BIG SPRING HERALD

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FRIDAY
February 9, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 25°-29° SATURDAY 50°-55°

FBI conducting investigation of area task force

HERALD Staff Report

The FBI is conducting an investigation into allegations of possible civil rights violations agains the West Texas Narcotics Task Force.

In a brief statement released Thursday, the task force said the investigation is expected to be concluded within a matter of weeks.

There are four task force personnel in Howard County — two with the police department, one with the sheriff's office and one with the district attorney's office.

"It won't be affecting us at all in Howard County," said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker. "No one has been suspended. Everyone is still with the task force and doing the jobs they are supposed to do."

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

❑ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

❑ Howard County Scottish Rite Club, 8 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21st & Lancaster. Breakfast served.

❑ The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

❑ VFW Post 2013 will host a Chili Supper from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. 500 Driver Road. $4 donation.

❑ The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of $2 for adults and $1 for children and senior citizens are encouraged.

❑ Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Members and guests welcome.

INSIDE TODAY...

Abby	5B
Classified	4-5B
Comics	6B
Horoscope	5B
Life	6-8A
Nation	5A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-3B
Texas	3A

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McQueary announces retirement

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer


McQUEARY

After 14 years as superintendent for the Big Spring Independent School District (BSISD), William "Bill" McQueary has decided to retire and move on to other challenges.

"He has done a special job for for us," said Irene Bustamante, BSISD board president.

"We all feel that way," she said, speaking for the board. "He has always giving us 100 percent, and I am sure he will continue to do so until the time he leaves."

McQueary's announcement came at the BSISD board of trustees meeting Thursday after he had handed his resignation to the board.

"My immediate plans is to take a break and after that to look at my options," McQueary said.

Beginning his career in education at Georgetown, McQueary was a high school teacher and counselor.

He moved to Big Spring in 1980 to take over the position of Big Spring High School principal. Before coming to Big Spring, he was a principal at a Houston

See **MCQUEARY,** Page 2A

Ports-to-Plains corridor topic for public hearing

HERALD Staff Report

The final meeting in a series of public hearings on the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor through Big Spring will be held Tuesday in the Dora Roberts Civic Center.

An informal open house will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a formal presentation at 6:30. A public comment period will begin at 7.

Ports-to-Plains was designated as a high priority corridor in the 1998 federal highway bill due to its direct connection with the Mexican border. There are six proposed route alignments, including U.S. 87 through Big Spring. The Texas Transportation Commission is expected to make a final decision on the route by June.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Alon USA president and CEO Jeff Morris, center, visits with new Big Spring Refinery manager Joe Concienne and his wife Brenda at a reception Thursday. The reception was held to welcome the Conciennes to Big Spring.

Howard County Jail receives clean report from standards commission

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer


WALKER

The Howard County Jail received a deficiency-free report Tuesday by a Texas Commission on Jail Standards inspector.

According to Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker, the visit from Dennis Cisneros, commission inspector, went well.

"He spent the entire day with us going over the paperwork, conducting fire drills and checking for compliance in all areas of the facility," said Walker. "He found some discrepancies in the fire instructions from the previous administration — which we have no control over — and one minor discrepancy that will be corrected right away. Everything went real good and we are good for another year now."

Walker said he informed the inspector that there are four current jailers who are in school and would be getting their completion certificates soon, which would bring everyone up to standards.

He said Cisneros conducted a thorough inspection of the facility.

"He checked all the fire alarms, the generators and even had our jailers respond to a live fire drill with air-packs in hand and asked them their evacuation procedures," said Walker.

"He went away quite impressed with our operation."

BSISD

2001-2002 calendar, May 5 board elections approved by trustees

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer


MURPHY

Big Spring Independent School District trustees on Thursday signed off on the 2001-2002 calender and approved criteria for May 5 board elections.

The 2001-2002 district calender was overwhelmingly supported by BSISD staff and faculty after a vote of three options was held. The staff and faculty voted 79.78 percent for the school calender that was adopted.

"I think we have met the muster of what the community wanted," said Deputy Superintendent Murray Murphy. "Having the semester end before the Christmas holidays was very important to our faculty and staff."

Murphy said that a 1999 survey solidified the fact that the parents and community felt the schools were starting to early.

BSISD will start on Aug. 20, a week later than the current school year. Holidays include Labor Day and three days for Thanksgiving before the semester ends on Dec. 21.

"It will be a shorter fall semester with 86 days," Murphy said. "The next semester will have 92 days and the school will end on May 29."

Also included in the spring semester will be two holiday days for Easter, a holiday for Memorial Day and spring break from March 11-15.

In all, there are 178 student days, six staff development days and three workdays for a total of 187 days during the 2001-2002 school year.

Murphy said the calender could be subject to change depending on potential legislation in Austin.

"There could be a possibility the legislature may set the start date of school later, but that is flexible, and we feel we can adjust the calender so it will not be over one or two days," Murphy said.

The board approved criteria for the May 5 school board elections. Three at-large trustee positions will be up for election. Those are currently held by Mike Dawson, Steve Fraser and Al Valdes.

Following an executive meeting, the board decided to extend the contracts to all administrative staff personnel up for approval including all BSISD principles.

As the board voted to pay school bills, discussion

See **BSISD,** Page 2A

Area musicians drumming a similar tune

Three to show their talents at convention

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

With a tap tap tap and a boom boom boom three area musicians will represent Howard county at the annual Texas Education Music Association convention held this weekend.

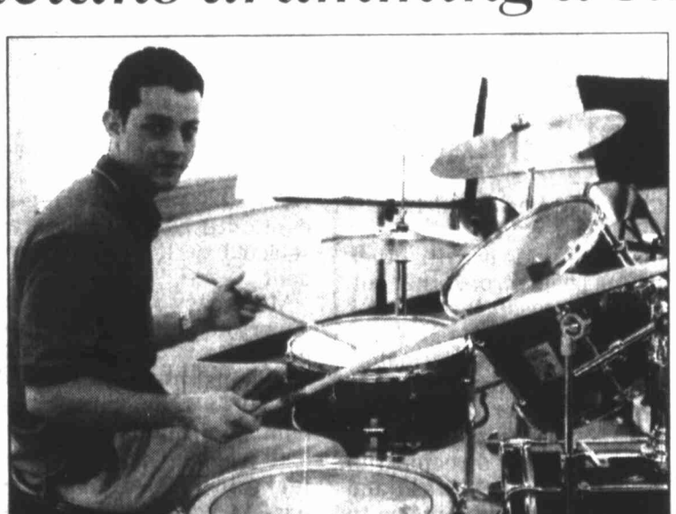
Twenty-year-old Jimmy Shanks, a Howard College student, left for San Antonio earlier this week to perform in the Junior College All-State Band concert.

Also heading that way are Forsan High School juniors Ryan Tant, 17, and Brodie Wash, 16, who both will be performing in the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) concert.

The ATSSB is made up of musicians from Class 1A to 3A high schools.

During the Texas Education Music Association, several musicians from choir to band are featured.

All three musicians competed with students from across the state to earn a place in San Antonio.



Howard College student Jimmy Shanks, left, will perform in the Junior College All-State Band Saturday during the annual Texas Education Music Association convention in San Antonio. Below, Forsan High School juniors Ryan Tant, left, and Brodie Wash will be performing in the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) concert during the convention.

Courtesy photos

Shanks auditioned for Junior College All-State Band by sending a tape of audition music. He auditioned on drums and timpani.

"The music was very difficult, complex rhythms," Shanks said.

Tant and Wash went through region and area competition, auditioning on snare drums before earning their spot in the ATSSB band.

During the three days of clinics, the students will have a chance to visit exhibits and tour San Antonio.

"The students have an

See **DRUMMERS,** Page 2A



Housing head reprimanded by directors

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer


GENTRY

Big Spring Housing Authority Secretary Mark Gentry received a letter of reprimand from the authority's board Thursday for steps he took in regards to offsetting high natural gas bills of some of the clients.

Gentry, said he had allocated funds from within the housing authority's budget to help clients who had their gas shut off or were in danger of having it shut off.

The problem comes in that there is no provision in Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations for using the funds in that manner.

"The main reason the board gave the reprimand was not so much in the action I took but in the fact that I took it without letting them know what I was doing," said Gentry. "They were faced with three

See **HOUSING,** Page 2A

FEB 09 2001

OBITUARIES

Joyce Georgetta Winchester

Graveside funeral service for Joyce Georgetta Winchester, 60, of Big Spring, will be 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Greg Taylor, minister at Miracle Revival Center, officiating.

Mrs. Winchester died Wednesday, Feb. 7, at her residence.

She was born on July 16, 1940, in Ashtabula, Ohio. She came to Big Spring in 1980 and had worked at the VA Medical Center and at Wal-Mart. She attended Miracle Revival Center.

Survivors include: three sons, Ronald "Smurf" Sawyers and Terry Sawyers and Raymond Sawyers; one daughter, Roberta Horst of Roanoke, Va.; two sisters, Pat Prince of California and Jo Ann of Arizona; five brothers, Manuel Enos, Robert Enos, Roy "Mickey" Enos, William Enos and Charlie Enos, all of Ohio; and five grandchildren.

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

Sharon Thompson

Funeral service for Sharon Aldridge Thompson, 50, of Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mrs. Thompson died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2001, in a local hospital.

Ralda L. Davendish

Funeral service is pending for Ralda L. Davendish, 34, of Philadelphia, Pa., formerly of Big Spring.

Mrs. Davendish died Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2001, at a Pennsylvania hospital after a short illness.

She was born in Roswell, N.M. and attended school in Big Spring, including Big Spring High School and Howard College. She was a 1997 graduate of Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa., with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. She was employed as an environmental engineer at Environmental Strategy Consultants in Philadelphia.

Survivors include: her husband, Leo Davendish, of Philadelphia, Pa.; her father, Tom Guess of Big Spring; her mother, Rosemary Guess of Mount Holly, N.J.; three sisters, Tracey Roberts of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Mary Ellen Walls of Carrollton and Amanda Roberts of Kansas City, Mo.

Arrangements were with Cavanaugh Funeral Home of Philadelphia, Pa.

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www.npwelch.com

Joyce Georgetta Winchester, 60, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be 10:00 PM, Saturday, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Sharon Aldridge Thompson, 50, died Thursday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

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Ruby Ann Knox

Funeral service for Ruby Ann Knox, 74, of Big Spring, will be at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park.



Mrs. Knox died Thursday, Feb. 8, at her residence following a long illness.

She was born Mar. 7, 1926, in Hermleigh. She married John I. Knox and was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include: her husband, John I. Knox of Big Spring; two sons, Timothy Knox and Burl Knox, both of Big Spring; three daughters, Iris Dodd of Dallas, Jennifer Cababie of Sunny Isles, Fla. and Pam Crawford of Midland; two sisters, Ida Chitsey of Hermleigh and Nellie Rasco of Frisco; three brothers, Charlie Prescott of Springtown, Leon Prescott and Earl Prescott, both of Colorado City; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Julian Olguin

Prayer service for Julian Olguin, 85, of Big Spring, will be 7 p.m., today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral serivice will be 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Elder Eliseo Gamboa of the Jehovah's Witness Congregation officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.



Mr. Olguin was born Feb. 16, 1915, in Fort Davis. He married Maria Jesus Garcia on Feb. 18, 1944, in Big Spring. He had lived in Big Spring for 65 years. He grew up in the Barstow-Pecos area and was a member of the Jehovah's Witness Congregation. He had worked 18 years for the Big Spring Independent School District as a painter.

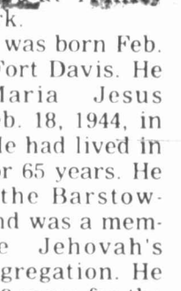
Survivors include: his wife, Maria Olguin; one daughter, Susie Baldez Jr. of Big Spring; two sons, Julian "Sonny" Olguin Jr. and Joe L. Olguin, both of Odessa; one sister, Feilomena Torres of Odessa; four grandchildren ; and five great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

James "Frank" Patterson

James "Frank" Patterson, 95, of Sand Springs passed away on Thursday, Feb. 8, 2001, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a short illness.

Graveside services will be 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Wanda Hill, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, officiating.



James was born on April 27, 1905, Taylor, Neb. He married Lucille "Dutch" Bailey on Aug. 30, 1929, in St. Mary's, W.Va. She preceded him in death in 1976. Mr. Patterson had moved to Merkel in 1944 from Canton, Ohio, and to Big Spring in 1963. He had worked a number of years for Pan-American Production Company as a production foreman. After retiring from Pan American he had worked several years as an independent pumper. He was a mason.

He is survived by: one son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Billie Patterson of Sand Springs; three grandchildren, Ricky Patterson and his wife, Ladon of Midland, Vicki Walker of Big Spring, Pam Beal and her husband Roland Jr. of Denver City; seven great-grandchildren, Christi Self, Shane Walker, Michael Beal, Jamie Beal, Jennifer Beal, Garrick Patterson and Landon Patterson; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

James Pollard

Funeral service for James Pollard, 77, of Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mr. Pollard died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2001, at his residence.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER
CARING PEOPLE CARING FOR PEOPLE
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263-1211

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

HOUSING

Continued from Page 1A

options and I received the lightest of the three options. One of the options was to terminate my employment but that didn't happen. Of course this all is pending while we await results from HUD and pending review."

Gentry said that he realizes that he may have been wrong but did what he thought would be best for all concerned.

"HUD has no provision for temporary assistance," said Gentry. "When a family cannot pay their bill, they have their heat turned off. Program regulations say that if that unit has not utilities, I must terminate that family from the program. They then become homeless."

Prior to the action of the board giving the reprimand, board member Danielle Castillo asked Gentry what he would do when the next gas bills come out or this summer when the electricity bills begin to come in.

Gentry said that he was just trying to take care of the current situation at hand for the time being.

"I was merely putting a Band-aid on it for now," said Gentry. "The first thing to do is to stop the bleeding. If that doesn't work we will have to look at other solutions down the road. I made the decision that it would be better to use the funds to keep them in their homes rather than put them out on the street."

Gentry said time was the main factor in his actions.

"I felt it was a critical situation," said Gentry. "I had to act very quickly before they were cut off. If they had been cut off and put out in the street, nobody wins."

Gentry said that HUD has been informed of his actions and will be reviewing the situation.

DRUMMERS

Continued from Page 1A

opportunity to be with other young people from other colleges across the state," Adolph Labbe, Howard College music coordinator, said. "This gives students a change to meet other people with similar interests."

Forsan band director Jim Rhodes said both Wash and Tant will be rooming with students from Monahans.

About 15 junior colleges in the state participate in All-State Concert, Labbe mentioned. The ATSSB will have two bands, Rhodes said, with around 200 students participating.

The first ATSSB band will be conducted by Arnold D. Gabriel; the second band will be conducted by Bobby Francis of Texas Christian University.

The Junior All State Band this year will be conducted by Mike Haithcock of Baylor University and will feature two percussion pieces, Labbe said.

Shanks is a music major and loves all music from classical to rock. He hopes to have a career as a performing musician.

A member of the Billy Shears Band, Shanks has played for several community charity benefits. The band's music ranges from Jimi Hendrix to Primus, including originals.

Shanks did not always dream of becoming a drummer.

"My father, Jimmy Shanks, and sister always played them," Shanks said. "It got on my nerves. I hated the drums."

He changed his mind when he joined the Forsan Junior High band.

Both Tant and Wash love the drums.

"Drums are the coolest," they both said. "Everybody wants to be a drummer."

Rhodes said both Tant and Wash came in after school to practice with him and his assistant band director Tony Lucas.

Both students also received private lessons in Midland from Geof Elsnery, who they agreed was very helpful to them.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

arose about the high cost of gas.

James McFarland, business office manager, mentioned that the BSISD gas bill for January was $37,000 compared to December's bill of $23,000 and November's bill of $12,000.

Superintendent William "Bill" McQueary mentioned that although the actual amount of money spent on utilities is higher, the school district's usage has decreased by 15 percent since last year.

McQueary informed trustees that enrollment was down by 84 students in the district, which could amount to about a $210,00 loss in state funding.

"Enrollment continued to drop to around 2 percent," McQueary said. "Enrollment has continued to decrease throughout much of the Permian Basin."

A textbook public hearing has been set for Thursday at 3:45 p.m. in the Big Spring High School board room.

In other business, the board approved campus and district curriculum plans and decided to sell a 17-year-old International school bus at an auction in Abilene.

MCQUEARY

Continued from Page 1A

high school.

Five years later, he began serving the position of BSISD assistant superintendent until 1987 when he was selected as the superintendent.

McQueary's term as superintendent can only be eclipsed by W.C. Blankenship, who served the BSISD as superintendent from 1928 to 1956.

"I feel we have been so lucky to have him for the past 14 years, and our district has done some great things with him in the lead," Bustamante said.

During McQueary's tenure, old school properties were eliminated and new facilities were built. Improvements included air conditioning for all schools, an athletic training faculty, junior high school, softball complex and many other renovations, she said.

"These improvements occurred during a time of declining district enrollment," Bustamante added.

Also site-based decision making was a priority at the district and campus level during McQueary's administration and student achievement increased at all campuses, Bustamante mentioned.

"Five campuses of the BSISD are currently recognized or exemplary by the Texas Education Agency," she said.

McQueary complimented the school board trustees he has worked with.

"For 14 years, I have had 14 outstanding school boards to work with," McQueary said.

His plans now are to stay in Big Spring.

"I and my family have grown to love the people of Big Spring," he said, adding that he will miss daily contact with the people, trustees and staff.

News of his retirement was a shock to some of his staff members and friends.

"We are going to miss him," said Murray Murphy, who has worked as McQueary's deputy superintendent for the past 14 years. "We wish him the best of luck, and hope he enjoys retirement.

"Bill and I are very close, and he had indicated to me he was considering retirement," Murphy said. "I thought he would go on for another year but when you get ready to retire, you are ready."

McQueary, whose career includes 34 years of as an administrator, plans to retire on July 1.

The board of trustees will outline a process for hiring a new superintendent for the 2001-2002 school term in the next few weeks.

For McQueary, he is looking forward to a break.

"I have been working for 42 years, including college," McQueary said. "I think it is time to take a break. After a while, I will look around and see what options are out there for an old retired school superintendent."

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 0,6,5

Cash 5: 10,21,23,35,37

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

TODAY

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

•AA, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

•NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

SATURDAY

•Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly, Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon, 8 p.m., 10 p.m. open meetings, 615 Settles.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Thursday through 8 a.m. today:

•**ROGELIO LEDEZMA**, 25, of Pflugerville, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation. (BSPD)

•**MICHAEL KENT ALDERS**, 31, of Lufkin, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated, 2nd offense. (HCSO)

•**NORMAN JOSEPH McNEW**, 36, of 3035 Midway Road, was arrested on a charge of assault by threat. (HCSO)

•**LOOSE COWS** were reported at the intersection of Colorado City Highway and N. Midway Road.

POLICE

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

•**RONNIE FREEMAN**, 43, a transient, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

•**JOHNNY FRANCO**, 37, of 2500 Carleton, was arrested on a charg of public intoxication.

•**ANDY GARCIA VALERO**, 23, of Austin, was arrested on a charge of display a ficticous registration and no liability insurance.

•**THEFT** was reported in the 1700 block of E. FM 700.

•**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1000 block of E. 11th Place.

•**DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1300 block of Lincoln, in the 1400 block of Sycamore and the 1000 block of Main.

RECORDS

Thursday's high 68
Thursday's low 43
Precip. Wednesday 0.00
Record high ***
Record low ***
Average high ***
Average low ***
Month to date 0.25
Year to date 0.84
Sunrise Saturday 7:33 a.m.
Sunset Saturday 6:27 p.m.
Sunrise Sunday 7:33 a.m.
Sunset Sunday 6:28 p.m.
***indicates no statistics available

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Daily: 7:00 & 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 2:00 & 4:20
*Saving Silverman (PG-13)
Daily: 7:10 & 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:10 & 4:30
Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13)
Daily 7:20 & 9:10 Sat & Sun 2:20 & 4:10

CINEMA 4
*Hannibal (R)
Daily: 4:20 & 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 1:30
The Wedding Planner (PG-13)
Daily: 4:30 & 7:20 Fri. & Sat. 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 1:40
Sugar & Spice (PG-13)
Daily: 7:30 Sat. & Sun. 1:50
Traffic (R)
Daily: 4:10 & 7:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:50 Sat. & Sun. 1:20
Head Over Heels (PG-13)
Daily: 4:40 Fri. & Sat. 9:20
ADULTS: $5.50
$3.25 ALL MATINEES, CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS
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Skyrocketing health care costs continue to frustrate lawmakers

AUSTIN (AP) — Skyrocketing health care costs squeezing an already tight state budget continued to frustrate top lawmakers Thursday. Meanwhile, acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff said dipping into the state's emergency rainy day fund "very definitely is an option."

"It's frustrating that we keep chasing a moving target," said Ratliff, a Republican senator from Mount Pleasant.

House Appropriations Chairman Rob Junell agreed.

"I'm pretty frustrated right now," said Junell, D-San Angelo. "We don't know how to control the costs."

More than $1 billion in additional state funds is expected to be needed to cover health care costs in the state's Medicaid, state and public school retirees and nursing home programs. That's $700 million more than budget writers expect to have available for new spending from the proposed $108.2 billion 2002-2003 budget.

On Thursday, the Texas Department of Human Services said it would need an additional $127.6 million to cover rising costs at the state's nursing homes and to fund employee pay raises.

The request came a day after the Texas Health and Human Services Commission said it needed at least another $567.2 million to pay for Medicaid and $83.4 million to fund the Children's Health Insurance Program.

The Employee Retirement System of Texas and the Teacher Retirement System of Texas say they need an additional $330 million to shore up their health insurance programs.

"I think we're going to get through this biennium but if we don't get control of what's going on here our whole budget is going to be health care and we're going to be broke," said Sen. Steve Ogden, R-College Station.

Agency numbers change month to month as case load projections rise, causing increases in utilization of health services, fee and prescription projections. The increasing price of prescription drugs also is creating problems.

"We're quite concerned about the escalating numbers and that nobody has a handle on when that escalation is going to stop," Junell said. "I almost want to say I'm going to send the budget over to the health department and what they don't spend, send it back and we'll run the rest of the state with it."

Both Junell and Ratliff said state auditors will study the agencies' request to try to verify the rising numbers.

Finding additional money to cover the costs means legislators must cut or eliminate existing programs, nix new ideas or dip into the so-called rainy day fund, which is expected to grow from about $200 million to more than $1 billion in 2003.

The fund is reserved for extreme financial emergencies and the current funding problems don't yet likely rise to that level, Junell said.

"The Finance Committee and the rest of the members of the Senate have to determine whether or not the shortage of funds for these kinds of programs justifies diverting that money," Ratliff said.

Budget leaders need to decipher, then crunch the numbers before panicking, Junell said.

"I'm not sure we're at a point right now where we need to make a decision like that," Junell said.

The budget crunch likely will end agencies' hopes for any extra money and could hurt lawmakers' bids for expensive new ideas, such as streamlining the Medicaid application process.

Consumers Union calls local phone competition in Lone Star state 'all talk'

FORT WORTH (AP) — Talk isn't cheap for most Texans, a consumer group says.

Local phone bills have increased the past few years as local monopoly providers continue to thrive, despite state and federal laws aimed at promoting competition for local telephone service, according to a Consumers Union study released Thursday.

"Clearly, competition takes more time than anybody thought," said Janee Briesmeister, a senior policy analyst for Consumers Union's Southwest Regional Office. "Five or six years ago, the thought was that there'd be a very vibrant market today. That's not the case."

In 1995, Texas lawmakers amended the Public Utility Regulation Act to allow competition for local telephone markets, primarily for long distance and cable companies. Congress deregulated the telecommunications industry in 1996.

But the Public Utility Commission of Texas ruling didn't come until December 1999 after Federal Communications Commission approval, so market competition is about a year old, PUC spokesman Terry Hadley said.

"In long distance, the market has been open 16 or 17 years, so it takes awhile for things to evolve," Hadley said.

Southwestern Bell is the state's largest phone company with 10 million customers in Texas. Southwestern Bell and Verizon serve more than 90 percent of Texas residents, according to PUC officials.

Few companies have emerged as real competitors to Southwestern Bell, according to the study by Consumers Union, an independent, nonprofit testing and information organization that publishes Consumer Reports.

But Southwestern Bell disagrees that Texas lacks competition for local phone service. The company has lost 2.5 million phone lines to the 150 competing companies throughout the state, said spokeswoman Karen Kay Speer.

"The market's open, and companies that want to compete can," she said.

Consumers Union surveyed 45 alternative phone companies in Fort Worth, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, Houston and El Paso and compared the information to Southwestern Bell prices and services in each region.

Instead of providing competitive basic service to the average household, most alternative phone companies offer costly prepaid service to residents with credit problems, according to the study.

Some companies have scaled back. Westel and ChoiceCom started offering local service in Texas in 1998 but now serve only Austin.

Group angered that rapist's sentence was reduced

EL PASO (AP) — Victims' rights advocates demanded an explanation Thursday from a district judge who cut a convicted rapist's prison sentence from 25 years to 15.

Angel Aguilera, 25, pleaded guilty Monday to three counts of aggravated sexual assault and was sentenced by Judge Bonnie Rangel to 25 years in prison for the May 1999 attack. Later the same day, after hearing "impact statements" from the teen-age victim and her mother, Rangel trimmed Aguilera's sentence.

"We are not taking a stand to attack Judge Rangel, but we want to know what happened in the courtroom," said Ari Medina, executive director of Sexual Trauma and Assault Response Service.

Rangel has said she cannot comment on pending cases and did not return telephone calls to her office seeking comment from The Associated Press.

Prosecutors say they plan to appeal, contending the sentence reduction was illegal.

"The reduction has to be based on evidence and the case had concluded," District Attorney Jaime Esparza said.

The victim told the El Paso Times, on the condition that she not be identified, that Rangel scolded her after hearing the impact statements, which are meant to show defendants how their actions affected others.

"They took the defendant out of the courtroom and then (Rangel) started scolding me, I guess because of the effect (the case) had on my mother," the victim said. "She said I was bound to get in trouble again and asked if I had learned from my behavior."

Impact statements are not part of the court record, so no transcript exists to verify the victim's assertions. In transcripts of the resentencing, Rangel does not explain her decision.

Medina was joined at Thursday's news conference by Marcia Wheatley, whose daughter was raped and murdered in 1987; Carlos Martinez, whose daughter was raped and murdered in 1998; and Lt. Patrick Turley of the El Paso County Sheriff's Department.

All expressed concern that rape victims, already feeling shamed and guilty, will be less likely to report the crime if they believe the courts will not protect them. They stressed that rape is not a sex crime, but rather a crime of violence and domination.

"A 16-year-old girl cannot consent to sex, nor can she consent to aggravated sexual assault," Wheatley said.

The victim said she met Aguilera the night of the attack and accepted his offer to drive her home. Instead of taking her home, Aguilera, then 23, beat and raped her.

"Even if the judge believed the child played a part in this, she still has an obligation to protect the public," Wheatley said.

Report: Dell preparing to cut costs

NEW YORK (AP) — Dell Computer Corp. reportedly has told managers to prepare for significant expense cuts that could result in the first layoffs in the company's 16-year history.

The computer manufacturer is seeking to cut expenses between 8 percent and 10 percent, The Wall Street Journal reported Friday, citing people familiar with the directive.

Faced with sluggish growth in personal-computer sales and an overall slowdown in the U.S. economy, the Round Rock, Texas-based company has already initiated a hiring freeze, reduced its marketing budget and limited travel. The new round of cost-cutting measures would be in addition to these steps, the Journal reported.

Some employees believe the computer maker could be preparing to eliminate as many as 4,000 positions through a combination of outright job cuts and an annual performance review, beginning as early as next week, the Journal reported.

Dell denied late Thursday that it had plans to lay off workers or announce job cuts.

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FEB 09 2001

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.

John H. Walker
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

• **JILL GLADDEN,** Howard College student who earned high-point overall individual in her division at the Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest in Fort Worth.

• **GABRIEL JOHNSON,** SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf student, whose paintings are only display at the Howard College library this month.

• **THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION AND AREA AGENCY ON AGING,** which teamed up to offer a free caregiver seminar in Big Spring on Tuesday.

• **SHELIA MOORE AND ARNOLD URIBE,** who received the Legion of Honor awards during a memorial service at the VA Medical Center on Saturday.

• **THE BUFFALO TRAIL COUNCIL OF BOY SCOUTS,** whose members collected 3,600 cans of food Saturday during the annual Good Turn Drive. The food will be split between two local agencies for the benefit of our local needy families.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the employees of Scenic Mountain Medical Center for their response during the recent, mass casualty bus wreck on Interstate 20. I observed a team effort that both humbled and made me proud. Because I do not have a clinical background, I was simply amazed at the precision and orchestration it required to provide for the large number of victims' medical needs. Our non-clinical support personnel were instrumental in providing food and comfort for the patients as well.

I would also like to mention others in the community that came to Scenic Mountain Medical Center to lend a hand. The Salvation Army assisted the wreck victims with clothing and shelter until arrangements could be made for transportation to Dallas. Community Care Hospice personnel reported to the hospital to assist and offered the assistance of the chaplain. Father Plagens of Sacred Heart Catholic Church offered assistance to the victims. The Howard County Sheriff's Office assisted with translation and we had numerous calls from paramedics and nurses offering to help. The response of the community was overwhelming.

Once again the spirit of Big Spring inspires me.

Sincerely,

LOREN F. CHANDLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

Please:

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- Letters of a political nature will not be published during an election.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

Bush Cabinet loaded with corporate creatures



MOLLY IVINS

Jim Hightower, an invaluable public citizen, once suggested that politicians be forced to wear the corporate logos of their biggest donors in the fashion of NASCAR race drivers so we'd know who they'd sold out to.

Hightower once again has his eye on the shell with the pea under it when it comes to President Bush's Cabinet. The pundit corps has been swooning over the diversity of Bush's picks — four women, a Cuban-American, two African-Americans, a Japanese-American, a Lebanese-American, a Chinese-American and a Democrat.

President Inclusive chooses a Cabinet that looks like America. Just one catch: Every member is a corporate creature.

In fact, the corporations have just taken over the government. Why hire lobbyists when your CEOs and board members are running the show? Who's left to lobby?

Until recently, Real President Dick Cheney was CEO of Halliburton Inc., the giant oilfield services firm that has been making money and trading with Iraq, despite the sanctions, through its subsidiaries Dresser-Rand and Ingersoll-Dresser Pump.

Courtesy of the Hightower newsletter, here are some of those now running the country:

— Elaine Chao (Labor): an investment banker and corporate director, former vice president of Bank of America and board member for Northwest Airlines, Dole Food, Clorox and Columbia//HCA Health Care.

— Norman Mineta (Transportation): corporate VP for Lockheed Martin; also former chairman of the House Transportation Committee, where his major contributors were the American Trucking Association, Boeing, General Electric, Greyhound, Lockheed, Northwest Airlines, UPS, Union Pacific and United Airlines.

— Paul O'Neill (Treasury): CEO of Alcoa, the aluminum giant, and previously CEO of International Paper Co., and on the boards of Eastman Kodak and Lucent Technologies.

— Gale Norton (Interior): formerly with the Mountain States Legal Foundation, an anti-environmental group funded by oil companies. Prominent member of "property rights" groups funded by Boise Cascade, DuPont and Louisiana Pacific; national chairwoman of the Coalition for Republican Environmental Advocates, funded by the American Forest Paper Association, Amoco, ARCO, the Chemical Manufacturers Association and Ford.

— John Ashcroft (attorney general): sponsor of last year's Senate bill to extend the patent on the super-profitable allergy pill Claritin, owned by the giant pharmaceutical firm Schering-Plough, which gave him $50,000 for his last Senate campaign. He also got $1.7 million from oil, chemical and paper companies that were grateful for Ashcroft's opposition to funding environmental enforcement, voting for rollback of clean water protections and letting mining companies dump cyanide and other wastes on public land.

As Hightower has observed, if you wonder why these issues didn't come up in his confirmation hearings, consider the state of the Democratic Party and the effects of campaign contributions.

— Rod Paige (Education): formerly Houston school superintendent, where he promoted corporatization. Food service went to Aramark Inc., payroll to Peoplesoft and accounting to SAP. Last year, he cut an exclusive marketing deal with Coca-Cola to put machines in the school hallways. He also brought in Primed Corp.'s Channel One, the (so-called) "educational channel" that spends two out of every 10 minutes of broadcast time selling M&M//Mars, Pepsico, Reebok and Nintendo.

— Colin Powell (State): on the board of America Online and was recipient of $100,000 a speech to a list of corporations too long to believe.

— Anthony Principi (Veterans Affairs): heir to family-owned real-estate company, also former president of QTC Medical Services Inc.; later with Lockheed Martin and most recently president of the airless technology firm Federal Network.

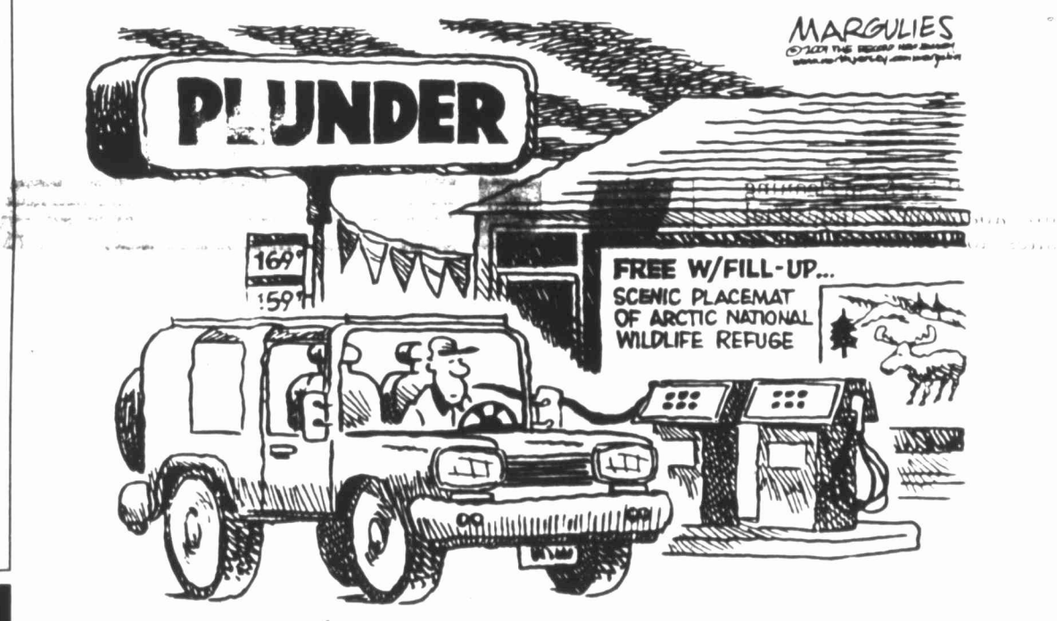
— Donald Rumsfeld (Defense): formerly CEO of General Instrument Corp. and drug giant G.D. Searle & Co., also on the boards of Asea Brown Boveri, a huge Swedish engineering firm, and the Rand Corp. Also on the advisory board of Salomon Smith Barney, the Wall Street investment firm.

— Ann Veneman (Agriculture): lawyer with a firm specializing in representing agribusiness giants and biotech corporations. On board of Calgene Inc., a subsidiary of Monsanto, the first firm to market genetically altered food. Also a participant in the International Policy Council of Agriculture, Food and Trade, a group funded by Monsanto, Cargill, Archer-Daniels-Midland, Kraft and Nestle.

— Tommy Thompson (Health and Human Services): former governor of Wisconsin whose major contributors were HMOs, hospital chains, nursing homes, clinics, doctors and insurance companies. Phillip Morris gave him $72,000 in campaign contributions.

— Spencer Abraham (Energy): one-term senator from Michigan who once sponsored a bill to abolish the Energy Department. Especially active in fight over requiring greater fuel efficiency from SUVs, giving him special brownie points with the energy and auto industries.

— Mel Martinez (HUD): no corporate connections; formerly the top manager of Orange County, Fla. That's Orlando/Disney World, and if you have visited, you know that ending urban sprawl is not his specialty.



ADDRESSES

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- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
- **CHARLES STENHOLM**
U.S. Representative
17th District
1211 Longworth Office Bldg.
Washington, 20515.
Phone: 202-225-6605.

Gradualism is key to drinking and driving



JACK ANDERSON

Talk about mixed signals. Young people cannot vote until age 18, cannot drink in most states until age 21, cannot smoke until 16 or so, and cannot drive until age 16 or 17. It is all a matter of fairness, constitutionality and reality.

On the one hand, the argument goes, if people are old enough to fight for their country, they are old enough to enjoy all the other privileges of citizenship, including drinking.

But those nagging statistics say otherwise. Incidences of driving under the influence increase as the age of the driver decreases.

Whereas voting is a right that comes with citizenship and age, driving is a privilege.

Driving accidents increase as the age of the driver decreases. That is why the majority of states have been raising the driving age from 16. But that requirement causes problems for teenagers who have jobs. Further, most schools have sports and extracurricular activities that are often based upon the assumption that students can drive. Still, public safety must be the priority.

Drinking is another matter; it comes automatically with age, not citizenship. No license is required. So is it even constitutional to prohibit drinking by an age other than what is now the legal age for adulthood: 18? At 18, individuals become full citizens, with all the rights and obligations of citizenship, including the right to vote, and the obligation (for males only) to serve in the armed forces if called.

It includes the right to sign contracts and the obligation to be legally responsible for their own actions.

Only if we declare the consumption of alcoholic beverages to be a privilege rather than a right can we justify the imposition of an arbitrary age requirement. It is well known that many — probably most — teenagers drink when they go away to college, regardless of the legal drinking age. On-campus drinking, in fact, has become one of those offences that many local police ignore or enforce only when things get too far out of hand.

Where lies the solution? Is it all simply a matter of age, or is it more a matter of indoctrination? The problem is that teenagers are not conditioned to cope with their new-found freedoms, and some of them overdo, whether it is behind the wheel of a car or on a seat at the bar. Recognizing the value of indoctrination, some states have lengthened the amount of time a young driver must have a permit before obtaining a license. Further restrictions limit the number of passengers allowed in a car driven by a teenager under the age of 18, and limit such drivers to daylight hours only.

No similar gradualism is practiced with drinking, except on college campuses. There, young people often take part in social drinking that is within walking distance of their dorms. Friends watch after friends, and by the time they turn 21, most of them have an idea about their alcohol tolerance and what is necessary to drink safely. The problem is that such indoctrination is illegal.

A possible solution is to allow drinking as early as 16, but only when accompanied by a parent, and only within certain limits. After all, as with driving, would it not be better for teenagers to learn how to drink and when to say "enough" under the watchful eye of a caring parent than under the not-so-watchful eye of a fellow student far away from home?



Califo

SACRAMENTO (AP) — With a c requiring power to k ep electrici for least anot California turned tion to boosting i ing capacity.

Gov. Gray Davi a plan Thursda said would add en tricity to power more homes by su

"We will demon California can cu build more powe tect the envi Davis said at a ne ence in Yuba Cit new 545-megawa expected to be op July.

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Lawmal to mana

WASHINGTON business approa aging the enviro uses terms "pe based" and "mar won the backing of two senior R and a Democrat steer natural res cy.

In an 18-page described as a r blueprint for the Business laid out a progra structive chang environmental system."

The group, w prises chief ex large companies trade and env flexibility should sized.

The document mended that help shift regu trols away Environmental Agency and t states along wit self-auditing, that have been new EPA Ad

Former pardon

WASHINGTO President Clinto Marc Rich ever Justice Departm didn't know the of the fugitive alleged crimes a York prosecu were consulted sional panel wa

"Knowing eve I know now, have recomme president that pardon," form Attorney Ge Holder told Government Committee Thursday.

Rich has Switzerland before he was the United State charges of ev than $48 millio fraud and part illegal oil deals

Republicans that Rich's fo Denise Rich, v contributor Democratic Pa Hillary Rodha Senate campaig

Ms. Rich



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California races to open more power plants

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — With a court order requiring power suppliers to keep electricity flowing for at least another week, California turned its attention to boosting its generating capacity.

Gov. Gray Davis unveiled a plan Thursday that he said would add enough electricity to power 5 million more homes by summer.

"We will demonstrate that California can cut red tape, build more power and protect the environment," Davis said at a news conference in Yuba City, where a new 545-megawatt plant is expected to be operating by July.

In the meantime, a judge's ruling Thursday should keep three of the state's biggest power suppliers shipping electricity to California until at least Feb. 16, when the next hearing is held.

State air-quality regulators said they would grant exemptions to ease concerns of two of the suppliers who argued they could be fined for violating pollution standards if they continued meeting California's demand.

The third supplier, Houston-based Reliant Energy Services Inc., said it feared the state's two big cash-strapped utilities would never pay for the power it was supplying.

Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. have said they are nearly $13 billion in debt, but State Treasurer Philip Angelides said Thursday that he doesn't believe they will have to declare bankruptcy.

Lawmakers are discussing enough financial options, including buying a stake in the utilities or taking over their transmission lines, that should enable the companies to pay their bills, Angelides said.

"The next step is up to them," he said, adding that even if they did file for bankruptcy, they still could continue operating.

Reliant wants the state to guarantee Edison's and PG&E's power purchases, but Davis has balked at that, saying Reliant could try to drive up the price. Last week, Davis signed a law allowing the state to negotiate long-term power contracts that would have it spending some $10 billion to provide power to the utilities' nearly 9 million customers.

The governor's latest plan is designed to add 5,000 megawatts — enough to power 5 million homes — to California's power grid by summer by cutting down on paperwork and streamlining the approval process for small natural gas or renewable-fuel power plants that would run only during peak hours. Plants online by summer would be eligible for $30 million in bonuses.

Davis asked President Bush to direct federal agencies to issue permits for small plants within the same time frame. The White House said it is reviewing the request.

California's energy crisis, which led to rolling blackouts twice last month, has been blamed on limited hydroelectric supplies, transmission problems, aging power plants, and the state's 1996 deregulation law, which prohibited utilities from passing wholesale costs on to consumers. A federal hearing is scheduled Monday.

Park Service says gifts were government property

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sofas, chairs, a pair of lamps and other home furnishings that former President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton took and then shipped back to Washington were property of the White House, not personal gifts they were entitled to keep, the government has found.

"I feel 99 percent certain that everything that's been returned to us is government property," said Jim McDaniel, speaking for the National Park Service, which conducted the examination.

The Clintons returned 19 items on Wednesday after some donors said their gifts were for the White House, not the former first family. The goods — valued at about $28,000 and possibly more — were put on a truck in Chappaqua, N.Y., where the Clintons have a house, and shipped to a warehouse in a Maryland suburb of Washington where White House items are stored.

"The list of what came in has been checked against our files," McDaniel said Thursday. "For the most part the objects that we received have corresponding letters on file from the Park Service accepting them as gifts for use in the White House."

It was not clear why the items ended up with the Clintons.

The former president and first lady declined to comment on the Park Service's finding.

Lawmakers back business approach to managing natural resources in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — A business approach to managing the environment that uses terms "performance-based" and "market-driven" won the backing Thursday of two senior Republicans and a Democrat who help steer natural resources policy.

In an 18-page document described as a nonpartisan blueprint for lawmakers, the Business Roundtable laid out a program for "constructive changes in our environmental protection system."

The group, which comprises chief executives of large companies, said free trade and environmental flexibility should be emphasized.

The document also recommended that lawmakers help shift regulatory controls away from the Environmental Protection Agency and toward the states along with voluntary self-auditing, approaches that have been endorsed by new EPA Administrator Christie Whitman, New Jersey's former governor.

Other goals include a "better alignment of energy and environmental policies" and an overall climate of fewer regulations on businesses in order to reduce barriers on developing new technology.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Bob Smith, R-N.H., described the group's approach as serious and thoughtful.

"Our goal is to ensure a clean environment in harmony with a strong economy," he said. "By embracing innovation in the private sector, coupled with cooperation and not confrontation, we can achieve the environmental goals we set forward to accomplish."

Smith said the blueprint would "get the full attention it deserves from my committee" in addressing bills on everything from cleaning up abandoned industrial sites to reauthorizing the Clean Air Act.

Two other lawmakers — Reps. Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y., Chairman of the House Science Committee, and Rick Boucher, D-W.Va., senior Democrat on the House Commerce Committee's energy and power subcommittee — also described the plan as sensible.

Industry leaders were represented by Earnest W. Deavenport Jr., chairman and CEO of Eastman Chemical Co.; Fred Webber, president of the American Chemistry Council; and American Forest and Paper Association President Henson Moore.

Former prosecutors decry pardon of financier Rich

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton pardoned Marc Rich even though top Justice Department officials didn't know the full details of the fugitive financier's alleged crimes and his New York prosecutors never were consulted, a congressional panel was told.

"Knowing everything that I know now, I would not have recommended to the president that he grant the pardon," former Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder told a House Government Reform Committee hearing Thursday.

Rich has lived in Switzerland since just before he was indicted in the United States in 1983 on charges of evading more than $48 million in taxes, fraud and participating in illegal oil deals with Iran.

Republicans have noted that Rich's former wife, Denise Rich, was a major contributor to the Democratic Party and to Hillary Rodham Clinton's Senate campaign.

Ms. Rich refused to answer questions from the committee, but her lawyer conceded to the panel Wednesday that she had given an "enormous sum of money" to the Clinton Presidential Library Fund, Committee Chairman Dan Burton, R-Ind., said.

"Ms. Rich is asserting her privilege under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution not to be a witness against herself," her attorney, Carol Bruce, said in a letter to the committee.

At the hearing, the two prosecutors who knew the case best, former New York assistant U.S. attorneys Morris Weinberg and Martin Auerbach, said they weren't informed by the White House or the Justice Department.

"It's like looking at half the scoreboard and thinking you know the score," Auerbach testified. "I have no idea why the president did this."

"It's like Keystone Kops, but I don't think it is," said Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga. "I think the president knew exactly what he was doing."

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Valentine's Day: A necessary reminder



KEN McMEANS

It's February, again. That means Groundhog day, birthdays of famous Presidents, and Valentine's Day.

It's funny how we need reminders to keep us from forgetting really significant dates and seasons in life. President's day helps to remind us of our great heritage. Without national heroes like Washington and Lincoln, the United States of America as we know it would not exist.

Without Punxsutawney Phil and Groundhog day, ...errr, well... you figure it out! And then there's Valentine's day.

Another marketing Mecca, Valentine's Day gets loads of Madison Avenue attention because it generates "big bucks."

What boy with a girlfriend is worth his salt if he forgets his sweetheart on V. day? Flower shops love it like they love high school Homecoming and Mother's Day! Surely that special someone in your life deserves a little extra attention at least a couple of times a year. The pressure is on Guys. You had better heed this warning.

Let's be honest! (That's scary, isn't it!) The local gift and flower shops don't really care what kind of relationship you are in. They sell gifts and flowers! They stay in business by selling us the things we think we need to keep our relationships fresh.

That's the bottom line. This whole Valentine's Day thing is about relationships! At this point, I'm sure you're giving me a hearty "Duh!" ... and why do you need a preacher to tell you about healthy relationships? Now it's my turn to "Duh!"

As the world turns, I've learned that the days of our lives are filled with thoughts of being bold & beautiful, and young & restless. The problem, however, is that life is not fantasy. Our "real" lives have stress, rejection, and consequences related to the decisions we continually make.

Real life relationships are fragile, and require much wisdom and nurturing to keep them flourishing. Most of us have suffered from the pain of broken friendships or even families. Suffering tremendous guilt from the mess we seem to leave in the wake of our inconsistency, we attempt to buy our way to happiness and success.

As a result, many in need of emotional and spiritual CPR get a box of chocolates and a dozen roses.

A recent survey indicated that the number one Valentine gift desired by women was simply time alone with their spouse.

Though this simple request may seem too easily satisfied, many men continue to miss the mark, not understanding the basic needs of the one they claim to love deeply. Surely we can do better than that!

Where do we begin, when we recognize the need for a change? The Bible is very clear when it comes to a proper foundation for all relationships.

God says, Love Me with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind; and love your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27) Clearly, unless we have intimacy with the one who created us, we cannot adequately understand intimacy with anyone else. A simplified definition of neighbor is "near one."

God desires that we have great relationships. I honestly believe the gift He would most enjoy from you might be the same as your spouse: A little undivided attention! (Ephesians 5:25)

Have a great Valentine's day! Hope to see you on Sunday!

Ken McMeans is the pastor at College Baptist Church.

'Holy Land Experience' opens in controversy

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A Christian theme park that re-creates the Holy Land during the time of Jesus opened Monday amid protests from critics who say the attraction is aimed at converting Jews.

An actor in a white caftan welcomed the first guests to the $16 million Holy Land Experience with several blasts from a shofar, or ram's horn.

Visitors were greeted by two actors dressed as Roman soldiers in armor, who talked about the history of Herod's Temple. Workers in robes hawked ritual prayer shawls, menorahs and cold drinks from kiosks.

On the steps of a re-creation of Herod's Temple, a half-dozen actors in biblical-period clothes sang songs about Christian persecution by the Romans and how Jesus would come back to save them.

Outside the fences, the leader of the militant Jewish Defense League, Irv Rubin, called park founder Marvin Rosenthal a "soul-snatcher."

"His whole raison d'etre is to recruit Jews, to steal our souls," said Rubin, leading a three-man protest.

Rosenthal, a Baptist minister who was born Jewish, said there is no hidden agenda at the park other than to spread the teachings of the Bible to people of all faiths.

"The idea that we're targeting Jewish people is fallacious," said Rosenthal, who calls himself a Hebrew Christian. "We would be thrilled if Jewish people came to these facilities. They won't be buttonholed. They won't be coerced."

Although Hebrew Christians consider themselves Jewish, mainstream Jews do not recognize them as such because Hebrew Christians believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

Leaders of Orlando's Jewish community, which has about 25,000 people, chose to ignore the park's opening. However, they have gotten the word out to Jewish communities around the world to avoid the park, said Rabbi Merrill Shapiro of Congregation Beth Am.

"Mr. Rosenthal says you can be Christian and Jewish at the same time, but that's not true," Shapiro said. "We have a great interest in not attracting a lot of attention to this park."

It was too late for that Monday, as dozens of reporters attended the opening and about 800 people of varying Christian denominations paid $17 each to roam the 15-acre park.

"I haven't seen anything that trivializes religion," said David Graber, a Mennonite pastor from Sarasota. "We're different from many denominations but I feel comfortable here."

The park's gift shop, The Old Scroll Shop, sold books with Jewish themes, such as "The Chosen" and "The History of the Jews."

Marge McQuiston, a Lutheran visitor from Lakeland, saw the park as an opportunity for understanding.

"If we can't get along in a theme park, how are we going to get along in a place like Israel?" she said.

Kinkade's paintings dazzle collectors, leave critics less impressed

DALLAS (AP) — One look at a Thomas Kinkade painting and many people imagine being transported to the lush setting to share their innermost thoughts with their god.

"We've got very strong Christian beliefs, and he ties everything in very much on the spiritual side," said John Ritchie of McKinney, who was looking at a painting at the Kinkade gallery at Weir's Furniture Village in Plano. "It's a very peaceful way to convey our beliefs."

To his legions of fans, a mere look at Kinkade's work draws them into its settings. His are idyllic, sentimental visions that evoke feelings of yesteryear: Flower-draped gateways opening to paths that seem to wind endlessly; steeple-topped churches and quaint, warm homes with glowing windows; peaceful streams winding through lush forests.

Those images have made Kinkade a multi-millionaire who is hailed as the most collected artist in America. Virtually everything he paints gets reproduced in one or another, including hand-signed lithographs, canvas prints, books, calendars, cards, Christmas ornaments, collector plates and figurines. There are 5,000 Thomas Kinkade dealers in the United States and England, including seven in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Kinkade's fans say that perhaps no American artist since Norman Rockwell has received such broad exposure and popular acceptance. But while Rockwell's work was beloved for embodying the nation's values, Kinkade's work is overtly about faith.

"I would love it if people could say, 'I returned to a

See **PAINTINGS**, Page 7A

RELIGION IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON (AP) — Though the United Methodist Church has lost members and influence nationwide over recent decades, the Bush era is a "Methodist moment" in the nation's capital, a conservative religious caucus says.

George W. Bush, a convert to the denomination, is the first Methodist president since William McKinley, and First Lady Laura Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and wife Lynne are Methodists as well.

Other ranking Methodists include White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card (whose wife Kathleene is a Methodist minister), Commerce Secretary Don Evans, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta and Republican National Committee chairman (and Virginia Gov.) James Gilmore. In the new Congress, the total of Methodists has increased from 59 to 65.

The conservative caucus says, "the United Methodist Board of Church and Society is the largest church lobby office in Washington and is very liberal politically."

The board's head, Jim Winkler, has written Bush assailing the cutoff of funds to international organizations that promote abortions. The Methodist board provides support to lobbies that favor abortion choice, civil rights and gun limits.

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HUNTINGTON, Ind. (AP) — The United States has 62.4 million Roman Catholics, the third largest Catholic population in the world, according to the 2001 Catholic Almanac.

The only countries with more Catholics are Brazil, with 139 million, and Mexico, with 118 million. The other major Catholic nations, in order, are the Philippines, Italy, France, Poland, Spain, Colombia and Germany.

In the United States, Rhode Island is the only state with a Catholic major-

See **RELIGION**, Page 7A

CHURCH NEWS

First United Methodist Church

"They Took Their Ball and Went Home" (John 6:35-40) is the title for Dr. Ed Williamson's message on Sunday, Feb. 11, 2001, at the First United Methodist Church. Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. A special service for kids age 4 to the Fifth grade is held every Sunday on the third floor immediately following the children's corner in the 10:50 a.m. service. We are on the Internet now with a "home page" at http://www.xroadstx.com/~dove.

The youth have a busy schedule at FUMC Mid High Youth meet each Sunday at 5 p.m. with Senior high meeting at 6 p.m. Senior high bible study meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at One Courtney Place Apt 707.

On Feb. 17, the Harlem World Ambassadors are going to be at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 7 p.m. All of you basketball enthusiasts meet us at the Partee Building at 6:30 p.m.

March 11-16 youth will be going on a missions trip to Juarez, Mexico. . If you are interested in going, please bring a $10 deposit to Courtney at the church office to hold your spot.

The Chancel Choir meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The youth handbell choir meets on Sunday at 4 p.m. in the choir room. Youth choir meets on Sunday at 6 p.m. in the choir room.

The First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry and all visitors and new residents of Big Spring are welcome. Please call the church office, 267-6394, for more information.

Baptist Temple Church

We would like to invite everyone to a Valentine Dinner Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 6 p.m. Our youth will be performing "Miss Lonely Heart," a Valentine comedy by Jane McGowan. Tickets are $10 and catering will be provided by Al's Barbecue. Space is limited so reserve your seats today!!!

The Singing Women of West Texas will be with us once again on Sunday, Feb. 18. They are always a blessing to us. Make plans to attend.

If you are looking for a good Bible study, come and join us on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. We offer classes for all ages as well as special interest groups. A New Members class began in January.

These are just a few of the good things that await you at Baptist Temple as we worship the risen Christ together. For more information, call 267-8287.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

On Feb. 11, the Episcopal Church Women will be selling Valentine sweets and treats after the 8 a.m. service. Drop by the Parish Hall and pick up a Valentine for your sweetheart.

The Grief Support Group will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 3 p.m. at Canterbury South.

The Inquirer's Class meets on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

In keeping with the Holy Father's request for a World Day of Prayer for the sick and infirm, there will be a special anointing of the sick after the homily of all masses on Feb. 10-11. This sacrament is not only for those who are very ill, but for everyone especially those who are chronically afflicted with diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, etc. and those that need spiritual and emotional healing.

On Monday at 7 p.m. we will be meeting in the church for a lector preparation class. Please join us.

In the spirit of the New Millennium, the church needs your e-mail address. Our office staff will accept your comments and complaints via the Internet at blueangl@crcom.net (Montel Herrera) or at mbeserra@msn.com (Monica Beserra).

Mark the calendar - Feb. 27 - for a Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Covered Dish. Bring your old Palms because we will be concluding the evening with a Community Palm Burning which will supply us with ashes on Ash Wednesday.

First Assembly of God

"The First Sweethearts" is Pastor R. T. Havener's message this Sunday morning at 10:40. This sermon will be Pastor Havener's Valentine message. In this hour we are seeing so many marriages failing and along with the many legal divorces there is also "A Physiological Divorce" that exists that we hear little about.

In the evening service at 6, Pastor Havener will be continuing his series on end-time events. The sermon for this Sunday night is "The Anti Christ."

In the Wednesday Bible Study at 7 p.m. the church is studying the "Gifts of the Spirit."

The congregation of First Assembly of God invites you to join them for Spirit-led Worship and special music in each of these services.

Midway Baptist

You have a seat at Midway Baptist Church. We have plenty of room for you and your family this Sunday during our worship services.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. with classes ranging from bed babies to senior adults. Our morning worship service begins at 11 a.m. with Sam Lathen bringing the message. He will also be preaching during the evening service starting at 7.

St. Paul Lutheran

This weekend is the Hot Hearts Student Conference

See **CHURCH**, Page 8A

SLICE of life!

CLUB NEWS

The 1971 Hyperion Club met in the home of Maureen Haddad with co-hostesses Barbara Donelson, Theresa Welch and Deede Cauley.

Paula Talbot and Cynda Stanley introduced multiple creative and fun ideas for table decorations with specific themes (Valentine, Easter, etc.) President, Shirley Johnson conducted a brief business meeting. The Project Ways and Means Committee was activated and a report will be made next month. Members with suggestions for the club's donation should contact one of the committee members (Dene Sheppard, Sue Partee or Kathey Kremsky) or its chairman, Lynda Elrod.

Programs this year have been held at the homes of Carolyn Freeman, Kim Cooksey and Joanne Smoot. Topics have included "Financial Issues for Ladies," presented by Forrest Wester, Holiday Ideas and "Rape Crisis Prevention." Vice-President Maureen Haddad put together a fascinating year.

Members are encouraged to bring guests and be sure not to miss next month's meeting, "Clean Your Closets" at Wanda Driver's home with Pat Anderson and Sue Haugh serving as co-hostesses. A representative from Julian Gold in Midland, Ginger Yawe, will provide the program on cleaning out and bringing order to closets.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) volunteers have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and will be preparing 2000 Income Tax Returns for individuals each Monday until April 9, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive.

This is for all citizens, and there is no charge. Please bring your tax booklet received from the IRS, all W-2s, 1099s and other documents received showing 2000 income as well as your 1999 Income Tax Return. If you cannot come at that time or need further assistance, please call: Dorothy Kennemur-398-5522, or Senior Citizens Center-267-1628.

WELL SAID

Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly.

St. Francis de Sales

Opportunities multiply as they are seized.

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RELIGIO

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RELIGION

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ity (64.3 percent). Neighboring Massachusetts is just under half Catholic. The largest Catholic populations are in California, New York and Texas, which together have just over a third of the U.S. total.

Catholics represent 22.7 percent of the U.S. population, the same as a year earlier.

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ATLANTA (AP) — Two years after the Georgia Baptist Convention expelled two churches because of their acceptance of homosexuals, the Atlanta Baptist Association has reopened the controversy by voting to keep the churches in the fold.

The Atlanta association voted 253-164 not to expel Oakhurst and Virginia-Highland churches.

"This is really the first kind of Southern Baptist official body that has taken a vote and said, 'No, we're not going to exclude churches that affirm gays and lesbians,'" said David Key, head of Baptist studies at Emory University.

Southern Baptist leaders say that because of the vote, more conservative churches now may choose to withdraw from the Atlanta Baptist Association. The Rev. Bobby Atkins of the 7,000-member Rehoboth Baptist Church said he will bring the matter up before the church's leadership.

"If this is the way the Atlanta Baptist Association wants to deal with this, what I think might happen ... is that there will be several churches that will say we can no longer be a part of that," Atkins said.

Southern Baptist Convention president James Merritt, whose First Baptist Church of Snellville is in a neighboring association, said he was "extremely disappointed" in the decision of the Atlanta association.

Some supporters of the two expelled churches said their votes did not indicate acceptance of homosexuality but rather a belief that Baptist churches should have congregational autonomy.

"Each church must discern who God is calling them to be," Oakhurst pastor the Rev. Lanny Peters argued at Tuesday's meeting.

The Rev. Tim Shirley, pastor at Virginia-Highland, said he believed that "by and large, homosexuality is a completely natural orientation and not a chosen behavior or lifestyle."

But Shirley said the association did not have to agree in order to retain the two churches.

"Blessing does not require agreement. It does require understanding," Shirley said.

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MOSCOW (AP) — The American Jewish Committee on Monday urged more attention to Jewish history and culture in Russia, a country with a large Jewish minority and a long history of anti-Semitism.

The committee released a report titled "The Treatment of Jewish Themes in Russian Schools," alleging a biased approach or a disregard for Jewish issues in textbooks for Russian children.

"Themes that were taboo in the Soviet ideological machine -- such as the Holocaust, Zionism, etc. — continue to be outside the field of vision of most textbooks," the report says.

"Where Soviet textbooks walked the line of outright anti-Semitism ... the authors of contemporary textbooks do nothing to change or improve the situation."

An elementary school textbook quoted in the report appears to give ethnic Russians a special status.

"The Russian people are a heroic people, a hardworking people, a suffering people ... more suffering and torment has fallen to the lot of Russians than to other people," the textbook is quoted as saying.

Many of the textbooks ignore Jewish contributions to world cultures or the Jewish roots of Christianity, and all avoid using the word "Holocaust" in discussing the genocide of the Jews, the report said.

While many of the textbooks focus on the history and culture of ethnic Russians and of Orthodox Christianity, a few others discuss Jewish issues in more detail, but provide complex, "adult" explanations that may be difficult for younger students to grasp, the report says.

PAINTINGS

Continued from Page 6A

personal faith through this art, there's something here that led me back to a knowledge of God's love, his goodness,'" Kinkade, 42, said in an interview this month. "My legacy will be the lives who are touched. A soul is forever, and to touch a soul is the real harvest."

Like most commercial success stories, Kinkade has his critics.

"This is the pet rock of the art world," said Jack Rutberg, an art dealer and consultant in Los Angeles. "There is no serious collector of art who would confuse these works with works that have any lasting importance in the continuum of 20th-century art."

Even his emphasis on faith has drawn questions.

"There is an almost franchise feeling" to Kinkade's work, "a commodification," said Wilson Yates, president of the United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, Minn., who specializes in theology and the arts. "My concern is that it's not probing the depths of what the faith is about. It's not calling us to examine religious questions in any great substance, to raise rather significant questions of who we are, why we're here, what is our purpose."

Kinkade disagrees. "I do think a painting can cause us to ponder life," he said.

And the art critics can keep their snootiness to themselves.

"That just hearkens back to the elitism that art has suffered from in the past century," he said. "There's a feeling that if art is popular, it can't be serious."

Hope on canvas

What is clear is that his paintings have an impact beyond inspiring admiration. Kinkade said they have even saved lives.

"I've had dozens of cases of people who have written me letters, people who were close to suicide, who said the paintings gave them hope," he said.

One woman who saw a Kinkade painting on the wall of her doctor's office said it literally pulled her back from the brink, he said.

She told him that the painting made her realize, "There's a garden out there for me," he said.

"Just think of how these paintings are contact points of hope," Kinkade said.

His brother, Patrick, a professor of sociology and criminal justice at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, owns Thomas Kinkade galleries in Fort Worth, Lewisville, Austin, California and Colorado.

"People would come in and say how the paintings changed their lives," he said. "I would literally be hugging people and crying with people in ways I never anticipated because of the art. We call them 'Kum Ba Yah' moments."

Those moments, fans say, happen because of Kinkade's use of light. He's known by the trademarked phrase "Painter of Light."

"Light is a pretty powerful symbol in Western art," Yates said. "In terms of Christian tradition, light can become a metaphor for the presence of God, light can become a metaphor for revelation, it can be a metaphor for hope. In American culture, painters who deal with darker themes are not as readily received by a popular audience."

Kinkade's technique resembles that of a little-known group of 19th-century American painters known as the "Luminists." But his purpose for using light goes beyond artistic effect.

"God gave me that passion for light because he knew later he would use that tool later as a ministry," Kinkade said.

The warm, bright light emanating from the homes he paints make viewers yearn to be invited into that home, where they could bask in the hospitality of its owners.

"Most of us want the simpler times, and it's what he tries to depict in the paintings," said Patsy Moore, co-owner of Weir's Furniture Village, which owns the Kinkade galleries in Plano and Dallas. "We've seen people standing there with tears in their eyes. It's overwhelming to their emotions."

John Stark of Plano bought a Kinkade painting as a Christmas gift for his wife.

"You look at some of his Christmas scenes and you think, boy, wouldn't it be nice to be there back then," he said.

'An anchor thrown out'

Kinkade said people like his paintings because they're starved for a spiritual context in their life and for evidence that basic values, such as love of family and goodness, still exist.

"There's a sense that the future is uncertain," he said. "The average day-to-day experience that Americans encounter in the 21st century is a life that's spinning faster out of control, with little time to pause and reflect on the basic values in life. My paintings are an anchor thrown out to this wildly spinning world to return people to their foundational values."

People need that grounding, said Ernie Martin, chairman of CBA, the Christian Booksellers Association.

"It's more of a case of the need for faith, or at least a sense that there's more to life," he said. "He speaks to that."

A devout Christian, Kinkade readily acknowledges God's hand in his life and his talents.

"I consider myself deeply fortunate to have discovered such a passion in my art," Kinkade wrote in his 1999 book Lightposts for Living.

"My work gives me deep pleasure and satisfaction. It provides me with a dependable joy base. So does my family, the other joy-giving passion God has blessed me with."

Above his signature in each painting is the ichthys, the Christian fish symbol for Jesus, and below his signature are the words: "John 3:16."

"That's the heart of the gospel," Kinkade said.

He also pays tribute to his family wife Nanette and young daughters Merritt, Chandler, Winsor and Everett by hiding their names or initials in his paintings, a ritual eagerly watched by collectors.

Still, Kinkade said he doesn't want his paintings' message to be obscured by the fame of the messenger.

"My primary goal is to always be aware that I don't really matter all that much and that the paintings don't matter all that much," he said. "It's not to build this temple of glory to myself. It has to do with reflecting God's love."

Kinkade lives in Silicon Valley, near the mountains above San Jose in Northern California.

These days, he said, "I like to keep my theology and my politics very private because people of all faiths, backgrounds and political beliefs embrace these paintings."

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Buy One Get One FREE*
Limit two with coupon. One coupon per visit. Please mention coupon when ordering. Not good in conjunction with any other offers. Offer good only at participating Sonic Drive-Ins. HURRY! OFFER EXPIRES March 15, 2001. No cash value.
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CHURCH

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in San Angelo. We have 12 youth and three adults that will be attending this event with speaker Matt Chandler and music by Skillet.

The purpose of the conference is to provide a quality event that can serve as a rallying point for churches to network with a common goal...asking God to ignite the hearts of students with a passion for Christ.

This Sunday we have a guest speaker, John Goeke of the Texas District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. The text for his message is Rev. 2:1-4. The theme is "First Love." Also, during Adult Sunday School he will have a special presentation of Texas Partners in Mission. This mission ministry helps people to see how their local stewardship of giving has an impact on the lives of people across the state of Texas. A special brunch is planned for those who attend.

This mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is "to serve Jesus Christ in word and deed, through the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaiming the love of God so that everyone may have eternal life."

Call 267-7163 for more information on St. Paul Lutheran Church, 810 Scurry.

Would-be pastor finds hard sell for religion in high-tech land

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP) — For a man on a mission from God, Andrew Field is surprisingly low key.

"I'm Drew Field, a pastor in the area," one of his typical e-mails goes.

The absence of fire and brimstone doesn't obscure Field's message. In fact, he believes that laid-back approach is necessary for his formidable quest: to start a new Christian church in Silicon Valley, regarded as an inhospitable environment for traditional religion.

To be sure, there are hundreds of churches, mosques and temples in the suburbs between San Francisco and San Jose, and pockets of pious folk.

But with science and technology at the core of the area, and with swarms of new arrivals putting in long hours in cubicles and labs, some clergy estimate only around 10 percent of the valley's residents regularly attend religious services. The nationwide rate, according to the Gallup Poll, 56 percent.

"It is difficult to minister in this valley mainly because of the pace of life and the housing costs," which are driving some longtime residents out, said the Rev. Richard Reaves, senior pastor at Santa Clara First Baptist Church.

In late 1999, Field — a former investment banker who left Wall Street for the seminary in 1992 — was working as an associate pastor at a Presbyterian church in New York City.

He sensed the region and its newcomers were too caught up with stock options and SUVs. Ironclad biblical truths, he decided, were losing ground to self-absorption.

"Silicon Valley is a place that needs the impact of what we're about," Field said.

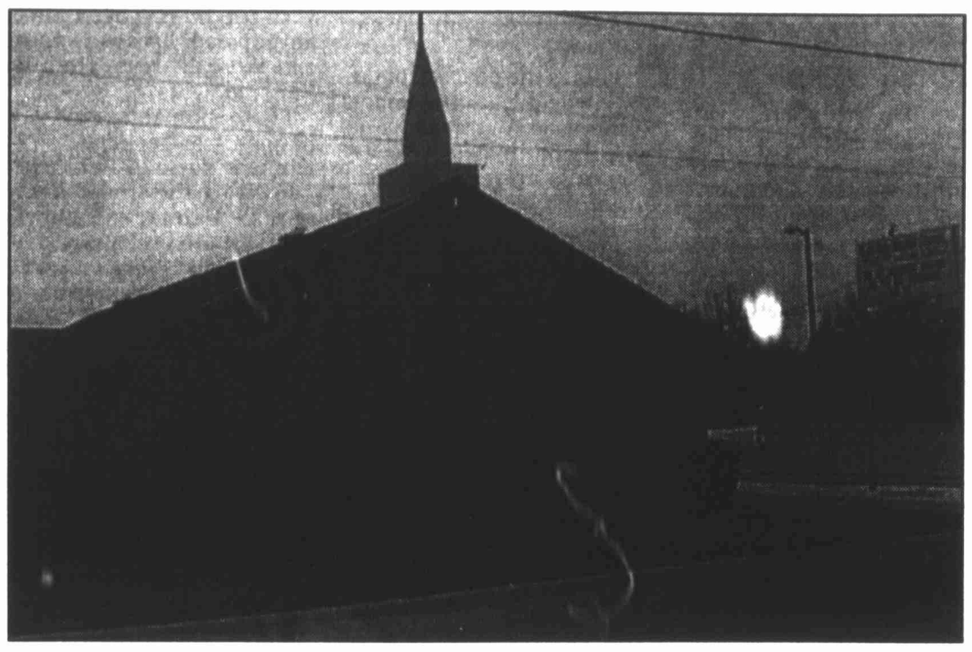
So Field, 35, decided to start a church that could speak the techies' language and remind them of a higher purpose. Field estimates he's talked to hundreds of people. He tells them about his vision for his Grace Presbyterian Church: It would emphasize the timeliness of ancient concepts of grace and redemption, and spend less time on ritual.

"Just as no one is 'good enough' to avoid the need of God's grace, no one is 'bad enough' to be outside the reach of God's grace," he wrote to some prospective congregants.

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Sunday School.....5:00 p.m. Sunday Evening
Sunday Evening Services.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Services.....7:00 p.m.

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Page 1B
Friday, Feb. 9, 2001

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Kamilah Ward, 263-7331, Ext. 233.

IN BRIEF

Practice game set tonight at coliseum

A practice game between Plainview's Lady Bulldogs and Abilene High's Lady Eagles has been scheduled for 6 tonight at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Lady Bulldogs, the No. 1-ranked Class 4A team in Texas, will get their first chance to play at 'The Dorothy' this season, when they take on the Class 5A Lady Eagles, They hope to return Feb. 23-24 for the Region 1, Class 4A tournament.

Tickiet Prices for the practice game will be $3 for adults and $2 for students.

Rogers Snyder's new head football coach

Chad Rogers, who has served for several years as defensive coordinator on the Snyder coaching staff, has been named the new school's new head football coach and athletic director.

Rogers takes over at the Tiger helm replacing David Baugh, who announced his retirement following the 2000 season.

Coahoma schedules practice tilt Monday

Coahoma's Bulldogettes will play a practice game against Whiteney's Wildcats at 6:30 p.m. Monday.

Coahoma claimed the District 3-2A title Tuesday night after going into overtime to the 75-68 win over Colorado City.

Whitney high school outside of the Waco/Dallas area also claimed their District 8-3A title.

National LL slates meeting for Monday

The National Little League will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at Wells Fargo Bank.

For more information call Joel De La Garza at 267-5513 or Allan Johnson at 267-6278.

Hunter education course offered

Boyce Hale and Steve Poitevint will be instructing a two-day hunter education course beginning Feb. 24-25 in the conference room of the Chamber of Commerce Building.

The course will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

There will be a $10 fee. To pre-register call 267-6957 or 264-7033.

UGSA schedules meeting for Feb. 18

Big Spring United Girls' Softball Association will hold their public meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 at the Howard County Library.

Anyone interested in managing or coaching is urged to attend.

For more information contact JoEllen Canales at 264-6104.

AREA GAMES

TODAY
H.S. BASKETBALL
6:30 p.m.
- Plains at Stanton, (VB).
- Coahoma at Forsan, (VB).

7:30 p.m.
- Frenship at Big Spring (VB)

ON THE AIR

Television

PGA
3 p.m. — Buick Invitational second round, USA, Ch. 38.
AUTO RACING
9 a.m. — Nascar, Winston Cup, practice for Daytona 500 qualifying, FXS, Ch. 29.
NHL
7 p.m. — New York Rangers at Florida Panthers, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Hawks sweep doubleheader with Northwood JV

HERALD Staff Report

CEDAR HILL — Howard College's Hawks improved their record to 4-1 on the season Thursday afternoon with a 10-1, 8-1 doubleheader sweep of Northwood University's junior varsity in non-conference baseball action.

Hawks head coach Justin Hays was all smiles following the the nightcap win.

"It was just a solid performance all the way around ... we hit the ball well, played good defense and were very effective on the mound," Hays said. "This is one of those days when you like being a baseball coach."

The Hawks opened the twinbill with a 13-hit offensive onslaught that was more than enough support for the Howard pitching tandem of Wes Tunnell and Mic Quintanilla.

Zane Shook, Steve Gooch and John Perry led the way offensively. Gooch clubbed a three-run homer in a 2-for-4 performance at the plate, while Perry added a solo homer for one of his two RBIs in a 2-for-3 showing. Shook also drove in a pair of runs while going 2-for-3.

Adrian Ballesteros added a third home run for the Hawks.

Tunnell earned the win with five innings of work. He struck out five batters, walked six and gave up two hits before giving way to Quintanilla, who walked three and struck out one during the final two innings.

But it was freshman Jeremy Huddleson who turned in the pitching gem of the day, as he scattered four Northwood hits and went the distance to post the nightcap win.

"That was really important for us because we've got to play seven games in five days," Hays said as he looked ahead to today's scheduled 1 p.m. game at Tyler Junior College. The Hawks will then play a Saturday doubleheader with the Apaches before returning home for a 1 p.m. Monday twinbill against McMurry University's junior varsity at Jack Barber Field.

"When you're looking at that many games in such a short span of time and then have a freshman jump up and go the distance is absolutely huge," he continued. "We certainly couldn't have expected that from Jeremy, but he gave us a great game. It's a big plus for our entire pitching staff."

See **HAWKS**, page 2B

Hawks pull out late win over NMMI

By KAMILAH WARD
Sports Writer

Derrick Tarver lit up the scoreboard with 40 points, but it was the second-half play of Artavius Davis that turned the tide for Howard College's Hawks in a 91-88 win over New Mexico Military Institute's Broncos in Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) play Thursday night.

The trip back to Roswell surely gave NMMI time to ponder the game's final 2 1/2 minutes that saw Howard pull out the close win.

Tarver hit a pair of free throws to seal the win, but the game took a turn before he ever stepped to the line.

In the first half, the Broncos jumped out to take a small lead early in the game with the Hawks trailing 23-16 at the 11:25 mark after Jared Duyck hit a 3-pointers and Mike Bailey added a free throw.

Both teams struggled to take care of the ball turning it over 10 times between the two squads in the first few minutes of play.

For the Hawks, the turnovers were mostly from misreads at their end of the floor.

But for NMMI, Howard's defense forced four consecutive 5-second violations.

The Broncos managed to clean up their mistakes going on a 10-2 run, increasing their lead to as many as 13 points, before Howard's Darius Mattear was sent to the free throw line for two quick points.

The Hawks made a game of it, using those Mattear free throws to spark a 24-8 run. Ander Pinedo hit his third trey of the night and the spurt was capped by Tarver's "old school" 3-point play and a 45-42 Howard lead at the half.

The Broncos managed to open the second half with a quick basket cutting the Hawks lead to one point.

For the first six minutes of the half, the game mirrored a tennis match with both teams going back and forth trying to climb over the hump, scrapping for rebounds and points on the offensive end and pressing for steals and turnovers on the defensive end.

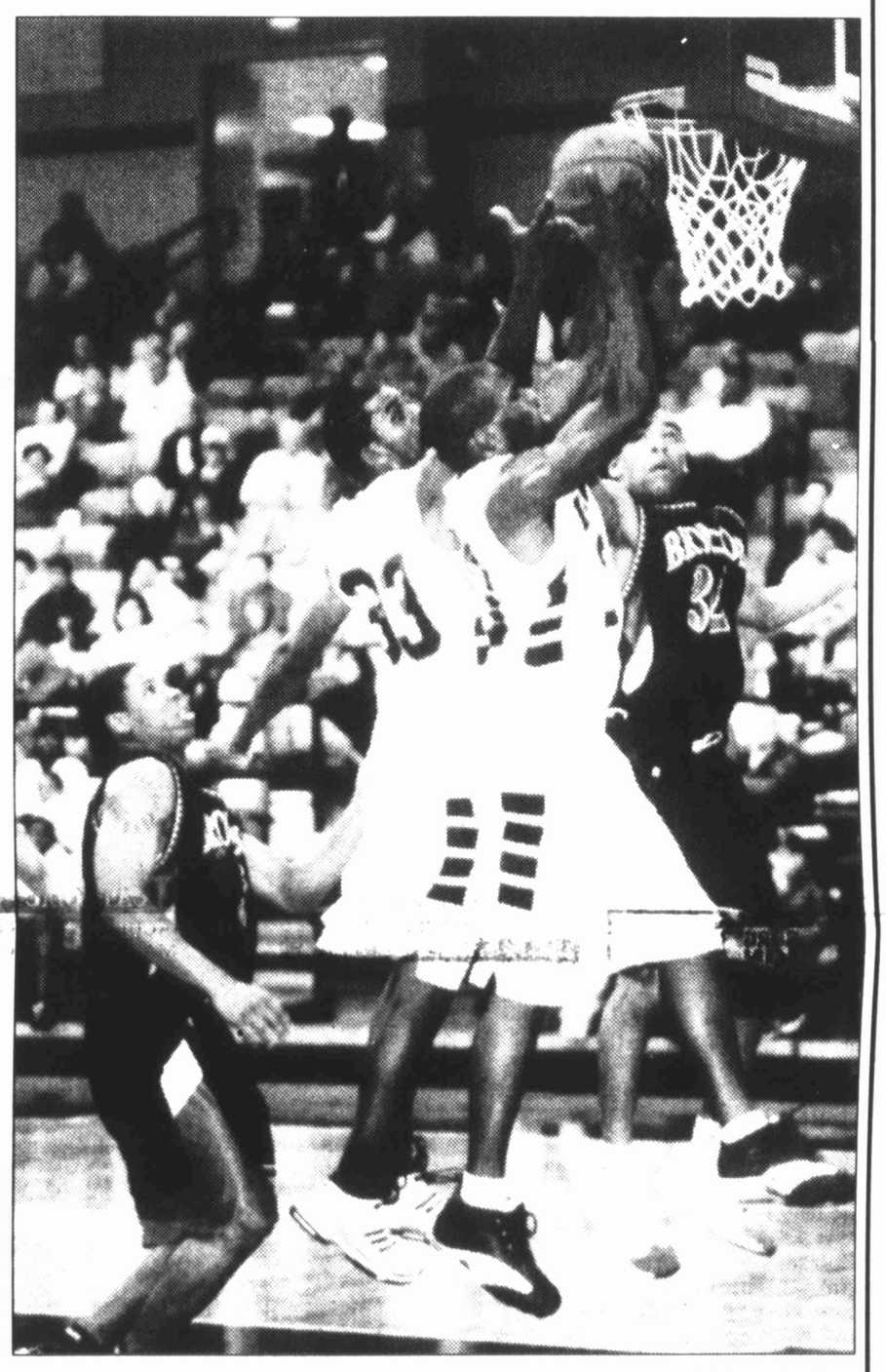
The statistics tell how many points each player scored, but they don't include all the key plays the Hawks managed in the last few minutes.

Davis, a 6-foot-3 freshman, was one of four Howard players in double figures adding 10 points to his stats. But his greatest contribution was his ability to out hustle the other nine players on the floor, grabbing three key rebounds in the closing minutes.

Davis came in with about 14 minutes to play. He immediately made his presence felt, boxing out the taller Broncos to help the Hawks hold on to their minuscule four-point lead.

Pinedo drained his fourth 3-pointer and completed a 3-point play under the basket to give Howard a 10-point edge.

The contest continued to go back and forth with Davis and Tarver adding another pair of long bombs from way beyond the arch before the Broncos knotted the game at 79-all with an 11-3 run with just under six minutes to play.



HERALD photo/Jim Fierro

Howard College's Derrick Tarver (00) and Artavius Davis (33) muscle for a rebound over New Mexico Military's Kyle Caldwell (32) during Thursday night's 91-88 win. Tarver had a 40-point performance but it was the last-minute rebounding heroics of Davis that clinched the victory.

For the next 2 1/2 minutes, the two teams dueled from the free throw line.

"The difference is free throws. They played a big role in the win," said Jack Owens, the Hawks' interim head coach. "They attempted more, but we made three more shots, that's the difference."

After a Hawks turnover, Davis scrambled for a rebound that put him back at the charity stripe. He returned to the line two more times before grabbing the game-clinching rebounds.

"We needed someone to step up for us," Owens noted. "He (Davis) pulled down two big offensive boards when we really needed them, now that's heart."

The Hawks managed to list four players in double figures, along with Tarver and Davis were Pinedo, who added 17 points, and Mattear, who finished with 12.

With the win, the Hawks are tied with the Broncos at 3-5 for fifth place in the WJCAC.

The Hawks travel to the Midland College's Chaparral Center Monday for an 8 p.m. game.

...

HAWKS 91,
NMMI 88

NMMI — Lamont Newell 3 6-8 12, Kenneth Lemons 1 0-0 3, Jared Duyck 1 0-0 3, Brandon Hawkins 1 5-10 8, Phillip Perre 3 4-7 10, Roynell Young 6 2-3 16, Mike Bailey 1 1-2 3, Kyle Caldwell 9 5-6 25, Byron Johnson 4 0-0 8. Total 29 23-36 88.

HOWARD — Derrick Tarver 14 8-10 40, Chris Acker 1 0-0 3, Joshua Francis 1 0-0 2, Artavius Davis 3 3-5 10, Doug Whittler 1 2-4 4, Zack Moss 1 1-2 3, Andre Pinedo 5 3-3 17, Darius Mattear 4 4-7 12. Total 30 21-31 91.

Halftime score : NMMI 88, HOWARD 91

Three point goals: NMMI 7 (Lemons, Duyck, Hawkins, Young 2, Caldwell 2), Howard 9 (Tarver 4, Acker, Pinedo 4, Davis). **Turnovers**: NMMI 22, Howard 24. **Rebounds**: NMMI 23, Howard 27. **Total fouls**: NMMI 25, Howard 25. **Fouled out**: NMMI Perre. **Technical fouls**: None. **Records**: Howard 3-5, NMMI 3-5.

Love back in hunt at Buick

SAN DIEGO (AP) Davis Love III was supposed to be home this week. He changed his itinerary after his comeback victory at Pebble Beach, curious to see if he could keep playing well at the Buick Invitational.

At this rate, he might never get home.

"I might play them all until the Masters," he said jokingly on Thursday, shortly after finishing with an eagle for a 7-under 65, which left him one stroke out of the lead.

Brent Geiberger had a bogey-free 64 on the North Course at Torrey Pines, a round that came out of the blue considering how poorly his year began.

"I'm still just trying to get back from an injury," Geiberger said, referring to a nerve problem in his left shoulder that hindered him the late in a dismal 2000 season.

Love was right behind, and not at all surprised.

"I usually don't like to play four week in a row," Love said. "But when you're making putts, you don't want to go home. I had some confidence before. Now, I have a lot of confidence. That makes you excited to go play."

About the only one not terribly excited after the first round was Tiger Woods, who was noticeably curt after a 2-under 70 that included back-to-back blown birdie opportunities, followed by a double bogey.

As for defending champion Phil Mickelson? He was simply thrilled to get through the round, his first since a nasty bout with food poisoning sent him to the hospital Monday for about seven hours.

Mickelson hit a 6-iron within 2 feet on the par-5 18th at the South Course for an easy eagle and a 68, leaving him in a large pack that included Jose Maria Olazabal, Mark O'Meara, Mike Weir and Tom Lehman.

"I feel better," Mickelson said. "I was feeling a little weak the last nine or 10 holes."

Woods hit the ball well enough to be right in the mix and was cruising toward something in the mid-60s, about average for him on a Torrey Pines Golf

See **BUICK**, page 2B

Casey beats Reds in arbitration; players and owners tied 2-2

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sean Casey followed a great season with a baseball first, winning the first salary arbitration case decided by a panel that included two women.

Cincinnati's first baseman was awarded a raise from $400,000 to $3 million Thursday by arbitrators Elisabeth Neumeier, Carol Whittenberg and Jerome Ross, who heard the case a day earlier in Phoenix.

Casey, 26, hit .315 last season with 20 homers and 85 RBIs. Cincinnati offered him $2.6 million.

Players and owners have split the first four cases decided this year.

Two players scheduled for hearings settled their cases. Kansas City right-hander Jeff Suppan agreed to a $6.5 million, two-year contract, and Reds outfielder Dmitri Young agreed to a $3.5 million, one-year deal.

Arizona catcher Damian Miller's case was argued Thursday before a panel that included Neumeier, Jack Clarke and Elliot Shriftman. Miller, 31, asked a raise from $330,000 to $1.25 million after hitting .275 last season with 10 homers and 44 RBIs. The Diamondbacks offered $850,000.

New York Yankees closer Mariano Rivera, originally scheduled for a hearing Thursday, will have his case rescheduled for Feb. 14 or 19 following the firing of his agents, Jim Bronner and Bob Gilhooley, by SFX Entertainment Inc. Randy Hendricks will take over arguing Rivera's case.

In addition, Derek Jeter's $189 million, 10-year contract with the Yankees could be finalized by Monday, according to a pair of baseball officials familiar with the negotiations.

Thirty-seven players, including Jeter and Rivera, remain in arbitration, with hearings scheduled through Feb. 21.

Among free agents, Milwaukee signed infielder Tony Fernandez, who played in Japan last year; Los Angeles signed left-hander Jesse Orosco; Cleveland signed right-hander Willie Blair; and Tampa Bay signed right-hander Ken Hill. All got minor league contracts.

Suppan, who made $1,625,000 last season, gets a $700,000 signing bonus, $2 million this year and $3.8 million in 2002.

He asked for $3.55 million in arbitration and was offered $2.7 million. A hearing had been scheduled for Friday.

Suppan, 26, was 10-9 with a 4.94 ERA in 35 games last season, reaching double digits in wins for the second straight season. He went 8-3 after the All-Star break and finished the season with consecutive complete games against Anaheim and Detroit.

Young, 27, asked for $3.9 million and was offered $3.1 million, meaning the settlement was at the midpoint. He made $1.95 million last season, when he hit .303 with 18 homers and 88 RBIs.

Fernandez, 38, was fourth in hitting in Japan's Pacific League last season with a .327 average for the Seibu Lions. He had 11 home runs and 74 RBIs.

A 16-year major league veteran, Fernandez hit .328 for the Toronto Blue Jays in 1999, eighth in the American League. He was also was selected for his fifth All-Star game.

Orosco, 43, went on the disabled

See **BASEBALL**, page 2B

FEB 09 2001

SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - MEN

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records through Feb. 4:

	Record
1. North Carolina (60)	19-2
2. Stanford (9)	20-1
3. Duke	20-2
4. Michigan St. (3)	18-2
5. Kansas	18-2
6. Virginia	16-4
7. Illinois	17-5
8. Florida	15-4
9. Syracuse	18-3
10. Tennessee	18-4
11. Arizona	15-6
12. Iowa St.	19-3
13. Maryland	15-6
14. Iowa	17-4
15. Georgetown	18-3
16. Wisconsin	14-5
17. Boston College	16-2
18. Alabama	17-4
19. Wake Forest	15-6
20. Notre Dame	14-5
21. Oklahoma	17-4
22. Southern Cal	16-5
23. Fresno St.	18-3
24. Xavier	17-3
25. Mississippi	17-4

TOP 25 - WOMEN

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records through Feb. 4:

	Record
1. NotreDame(39)	21-0
2. Tennessee(1)	23-1
3. Connecticut	18-2
4. Duke	21-1
5. Purdue	21-3
6. Florida	19-2
7. Georgia	19-4
8. LouisianaTech	19-4
9. IowaSt	18-2
10. Oklahoma	17-4
11. TexasTech	17-3
12. Rutgers	15-5
13. Xavier	19-2
14. LSU	15-6
15. SWMissouriSt	16-4
16. PennSt	16-6
17. Utah	18-2
18. Vanderbilt	15-6
19. Colorado	15-5
20. Wisconsin	14-7
21. Texas	16-7
22. Arizona	16-5
23. ArizonaSt	15-6
24. N.C.State	14-8
25. Clemson	15-7

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League

CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Named Ken Dominguez hitting coach for Kannapolis of the South Atlantic League and Ryan Long hitting coach of Phoenix of the Arizona League.

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with RHP Justin Speier on a one-year contract and RHP Willie Blair on a minor league contract.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jeff Suppan on a two-year contract.

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms with OF Jason Tyner on a one-year contract and RHP Ken Hill on a minor league contract.

National League

CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with OF Dmitri Young on a one-year contract.

HOUSTON ASTROS Agreed to terms with OF Glen Barker, INF Aaron McNeal, C Carlos Maldonado, LHP Carlos Hernandez, LHP Kyle Kessel, LHP Greg Miller, LHP Wilfredo Rodriguez, RHP Brad Lidge and RHP Tim Redding.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Signed LHP Jesse Orosco to a minor league contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

CHARLOTTE HORNETS—Placed F Lee Nailon on the injured list. Activated F Tim James from the injured list.

NEW JERSEY NETS—Activated F Jamie Feick from the injured list. Placed G Kendall Gill on the injured list.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Activated G Avery Johnson from the injured list. Placed C Shawnelle Scott on the injured list.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS—Named Fred Graves receivers coach.

DETROIT LIONS—Named Charles

NBA STANDINGS

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New York	30	20	.600	6
Orlando	25	23	.521	10
Boston	22	27	.449	131/2
New Jersey	17	34	.333	191/2
Washington	12	37	.245	231/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	29	18	.617	—
Toronto	26	23	.531	4
Charlotte	26	25	.510	5
Indiana	21	27	.438	81/2
Cleveland	20	27	.426	9
Detroit	19	31	.380	111/2
Atlanta	16	33	.327	14
Chicago	6	42	.125	231/2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	32	15	.681	—
San Antonio	31	16	.660	1
Minnesota	32	18	.640	11/2
Dallas	31	19	.620	21/2
Denver	27	24	.529	7
Houston	25	25	.500	81/2
Vancouver	13	36	.265	20
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	35	15	.700	—
Sacramento	31	15	.674	2
L.A. Lakers	31	16	.660	21/2
Phoenix	28	20	.583	6
Seattle	28	24	.538	8
L.A. Clippers	16	34	.320	19
Golden State	15	33	.313	19

Thursday's Games
Charlotte 101, Atlanta 84
Houston 103, Detroit 90
Toronto 99, Denver 92
New Jersey 99, San Antonio 97

Today's Games
No games scheduled

Saturday's Games
No games scheduled

Sunday's Game
50th annual All-Star Game at Washington, 5 p.m.

Moday's Games
No games scheduled

COLLEGE SCORES

MEN'S GAMES
EAST
Boston U. 96, Towson 59
Canisius 93, Iona 69
Delaware 81, Northeastern 77
Long Island U. 67, UMBC 62
Monmouth 62, St. Francis, Pa. 60
Niagara 68, Marist 60
Quinnipiac 79, Wagner 73
Siena 65, Loyola, Md. 56
Temple 91, George Washington 58
West Virginia 69, Pittsburgh 68
SOUTH
Alabama A&M 90, Morris Brown 83
Austin Peay 80, Morehead St. 66
Jacksonville 74, Samford 51
La Tech 81, La.-Lafayette 75, OT
Louisville 75, Marquette 65
Mercer 70, Florida Atlantic 69
Murray St. 65, SE Missouri 54
Stetson 73, Jacksonville St. 59
Tenn.-Martin 85, E. Illinois 71
Tennessee St. 92, E. Kentucky 79
Tennessee Tech 92, Reinhardt 46
Troy St. 74, UCF 69
Commonwealth 70, Will & Mary 59
MIDWEST
Chicago St. 68, Ind.-Pur. Indpls. 58
Cleveland St. 77, Wright St. 60
Detroit 68, Butler 63
UMKC 71, W. Illinois 59
Valparaiso 61, S. Utah 58
Wis.-Green Bay 52, Ill.-Chicago 4
Wis.-Milwaukee 67, Loyola, Ill. 65
Youngstown St. 82, Oral Roberts 70
SOUTHWEST
Ark.-Little Rock 94, Ark.-Pine Bluff 77
Denver 90, Arkansas St. 75
SMU 72, UTEP 69
Sam Houston St. 70, Lamar 55
South Alabama 86, North Texas 75
Tulsa 79, Rice 55
FAR WEST
Arizona 82, Washington 62
Boise St. 75, Cal St.-Fullerton 55
Cal Poly SLO 103, Long Beach St. 88
California 72, Oregon St. 69, OT
E. Washington 81, Weber St. 70
Fresno St. 82, San Jose St. 57
Idaho St. 89, CS Northridge 84
Montana 67, Sacramento St. 66
Nevada 73, Hawaii 60
Pepperdine 67, San Diego 60
Santa Clara 74, Loyola 66
Stanford 69, Oregon 62
UC Santa Barbara 69, Idaho 67
UCLA 85, Southern Cal 76
Utah St. 67, UC Irvine 52
Washington St. 58, Arizona St. 57

* * *

WOMEN'S GAMES
EAST
Delaware 74, Boston U. 63
Drexel 101, Vermont 95, 2OT
Fordham 60, Massachusetts 52
Hartford 70, Hofstra 58
Holy Cross 62, Michigan 58
Northeastern 67, Towson 52
SOUTH
Alabama A&M 105, Morris Brown 36
Austin Peay 83, Morehead St. 80
Campbell 58, Samford 57
E. Kentucky 106, Tennessee St. 99
Florida Int'l 83, New Mexico St. 59
Florida Atlantic 82, Jacksonville 45
Florida St. 71, Duke 69
Georgia 92, South Carolina 55
Georgia St. 69, Jacksonville St. 58
Georgia Tech 87, Virginia 70
LSU 74, Alabama 58
Liberty 66, N.C.-Asheville 58
Louisiana Tech 83, La.-Lafayette 68
La.-Monroe 79, SE Louisiana 62
Louisville 79, Marquette 74, OT
Mississippi St. 71, Vanderbilt 62
Murray St. 62, SE Missouri 61
N.C. State 69, Wake Forest 35
New Orleans 81, Ark.-Little Rock 55
N. Carolina 100, Clemson 99, 2OT
North Texas 64, South Alabama 55
Northwestern St. 80, Nicholls St. 59
Tenn.-Martin 89, E. Illinois 59
Tennessee 119, Mississippi 52
Troy St. 73, Birmingham-Southern 42
UCF 62, Stetson 51
MIDWEST
Cincinnati 72, DePaul 64
Cleveland St. 74, Wis.-Green Bay 63
Detroit 84, Wis.-Milwaukee 79
Ill.-Chicago 72, Butler 62
Illinois 65, Northwestern 45
Indiana 83, Wisconsin 79, OT
Iowa 96, Purdue 87
Kent St. 80, N. Illinois 68
Ohio St. 64, Minnesota 52
Penn St. 64, Michigan St. 58
Wright St. 66, Loyola, Ill. 54
Xavier 74, La Salle 64
SOUTHWEST
Florida 75, Arkansas 64
SW Texas 65, Texas-Arlington 60
Sam Houston St. 71, Lamar 66
SFA 58, UT San Antonio 49
Texas A&M-C.C. 73, Belmont 63
UT-Pan Am. 87, Centenary 82, OT
FAR WEST
Arizona St. 74, Washington St. 72
BYU 89, UNLV 83
California 72, Oregon St. 60
Denver 61, Arkansas St. 55
Idaho St. 75, CS Northridge 59
Stanford 63, Oregon 54
Utah 62, San Diego St. 45
Washington 98, Arizona 88

NHL

Thursday's Games
San Jose 0, Vancouver 0, tie
Los Angeles 4, Carolina 2

Today's Games
Boston at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Philly at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Florida, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Washington at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
New Jersey at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Ottawa, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 6 p.m.
Florida at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Montreal, 6 p.m.
Nashville at Columbus, 6:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Chicago at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.
Washington at L.A., 9:30 p.m.

XFL

Saturday's Games
Chicago at Los Angeles, 7 p.m.
San Francisco at Orlando, 7 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Birmingham at NY New Jersey, 3 p.m.
Las Vegas at Memphis, 6 p.m.

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ALL-AROUND
1. Cody Ohl, Orchard, Texas, $14,047. 2. Tee Woolman, Llano, Texas, $7,267.
BAREBACK RIDING
1. Larry Sandvick, Belle Fourche, S.D., $ 17,399. 2. Kelly Wardell, Bellevue, Idaho, $16,190. 3. Marvin Garrett, Belle Fourche, S.D., $8,796. 4. Lan Lajeunesse, Morgan, Utah, $8,379. 5. Deb Greenough, Red Lodge, Mont., $7,622. 6. Clint Corey, Powell Butte, Ore., $7,183. 7. Bobby Mote, Redmond, Ore., $7,174. 8. Jason Jeter, Fort Worth, Texas, $6,874. 9. Eric Swenson, Bonham, Texas, $5,450. 10. William Pittman II, Florence, Miss., $5,017.
STEER WRESTLING
1. Birch Negaard, Buffalo, S.D., $22,088. 2. Cody Browne, Wilburton, Okla., $17,361. 3. Charles Harris, Modesto, Calif., $16,890. 4. Todd Suhn, Brighton, Colo., $15,973. 5. Joey Bell Jr., Salem, N.J., $9,950. 6. Teddy Johnson, Checotah, Okla., $9,165. 7. Mickey Gee, Wichita Falls, Texas, $9,023. 8. Jason Lahr, Imporia, Kan., $8,928. 9. Gerald Willsie, Canada, $7,852. 10. Randy McKenzie, Austin, Texas, $7,164.
SADDLE BRONC RIDING
1. Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, $18,706. 2. Cliff Norris, Glazier, Texas, $13,676. 3. Ryan Mapston, Geyser, Mont., $11,392. 4. Glen O'Neill, Water Valley, Alberta, $10,985. 5. Bud Longbrake, Dupree, S.D., $10,819. 6. Chance Dixon, Heppner, Ore., $10,804. 7. Dean Schlattmann, Basin, Wyo., $8,841. 8. Billy Etbauer, Ree Heights, S.D., $6,363. 9. Red Lemmel, Mud Butte, S.D., $6,201. 10. Tom Reeves, Eagle Butte, S.D., $6,070.

Nets beat Spurs, but All-Star break steals momentum

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a season where very little has gone right for the New Jersey Nets, even the All-Star break is going wrong.

Riding a three-game winning streak after a shocking 99-97 win over the San Antonio Spurs on Thursday night, the Nets are going on a forced vacation.

"I wish the All-Star game was canceled," rookie coach Byron Scott said after the Nets ended the Spurs' season-high eight-game winning streak. "I wish we could keep playing."

Scott has reason to be excited in what has been an injury-plagued season.

The Nets are finally playing well. Keith Van Horn and Jaime Feick are back in the lineup, and the winning streak — which tied the Nets' longest of the season — moved New Jersey within six games of the final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference with 31 games left.

"I'd trade the All-Star game in a heartbeat if we could keep going like this and put together a run that would take us to the playoffs," said Marbury, who scored 38 points in his tune-up for his first All-Star appearance on Sunday in Washington.

In other NBA games, Toronto beat Denver 99-92, Houston defeated Detroit 103-90 and Charlotte topped Atlanta 101-84.

Marbury wasn't the Nets' only hero Thursday night. Veteran backup forward Johnny Newman had his best game of the season, scoring 17 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter.

San Antonio's Tim Duncan and David Robinson, who will join Marbury in the All-Star game, almost spoiled the Nets' winning streak.

After helping the Spurs rally from an 18-point deficit, Duncan and Robinson nearly forced overtime.

San Antonio had three shots to tie in the final 12 seconds. Robinson missed a drive across the lane with about 2 seconds to go and Duncan, who missed four free throws in the final 5:05, had the tip fall off the rim just before the buzzer.

"I thought the ball was down," Duncan said. "I don't know how it came out. I tipped it right down. I was right at the rim and I thought it was in. We did have an opportunity to win a couple of times. We just didn't get it done."

Duncan finished with 35 points and 21 rebounds, while Robinson added 22 points and nine rebounds.

San Antonio, which trailed since midway through the first quarter, finally grabbed the lead when Duncan hit one of two free throws for an 84-83 advantage with 5:05 to play.

See **NBA**, page 3B

BUICK

Continued from page 1B

Course where he won two years ago and finished no worse than third in his other two appearances in the Buick.

Then he hit a poor chip on the 326-yard second hole and had to settle for par. Then he missed an 8-foot birdie putt and a 12-footer on the following hole.

By the time his 6-iron into the scenic par-3 6th finally found land, he was 10 yards over the green, facing a downhill chip. He left that one short of the green, chipped 8 feet by and stormed off the green with a double bogey.

"I tried as hard as I could, it just didn't work out," Woods said, keeping his answers short. "I left a lot of shots out there."

Seven of the last 10 winners of the Buick Invitational, including Woods and Mickelson, have grown up in Southern California. Geiberger would love to join that list.

His only PGA victory came two years ago in Hartford, but last year was one to forget. Geiberger started feeling numbness and tingling in his left shoulder, which he later discovered was a nerve problem, and hardly played toward the end of last year.

"You don't get to practice much," he said. "You don't have much recall on shots. And your confidence starts to go down."

The start of this year was no help. He lost in the first round of the Match Play Championship in Australia, missed the cut in Tucson and finished at the bottom in Phoenix.

Geiberger tried out a new putter Wednesday in the pro-am, decided to stick with it and reaped some surprisingly good results in the first round.

He made a couple of 12-footers, never easy to make on the bumpy poa annua greens of Torrey Pines, and then surged to the top with a stretch in which he was 5 under for five holes. One of those came on 326-yard second hole, when he drove 10 yards short of the green and played a nice bump-and-run with a sand wedge that went in for eagle.

A good start can only help his confidence.

"That's where Davis is," he said.

Love, who won the Buick Invitational five years ago, had a 65 despite not taking advantage of the par 5s. Twice he had a 3-iron into the green for his second shot, but left himself on the wrong side of the hole and couldn't convert.

It would have been easy for him to lose his patience if not for last week, especially since he had gone 34 months without winning. Love was a new man Thursday — relaxed, patient and excited about the way he's playing.

"It took a long time for Thursday to get here," Love said. "The flip side of that is that when you're not playing well, it's tough to want to get to the golf course and play."

BASEBALL

Continued from page 1B

list season for the first time in his career, pitching just 2 1-3 innings for St. Louis. He has an 84-75 career record with a 3.03 ERA and 141 saves in 21 seasons.

Blair, 35, was 8-3 in 17 starts last season for Detroit, compiling a 4.88 ERA in 156 2-3 innings. He went 2-3 with a 4.31 ERA in 30 relief appearances, and could fill a role in the back of Cleveland's bullpen if setup man Steve Karsay moves to the rotation.

Hill, 35, went 5-8 with a 7.16 ERA in 18 appearances last season for Anaheim and the Chicago White Sox. He is 117-108 in his 12-year career with a 4.03 ERA.

HAWKS

Continued from page 1B

Huddleson struck out six and walked just two in the four-hitter.

Sophomores Ryan Devere and Tim Lilley led the Hawks' 10-hit attack in the second game — Devere blasting a three-run homer in his 2-for-3 showing, while Lilley drove in a pair of runs while going 2-for-3.

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FISHINHG REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Feb. 7. (Report also available on Web as www.txfishing.com.)

CENTRAL

BROWNWOOD: Water stained; 42 degrees; 3 below spillway; black bass to 7 pounds are good on black/blue jigs with blue lizard pork trailers in the Jim Ned river. Hybrid stripers are slow to fair on Rat-L-Traps and small crankbaits. White bass are fair on jigs and spoons. Crappie are slow on minnows around the docks in 10 to 15 feet. All boat ramps are open.

BUCHANAN: Water stained; 49 degrees; 1014.10; black bass are fair on 1/4 oz. pumpkin/chartreuse Terminator jigs, motor oil/red flake Devils Tongues and 3" crawfish Super Tubes in 6 to 12 feet in creeks and around islands. Striped bass to 22 inches are good drifting live bait from mid to upper lake in 18 to 30 feet along channels and trolling bucktail jigs. White bass are fair vertically jigging 1/4 oz. Horizon Pirk Minnows and 2" Creme Litl Fishie Shad or trolling shad-type crankbaits on leadline in the mouth of creeks in 20 to 30 feet. Crappie are slow on minnows. Yellow catfish are slow on trotlines.

PROCTOR: Water murky; 50 degrees; 10 low; black bass are slow. Striped bass are slow. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. Channel, blue and yellow catfish are slow. Few fishermen out.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear; 52 degrees; 38 low; black bass to 8.5 pounds are good on deep-diving crankbaits, heavy jigs and Carolina-rigged 10-inch power worms. Striped bass to 4 pounds are good on slabs in Castle Canyon and the mouth of Evans Creek. White bass are good on slabs and striper jigs. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are slow in deep water. Yellow catfish are slow.

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 43 degrees; Fishing slow following a winter storm. Black bass are slow on white jigs and spinners with gold in skirt.

ARROWHEAD: 42 degrees; Fishing slow. Only accessible boat ramp is West Arrowhead.

BRADY: No report available.

BROWNWOOD: Water stained; 44 degrees; 3 low; Fishing slow few fishermen out. Some white bass schooling most suspended.

COLORADO CITY: Water clear; 58-60 degrees on the main lake; black bass and crappie are fair on jigs. Channel and blue catfish are fair. Redfish are good on live shad.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water clear, 46 degrees; 6 low; Few fishermen out. Black bass and crappie are slow. Blue catfish are good on large minnows and shad.

HUBBARD CREEK: Boat ramps out of the water no report available.

KEMP: No report available.

NASWORTHY: Water clear; 46 degrees; black bass are fair on soft plastics. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. Catfish are good on chicken liver and quanta bait. Lake is being dredged of two feet of silt (3 year project started summer 2000).

NOCONA: No report available.

OAK CREEK: No boat ramps open no report available.

OH. IVIE: Water stained; 46 degrees; 14 low; black bass are fair on slabs or Carolina-rigs near main lake humps and channels. Crappie are good on jigs tipped with minnows in 25-30 feet. White bass are good on chrome and white slabs. Channel catfish are fair on cutbait in 55-60 feet. The road to Concho Park is under construction but the road to Elm Creek has a new black top.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 43 degrees; 4 low; Fishing extremely slow toxic algae bloom (Golden Algae) affecting all species of fish throughout most of the lake fishing slow but possible towards the dam.

SPENCE: Water clear, 46 degrees; black bass are fair on crankbaits and spinners on the north side of the lake. White bass are schooling sporadically. Catfish are good in the mornings on cutbait.

STAMFORD: Water clear; 44 degrees; boat ramp out of the water - no fishing report available.

SWEETWATER: Water slightly stained; 45 degrees; Crappie are good on jigs. White bass are good near the dam on shallow running crankbaits. Catfish are good on minnows and worms.

TWIN BUTTES: Report temporarily discontinued lake is less than 10% of capacity.

WHITE RIVER: 44 degrees; 18 low; black bass are slow following the storm. Crappie are good on 2" finesse fish. Few fishermen out.

Stanford bounces back with win over Oregon

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

One by one, Oregon lost its big men, helping Stanford escape with a victory.

Jason Collins had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Casey Jacobsen added 13 points as the No. 2 Cardinal used a late 13-0 run to beat Oregon 69-62 Thursday night and bounce back from last week's defeat to UCLA.

Oregon had some success inside, but couldn't keep its big men in the game.

Backup center Julius Hicks fouled out with 8:35 to go, and third-stringer Chris Christoffersen followed him with 5:21 left. The Ducks' other front-line players, Bryan Bracey and Flo Hartenstein, played the final six minutes with four fouls and appeared tentative on offense.

"The main thing was, we had to get stops, and the guys seemed to suck it up," Stanford coach Mike Montgomery said. "This was a big win for us coming off a loss."

Stanford missed 16 of its first 30 free throws, but made its last seven, including six straight by Ryan Mendez in the final 35 seconds, to preserve the victory.

"The strength of this team is that anybody can step up at any time," Mendez said.

The Cardinal (21-1, 9-1 Pac-10) remained one game ahead of UCLA and Arizona, both of whom won Thursday night.

Bracey scored 12 of his 15 points in the second half to lead the Ducks (12-8, 3-7), who lost to Stanford for the 10th straight time and fifth straight at home.

"We had an excellent game plan, and we executed for 34 or 35 minutes, but with teams like Stanford, a little bit of slippage and they can get to you," Oregon coach Ernie Kent said.

In other games involving Top 25 teams, No. 11 Arizona beat Washington 82-62; UCLA upset No. 22 Southern California 85-76; and No. 23 Fresno State defeated San Jose S te 82-57.

The Ducks complained about the huge disparity in fouls and free throws between the teams. Oregon got to the line just seven times, making three shots, and the Ducks were called for 27 fouls, compared with 17 for Stanford.

"You can't say the officials did a bad job or took the game away from us," Kent said. "I don't want to say that, because even with the discrepancy in the fouls and the free throws, we were still right there in the ball game, controlling the game, up until about that six minute mark, where we let it get away from us."

Added Bracey, "We played our hearts out, but just didn't get any breaks. They're the No. 2 team in the nation, so they're going to get the calls."

Stanford led 45-41 with just over 11 minutes left, but found itself trailing 56-49 after Bracey finished a short run with a 3-pointer at the 6:06 mark.

Oregon went the next 4:19 without a point, however, and Stanford slowly came back. Jarron Collins hit two free throws, Jason Collins converted a layup and, Mendez hit a 3-pointer to tie it at 56.

"We knew coming in that it was going to be physical down low, and if we kept going at them, they'd foul us," Jason Collins said.

A left-handed layup by Jacobsen pushed the Cardinal's lead to 62-56 with about two minutes to go. Oregon twice cut the lead to three, but it was forced to foul Mendez — and he didn't miss.

Jarron Collins added 12 points despite going just 6-for-14 from the foul line. The Cardinal, which leads the conference in 3-point shooting at nearly 42 percent, went 4-of-14.

Freddie Jones added 12 points for the Ducks, who made seven of 17 3-pointers.

Arizona 82,
Washington 62

Michael Wright had 20 points and 11 rebounds, and Washington committed a season-high 29 turnovers as Arizona routed the Huskies.

Gilbert Arenas added 17 points for the Wildcats (16-6, 8-2 Pac-10), who beat Washington in Tucson for the 16th time in the last 17 tries.

Loren Woods, benched by coach Lute Olson in last Saturday's victory at Oregon State, had 10 points to reach 1,000 for his career.

Curtis Allen scored 16 for the Huskies (9-13, 3-7), who fell behind by 15, rallied within three, then were blown out with an 18-2 Arizona blitz.

NBA

Continued from page 2B

Newman then scored seven straight points, including a 3-pointer, for a 90-84 lead with 3:43 to go.

"When you get into one of those grooves, you know you can score and you want the ball," said Newman, who hit five of six shots in the fourth quarter.

San Antonio closed to 96-93 on two free throws by Duncan with 1:11 to play.

Newman then hit a baseline jumper to stretch the margin to 98-93 with 52 seconds left.

A 3-pointer by Terry Porter and one of two free throws by Duncan made it 98-97 with 13 seconds left.

After Newman made one of two free throws with 12 seconds to go, Derek Anderson missed a jumper for the Spurs. Feick gave San Antonio its final chances by missing two free throws, but Robinson and Duncan couldn't convert in the closing seconds.

New Jersey built a 54-36 lead by outscoring the Spurs 26-13 in the opening 9:27 of the second quarter. Reserve Stephen Jackson scored 12 points in the period.

Robinson and Duncan combined for 18 points in a 21-5 spurt that got the Spurs back into the game midway through the third quarter.

Raptors 99,
Nuggets 92

Vince Carter scored 31 points, and Keon Clark had 15 points and five blocks against his former team as Toronto rallied from a 16-point deficit.

Nick Van Exel had 25 points and nine assists for the Nuggets, who have lost three straight. Denver is 7-18 on the road this season.

Denver's Antonio McDyess had 19 points and 20 rebounds for his league-leading 38th double-double.

Hornets 101,
Hawks 84

David Wesley scored 27 points as host Charlotte snapped a four-game losing streak.

Baron Davis had 18 points and nine assists for Charlotte. Elden Campbell added 13 points.

Jason Terry scored 22 points for Atlanta, which lost its fifth straight game.

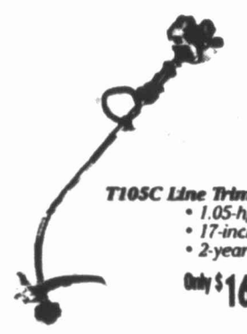
Rockets 103,
Pistons 90

Cuttino Mobley scored 18 of his 29 points in the first quarter as visiting Houston won its third straight game and improved to 14-3 against Eastern Conference teams.

Maurice Taylor added 22 points, Steve Francis finished with 19 and Hakeem Olajuwon had 17 points and eight rebounds for the Rockets.

Jerry Stackhouse had 26 points and seven rebounds for Detroit, which had its two-game winning streak snapped.

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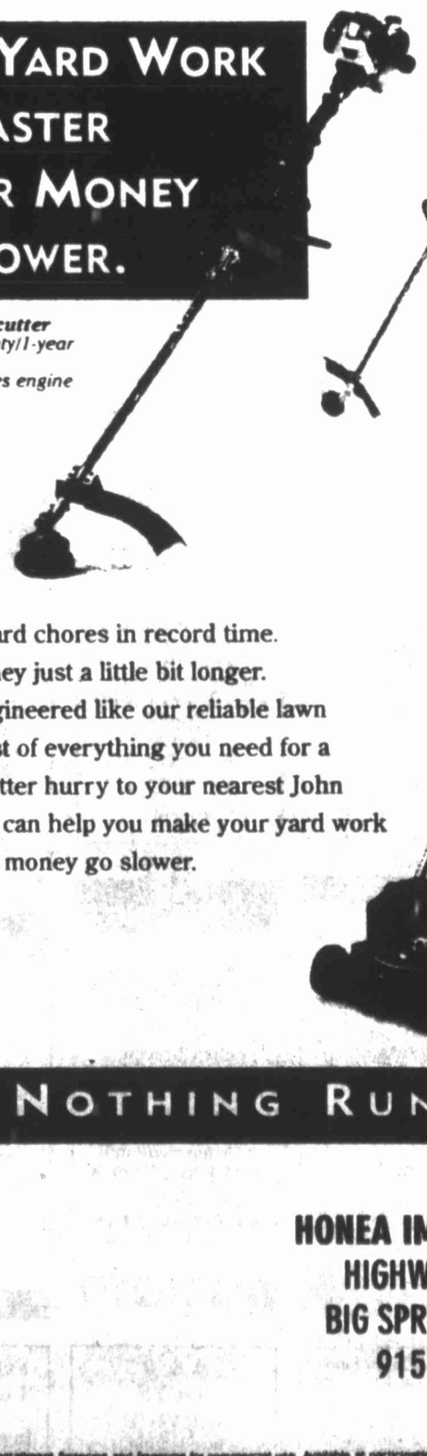
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Herald Classifieds

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1994 Camaro new tires, racing stripes, flo masters, runs great $5,000 Call 457-2406

1998 Crown Victoria LX loaded, low miles, exc condition Call 267-6885.

92 Mercury Topaz 4 door, 108K, runs perfect, great mileage $ 4,250. OBO Call 394-4334.

'96 Chevrolet Beretta, 68K miles Great condition Call 263-4087 after 5:30pm

'97 Thunderbird, Tan-on-tan, 27K mi., $12,000 Call Mike at 915-728-9176 or 728-5324

ACT NOW! 2000 Red Cougar Sports pkg.,V-6, fully loaded, automatic Factory warranty Asking $16,500 **MUST SEE!** 915-721-7517 days, 915-573-4332 nights.

PICKUPS

'87 GMC SB 350 FI. custom paint, lowered Runs prefect $6,000 OBO Also '85 Chevrolet LB New GM 350, rebuilt trans & rear end Propane system Good work or ranch truck $1500 Call 394-4334.

VANS

'95 Ford Conv. Van. TV/VCR, low mileage, leather seats, extra clean, $14k OBO 394-4041 after 5pm.

Several 2000 Model Trucks & Cars Available At Huge Discounts
BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4th

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

1998 Select Edition Snow Bird 30 feet 5th wheel by NuWa 1 lg slide out 5500 watt Generac generator, Datron auto find satellite system with RCA receiver, U=Line ice maker and many other amenities. Price below book. Call Joe at 685-1731 weekdays at 683-4129 after 5.

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89 Hitchhiker 5th wheel, pullout and lot's of extras Call 399-4353.

JEEPS

1980 Jeep CJ7 - 4x4, auto, excellent condition. $6500. 267-2005.

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GET YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE AT THE MALL!
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CALL 268-1023 OR 270-4610
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Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call 263-3367.

HELP WANTED

Canteen Correctional Foodservice
Cook Supervisor
Starting pay is $7.69 per hour Training provided
Pick up applications at 1710 Apron Dr., Bldg 35

Care giver position. Apply in person to Jack & Jill. 1708 Nolan NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

HELP WANTED

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FUN TRAVEL
Transportation & lodging paid for out going GUYS & GALS, West/East coast travel, no exp. necessary. Paid training. Above average income. Casual atmosphere. Must be 18 & able to START NOW! Mrs. Wolf 1-800-699-0997

Career opportunity for right individual. Assistant promoter position available. Must work well with people, have neat appearance, able to travel and work weekends with some week days off. Moderate lifting, problems solving ability, and working with media required. Computer and electrical knowledge helpful. Above average working conditions and benefits. Salary based on qualifications. Will train right person. Call 263-7690 for appointment.

CHECKLIST FOR CHOOSY TEMPORARIES

Does Your Present Temporary Employer Offer:
* Free Computer Training
* Paid Holidays
* Paid Vacations
* Medical/Life Insurance
* Stock Purchase Plan
* 401K
* Direct Deposit
*Recognition for Good Performance

If you answered "NO" even once, it's time you checked into Manpower.

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HELP WANTED

West Texas Centers for MHMR Now Now hiring full-time and part-time Direct Care Staff in Big Spring. High School Diploma/GED required. Salary $6.47 per hour ($13,464 annually) plus benefits for full time. $7.28 per hour for part time. Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels or by calling **JOBLINE** 800-687-2769. **EOE**

Position for LVN: Vacation, sick time, holidays, health insurance, retirement. Contact Elia Gonzalez D.O.N.

Valley Fair Lodge
Colorado City, Tx
915-728-2634

HELP WANTED

Hiring for several positions. Will be doing inspection, assembly, and other casual labor duties. Pay starts at $6.50-$6.85/hr plus full benefits package, including vacation and holiday pay. Full-time with overtime. Training provided, no experience necessary. Excellent career opportunity with room for advancement. Everyone welcome to apply. Call for interview - 915-682-2119

HORIZON OILFIELD SERVICE
Currently hiring truck drivers with oilfield experience. Must have endorsements. Dowell & Halliburton hand a major plus.
Call 1-800-871-4826.
Serious inquiries only.

Nursing Professionals

Terrace West Nursing Center is currently hiring for the following positions:

*** Certified Nurses Aids**
6am-2pm and 10pm-6 am
*** Licensed Vocational Nurses**
6am-2 pm and 2pm-10pm
*** Registered Nurses**
6am-2pm and 2pm-10pm
*** Certified Medication Aid**
2pm-10pm

We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care please send a current resume including salary history to:

Carolyn Cotte
Terrace West Nursing Center
2800 Midland Dr.
Midland, TX. 79707
PH (915) 697-3108 FAX (915) 689-0486

HELP WANTED

Assistant Manager/ collector needed. Security Finance is now taking applications for the above position. We offer an excellent benefit package with competitive pay and advancement opportunity. Apply in person or send resume to:
SECURITY FINANCE
204 S. Goliad
Big Spring
Texas 79720.

Delivery Driver's needed. Great part time job. Come by 2202 Gregg
Domino's Pizza

HELP WANTED

LONG JOHN SILVERS
Day and Evening Shifts Available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please..

MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
Must have good work ethic, availability for call and willingness to work overtime. Advanced maintenance skills (including sheet rock repair, counter top replacement, plumbing, etc.) required.
Send applications & resumes to:
Big Spring Herald
PO Box 1431/ 2709
Big Spring, Tx. 79720.

Health Care Professionals

New Horizon Nursing Center a 132 bed skilled Nursing Facility has current openings for:

*** Director of Nursing - Registered Nurse**
3 years experience with 1 year in LTC is required
$1500.00 sign on Bonus
*** Assistant Director of Nurses**
$850.00 sign on Bonus
*** Registered Nurses - All shifts**
$1000.00 sign on Bonus
*** Licensed Vocational Nurse - All shifts**
$750.00 sign on Bonus
*** Certified Med Aid- 1st shift**
$500.00 sign on Bonus
*** Certified Nurses Aid - All shifts**
$500.00 sign on Bonus
*** Sign on Bonuses are applicable if hired before 2/15/2001**

We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality patient care please contact:

Martin Hubbart
New Horizon Nursing Center
3510 W. 8th
Odessa, TX 79763
PH (915) 333-4511 FAX (915) 333-6078

HELP WANTED

Local company now hiring for nighttime work. Some travel required. Must have valid driver's license. Will train. Call 267-5449.

HELP WANTED

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

West Texas Centers for MHMR
has openings for the following:

Accountant: Located in Big Spring Bachelors degree with a major in accounting. Accounting/fiscal experience preferred. Salary w/degree $14.71hr/$17.36 hr ($30,588-$36,108 annually) **OR** Diploma/GED plus at least 4 yrs. experience. Salary w/o degree $12.09-$14.71 hr ($25,140/$30,588 annually). **DOE**

Casework Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years direct care experience. Salary $7.28hr. ($15,132 annually).

MR Service Coordinator: Located in Big Spring. Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus one (1) year experience in human services/related field or be currently credentialed as a West Texas Centers Service Coordinator. Salary $11.31 hr ($23,532 annually).

MR Quality Improvement Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Any combination of education and experience equal to a Bachelors degree with major related to the position, plus one to two (1-2) years experience. Salary $12.90-$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

MH Quality Improvement Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Any combination of education and experience equal to a Bachelors degree with major related to the position, plus one to two (1-2) years experience. Salary $12.90-$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

HR Recruitment & Marketing Specialist: Diploma/GED plus two (2) to four (4) years related experience. Salary $8.20-$9.93 hr ($17,052-$20,652 annually) **DOE**

LVN: Licensed to Practice as an LVN in the state of Texas. Salary $9.30 hr ($19,344 annually)

HRD Training Specialist: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years related experience. Salary $8.75-$9.93 hr ($18,192-$20,652 annually). **DOE**

Vo-Tech Clerk: Diploma/GED plus some clerical experience. Part-time 9-12 pm & 1-4 pm M-F. Salary $6.85 hr.

Administrative Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years clerical/secretarial experience. Word/Excel required. Salary $8.20 hr ($17,052 annually)

Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels, by calling JOBLINE at 800-687-2769 or visit www.wtcmhmr.org. **EOE**

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We Specialize In
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HELP WANTED

FMC Dialysis Center, a national company, has an opening for a Patient Care Technician in a fast paced clinic setting. Dialysis experience not necessary, but medical background helpful. 10 hour shifts - 40 hour week. Benefits include: 5 weeks paid time off, 401k, education reimbursements, insurance and more. Applications taken 8 - 10am and 1 -3pm
Dialysis Clinic
1501 West 11th Place
Big Spring, Texas
79720
Attn: Director of Nursing
(915) 267-2903.

Full time accounts receivable position available. Applicants must have computer experience in billing & be able to work in a fast paced environment. Knowledge of Word & Excel also. Benefits include: 401K, vacation, medical. Mail resume to: Basic Energy Services PO Box 2887 Big Spring Tx. 79721 or fax to 915-267-1293.

COME GROW WITH US
Texaco Star Stops are now taking applications for full and part time help. Apply at 2501 S. Gregg, 800 E. I-20, 400 S.Gregg & 4806 W. Hwy 80, between 8am & 2pm M/F. We are a drug free work force.

Covenant Malone and Hogan clinic has openings for the following positions:

LVN - Ideal candidate will have 3 to 5 years' clinical experience.

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 W. 11th. Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720, or fax resume to 915-267-1137.

Currently hiring contractors for wireless cable installation in Big Spring and surrounding areas. Please call 915-466-0160.

HELP WANTED

Comanche Trail Nursing Center has openings for part-time & full-time Dietary helpers and cooks. Good benefits including 401k for full-time employees. Apply in person 3200 Parkway.

Comanche Trail Nursing Center needs CNA'S or experienced nurses aides, but will train Also need part-time LVN's. Paid vacation, paid holidays, health insurance available. Apply in person 3200 Parkway.

Dr.'s office need a secretary/receptionist. Should be experienced in computer insurance, filing and knowledge of Medisoft programs. Send application to P. O. Box 1408 Big Spring, Tx. 79720

Evening kitchen position open. Full time, Mon.-Sat.
Apply in person
Red Mesa Grill
2401 Gregg.

Need Someone to answer, take message, misc. other duties. Will train. No smoking while on duty. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

Needed, drivers , bucket truck and equipment operators. Experienced preferred, but will train. Openings in Lubbock, Midland & Big Spring offices. Apply at **Cline Construction,** N. FM 700 or Call 267-6006, 8-5 Mon-Fri.

Now hiring! Research Co. needs phone surveyor for Big Spring Area. No Selling. Will train. 1-800-846-7312 Ext. 176, 9-9,S-F.

Secretary/bookkeeper needed. Salary D.O.E. Hours 7am-5pm. Call 915-756-2201 ask for Jackie.

LOANS

DELTA LOANS
Loans from $50-$450
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SOLD

GARAGE SALES

❑ Carport Sale: 1806 State. Fri. & Sat. 8-?. Sewing machine, stereo, toys, furn., lot's of misc.

❑ Inside Moving Sale: 809 W. 14th. Saturday. 8-5. Washer dryer, furniture, clothing, access.

❑ Inside sale. Couch, chair, TV, Microwave, lots of blankets and linens. 2210 Main Fri. & Sat.

❑ Moving Sale, Sat. 8-5:30. Everything must go! 23 Meadowbrook, between Sand Springs & Coahoma on No. Serv. Rd.

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LOST: 20 miles North of town on the Gail Hwy., a black bull. Should have yellow sale tag #902 or #906 on it. 1X brand on shoulder. Call 267-4862 or 268-3737.

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Uberti Pistol, .357 cal. Thunderer. Birdhead grips & 3 1/2 in. barrel. Heavy checkering on the grips. Also Russian AK47 hunting carbine, .308 cal. 3 to 9 power scope, 2 ten round clips. This is a Kalashnikov AK 47 by Saiga. Both guns are like new. Call 263-5915

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360 fenced acres near Vealmoor. Corral, barn, water well, dirt tank. $225/ per acre.
Boosie Weaver
Real Estate 267-8840

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10.351 Acres near West Sta107.51nton on Cr 2300 E. 8.64% interest. $117/Mo. Owner Finance Forest America Group. 800-275-7376

BUILDINGS FOR RENT

For lease, small building on Snyder Hwy, with overhead door, $200/mo + $100/dep. Call Westex Auto Parts, 263-5000

Nice corner office building @ 2nd./Johnson. $400/mn. Call 267-5203 or 267-6240.

Small building w/lot on 4th st. $150/mn + deposit.
Call Westex Auto
263-5000.

CEMETERY LOTS FOR SALE

2 cemetery lots, Bethany section, Trinity Memorial Park. Lovely double headstone. Will sell below retail. Call 713-465-1565 collect after 6pm.

HOUSES FOR SALE

3 bdr 1 1/2 bth. attached garage, by owner. $40,000 263-4253 or 270-4208. 3237 Duke

Large older home in good location. 3 bdr. 2 bth. beautiful kit. den comb. formal din room, liv room detached. Garage & workshop, fenced back yd. $43,900. $1,350 down. Call 267-8078

HOUSES FOR SALE

For sale by owner. 2602 Lynn. 3 bdr. 2 bth. completely remodeled, Kentwood addition. 263-0786.

For Sale By Owner: 3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 car garage, carport, fireplace, & more. 505 Highland Drive. Call Joe @ 263-3916

House for sale. $14,000. Call 263-0318. 1106 S. Nolan.

Owner Will Finance: 3800 Connally. 3/ 1 1/2 /1Completely remod. including new paint & roof, new heater & countertops. Low down. Easy qualify. $268/mn. Greg @ 915-352-7778.

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Central heat & air
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1107 Barnes 2 bdr. 1 bth. C/H/A fenced bk. yd., very clean. $375/mn. $300/dep. 263-3778

1115 Lloyd
1203 Ridgeroad
3BR 1 bath $350/mo.
1804 B State - $200/mn
Call American Realty
915-520-7577

1809 Johnson
2/1 CH/A
$450/mn. + dep.
267-2296

2 bdr. 1 bth. 914 E. 6th. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

2 BR , 1 bath, w/economical floor furnace. Quiet area. $250/mo. + dep. & ref.. Call 263-2133

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$600/mo + deposit
267-2296

3233 Duke. Nice Clean 3/2/1 C/H/A $625/mn. + dep. Call 817-460-0554

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

3BR , 1 1/2 bath, 2 living areas, garage. $475/mo. Call 268-9573

3BR 1 bath, CH/A. Nice neighborhood. **1205 Pennsylvania** $450/mo. plus deposit. Call 263-6997

806 E. 12th
1Bdrm 1 bath
$250/mo. $100/dep.
Water paid
263-1792 or 264-6006

Abandonded homes: in Big Spring
Take up remaining payments.
5 bdr. 2 bth. $220/mn.
3 bdr. $200/mn.
264-0510

Available now! 2BR 1 bath, fenced yard. $300/mo., $100/dep. Call 267-5646

Clean 2BR. Fenced back yard. No pets. Stove & refrigerator. 263-4483

College Park 3/1/1, appliances. NO Pets. $495. Call 267-2070.

Executive 3 bdr. 2 bth home in Highland. $400/dep. $850/mn. Call 263-4528

In quiet neighborhood. 604 W. 15th. 3 bdr. 2 bth. C/H/A. landscape yard. $595/mn. 263-1281

TOO LATES

Mowing, tree trimming, hauling, interior-exterior painting. Call 267-5460 lv. message.

❑ Backyard sale. 5219 Sterling Rd. Fri. , Sat. & Sun 8-4: Boat, motor, Jet skis, freezer, '60 Studebaker Hawk, '71 Ford PU, womens size 3X clothes, air compressor.

❑ 610 SETTLES, 9-2 SAT. ONLY. ALL MUST GO. Furn, apel, tool box, dishes, lots of misc.

2BR-2 bath, partly furnished, ceiling fans. West side. $300/ mo. + dep. 267-5473

For rent in Coahoma, 3BR 1 1/2 bath mobile home. 210 W. Rancier. Also 2BR at 400 College. Call 393-5380

3 - 1BR houses: 1203 Johnson; 713 Anna; 311 W. 4th; Deposit & references required. Call 263-2382.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bids until 2:00 p.m., February 21, 2001, for the following athletic areas:

Cross Country Track Supplies
Football Supplies
Tennis Supplies
Volleyball Supplies

Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4610, phone number (915) 264-3640. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on March 8, 2001, at 5:15 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
3058 February 2, 2001
& February 9, 2001

Health Care Professionals

New Horizon Nursing Center is accepting resumes for the following positions:

*** Activity Director * Social Worker**

We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality patient care please contact:

Martin Hubbart
New Horizon Nursing Center
3510 W. 8th
Odessa, TX. 79763
PH (915) 333-4511 FAX (915) 333-6078

West Texas Centers for MHMR
has openings for the following:

Accountant: Located in Big Spring Bachelors degree with a major in accounting. Accounting/fiscal experience preferred. Salary w/degree $14.71hr/$17.36 hr ($30,588-$36,108 annually) **OR** Diploma/GED plus at least 4 yrs. experience. Salary w/o degree $12.09-$14.71 hr ($25,140/$30,588 annually). **DOE**

ACT Team Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus two (2) years experience in human services or related field. On-call. Salary $12.90/$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

ACT Team Service Coordinator: Located in Big Spring. Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus one (1) to two (2) years experience. Must have knowledge and certification in substance abuse services. On-Call. Salary $12.90-14.71 hr ($26,832 -$30,588 annually). **DOE**

Rehab Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Any combination of education and experience equal to a Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus one to two (1-2) years experience in human services or related field. Must have knowledge of and certification in providing substance abuse services. On-Call. Salary $12.90-$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

Casework Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years direct care experience. Salary $7.28hr. ($15,132 annually).

MR Service Coordinator: Located in Big Spring. Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus one (I) year experience in human services/related field or be currently credentialed as a West Texas Centers Service Coordinator. Salary $11.31 hr ($23,532 annually).

MR Quality Improvement Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Any combination of education and experience equal to a Bachelors degree with major related to the position, plus one to two (1-2) years experience. Salary $12.90-$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

MH Quality Improvement Specialist: Located in Big Spring. Any combination of education and experience equal to a Bachelors degree with major related to the position, plus one to two (1-2) years experience. Salary $12.90-$14.71 hr ($26,832-$30,588 annually). **DOE**

HR Recruitment & Marketing Specialist: Diploma/GED plus two (2) to four (4) years related experience. Salary $8.20-$9.93 hr ($17,052-$20,652 annually) **DOE**

Purchasing Agent: Any combiantion of education/experience equal to a Bachelors degree plus 1 to 5 years related experience. Salary $12.09-$16.25 hr ($25,140 to $33,792 annually) **DOE**

LVN: Licensed to Practice as an LVN in the state of Texas. Salary $9.30 hr ($19,344 annually)

HRD Training Specialist: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years related experience. Salary $8.75-$9.93 hr ($18,192-$20,652 annually). **DOE**

Vo-Tech Clerk: Diploma/GED plus some clerical experience. Part-time 9-12 pm & 1-4 pm M-F. Salary $6.85 hr.

Administrative Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years clerical/secretarial experience. Word/Excel required. Salary $8.20 hr ($17,052 annually)

Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels, by calling JOBLINE at 800-687-2769 or visit www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001: You're on your way to making major changes. Try to stay "in the moment," especially for the next month or so. Your success will grow in the long run if you develop patience as an attribute. Family members often need your time and attention. Whether single or attached, there will be increased pleasantries in relationships in about five months. Single Aquarians could meet "the right person." If you are attached, you might feel you have the perfect mate. Though you are usually impulsive, put more time and effort into planning in the months ahead. Count on a positive outcome. VIRGO aids you in stepping back to take another look.

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)
**** Planning can be productive. Take time to find answers within. Investigate legal requirements for future use. An older male might suddenly ask for your attention. Don't fret if your schedule gets tossed. Tonight: Allow someone to create beautiful daydreams with you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** Money can't buy love, but you seem willing to test this theory. Avoid shopping unless you don't mind overspending. Fixing a family matter might be excellent to focus on. Be sure you're not interfering. Tonight: Choose a favorite form of relaxation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** You might be taking things too seriously. Why worry about what might happen? Instead, think about that great idea rolling around in your head. What do you need to do to make it a reality? Remember, everything does not have to be done perfectly. Tonight: Entertain at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** Relationships swing and might require a compromise on your part, especially when young people are involved. It might be better for you to work alone rather than frustrating yourself by trying to draw others into your space. Tonight: Return phone calls.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Time spent on an unexpected assignment can be rewarding if you take on the challenge. Think things through and be open to new ideas. The results boost your status. Hard work brings rewards. Tonight: Be your own best friend. Take a break.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
** You might be right, but this is not the time to prove it. Keep your thoughts to yourself until things become clearer. Writing in your journal can be especially helpful. Avoid arguments at all costs. Right now, you are in a no-win situation. Tonight: Tackle a creative project.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
**** Romance is in the air. If you are planning a celebration, ask for help from a friend. You need someone with a little practicality to help tone down your exuberant ideas. A lot can be accomplished if you keep communication clear and simple. You've got snap, crackle and pop. Tonight: A romantic movie.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Focus on solutions and where to get help. You have the ability now to convince others to join your cause without being demanding. The Internet or the library can be helpful. Trust in your abilities and resourcefulness. Tonight: Is there a party you want to attend?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**** Putting your plans on paper is the first step toward success. Get out your calendar and mark the dates by which you want to reach goals. You need to see progress. Further education can be in your near future. You know what will bring rewards. Tonight: Gather with friends and play a favorite game.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
*** Pat yourself on the back for having gotten through the week, and realize that many delays were unavoidable. Jot down what you have learned so you can minimize future errors. Hindsight can be a great teacher. Tonight: Spread your wings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
*** A major change might seem inviting, but the grass is not always greener on the other side of the fence. Spend some time making a list of pros and cons. It might be best to see the current situation play out to a more natural ending point before you make a move. Your recent restlessness peaks. Tonight: See what happens before you make plans.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
*** Delight in spending time with a special pal. Escape to a matinee or delve into a creative project that you both enjoy. Anything too practical or mundane might not hold your interest. Tonight: Continue the fantasy.

BORN TODAY
Actress Laura Dern (1967), former British prime minister Harold MacMillan (1894), writer Boris Pasternak (1890)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444 , 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. 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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Mom ruins girls friendship by not taking stand

ABIGAIL VAN BUREN



DEAR ABBY: I am a 42-year-old woman who has been acting like a catty teen-age girl. My daughter "Erica" has been best friends with "Alexa" since preschool. Both girls are now in high school. Alexa has blossomed into a beautiful girl, while my Erica is a rather plain Jane. Alexa always has a boyfriend. Erica has never had one. When Alexa is around, Erica is invisible to boys. They call her only to ask about Alexa.

Alexa's boyfriend wanted to make her jealous, so he broke up with her and began flirting with Erica. I knew what was going on, but I allowed it to happen. Just once, I thought, maybe a boy will notice Erica and see how special she is. Maybe this time she will get the boy.

Well, his plan failed. He couldn't get Alexa back, so he began spreading vicious rumors about her. (You know, the kind of rumors boys like to spread about girls.) Since we had been close for so long, people came to me to ask if the rumors were true. By not denying them, I implied that the rumors were true. I helped him to tarnish her reputation.

I guess I thought if Alexa looked bad, Erica would look better. He soon tired of his game and moved on, leaving Erica without a boyfriend and also without a best friend. Alexa eventually moved on to new friends.

I am so ashamed of what I did. I would do anything to fix it. What should I do? — ASHAMED IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR ASHAMED: There's an old saying, "The authenticity of a painting is like a lady's virtue. Once questioned, it is never quite the same again." Short of admitting what a terrible thing you did to an innocent young girl, there isn't much you can do to repair the damage you allowed to happen. By failing to help your daughter see that she is special in her own way, and that her chance for popularity will come when young men begin to appreciate qualities that are more than skin-deep, you let both girls down.

Alexa has gone on and made new friends who accept her for who she really is. I'm particularly sorry for Erica, who has lost her best friend. I advise you to schedule some sessions with your spiritual adviser for yourself, and a psychologist who can suggest some healthy ways to build your daughter's self-esteem.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 10 years. We have a happy marriage except for one problem — he insists on having his friend over every weekend. When I ask him if we can please have a weekend to ourselves, or if he can ask his friend to leave early (midnight instead of 3 a.m.), we end up in a fight.

Abby, this has been going on for several years. I love my husband very much, but I'm fed up with this situation. Am I wrong for wanting to spend a weekend alone with my husband and children? — NOT HAPPY SHARING HUBBY

DEAR NOT HAPPY: This has been going on for years? You have been incredibly tolerant. Your husband either feels sorry for his friend, or he's getting something from him that you and the children are unable to give him. Either way, you and your children are being left out in the cold.

Professional marriage counseling for you is a must. If your husband won't go, go alone. It will help you find the root of this unusual situation.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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FEB 09 2001

FRIDAY FEB. 9

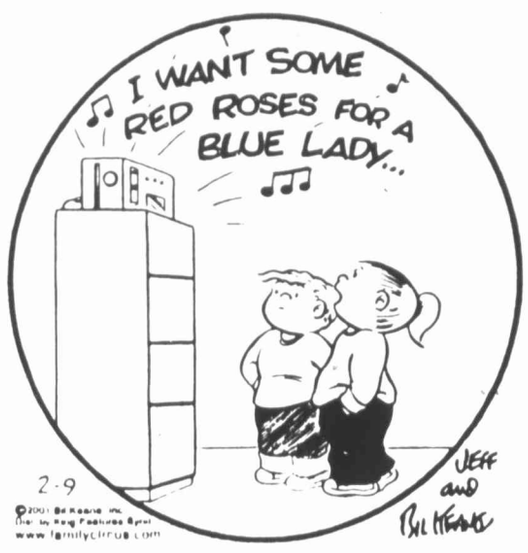
		KMID (2) Midland	KPEJ (3) Odessa	KERA (5) Dallas	FAM (6)	KOSA (7) Odessa	WFAA (8) Dallas	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	UNI (13) Spanish	DISN (14) Premium	NASH (15) Nashville	TMC (16) Premium	SHOW (20) Premium	HBO (22) Premium	KMLM (24) Odessa	A&E (25) New York	DISC (26) Discovery	TNT (28) Atlanta	TLC (41) Learning Ch.
6	PM :30	News (CC) Fortune	Cosby (CC) Spin City (CC)	Wishbone Zoboomafoo	Early Edition (CC)	News Ent Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fresh Prince Fresh Prince	Locura de Amor	Even Stevens Movie: Man of	Miami Vice "	(CC) (:20) Movie:	(CC) "	the Ocean (CC)	News John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery (CC)	Pretender (CC)	UFOs & Aliens: Search
7	PM :30	Two Guys-Girl Norm (CC)	Police Videos (CC)	Wash. Week Wall St. Week	Movie: Radio Flyer	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	Two Guys-Girl Norm (CC)	Providence (CC)	(:05) Movie: Rudy	Abrazame Muy Fuerte	the House (CC)	Martial Law (CC)	Dead Man on Campus (CC)	South Park Bigger, Lon-	Movie: Timecop	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	Inside a Black Box	Movie: My Giant	Hollywood Cops
8	PM :30	Be a Millionaire	Code Red (CC)	Antiques Roadshow	"	Fugitive (CC)	Be a Millionaire	Dateline (CC) "	"	Premio Nuestro	(:15) Movie: Uncle Buck	Championship Bull Riding	Movie: Hangman	ger & Uncut Green Mile	(CC) (:45) Movie:	"	Competition (CC)	When Airplanes Crash	"	War in the Gulf
9	PM :30	20/20 (CC)	Arrest & Trial Nanny (CC)	Unknown Peter Sellers	Who's Boss?	Nash Bridges (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Law & Order "	" (:45) Movie:	Estamos Unid Lente Loco	(CC) "	Monster Jam "	(CC) (:40) Movie:	Stargate SG-1 (:45) Stargate	The Enemy (CC)	Hour of Healing	Poirot (CC)	Casino Diaries After Midnight	Movie: My Giant	Great Books "
10	PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer "	700 Club (CC)	News (:35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (:35) Tonight	Fire Birds "	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ	Lizzie Mcguire Even Stevens	18 Wheels of Justice (CC)	Citizen Ruth (CC)	SG-1 (CC) Beggars	Dennis Miller	News Life in Word	Law & Order (CC)	Justice Files "	" "	Hollywood Cops
11	PM :30	Politically Inc Cheers	Blind Date Suddenly	Red Green May-Dec	Who's Boss? Who's Boss?	Show (CC) Buick Inv	Ent Tonight Politically Inc	Show (CC) (:37) Late	" "	Noche de Bienvenidos	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Miami Vice "	" Movie:	Rude Awakening	Movie: Lake Placid (CC)	Promise Church	Biography (CC)	Inside a Black Box.	Movie: Steel "	Vietnam -- Stories From
12	AM :30	Paid Program Paid Program	Judge Brown Latino Gen	Manor Born Neighbors	Paid Program Paid Program	Late Late Show	(12:08) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) Frasier	Movie: Needful	Marimar "	For the Love of Willadean	Starsky and Hutch	Glengarry Glen Ross	Red Shoe Movie: The	(:25) Movie:	Faith Pleases God	Competition (CC)	When Airplanes Crash	" "	Great Books "

DENNIS THE MENACE



"BUT, WHICH ROOM HAS THE COMIC BOOK STUFF?"

FAMILY CIRCUS



"I guess she's a Smurf."

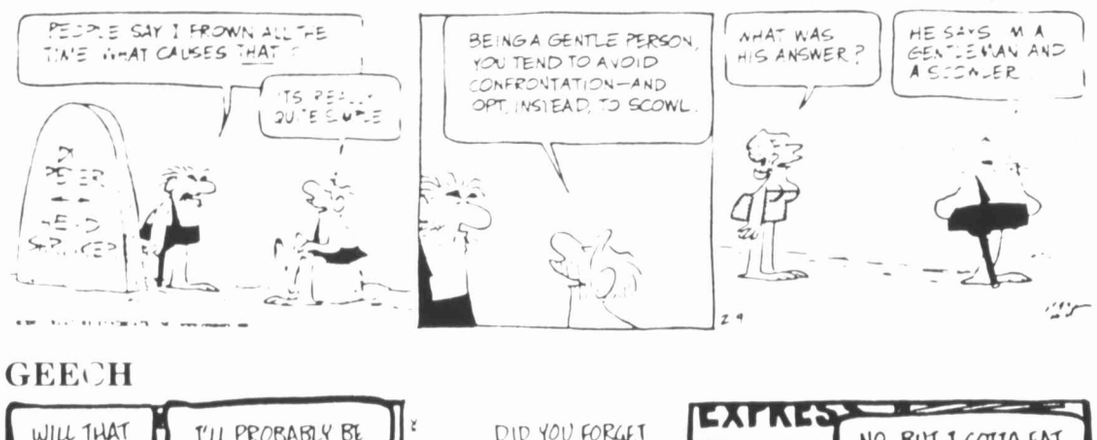
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH

BEETLE BAILY

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, Feb. 9, the 40th day of 2001. There are 325 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 9, 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an American victory over Japanese forces.

On this date:

In 1773, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison, was born in Charles City County, Va.

In 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

In 1861, the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States of America elected Jefferson Davis president and Alexander H. Stephens vice president.

In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau was established.

In 1893, Giuseppe Verdi's last opera, "Falstaff," was first performed, in Milan, Italy.

In 1942, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff held its first formal meeting to coordinate military strategy during World War II.

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, W. Va., Sen. Joseph McCarthy charged the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1964, The Beatles made their first live American television appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

In 1971, the Apollo 14 spacecraft returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

In 1984, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov died at age 69, less than 15 months after succeeding Leonid Brezhnev; he was succeeded by Konstantin U. Chernenko.

Ten years ago: Voters in Lithuania overwhelmingly endorsed independence from the Soviet Union in a non-binding plebiscite.

One year ago: Hackers stepped up their "denial of service" attacks on popular Internet sites, zeroing in on such targets as ETrade and ZDNet, inconveniencing millions of Web users and unnerving Wall Street. Boeing Co. engineers and technical workers began a 40-day strike.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Matthew Higgins
Concord, MA

2/9/01

ACROSS

1 Alan or Cheryl
5 Thunder and laughter sounds
10 On pins and needles
14 Cruising
15 Permit
16 Decline
17 Tailor's done deal
20 "Mona __"
21 Corn unit
22 Wharton School deg.
25 Purifies seawater
28 Parts of speech: abbr.
31 Excuses
33 Deep blue gemstone
35 Eva or Juan
36 Church recess
37 Black, in poetry
38 Caring sock-mender's attitude
41 Exploiter
42 Pianist Peter
43 Rub out
45 Hearty eaters
47 Pollux's twin
48 Peculiar
49 Munitions depot
51 High school subj.
52 Carney or Linkletter
53 Sandwich cookie
55 Sweater-maker's action
63 Rajah's wife
64 Expect
65 Hawkeye State
66 Prophetic sign
67 Plunders
68 Adolescent

DOWN

1 __ Vegas
2 Fire proof?
3 Sandra or Ruby
4 Author of "The Gremlins"
5 Overtakes
6 Inventor Howe
7 Actress/model Carol
8 Spanish article
9 Climbing plant
10 Wide-spouted pitcher
11 Pop
12 Wildebeest
13 Informal affirmative
18 Assisting
19 Stinging insect
22 Traveler's guide
23 Beatified
24 Scatterbrain
26 Malign
27 Cowboy's rope
28 Oscillate
29 Louisa May's father
30 D.C. big shot
32 Afrikaners
34 Gets wind of
36 Declares
39 Type of navigation system
40 Trader
41 Flying saucer
44 Work unit
46 Mountain lake
47 Insertion symbols
50 Pitch near perfection
52 Related
54 Last bio
55 Full-house sign
56 Noah's second son
57 Wind dir.
58 A pair
59 __ Tome and Principe
60 Fish eggs
61 Be obligated
62 Pallid

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

L	O	S	E		S	E	R	A	C		B	A	N	E
A	P	E	D		U	T	I	L	E		A	C	E	D
B	R	E	I	G	N	S	C	A	N		R	I	N	G
O	A	T	E	R	S		A	T	T	E	N	D	E	E
R	H	O		O	E	R		E	A	T	E	R		
		M	O	T	E	S		U	N	S	E	A	T	
S	E	R	U	M		O	H	A	R	A		I	L	A
P	L	E	D		P	I	E	R	S		E	G	E	R
A	M	I		A	R	L	E	S		P	O	N	C	E
T	O	G	G	L	E		R	O	M	A	N			
		N	I	M	E	S		N	I	T		A	R	C
I	N	F	L	A	M	E	S		S	T	E	R	E	O
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E	R	L	E		E	N	T	E	R		G	I	V	E
S	O	L	D		S	A	S	S	Y		S	E	E	D

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2/9/01