

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OUR VIEWS

Let's support state hospital annual fiesta

Friday is the deadline for mailing reservations to the Big Spring State Hospital's annual fundraiser, "Denim and Diamonds." The event, planned May 5, will help raise money for patient service programs of the hospital's volunteers.

This year's "Denim and Diamonds Fiesta" includes a dance at the Stampede with entertainment provided by Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys.

Invitations to the event were mailed several weeks ago to more than 1,500 area residents. Those who make reservations by Friday will have their names printed on the invitation as a show of their support.

These donors come in a variety of categories: Benefactors give $200 a couple; patrons, $100 a couple; and sponsors, $50 a couple. Besides the right to attend the dance, they are also invited to a pre-dance reception at the home of Don Newsom and the law office of Troyce G. Wolf.

Others who want to attend the dance only can donate $25 a couple. Watch for more details as the date for this big event nears.

If you have considered showing your support for the volunteers who serve our state hospital patients, now is your chance. "Denim and Diamonds" is often *the* dance of the spring season for Big Spring and the area.

Sign up as a benefactor, patron or sponsor and your gift will make a difference. Don't miss an opportunity to have a great time and help those in need.

For more information, call the community relations office at the hospital, 268-7833.

OTHER VIEWS

The (illegal) aliens among us

There are aliens among us — illegal aliens — and the numbers increase daily. Though it may seem dubious, it is possible to conclude that some amount of this cross-border migration is intentionally tolerated.



JACK ANDERSON

After all, the United States is virtually operating on a full-employment economy, which means that more and more people are drawn into higher and higher employment levels, leaving the unskilled jobs empty. Enter the illegals.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) estimates that more than 5 million undocumented immigrants are living in the United States, which means 1.9 percent of the population. Further, the INS estimates that this number will increase by 275,000 people each year.

The fact is that Congress has not budgeted and the administration has not requested anything approaching sufficient funds to effectively seal the Mexican-American border. So the cat-and-mouse game between INS agents and illegal aliens continues. Americans living in border towns have become so accustomed to the game that they have come to recognize people deported by the INS who come back again and again.

Most of the immigrants flock to California, which is estimated to have 2 million illegal aliens (about 40 percent of the total number of undocumented immigrants).

The other leading states of residence are Texas with 700,000, New York with 540,000, Florida with 350,000, Illinois with 290,000, New Jersey with 135,000, and Arizona with 115,000.

Mexico produces the largest number of undocumented immigrants, about 2.7 million (or 54 percent of the immigrants). The greatest number of people come from the Western Hemisphere (more than 80 percent). But an interesting, and often overlooked, statistic is that almost half of all undocumented persons originally came to the United States by legal means and overstayed their visas. They account for 2.1 million people, or 41 percent.

This last group has an easier time assimilating because, at least initially, they do not live in fear of deportation. They are readily accepted because they are legal. Then, in a random flash, many of them are gathered up and sent across the border so they can begin the game anew. But it is not much of a game. Families are broken up, employers are suddenly left in the lurch, and their competitors, who were not INS targets, go merrily along at full speed.

The clear and great unspoken truth is that America needs these people. So are we witnessing some fantastic winnowing process whereby only the fittest survive — or are they simply the most desperate?

The answer may be to simultaneously increase quotas and enforcement, which is exactly what America did in the early 1900s, when Emma Lazarus' words on the Statue of Liberty beckoned to the world to "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning breathe free."

Dual immersion programs should be expanded

Bilingual education has been on the ropes for the last few years, but Education Secretary Richard Riley hopes to revive the embattled program by creating a thousand new programs around the country that will teach Spanish to English-speakers as well as teaching English to Spanish-speakers. This approach, called dual-immersion, has been around for decades, but only recently has become a favorite among bilingual-education enthusiasts looking for a way to save bilingual education from an onslaught of reforms that threaten to eliminate the program altogether.



LINDA CHAVEZ

In 1998, California voters overwhelmingly passed a Constitutional amendment effectively ending state-mandated bilingual-education programs in favor of English-immersion programs for limited-English-proficient children. Similar measures may be on the ballot this year in Arizona and Colorado if proponents can gather enough signatures, and some state legislatures are considering modifications to bilingual programs as well. So, what's wrong with Secretary Riley's call to "treat language skills as the assets they are" by creating two-way bilingual programs for non-Hispanics and Hispanics alike?

Absolutely nothing, so long as the goal is to teach Spanish to students who already know English. Indeed, dual-immersion schools are an excellent way to teach any foreign language. Montgomery County, Md., had an excellent French immersion school for many years, and parents vigorously vied to get their children admitted into the prestigious magnet program.

The best immersion schools usually devote 70 to 90 percent of their instructional time to the foreign language to be learned, at least in the beginning, which is a great way for students who already know English to learn a second language. But what about non-English-speaking children? Should they spend 90 percent of their time learning in Spanish, or even half their time, as many dual-immersion programs recommend?

Proponents of dual-immersion programs claim they work as well or better than traditional bilingual or all-English versions, such as English-as-a-second-language or structured-English-immersion programs. But a close look at the evidence suggests that the kids who benefit most are the ones in least need of help.

Professor Christine Rossell of Boston University, who has studied programs aimed at limited-English-proficient kids for nearly two decades, notes in a recent analysis of dual-immersion programs: "Hispanic students in well-regarded, two-way bilingual programs in real school districts score only about half as well as white students" in those programs. At River Glen Elementary, a two-way bilingual school in San Jose, Calif., often touted as a model program, Hispanic students scored about half as well on reading tests. And in many dual-language schools, about one-third of the Spanish-speaking students failed to learn enough English to be tested at all. When these schools report impressive gains for dual-immersion students, it's because they've left non-English speakers out of the equation.

Bilingual-education advocates have jumped on the dual-immersion bandwagon because they hope to expand their constituency to middle-class Anglo parents who want their children to learn a second language. It's a smart political tactic, especially since support for Spanish-language programs seems to be declining among immigrant parents who want their children to learn English more quickly. A poll last year by the non-profit organization Public Agenda showed that 75 percent of immigrant parents want their children taught in English. A similar poll taken by my organization, the Center for Equal Opportunity, found only 17 percent of Hispanic parents want their children to be taught to read and write first in Spanish.

Ironically, some of the strongest support for bilingual education comes from middle-class Hispanics, many of whom don't speak Spanish, and regret their children don't either. It's these Hispanics who are a natural constituency for dual-immersion classes, and could actually benefit from them, just as non-Hispanics might.

But no one should be fooled into thinking dual-immersion programs are the answer to helping the huge influx of mainly immigrant Spanish-speakers into public schools in the Southwest and elsewhere. The 3 million students who already speak Spanish as their primary language will become bilingual only by learning English. And the best way to do that is through intensive English instruction by teachers well-trained in teaching a second language.

If Secretary Riley is serious about helping these children, he should create several thousand new model English-immersion programs around the country, not just a few new dual-immersion programs to help students learn or improve their Spanish.



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House vote to confront oil producing nations may do little to stem prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans said they wanted to "send a message" to OPEC oil producers. Democrats called it meaningless "feel good fluff."

But in the end, all but a handful of House members — Republicans and Democrats alike — voted for a bill Wednesday that both sides acknowledged would do little to help Americans deal with the high cost of oil, or lower prices.

Instead, the vote may have demonstrated how little power Congress has to address the soaring oil and gasoline prices that grip the nation, much less influence foreign oil production plans.

The legislation, although characterized by some lawmakers as tepid and inconsequential, passed the House 382-38, marking the first congressional response to the tripling of oil prices over the past 14 months.

The bill, titled the "Oil Price Reduction Act," simply requires the White House to review pricing practices of the 11-member Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and the president to work with other nations to restrict military assistance against countries found to be engaged in petroleum price fixing.

Nevertheless, it was touted by supporters as a "wakeup call" and a "clear message" to the Clinton administration and OPEC, which meets Monday to consider new oil production levels, that this country is angry over the run-up in oil prices.

It "spotlights OPEC's price-fixing activities," declared Rep. Benjamin Gilman, R-N.Y., the measure's chief sponsor.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., ridiculed the measure as "feel good legislation" that does little beyond requiring reports — documents, he added mockingly, that "already have them quaking in Kuwait and quivering in Venezuela."

But when it came time to vote, Frank cast a "present" — not wanting to endorse the legislation, but also not eager to be seen voting on the wrong side in the oil cartel versus American consumer debate.

There were 187 Democrats who voted with Republicans for the legislation, including some who were highly critical of the bill during a two-hour debate.

"Sometimes people laugh at Congress. This is a day for laughing," Rep. Martin Frost, D-Texas, declared, chastising the Republican majority for pushing the "meaningless" legislation, which he earlier in a news release described as "feel good fluff." Still, Frost voted for the bill.

Senate Republicans, meanwhile, were planning a largely symbolic vote of their own on a proposed "gas tax holiday," possibly early next week, in an apparent attempt by the GOP leadership to try to gain some political advantage on a high-profile pocketbook issue.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., this week quietly filed two gasoline tax bills — one to suspend the 4.3 cent-a-gallon increase that Congress approved in 1993, and another to suspend the entire 18.4 cent federal levy — with a test vote planned for early next week.

Although the Senate cannot initiate tax legislation, the vote could revive efforts to cut the federal gasoline tax. A tax rollback recently ran into trouble in the House, where some lawmakers said it would take too much money away from highway construction.

Both sides used Wednesday's House debate for partisan attacks over the conduct of America's energy policy.

The bill will show OPEC "that not all branches of this government are asleep at the wheel," said Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., accusing the Clinton administration of sitting by idly for 18 months as prices soared. Other GOP lawmakers accused the White House of imposing an energy policy that has stifled domestic oil production.

Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, the majority whip, accused the administration of "tin cup diplomacy, running around begging OPEC to open their valves" while accusing the White House of ignoring domestic oil producers.

Democrats shot back that it has been the Republican majority in Congress that has blocked legislation promoting energy conservation and more fuel-efficient automobiles, and several years ago wanted to close down the Energy Department.

INS criticized for release of criminal aliens who go on to commit new crimes

WASHINGTON (AP) — A key House lawmaker is harshly critical of the immigration service for releasing 35,000 immigrants with criminal records into U.S. communities over the past five years, saying one-third of them went on to commit new crimes.

"I just find this another absolutely catastrophic failure of this agency," Rep. Harold Rogers, R-Ky., said.

Rogers, who chairs the House appropriations subcommittee that funds immigration operations, made clear his displeasure during a sharp round of questions lobbed at Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner during a hearing by his panel Wednesday.

Of the 35,318 criminal aliens freed by INS during the five-year period ending last May, 11,605 went on to commit new crimes, Rogers said, citing newly compiled Justice Department figures.

"What we're dealing with here is mayhem on the American people, and that cannot be tolerated," Rogers fumed, saying 98 homicides, 142 sexual assaults, 347 robberies and 1,214 assaults were among the total.

Meissner defended her agency's performance, although she acknowledged that the numbers are "of great concern to us."

"The custody of criminal aliens is a top priority of this agency and the removal of these aliens is occurring at a very rapid rate," she said.

Many of the releases weren't at INS' discretion, Meissner said, ordered either because the incarcerated immigrants had won their deportation cases or because bond was allowed by judges.

In other cases, she said, INS exercised its discretion to release criminal aliens viewed as posing no flight risk or danger to the community. Included in that category are a class of essentially stateless immigrants whose home countries — Cuba, Vietnam and Laos among them — refuse to accept their return and who otherwise would remain indefinitely incarcerated, long after completing their sentences.

Included in the total, are an as-yet uncalculated number of criminal aliens who were deported but slipped back into the states, INS officials said.

Recidivism "occurs at an alarmingly high rate for U.S. citizen criminals just as it does for criminal aliens," Meissner said.

The criminal aliens' recidivist rate of 37 percent pales in comparison to the 66 percent rate posted by the U.S. criminal population, INS officials said, though they acknowledge the five-year snapshot might not provide a complete picture.

The controversy over criminal alien releases was touched off after the INS' parent, the Justice Department, complied with a demand for information from the House Judiciary Committee.

Angered by the INS' release of a Mexican drifter suspected in nine killings, the Judiciary Committee's chairman issued subpoenas last August for information on recidivist criminal aliens.

INS has been under fire for allowing Angel Maturino Resendez, the suspected "railroad killer," to slip repeatedly through its fingers. Also known as Rafael Resendez-Ramirez, he is charged in connection with murders in Texas, Illinois and Kentucky. His trial in one of the Texas slayings begins next week.

The Justice Department's inspector general, in a report earlier this week, blamed Resendiz' release on errors by poorly trained immigration agents and design flaws in their computerized lookout system.

Resendiz allegedly murdered four more people in this country after the Border Patrol released him back to Mexico last June. When released, he was wanted by the FBI, Texas Rangers and Houston police for questioning about murders near U.S. rail lines.

NASA chief admits agency cut too many workers, had management problems

WASHINGTON (AP) — NASA, trying to do more missions with less money and fewer people, made management mistakes that contributed to a string of recent failures in space, says the chief of the agency.

"We probably cut too tight" in reducing the NASA work force from 25,000 to 18,500 over the last seven years, Daniel S. Goldin, NASA's administrator, told the Senate Commerce subcommittee on space Wednesday. "We found we were really too thin."

Goldin said the agency lost many veteran engineers over those years, and there was inadequate training and mentoring for young, inexperienced workers who were hired.

Additionally, he said, there was a failure in communication between engineers, and technicians doing the work and the management personnel overseeing it.

"There was no good communication feedback," Goldin said. "People were talking and we weren't hearing them."

Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., chairman of the subcommittee, said he called the hearing to get an explanation for what he called a "very difficult" year for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

During 1999, two NASA probes to Mars were lost without a trace; shuttle missions were delayed because of damaged equipment; workers accidentally threw away tanks built for the International Space Station, and an urgent mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope was required.

"For $14 billion a year, the American taxpayers deserve better," said Frist.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. said that in reports examining the 1999 problems of NASA "the extent of mismanagement ... is very startling.

"Over the past year, I have continually been amazed by the reports coming out of NASA about mission failures and program delays," said McCain.

In his response, Goldin said that since 1992 NASA has launched 146 payloads valued at $18 billion and experienced only 10 failures, worth about $500 million.

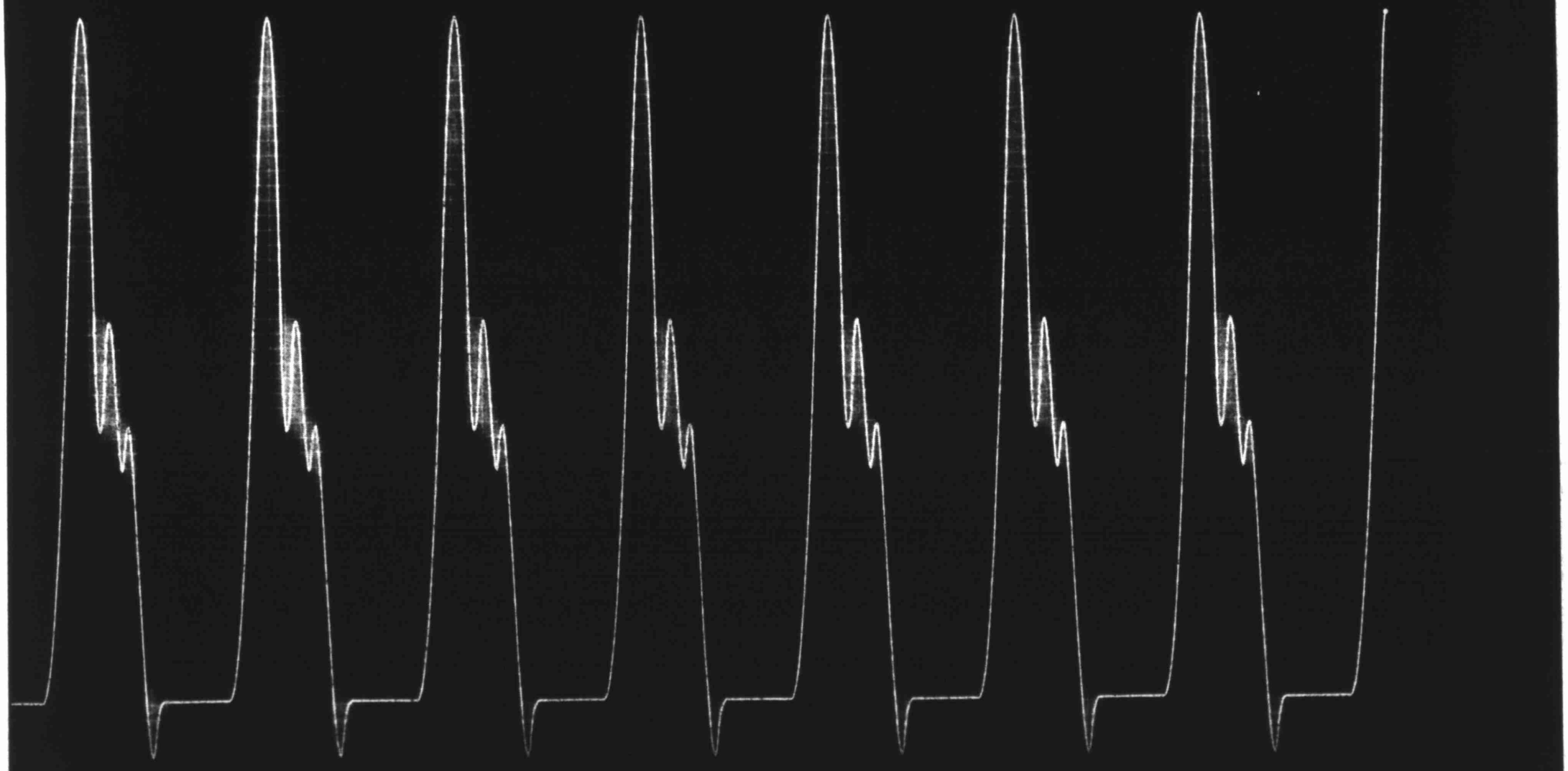
He acknowledged that NASA had "some severe disappointments and problems" in 1999, but added: "We are paying close attention to these failures, examining them, searching for root causes, and recommending changes."

One reason for the problems, said Goldin, is a change in the culture at NASA, whereas once the agency mounted only a few missions at great expense, it is now emphasizing a "faster, better, cheaper" philosophy that calls for more, but smaller and less costly missions.

In earlier years, NASA launched two planetary probes a decade, each costing billions of dollars, he said. Now the agency is sending missions to other planets each year at a fraction of the cost.

But the new management philosophy does have flaws, including stressed, overworked employees who lack the experience or the time to do jobs properly, said Goldin.

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Single parents can use our help

QUESTION: There are several single parents in my church who seem to be so needy. I would like to help them, but honestly, I am barely able to do everything necessary to care for my own family. What responsibility do you think I have to help these other families?

DR. DOBSON: Everyone is busy today. I don't know of any families who aren't experiencing fatigue and time pressure. None of us need new things to do, certainly, but I do believe it is our duty to reach out to those who are going through hard times. This is especially true of single parents because their vulnerable children are the ones who suffer.

Many years ago, my wife, Shirley, was working around the house one morning when a knock came at the front door. When she opened it, there stood a young woman in her late teens, who called herself Sally. "I'm selling brushes," she said, "and I wonder if you'd like to buy any."



DR. JAMES DOBSON

Well, my wife told her she wasn't interested in buying anything that day, and Sally said, "I know. No one else is, either." And with that, she began to cry.

Shirley invited Sally to come in for a cup of coffee and share her story. She turned out to be an unmarried mother who was just struggling mightily to support her 2-year-old son. That night, we went to her shabby little apartment above a garage to see how we could help this mother and her toddler. When we opened the cupboards, there was nothing there for them to eat, and I mean nothing. That night, they had both dined on a can of Spaghetti-O's. We took her to the market and we did what we could to help get her on her feet.

Sally is obviously not the only single mother out there who is desperately trying to survive in a hostile world, and they could sure use a little kindness -- to have someone offer to baby-sit, or bring over a meal, or repair the washing machine, or just to show a little thoughtfulness.

Raising kids alone is the toughest job in the universe.

See **DOBSON**, Page 7A

Learning lessons the hard way

I have said several times we need to back up our files on a regular basis. No one knows this better than I do.

I backed up my Family Tree Maker files, but alas, I just never got around to backing up my other important files. Two weeks ago I paid the price for not taking my own advice; my computer went down and I ended up losing everything on it.

I only saved what I had backed up about my family, which is over 15 years of work that I spent several years typing into my computer.

What I lost were: downloads from others across the country, all of my e-mail, web sites, copies of my drafts of my columns, current projects with the census records I have, the story of my family which I am writing dating back to when they came to America in 1635 and much more.

It is very important to save a backup of all important records, regardless of their media type, hard copy, computer, memory — you just never know when it will be lost.



BOBBY RAWLS

I have learned my lesson the hard way. I only this past Monday got my computer back up and running.

I got a call Tuesday morning from a cousin that flies a helicopter for an oil company overseas. He said his computer was down for several months and he is trying to reconstruct all of his records.

He decided to contact several of the people he had sent files to in an effort to retrieve the lost data. Several, including me, had lost their records as well, so it was a hard lesson for him too. Back up, back up, backup!

In my next columns, I will begin reviewing books that cover several regions of the country. If you will let me know what counties and states your ancestors came from and the time periods, I will try to review the relevant records available.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Bobby Rawls writes a weekly column on genealogy for the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, call the life! desk at 263-7331, ext. 236 and leave a message, or e-mail to: jwalker@crcom.net with "life! section" in the subject line.

SCHOOL NEWS

The following are the results from Forsan students who competed in the Jr. High University Interscholastic League held Feb. 24 and March 7 in Eldorado.

Eight grade competition: Number Sense, Brandon Burleson, fifth place, team, Brandon Burleson, Josh Helmstetler and Staci Borel, third place; Science, Ross Berry, fourth place, team, Ross Berry, Kyle Briggs and Amanda Moreno, second place; Spelling, team, Melody Riley, Lacy Eggleston and Chad Dunnam, fourth place; Oral Reading, Kesha Christian, first place, team, third place; Calculator, team, Amada Moreno, Audra Bailey and Lee Gillihan, fifth place; Listening Skills; team, Kacy Liles, Melody Riley and Ben Breyman, fourth place; Math, Kacy Liles, fifth place, team, Amanda Moreno, Kacy Liles and Heather Hise, fourth place; Modern Oratory, Staci Borel, sixth place; Impromptu Speaking, Ross Berry, third place, Kesha Christian, fifth place, team, Kesha Christian, Kacy Liles and Ross Berry, second place; Ready Writing, Micah Harrison, fourth place.

Seventh grade competition: Number Sense, Terrah Fryar, third place, team, Terrah Fryar, Kyle Briggs, Neisha Heinis and Casi Graves, second place; Spelling, Micaela Purcell, fifth place, team, Rachel Clinton, Micaela Purcell and Trey Paredez, third place; Listening Skills, team, Lakacia Lewis, Terrah Fryar and Ryan Slate, fourth place; Modern Oratory, Micaela Purcell, first place, Lakacia Lewis, fourth place, team, Rachel Clinton, Micaela Purcell and Lakacia Lewis, first place.

Sixth grade competition: Number Sense, Jonathan McGregor, second place, team, Jonathan McGregor, Jeremy Johnson and Kelly Stanley, fifth place; Music, team, Audrey Montgomery, Victoria McDowell, Kayla Spence, Felicia Mobley and Caylie Dunnam, first place; Spelling, Kayla Spence, third place, Victoria McDowell, fifth place, team, Ashley Colegrove, Victoria McDowell and Kayla Spence, second place; Oral

See **SCHOOL**, Page 7A

Stars, students push for increased funding of the arts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Movie stars and drama students pushed Tuesday for more federal spending on the arts. Unlike previous pleas, these were supported by hard data on how acting, painting or playing an instrument helps a schoolchild do well in all lessons.

"The arts simply saved my life," said Hector Elizondo, a television and film actor who grew up in New York City's Harlem district. "I was lucky. There are so many folks from my neighborhood (who) if this institution had been a fabric of their lives, they would have flourished."

Elizondo, who has appeared in "The Runaway Bride" and "Pretty Woman" and other movies and in the television drama "Chicago Hope," spoke to about 200 representatives of arts advocacy groups Tuesday lobbying for lawmaker support.

Organizers released reports that they said prove arts education deserves a place in America's classrooms.

A study from the University of California, Los Angeles, found that a national sample of students who studied the arts in grades eight to 10 made higher grades, scored better on standardized tests and were less likely to drop out of school. Seven in 10 of arts students made top scores in reading, history, geography and citizenship compared with the 45 percent of students who had few arts classes or activities and still did as well in reading. Just 1.4 percent of the arts-involved children left school by 10th grade, while almost 5 percent of the nonarts children did.

Another study from Stanford University, which the groups also gave to lawmakers, showed that students who spent at least 10 hours a week in arts classes or activities were four times as likely to participate in mathematics or science fairs or to win awards for writing essays or poems.

Advocates said additional research is needed to determine whether the differences reflect merely that the most-advantaged students get chances to participate in arts programs.

"Every child deserves access to the arts," said Bob Morrison, executive director of the music network VH1's "Save the Music" school program. "Not just the best, not just the brightest and certainly not just those who can afford it."

Disparities come when schools, viewing arts education as a luxury, cut the art curriculum while adding money to sports, said actor William Baldwin, president of the Creative Coalition, a star-studded lobbying group.

"I would like to see some Michael Jordans of the arts emerge in this generation," Baldwin said.

The advocacy groups' principal mission Tuesday in Washington was to seek a $50 million boost for the National Endowment for the Arts, which annually gives about $100 million in matching federal grants to state and local arts organizations.

Several years ago, conservatives put the agency on the chopping block, contending the government was financing pornographic or blasphemous work through the endowment. In recent years, however, many lawmakers have warmed to the NEA and say it is carrying out congressional mandates to support programs and projects that enhance cultural lives of a broad spectrum of Americans.

"The tide has turned. We've got quite a bit of allies out there," said Rep. Louise Slaughter, D-N.Y.

New York Republican Rick Lazio said support for arts centers can revitalize communities: "There is no shortage of people who want to see cultural events. It's personal. It's close. It's real."

States planned to spend a record $396 million this year to promote the arts, a report released Monday said. Individual donations to the arts also have increased in recent years.

Children still lack instructors, said Erin Lise Tabscott, 20, who grew up in Staunton, Va. She remembers having no elementary school art teacher and sharing her high school drama teacher with the middle schools.

"You can have all the money in the world," said Tabscott, a senior drama major at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, who hopes to teach. "But if you don't have anyone who wants to do the work and be passionate about it, you're not going to have a production; you'll just have people standing up on a stage."

Among the poor, getting accepted into college is only half the battle

CHICAGO (AP) — In the next few weeks, Dorothy McClain will find out whether she can count herself among an elite few.

The black teen-ager grew up in a run-down public housing high-rise on Chicago's impoverished West Side. Her high school is on academic probation.

Now she wants to be the first in her family to go to college.

"You feel so excited to be the first one," the 17-year-old says, beaming from beneath the brim of a tan baseball cap. But, she admits sheepishly, "If you want the truth, I'm scared."

She has reason to be.

Like other students from similar urban public schools without an array of advanced placement classes, widespread Internet access and the most sought-after teachers, McClain is clearly at a disadvantage.

At her nearly all-black school, Crane Tech, the graduation rate hovers below 60 percent. Out of a graduating class of 140 last year, only 20 were admitted to college. Just 12 found the money to go. Once in college, they faced a new set of obstacles.

"Their level of readiness is a critical concern," says Joyce Payne, who tracks enrollment at historically black colleges for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. "Some students won't be exposed to research skills and trigonometry" in high school.

Adds McKinley Dillingham, a guidance counselor at DuSable, another low-performing Chicago school with a large minority population: "A lot of them drop out because it gets rough on them academically. It's not always the money — it's a matter of being able to really handle it in the classroom."

The college graduation rates for minorities are on the rise, but they still lag behind those of whites. In 1997, 40 percent of blacks and 45 percent of Hispanics left college with a diploma within six years. For whites, the rate was 58 percent.

"It's a different league," says Latisha Bennett, a classmate of McClain's who has been admitted to Tennessee State in Nashville. "I'm worried that I might not pick it up as fast as other people and professors might not break it down like they do in high school."

McClain, who ranks 14th in her class, is waiting to hear from the three schools she applied to: Dillard University in New Orleans, Clark Atlanta University, and her first choice, Southern Illinois University.

"I see Dorothy as a little fighter," says Gail Day, who works with Crane's college-bound seniors and helps smooth the adjustment during their first year of college. "She's very determined and knows what she wants."

Day knows what her kids must go through to even contemplate applying to college. Most have no one at home to tell them what to do, what to expect or even how to get a college application.

"If they're first-generation, I play the role of the parent," Day says. Their parents "don't understand the process and don't know how to help them."

Day also knows how difficult it is for students to find the money to put their admissions offers to use.

"Even once they're admitted, it's not over," Day says. "You have to put the money together. Most are waiting to find out about scholarships — wondering if they don't get it, what next?"

Twinkie shortage not sweet for East Coast snack lovers

BOSTON (AP) — Forget the high gas prices. Folks along the East Coast are swallowing bitter news this week: There is a shortage of Twinkies and other snack-food favorites, courtesy of a labor dispute.

Supply problems are being reported from the nation's capital to Maine, wreaking havoc on untold snack breaks.

"I'll have to eat healthy food," complained Rubens Breeden, a 28-year-old state worker longing for Ring Dings and Devil Dogs on Tuesday.

Charlie Bianchi, who works at a snack bar in one of the busiest state office buildings, has faced the wrath of the hungry masses.

"All day long, they're saying, 'Where's my Twinkies? Where's my coffee cake? Where's my pound cake? Where's my Devil Dogs? Where's my Yodels? Where's my Ring Dings?'" Bianchi said.

"They're ready to kill. They look at me with doubt in their eyes. They think that I forgot to place the order. It's always the coffee slinger's fault," said Bianchi, 42, assistant manager of Hal's Place.

Actually, a Teamsters strike has led to shortages in a variety of well-known bakery products, including Wonder bread and Hostess brands such as Twinkies.

As shelves empty across the region, the area will have to do without deliveries of about 2 million Twinkies and cupcakes per week and another 400,000 loaves of Wonder bread, a company official estimated.

The strike began a week ago when 1,400 Teamsters responsible for delivery and sales of products from Interstate Bakeries Co.'s only New England bakery in Biddeford, Maine, walked off the job.

Since then, that bakery and others have shut down as Teamsters in other states honored the pickets. Interstate Bakeries officials say five bakeries in four states have closed.

The union has accused the company of refusing to honor arbitration rulings. The company maintains it was shut out of the arbitration process, and it has asked a judge to clarify the process.

One of the major sticking points has been the company's requirement that drivers deliver more than one brand of Interstate products, without being paid different amounts for each brand.

All of this comes as the Twinkie, the yellow, spongy, cream-filled cake, approaches its 70th anniversary next month.

SLICE of life!

People in News

ATLANTA (AP) — The groom in the "Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire" fiasco is still trying to figure out why his marriage to a total stranger collapsed.

"I knew there was a downside risk that the chemistry wouldn't be there," Rick Rockwell told WAGA-TV of Atlanta on Tuesday.

But he said he was shocked by what Darva Conger told him 36 hours after their wedding. According to him, she said: "Look, I don't even want to be friends. Enjoy the honeymoon, I'll see you at dinner maybe once in awhile."

"It really threw me for a loop," he said.

The 43-year-old Rockwell, a standup comedian for 20 years, selected and married Conger, 34, in front of 22 million viewers on the Fox TV special "Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire" on Feb. 15.

Conger filed to end the marriage days after the two returned from a Caribbean honeymoon cruise, during which they hardly saw each other.

Conger has said she went on the show as a lark and has complained that the attention cost her a job, her dignity and her privacy.

For Your Information

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE will be available for the last time Monday from 9 a.m.-noon at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive.

All citizens are eligible to receive this free assistance.

Interested persons should bring their tax booklet, all W-2 and 1099 forms, as well as anything else received showing 1999 income and their 1998 tax return. Please call Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522, or the center, 267-1628, for more information.

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ISAIAH 58, MULTI-CHURCH CHRISTIAN assistance food pantry at 107 Runnels is conducting a fund raiser during the remainder of the month of March. The Feinstein Foundation of Cranston, has offered to match all donations of $25 or more that are made to Isaiah 58 during March. (The Feinstein Foundation is dedicated to wiping out hunger in America). Donations may be sent to Isaiah 58, P.O. Box 1103.

Potential volunteers are always welcome to visit Isaiah 58 on Monday and Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 6A

Reading, Jonathan McGregor, first place; Morgan Egnor, sixth place, team, first place; Listening Skills, Paden Wright, third place, team, Aarika Thixton, Paden Wright and Leslie Carter, fourth place; Dictionary Skills, Kelly Stanley, second place, Ashley Colegrove, third place, team Ashley Colegrove, Kelly Stanley and Aarika Thixton, second place; Maps, Graph, and Charts, Jonathan McGregor, fourth place, team, Jonathan McGregor, Ashley Colegrove and Jacob O'Rear, fourth place.

Ross Williams and Lorin Wolf, seniors at Coahoma High School, competed at State Cross Examination Debate contest in Austin, on March 13 and 14. The team had placed second at the District contest in Post on Feb. 10.

James Barton and Amber Dunlap, Coahoma, placed fifth in the same contest. This year's topic required students to research extensively the education policies designed to increase academic achievement in secondary schools in the United States.

At state competition, Williams and Wolf won three debates and lost one, narrowly missing the finals.

Low-key Edwards is power behind 'ER'

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — Anthony Edwards sinks into cushions in his trailer on the set of "ER," a light stubble dusting his face. He's traded his green scrubs for a red wool sweater, rumpled pants and running shoes.

On this afternoon at soundstage 11 on the Warner Bros. lot, with his scenes already completed and hardly anyone paying attention, Edwards is perfectly playing his character, the beleaguered Dr. Mark Greene, without even trying.

"I'm so sickeningly close to it that I don't know if I separate so well anymore," he said.

There was the handsome George Clooney, the intense Eriq La Salle, the doe-faced Noah Wyle, the gritty Julianna Margulies and the graceful Gloria Reuben. But it has been the low-key Edwards who has anchored the show, making "ER" an NBC juggernaut for the past six years.

He provides another impressive performance in an episode airing Thursday at 10 p.m. EST titled "Under Control," in which everything that could go wrong in the hospital seemingly does. It's the only original episode airing this month.

"There are days where the doctors go, 'Oh, why this day? Was it a full moon or what was it in which so many things just multiply?'" Edwards said. "This is an episode where they try to capture that, 'Oh, no one would ever believe all this would happen at once.'"

How much is he like Dr. Greene, anyway?

"What I like about playing Mark Greene is there's a lot of things about him that I would like to be," Edwards said. "I'd like to be that committed, to be that good at something."

His commitment is acting, though don't tell that to him.

"What I'm committed to doing is pretending," he said, laughing, "which is very different. It's absolutely what I do for a living. I'm incredibly lucky.

"It was only 100 years ago that they didn't allow actors to be buried in cemeteries. Now people are actually asking us to endorse them politically. I'm like, 'Come on, you want the seal act to endorse.' We don't want the clowns telling people how to vote."

"Under Control" will showcase Edwards, a four-time Emmy nominee for his work on "ER."

"Our show more than any has a really good balance," he said. "It's not a one-character show, so we always are kind of bouncing around anyway. The frustrating thing is the fact that the networks are spreading out shows between sweeps periods so we have an audience that's going to have to watch three or four weeks of reruns before we get a new show on."

"That's one of the energies of this episode — to try and make sure the audience comes back, that we're not cheating the audience. The thing that people don't realize is that actors and writers feel a great affinity and responsibility to the audience. They feel bad about the fact that everybody has to watch these reruns for three weeks."

Not that doing "Under Control" was easy.

"It's just a lot of work," Edwards said. "It's fun work, but the challenge is you don't want to let the audience down by being lost. In that kind of taking them through the journey, your challenge is to keep it subtle and yet interesting, which is probably what we shoot for every episode."

Predictably, he collects praise for steering the show to the top of the Nielsen ratings, where it long reigned until dislodged by the ABC phenomenon "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." "ER" reclaimed the top spot in February with a two-parter killing off Kellie Martin's character, medical student Lucy Knight.

It's the team that makes the show click, he said, not any one person.

"It was just a great convergence of really sparse and intense writing, really good acting," Edwards said. "You see why this show works because the acting on all the levels, all the different characters, came together perfectly."

DOBSON

Continued from Page 6A

Can you find it in your heart to baby-sit for that single mother one afternoon a week? Or maybe you can fix extra food when you cook and take it over some evening. Imagine what that kindness will convey to a mom or dad who comes home exhausted and discovers that someone cares about his or her little family. Not only will it bring encouragement to the parent, but one or more children will bless you as well.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. James C. Dobson's "Focus on the Family" appears each Thursday as a cooperative effort of Scenic Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring Herald. Letters to Dr. Dobson may be sent to P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, Colo., 80903.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A woman who sued the studio behind the acclaimed movie "Boys Don't Cry" has settled her lawsuit.

Lana Tisdel had accused Fox Searchlight Pictures of depicting her as constantly under the influence of drugs and alcohol and referring to her as "lazy, white trash and a skanky snake."

The lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles was settled late last week, her attorney Charles Coate said Tuesday. Terms were not disclosed.

The film is based on the 1993 slaying of Teena Brandon, a woman who posed as man in rural Nebraska. Tisdel had dated Brandon, who called herself Brandon Teena, in Tisdel's hometown of Falls City.

Chloe Sevigny's portrayal of Tisdel has earned her a nomination for the best supporting actress Academy Award, to be presented Sunday. Hilary Swank, who played Brandon, is up for the best actress award.

In announcing the lawsuit had been settled, Fox released a statement from Tisdel that said: "I would also like the public to know how realistic I found Hilary Swank's portrayal of Brandon. She captured the real Brandon."

Brandon was killed by two men who wanted to silence her after she told police they raped her when they learned of her true identity. The men also killed two other people who witnessed Brandon's death.

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ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Oscar-nominated actress Rosie Perez says that without a state-funded field trip to see "The Wiz" when she was 12, "there is no way I'd be who I am today."

Perez was among several celebrities who came to the state Capitol on Tuesday to persuade lawmakers to add $10.9 million in arts funding to the 2000-2001 budget.

"We need more money," said Perez, who was nominated for best supporting actress for 1993's "Fearless."

Perez is an adviser and teacher at Working Playground, a New York City-based not-for-profit organization that gives students drama, dancing and art lessons.

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DOWNINGTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Several towns are getting a taste of Hollywood this week as scenes are shot from the upcoming thriller "Killer Instinct."

The movie stars Corbin Bernsen and Dee Wallace Stone. Scenes were shot Monday at Chef's Diner in Downingtown, also the site for scenes from horror classic "The Blob."

The crew also plans to shoot scenes in other towns.

Jeff Young, executive producer for Yardley-based ShadowBox Pictures, has been getting [illegible] the past couple of months.

Whale deaths in Bahamas reported to follow Navy tests

FREEPORT, Bahamas (AP) — Eight whales beached and died soon after the U.S. Navy conducted anti-submarine exercises off the northern Bahamas, prompting an investigation and calls for an end to the exercises.

The Navy said Tuesday that there was no evidence to link the whale deaths to last week's exercise testing sonar detection of submarines.

Navy Cmdr. Greg Smith said the tests took place from about 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. March 15 off Abaco Island — part of a series of exercises testing "sonar buoys" that were to continue through March 22.

Marine biologist Ken Balcomb of the Earthwatch environmental group said beachings began that same day, and within two days at least 14 whales had grounded themselves on Abaco, Grand Bahama to the north, and Eleuthera to the south. Eight died, prompting investigations by Bahamian and U.S. scientists and authorities.

"A whale beaching in the Bahamas is a once-in-a-decade occurrence," said Balcomb, an American who has been studying whales around Abaco island for nine years.

"We will be making recommendations to the Bahamian government that these sort of exercises be terminated," he said. "The fact that it coincides with the military exercises cannot be just coincidental."

The Navy said Tuesday that there was no evidence to link the whale deaths to last week's exercise testing sonar detection of submarines.

But the Navy spokesman said there was no evidence linking the two events. "My understanding of the actual locations would put the island between the operations where the 'acoustic buoys' were located and where the whales eventually beached themselves," said Smith.

Naomi Rose of the Washington-based Humane Society of the United States, maintained the signals could still do damage.

"These signals, depending on frequency, could travel quite a distance and could even wrap around the island," said Rose. "One could argue that they fled the area where the sonar was being transmitted."

Another U.S. marine biologist here to investigate, Charles Potter of the Smithsonian Institute, said the number of whales beached is "extremely unusual. But postmortems showed the whales had suffered no physical damage.

Can a kid have too much fun?

H-E-Buddy doesn't think so!

He's the coolest kid to hit town. And he's introducing a new H-E-B kid's program so kids can have fun with their parents while they shop. This weekend, parents will find everything on their grocery list at great low prices, while the kids get involved in exciting storewide activities, play games, win prizes, have refreshments and meet H-E-Buddy!

Take advantage of super savings while the kids have fun with H-E-Buddy. Check the following schedule to see when H-E-Buddy can be seen at your neighborhood H-E-B store.

Friday, March 24th, 3p.m. - 5p.m.
Big Spring H-E-B, 2000 South Gregg



MARCH 23 2000

Odds-n-ends

BENSALEM, Pa. (AP) — Some believed the mysterious creature that prowled through their neighborhood was a mountain lion. Turns out, it was just a very well fed cat.

Residents in the neighborhood near Bensalem High School reported seeing a catlike creature weighing 40 to 50 pounds. So police went looking — and the found it.

"It was basically a big, overgrown pussycat, about 20 pounds or so," said Fred Harran, the township's deputy director of public safety.

At least seven people had called police describing the cat as a mysterious monster or wildcat.

Police even sent digital photographs of the cat's paw prints to the Philadelphia Zoo, where they were analyzed but not identified.

Finally, officers spotted the feline in a field, where they identified the cat as harmless, but heavy. Police could find no identifying tags on the animal but Harran said they had no plans to detain it.

•••

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — For Kyle Martin, it was the llama dung that clinched it.

The 8-year-old from Montpelier won the annual rotten sneaker contest Tuesday, out-smelling finalists from New York and New Mexico and 30 contestants from Vermont.

"I went to a lot of farms," he said, explaining how his sneakers got to be so foul. "My grandmother lives on a (llama) farm."

The 25th annual contest sponsored by Odor-Eaters has become a March tradition at the Montpelier City Hall, drawing kids from as far away as Italy to show off their repulsive footwear.

For the prized shoes, whose canvas is torn from the rubber soles, Martin won a $750 savings bond, a trip to New York City and a supply of Odor-Eaters.

The six judges sniffed at soles and looked for outlandish wear and tear. They compared soles, laces, tongues and grommets.

"There's a good crop of disgusting sneakers this year," said Montpelier Mayor Chuck Karparis, one of the judges.

•••

CHERRY HILL, N.J. (AP) — Zippy Chippy, the horse with the most losses in the recorded history of U.S. thoroughbred racing, managed to lose again without even entering a race.

On Tuesday, officials at Garden State Park turned down a request by the owner of the 9-year-old gelding to enter his history-making horse in a race on Wednesday.

Track spokesman Ed Vomacka said Garden State Park officials scratched the horse after confirming he still is on the list of ineligible horses at Finger Lakes Race Track in Farmington, N.Y.

Officials at Finger Lakes banned Zippy Chippy on Sept. 8, 1998, after he failed to leave the gate with the rest of the field for the third straight time.

"Until they remove him from that list, we are not supposed to let him race," Vomacka said.

The loss at Finger Lakes was Zippy Chippy's 85th straight — tying the record for the most consecutive losses to begin a racing career.

On Sept. 6, 1999, Zippy Chippy set a record with his 86th loss when he came in third in a field of six at a county fair in Northampton, Mass.

•••

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A judge has found himself guilty of sleeping during court proceedings and has declared a mistrial.

"I'm so sorry about it and embarrassed about it," Lancaster County District Court Judge Donald Endacott said Monday.

Endacott, 66, said he had been having stomach problems and was not sleeping well during the time period of the trial, which began March 14 with opening statements in the theft case against Barbara A. Selwyn.

Endacott dozed off during testimony Thursday and later granted the defense's mistrial motion.

"I did what I could to correct it," Endacott said.

Endacott may need to get more rest — he is scheduled to hear the retrial.

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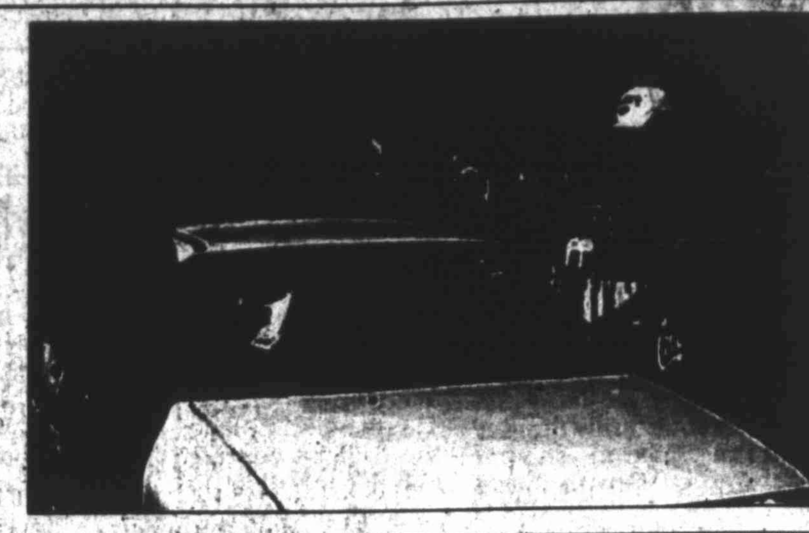
WASHINGTON, Pa. (AP) — A touch of Downy failed to soften the impact when tractor-trailer packed with the fabric softener overturned.

State police said Ricky Ellison, 39, was driving on Interstate 70 in South Strabane Township when his rig veered into the median while on a curve.

Boxes containing 1,000 bottles of Downy spilled onto the roadway, blocking traffic for five hours. Ellison was slightly hurt.

Traffic was backed up 11 miles due to mishap.

South Strabane Township Fire Chief Scott Reese said the fabric softener, which turned the highway bright blue, had to be hosed off.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

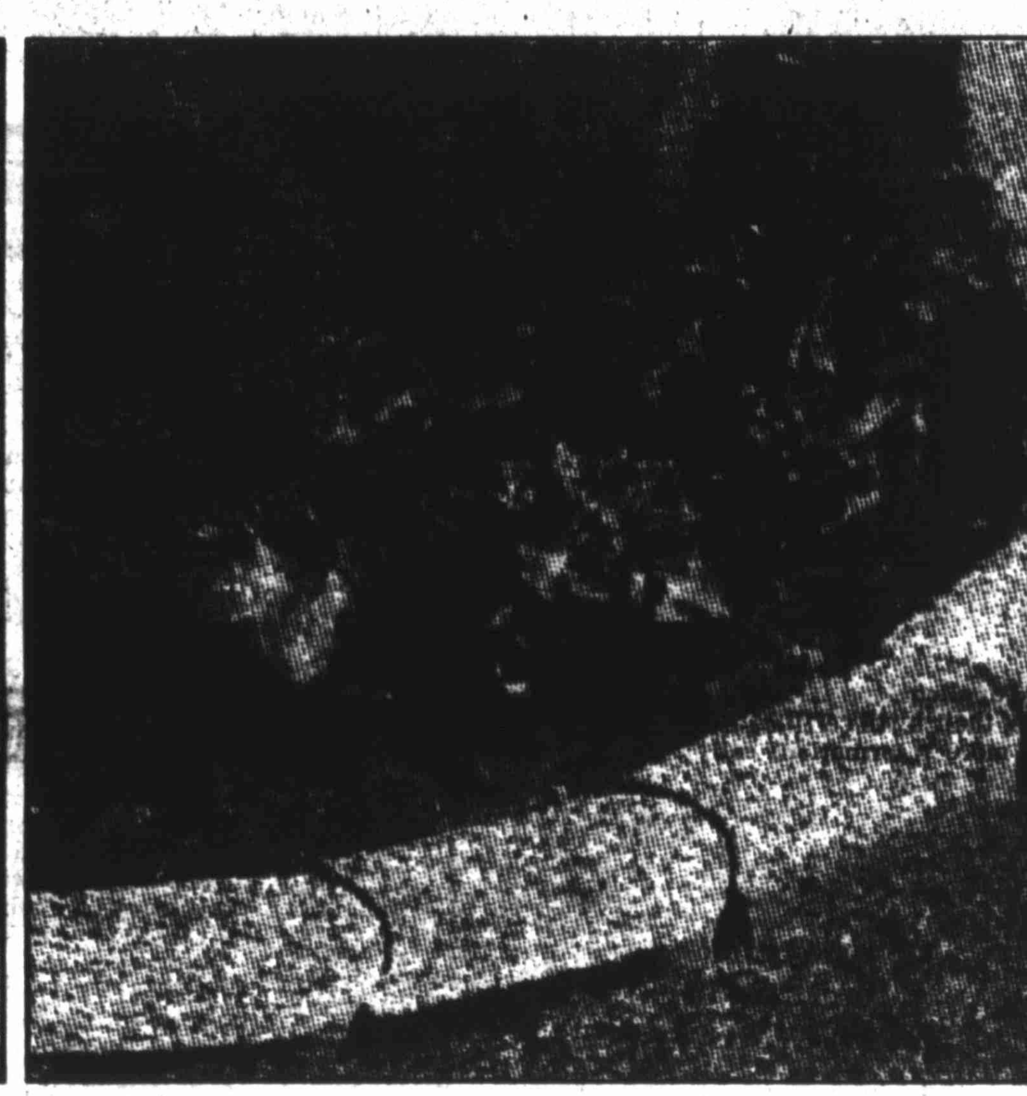
Boy Scouts Will Liggett (left) and Jeff Stanley, members of Troop 401, wash the windows of Olga Rodriguez's car during Saturday's "Gas Pump Off" at H-E-B. Scouts from Troop 5, led by Scoutmaster Carl Johansen, and Troop 401, led by Scoutmaster Terry Stanley, were raising funds for their annual financial drive.

THE HOME DEPOT

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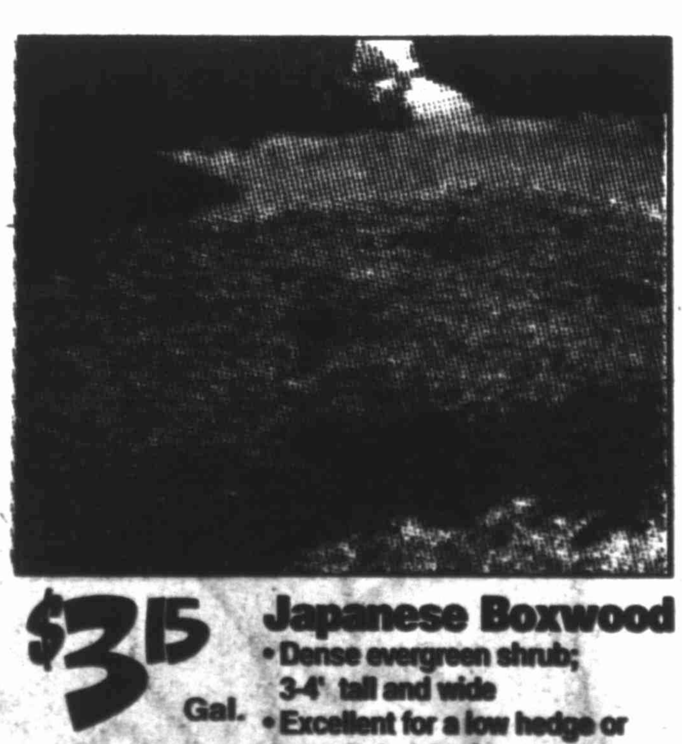


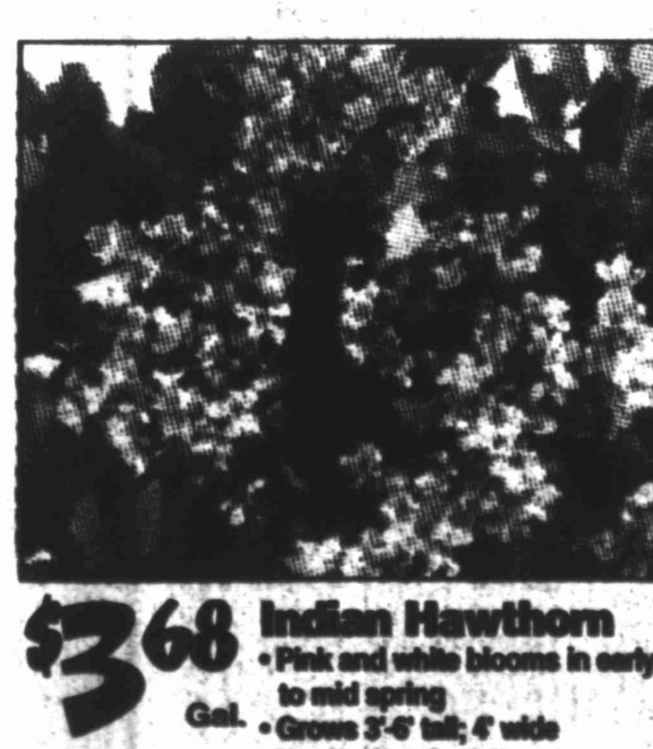
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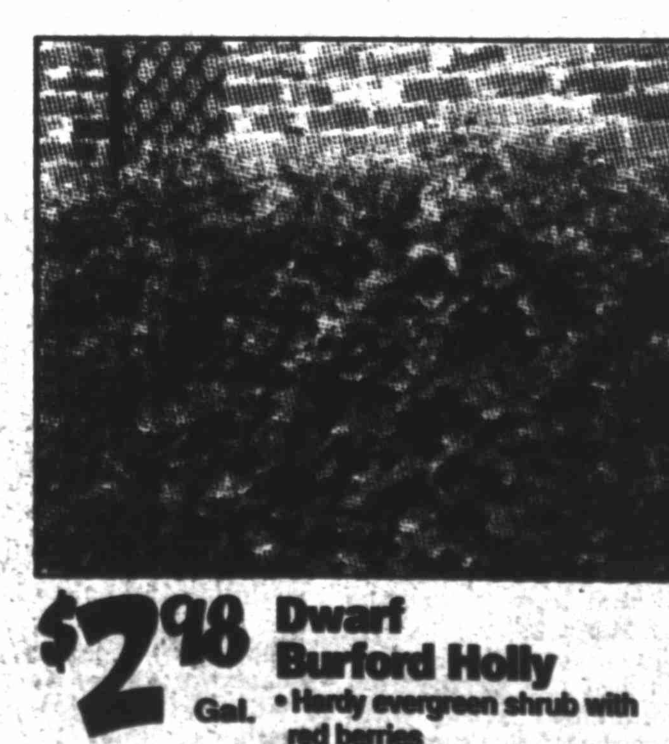
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- Reduces weed growth
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- Excellent for a low hedge or rounded globe form

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$3.68 Gal. **Indian Hawthorn**
- Pink and white blooms in early to mid spring
- Grows 3'-6' tall; 4' wide
- Hardy plant for full sun

(869-281)

$2.98 Gal. **Dwarf Burford Holly**
- Hardy evergreen shrub with red berries
- Grows to 6'-10' tall; 3'-4' spread
- Excellent box or globe trimmed plant
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READ to your kids.

Sp

In Bri

Basketball boo... set banquet fo...

The Big Sprin... Boosters Club ... second annual ... banquet at 7 to... Trinity Baptist ... nasium.

Tickets for th... meal are priced ... and will be ava... door.

Members of the... sity, junior varsi... man basketball t... introduced, and ... discuss the recent... season.

Lady Steers Bo... sets meeting f...

The Big Spring ... Booster Club wi... tonight in the me... the Big Spring ... Athletic Training...

Members of th... be making plans ... Steers Athletic Ba... May 1 in the ... Junior High Scho...

UGSA recruitin... for upcoming s...

The United G... Association of B... recruiting umpi... upcoming season.

A training sess... scheduled for 2 ... April 2.

For more infor... UGSA officials a... 267-2208.

UGSA schedule... registration fo...

Big Spring's U... Softball Associati... its final registra... Saturday at the ... Mall.

Registration is ... to 4 p.m.

The fee will be ... er and applicants... copy of their birt...

For more infor... 267-7466, 267-2208 ...

Breathing prob... sidelining Olaju...

HOUSTON (AP... told Rockets cen... Olajuwon to stop... up to three week... ongoing breathing...

Olajuwon, 37, w... March 1 with a ... restricts flow of ... bronchial passa... heavy exercise... spasms in his lun... taking medicine f... tion.

Olajuwon, the N... leader in blocks ... leader in virtually... sive category, sa... son would be... Houston, which... titles in 1994 an... miss the playoffs... time since 1992.

Olajuwon's care... were 23.6 point... rebounds before ... when he's averag... and six rebounds... utes, 13.4 below... average.

Raines tells te... he'll retire from...

TAMPA, Fla. (... Raines, unable t... with the Yankees... mates he intends ...

Raines, fifth on... steals list at 807, ... Yankees this spri... roster player, par... case himself after... final 2½ months o... because of Lupus.

Raines, 39, who... straight All-Star g... ances from 1981-8... .295 career averag... sons with Montre... Sox, Yankees and ...

On the ...

Television

COLLEGE BASKETB...

Men

7:30 p.m. — NCA... Tournament, Midwe... semifinals, CBS, Ch...

9:30 p.m. — NCA... Tournament, West R... finals, CBS, Ch. 7

NBA

7:30 p.m. — Clev... Cavaliers at Dallas ... FXS, Ch. 29.

IN BRIEF

Basketball boosters set banquet for tonight

The Big Spring Basketball Boosters Club will hold its second annual appreciation banquet at 7 tonight in the Trinity Baptist Church gymnasium.

Tickets for the barbecue meal are priced at $10 each and will be available at the door.

Members of the Steers' varsity, junior varsity and freshman basketball teams will be introduced, and coaches will discuss the recently completed season.

Lady Steers Booster Club sets meeting for tonight

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club will meet at 6 tonight in the meeting room of the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

Members of the group will be making plans for the Lady Steers Athletic Banquet set for May 1 in the Big Spring Junior High School cafeteria.

UGSA recruiting umpires for upcoming season

The United Girls Softball Association of Big Spring is recruiting umpires for the upcoming season.

A training session has been scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2.

For more information, call UGSA officials at 263-1526 or 267-2208.

UGSA schedules final registration for Saturday

Big Spring's United Girls Softball Association will hold its final registration session Saturday at the Big Spring Mall.

Registration is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The fee will be $30 per player and applicants must have a copy of their birth certificate.

For more information, call 267-7466, 267-2208 or 267-4947.

Breathing problems sidelining Olajuwon

HOUSTON (AP) — Doctors told Rockets center Hakeem Olajuwon to stop playing for up to three weeks because of ongoing breathing problems.

Olajuwon, 37, was diagnosed March 1 with a disease that restricts flow of air through bronchial passages during heavy exercise, causing spasms in his lungs. He's been taking medicine for the condition.

Olajuwon, the NBA's career leader in blocks and Rockets leader in virtually every offensive category, said next season would be his last. Houston, which won NBA titles in 1994 and 1995, will miss the playoffs for the first time since 1992.

Olajuwon's career averages were 23.6 points and 11.8 rebounds before this season, when he's averaged 10 points and six rebounds in 24 minutes, 13.4 below his career average.

Raines tells teammates he'll retire from baseball

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tim Raines, unable to win a job with the Yankees, told teammates he intends to retire.

Raines, fifth on the career steals list at 807, was with the Yankees this spring as a nonroster player, partly to showcase himself after missing the final 2› months of last season because of Lupus.

Raines, 39, who made seven straight All-Star game appearances from 1981-87, compiled a .295 career average in 21 seasons with Montreal, the White Sox, Yankees and Oakland.

ON THE AIR

Television

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men

7:30 p.m. — NCAA Tournament, Midwest Regional semifinals, CBS, Ch. 7.

9:30 p.m. — NCAA Tournament, West Regional semifinals, CBS, Ch. 7

NBA

7:30 p.m. — Cleveland Cavaliers at Dallas Mavericks, FXS, Ch. 29.

SMU suspends two basketball players, two other students

DALLAS (AP) — Two Southern Methodist University basketball players are indefinitely suspended for violating team rules following a Western Athletic Conference tournament game in California.

University officials, describing what they called "inappropriate and disruptive behavior involving a few students" after the WAC tourney earlier this month, said Wednesday that two members of the SMU Spirit Squad were also suspended from their team.

The university said it took the action after receiving information from Fresno, Calif., police.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram identified the suspended Mustang players as Jeryl Sasser and Reinaldo Bratton.

Sasser and Bratton, both juniors, were questioned about incidents that took place in their hotel room at a party that included members of the SMU basketball team and Spirit Squad, according to a Fresno Police Department report.

SMU Athletic Director Jim Copeland and Coach Mike Dement suspended the basketball players indefinitely from participating on the team for violating team rules, the school said in a written statement.

But university officials did not return a telephone call today from The Associated Press.

According to the Fresno police report, officers were called early on March 10 to a Fresno hotel, where a woman told officers two members of the SMU men's basketball team "touched her through her clothes with their hands." The woman told police she did not want to file formal charges, the report said.

In interviews with police, several basketball players and members of the spirit squad said they had been drinking, but denied the woman had been assaulted, the report said.

The incident allegedly occurred hours after the Mustangs ended their season with elimination from the WAC tournament in the first round by Hawaii in a 87-82 loss March 9.

Several members of the team and the squad spent the hours after the loss drinking at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Fresno, according to the report.

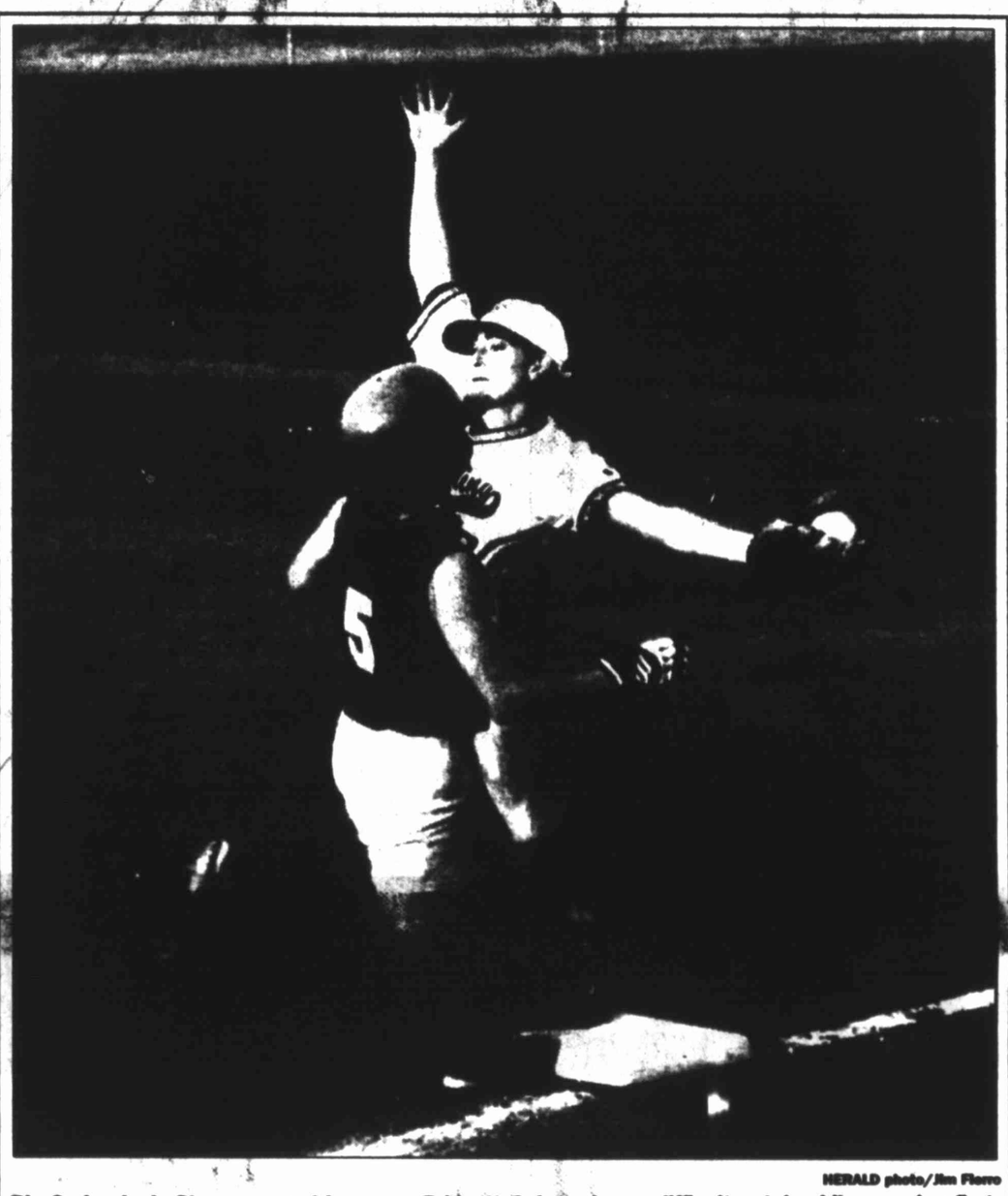
Sasser, a 6-foot-6 guard, was named first-team all-WAC and led SMU in scoring. Bratton, a 6-foot guard, played a reserve role.

The police report includes the names of four SMU players. The university cited privacy laws in not naming the two players who were suspended.

Both Bratton and Sasser remained on the team as SMU competed in the National Invitation Tournament against Southwest Missouri State last Thursday.

Bob Wright, a SMU spokesman, told the Star-Telegram the school received the police report Tuesday and did not take action against any players before the NIT game because "the police report contained information not given to us previously."

Darren McCoy, SMU spirit coordinator, voluntarily resigned from SMU in the early stages of the investigation last week in which three squad members were questioned.



HERALD photo/Jim Fiorre

Big Spring Lady Steers second baseman Bridgett Cain makes a difficult catch while covering first, as Monahans' Vicki Lopez (5) tries to beat out a ground ball during the first inning of their game on March 14. Lopez narrowly beat the throw, but Cain and the Lady Steers chalked up a 3-2 win. The Lady Steers, unbeaten in District 5-4A play, will play host to Snyder's Lady Tigers at 4 p.m. Friday.

NIT

Penn State, Notre Dame post wins; now headed to semifinals showdown

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The last time Penn State played Notre Dame, an NCAA Final Four berth was at stake. The two will meet again next week with a trip to the NIT final on the line.

The Nittany Lions beat Kent in the NIT quarterfinals 81-74 Wednesday night, and will play the Irish at Madison Square Garden next Tuesday night. Notre Dame beat BYU 64-52 Wednesday night.

In 1954, the Nittany Lions snapped the Irish's 18-game with a 71-63 victory. Under "Memorable Wins" in Penn State's media guide, the game is listed as No. 2 in school history.

Notre Dame, the NIT runnerup in 1992, wants to shake off this year's NCAA tournament snub. Penn State just wants to make up for its second-place finish in the 1998 NIT.

"We felt we should have won it all last time," Penn State coach Jerry Dunn said. "I know these guys are looking forward to finishing what we started."

Jarrett Stephens certainly is.

Two years ago, Stephens tore his knee when he was fouled on a breakaway. He missed the championship game, and Penn State lost to Minnesota.

On Wednesday night, Stephens had 24 points and 10 rebounds, playing like he wanted to make up for 1998.

"I'm excited to go back. I have some unfinished business at Madison Square Garden," said Stephens, who missed all but two games of the 1998-99 season while rehabilitating.

"He definitely deserves it," said Joe Crispin. "He's worked hard to come back even better than he was."

Crispin added 18 points against Kent, including eight free throws in the final minute for the Lions (18-15), who are fast forgetting their ninth-place finish in the Big Ten.

Eric Thomas had 18 points, while Andrew Mitchell and Demetric Shaw added 15 each for the Golden Flashes (23-8). Their leading scorer, Trevor Huffman, had just two points on 1-for-5 shooting.

"The way we're playing right now, it's going to be tough to beat us," Penn State's Gyasi Cline-Heard said.

The largest margin for either team in the second half was four until Penn State pulled ahead in the final four minutes.

With the Lions up 54-53, Cline-Heard tipped in a miss. On the next play, he stumbled, then recovered to nab a pass inside. At the other end, he scored to make it 58-53. Then, after Cline-Heard grabbed another miss by Kent, Crispin hit a 3-pointer that gave Penn State a 61-53 lead with 2:38 to play.

"I was due," said Crispin, who finished 2-of-13 from the field. "I think I was a little overdue. I just kind of relaxed and floated it in there."

Kent cut the lead to 77-74 on Thomas' 3-pointer with 7.1 seconds left, but Crispin made two free throws and Stephens stole the inbounds pass and scored as Penn State held on.

Crispin went 13-of-14 from the line.

For the second game in a row, fans stormed the court. This time, "New York, New York" blared over the loudspeakers.

It was a big improvement over Monday's finish against Siena, when Penn State gave up an eight-point lead in the final 1:46 and had to hit a buzzer-beater to advance.

"Coach did a good job of reminding us what happened on Monday, which was in the back of our head," Crispin said. "We did a good job of holding them off."

Home-court advantage smoothed Penn State's road to Madison Square Garden. Despite only barely qualifying for the tournament and bringing in the worst record in the field (15-15), the Lions had the luxury of being at home for all three of their games.

Penn State is 2-0 against Notre Dame, including a 33-22 victory in 1925.

Notre Dame 64, BYU 52

The Irish (21-14), who also played three games at home, were led by Troy Murphy's 19 points and nine rebounds to clinch their trip to New York.

"It might be kind of our home away from home," said guard David Graves of Notre Dame's third trip to New York this season after playing in the preseason NIT and the Big East tournament there. "We still have some things to prove. We're not going to just be happy to be in the semifinals."

The Cougars (22-11) were forced to travel 1,800 miles for the game.

March Madness pools abound as tourney begins second week

NEW YORK (AP) — OK, everyone. Back in the pool.

The second weekend of March Madness begins tonight, with a Sweet Sixteen schools left from the original 64 squads in the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

No need to root for the home team. Merely check who's left on your bracket sheet and cheer accordingly. The drama of the championship — and the possibility of winning that office pool — have put the games on center stage across the country.

"The games are all so exciting," said Howard Arkin, whose Interactivepools.com has set up 10,000 pools via the Internet the last two weeks. "I know people who don't know anything about basketball, and all of a sudden they're mavens."

It's a group that includes high school students and college professors, Wall Street executives and weathermen.

At the Yale School of Management, Prof. Edward Kaplan used his computer to conjure up picks in several pools. Kaplan's thing is proving his analytical system of determining winners through specific data is superior to those who depend on basketball smarts.

So far, his results have been mixed — but he'll be watching intently this weekend.

"The money means nothing to me," says Kaplan, who invested just $10 in one campus pool. "One person wins the pool, but everybody else loses. If I beat most of them, that's the real measure."

OK, so maybe Kaplan is in the minority. Arkin set up one pool for a multinational company that brought in several thousand entrants from around the world.

"I would imagine," Arkin says, "that quite a chunk of change is involved in some of these pools."

The tournament is as much for mercenaries as alumni. In Las Vegas, the amount legally wagered on the tournament is an estimated $60 million — almost $1 million for each of its 63 games.

The numbers for illegal gambling dwarf that total. Add up the $10 office pools, the $50 bets

See POOLS, page 2B

Now convinced, Cowboys want Spellman to stick around a while

IRVING (AP) — Unsure if Alonzo Spellman had rid himself of the demons which haunted him in the past, the Dallas Cowboys signed the veteran defensive tackle to a one-year contract at the league minimum prior to last season.

After a season in which Spellman kept his composure off the field and proved his worth on it, Dallas decided Spellman was no longer a risk, signing him to a multi-year contract Tuesday. Terms of the deal were not released.

"I felt very fortunate (last year) that we were getting Alonzo where we weren't strapped into a long-term situation because at that time we really didn't know what to expect," said Cowboys coach Dave Campo. "We were fortunate that he's made the progress that he has."

Prior to signing with Dallas, Spellman had been known as much for his off-field antics as what he did on the field.

Before he was released by Chicago after the 1998 season, Spellman had barricaded himself in his agent's house for eight hours, knocked down a hospital door and fallen asleep in his car while parked in the fast lane of the freeway.

After his release, Spellman was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, a mental illness that leads to erratic behavior and depression. Spellman turned to Christianity and righted himself last year.

Spellman's serenity off the field led to production on the field. He came off the bench at the start of the season, but was a starter by season's end and was praised by the Cowboys coaching staff for getting better every week.

Spellman had 16 tackles last season, including five sacks.

"We were obviously pleased with the contributions Alonzo Spellman made last season," said Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. "We were very, very pleased with how he played on the field and with the way he served as an inspiration to many of us personally and to the team."

Spellman's signing was the last major piece in the Cowboys' off-season goals.

Dallas is still searching for a backup to quarterback Troy Aikman — veteran Paul Justin is scheduled to workout with the team Wednesday — and cornerback Deion Sanders has a foot out the door, but Campo said Spellman's signing puts the club in a good position headed into the NFL Draft next month.

"I think we've pieced some things together to give us a chance to do what we want to do offensively and defensively," Campo said. "And now you go into the draft with the feeling that there is nothing so pressing that you have to make a reach on. You go in with the idea that you have a chance to just get someone that makes your football team better."

In addition to signing Spellman, the Cowboys locked up safety George Teague and offensive lineman Tony Hutson. They also brought in wide receiver Joey Galloway, cornerback Ryan McNeil, defensive tackle Dimitrius Underwood and tight end Jackie Harris.

Jones would not say if the Cowboys had to restructure any contracts to re-sign Spellman, but did say the earlier signings were made to leave enough salary-cap room to land Spellman.

"I think it's safe to say that we wouldn't have done anything this year, as far as contracts are concerned, that would have kept us from signing Alonzo," Jones said. "I would say that makes him a pretty big priority. It is significant to us that we got him signed."

MAR 23 2000

SPORTS EXTRA

NCAA - MEN

At The Center Palace
Syracuse, N.Y.
Regional Championship
Friday, March 24
Duke (29-4) vs. Florida (26-7), 6:38 p.m.
Seton Hall (22-9) vs. Oklahoma State (26-6), 8:55 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
Semifinal winners, 4 p.m.

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SOUTH REGIONAL
At Frank Erwin Center
Austin, Texas
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 24
Tulsa (31-4) vs. Miami (23-10), 6:55 p.m.
North Carolina (20-13) vs. Tennessee (26-6), 9:15 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
Semifinal winners, 1:40 p.m.

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MIDWEST REGIONAL
At The Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, Mich.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 23
Michigan State (28-7) vs. Syracuse (26-5), 6:38 p.m.
Iowa State (31-4) vs. UCLA (21-11), 8:55 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 25
Semifinal winners, 6 p.m.

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WEST REGIONAL
At The Pit
Albuquerque, N.M.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 23
Gonzaga (26-8) vs. Purdue (23-9), 6:55 p.m.
Wisconsin (20-13) vs. LSU (28-5), 9:15 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 25
Semifinal winners, 3:40 p.m.

NCAA - WOMEN

EAST REGIONAL
At Richmond, Va.
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
Connecticut (32-1) vs. Oklahoma (25-7)
LSU (24-6) vs. Duke (28-5)
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Semifinal winners

•••

MIDEAST REGIONAL
At Memphis, Tenn.
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
Virginia (25-8) vs. Tennessee (30-3)
Notre Dame (27-4) vs. Texas Tech (27-4)
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Semifinal winners

•••

MIDWEST REGIONAL
At Kansas City, Mo.
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
Iowa St (27-5) vs. Penn St. (28-4)
Old Dominion (29-4) vs. Louisiana Tech (30-2)
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Semifinal winners

•••

WEST REGIONAL
At Portland, Ore. Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
Rutgers (24-7) vs. Alabama-Birmingham (21-12)
Georgia (31-3) vs. North Carolina (20-12)
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Semifinal winners

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	42	25	.627	—
New York	41	26	.612	1
Philadelphia	39	28	.582	3
Orlando	33	36	.478	10
Boston	30	38	.441	12 1/2
New Jersey	29	38	.433	13
Washington	23	46	.333	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Indiana	47	21	.691	—
Toronto	39	28	.582	7 1/2
Charlotte	36	31	.537	10 1/2
Detroit	35	32	.522	11 1/2
Milwaukee	31	36	.463	15 1/2
Cleveland	26	41	.388	20 1/2
Atlanta	25	42	.373	21 1/2
Chicago	13	54	.194	33 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	45	21	.682	—
San Antonio	43	25	.632	3
Minnesota	41	26	.612	4 1/2
Dallas	29	38	.433	16 1/2
Denver	27	40	.403	18 1/2
Houston	24	43	.358	21 1/2
Vancouver	19	49	.279	27

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-L.A. Lakers	57	12	.826	—
x-Portland	50	17	.746	6
Phoenix	44	23	.657	12
Seattle	40	28	.588	16 1/2
Sacramento	39	28	.582	17
Golden State	17	51	.250	39 1/2
L.A. Clippers	14	55	.203	43

x-clinched playoff berth

Wednesday's Games
Philadelphia 106, Toronto 93
Minnesota 109, Boston 106
Charlotte 119, New Jersey 103
New York 78, Chicago 67
Orlando 103, Atlanta 90
San Antonio 103, L.A. Clippers 78
Phoenix 114, Sacramento 93
Detroit 104, Portland 95
L.A. Lakers 119, Golden State 96

Today's Games
Milwaukee at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Denver, 8 p.m.

Friday's Games
Charlotte at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Houston at Orlando, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Minnesota at N. Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Miami at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Detroit at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
Portland at G. State, 9:30 p.m.

NIT

Third Round
Wednesday, March 22
Penn State 81, Kent 74
Notre Dame 64, Brigham Young 52
Thursday, March 23
Mississippi (19-13) at North Carolina State (19-12), 6:30 p.m.
Friday, March 24
California (18-14) at Wake Forest (19-14), 6:30 p.m.

•••

Semifinals
Tuesday, March 28
At Madison Square Garden
New York
Tuesday, March 28
Penn State (18-15) vs. Notre Dame (21-14), 6 or 8 p.m.
Mississippi-NC State winner vs. California-Wake Forest winner, 6 or 8 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Announced the retirement of INF Pat Kelly. Released INF Jason Bates. Optioned OF Norm Hutchins to Edmonton of the Pacific Coast League.
BOSTON RED SOX—Optioned 3B Wilton Veras to Pawtucket of the International League. Assigned RHP Fernando De La Cruz to their minor-league camp.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Optioned OF Vernon Wells to Syracuse of the International League. Reassigned C Charlie Greene, C Kevin Brown and INF Willis Otaniez to their minor-league camp.
National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Optioned INF Cole Liniak and C Jose Molina to Iowa of the PCL. Reassigned LHP Daniel Garibay, RHP Mike Heathcott and RHP Todd Van Poppel to their minor-league camp.
CINCINNATI REDS—Optioned RHP Eddie Gaillard to Louisville of the International League. Sent INF Freddy Garcia outright to Louisville.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with INF Charlie Hayes on a minor-league contract.
MONTREAL EXPOS—Sent RHP Christian Parker to the New York Yankees to completed the trade for RHP Hideki Irabu. Optioned RHP Guillermo Mota to Ottawa of the International League. Reassigned RHP Matt Skrmetta to their minor-league camp.
NEW YORK METS—Traded INF Jersen Perez to the Toronto Blue Jays to keep the rights to RHP Jim Mann. Optioned INF Jorge Toca, LHP Bobby M. Jones and LHP Glendon Rusch to Norfolk of the International League. Reassigned OF Curtis Pride and RHP Dennis Springer to their minor-league camp.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA—Fined Charlotte Hornets F-C Derrick Coleman $7,500 for a flagrant penalty 2 foul against Philadelphia 76ers F Toni Kukoc in a March 20 game.
GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS—Re-signed G-F Mark Davis for the rest of the season.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS—Signed G Anthony Redmon.
CAROLINA PANTHERS—Agreed to terms with LB Lee Woodall. Re-signed DT Tim Manoha to a 3-year contract.
DENVER BRONCOS—Re-signed OL K.C. Jones.
DETROIT LIONS—Re-signed TE Pete Chrypinicz, CB Lamar Campbell, LB Kevin O'Neill and S Kywin Superman. Signed WR Henry Douglas.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Re-signed S Calvin Jackson to a two-year contract.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed LB Tedy Bruschi to a 2-year contract.
NEW YORK JETS—Promoted JoJo Wooden to senior manager of pro player development-AFC, and Brian Gaine senior manager of pro player development-NFC.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed RB Adrian Murrell to a 1-year contract.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL—Suspended Dallas Stars C Scott Thornton three games for striking San Jose Sharks C Marco Sturm in a March 19 game.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Recalled RW Chris Ferraro from Chicago of the IHL.
PHOENIX COYOTES—Recalled LW Jean-Guy Trudel from Springfield of the AHL.

NHL

Wednesday's Games
St. Louis 2, Caroline 1
N.Y. Islanders 5, Toronto 2
Montreal 1, Atlanta 1, tie
Calgary 2, Detroit 2, tie
Edmonton 2, Anaheim 1
San Jose 4, Vancouver 3
Today's Games
Florida at Boston, 6 p.m.
Calgary at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Ottawa, 6 p.m.
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Washington at NY Rangers, 6p.m.
Detroit at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Friday's Games
N. Jersey at NY Islanders, 6:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

WPHL

Wednesday's Games
Austin 4, Corpus Christi 3, SO
Monroe 4, Tupelo 3, SO
Lake Charles 8, Alexandria 3
Today's Games
Amarillo at El Paso
Odessa at Lubbock
Friday's Games
El Paso at Amarillo
Austin at Corpus Christi
Lake Charles at Monroe
Lubbock at San Angelo
Tupelo at Alexandria
Fort Worth at Central Texas
New Mexico at Odessa
Arkansas at Shreveport

WPHL

Wednesday's Games
Montreal 2, Los Angeles 0
Minnesota 2, Pittsburgh 1
Cincinnati 10, Boston 6, 11 innings
Cleveland 11, Atlanta 2
Houston 3, Tampa Bay 0
Arizona 9, Colorado 6
San Francisco 13, Chicago Cubs 5
Anaheim 6, San Diego (ss) 3
Milwaukee (ss) 4, Seattle 3
Chicago White Sox 9, Oakland 8
Toronto 7, Philadelphia 5
New York Mets 4, Baltimore 0
Only games scheduled

Suns doing little shining following Kidd's injury

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Kidd tried to beat the first half buzzer and wound up being carried off the court by his Phoenix Suns teammates.

Now, the Suns will have to carry on for the rest of the regular season without their All-Star guard, who broke his left ankle in the Suns' 114-93 victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Kidd, who leads the NBA in assists and averages 14.5 points, will have surgery today and is "questionable for the playoffs," said Julie Fie, the Suns director of media relations. Fie said Kidd fractured a bone (medial malleolus) high in the left ankle.

The Suns, 44-23 and third in the Pacific Division behind the Lakers and Trail Blazers, had been playing well since regrouping after Tom Gugliotta tore knee ligaments March 10 and was lost for the season.

While the Suns try to figure out what to do next, Allen Iverson had no trouble figuring out the Toronto Raptors and their star, Vince Carter.

At Philadelphia, Iverson outscored Carter 44-26 as the 76ers beat the Raptors 106-93 to pull into a tie with Toronto for the fourth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. The teams could end up meeting in the first round of the playoffs.

"When you have that type of quality player come in, you want to step it up," Iverson said of his duel with Carter. "When you add to that he's coming into my house, I want to play good in front of my fans. It's my house."

In other games, it was Detroit 104, Portland 95; Charlotte 119, New Jersey 103; Minnesota 109, Boston 106; New York 78, Chicago 67; Orlando 103, Atlanta 90; San Antonio 103, the Los Angeles Clippers 78; and the Los Angeles Lakers 119, Golden State 96.

Suns 114, Kings 93

At Phoenix, Cliff Robinson picked up Phoenix with 26 points to lead six players in double figures.

"We have guys who recognize the situation and do a good job of stepping up and playing," Robinson said.

Kidd's injury came with .2 seconds left in the half. He took an inbounds pass and drove down the right sideline. He then fumbled the ball out of bounds, spun and tried to grab it as his ankle twisted.

Rodney Rogers added 18 points and Randy Livingston, subbing for Kidd, had 17; Chris Webber had 16 points to lead Sacramento.

In Philadelphia, Iverson scored 30 of his points in the final 19 minutes and Tyrone Hill added 20 points and 12 rebounds for the 76ers.

The Raptors lost their second straight after winning 11 of 12; the 76ers won their fourth straight.

Iverson was 17-of-29 from the field and 9-of-9 from the foul line.

"Not many people can stop him," Carter said. "We were just added to that list."

Pistons 104, Trail Blazers 95

Grant Hill scored 14 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter to rally Detroit.

Jerry Stackhouse added 23 points and Terry Mills had 14 of his 16 in the second half for the Pistons, who have won three straight road games after losing their previous 11.

Rasheed Wallace and Steve Smith each scored 20 for the Blazers, who led by 11 late in the third quarter.

POOLS

Continued from page 1B

and the other assorted gambling from coast to coast and the FBI estimates $2.5 billion in illegal wagers.

In the most ballyhooed pool, there will be no winner. Sandbox.com ran a pool offering $10 million to anybody who successfully picked all 63 games. There were 610,705 entrants. By the end of the first week, all were eliminated.

And they were watching: The first weekend of the tournament posted the highest ratings since 1994. The figures for the first four days were up 6 percent from last year, when CBS paid $6 billion for an 11-year contract that kicks in three years from now.

The interest is so high that Nike's March Madness advertising campaign is simply titled "Bracketville, USA." Sports Illustrated put a set of empty brackets on its cover behind a shot of Iowa State star Marcus Fizer. (If you slipped Iowa State into your brackets, congratulations — they play UCLA in the Sweet Sixteen.)

Still, the pools (nudge, nudge, wink, wink) are not really gambling, but good fun. All-sports radio host Steve Somers of WFAN in New York refers to the "little milk and cookies pool" at his office.

Some business experts believe such pools actually foster camaraderie. Suddenly, everybody has a shared interest for three weeks.

"The betting pool ... gives coworkers an excuse to see each other face to face in a world where technology has put efficiency, but distance, in our work relationships," business consultant Bob Nelson said.

Uh, right. And go Gonzaga.

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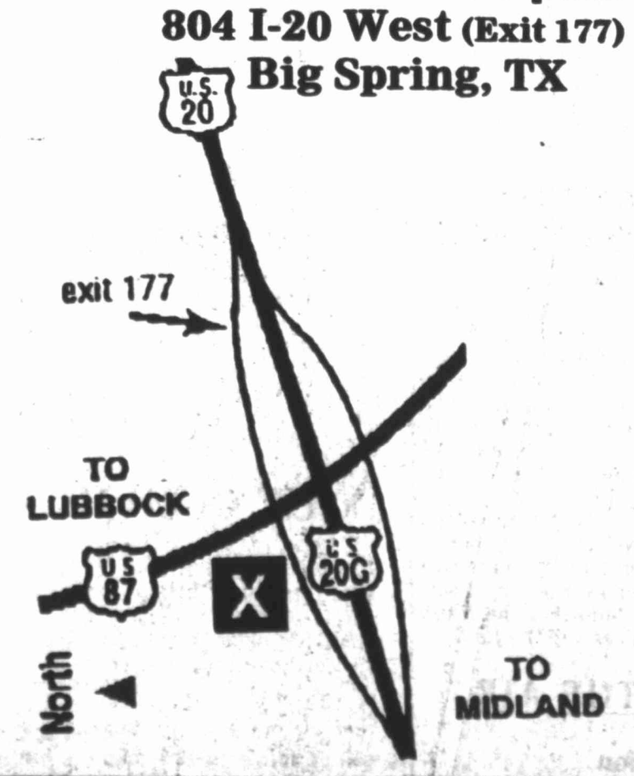
FINA

and similar facilities may be eligible to be tested.

If you have not been tested in the past year and were exposed to asbestos on the job prior to 1975 or if you were exposed to airborne silica sand as an industrial worker before 1985, you may be eligible to be tested.

NO OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES

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FISHING R

Here is the weekly fishing
piled by the Texas Park
Department for March 22. (R
able on Web as www.txfishin

CENTRAL

BROWNWOOD: Water mu
degrees; Black bass to 8 p
on pumpkin and brown 3/8
10 to 15 feet around the b
off points. Crappie are good
nows fished in 2 to 5 feet
houses and at night under t
stripers and white bass are
fair on nightcrawlers and pre
BUCHANAN: Water Clea
1007.72'; Black bass are g
worms, 1/4oz. silver/blue/
nerbaits fished in 4 to 12 fe
creek points and the back
brush piles and laydowns. C
on minnows. White bass ar
jigging 1/4oz. blue or chartre
Minnows and trolling shad-
Striped bass are good drif
trolling white/chartreuse bu
feet around The Willows, Ma
the main channel. Channel
are fair on live bait. Flathe
good on trotlines with live ba
PROCTOR: Water stain
degrees; Black bass are goo
nerbaits fished around the e
Crappie are excellent on m
fished around the front edge
the dam (get there early or
wait in line for a spot). Catfis
baits and nightcrawlers.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear; 66
low; Black bass are good o
nerbaits and watermelon
worms fished in 5 to 20 feet
on minnows fished up th
White and striped bass are
and slabs fished up the
Grande Rivers. Channel and
fair on cheesebait and shrim
40 feet. Yellow catfish to
slow on trotlines baited wi
goldfish.

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water cl
degrees; Black bass to 8 p
on black and blue jigs wit
fished in Big and Little Grap
black and pumpkinseed w
near exterior points of coves
Smallmouth and Alabama Sp
pounds are fair on cr
crankbaits. Crappie are pic
minnows and jigs fished off t
Channel and blue catfish a
crawlers, perch and prepare
ARROWHEAD: Water fa
degrees; 12' low; Black ba
spinnerbaits and white grub
12 feet. Crappie are good
chartreuse jigs fished in 2
bass are good on minnows a
6 to 12 feet. Channel and
excellent on nightcrawlers,
shrimp fished in 8 to 10 f
Yellow catfish are good on
with goldfish and perch set
of the lake.
BRADY: No report availab
COLORADO CITY: Water
degrees; 14.5' low; Black b
spinnerbaits and Texas-rig
White bass are good on mi
spinners fished early and l
poor on minnows. Redfish a
Traps and cut baits. Channe
FT. PHANTOM HILL: Wate
64 degrees; 17.5' low; Bla
on minnows and spinnerbai
7 feet. Crappie are good
[redacted] feet.
[redacted]
catfish are good on shad
and chicken livers fished in
HUBBARD CREEK: Water l
the lower end, murky on th
degrees; 10' low; Black ba
Rat-L-Traps fished in 2 to 4 f
rigged lizards fished around
in 8 to 10 feet. Crappie a
nows and jigs. White bass
spinner and crankbaits fishe
Hubbard Creek. Channel ca
cut baits and worms fished
KEMP: Water stained; 62
bass are good on Rat-L-Trap
5 feet. White bass are go
fished in 4 to 6 feet. Crappie
minnows fished in 4 to 5 f
docks. Catfish are fair on wo
NASWORTHY: Water stain
1.5' low; Black bass to 12 p
on Power Worms and jig-n-p
reeds. Redfish to 8 pounds
on cut baits and Rat-L-Trap
river.
NOCONA: No report availa
OAK CREEK: Water off-co
Black bass are fair to go
rigged worms and jig-n-pigs f
feet. Crappie are good on sm
nows fished in 5 to 15 feet.
excellent on minnows and jig
12 feet. Channels and blue
on minnows, nightcrawlers
fished in 5 to 12 feet. Ye
excellent on goldfish and sha
10 feet.
OH. IVIE: Water clear;
Black bass are good on
lizards or worms and waterd
to 10 feet. Smallmouth ba
Carolina-rigs and Suspendin
on steep rocky banks on
Crappie are fair at night on m
fished under lights. White ba
minnows and slabs fished
water. Catfish are fair on trot
cut shad and live perch.
POSSUM KINGDOM: W
degrees; 8.77' low; Black ba
are good on worms, french
crankbaits fished in 10 to 2
are fair on minnows and jigs f
feet. White bass are fair o
small jigs fished in 5 to 10 fe
are good on live shad fished
Blue catfish are good on cu
20 to 40 feet. Yellow catfi
perch fished in 20 to 30 fee
SPENCE: Water clear; 58
bass are good on dark colore
fished in 1 to 5 feet. White b
minnows, slabs and crankba
10 feet. Crappie are good on
in 6 to 12 feet. Striped bass
Rat-L-traps and crankbaits fis
feet. Channel and blue catfi
minnows and cut shad fished
Yellow catfish are fair on trot
perch and goldfish.
STAMFORD: Water st
degrees; Black bass are
worms and minnows. Crappie
nows fished in shallow water
poor on minnows fished n
plant. Yellow catfish are fair
ed with shiners, shad and pe
SWEETWATER: Water fai
degrees; 9' low; Black bass
are fair to good on white s
shad pattern crankbaits. Cr
on minnows fished off the do
are good trolling small crank
feet. Channel and blue cat
cheesebait and chicken liver
TWIN BUTTES: No fishing
extreme low lake level.
WHITE RIVER: Water ligh
degrees; Black bass are fa
waterdogs, tiger striped cran
treuse spinnerbaits fished o
and around the dam. Walleye
minnows (fish the flat acros
Barn). The rock faces ou
launch are a good area for b
on tiger striped crankbaits.
on live minnows fished by th
and blue catfish are fair on

FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for March 22. (Report also available on Web as www.txfishing.com.)

CENTRAL

BROWNWOOD: Water murky; 65 to 69 degrees; Black bass to 8 pounds are good on pumpkin and brown 3/8oz. jigs fished in 10 to 15 feet around the boat houses and off points. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows fished in 2 to 5 feet around the boat houses and at night under the lights. Hybrid stripers and white bass are slow. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared baits.

BUCHANAN: Water Clear; 65 degrees; 1007.72'; Black bass are good on pumpkin worms, 1/4oz. silver/blue/chartreuse spinnerbaits fished in 4 to 12 feet on secondary creek points and the back of pockets on brush piles and laydowns. Crappie are slow on minnows. White bass are good vertically jigging 1/4oz. blue or chartreuse Horizon Pirk Minnows and trolling shad-type crankbaits. Striped bass are good drifting live bait or trolling white/chartreuse bucktail jigs in 28 feet around The Willows, Maxwell Slough and the main channel. Channel and blue catfish are fair on live bait. Flatheads are fair to good on trotlines with live bait.

PROCTOR: Water stained; 62 to 65 degrees; Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits fished around the edge of the dam. Crappie are excellent on minnows and jigs fished around the front edge and the base of the dam (get there early or be prepared to wait in line for a spot). Catfish are fair on cut baits and nightcrawlers.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear; 66-68 degrees; 30' low; Black bass are good on jerkbaits, spinnerbaits and watermelon or pumpkinseed worms fished in 5 to 20 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows fished up the Devil's River. White and striped bass are fair on live shad and slabs fished up the Devil's and Rio Grande Rivers. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cheesebait and shrimp fished in 20 to 40 feet. Yellow catfish to 15 pounds are slow on trotlines baited with live perch or goldfish.

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water clear; 58 to 60 degrees; Black bass to 8 pounds are good on black and blue jigs with black trailers fished in Big and Little Grape Creeks. Large black and pumpkinseed worms work well near exterior points of coves in 6 to 15 feet. Smallmouth and Alabama Spotted Bass to 3 pounds are fair on crawfish pattern crankbaits. Crappie are picking up on live minnows and jigs fished off the crappie dock. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers, perch and prepared baits.

ARROWHEAD: Water fairly clear; 62 degrees; 12' low; Black bass are good on spinnerbaits and white grubs fished in 6 to 12 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and chartreuse jigs fished in 2 to 5 feet. White bass are good on minnows and jigs fished in 6 to 12 feet. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on nightcrawlers, cheese bait and shrimp fished in 8 to 10 feet in the river. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with goldfish and perch set on the south end of the lake.

BRADY: No report available.

COLORADO CITY: Water fairly clear; 63 degrees; 14.5' low; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits and Texas-rigged ringworms. White bass are good on minnows and small spinners fished early and late. Crappie are poor on minnows. Redfish are good on Rat-L-Traps and cut baits. Channel catfish are fair.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water fairly clear; 62-64 degrees; 17.5' low; Black bass are fair on minnows and spinnerbaits fished in 6 to 7 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished [illegible] feet. White bass are [illegible] on shad and minnows fished in 10 feet. Blue catfish are good on shad, minnows, shrimp and chicken livers fished in 7 to 10 feet.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water lightly stained on the lower end, murky on the upper end; 63 degrees; 10' low; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps fished in 2 to 4 feet and Carolina-rigged lizards fished around the hardwoods in 8 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on small spinner and crankbaits fished in the back of Hubbard Creek. Channel catfish are fair on cut baits and worms fished from the bank.

KEMP: Water stained; 62 degrees; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps fished in 2 to 5 feet. White bass are good on minnows fished in 4 to 6 feet. Crappie are excellent on minnows fished in 4 to 5 feet around boat docks. Catfish are fair on worms and shrimp.

NASWORTHY: Water stained; 65 degrees; 1.5' low; Black bass to 12 pounds are good on Power Worms and jig-n-pigs fished in the reeds. Redfish to 8 pounds are fair to good on cut baits and Rat-L-Traps fished up the river.

NOCONA: No report available.

OAK CREEK: Water off-color; 62 degrees; Black bass are fair to good on Carolina-rigged worms and jig-n-pigs fished in 6 to 14 feet. Crappie are good on small jigs and minnows fished in 5 to 15 feet. White bass are excellent on minnows and jigs fished in 6 to 12 feet. Channels and blue catfish are good on minnows, nightcrawlers and stinkbaits fished in 5 to 12 feet. Yellow catfish are excellent on goldfish and shad fished in 5 to 10 feet.

OH, IVIE: Water clear; 60-62 degrees; Black bass are good on Carolina-rigged lizards or worms and waterdogs fished in 4 to 10 feet. Smallmouth bass are fair on Carolina-rigs and Suspending Rouges fished on steep rocky banks on the main lake. Crappie are fair at night on minnows and jigs fished under lights. White bass are poor on minnows and slabs fished in 40 feet of water. Catfish are fair on trotlines baited with cut shad and live perch.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 58 degrees; 8.77' low; Black bass to 10 pounds are good on worms, french fries and small crankbaits fished in 10 to 24 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 10 feet. White bass are fair on minnows and small jigs fished in 5 to 10 feet. Striped bass are good on live shad fished in 20 to 40 feet. Blue catfish are good on cut shad fished in 20 to 40 feet. Yellow catfish are slow on perch fished in 20 to 30 feet.

SPENCE: Water clear; 58 degrees; Black bass are good on dark colored plastic worms fished in 1 to 5 feet. White bass are good on minnows, slabs and crankbaits fished in 6 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows fished in 6 to 12 feet. Striped bass are fair on white Rat-L-traps and crankbaits fished in 15 to 20 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows and cut shad fished in 5 to 10 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with perch and goldfish.

STAMFORD: Water stained; 58-62 degrees; Black bass are fair on plastic worms and minnows. Crappie are fair on minnows fished in shallow water. White bass are poor on minnows fished near the power plant. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with shiners, shad and perch.

SWEETWATER: Water fairly clear; 58-62 degrees; 9' low; Black bass to 10.2 pounds are fair to good on white spinnerbaits and shad pattern crankbaits. Crappie are good on minnows fished off the docks. White bass are good trolling small crankbaits in 6 to 8 feet. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cheesebait and chicken livers.

TWIN BUTTES: No fishing report due to extreme low lake level.

WHITE RIVER: Water lightly stained; 60 degrees; Black bass are fair to good on waterdogs, tiger striped crankbaits and chartreuse spinnerbaits fished on the north side and around the dam. Walleye are slow on live minnows (fish the flat across from the Red Barn). The rock faces outside the boat launch are a good area for bass and walleye on tiger striped crankbaits. Crappie are fair on live minnows fished by the dam. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cut baits.

The Mini Page

Especially for kids and their families

Illustrated by Lisa Flanagan and Jennifer Thomas
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By BETTY DEBNAM

from The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 2000 The Mini Page Publishing Company Inc.

Counting US!

The Biggest Census Ever



A census taker in 1940 questions a farmer.

Every 10 years, the United States takes a census. A census is the official count of a country's population. The year 2000 is a census year.

The forms will be in the mail in mid-March. Your family will be asked to answer the questions and mail the forms back right away.

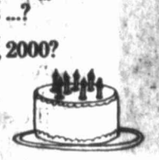
April 1 is U.S. Census Day.

How would you answer these questions about you that are on the form? You would be 'this person.'

1. What is this person's sex?
   - ☐ Male
   - ☐ Female



2. What is this person's ...?
   - ☐☐ Age on April 1, 2000?
   - ☐☐ Month of birth
   - ☐☐ Day of birth
   - ☐☐☐☐ Year of birth



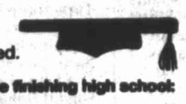
The figures collected in 1900 and today help us see how we have changed.

Population
Today, there are four people for every one counted in 1900.



1900: about 76,000,000
Today: about 274,000,000

Education
People today are much better educated.



Percentage of people finishing high school:
1900: only 6.4 percent
Today: 69 percent

Location
People have moved from rural areas to the cities.



1900: People living in rural areas, 60 percent. People living in towns and cities, 40 percent.
Today: People living in rural areas, 25 percent. People living in towns and cities, 75 percent.

Transportation
The number of motor vehicles:



1900: 8,000
Today: 208,000,000

These data are the latest figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. Information will be more up-to-date when the results of the 2000 census come out.

1900



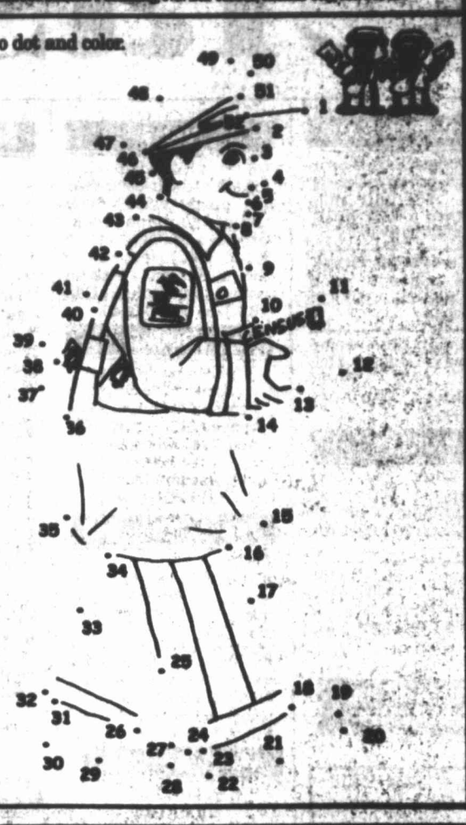
In 1900, the facts and figures had to be read by a human, who typed the information into an automatic card-punching machine.

2000



In 2000, the data will be read by computers able to read both pen or pencil handwriting. The results will be put on the Internet.

Go dot to dot and color.



MIGHTY FUNNY'S **Funny Phonics**

It's fun to learn phonics, or the sounds that letters make. This week's target sound is the one made by the letter H. The word "horse" begins with the letter H.

Q: What kind of hat can play a tune?
A: One with a band on it!

Q: What keeps your house up?
A: The termites are holding hands!

Q: How do hens and roosters dance?
A: Chick to chick!

Go on an H-unt hunt. What other words can you find beginning with an H? What sound do you hear?

Rookie Cookie's Recipe

Census Casserole

You'll need:

- 1 (16-ounce) can black beans, drained
- 1 (16-ounce) can hominy, drained
- 1/4 cup water



To make:

1. Combine all ingredients except cheese in a medium pot. Cook over medium heat for 10 minutes or until heated.
2. Sprinkle cheese evenly on top.
3. Cover. Turn heat to low and let stand for 5 minutes, or until cheese melts.

Serves 4.

from The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 2000 The Mini Page Publishing Company Inc.

BASSET BROWN THE NEWS HOUND'S **CENSUS** TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of the census are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: FACTS, FIGURES, STATISTICS, COUNT, MAIL, BUREAU, TAKERS, QUESTIONS, FORMS, POSTAL, LISTS, SERVICE, DATA, CHARTS, WEB, APRIL, TOTAL.



B S C I T S I T A T S L V C Q
C S R E K A T M A C O U N T U
B F S T C A F A E P M W D T E
U F I P X E G I A E R C F O S
R Q Q G Y F H L B D E I G T T
E H R Z U S E R V I C E L A I
A I W E B R S T R A H C S L O
U L I S T S E J A T A D T B N
K P O S T A L S F O R M S U S

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Mini Spy ...



Mini Spy's dad and mom are filling out a census form. See if you can find:



- acorn
- three number 8's
- fish
- bird
- word MINI
- kite
- heart
- ladder
- letter A
- butterfly
- carrot
- number 7

Taking the U.S. Census



For many years, people from the Census Bureau called "enumerators" (e-NOOM-er-a-tors) used to visit every home in the country to gather the information for the census. This photo was taken in 1940.



Today, the U.S. Postal Service delivers most of the forms. If your family has not gotten one, it will be getting one soon. It is the law that your family must answer the questions.



Most of the envelopes (five out of six) hold short forms that ask seven questions. One household in six will receive long forms that ask 52 questions.



You can find out lots of fascinating facts by visiting the census Web site at www.census.gov.

What's in the Census Bureau?



The word "bureau" (BYUR-oh) has two meanings. It can mean a piece of furniture. It can also mean a branch or part of the government.

Because talk about the Census Bureau, we mean the branch of government that collects information about this country and its people.



It figures that there are millions of statistics in the Census Bureau.

Statistics (sta-TIS-tiks) are lists of facts or data written in numbers. The numbers are gathered and written down in a way that gives information about a certain subject.



Each year, the Census Bureau publishes a book called the Statistical Abstract (or Digest). While the book is not for kids, it does have some interesting figures.

Some of the information is from the census. Other information is gathered from many other sources.

Look at the figures. What do you think they tell us about how our country has changed?

Immigrants from Italy and Mexico

1901 to 1910
From Italy: 2,000,000
From Mexico: 50,000

1911 to 1997
From Italy: 84,000
From Mexico: 1,600,000

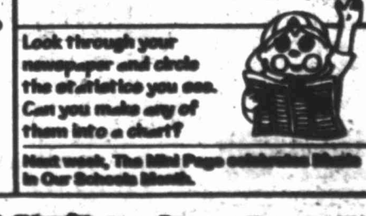
Percent of schools with access to the Internet:

1994: 3%
1998: 89%

How long people are expected to live:

1900
Men: 46 years
Women: 49 years

Today
Men: 74 years
Women: 79 years



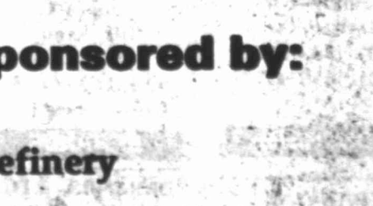
On average, the pounds of fruits and vegetables each person ate or drank:

1909: 800 pounds
1997: 711 pounds



The three states with the most people:

California 33,871,000
Texas 19,759,000
New York 18,175,000



The three states with the fewest people:

Wyoming 494,000
Alaska 614,000
North Dakota 638,000

Look through your newspaper and circle the statistics you see. Can you make any of them into a chart?

Next week, The Mini Page celebrates Math in Our Schools Month.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms.

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Partee Enterprises
Scenic Mountain Medical Center

MARCH 2000

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Herald Classifieds

AUTOS FOR SALE

1995 Dodge Neon, 4 cyl.,5 spd, A/C, power locks, tilt, cruise, 100,000 mile extended warranty. $6,000. 267-2819

1996 Corsica 4dr, cruise, AM/FM, cassette, good tires. Call 915-728-5511 or 728-3619.

98 Bravada Olds. white, gray leather, loaded, 4.3 L Vortec V-6, 4,300K warranty. $24,500. 263-0589

PICKUPS

1997 Chev. Ext. Cab pickup. Approx. 83,000/miles. Contact Jackie Olson 264-2210 for details.

For sale 1966 Chevy Pickup, $150. 1979 Chevy Stepside Pickup w/extra parts,$800. 263-4879 after 6PM.

Classified Can! 263-7331

MARCH IS TRUCK MONTH
During the month of March ALL
F-150's, F-250's and Rangers will be reduced to sell.
BOB BROCK FORD

VANS

96 Ford Windstar LX, loaded, Quad seating, rear air, power w/d/s. Alloy wheel, luggage rack. excellent condition inside & out. 54K miles. See at 4th & Benton . Asking below loan value. Call 263-3705 or 270-0940.

TRUCKS

1992 Freightliner red cabover 541K 9 spd, cruise AC, Jakes, 54' sleeper, 80% rubber, PS, 100K on lower's. Clean. $10,000.
Bargain Mart
915-264-9107

TRAVEL TRAILERS

1967 Air Stream travel trailer. Good cond. 30 ft. long. For more information call 399-4868 after 5pm.

Hit the road in this 95 Prowler 25.5 5th. wheel, electric jacks, awning, C/H/A, excellent condition. $10,500. 263-0569

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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 your advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount actually 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCEALED HANDGUN CLASS
Sat., March 25th. One Day Class, contact Tommy Scott, 394-4492.

TRAVEL

✔ $15-$45 / HR! billing software company seeks people to process Medical claims from home. Training provided. Must own computer. 1-800-434-5518 Ext 667

✔ "GOT A CAMPGROUND Membership or Timeshare?" We'll Take It! America's Most Successful Campground and Timeshare Resale Clearinghouse. Call Resort Sales International 1-800-423-5967, 24 hours. www.resortsales.com

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✔ OWN A COMPUTER? PUT IT TO WORK! $25 - $75 per hour part time/full time. www.eammajormoney.com 1-888-816-1058

✔ OWN A COMPUTER? PUT IT TO WORK! $25 - $75 per hour part time/full time. www.eammajormoney.com 1-888-816-1058

HELP WANTED

Accounts Manager Needed
Must have a neat appearance, clean driving record and heavy lifting involved. Computer skills a plus. Apply in person to Credit World, 1611 S. Gregg.

Are you looking for a E-COMMERCE BUSINESS?
$300 - $800 weekly PT/FT
www.get-in-shape.com
888-756-2818

CHURCH SECRETARY. Need an extroverted person of Christian faith and of friendly personality who will reflect a positive, friendly spirit in person, on telephone, and in written documents as key ambassador for our church. Ability to work with diverse types of people. Must have typing/computer skills, good spelling & grammar knowledge. Other small tasks as needed. Days/hours M-F, 9-5 with some flexibility. Salary competitive. Rewards divine. Contact Dr. Ed Williamson, First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry Street, Big Spring (267-6394) to submit resume and get job description and application.

HELP WANTED

Construction Superintendent

Opening for Commercial Construction Project Superintendent on a 150,000 SF high school project in West Texas. Experience with $10MM+ school projects preferred. Salary, truck allowance, 401(k), health ins., bonuses. Send resume: P. O. Box 1431/1602 Big Spring, Tx. E.O.E.



NOW HIRING:
DELIVERY DRIVERS
Would you like to be making $6.00 - $10.00 per hour? We need friendly, enthusiastic drivers. If you are looking for a great opportunity with a growing company, apply in person at the address below
1702 GREGG STREET
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HELP WANTED

Experience rig movers & operators needed, must have CDL. Must be able to pass drug test. Call 915-425-6568

Frescom, Inc.has an opening for a part time marketing assistant. The position will have flexible work hours and will be from 20 to 30 hours per week. Starting pay is $6.00 per hour. This is a great opportunity for stay-at-home parents with kids in school as we can work around you schedule. Please send resume to:
Frescom, Inc.
Attn: Marketing Director
P.O.Box 2119
Big Spring, Texas 79721
No phone calls please. You may fax resumes to 915-263-5269 or send them via email to frescom@ceram-tile.com

Ft/Pt delivery driver needed & pt assistant manager. Apply in person at Gregg & 22nd.

Gills Fried Chicken has immediate openings for day & evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 1101 Gregg St.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700. Neighbors Convenience Store.

Community Care Hospice is seeking a registered nurse to provide compassionate care to terminal patients in Big Spring and the surrounding community. We offer competitive salaries, benefits, and mileage compensation. Interested individuals should fax their resume to (915)552-7936 or contact Terry Stout or Donna Patrick at 888-881-0238 . EOE

is now hiring delivery drivers. Apply in person, 2601 Gregg.

WEST TEXAS CENTERS for MHMR is seeking Coordinator for Foster Care Program. Requires any combination of education and experience equivalent to a Bachelor's degree with a major in a field related to position + 3 year's experience relevant to children & families. Must have valid driver's license and driving record acceptable for insurablity through WTC's insurance carrier. Flexible hours, Salary $14.71 hr. ($30,588 annually). Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels, Big Spring, or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. E.O.E.

LVN needed part time or prn, CNA's needed full time at Big Spring Care Center. Apply at 901 Goliad.

Maintenance/make-ready person needed. Basic carpentry, plumbing, and a/c skills helpful. Painting and yard work included. Apply in person 538 Westover. No phone calls please.

Mechanically minded - good driving record. Oilfield related - shop & field. Send resume to: PO Box 1431/1301 Big Spring, Tx. 79720.

HELP WANTED

The Reeves County Detention Center is accepting applications for the position of Correctional Officer. Applicants must posses a high school diploma or GED certificate. Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education Jailer Certification preferred but not required. Starting salary at 19,000.00 per year, physical and drug test required.
Pick up or request application from:
Reeves County Detention Center
Personnel Office
98 West County Road 204
P O Box 1560
Pecos, Texas 79772
915-447-2926 Ext. 120
An Equal Opportunity Employer

TX Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation

Field Unit Supervisor
Big Spring District Office

Desirable qualifications:

* Cotton Background
* Public information
* Supervisory skills
* Strong computer skills

All applicants must be an insurable driver according to the TBWEF Fleet Insurance Policy.

Submit your resume and cover letter to: Attn: HR Dept., P. O. Box 5089, Abilene TX 79608. Fax: 915-677-1006. Email: JJW@tbollweevil.org. or apply in person at 1401 W. I-20, Big Spring TX. EEO & Drug Free Workplace. For more info Call 915-672-2846 ext., 3135, 3118, 3117, 3131 or 3109.

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Looking for robust and friendly wait staff and cook to come join our team. Full and part time positions available. Medical insurance, advancement opportunities, paid vacation and flexible schedule.Apply in person M-F 8-5. EOE
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Big Spring, Texas

Waitress needed for split shift Monday - Saturday. Must be 18. Apply @ Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

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Apply in person at 2009 Virginia

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE
Positions are now available LVN on the 2-10 shift. We offer excellent starting pay, 10 pd vacation days after a year, 7 pd holidays per year, incentive bonus, & quarterly bonus. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.

Need a career change? Wallace Medical Unit with Mitchell County Hospital District in Colorado City is accepting applicatons for Correctional RN and LVN positions. Competitive salary and good benefits. Contact Ms. LeMaster, R.N., D.O.N. @ (915)728-2162, extension 4265.

HELP WANTED

Physician Office Receptionist. Minimum qualifications include typing speed of 40 words per minute, 10 key by touch and friendly personality. Previous medical office experience helpful, but not required.

Medical Transcriptionist Ideal Candidate will have previous medical transcription experience, be able to pass a typing test with 60 words per minute, and pass a medical terminology spell test.

Office Nurse Ideal candidate will be a LVN with 3 to 5 years clinical experience. Previous family practice experience helpful, but not required.

Billing/Collection Specialist Minimum qualifications include one year medical office billing and collection experience, typing speed of 40 words per minute, and 10 key by touch.

Salary is commensurate to experience and a full benefit package is available. Only qualified applicants need apply to the Personnel Office of Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic, 1501 West 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720, or fax resume to 915-264-7019.

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Pleasant stable working environment

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GREAT OPPORTUNITY
Applicants from COAHOMA, STANTON, & BIG SPRING encouraged to apply.
Several open positions in Big Spring. Must have high school diploma or GED and be athletically minded. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug-screen. Training provided. Pay $6.50 to $6.85 to start plus benefits. For an appointment call 915-682-2119.

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Oil Well Service Company is seeking part time secretary. Must be dependable & willing to work various days & hours. Computer knowledge a must. call 267-5291, 8-5, M-F.

Opening for Full-Time Evening Cook. $8-$10 for the right person. Monday - Saturday. Apply @ Red Mesa Grill, 2401 Gregg.

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The Big Spring Herald

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SAVE - SAVE - SAVE

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❑ 403 Dallas. MASSIVE YARD SALE! HUGE supply of infant and children's clothing, books, picture frames, toys, port-a-crib, TV's, maternity clothes, infant items and lot's more. DON'T miss this one! Saturday7:00am-2:00pm.

❑ Garage Sale, Sat.,1704 Yale Ave. 8-? Lots of misc. items. Will have Sale even if it Rains.

❑ Gigantic Garage Sale to benefit the Malone & Hogan Clinic relay for life team. Sat. only 7-? Undercover parking @ Malone & Hogan Clinic 1501 W. 11th Place.

❑ Mark Down Sale: 2210 Main. Thurs. & Fri. 10-5 TV, linens, dog houses, bed, lot's of misc.

❑ Moving Sale. 1801 Alabama. Sat. 8-1pm. Furniture, glassware, clothes, toys, misc.

❑ Moving Sale Fri & Sat 8-? 4206 Hamilton. Tools, baby thru adult clothes, furn, antiques, etc.

❑ Remodeling Garage Sale: 2619 Coronado. Ladies bicycle, dishwasher, stainless sink, oven, cooktop, spacemaker microwave, carpet (green) 15x15 +, few evening gowns, misc items, misc. kitchen stuff.

FOUND / LOST PETS

Found, a young female bird dog wearing a chain collar. Found in Silver Hills Addition. Call 267-8979.

FURNITURE

Unbeatable Values at *Branham Furniture* 2004 W. 4th
In Bedroom, livingroom suites, dinette, sofa sets, computer desk, bunk and canopy beds, mattresses, futons, vanities and new appliances

Z J's BASIC FURNITURE
Living room, bedroom suites, dining room sets, at unbelieveable low prices. Located in old Wheat's building. Come see us today.
115 E. 2nd. 263-4563.

MISCELLANEOUS

Stocktank 12 ft. 2' deep. $100.00 Call 263-0569

TANNING BED FOR SALE
"Aruba" standup tanning bed with 30 new bulbs. All metal, automatic timing shut off, fan in ceiling. $750.00 OBO. Call for more details 267-1643 after 5pm.

Water proof comet reinforced backer board for walls & floor. 40'x60' sheets 1/4' thick. $300. Will deliver in lots of 100 sheets. 915-264-0535.

WEDDING CAKES!!
Arches, silk bouquets, catering. Order now to reserve your date.
The Grishams
267-8191

PORTABLE BUILDINGS

SIERRA MERCANTILE
For all your building needs.
Portable
On sight - Carports
I-20 East • 263-1460

ACREAGE FOR SALE

8 acres w/trailer house & lg. metal storage bldg., due N. of old Dairy Queen near Coahoma on Swinney St. 263-4410.

COLORADO MINT. LAND
Over 9 Ac's near Wolf Creek Ski Area adjoins the National Forest - Walk to Fly Fish or Elk Hunt - $89,000 970-731-9413 LPI.

BUILDINGS FOR RENT

FOR LEASE: 5600 sq ft. warehouse with 3 offices on 2 acres. fenced land. Hwy 350 11/2 mile No. I-20. $550 + dep. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

FOR LEASE: building on Snyder Highway. Approx. 1800 square feet with office on 1 acre. $250 per month 100 deposit. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

Great location downtown. Lrg. store or office bldg. 215 Main. Call 267-2183 next to Inland Port.

HOUSES FOR SALE

2 BR, 1 bath, 1 car garage, washer/dryer hook ups, fenced backyard, nice neighborhood, CH/A to be installed. $19,500. Call 263-5517 or 394-4810.

HOUSES FOR SALE

2 or 3 bedroom homes. Owner Financing Provided. Low monthly payments. Use Your Income Tax. Call Kelly 425-9994.

2BR, 1 bath, 1 car automatic garage, recently remodeled, CH/A, Hardwood floors throughout, frig, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer hook ups, fenced back yard, nice neighborhood, it's a dollhouse! $29,500. Call 263-5517 or 394-4810.

Amistad Acres water front house for sale 3 bdr. 2 bth. carport, storage, water well. $45,000. 915-639-2785

Beautiful Executive home. 1008 Driver Rd. 2.69 acres pool, priced below cost. 268-9696 or 263-0064.

By Owner; 3 bdrm, 2 bath, den, fireplace, ceramic tile floor, CH/A, completely remodeled. $45,000, 2007 N. Monticello. 267-2819. Appt. Only.

BY OWNER: 4-bdr or 3 bdr. with study , 2 bths. fireplace, 2 car garage. 700 Scott, Highland South. Appt. 267-6126

Consider an almost new home in Coronado. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, impressive living/dining/kitchen area, bonus room, fireplace, 2-car garage, sprinker system. $143,900. Call Doris @ 263-6525 or Home Realtors 263-1284.

Fixer upper.
Owner Finance.
1015 E. 21st. ST.
915-363-8243

For Sale As Is, 4BR, 1 3/4 baths. carport, partial basement. 1803 Mittel. 915-689-6070.

FOR SALE BY OWNER
Owner Financing Provided
Very nice clean 2 bdr. 1 bth. great neighborhood.
1610 Bluubird. Call Kelly
425-9994

For Sale, Small 2 br. 1 bath, lg. utility room, garage, central heat & air. (915)486-8018, (915)277-3122.

Good 3 BR - 2 bath home on 120 acres. In Forsan I.S.D. w/30x60 shop bldg. $150,000
Boosie Weaver
Real Estate 267-8840

Sale/Lease
Totally Remodeled.
4br.- 2bth. 2 carport
2600 sq. ft. CH/A
Forsan .SD. $50's. or $650/mn. No pets. Ref. 267-7025.

MOBILE HOMES

$399 per mo. LAST CHANCE thru 3-31-00. Full House Promo 3 bed 2 bath doublewide s/s fridge, range, freezer, washer dryer, microwave, fireplace. Call 653-7800 or 800-698-8003 for appt. 10% dn.,360 mos.@ 8.99% A.P.R. (W.A.C./c.p.m.) se habla espanol.

Don't have much down?? Palm Harbor can help. Call now for details 653-7800 ot 1-800-698-8003. Se habla espanol.

FREE CREDIT APPROVAL HOTLINE 1-800-755-9133

HELP! One 1999 left-Bells and Whistles included. Easy Terms. Priced to sell. Call 653-7800 or 800-698-8003 for appointment.

MOBILE HOMES

Save Thousands!! Invest in an Energy Star compliant home at Palm Harbor Homes, San Angleo. Call 653-7800 or 1-800-8003 (W.A.C.) se habla espanol

$$Tax Refunds! Invest in a home you will be proud to own. new 4 bedrooms fully loaded $388 per month. Call 1-800-755-9133. 5% down, 11.25 APR, 360 mos, WAC.

Used 2x2 $15,000 firm. Call (915) 653-7800.

*** Abandoned Doublewide 1-800-755-9133**

Brand new 3 bedroom $18,500 1-800-755-9133

Buy Factory Direct and Save!! 3 bed 2 bath $29,876. 1-800-698-8003. Local 653-7800 (Model #1777) www.PalmHarbor.com

FURNISHED APTS.

1408 Donley
Extra nice 1 bdr. furnished with gas & water paid. Sorry No Pets! $275/mn. $100/dep.Call 263-4922

Apartments, Unfurnished houses, Mobile Home. References required. Call 263-6944, 263-2341.

HOUSING WANTED

Want to buy rent or lease minimum 2 bdr. 2 bth home with acreage. Call 915-639-2785

OFFICE SPACE

For lease, approx. 1600 sq.ft. on FM 700. Very reasonable. Call 263-1709 or 512-750-7125.

Office space for rent. Choice location. Call 267-8696 or 263-6021.

RENT TO OWN HOMES

1610 Lark. 2BR, 1 bath. Rent to Own. $200/mo or $5,500 cash as is. Call 267-7449.

UNFURNISHED APTS.

2/1 Apts.
unfurnished
$295/mo + deposit
monthly plus electric
263-7621

$99 MOVE IN plus deposit.
1,2,3 bdr. Partially furn. 263-7811 a.m. 393-5240 evenings

SUPER SPRING SPECIAL
$150 TOTAL MOVE IN
1 & 2 BR APT. WITH
CH/A, CARPET, DRAPES, LAUNDRY FACILITIES, MINI BLINDS
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Barcelona Apartments
$199 Move-In Special
w/6 Mo. Lease
Water & Gas Paid
538 Westover Rd. 263-1252

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts,
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1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

1 bd. 1 bath, 1102 Sycamore. No Pets ! ! Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

2 bdr. 1506 Chickasaw $275/mo. 1 bdr. shower. Call Moren @ 267-7380.

2 bdr. fenced yard **RENTED** pets, deposit required. 263-7259

2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1102 Lancaster. No Pets ! ! Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

2509 Allbrook
3Br/2 bath
2 large living areas
CH/A, $450/mo
American Realty
Local 268-1349

6 rooms & bath. 10 miles North on Gail road. $300 a month. Call 267-5378.

Clean 3BR, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced **RENTED** 3807 Con... $425/mo., $200 dep. Call 267-1543.

FOR RENT
2111 Runnels 3 bdr. 1 bth. HUD okl . 915-363-8243.

For sale or rent possible owner finance. Live in one side rent out the other. 3 bd. 1 ba. $450, 2 bd. 1 ba $350. 264-0907

House for rent at Lake Colorado City. Call (915) 263-2510.

Nice home in Highland 3 bdr. 2 bth. $950/mn. $400/dep. Call 267-7661or 263-4528.

One bedroom house. Fenced yard, storage, washer connections, ceiling fans, appliances. $235. Requirements are: No pets, non-smoker & references. McDonald Realty, 263-7616.

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

For Rent, 2BR ,1 bath mobile home in Coahoma. For more information call 394-4669.

DIET & HEALTH

SWIMSUIT SEASON IS NEAR
Lose Weight Now!
1-888-707-7583

TOO LATE?

Taking applications for weekend R.N. Long term care experience helpful. Exceptional working conditions. Valley Fair lodge, Colorado City. Contact Marsha Rickard, administrator. 915-728-2834.

Fiber Glass Systems will be hiring (3) maintenance employees. Contact Wayne or Fred at 915-263-1291.

Home Sweet Home! New 16' wide 3 bedroom 2 bath home. Stove & refrigerator. Delivered and set up. $17,999. Call 1-888-981-9595.

Home On The Range ! Doublewide as low as $225/mo. 8.75% APR, 10% down, 300 mos. Only one left! Call 1-888-981-9595. With approved credit!

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Freecom, Inc.
Attn: KFJ
P.O.Box 2119
Big Spring, Texas 79721
No phone calls please.
You may fax resumes to 915-263-5269 or send them via email to freecom@ceram-kote.com

406 E. 10th
2 bdrm, CH/A, very clean
263-5818

❑ 3 Family Sale: 1705 Purdue. 8-12 noon. Lot's of everything.

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All or parts of Nolan, 17th, Johnson, Runnels, Main, and Scurry.

Route 250
All or parts of Dixon, Parkway, Calvin, Laurie, and Hamilton.

All applicants must have the following:
Available car, liability insurance, a good contact telephone number, and a current Texas Drivers License.

Contact:
Big Spring Herald Circulation Department
Scurry

DO YOU WANT A
BIG DEAL!
AT A
LITTLE PRICE!
GET THE
BIG SPRING **HERALD**

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44 oz. Slurpee® 20 oz Extra Large Coffee 44 oz. Super Big Gulp

7 ELEVEN **1.89** SUNDAYS **.99** MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 24:
You are in control this year. Forge ahead in the direction you want. Take time to confide your ideas to someone who has your best interests in mind. You succeed as a team. Be willing to learn new ideas. Break precedent and use different solutions. Learn to get past your mental filters. If you are single, romance blossoms in the summer. You are likely to meet this special person traveling or maybe simply out and about. If attached, plan that special vacation together. You renew your tie because of better communication from summer on. SAGITTARIUS can challenge you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
**** You could still be dealing with some aftershocks from yesterday. Allow your sense of humor to come out, and be less serious. With perspective and time, all appears differently. Make plans to take off early if possible. Tonight: Strut out the door.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Others have plenty to say, whether you agree with them or not. Dealing with a boss and work proves to be testy. Listen to what a partner whispers in your ear. You get another vision of what could be. Work as a team; don't feel isolated. Tonight: Dinner for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
**** Clear out work as fast as you can. Your positive attitude and happy ways disarm a boss. Listen to feedback; be willing to get out of a rigid mode. Decipher information; verify news. Plan an early exit from work if possible. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** Creativity soars. You might not know exactly what to do about a tumultuous relationship in your life. Do you really need to do anything? Clear your desk by getting into one task at a time. Relax, and take your time making decisions. Tonight: Off doing errands.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Deal with fundamentals. Defer strong decisions about a partnership for a while. You might still be reacting to recent events. Let go of problems and decide to see your cup as half-full rather than half-empty. Allow your frisky playfulness to emerge. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** Not everyone has the right solution, but exploring options serves you well. Your plate is full. Sort through ideas and decide what ramifications you are willing to deal with. Check in with a family member later. Tonight: Happy at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
**** Deal with money issues head-on, even if you feel a bit uncomfortable. Think carefully before you make a major decision. You might not always be right. Another seeks you out. Return calls; make plans that make you smile. Tonight: Out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Beam in what you want, but don't think a change made now is final. Be willing to reiterate your ideas and discuss an issue later. Balance your budget and checkbook before making any decisions. Tonight: Treat another.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
*** Take your time while contemplating yesterday's upsets. You don't have to make a decision just yet! Evaluate what you want from a specific situation. Take action later in the day to ensure success. Tonight: Beam in what you desire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
*** Get an early start on the day. You succeed beyond your wildest expectations. Take action; clear your desk. Take advantage of a cycle of high vitality. Charge nervous energy into work. Later in the day, slow down and join friends. Tonight: In the lime light.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**** Assuming responsibilities seems like the best course of action this morning. You move past a problem faster than you thought you would. Your sense of direction helps friends get energized. You know what you want. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** Reach out for others; make calls. It is important to seek out different opinions. You could be surprised by what you hear. Your sense of what is really going on could be considerably different than what others think. Be your own person. Tonight: Bring others together.

BORN TODAY
Actress Lara Flynn Boyle (1970), designer Bob Mackie (1940), actress Donna Pescow (1954)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Responsible gun ownership begins with proper safety

DEAR ABBY: Concerning the letter from "Debra in Oklahoma City" whose father informed her that guns are still loaded when the clip is removed — let me state my qualifications for writing. I am a former Army officer specializing in instructing small arms and hand-to-hand combat, and a former police officer.

Anyone who doesn't have the sense to open the action of his (or her) automatic weapon to remove any round left in the chamber — as illustrated by the letter in your column — should have second thoughts about owning one. Having a loaded weapon lying around if one has no intention of using it is asking for a disaster.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

If someone knows nothing about firearms and has no interest in owning one, I have no quarrel with that. However, if someone has no knowledge of firearms and is intent on owning one — PLEASE get qualified help before purchasing one! — D.A.J., HERMISTON, ORE.

DEAR D.A.J.: Good advice from a weapons expert. Predictably, Debra's letter brought me a fusillade of mail. For a sample, read on:

DEAR ABBY: I hope no other family has to learn how true "Debra's" statement is about there being a bullet still in the chamber after the clip has been removed.

On Oct. 31, 1999, my 4-year-old and 2-year-old great-grandsons were playing with a 9 mm gun at their home. They found it in an unlocked case within their reach. The 2-year-old pulled the trigger and fatally shot the 4-year-old. Yes, the clip had been removed, but a bullet was still in the chamber.

Parents, please lock up those guns, because even a 2-year-old can fire a gun! — GRIEVING GRANDMOTHER IN ARIZONA

DEAR GRANDMOTHER: I offer my sincere sympathy for the tragic loss that has befallen your family. I hope your chilling letter will be a wake-up call for those who need one. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My only daughter and dearest friend, Tara, was killed three years ago by a man well-versed in gun safety. He's an ex-Marine and NRA member. As he sat in his apartment cleaning his guns, he failed to notice that one was loaded. The bullet penetrated the common wall and struck my daughter in the head.

The senselessness of my daughter's death and the resulting trauma will forever be in our lives. — ANNE COAKLEY, BOULDER, COLO.

DEAR ANNE: Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. No parent should ever have to face the heartache of burying a child. Let's hope that your letter serves as an important lesson that could prevent a tragedy.

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MAR 23 2000

THURSDAY MAR. 23

	KMID (2) Midland	KPEJ (3) Odessa	KERA (5) Dallas	FAM (6)	KOSA (7) Odessa	WFAA (8) Dallas	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	UNI (13) Spanish	DISN (14) Premium	NASH (15) Nashville	TMC (16) Premium	SHOW (29) Premium	HBO (22) Premium	KMLM (24) Odessa	A&E (25) New York	DISC (26) Discovery	TNT (28) Atlanta	USA (30) New York	SCIFI (39) Science Fic.	LIFE (40) Lifetime	TLC (41) Learning Ch.
6 :PM :30	News (CC) Fortune	Home Imp. Judge Judy	Creatures Zoboomafoo	Rudy Coby The Coolest	News College	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fresh Prince Fresh Prince	Sonadoras "	Movie: Angels in the End-	Matt Houston (CC)	" (:20) Movie:	Delivery (CC) "	Movie: Stella (CC)	News John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	ER (CC) "	JAG (CC) "	Movie: The Abyss	Intimate Portrait (CC)	Fugitive Son: Alex Kelly
7 :PM :30	Whose Line? Whose Line?	American Comedy	Life of Birds (CC)	Illusions-New Millennium	Basketball: NCAA Tourn.	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Friends (CC) Daddio (CC)	(:05) Movie: The Gauntlet	Nunca Te Olvidare "	zone (CC) (:35) Movie:	Movie: Rough Riders (CC)	Matilda (CC) "	Movie: Stepmom "	" "	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside "	Movie: Coal Miner's	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	" "	Movie: Fight for Justice:	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood!
8 :PM :30	Be a Millionaire	Awards (CC) "	Mystery! (CC) (DVS)	World's Greatest	" "	Be a Millionaire	Frasier (CC) Battery Park	" "	Tres Mujeres "	Alley Cats Strike! (CC)	" "	Movie: Urban Legend (CC)	(CC) "	Movie: Practical	" "	Investigative Reports (CC)	Science Mysteries	Daughter "	Movie: Scent of a Woman	" "	The Nancy Conn Story	Race for the Poles
9 :PM :30	You Can't Say "	Mad Abt. You Nanny (CC)	" Voices	Magic IV "	College Basketball:	You Can't Say "	ER (CC) "	" (:35) Movie:	El Super Blablazo	(:15) Angels in the Endzone	Life-Jim Croce "	" (:45) Movie:	(:05) Movie: Star Trek:	Magic (CC)	Richard Roberts	" "	Into the Unknown	" "	(CC) "	Movie: The Abyss	Movie: Midwest	" "
10 :PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer "	700 Club (CC) "	NCAA Tourn. "	News (CC) Nightline	News (:35) Tonight	The Enforcer "	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ.	(CC) Music Videos	Matt Houston (CC)	The Principal "	Insurrection (CC)	Real Sex Xtra: Best	News Life in Word	Law & Order (CC)	On the Inside "	Movie: The Spitfire Grill	" "	" "	Obsession "	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood!
11 :PM :30	Politically Inc. Cheers	Newsradio Unhappily	American Cinema (CC)	Who's Boss? Partridge	News	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (:37) Late	" (:40) Movie:	Viviana a la Medianoche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	In-Fisherman Bassmasters	" (:40) Movie:	Linc's (:45) Movie:	Paradise Lost 2:	Duane Sheriff Sunset Baptist	Biography (CC)	Science Mysteries	(CC) "	Silk Stalkings (CC)	" "	Designing Unsolved	Race for the Poles
12 :AM :30	(12:06) Gunsmoke	Cops (CC) Hollywood	" "	Paid Program Paid Program	(12:05) Late Show (CC)	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) Frasier	The Gauntlet "	Canaveral de Pasiones	Walt Disney Presents	Bill Dance Roland Martin	Expect No Mercy	Clay Pigeons (CC)	Revelations (CC)	Nathan Knight Messianic	Investigative Reports (CC)	Into the Unknown	" Movie: Coal	New York Undercover	Movie: Brazil (CC)	Mysteries Party of Five	" "

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



"... So it's only polite to send Him a thank-you prayer."

DENNIS THE MENACE

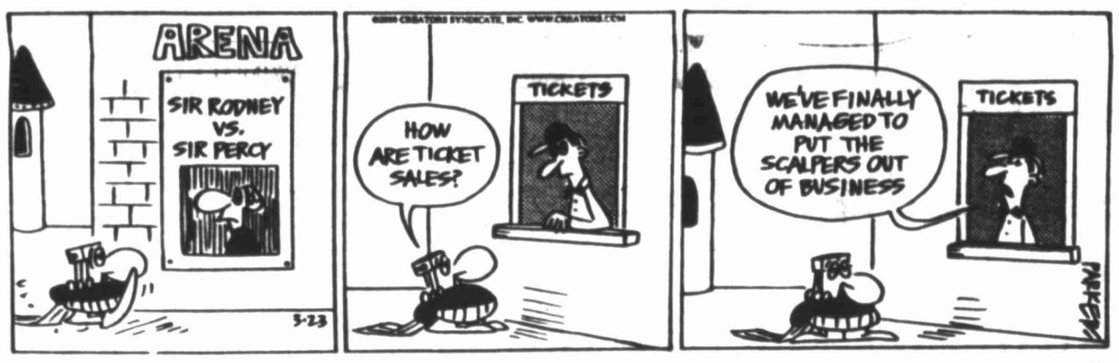


"THE LOOK ON OL' MARGARET'S FACE WAS WORTH IT."

GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



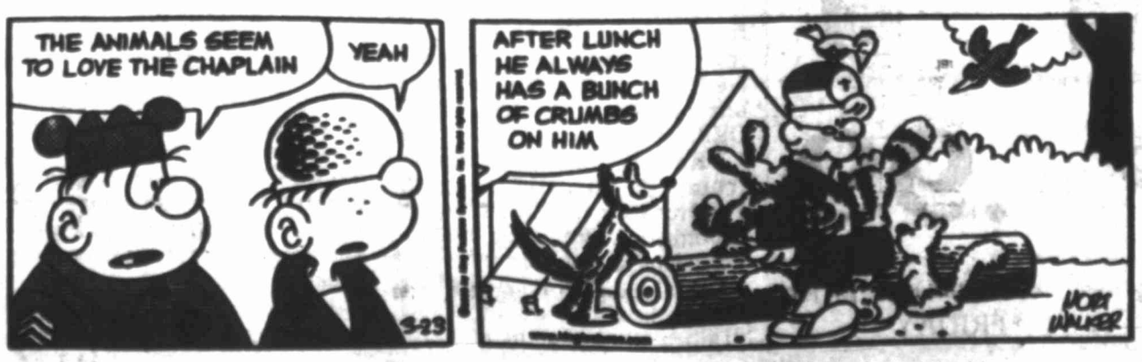
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, March 23, the 83rd day of 2000. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

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

On this date:

In 1743, George Frideric Handel's oratorio "Messiah" had its London premiere.

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

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

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

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

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

In 1950, at the Academy Awards, "All the King's Men" won best picture of 1949; its star, Broderick Crawford, won best actor. Olivia de Havilland won best actress for "The Heiress."

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

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

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

Ten years ago: Former Exxon Valdez Captain Joseph Hazelwood was sentenced by a judge in Anchorage, Alaska, to help clean up Prince William Sound and pay $50,000 in restitution for his role in the 1989 oil spill.

Five years ago: Secretary of State Warren Christopher met with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev in Geneva; afterward, Kozyrev said the U.S.-Russia "honeymoon has come to an end," referring to disagreements over Chechnya and nuclear sales to Iran.

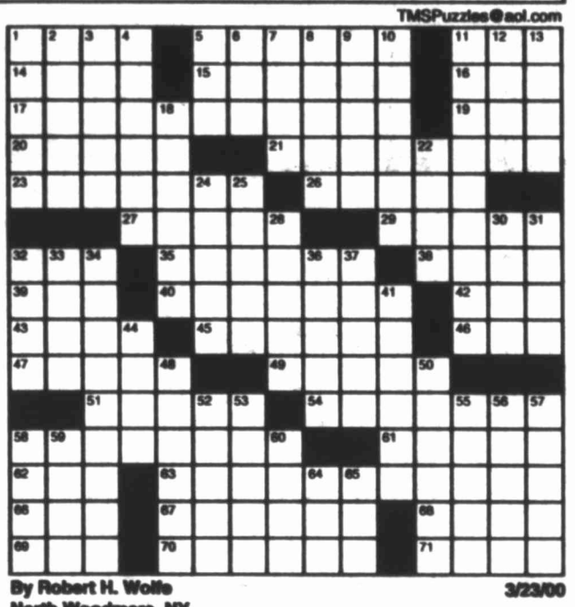
One year ago: NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana gave the formal go-ahead for airstrikes against Serbian targets following the failure of Kosovo peace talks.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Marty Allen is 78. Movie director Mark Rydell is 66. Singer-producer Ric Ocasek is 51. Singer Chaka Khan is 47. Actress Amanda Plummer is 43. Comedian John Pinnett is 36. Actor Richard Grieco is 35. Country musician Kevin Griffin (Yankee Grey) is 35. Rock singer-musician Damon Albarn (Blur) is 32.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY

3/23/00

ACROSS
1 Cezanne or Gauguin
5 Northern Ireland
11 Mata Hari, e.g.
14 Complexion woe
15 Greek goddess of the moon
16 Round legume
17 Barber speech items?
19 Ballplayer Dykstra
20 Lukewarm
21 Acquiring canines
23 Values highly
26 Tasty tidbit
27 Nose
29 Irritated
32 Hair fashions
35 Least active
38 Lasso
39 Pres. Lincoln
40 Pare off?
42 Solidify
43 Seedy bar
45 Comparative construction
46 Visualize
47 Goblet shafts
49 Grin
51 Dove and Rudner
54 Military greeter
58 Takes back
61 Eat away
62 Mr. Babe
63 Make unsafe electrically?
66 __ du Diable
67 Epistle
68 Beseech
69 __ Palmas
70 Jewish mystic of old
71 In __ (in actual being)

DOWN
1 Costume jewelry
2 Dull pains
3 Not likely
4 Imposes, as taxes
5 Drug info org.
6 Lion's name?
7 Narrow cut
8 Religious belief
9 Decide to compete
10 Napper
11 Divide ships' records?
12 Hammer part
13 Yin's counterpart
18 Paradisaical
22 Filament
24 __ operandi
25 Conductor Georg
28 Opposing sides
30 Rapier's cousin
31 Remove text
32 Pops
33 Death notice, briefly
34 Destroy cravats?
36 Does the crawl
37 Shire of "Rocky"
41 Disney classic, "Old __"
44 Eastern ruler
48 Well-grounded
50 Old World
52 Building lots
53 Editorial directives
55 Road shows
56 Best and Ferber
57 Change color again
58 Fence piece
59 Blues great Fitzgerald
60 Fill to the maximum
64 Kesey or Follett
65 College seniors' test: abbr.

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

T	O	T	E	M		C	L	I	P		P	A	N	E
O	P	E	R	A		H	I	D	E		E	G	I	S
P	E	A	R	L	R	I	V	E	R		A	G	E	S
E	N	S		T	A	L	E	S		P	R	I	C	E
			P	A	W	L			B	A	L	E	E	N
A	L	O	E			S	C	R	E	W	Y			
L	O	C	A	L	E		R	E	E	N	G	A	G	E
A	S	T	R	I	N	G	O	F	P	E	A	R	L	S
R	E	A	L	N	E	S	S		S	E	T	T	O	S
		D	A	M	A	S	K				E	S	M	E
E	F	F	I	G	Y			N	I	P	S			
S	E	R	V	E		B	O	U	L	E		A	L	B
T	R	U	E		P	E	A	R	L	D	A	N	I	O
E	M	I	R		E	A	R	L		A	N	E	M	S
S	I	T	S		P	U	S	S		L	A	W	N	S

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