



BIG
SPRING

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

WEEKEND
EDITION

February 21-22, 2004

WEATHER

Sunday:



PARTLY CLOUDY

SUNDAY 63°-67°
SUNDAY NIGHT 45°-47°

INSIDE



BRIEFLY

Massage anyone?

Need a massage?
The Howard College Sports Medicine Department is raising funds by offering a 15-minute massage for \$10.
The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Student Union Building, 1001 Birdwell Lane. No reservations are needed.

Shrine fund-raiser

The Big Spring Shrine Club will be taking sealed bids for a 1997 Chevy Cavalier four-door car through Saturday, Feb. 29.
The sale is a fund-raiser for the club. The car includes an AM/FM radio, PS/AC cloth seats and carpeting and has 8,500 actual miles. Bidding will begin at \$3,000.
Written bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and dropped off at Bob's Custom Wood Works, 409 E. Third St., or mailed to Bob Clawson, 1903 Alabama, Big Spring 79720.

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Vol. 100, No. 81

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www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Early voting begins Monday in primary elections

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Less than a week after voting in a special state senate election, Howard County voters are going to be asked to head to the polls again as early voting in the March 9 party primaries begins Monday morning.

Howard County Clerk officials were busy as early as Friday setting up polling booths at the county courthouse in anticipation of early voters. County Clerk Donna Wright said the primaries carry several different style ballots, making preparation in advance crucial to being ready when the doors open Monday.

"First we have to get all of the

machines set up," said Wright. "There are different style ballots for the different precincts, so we

We asked candidates in contested county elections to respond to several questions. For their answers, see pages 6-8.

have to have them set up and ready to roll for Monday morning."

Wright said voters need to consider which primary, Republican

or Democrat, they want to vote in before they head to the polls, as their choice could lock them into that race if a runoff election is spawned.

"Your primary elections have a lot of different styles of ballots," she said. "In a special election like the one we just finished, it's a county wide election and everyone votes on the same people. In primary elections, first you have to choose whether you're going to vote Democrat or Republican in this election."

"Once you choose what party your going to go with in the primary, you have to stick with that

See VOTING, Page 8A

Odessa's Barnes exits Senate 31 campaign

HERALD Staff Report

Businessman Bob Barnes announced Friday he is no longer seeking the Republican nomination for the State Senate District 31 seat. His announcement comes just three days before early voting begins



BARNES

See BARNES, Page 7A

Community foundation continues to move forward

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

After two years of existence, the Big Spring Area Community Foundation has managed to garner more than \$41,000 in its mission to establish a long-term method to provide financial recourses to the community.

"This literally comes from one man's vision and that was Charles Beil," said foundation trustee Drew Mouton, during the organization's annual meeting Thursday night.

The mission of the foundation is four-fold: Establish a permanent charitable endowment; provide a vehicle for the donor's varied interest; promote local philanthropy; and provide leadership and resources in address-

"This organization makes philanthropy feasible for everybody in this room and in this community."



Drew Mouton

See FOUNDATION, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Howard County Deputy Clerk Brooke Bayes sets up a voting booth for early voting in the Republican and Democratic primaries, which is set to begin Monday morning at the county courthouse. Early voting will continue through March 5, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on weekdays.

Leaders will visit sister city in Israel

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

When area residents walk down the streets of Big Spring, Hadera, Israel, is most likely the farthest thing from their minds.

That's something that will change for several area officials and diplomats this week, as they visit the "sister city" to Big Spring in conjunction with Israeli-owned ALON USA.

Among those leaving the city of Big Spring behind Saturday was Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, who said he has been looking forward to the trip for some time now.

"It's really amazing how much Hadera has in common with Big Spring," said McEwen. "It was formed in 1890, and although they have a past that's heavily steeped in agriculture, they're moving more towards industrialization, much like many West Texas cities, including Big Spring."

McEwen said they hope the visit, which was made possible by ALON USA, will help show the commitment of both cultures, American and Israeli, to work together towards a common goal — prosperity.

"We want to foster friendship among the people of Hadera," he

See HADERA, Page 3A



Six-year-old Scott Beck shows off his smile Saturday at the Howard College Dental Hygiene Fair, while first-year dental hygiene student Misty Bugg paints the youngster's face. Beck was one of hundreds of children that took time out to learn more about dental hygiene over the weekend.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

'Symphony is Love' coming to auditorium stage Feb. 28

By BILL MCCLELLAN

Herald News Editor

Romance is the theme as the Big Spring Symphony and Grammy winning tenor Karl Dent share the Municipal Auditorium stage for "The Symphony is Love" this month.

The performance, the third of five symphony offerings for 2003-2004, will be held at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28.

Conductor Keith Graumann said the concert promises to be very entertaining.

"This should be an exciting concert for the audience, in part because of some very emotional music but also because of some really fun things we are going to do," he said.

It is the second appearance

See SYMPHONY, Page 5A

Software training request on tap for commissioners

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will meet to discuss several items Monday, including a \$6,000 request for software training for the district clerk's office.

County District Clerk Colleen Barton said her office has little or no training with the software used to manage the civil and criminal cases that come

10 a.m. Monday

through the district court, forcing them in some cases back into the dark ages of clerking.

"We only have one person in the clerk's office that can use the criminal case program," said Barton. "As for the civil cases,

See COUNTY, Page 5A



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Obituaries

Wanda Woods Arencibia



Wanda Woods Arencibia, 69, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Feb. 20, 2004, in a Midland hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, 2004, at the Mud Creek Cemetery in Brown County with Dr. Claude Craven, retired Baptist minister, officiating.

She was born on March 27, 1934, in Brownwood to William Alton Woods and Letha Elizabeth White. Wanda grew up in the Thrifty community and attended school in Bangs. She moved with her family to Big Spring in 1948, where she attended Big Spring High School and graduated in 1952. She married Aramis E. "Tito" Arencibia on May 16, 1953, in New Mexico.

Wanda attended Medical Arts School of Nursing and worked in nursing for over 20 years as a licensed vocational nurse. She received her certification as an Accredited Medical Record Technician in 1980, and worked 13 years at Hall-Bennett Hospital as the director of medical records, several years at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and 14 years at Martin County Hospital. She was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Aramis "Tito" Arencibia of Big Spring; one son, Bill Arencibia of Shallowater; two daughters, Elizabeth Arencibia of Midland and Viena Pope of Coahoma; two granddaughters, Jessica Pope of Coahoma and Shayla Arencibia of Shallowater; two grandsons, Eric Arencibia and Brandon Arencibia, both of Shallowater; one sister, Nancy Woods Parnell of Arlington; and three nieces, Laura Clay of Miami, Fla., Wanda Brewer and Lisa Roberts, both of Midland.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Greta Woods Renshaw.

Pallbearers will be William Arencibia, Eric Arencibia, Brandon Arencibia, Byron Pope, A.J. Newton, Bill Clay, Oscar Reguera, Sr. and Oscar Reguera, Jr.

The family suggests memorials to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105-1905.

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

Paid Obituary

Ennis "Ray" Chapman

Ennis "Ray" Chapman, 78, husband of Emma Lee Turner, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004, at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, 2004, at the Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home Chapel, with the Rev. Perry Johnson and the Rev. John Odom officiating. Interment will follow at Restlawn Memorial Park. Visitation is set for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

He was born in Birthright on June 6, 1925, to Everett Ray and Jennie Johnson Chapman. He married Emma Lee Turner in Cooper on Oct. 2, 1945.

Survivors include his wife, Emma Lee Turner of Sulphur Springs; three daughters, Pat Odom and husband, Gary, Debbie Berry and husband, Roger, and Brenda Wright, all of Sulphur Springs; one sister, Mamie Ruth Harred of Sulphur Springs; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by one daughter, Barbara Ann Chapman; one brother, Enoch Chapman; three sisters, Lois Chapman Webb, Pauline Chapman Harred and Roberta Chapman Jones.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Willa Nell Flynt

Willa Nell Flynt, 85, of Carlsbad, N.M., died away Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at Lakeview Christian Home of the Southwest. Graveside services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 23, 2004, at Trinity Memorial Park with clergy from First Baptist Church officiating, with interment to follow.

She was born on Feb. 28, 1918, in Haskell to Terrell and Jewel Rogers. She attended schools in Gainesville, Paris, Sweetwater and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1936. She married Robert Flynt of Tulsa, settling in Carlsbad, N.M., where they opened Flynt Jewelry Store. Prior to her retirement she had worked as the bookkeeper at Lakeview Christian Home for several years.

She is survived by two daughters, Margaret Gage of Tulsa, Okla., and Susan Keith and husband Wayne, of San Antonio; one brother, Leon Rogers of Wills Point; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one niece.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Helen Mae Stewart, and her former husband, Robert C. Flynt.

Condolences may be sent to Margaret Gage, in care of Denton-Funchess Funeral Home, 1001 North Canal Street, Carlsbad, N.M. 88220.

Arrangements are under the direction of Denton-Funchess Funeral Home.

For all of your news, sports and local information

BIG SPRING HERALD

The Family of Harold Broughton would like to thank the staff & nurses of the VA Hospital, Debbie Ellis, Michelle Byler and the staff of Odyssey Healthcare, Bro. Jim Binnix & our church family at Midway Baptist Church. Thanks everyone for the cards, food, visits & all the love shown to our family over the past few months.

**Juaney Broughton
Bruce & Tina Broughton
Lori & Steve Johnson
Alice & Jack Broughton
Jaime & Wayne Line**

Police blotter

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

- **BILLY SHAWN KENNEDY**, 25, of 209 E. Fourth Street in Forsan, was arrested Friday on charges of evading arrest with a vehicle and possession of marijuana-more than 2 ounces, less than 4 ounces.

- **COMANECKI OLYN THACKER**, 23, of 120 Hooser, was arrested Friday on two local traffic warrants.

- **OSCAR ROMAN OLIVA**, of 3200 Avenue C, was arrested Saturday on a charge of minor in consumption of alcohol.

- **SABRINA PEREZ**, 28, of 2503 Gunter, was arrested Saturday on a charge of abandon/endangering a child with intent to return.

- **PAULA SUE BAKER**, 44, of 2607 Chanute, was arrested Saturday on charges of possession of marijuana-2 ounces or less and public intoxication.

- **MARCIA JONES**, 35, of 3705 Holbert, was arrested Saturday and held for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA-2 OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 400 block of Sixth Street.

- **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of State.
 - in the 2500 block of Gunter.

- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported in the 2500 block of Gunter.

- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported:
 - in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.

- **ASSAULT CLASS C** was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.

- **DISORDERLY CONDUCT/LANGUAGE** was reported in the 800 block of S. Lancaster.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 100 block of Golf Course.

- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA-MORE THAN 2 OUNCES, LESS THAN 4 OUNCES** was reported in the 2300 block of Gregg.

- **EVADING ARREST/DETENTION WITH A VEHICLE** was reported in the 2300 block of Gregg Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- **ANIMAL PROBLEM** was reported in the 8400 block of the South Service Road. Report was of a vicious animal.

- **GAS DRIVE OFF** was reported in the area of South Birdwell Lane. Unable to locate.

Support groups

SATURDAY

□ Open Discussion Meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open Podium/Speakers Meeting 615 Settles 8 to 9 p.m. Open Birthday Night, No Smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

□ Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

TUESDAY

□ Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin will hold a self-help support group for care givers in Howard County on Tuesday.

The meeting will be held at Canterbury Retirement Homes Inc., 1700 Lancaster, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, call Raynetta Williams, caregiver coordinator, at (432) 563-1061 or (800) 491-4636 or locally call Debbie Read at Home Hospice at (432) 264-7599.

This group is open to the public and funded by the Texas Department on Aging.

THURSDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 noon to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet only on the second Thursday of the month at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. The group will no longer meet weekly.

□ Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 North Highway 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.



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Bulletin board

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

SATURDAY

The dance of Eagles Lodge begins at 8:30 p.m., 703 West Third.

Potton House, 200 Gregg, is a restored historical home, is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. One-time admission fees of \$2 for adults; \$1 for children and senior citizens is welcomed.

Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hangar 25 Air Museum, located at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For information on Big Spring Squares, call 267-7043 or 263-6305.

Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal and meeting to follow at Goliad and First streets.

Lottery

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-6-3

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-3

...

The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery: 06-08-17-23. Bonus ball 29.

...

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery: 04-11-17-29-32

The winning Mega Millions numbers drawn Friday: 1-13-20-21-30 Mega Ball = 24

Weather

Sunday...Mostly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds around 10 mph.

Monday...Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 50s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Monday night...Mostly cloudy. A 60 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows around 40.

Tuesday...Cloudy. Colder. A 60 percent chance of rain. Highs in the mid 40s.

Tuesday night...Cloudy. Colder. A 20 percent chance of rain early. Lows in the upper 20s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid

Take note

□ **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM**, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ **SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH**, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy.

Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

□ **ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED.**

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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The Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Inland Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Newspaper Association of America, Small Newspaper Federation, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and American Newspaper Association.

Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties, \$13.25 elsewhere.



Big Spring Mayor
Foresyth and W

FOUNDATIONS

Continued from

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"This on makes philanth ble for everyb room and in the nity," said M presented an the foundation

According t foundation is ble and can long-term and needs of the co

"For example nity in my ho Oklahoma ab of Big Spring attract short deductible fun \$250,000," Beil immediately in

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Robert McFaul

Aneurysm
Surgery, Ca
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Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, left, and his wife, Laura, visit with Howard College representatives Shirley Lee and Jan Foresyth and Wells Fargo President Duane Thomas during the Big Spring Area Community Foundation meeting Thursday.

FOUNDATION

Continued from Page 1A

ing the local challenges and opportunities without conflicting with other community or religious programs.

"This organization makes philanthropy feasible for everybody in this room and in this community," said Mouton, who presented an overview of the foundation.

According to Beil, the foundation is a very flexible and can meet both long-term and short-term needs of the community.

"For example, a community in my home state of Oklahoma about the size of Big Spring used it to attract short-term, tax-deductible funds totaling \$250,000," Beil said. "They immediately invested that

in a children's park in their community."

Approximately 25 communities in Texas have established community foundations, Beil said.

"Certainly the majority of them are in larger communities, metropolitan areas, but there are Angleton, Burnet, Bay City, Corsicana and now Big Spring," Beil said.

Guest Speaker Janet Jones, Abilene Community Foundation president, congratulated the group.

"You've done the hard part," Jones said. "You've made the first step. You've gotten through the first year."

The beauty of community foundations is that they reflect and respond to the unique needs of the their community, Jones

said. "Our community foundation in Abilene doesn't look like yours in Big Spring," she said. "Because yours reflects all your interests and all your areas and all the vibrancy of what Big Spring is about and that's what's cool about these things."

Newly established, the Big Spring Area Community Foundation will take decades to reach its full potential.

"Most of your real growth, larger growth, comes from estate planning," Beil explained. "That growth is pretty slow because people have to become comfortable enough with it and optimistic enough about it that it can and will support the community."

For more information about the Big Spring Community Foundation, call Beil at 263-8350. To contribute to the organization, send a check payable to Big Spring Area Community Foundation, P.O. Box 2825, Big Spring 79721.

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

we're still doing them the same way they did before we had computers — with pen and paper. It can put a real strain on the staff."

Barton said her office has had software in place for several years now, but with so many employees leaving the office since then, there isn't enough knowledge on the system to properly utilize it.

"Everyone in this office needs to know how to use the software," she said. "There were some problems with the fee structure when we first got the system, but the Software Group, the company we have the programs through, say they have all of that worked out."

Training comes with a steep price, however, as Barton said she is requesting \$6,000 to have the Software Group come in and train her and her staff. If approved, the training should take three to four days, she added, during which time the district clerk's office will be closed.

"The last time we went through this type of training, we tried to do it with the office open," she said. "That was really a mistake. Between trying to learn the systems and help the customers, it was really hard to do. This time around we will most likely close the office during the training, that way we can get the most out of it."

Also on the agenda, County Auditor Jackie Olson will discuss invoices, purchase requests and consider bids for office supplies.

Treasurer Teresa Thomas is scheduled to present personnel considerations.

County Attorney Mike Thomas will present several issues, including hiring a new employee to replace an office member who is retiring; discuss the Big Spring State Hospital commitment fees and costs; and possible litigation to be discussed in executive session.

Commissioners are also expected to canvass the returns from the Feb. 17 runoff election and hear a report from Phil Furquerson, county construction administrator, on renovations at the county courthouse and library.

The meeting gets started at 10 a.m. in the commissioners' courtroom, located on the second floor of the Howard County Courthouse.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13)
Fri. 7:20 Sat.-Sun.: 2:20 & 7:20

THE PERFECT SCORE (PG-13)
Fri. 9:30 Sat.-Sun.: 4:30 & 9:30

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN (PG)
Sat.-Sun.: 2:10 & 4:20

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CINEMA 4

*Welcome to Mooseport (PG-13)
Daily: 4:50 & 7:20 Fri. & Sat. 9:50
Sat. & Sun. 2:20

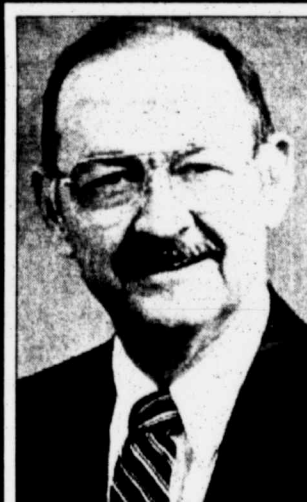
Barbershop 2 (PG-13)
Daily: 4:40 & 7:30 Fri. & Sat. 9:40
Sat. & Sun. 2:10

***Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen (PG)**
Daily: 5:00 & 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:20
Sat. & Sun. 2:30

***Miracle (PG)**
Daily: 4:30 & 7:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:30
Sat. & Sun. 2:00

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RE-ELECT
W. B. (BILL) CROOKER
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 3

Republican Primary is March 9, 2004. Early voting begins Monday, February 23rd and ends Friday, March 5th



VOTE FOR THE FUTURE:
The greatest challenge facing members of the Commissioners Court is to maximize revenues and look for new sources of income



VOTE FOR PERFORMANCE:
There is no margin for error in an office that must guarantee the solvency of the county — balancing a multi-million dollar budget.



VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE:
As commissioner for a number of years, I have faced many problems in the past and have the experience to deal with them in the future.

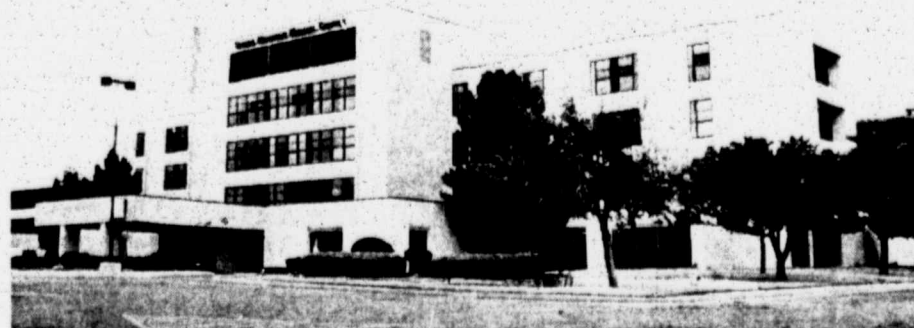
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Early voting in primaries starts Monday

Early voting in the March 9 Republican and Democratic party primaries will get under way Monday and that means just days after deciding between Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, and Kirk Edwards, R-Odessa, in the special election runoff for the District 31 seat in the Texas Senate, we'll have a chance to start all over again.

We want to encourage readers to cast their ballots as quickly as possible. Polls are open at the Howard County Courthouse from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays through March 5. In addition, Howard County Clerk Donna Wright said her office staff will also be open for early voting on Saturday, Feb. 28, for those unable to vote on weekdays.

Wright and her staff will also hold early voting at the Spring City Senior Citizen Center from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Feb. 26.

As we've stressed before, there are many of reasons for voting early, not the least of which is the unpredictability of our West Texas weather — particularly during this warm-one-day, cold-the-next season.

Another reason to cast your ballot now is because the longer we put things off, the more difficult they are to get accomplished. If we wait until March 9, too many things can happen to prevent us from getting to the polls.

And obviously, this being a presidential election year, the outcome of these primaries is particularly important. We'll be casting ballots for candidates seeking county, state and national offices — all of them of significant importance in our lives.

But don't put it off. Your voice needs to be heard.

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.
- 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 from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to jmoseley@crcom.net or to editor@bigspringherald.com

How To CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

Civil disobedience vs. gay-centric

It's funny that, in a city that prides itself on its nonconformity, so many people make the exact same argument exactly the same way. To wit, after I write that Mayor Gavin Newsom was wrong to flout state law by authorizing same-sex marriages, a legion of readers write comparing gay and lesbian newlyweds with civil rights legend Rosa Parks. To say that Newsom should have more respect for the law, they argue, is like saying Rosa Parks should not have engaged in her landmark act of "civil disobedience."

I think the term "delusions of grandeur" fits here.

In 1955, Parks was a lone black woman on a Montgomery, Ala., bus, who after a hard day's work courageously refused a driver's edict to give up her seat to a white man. "I did not get on the bus to get arrested," she later said. "I got on the bus to go home."

For that, Parks was arrested. She was fingerprinted and jailed for two hours until a \$100 bond was posted. Parks then was convicted and ordered to pay a fine, which she refused to pay so that she could challenge the segregation law. Ultimately, her resistance led to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling against the segregation law.

Parks was a pioneer in a nascent civil rights movement that demanded great personal courage. Many of her contemporaries paid for their beliefs with their lives. Parks' family endured threats. The home of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who led the

Parks-inspired black boycott of Montgomery's bus system, was bombed while King's wife and children were inside. King's price to achieve his dream was his life.

How can anyone compare the Parks experience with that of San Francisco's same-sex newlyweds? They don't face arrest. They won't be jailed. They won't be fined. City Hall is sponsoring the ceremonies. Why, the City Hall cafe sold splits of Champagne so there would be bubbly at last weekend's weddings. Civil disobedience? Hardly.

Rosa Parks stood firm in hostile territory, the segregation-era South. Under Jim Crow, blacks had trouble registering to vote, could not sit at lunch counters, and had to drink from separate water fountains, use different bathrooms and send their precious children to substandard segregated schools. Segregation was a system that subjected blacks to relentless humiliation.

San Francisco is gay-centric. Jewelers and liquor stores offered discounts to gay and lesbian couples about to take their vows. The city bureaucracy is so gay savvy that it has adopted the acronym LGBTQ for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning youth. Not only has the Special City registered domestic partners for more than a decade, but City Hall will pay for your sex change — if you work for the city or are the registered partner of a city staffer.

Parks stood up against a powerful government. The mayor is the powerful government. He could have searched for a way to challenge state marriage law without violating it. But this stunt carried more favor.

When Rosa Parks defied the law,

her fate and the outcome of her cause were uncertain. In San Francisco, the issue of gay rights has been settled in every area but marriage. As Jesse Jackson noted, gays always could vote and enjoyed other rights. The only question left is whether same-sex marriage can be called marriage — and there are plenty of gay people who don't care about the outcome.

If there's a group that has to work up courage to voice its beliefs in this town, it's religious fundamentalists. Ask the Rev. Eugene Lumpkin, whom then-Mayor Frank Jordan fired from the Human Rights Commission in 1993 because the reverend said he believed, as the Bible told him, that "the homosexual lifestyle is an abomination against God."

It didn't matter that no one could point to any discriminatory act on Lumpkin's part. What he thought was his crime.

As for the self-congratulatory term "civil disobedience" — well, the civil part is missing. Hello. It can't be civil disobedience when there is no civil penalty and there is a government sponsor.

But the Special City has long held a cheap view of civil disobedience. Remember last year's anti-war demonstrators. They deliberately clogged city streets and blocked access to government buildings under the mantle of "civil disobedience" — only to react indignantly when they were arrested. (No worries. This is San Francisco. Former District Attorney Terence Hallinan dropped charges on nearly all of the 2,300 protesters who were arrested.) Only in San Francisco does civil disobedience mean never having to say, "Guilty, your honor."



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BILL CROOKER — Home: 263-2566.

GARY SIMER — Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.

Of globalization and humor transplants

Oh boy, a close race in Wisconsin. This is swell! Go, Democrats. A few days ago, a Respected Party Elder advised me to stop dissing John Kerry on account of, "He will be our nominee." He may be "our nominee," but he'll still be a boring stiff. OK, sort of an impressive boring stiff.

I say we're in for a terrific two weeks if both Kerry and John Edwards do the issue stuff they're both well-placed to do. Kerry has a strong, well-thought-out health-care plan, and he should make it his signature issue — and put some passion into it, if he's got any. Edwards, with his populist riff, is perfectly placed to take on globalization directly.

I recommend that everyone take another look at John Edwards, especially if you wrote him off as too pretty and too light the first time you saw him. I did, too, and I was wrong: I know for a fact he's a much better candidate than he was a year ago. Ever since his speech at Georgetown University last summer, Edwards has shown he knows how to take that old time populist gospel and update it for the 21st century. Of course, the Bushies keep making that easier for him.

One of the best political races I ever saw was Kerry against William Weld in Massachusetts a few years back. Their final debate was almost enough to restore your belief in democracy — two intelligent candidates both talking good sense. So I know Kerry can get crisper than he has been. Is anyone doing medical research on a humor transplant?

Edwards might want to take some text from an article in the

current Harper's magazine, "The Collapse of Globalism (and the rebirth of nationalism)" by John Ralston Saul. Saul sees globalism as a failed theology that confuses ethics with morality. "Ethics is the measurement of the public good. Morality is the weapon of religious and social righteousness."

In addition to the abandonment of a broad sense of the public good, Saul manages to tuck deregulation, debt and many other horrors into his recounting of how globalization has played out. Those who dare to differ with globalization (still pretty daring in the United States, not in the rest of the world) are usually dismissed as protectionists.

Actually, I think the best argument against globalization is precisely that it kills the goose that lays the golden egg — capitalism. In case you hadn't noticed, advanced, deregulated capitalism is rapidly producing a world without competition. In one field after another, corporate gigantism has reached such a berserk extent that it eliminates the competition that keeps capitalism healthy. When one giant bank swallows another giant bank — knocking out 10,000 jobs in the process — what is the public good? Saul's thesis is that globalization — like the history it once claimed to have ended — is over. But it's a good news-bad news argument: The resurgent nationalism he sees replacing it is certainly unattractive.

Meanwhile, the punditry is busy cranking out mostly pro forma hail-and-farewells to my man Howard Dean. I hate whining and life is not fair, but I still think a whole lot of people who should have known better freaked out over Dean, treating a mostly mild-mannered, perfectly sensible and quite cheerful fellow as some kind of anti-establishment antichrist. I mean, he was governor of

Vermont for 10 years, not Lenin.

But he did tap into some real political anger, and look how many people turn out to be just scared to death of that. This is not the fake, pumped-up indignation of Rush Limbaugh's dittoheads over gay marriage — now there's something that'll cost you your job — but real anger about being lied to over war.

What was so scary about Howard Dean? Could it be because he (and some very bright young people who worked with him) found this way to raise real money in small amounts from regular people, and that just threatened the hell out of a lot of big corporate special interests? And out of an entire political establishment that is entirely too comfortable with the incestuous relationship between big money and politics? For just a moment in time, Dean was ahead of the pack — and no one owned him. Go back and look at whom that scared.

Sure, Dean self-destructed to some extent. He now does a very funny imitation of his own "scream speech," delivered in a quiet monotone and ending with a mild, deadpan, "Yahoo." (Come to think of it, he should have done that riff on Leno the night after he made the speech: We all have great ideas when it's too late.)

I'm not crazy about anger as a motivating force in politics — but didn't someone need to point out that the emperor isn't wearing any clothes? Didn't someone need to say that we were led into war under false pretences? Imagine an entire campaign in which all the candidates ignored that because they were all complicit in it.

I think we owe Howard Dean more than a, "Gee thanks for participating in our noble political system." Personally, I'd like to say, "Gee, thanks for helping keep democracy alive when it looked fairly dicey."



MOLLY IVINS

Big Spring

HERALD Staff

Senior Jessi the Big Sp School band 100-medal co University Int League S Ensemble C Saturday, F Monahans.

"I think this medals we've away with f and ensembl said band dir Harris.

One of c soloists, Ray Division I on horn solo and fied for the U

'Ham could

By LYNDEL M Staff Writer

Howard Coll will consider the popular Hammer" p favor of ano school outrea Monday du monthly meet "We've had a Hammer" pr years," sai President I Sparks. "We mending to t transition to

HADER

Continued from

said. "We wa good workin ship with ou Israel. I thinl very benefic the future." McEwen sa relationship Spring and something r in both pla very hard t and thanks t of ALON U strong Israel the rest of will get the c the result of up close.

SYMPH

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with the sy Dent, who extensively teaching at Tech Univers Music. He with the sy December 20 "We aske choose his p love scenes romance se he's got so pieces picke Graumann.

Among D tions will Flower" fro Carmen by formed in Fr "This is a dramatic lo Carmen's while he is said Graum serious on Furtiza La Hidden Donizetti. tions includ the Night" fi of the Oper Him Home Miserables.

The orche be performi of pieces, "Overture Midsummer Dream" by and "Pavane "A nice c duet to be p of our prin Marjory Jen and Don Tu inet They w "Tarantella

Big Spring High School students fare well at UIL contest

HERALD Staff Report

Senior Jessica Ray led the Big Spring High School band to a record 100-medal count at the University Interscholastic League Solo and Ensemble Contest held Saturday, Feb. 7, in Monahans.

"I think this is the most medals we've ever come away with from a solo and ensemble contest," said band director Rocky Harris.

One of only three soloists, Ray earned a Division I on her french horn solo and thus qualified for the UIL Solo and

Ensemble state meet to be held in Austin at the end of May.

Earning Division II recognition were soloists Melody McDaniel and Angela Banks. Both play the flute players.

In all, 21 Big Spring ensembles earned state qualifying Division I awards and three earned Division II status.

Ensembles earning Division I were:

- Flute, oboe and clarinet: Malerie Aguilar, Morgan Metcalf and Kelly Wingert; and Paige Gainey, Jennifer Hernandez and Meagan Smith.
- Flute trios: Angela Banks, Deanna Carlisle and

Andrea Haro; and Meredith Fillingim, Alex Gariepy and Amy Hanes.

- B flat clarinet trios: Julie Cadenhead, Rochelle McMeans and Cynthia Padron.

- B flat clarinet quartet: Julie Cadenhead, Becky Cheyne, Jennifer Hernandez and Cynthia Padron.

- Flute quartets: Deanna Carlisle, Meredith Fillingim, Melissa Franco and Garrett Honea; and Paige Gainey, Alex Gariepy, Amy Hanes and Melody McDaniel.

- Saxophone quartet, Ryan Beall, Brandon Green, Spencer Roberts and Jared Sanchez; and Billy Daves, Jessie Berry, Scott Fankhauser and Oscar

Natividad.

- Woodwind quintets: Melissa Franco, Kami Huddleston, Rochelle McMeans, Kristen Richard and Whitney Wier.

- Cornet/trumpet: Gracie Acosta, Braden Burchett, Mark Lozano and David Welch.

- French horn: Natalie Hernandez, Alyssa Rains, Jessica Ray and Kristen Richard.

- Trombone quartets: Ryan Harris, Adam Heinis, Mitchell Lowery and Ben Luna.

- Four brass: Josh Islas, Bryan Juan, Royce Perez and Andy Whittenburg; and Ben Luna, Jonathan Mata and David Welch.

- Tuba/euphonium: Cierra Butler, Vincente Flores, Jonathan Rush and Jonathan Volker.

- Brass sextet: Cierra Butler, Regan Creswell, Joel Flores, Adam Heinis, Alyssa Rains and Jeff Stanley.

- Six or more brass: Gracie Acosta, Braden Burchett, Ryan Harris, Mitchell Lowery, Jacob Martinez, Curtis Osburn and A.J. Riddle.

- Percussion: J.W. Beauchamp, Cody Carnes, Lauren Chesworth, Austin Cox, Brandon Herrera, Nick Ross, Nick Rushin, Andrea

Torres and Kip White; and Cody Carnes, Austin Cox, Brandon Herrea, Mark Lozano, Curtis Osburn, Nick Ross, Nick Rushin, Andrea Torres and Kip White.

Ensembles earning Division II were:

- B flat clarinet quartet: Patricia Franco, Courtney Heinis, Maleah McGee and Kyrstin Parker; and Malerie Aguilar, Amber Buchanan, Becky Cheyne and Chrissie Walters.

- Mixed clarinet: Ashley Barnett, Courtney Heinis, Monica Lara and Maleah McGee.

'Hammer' project at Howard College could be replaced by newer program

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Howard College trustees will consider phasing out the popular "If I Had a Hammer" program in favor of another public school outreach program Monday during their monthly meeting.

"We've had the 'If I Had a Hammer' project for six years," said college President Dr. Cheryl Sparks. "We're recommending to the board to transition to another pro-



SPARKS

ject called 'Let's Build a Computer.'"

Although the college has enjoyed success with "If I Had a Hammer," the proposed program is

much more accessible to take to the 29 school districts in the college's 13-county service area and is less expensive, Sparks

said.

"This particular project will allow us to bring the students to our campus or to go to the schools' campuses," Sparks said. "Young people enjoy computers, and I think this will be exciting for them."

The "If I Have a Hammer" project is a team-building concept that brings a class of fifth-grade students together to build a mock house.

Trustees will meet at 12:30 p.m. in the Howard

College board room located in the Student Union Building, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

In other business, trustees will consider annual contracts for the administrative staff and hear an update on the multi-million dollar performing arts hall.

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

HADERA

Continued from Page 1A

said. "We want to have a good working relationship with our friends in Israel. I think that will be very beneficial to us in the future."

McEwen said the sister-relationship between Big Spring and Hadera is something many people in both places worked very hard to establish, and thanks to the efforts of ALON USA and its strong Israeli ties, he and the rest of the visitors will get the chance to see the result of those efforts up close.

"We had talked to the people from ALON USA at great lengths about finding a sister city in Israel," he said. "They worked with the people who are responsible for making those types of designations, and Hadera was a good match."

McEwen, along with his wife Laura, Joe and Brenda Conciene, Duane Thomas, Jim and Vicky Purcell, ALON USA CEO and President Jeff Morris and ALON USA representative Debbie Donovan, will also get the chance to see a number of the sites commonly associated with Israel.

"We're going to tour the ancient city of Jaffa,"

said McEwen. "We're also going to see the ancient Roman city of Caesarea, which was built to honor Julius Caesar."

"We've got a pretty full agenda for the week we'll be there. We'll visit Jerusalem, the Dead Sea and Tiberias. We're also going to spend time with ALON USA and our sister city. We're taking them flags that were flown over

the State House in Austin and the nation's capital, as well as other items that are indigenous to the West Texas area."

McEwen said they expect to be back in the states Friday.

Contact Staff Writer
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SYMPHONY

Continued from Page 1A

with the symphony for Dent, who performs extensively when not teaching at the Texas Tech University School of Music. He first paired with the symphony in December 2001.

"We asked him to choose his program from love scenes and love and romance selections and he's got some fabulous pieces picked out," said Graumann.

Among Dent's selections will be "The Flower" from the opera Carmen by Bizet, performed in French.

"This is an extremely dramatic love song that Carmen's lover sings while he is in prison," said Graumann. Another serious one is "Una Furtiva Lagrima" (The Hidden Tear) by Donizetti. Other selections include "Music of the Night" from Phantom of the Opera and "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserables.

The orchestra will also be performing a number of pieces, including "Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream" by Mendelssohn and "Pavane" by Faure.

"A nice contrast is a duet to be played by two of our principal players, Marjory Jennings on flute and Don Turner on clarinet. They will be playing "Tarantella" by Saint-



GRAUMANN



DENT

Saens," said Graumann.

Tickets to "The Symphony is Love" are \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. Tickets are available at the Big Spring Symphony and Guild Office at 808 Scurry as well as the Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry; Blum's Jewelers in the Big Spring Mall; Dunlap's, 111 East Marcy; the Big Spring Herald, 710 Scurry; Faye's Flowers, 1013 Gregg; and First Bank of West Texas at 1810 FM 700 in Big Spring and 500 W. Broadway, Coahoma.



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Candidate forum

The *Big Spring Herald* invited candidates in the contested races for both the Democratic and Republican primaries to participate in a question and answer forum. These questionnaires were designed to better inform the public on the candi-

dates and their stances on important issues facing area officials in the coming years. That information is provided here for our readers.

Early voting in the party primaries begins Monday at the Howard County Courthouse, and will continue from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. each weekday until

it comes to a close on March 5. Voters who have trouble getting to the polls on weekdays will also get the chance to cast their ballots on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., also at the courthouse.

The Howard County Clerk's Office also plans to take early voting on the road, as they col-

lect ballots at the Spring City Senior Center, located at 1901 Simler, on Feb. 26 from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Martin County voters can participate in early voting at the Martin County Clerk's Office, located at 301 N. Saint Peter Street, beginning Monday. Early voting will con-

tinue through March 5, with the polls open from 8 a.m. until noon and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. each weekday.

The *Big Spring Herald* staff would like to encourage all registered voters in the area to take the time to let their voice be heard and cast their ballot in the primaries.

Howard County Sheriff, Republican Primary

The Candidates

Name: Willie Rangel Jr.
Age: 61
Occupation: Barber

Law enforcement experience or special training/certification: I have 25 years of law enforcement experience. I attended and graduated from a large number of Texas Commission on Law Enforcement officer standards and education courses that include reserve peace officer's academy, Texas A&M; Permian Basin Law Enforcement jailers academy; private investigator license; private security training license; oilfield theft investigations, Sam Houston State University; public relations; fingerprinting; accident investigation; drug identification; child abuse; family violence; and search and rescue.



Name: Dale Walker
Age: 41
Occupation: Howard County Sheriff

Law enforcement experience or special training/certification: I currently hold an advanced certificate in law enforcement from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education. I have been a Texas peace officer for more than 18 years. I currently have over 1,900 training hours, and am a certified Law Enforcement Instructor. My training



includes management and supervision, 141 hours; technical/specialized, 355 hours; all types of investigations including juvenile, child abuse, homicide, sexual assault, burglary, terrorism and theft, 396 hours. I have been proudly serving as your Sheriff since January of 2001.

The Questions

1. *Concerns over terrorism have spawned a great deal of concern about community disaster preparedness. If elected/re-elected, what would you do to better prepare Howard County for a severe emergency situation?*

Rangel: To properly train all personnel in all types of severe emergencies, from terrorism to severe weather. To train and work with all other emergency services, such as the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, one of the best trained departments in Texas. They can train the Sheriff's personnel and in turn we can set up classes and train the public from handling hazard materials to search and rescue. Also, to continue to support the neighborhood watch program.

Walker: I believe that working together with other agencies has proven to be effective in disaster preparedness because of good training. I know that Howard County has an emergency management team in place. My office plays an integral part with this team to insure the safety of our citizens. This team has provided training to your emergency responders as well as applying for federal grant money for equipment. Those grants are approved and equipment has been purchased and distributed throughout Howard County. You can never be prepared for everything, but I certainly

believe that if an unfortunate tragedy occurs, Howard County will be much better prepared now than in years past.

2. *Although a new county jail will have to be built, what do you feel can be done in the meantime to cut down on the daily cost of housing inmates?*

Rangel: To work with the courts on priority basis. Where cases like misdemeanors can be handled by bonding or work release programs, where inmates can serve their time on weekends and nights and still be employed, which will cut down on the cost of housing inmates. Inmate's sentences to the Texas Department of Corrections need to be extradited to serve their sentences as soon as possible.

Walker: Your Howard County Jail was built back in 1952 and with anything that old comes costly upkeep and repairs. The jail census has had a steady rise for many years. In 2002 and 2003 the average daily population was over our daily allowance — therefore we are forced to send the inmates somewhere else. I have contracted with other counties to hold the overflow. We are now sending inmates to Upton County at \$37.50 per day, per inmate. This is the lowest price available. Most facilities charge at least \$40.00 per day. We are also trying to give inmates extra time served as they work in and around the jail.

3. *Drug trafficking represents a clear danger in Howard County. Do you feel participation in the West Texas Narcotics Task Force is the best way to utilize tax dollars to combat illegal drugs, and if you could, what would you change about the program to make it more effective?*

Rangel: Yes, I feel participating in the West Texas Narcotics Task Force is one of the best ways to utilize our tax dollars, but our budget can't afford it at this time. So it is up to the local law enforcement agencies to work to combat illegal drugs in Big Spring, Howard County and the surrounding cities in our county. Also, working with Crimestopper's help, if there was something I could change to make the task force more effective, it would be to place more officers in the field.

Walker: Yes, Howard County does have a drug problem! For our current economic hard times I believe its best for us to remain in the drug task force. However that task force is operated by DPS under their rules. The Sheriff, Police Chief and District Attorney no longer have a vote on what the task force does. There lies many problems. We need to be able to keep the investigators here doing what we need done instead of Austin dictating their time and taking the credit for the work. Neither the city council or commissioner court have the funds to set up a narcotics department. Until that is done the local law enforcement officials hands are tied.

4. *What do you feel is the greatest challenge facing the Sheriff's Office going into 2005?*

Rangel: The budget is the greatest challenge. To be able to serve and protect the public and stay within a budget the public can afford. One of my goals will be to reduce the budget, if at all possible.

Walker: The Commissioners report that our decreased tax revenue is the cause of not being able to budget vehicle replacement. We now have a fleet of patrol cars that desper-

ately needs replacing and no budgeted money to replace them. We need to develop a plan for the replacement of the patrol cars. We have the overcrowding problem in the jail which costs you greatly. As your Sheriff, I am obligated by law to arrest individuals with warrants and hold them until their court date. I take my oath of office seriously. We will continue to serve warrants, and I will hold the inmates as the law orders.

5. *What quality do you feel you can bring to the Sheriff's Office that sets you apart from the rest of the candidates?*

Rangel: I feel what sets me apart from the rest of the candidates is that I'm bilingual; graduated from the Administrative Supervisor Training School, USAF; food service supervisor, USAF; owned and operated a private investigation agency and security company; licensed barber; owned and operated a barber shop; and served 4 years in the U.S. Air Force and received an honorable discharge.

Walker: I am very involved in church, and family organizations. I was born and raised here in Big Spring. I graduated High School here. I am well trained in law enforcement, and I am not afraid to stand up for what is right. Many people know that I do not like politics. I am not a political person; I am a law enforcement officer. An old sheriff gave me advice long ago. "When someone comes to you for something you feel is trivial, consider it very important or they would not be there." I took his advice and practice it every single day at work.

Martin County Sheriff, Republican Primary

The Candidates

Name: Randy Cozart
Did not respond to questionnaire

Name: Teddy Smith
Age: 31
Occupation: Police Officer with the Stanton Police Department
Law enforcement experience or special training/certification: I have six and a half years of law enforcement experience. I currently hold an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate. I have received letters of accommodation and an award of merit from the Stanton Police Department.



The Questions

1. *What do you feel is the greatest threat facing Martin County going into 2005, and what do you propose to combat it?*

Smith: I feel it is impossible

to predict what the greatest threat may be. I do feel that with an increase in law enforcement presence and cooperation with all other local, federal and state agencies I would be able to combat any situation that arises.

2. *Concerns over terrorism have spawned a great deal of concern about disaster preparedness. If elected, what would you do to better prepare Martin County for a severe emergency situation?*

Smith: In light of the recent terrorism concerns, I would work at helping our Homeland Security Officer in the education and training of all emergency responder personnel. This would enable us to get the best possible disaster preparedness in all disaster situations, including natural disasters as well as all terrorist disasters.

3. *What quality do you feel you can bring to the Martin County Sheriff's Office that sets you apart from the rest of the candidates?*

Smith: As sheriff, my fundamental duty will be to serve mankind. I will respect the constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, justice and equality. I will protect the citizens of Martin County against deception, oppression, intimidation, violence and disorder. I will restore honor, respect and dignity to Martin County law enforcement. I will create a cooperative work environment with all state, local and federal agencies.

Howard County Commissioner Pct. 1, Democratic Primary

The Candidates

Name: Emma Puga Brown
Age:
Occupation: Howard County Commissioner, Precinct 1

Boards or committees on which you have served: Big Spring Main Street Industry, A.R.C. and the Ambulance Committee.



Name: Yolanda De Leon Mendoza
Age: 53
Occupation: Assistant Director of the Spring City Senior Center

Boards or committees on which you have served: Served on the Human Service Council for 4 years while working for West Texas Opportunities.



The Questions

1. *As the need for a new coun-*

ty jail looms on the horizon, the ability and method to pay for a new facility is one of many questions on voters' minds. How would you propose to finance a new jail with an estimated price tag of \$6 million?

Brown: We have to realize that a \$6 million decision on constructing a jail is a big commitment. First we would possibly have to hire a professional expert to ensure the best financing structure for the future Howard County Jail. A bond election would be an option because the voters would be the decision makers. We would have to look at other ways also.

Mendoza: The need for a new jail is there, how we pay for it is something that would take planning and budgeting resources. The sheriff will be going to some training along with two commissioners in April for the building of the jail. That training should save the money that would be spent on private contractors to come and do the surveys that are needed and cost a tremendous amount of money. Fines could also be raised and collected now that the county has hired two persons to do the job. The

money that is obtained during drug seizures could also be used.

2. *While many Texas counties have been able to make a profit by housing other area's inmates, do you feel it's in the best interests of the county to "over build" a jail in hopes of attracting outside dollars?*

Brown: We need to look at the minimum standards according to Texas State law. The records of the "Texas Commission" on jail standards sets rules on construction and operation of county jails. That is the reason two county commissioners will be attending a training school to gather information on the new jail. While over-building has helped some counties, I am also aware that some are in financial trouble so that is our concern right now.

Mendoza: Over-building a jail would be beneficial to the county as it would create jobs and we would be able to house inmates from other counties that are facing the same dilemma.

3. *The county budget has grown increasingly lean over the*

past several years, with the 2004 budget shortfall near the \$1 million mark. How do you propose to turn this trend around?

Brown: This is a million dollar question. But I believe that to turn this issue around we need to first look at different proposals for the new and existing budget. We will need to examine the general fund further, as well as many other county expenses. One way we have tried to obtain money for the county is by hiring two warrant and fine collectors, who have brought in a considerable amount of monies. A portion of these monies will help the budget shortfall.

Mendoza: The county budget will grow every year. There is no possible way to cut it down. Every company and agency doing business would have to lower the prices on their products and that will never happen. Everything goes up in price, not down. Raising taxes is the solution, but it's almost impossible to want that. Taxes are too high now.

4. *What quality do you feel you can bring to the commissioners court that sets you apart from*

the rest of the candidates?

Brown: I have been Precinct 1 Howard County Commissioner for nine years. I have the interest of my precinct always in mind. I believe I have the knowledge and experience to perform and maintain a well run county. Every year I attend judges and commissioners training schools. My experience and knowledge of county related issues are points that set me apart from the other candidates.

Mendoza: I feel my work experience qualifies me for the job of County Commissioner. I worked for the city of Big Spring through the Housing Assistance Program for 16 years. My job consisted of inspecting homes for the elderly and low income families. We always had to work on a budget that was provided by HUD to pay for the rental assistance that was provided. I also worked at West Texas opportunities, also on a budget assisting families. Presently, I work for the Spring City Senior Center. The center provides congregate and homebound meals for all seniors in Howard County.

Howa

The Candida

Name: Willie Crooker
Age: 80
Occupation: County Commissioner, Precinct 3
Boards or committees on which you have served: Ports to Place Board, Director, Chairman of Chamber of Commerce, Transportation Committee, Club Board of member of the Rural Community Initiative, Crocker Development Board of Director, past member of Gang, past Director, past Chairman of member of Community Review Committee, chairman of the Texas MHMR

Name: A. K. Lusk

Age: 45
Occupation: Certified Property Manager, Big Spring, Texas
Boards or committees on which you have served: Big Spring Chamber

Howa

The Candida

Name: Philamante
Questionnaire returned

Name: D. Gamboa
Age: 45
Occupation: Business owner, San Francisco Bar and Grill

Specialized training to the office Business owner, office manager and notary public exam in California application in

The Question

1. What do you feel is the greatest threat facing Howard County going into 2005, and what do you propose to combat it?
Gamboa: The

BARNES

Continued from P

in the March 9. With his announcement to pull out of Barnes joins L. R-Dumas, a Sparks, R-Middle list of candidates.

The Odessa owner cited his and resources, the massive vote in the Amarillo his reasons for from the race.

Race front-runner Seliger, R-Amarillo, took the election sequence runoff for the unexpired term of the office, Edwards, R-O, expected to go head during the once again.

Candidate Quackenbush, Amarillo, remained race despite the garnered less than 20 percent of the vote Jan. 20 special election.

Despite having race, Barnes, Sparks will be lot.

Howard County Commissioner Pct. 3, Republican Primary

The Candidates

Name: William B. "Bill" Crooker
Age: 80
Occupation: County Commissioner Precinct 3



Boards or committees on which you have served: Ports to Plains Board of Directors; Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce transportation committee; Boy's Club Board of Directors; member of the Howard College Rural Community College Initiative; Crossroads Housing Development Corporation Board of Directors; 2003 certified member of TxDOT Road Gang; past United Way Director; past United Way Director; past Director of the Chamber of Commerce; past member of Permian Basin Community Development Review Committee; and past chairman of the 23 county West Texas MHMR Center.

Name: A. Katharine "Kathy" Lusk
Age: 45
Occupation: Certified Property Manager, CPM, Big Spring Mall
Boards or committees on which you have served: Big Spring Area Chamber of



Commerce 2003-2005, special committees; Big Spring Main Street, Vice President 2004, board member 2003; Junior Achievement of West Texas program chair; Howard County Master Gardeners, former president; Keep Big Spring Beautiful; Big Spring Housing Authority Board of Directors; Big Spring Rotary Board 1999-2003; Big Spring Planning and Zoning, commissioner 1993-1999.

The Questions

1. As the need for a new county jail looms on the horizon, the ability and method to pay for a new facility is one of many questions on voters' minds. How would you propose to finance a new jail with an estimated price tag of \$6 million?

Crooker: There are three methods of financing our county jail. One, by calling for a bond election by the voters of Howard County—the ballot would show the dollar amount of bonds to be issued. Two, the county could issue certificates of obligation without an election but the voters could call for an election by a signed petition of 10 percent of qualified voters from the last general election. Three, lease purchase method by which an outside corporation builds the jail and leases it to the county. I would favor which ever method is least costly for the county.

Lusk: The issue of building a new jail has been a matter of consideration several times

over the past 10 years. Many aspects of the inmate population could be addressed before the county makes a financial commitment of that magnitude. There is a growing number of younger offenders. Youth tours of the county jail facility could be utilized as a deterrent to crime for this age group. Perhaps Big Spring can develop vocational training opportunities for at-risk in the 9th-12th grades to learn a trade. This would increase our workforce instead of our inmate population while providing alternatives to our area young people.

2. While many Texas counties have been able to make a profit by housing other area's inmates, do you feel it's in the best interests of the county to "over build" a jail in hopes of attracting outside dollars?

Crooker: I am apprehensive on over-building in hopes of attracting outside inmates. There is an element of gambling inherent with this idea. However, I do feel we should survey the needs of other counties within a 100 mile radius. This information would be essential if a decision to over-build were to be made.

Lusk: There is already a number of options for inmate housing available to West Texas counties. Upton County has a new facility and Midland has open space. While it may be possible to "rent" space to other counties, there should be a comparable market study to determine the needs of West

Texas for outsourcing inmates. Also, we might explore combining several neighboring counties into one facility that is capable of serving six counties rather than one. This would allow counties to share the burden and the rewards of one large of one large regional jail. The current "overcrowding" has only really been a problem for the past 12 to 18 months.

3. The county budget has grown increasingly lean over the past several years, with the 2004 budget shortfall near the \$1 million mark. How do you propose to turn this trend around?

Crooker: By seeking to maximize our revenues and minimize our expenses. An example of increasing revenues is the recent court collections department which I helped to establish. We believe it eventually will bring over \$200,000 new dollars to the county on an annual basis. Each year, during the budget period, the commissioners court should make a concentrated effort to meet with each elected official and department head to carefully scrutinize their budgets to make every effort to reduce or eliminate expenses.

Lusk: For 2004, the budget is very close. Each department in the county is doing a very good job of curtailing expenses. This will have a positive effect at the end of the year. In the coming years our tax values may continue to decline. One way to help bring in more revenue is to bring more tax paying indus-

try, businesses and residents to Howard County. There are two ways to balance a budget — cut expenses or increase income. We are nearly at the limit of cutting expenses without trimming services. This is a tough situation that most West Texas counties face right now.

4. What quality do you feel you can bring to the commissioners court that sets you apart from the rest of the candidates?

Crooker: I will bring to the court many years of actual on-the-job experience as a county commissioner. I have a working knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of county commissioners and other elected officials and department heads. Through my Ports-to-Plains Board membership I have worked closely with legislators at the state and federal level. I will devote myself full-time to promote efficiency and economy in our county government for the next four years.

Lusk: For seven years I have been attending the commissioners' court meetings on a regular basis. During this time I have learned how the county operates. I realize the effort and hard work of the commissioners. My devotion to this community over the last 12 years is evident in many areas. I am ready to do the task at hand. With fairness, commitment, honesty and hard work, I believe that I can represent Howard County with a bright and positive attitude.

Howard County Peace Justice, Pct 1, Place 1 Democratic Primary

The Candidates

Name: Phillip Bustamante
Questionnaire was not returned

Name: Donna K. Gamboa
Age: 45
Occupation: Business owner, San Franciscan Bar and Grill



Specialized certifications or training pertaining to the office of JP: Business owner, legal office manager, paralegal and notary public (by exam in California and by application in Texas).

The Questions

1. What do you feel is the greatest threat facing Howard County going into 2005, and what do you propose to combat it?
Gamboa: The local econ-

omy! Privately, I am involved in developing the downtown area of Big Spring within my own personal abilities and resources. I believe that the younger persons of this town are the future of growth and development. In any dynamic and vibrant town or city, the younger individuals are what makes the economy move progressively. Younger persons, with children, create the economy, federal money for education, programs for housing, creating more jobs in the process, thereby providing the very same system that is intended to provide for the elderly citizens, those disabled or retired.

2. What quality do you feel you can bring to the office of Justice of the Peace that sets you apart from the rest of the candidates?

Gamboa: I am a person of good character, integrity, honesty and enthusiasm. I am a business owner, a legal office man-

ager since 1996, from telephone calls to creating budgets and financial responsibilities, plus a paralegal during that time with extensive work training, 30 hours initially major areas of California law and currently in a paralegal program here. I was a notary public in California and currently a notary public in Texas. I believe the combined experience provide the necessary foundation for being an outstanding justice of the peace.

3. With the county struggling with a major budgetary shortfall, what do you feel the Justice of the Peace's office can do to help trim the budget?

Gamboa: The commissioners are responsible for creating a budget, which means all officials should work with them, provide important information from each department, to make the right decisions. Individually, the JP's office needs to communicate, coordinate

and facilitate the services within each precinct for efficiency. Quality control measures should be in place, and creating the

best possible data for the commissioners to make a budget that will work. If elected I will present such ideas to the commission-

ers in order to work toward a realistic budget and a progressive outlook for the 21st century. I do seek your votes!

GET OUT THE VOTE!

BARNES

Continued from Page 1A

in the March 9 primary. With his announcement to pull out of the race, Barnes joins Lee Gibson, R-Dumas, and Don Sparks, R-Midland, in the list of candidate dropouts.

The Odessa restaurant owner cited limited time and resources, as well as the massive voter turnout in the Amarillo area, as his reasons for resigning from the race.

Race front-runners Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, who took the election and subsequent runoff in the race for the unexpired term for the office, and Kirk Edwards, R-Odessa, are expected to go head-to-head during the primary once again.

Candidate Jesse Quackenbush, R-Amarillo, remains in the race despite the fact he garnered less than 3 percent of the vote during the Jan. 20 special election.

Despite having left the race, Barnes, Gibson and Sparks will be on the ballot.

Elaine King Miller of the Democratic Primary Amarillo is unopposed in for the senate seat.

FOR THE RECORD

HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATE'S RECORDS

ON FILE WITH TCLEOSE IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

	DEMOCRAT WALKER	DEMOCRAT RANGEL
CURRENTLY LICENSED PEACE OFFICER?	YES	NO
TOTAL TCLEOSE TRAINING HOURS	1,903	160
YEARS AS FULL TIME PEACE OFFICER	19	2 1/2
YEARS EXPERIENCE AS SHERIFF	3	0

HOURS AND TRAINING ARE BASED ON 2004 RECORDS WITH TEXAS COMMISSION LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS STANDARDS AND EDUCATION, AUSTIN TX

PD POL AD BY DALE WALKER, DR. MELANIE SHEETS TREAS., 1611 BOBBY RD. BIG SPRING TX

FEB 22 2004

Howard County ballots for March 9 elections

Republican Primary

Presidential

George W. Bush

U.S. Rep. District 19

Randy Neugebauer

Railroad Commissioner

Douglas G. Deffenbaugh
Victor G. Carrillo
Robert Butler
K. Dale Henry

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3

Harriet O'Neill

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5

Steven Wayne Smith
Paul Green

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9

Scott Brister

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2

Lawrence "Larry" Meyers

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5

Patricia Noble
Cheryl Johnson

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6

Michael E. Keasler
Steven M. Porter

State Senator District 31

Bob Barnes

Kirk Edwards

Jesse Quackenbush
Kel Seliger]Don Sparks
Lee Gibson

State Rep. District 85

Kent Sharp

District Attorney, 118th Judicial District

Hardy L. Wilkerson

County Attorney

C.E. (Mike) Thomas III

County Sheriff

Ronald Allen

County Tax Assessor-Collector

Kathy A. Sayles

County Commissioner, Precinct 1

Don Taylor

County Commissioner, Precinct 3

Kathy Lusk
W.B. "Bill" Crooker

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 1

Bennie J. Green

Constable, Precinct 1

Boyce Hayle

County Chairman

Margarita Durand-Hollis

Democratic Primary

President

Dick Gephardt
Randy Crow
Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.
Dennis J. Kucinich
Al Sharpton
Howard Dean
John Edwards
Joe Liberman
John F. Kerry
Wesley K. Clark

U.S. Rep., District 19

Charles W. Stenholm

Railroad Commissioner

Bob Scarborough

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9

David Van Os

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6

J.R. Molina

State Senator, District 31

Elaine King Miller

State Rep. District 85

James E. "Pete" Laney

Sheriff

Willie Rangel Jr.
Dale L. Walker

County Commissioner,

Precinct No. 1

Emma Puga Brown
Yolanda Mendoza

County Commissioner,

Precinct No. 3

James (Dick) Dubose

Justice of the Peace,

Precinct 1, Place 1

Donna K. Gamboa
Phil Bustamante

Constable, Precinct 1

T.E. (Junior) Trevino Jr.

Constable, Precinct 2

Mark Winn

County Chairman

Wayne Burns

Resolutions:

For or against any efforts to end or
privatize Social Security and
medicare programs.For
AgainstFor or against a constitutional
amendment protecting taxpayers
by prohibiting state mandates that
require local property tax increas-
es.For
Against

VOTING

Continued from Page 1A

party if there's a runoff election. You can't change parties at that point. Once we get to the November election, everyone will be on the same ballot, so it really won't matter then."

Once you get to the polls, Wright said you need to make sure you have proper identification to get you in and out of the polling place as quickly as possible.

"The best thing to have with you is your blue voter registration card," advised Wright. "If you come in with your old voter registration card, you'll have to show some identification along with it. If you don't have either one of the cards, make sure you have your driver's license or something else that will identify you and show your home address."

While the County Clerk's Office employees continue to race around preparing for early voting in the primaries, Wright said she's hopeful area voters will do their civic duty and cast their ballots.

"I think when your local candidates are out working, people are more apt to come out and vote," she said. "When they know someone local is depending on them, they're more likely to come out. I'm hoping the numbers will stay up, but we'll just have to wait and see."

Early voting ends March 5.

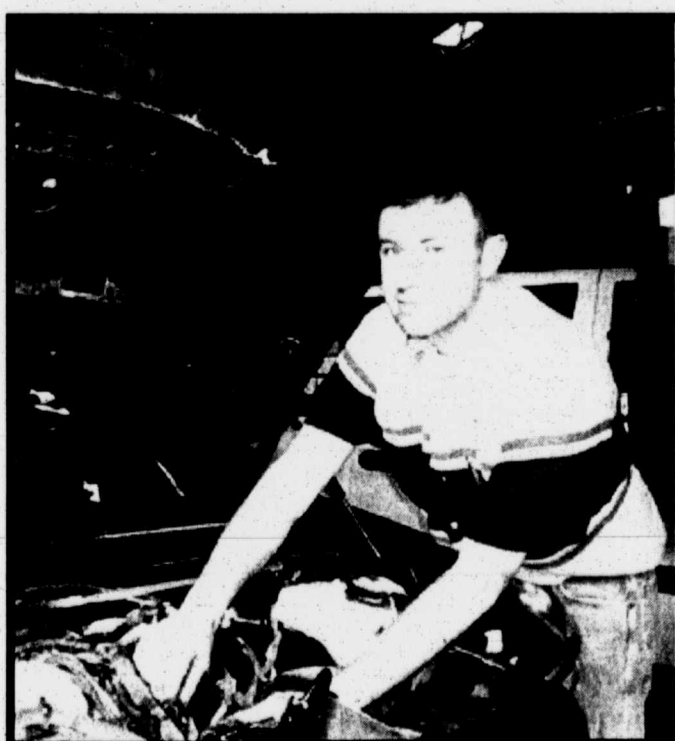
Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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INCLUDING TORQUE CONVERTER
Goodwrench Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 03-31-04.

RADIATOR COOLANT FLUSH
REG. COOLANT \$137.12
DEX-COOL \$147.04
FLUSH ENTIRE SYSTEM
INCLUDING BLOCK-CHECK HOSES
Goodwrench Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 03-31-04.

AIR CONDITION SPECIAL
\$32.50
SYSTEM PERFORMANCE TEST
INSPECT HOSES & LINES
FREON EXTRA IF NEEDED
Goodwrench Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 03-31-04.



Goodwrench

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We accept

TEXAS

Reason why wo

HOUSTON (AP) — A care center and a of her young chi But the Beaum row for killing a summer after sh Authorities cor "That whole as as to why she a Radford said Fri tenced to death Authorities ha ing to make sure was raising — b knew she had ch

Republicans lea

AUSTIN (AP) — defensive Friday improprieties by

Incum

AUSTIN (AP) — first statewide after one c Legislature's mos ly partisan sessio Democratic Republican incu facing challenge may use voting on tort reform to legal scandals ba to oust them.

The March 9 ba tures 50 primary with most of the fighting expected Democrats.

"That's pretty traditional Dem thing. They do along on a regula said veteran polit sultant Tony Prof was an aide to Democratic Lt. G Bullock. "Party has always taken seat to personal p In the most con races, both Demo Republican incu who supported backed bill to lim tary awards in civ ity lawsuits, face tion within their ties.

The bill capped awards for pain a fering at \$250, physicians, \$250 hospitals, and \$25 nursing homes an institutions for a mum of \$750,0 claimant.

Forsan

HERALD Staff Re

The Forsan High band walked aw 17 Division I aw the Regional So Ensemble Contest Monahans Feb. 7.

"This competitio the students a ch excel as individua small groups an improve their m ship," said band Jim Rhodes.

Earning Divisio ings were: Soloist Barraza, Crystal and Kayla Spee flute; Michael Day saxophone; Eric Levi Johnson Jonathan Moore c trombone; Kyle B euphonium; Kyle and Kandis Snow tuba; and Seth J on snare drum.

Ensemblelist re Divisions I rating Carlee Barraza, McNew and Eggleston for flu Kim Berry, Kayla and Samantha Fl trumpet trio; Epley, Angie Pa

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TEXAS IN BRIEF

Reason why woman abandoned babies unclear

HOUSTON (AP) — Kenisha Berry worked in a day-care center and seemed to be a loving mother to three of her young children.

But the Beaumont woman is heading to Texas' death row for killing a newborn who was linked to her last summer after she dumped another baby in a ditch.

Authorities continue to wonder why.

"That whole aspect of the case was rather cloudy — as to why she actually did it," prosecutor Wendell Radford said Friday, a day after Berry, 26, was sentenced to death.

Authorities have wondered whether Berry was trying to make sure the father of the three children she was raising — born in 1994, 1996 and 2000 — never knew she had children with two other men.

Republicans leaders defend Craddick, TRMPAC

AUSTIN (AP) — State GOP leaders went on the defensive Friday, calling an investigation into alleged improprieties by Republicans in the November 2002

election a "fishing expedition" and "witchhunt."

The Travis County District Attorney's office this week issued nine subpoenas, including one for House Speaker Tom Craddick, to provide documents related to the speaker's election to a grand jury next week in connection with an ongoing investigation into the 2002 election.

"I certainly haven't seen anything that would cause me to think anything illegal was going on," Gov. Rick Perry said, calling the investigation by Democratic DA Ronnie Earle a "fishing expedition."

The state's Republican Party chairwoman, Tina Benkiser, also called the investigation a "witchhunt." "Democrats are still furious at the people of Texas for entrusting Republicans with leadership of state government, and since their party cannot win at the ballot box, they will try to smear Republicans in any way possible," Benkiser said.

Arizona picks prisons in Oklahoma, Texas

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona plans to ship more than 2,000 prisoners to two privately operated prisons in Oklahoma and Texas to relieve crowding here, the Corrections Department said Friday.

Corrections Director Dora Schirio on Friday pro-

posed awarding contracts to send 1,200 prisoners to Diamondback Correctional Facility in Watonga, Okla., and 864 prisoners to the Reeves County Detention Center in Pecos, Texas.

Arizona plans to use the two out-of-state prisons for about a year to provide the state with breathing room until facilities in Arizona are expanded.

The 2,160-bed Diamondback prison is owned and operated by Nashville, Tenn.-based Corrections Corp. of America. The 3,000-bed Reeves County facility is owned by Reeves County and operated by Wackenhut Corrections Corp., based in Boca Raton, Fla.

SMU students expelled over hazing incident

DALLAS (AP) — Southern Methodist University has expelled four students who were involved in hazing that seriously injured a student and has permanently banned their fraternity from campus.

A University Judicial Council appellate board ruled Friday that Cornelius Smith, a senior, and juniors Brandon Perry-Russell, Ekbert Parker and Byron Sanders violated SMU's code of conduct. Braylon Curry, a pledge with Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, went into a coma in November after being forced to consume large amounts of water.

Incumbents face tough primaries after legislative session

AUSTIN (AP) — The first statewide primary after one of the Legislature's most bitterly partisan sessions finds Democratic and Republican incumbents facing challengers who may use voting records on tort reform to sex and legal scandals back home to oust them.

The March 9 ballot features 50 primary battles, with most of the heaviest fighting expected among Democrats.

"That's pretty much a traditional Democratic thing. They don't get along on a regular basis," said veteran political consultant Tony Proffitt, who was an aide to the late Democratic Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock. "Party politics has always taken a back seat to personal politics."

In the most contentious races, both Democrat and Republican incumbents who supported a GOP-backed bill to limit monetary awards in civil liability lawsuits, face opposition within their own parties.

The bill capped lawsuit awards for pain and suffering at \$250,000 for physicians, \$250,000 for hospitals, and \$250,000 for nursing homes and other institutions for a maximum of \$750,000 per claimant.

"I believe the sole purpose behind these challenges is to punish these legislators for their support of tort reform," said Matt Welch, director of Texans for Lawsuit Reform's political action committee.

A prime example is a race in the Houston where incumbent Rep. Joe Nixon, the bullish Republican who championed tort reform bill in the House, faces Houston attorney Rick Plezia, Nixon's first primary opponent since 1994.

"Rick Plezia is a virtual unknown in the Republican Party and he's an associate at a Houston personal injury law firm," Welch said. "Unbelievably, Rick Plezia has found these finances to dump thousands of mail pieces into House District 133. We suspect this is a high priority race for the Texas Trial Lawyer's Association and the plaintiff's bar."

Plezia, a rookie candidate who jokingly refers to Nixon's bill as "tort reform," said his campaign focuses on education and reducing homeowners' insurance costs.

He said he's a member of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, which backs some incum-

bent challengers, because he's an attorney, even though most of his work in federal maritime law.

The association "hasn't endorsed me. I don't think I would take their endorsement," Plezia said, expecting an attack on the tort reform issue from Nixon's campaign. "I'm not backed by any special interest. I've always wanted to run for office. I just thought this would be a good time to do it."

Nixon, also an attorney, doesn't seem worried. "When you take strong positions, sometimes they elicit strong opposition," Nixon said. "You also elicit strong support."

Willie Chapman, a spokesman for the trial lawyers association, wouldn't comment on the group supporting challengers in retribution to the tort reform bill, except to say he would let the group's contributions "speak for themselves."

The trial lawyers gave former state legislator David Bernsen's campaign \$50,000, according to the state Ethics Commission Web site. Bernsen, who gave up his Senate seat to run for Land Commissioner, challenges Rep. Allan Ritter, a Nederland Democrat, in a Houston district.

No other contributions by the group this year were found on the state Web site, but individual trial lawyers may have made contributions to challengers' campaigns on behalf of the association.

Texans for Lawsuit Reform cite two other races where Democrats who supported tort reform face party opponents.

Alma Allen, a member of the State Board of Education, opposes Rep. Ron Wilson in another Houston district.

Democratic Party Chairman Charles Soechting has endorsed Allen, while Republican House Speaker Tom

Craddick has attended fund raisers for Wilson.

"I think a lot of people have been disappointed for a long time in Ron Wilson," Soechting said. "The bottom line is he was in the speakers' camp."

Wilson did not return repeated calls from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Wilson aligned himself early with Craddick after the GOP's takeover of the Capitol after the 2002 elections and was rewarded with a committee chairmanship last year. Wilson was one of the only Democrats who did not go to Ardmore, Okla., to block a vote on the Republican-led redistrict-

ing legislation last May.

Craddick also has attended fund raisers for Democrats Glenn Lewis of Fort Worth and Roberto Gutierrez of McAllen. Gutierrez supported tort reform. Lewis also joined Craddick's leadership team after the Democrats lost control of the House. Both face primary challengers.

Craddick spokesman Bob Richter said the speaker is "not actively campaigning to get rid of any House incumbent. He's attending Democratic fund-raisers, when he can and when's he asked."

Proffitt said Craddick is probably looking to build loyalty in the House.



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HERALD Staff Report

The Forsan High School band walked away with 17 Division I awards at the Regional Solo and Ensemble Contest held in Monahans Feb. 7.

"This competition gives the students a chance to excel as individual and in small groups and help improve their musicianship," said band director Jim Rhodes.

Earning Division I ratings were: Soloists Carlee Barraza, Crystal McNew and Kayla Spence on flute; Michael Day on alto saxophone; Eric Ellis, Levi Johnson and Jonathan Moore on tenor trombone; Kyle Briggs on euphonium; Kyle Bailey and Kandis Snowden on tuba; and Seth Johnson on snare drum.

Ensemble receiving Divisions I ratings were: Carlee Barraza, Crystal McNew and Kayley Eggleston for flute trio; Kim Berry, Kayla Nichols and Samantha Flores for trumpet trio; Justin Epley, Angie Pace and

Amber Humphrey for trumpet trio; Tim Ballard, Bobby Roy and Justin Stilwell for trombone trio; Eric Ellis, Levi Johnson and Jonathan Moore for trombone trio; and Ross Berry, Kyle Briggs and Dawnia Burney for euphonium trio.

Earning Division II ratings were: Soloists Ruth Kaelin and Grace Walker for flute; and Kayla Nichols on trumpet.

Ensemble earning a Division II rating were: Michelle Hanline, Karmin King, Melissa Marlow and Bruce Lopez earned a Division II for saxophone quartet; and Ruth Kaelin, Kayla Spence and Grace Walker for flute trio.

Students earning a Division I rating qualified to attend the state UIL solo and ensemble contest held in San Marcos at the end of May.

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Moral victory for Iran reformers

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's hard-line Islamic rulers claimed Saturday that voters dealt reformers a decisive blow with a strong turnout in disputed parliament elections, but partial returns suggested the pro-reform boycott had an impact.

With the votes tallied from more than half of Iran's 207 districts, the turnout was about 40 percent, the Interior Ministry said. If the trend holds, it would be a noticeable drop from the 67.2 percent in the last parliament elections in 2000.

It also would be a significant moral victory for reformers, who urged a boycott after more than 2,400 of their backers were barred from running, and would strengthen their drive for more openness and accountability from the all-powerful theocracy.

Rajab Ali Mazroufi, a leading member of the pro-reform Islamic Participation Front, predicted turnout of between 30 percent and 40 percent. But he conceded that hard-liners would take control of parliament.

Schwarzenegger wades into same-sex issue

BURLINGAME, Calif. (AP) — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger waded deeper into the debate over same-sex marriages, directing the state attorney general to take immediate legal steps to stop San Francisco from granting marriage licenses to gay couples.

Schwarzenegger told a cheering crowd at the state GOP convention that "in San Francisco, the courts are dropping the ball."

"It's time for the city to stop traveling down this dangerous path of ignoring the rule of law. That's my message to San Francisco," he said Friday night.

Schwarzenegger's directive to Attorney General Bill Lockyer was prompted in part by a judge's decision not to impose a temporary restraining order that would have halted San Francisco's weeklong parade of 3,175 same-sex weddings, said Rob Stutzman, Schwarzenegger's communications director.

Lockyer, an elected Democrat who is a potential candidate in the 2006 governor's race, has said he plans to

vigorously defend state laws barring gay marriage.

Gold Rush-era residents find resting place

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco has finally found a resting place for the remains of nearly 100 Gold Rush-era residents unearthed three years ago during construction of the Asian Art Museum.

Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Colma, a small city with 17 cemeteries just south of San Francisco, has offered to take the remains of 97 men, women and children who were originally buried in the city's first public cemetery — now the site of City Hall, the museum and the new city library. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to vote on the move next week.

Some city leaders are worried that museum visitors, especially those with Buddhist or Taoist beliefs, will stay away when they learn that the deceased still haven't been properly buried. Over the past three years, the remains — mostly fragments of bones, clothing and jewelry — have been stored in boxes in the basement of the coroner's office.

"I have never set foot in the museum. I'm uncomfortable because the dead haven't been taken care of," said Chinatown activist Rose Pak. "If people were told about it, I'm sure lots of people would have second thoughts about going in."

Rovers continue combing Red Planet

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Spirit rover laboriously gouged a trench in the martian soil and its twin Opportunity rolled off to peer at a rock dubbed "El Capitan", as the robots continued to hunt for signs that the Red Planet was once wet enough to support life.

On its 47th day since landing, Spirit spent two hours running a front wheel back and forth over a stretch of ground in a depression. The rover tried to scuff away surface dust and expose soil that could be far more ancient.

Spirit had to work twice as long as Opportunity did earlier when it dug 3.5 to 3.9 inches deep in loose sand on the other side of the planet.

"The soil at her location was apparently firmer than at Opportunity's site," said Jim Erickson, mission manager for Opportunity, during a teleconference

Friday from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

Bush appoints Pryor to appeal's court

WASHINGTON (AP) — After three years of watching Senate Democrats block his judicial nominees, President Bush trumped them for the second time this year by installing Alabama Attorney General William Pryor on the federal appeals court.

The move infuriated Democrats, who now may be even less likely to cooperate with the White House on getting judicial nominees through the closely divided Senate in an election year.

"Regularly circumventing the advise and consent process is not the way to change the tone in Washington," Sen. Charles Schumer, a Democrat from New York, said.

Bush on Friday gave Pryor an almost two-year stint on the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, calling him a "leading American lawyer" and saying Democrats had used "unprecedented obstructionist tactics" last year to stop him and five other nominees.

Pryor's chances didn't look any better this year, with Democrats already saying they plan to invoke a Senate tradition that only non-controversial nominees are approved during an election year.

Baring breast crass, public says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most Americans think the exposure of Janet Jackson's right breast during the Super Bowl halftime show was crass, but few believe it's a federal case.

An Associated Press poll found 54 percent of those surveyed said they thought the act, in which singer Justin Timberlake snatched off part of Jackson's bustier and revealed her breast to millions of television viewers was bad taste. Only 18 percent thought it was an illegal act.

The Federal Communications Commission is investigating whether the broadcast violated federal indecency laws.

According to the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos-Public Affairs, the FCC ought to spend its time on other things.

Nearly 80 percent of respondents said it's a waste of money to investigate.

Friend recounts rape victim's search for morning-after pill

DENTON (AP) — A woman who was attacked and raped got the emergency contraception she was prescribed by a hospital doctor, but only after visiting four different pharmacies.

Two pharmacies did not have the so-called morning-after pill in stock. Pharmacists at an Eckerd drug store declined to fill her prescription. She finally got the pills at a Walgreens store, hours after she left an emergency room.

The medication is at least 75 percent effective at preventing pregnancy if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse.

The woman declined to speak with The Associated Press, but a friend who drove her to the pharmacies spoke on condition that he remain anonymous to protect her identity.

The man drove her first to the Drug Emporium where she usually gets her prescriptions filled, but that pharmacist told her they were out of the medication. They tried a pharmacy at an Albertson's grocery store and got the same answer.

"At this point, my friend started breaking down," her friend said. "I finally went up to the pharmacist and said, 'Look, will you please find a pharmacy that does have this in stock so we don't have to drive all over creation?'"

The pharmacist sent them to an Eckerd store.

The woman was so upset at that point that her friend went into the store for her, he said. About 25 minutes later, pharmacist Gene Herr asked the man to come up to the window.

He told him the store had the pills in stock, but none of the three pharmacists who were there would fill her prescription.

He cited religious convictions, saying the medication could kill the embryo if the woman already had conceived.

"It sort of hit me like a ton of bricks," the woman's friend said. "I was outraged beyond anything I'd ever experienced before in my life."

After some heated words, the friend took the woman across the street to a Walgreens, where he said she told the pharmacist, "Let's cut to the chase. Do you have this pill in stock and will you fill it?" The pharmacist filled the prescription

within five minutes.

The woman did not get pregnant, and she is now focused on healing her emotional scars, her friend said.

He said women like his friend are victimized twice when they are raped and then have to face pharmacists who preach to them instead of giving them a drug a doctor has legally prescribed.

One alternative is Planned Parenthood, said Kathryn Allen, a spokeswoman for the group's North Texas office. Women can receive emergency contraception prescriptions or get prescriptions filled at Planned Parenthood clinics, she said.

Still, pharmacists should never refuse to help a woman, especially a rape victim, Allen said.

"To be turned away by a health care provider, in my opinion, she has to believe that sexual assault," Allen said.

Red Cross visits Saddam

Red Cross Visits Saddam for First Time

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The international Red Cross visited Saddam Hussein in jail for the first time Saturday, and the ousted dictator wrote a letter to his family that will be delivered once the United States confirms it does not contain any hidden messages to his followers.

The announcement of the visit came after the U.S. administrator in Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, cited U.N. estimates that it may take 15 months to arrange elections — far longer than demanded by leading Iraqi politicians.

The two-member International Committee of the Red Cross delegation, which included a doctor, spoke to Saddam privately at an undisclosed location in Iraq, spokeswoman Nada Doumani said. The announcement dispelled rumors the Americans had spirited Saddam out of the country following

his Dec. 13 capture in a hole near Tikrit.

"The aim of this visit is to track and monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of the detainee," Doumani said from Amman, Jordan. "We want to see whether he is getting enough food and water and also to check his health condition and to give him the possibility to write a message to his family — which he did."

The visit was arranged

after the Pentagon formally declared Saddam a prisoner of war last month because of his status as commander in chief of Iraq's military. As a POW, Saddam is entitled under the Geneva Conventions to certain rights, including visits by the international Red Cross and freedom from coercion of any kind during interrogations.

The international Red Cross made no statement about Saddam's health.

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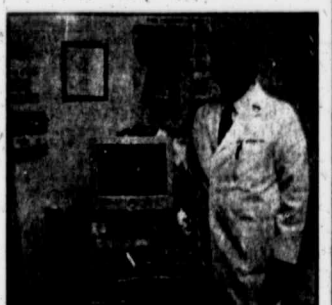
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Sp
Villarreal

By BRANDON HALL

Special to the Herald

Big Spring School District Superintendent Robert Villarreal has a ticket to Boston. A job full of the streets, frequent breaks and miles of pavement.

A 26-mile job to Villarreal earned compete in the Marathon recent turned in a stellar Motorola Marathon

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By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

BROWNFIELD

Hoch and the G. Kats went into 'Sheryl Swooper' wrote a legacy Friday night at High School gym.

That legacy is City is moving just going home.

Hoch pumped 12 points and L. Amanda Hensel more en route to the Lady Kats p come-from-behind Lorenzo in a Cl off showdown.

Garden City a third round for in three years.

"It was a tough said Garden C. Brent Kirkland proud of the regrouped and We started a didn't attack the got going son stepped it up."

Hoch was am dering the load as Lorenzo mad GCHS senior p her points in minutes and Kats ride out minute score enabled the L erase a 12-point "This was a said senior Ar played really getting back everyone. Dur timeouts, coach See AREA, Page

Grady's Jason P Villegas during the Rip Griffin C

Villarreal plans to skip Boston Marathon to watch tennis

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Independent School District Assistant Superintendent Rey Villarreal has a ticket to a new job in Boston. A job full of running the streets, frequent water breaks and miles and miles of pavement.

A 26-mile job to be exact.

Villarreal earned the right to compete in the Boston Marathon recently when he turned in a stellar outing at the Motorola Marathon held in

Austin. Villarreal, who raced against more than 6,000 competitors, finished in a time of 3 hours, 22 minutes and 9 seconds.

The time was more than exceeded the requirements needed to compete in Boston — arguably one of the most popular marathons in the United States.

The 2004 Boston Marathon is scheduled for April 19.

Villarreal may bypass this year's race, however, to watch someone else compete — his youngest daughter Veronica.



R. VILLARREAL



V. VILLARREAL

"I may not run in Boston this year," he said. "Hopefully, my daughter will be in the regional tennis tournament that weekend. To me, that is more impor-

tant."

Veronica Villarreal is one of Big Spring High School's top tennis players heading into the spring. She helped carry the BSHS team tennis team to the regional tournament this past fall.

Villarreal said he was happy with his performance at the Austin race.

"I am really pleased at my time," he said. "I ran with the 3:15 pace group until the 23rd mile, then they started to pull away."

Villarreal just missed an

opportunity to qualify for the annual Patriots' Day race in Boston. He finished just three seconds short of the time needed to qualify for the event during December's Whiterock Marathon held in Dallas.

Perhaps Veronica will get the opportunity to watch her father compete against the world's top marathon runners. The time he posted in Austin earned him an 18-month qualification to the Boston Marathon.

"It's good for 18 months," he said. "There is always next year."

Keepin' on keepin' on

Garden City mows down Lorenzo, moves into 3rd round

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

BROWNFIELD — Jessica Hoch and the Garden City Lady Kats went into "The House that Sheryl Swoopes Built" and wrote a legacy of their own Friday night at the Brownfield High School gymnasium.

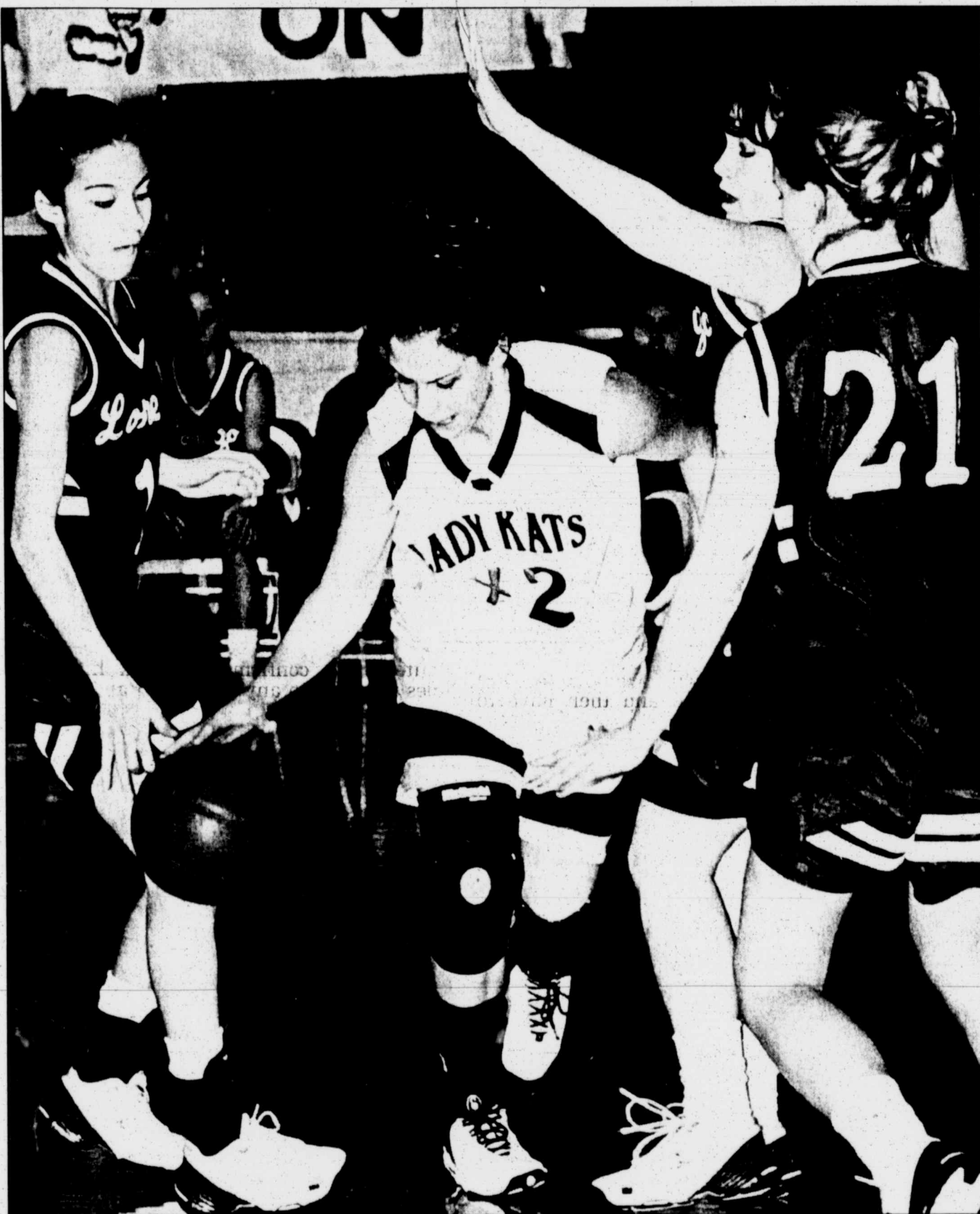
That legacy is simple: Garden City is moving on. Lorenzo's just going home.

Hoch pumped in a game-high 12 points and Leslie Jansa and Amanda Henson added eight more en route to helping carry the Lady Kats pound out a 38-32 come-from-behind victory over Lorenzo in a Class A area playoff showdown. With the win, Garden City advances to the third round for the second time in three years.

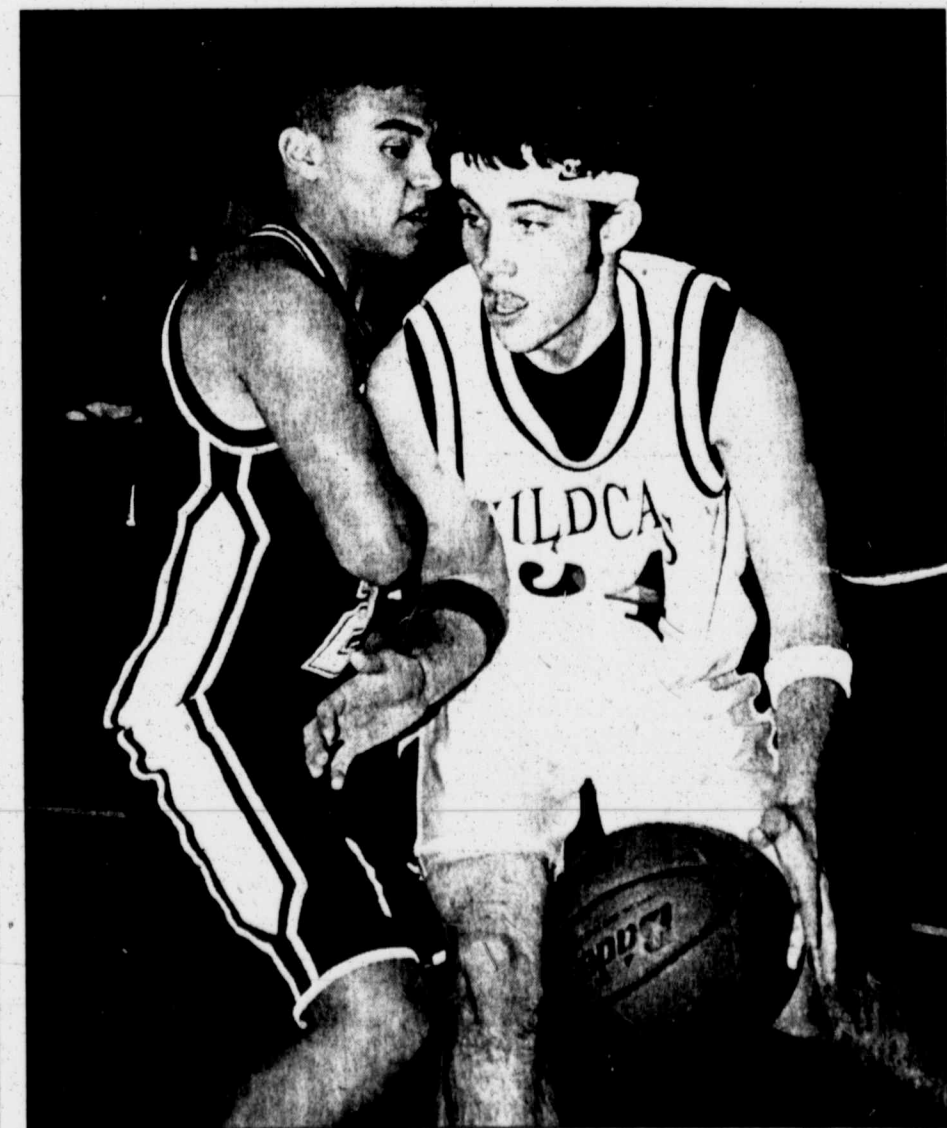
"It was a tough win for us," said Garden City head coach Brent Kirkland. "I was really proud of the way the girls regrouped and hung in there. We started a little timid and didn't attack them but once we got going some of the girls stepped it up."

Hoch was among those shouldering the load down the stretch as Lorenzo made a late run. The GCHS senior poured in six of her points in the final eight minutes and helped the Lady Kats ride out a rough six-minute scoreless stretch that enabled the Lady Hornets to erase a 12-point deficit.

"This was a big win for us," said senior Anna Flores. "We played really well on defense, getting back-side help from everyone. During one of the timeouts, coach told us to 'keep



Garden City junior Megan Niehues dribbles between three Lorenzo defenders during the first quarter of the Lady Kats' 38-32 area playoff win Friday in Brownfield. With the win, the Lady Kats advance to the third round of the Class A state playoffs to face Smyer.



Grady's Jason Pribyla attempts to drive past the block of Lorenzo's Jacob Villegas during the first quarter of the Wildcats' 60-54 warm-up win at the Rip Griffin Center. Grady, 30-1, faces Rule Tuesday in Post.

No. 3 Wildcats weather Hornets' fourth-quarter surge in tune-up

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — Jason Pribyla scored 22 points and Brent Madison added 15 more Friday afternoon and helped the No. 3 Grady Wildcats claim a tough 60-54 win over the Lorenzo Hornets in a pre-playoff warmup bout at the Rip Griffin Center.

The Wildcats, who are scheduled to open the Class A, Division II playoffs Tuesday in Post against Rule, improved to 30-1 with the victory.

The Hornets grabbed the upper hand early in the contest. Lorenzo's Jacob Villegas highlighted a 6-0 start for LHS by burying a three-point shot from the wing just seconds into the affair.

It didn't take Grady long to answer back. After senior guard Trent May had knocked down a trey for the Wildcats' first points, Brent Madison highlighted an 8-0 spree than left the third-ranked Wildcats holding an 8-6 advantage.

Overall, Grady picked up baskets from five different players in the first and outscored

Lorenzo by a 12-2 clip over the final seven minutes to take a 12-8 cushion.

Madison and Villa lit up the Hornets defense in the second. The two accounted for all 15 of the Wildcats' second quarter offensive numbers by combining for five three-point shots.

Madison, who netted three from behind the arc in the frame, tallied 11 points in the first half.

Grady, the District 8-A, Division II champion in each of the last two years, held a 27-18 lead at the half.

Pribyla all but buried Lorenzo in the third. He scored 11 points in the initial eight points of the second half and helped the Wildcats build a 25-point advantage, at 47-22, with just over a minute left to play in the third.

Grady, which also pocketed third-quarter points from May and Madison, outscored Lorenzo by a 20-15 clip.

The Hornets regained some momentum in the closing seconds of the third. Villegas sparked a 7-0 run in the final 45 seconds by knocking down a

See GRADY, Page 12A

'Dogs take third in 3-2A

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

GREENWOOD — The Coahoma Bulldogs spotted the Crane Golden Cranes a 29-22 lead at the half before clawing their way back to knot the game at 42-42 all at the end of regulation.

Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, they were unable to get anything going in the extra frame and suffered a 50-48 overtime setback in the District 3-2A seeding playoff Tuesday night at the Greenwood High School gymnasium.

Crane, with the win, locked up the District 3-2A runners-up honors. Coahoma finished third in the loop race.

The Golden Cranes looked as if they would run away with the game early.



NICHOLS

Crane opened a 15-6 lead just six minutes into the contest.

Coahoma answered right back, however. The Bulldogs reeled off an impressive 7-2 run down the stretch to close the gap to 17-13 after the first eight minutes of play.

Tyler Fowler drew the Bulldogs to within one early in the second. The CHS sharpshooter drained a trey to make the score 19-18.

That was a little too close for comfort for the Cranes. Crane tore off a 10-4 run over the rest of the quarter to took the seven-point lead into the half.

See GRADY, Page 12A

Borden Co. advances; Grady falls

The Borden County Lady Coyotes scored 13 points in the fourth quarter Friday and rolled to a nail-biting 33-32 win over the Whitharral Lay Panthers in an area playoff game at Floydada High School.

With the victory, Borden County improves to 26-6 and now advances to face either Channing or Happy in the third round.

While Borden County was celebrating, rival Grady saw its season come to an end with a 51-43 loss to Spur Friday in Post.

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Herald Photo/Tommy Wells

Pride of the Lady Steers

The Big Spring Junior High School Lady Steers eighth grade A team closed out their 2003-2004 season recently against the Merkel Lady Badgers. Members of the squad are Jordan Chesworth, Lauren Sage, Desiree Yanez, Whitney Lewis, Lauren Bryant, Lydia Teichroeb, Danielle Jeter, Callie Partee, Maddy Hopkins, Amanda Caskey and Cassie Gwyn.

Dallas site for stadium would replace Cotton Bowl

DALLAS (AP) — A new Dallas Cowboys stadium proposal would replace the aging Cotton Bowl at Fair Park and return the team to the city that bears its name.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones had earlier urged the construction of a retractable-roof stadium as part of a \$1 billion, year-round entertainment

development to replace Texas Stadium in the Dallas suburb of Irving.

"It is important that they come up with a project that dovetails with the city's agenda," Dallas Mayor Laura Miller said Friday. "They told me they are seriously interested in going to Fair Park."

Cowboys officials said

they would study the option of building a Fair Park stadium, which would replace the Cotton Bowl where the annual Red River Shootout between The University of Texas and the University of Oklahoma has been held since 1929. The college teams had threatened to abandon the Cotton Bowl and start

rotating the game between Austin and Norman, Okla., if the State Fair of Texas, the city of Dallas and other private groups didn't come up with enough money and improvements to keep the game in Dallas.

Miller suggested the State Fair of Texas-area site Thursday.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 11A

One of the more telling statistics of the first half was the 17 turnovers committed by the Bulldogs.

"If we cut down the first half turnovers it is a totally different ball game," said Coahoma senior Kelby Kemper. "We are still in the playoffs but it would have been nice to go into them with a win."

The third quarter was about as ugly as getting a crane and Coahoma went ice cold from the floor during the frame. The two combined to convert just 4-of-24 attempts from the field.

With Crane holding a 31-26 lead, Kemper sliced into the Bulldogs' deficit. He sank a three-pointer to pull Coahoma to within a basket, at 31-29.

Crane's David Heredia answered right back. He knocked down a long-range bomb of his own to give the Cranes a five-point advantage heading into the fourth quarter. After Crane had pushed Crane lead to seven, Adrian Abrego brought the Bulldogs' offense to life. He ignited a 9-3 run that cut Crane's lead to one with just over three

minutes remaining.

Heredia, again, answered the call for the Cranes. The senior buried his third trey of the night and pushed the Golden Cranes' margin to 42-38.

Coahoma was able to pull even at 42-42 moments later when Kemper came up with a steal and found an open Trevor Bibb on the right side for a basket that forced the game into overtime.

"Trevor did a good job for us off the bench tonight," Coahoma head coach Kim Nichols. "I am really pleased with the way that the boys battled back."

With the score tied at 44 with 1:45 left in the overtime, Heredia fired off his most damaging shot of the night — draining a three-point shot that gave Crane a 47-44 advantage.

Coahoma pulled back to within one on their next possession, but that was as close as the Bulldogs were able to get. The Cranes found the shooting touch from the charity stripe over the final seconds, hitting 3-of-4 in the last 20 seconds to salt the game away.

Heredia led all scorers with 20 points. Kemper paced Coahoma with 18.

Sam Tindol, Abrego, and Fowler teamed up to score 21 points for the Bulldogs hitting the stat sheet for nine, seven, and five, respectively.

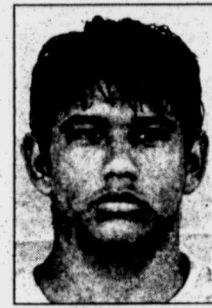
With the loss, the Bulldogs drop into the No. 3 seed and will face Lubbock Roosevelt Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Seminole.

Roosevelt defeated Coahoma last year in the first round.

Crane will advance to play New Deal in the first round of the Class 2A playoffs.



KEMPER



ABREGO

AREA

Continued from on keeping on thing would b And it was.

Hoch and F bined to straight free ti tunities in the play that er Lady Kats to 18-14 second-h Lorenzo.

Garden City for the year, point lead, at the fourth qua

Lorenzo quick Lady Kats' two, at 29-27, the final stan run. Junior g Thomas burie six-foot jumpe right baselin Garden City's a single baske left.

Hoch, one seniors on the ter, stepped there, sinking throws and an er from the ba the ensuing 1 the Lady Kats at the 2:34 m fourth.

She was far ished. Hoch Garden City le at 34-29, with free throw of t She earned a line when Lo forced to foul defensive rebound.

Lorenzo ser Nevarez cut Kats' lead to 1:58 left before Flores drove th into the LHS c

The Lady Ho a solid run ove 4:14 of the thir battle its way the contest. closed the thir run that cut Kats' lead to ei

It was enoug Kirkland to cal to calm his tea

"He just to relax," said Krystal Sulliva "You know you You know you them so relax like you can."

"I think we there that he t us and was g proud of us what. I think settled us down

Defensively, Kats forced six in the fourth q then, when Lo forced to foul l the clock, hit s attempts from throw line.

Garden City l

GRADY

Continued from F

three-point pl buzzer.

Grady carrie lead into the s final eight min contest.

Lorenzo con

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2002 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - White, all power, one owner w/38,000 miles. Was \$22,995. **SOLD**

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1999 Ford F250 Supercab XLT Powerstroke White, all power, short wheelbase, local one owner w/79,000 miles. Was \$19,995. **SOLD**

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2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Blue, cloth, clean, four wheel drive, 51,000 miles. Was \$13,995. **SOLD**

2001 Ford Explorer Sport 4-DR. XLT - White w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$15,995. **SOLD**

2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Red w/cloth, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$24,995. **SOLD**

2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer Edition - Red/tan, leather, one owner w/40,000 miles. Was \$22,995. **SOLD**

1999 GMC Suburban L.S. - Tan, dual air, all power. Was \$17,995. **SOLD**

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2002 Honda Gold Wing - Illusion Blue, cruise, AM/FM, like new, one owner w/4,300 miles. Was \$15,995. **SOLD**

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2003 Ford Windstar - All power, dual air/heat, all power, one owner w/18,000 miles. Was \$18,995. **SOLD**

2002 Ford E350 XLT 15 Passenger Powerstroke Diesel Van - White w/cloth, dual air/heat, all power, one owner w/26,000 miles. Was \$21,995. **SOLD**

2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, all power, one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$19,995. **SOLD**

★ ★ ★ VANS ★ ★ ★

2000 Mercury Villager Estate - All power, leather, dual air/heat, all power, local one owner w/34,000 miles. Was \$15,995. **SOLD**

1998 Mazda MPV - Red, all power, 56,000 miles. Was \$10,995. **SOLD**

1997 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - White, clean van. Was \$8,995. **SOLD**

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2002 Ford Mustang - Gray, 5 speed, air, CD, all power, one owner w/28,000 miles. Was \$15,995. **SOLD**

2002 Honda Accord LX 4-DR. - Silver, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$16,995. **SOLD**

2002 Pontiac Bonneville - All power, local one owner w/36,000 miles. Was \$15,995. **SOLD**

2002 Saturn I100 4-DR. - Silver, all power, one owner w/32,000 miles. Was \$10,995. **SOLD**

2002 Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder Convertible V-6 - Pearl white w/tan top, tan leather, all power, 5 speed, one owner w/24,000 miles. Was \$18,995. **SOLD**

2002 Ford Mustang GT - Red, leather, V-8, manual transmission, all power, local one owner w/5,700 miles. Was \$19,995. **SOLD**

2001 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Tan w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$14,995. **SOLD**

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2001 Lincoln L.S. - Blue, leather, V-8, one owner w/57,000 miles. Was \$22,995. **SOLD**

2001 Ford Crown Victoria L.S. - Silver, leather, one owner w/39,000 miles. Was \$14,995. **SOLD**

2000 Pontiac Bonneville SE 4-DR. - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/42,000 miles. Was \$12,995. **SOLD**

2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Tan w/leather, all power, locally owned w/29,000 miles. Was \$20,995. **SOLD**

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2000 Volkswagen Jetta GLS - Blue, all power, clean, one owner w/58,000 miles. Was \$12,995. **SOLD**

2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Silver w/leather, all power, local one owner w/36,000 miles. Was \$18,995. **SOLD**

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1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. Was \$13,995. **SOLD**

1999 Volkswagen New Beetle GLS - Turbocharged - Red w/black, leather, all power, local one owner w/35,000 miles. Was \$12,995. **SOLD**

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1997 Mercury Grand Marquis GS - White, all power, local one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$9,995. **SOLD**

1995 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Rose, leather, local one owner w/67,000 miles. Was \$7,995. **SOLD**

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AREA

Continued from Page 11A
on keeping on and everything would be okay."

And it was.
Hoch and Flores combined to sink four straight free throw opportunities in the final 1:32 of play that enabled the Lady Kats to weather an 18-14 second-half run by Lorenzo.

Garden City, now 26-4 for the year, took a six-point lead, at 29-23, into the fourth quarter.

Lorenzo quickly cut the Lady Kats' cushion to two, at 29-27, by opening the final stanza with a 6-0 run. Junior guard Dusti Thomas buried a short six-foot jumper from the right baseline to cut Garden City's cushion to a single basket with 5:19 left.

Hoch, one of five seniors on the GCHS roster, stepped up from there, sinking two free throws and an eight-footer from the baseline over the ensuing 1:25 to give the Lady Kats a 33-29 lead at the 2:34 mark of the fourth.

She was far from finished. Hoch built the Garden City lead to five, at 34-29, with her third free throw of the quarter. She earned a trip to the line when Lorenzo was forced to foul following a defensive rebound.

Lorenzo senior Lupe Nevarez cut the Lady Kats' lead to 34-30 with 1:58 left before Hoch and Flores drove the final nail into the LHS coffin.

The Lady Hornets used a solid run over the final 4:14 of the third quarter to battle its way back into the contest. Lorenzo closed the third with a 5-0 run that cut the Lady Kats' lead to eight.

It was enough to force Kirkland to call a timeout to calm his team.

"He just told us to relax," said junior Krystal Sullivan. "He said 'You know you are good. You know you can outdo them so relax and play like you can.'"

"I think we realized there that he believed in us and was going to be proud of us no matter what. I think that really settled us down."

Defensively, the Lady Kats forced six turnovers in the fourth quarter and then, when Lorenzo was forced to foul late to stop the clock, hit seven of 11 attempts from the free throw line.

Garden City looked as if



Garden City's Amanda Henson and Leslie Jansa celebrate the Lady Kats' 38-32 win Friday in Brownfield. Henson and Jansa both finished with eight points.

HERALD PHOTO/Tommy Wells

it would blow the game open in the initial four minutes of the second half. Amanda Henson and Megan Niehues led a 5-2 run in the opening minutes that ballooned the Lady Kats' lead to 13, at 29-16 with 4:15 left in the period.

Lorenzo could find enough Kryptonite to slow Jansa in the second quarter. The GCHS senior pumped in all eight of her points in the frame and spearheaded a 19-7 run that sent Garden City into the half clinging to a 24-14 lead.

"Leslie came out in the second and really established herself," said Kirkland. "She gave us a lift when we needed it and allowed us to regroup."

Sullivan came off the bench in the second to pick up Garden City's third three-point shot of the quarter. Jansa collect-

ed the other two.

Lorenzo held the upper hand at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Hornets, after falling behind by a 5-0 score, reeled off seven unanswered points in the first and took a slim 7-5 lead into the second.

Senior Brittany Robb led all Lorenzo scorers in the game with eight points. Thomas tallied seven.

With the win, Garden City advances to face Smyer next week at a site and time to be determined. Smyer ousted Stratford Tuesday by a 40-34 margin.

Class A Area Playoff Garden City 38, Lorenzo 32

Lorenzo 7 7 9 11 32
Garden City 5 19 5 9 38

Garden City — Jessica Hoch 2 7 8 12; Leslie Jansa 3 0 0 8; Amanda Henson 3 2 4 8; Megan Niehues 1 3 6 5; Anna Flores 0 2 3 2; Laura Plagens 0 0 2 0. Totals: 10-14-23 38.

Lorenzo — Brittany Robb 4 0 0 8; Dusti Thomas 2 2 3 7; Brittany Thomas 2 2 2 6; Lupe Nevarez 2 1 2 6. Totals: 10-5-7 38.

Three-pointers: Garden City 4 (Jansa 2, Hoch, Sullivan), Lorenzo 2 (D. Thomas, Nevarez). Fouled out: Robb.

points in the frame.

Class A Area Playoff Grady 60, Lorenzo 54

Lorenzo 8 10 15 22 54
Grady 12 15 20 13 60

Grady — Trent May 2 2 2 8; Brent Madison 6 0 0 15; Andrew Villa 3 0 0 8; Jason Prybyla 8 6 7 22; Nick Winford 1 2 2 4. Totals: 20-10-11 60.

Lorenzo — Jacob Villegas 6 3 3 17.

Three-pointers: Grady 7 (Madison 3, May 2, Villa 2); Lorenzo 2 (J. Villegas 2). Fouled out: None.

Note: Grady will face Rule in a Class A, Division II bi-district playoff Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Antelope Sports Center in Post.

Facing greatest of expectations, James has been better than billed

By DAVID MOORE

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS (KRT) — It hasn't taken a sordid trial, outrageous comments or a wardrobe malfunction for LeBron James to capture our attention.

The commercials help draw us in. So do James' regular aerial assaults on the basket. But it's his talent and promise that holds our interest.

Backlash? Jealous players suggesting that the Cleveland guard isn't as good as advertised? You haven't heard any of that, because he has been better than advertised.

The reason we haven't tired of the hype is because it's not simply hype.

It's reality.

"The hype that this young man was subjected to and was done for him is greater than anything that I've ever seen, and yet he never played a college game and we never participated in the hype," commissioner David Stern said during All-Star Weekend.

"What he seems to have done is lived up to that." That's extraordinary.

James ranks in the top 15 in the league in scoring (20.4 points) and assists (5.8). He averages 5.6 rebounds. Only two other players in league history have averaged at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists in their rookie seasons — Oscar Robertson and Michael Jordan.

Fans and coaches didn't select James to the All-Star Game. His omission isn't a slight as much as it's an indication of the quality of perimeter players in the Eastern Conference. One coach who did vote for the rook-

ie was Indiana's Rick Carlisle, the coach of the East All-Stars.

"I really felt he was deserving," Carlisle said. "He's been able to not only live up to the enormous amount of hype, but to exceed expectations. It just shows what a special kid he is."

Another part of James' appeal is that he projects confidence without being cocky. He will tell you he created the hype because of his performance. But rarely do you hear him boast.

James decided not to take part in the Slam Dunk competition during All-Star Weekend. In one of several explanations why, he hinted that he wasn't sure he would be at his best in that format. Someone who is brash doesn't concede vulnerability.

"I'm a person that creates when I'm in the situation," said James, who put on his dunking display in the Rookie

Challenge. "That's why I think there's a difference between a dunk contest and just being in the game."

We're not saying James is modest. With all that talent, who could be? But for a player who has soared to such heights at such a young age, he does appear grounded.

James doesn't sound disingenuous when he tells you the most rewarding aspect of this season is that he has helped turn the Cavaliers around with the aid of his teammates. When asked about himself, Denver rookie Carmelo Anthony and Houston's Yao Ming being the new face of the NBA, James defers.

"I think there are a lot more players better than us in the league," James said. "I think right now we just represent our teams well. We represent the NBA well and we are contributing the best way we can for our teams."

Texans' Henson says he's ready for return to football

HOUSTON (AP) —

Drew Henson says he always felt more like a football player during his brief baseball career.

That feeling was reaffirmed this month when he left the New York Yankees organization then worked out for 20 NFL teams interested in acquiring him.

"It fits with me a little better being out here," said Henson, a star quarterback at Michigan who bypassed his junior year for a baseball career in 2001. "I get to be a little more athletic. I'll be able to be a little more emotional. I can really get

after it. In baseball, I had to tone down my emotions. Here you can let it go a little bit."

Henson, 24, calls the switch in sports a change of heart. He rejects the notion his baseball career flamed out, although his bat never came around and he appeared to disappear from the Yankees' plans.

Whatever the reason, Henson gave up \$12 million when he agreed to his baseball release and allowed the Houston Texans — who drafted him in the sixth round — to shop his services.



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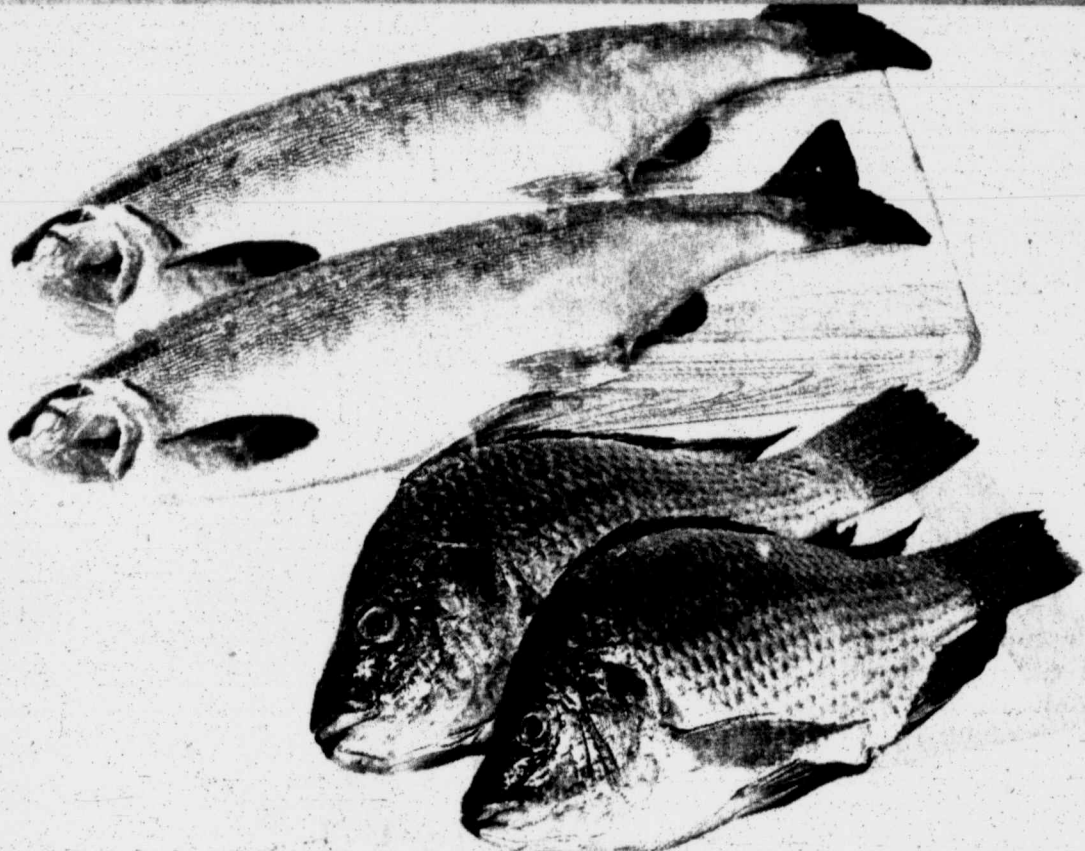
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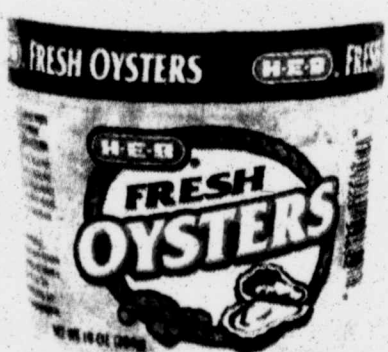
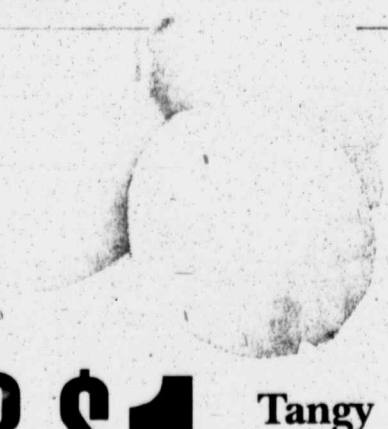
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By MARSHA J.
HERALD Lifestyle

"Oh, dear, tell you what, this, it's been years ago," Knowlton of "At least part anyhow," ch brother, Alv "I have grandson ar college whe started Knowlton sa Mrs. Knowl of the late M was referring ing enterpris her home, w ic work goin ages and ar organization quilts.

Her gran Knowlton, g idea for mak "He had so college, and didn't have been croche and I sent hi and then h wanted one another one so I decided quilts," she That is ho idea began quilt, beca afghans, his ed quilts.

Then they into orpha which she w "I had a passed away and she lef she said, wasn't able and I alre extra daugh My sister h left her dau to raise, so children I co

She could two boys, so put the chi children's Lubbock. Th six and eigh

The boys g children's they were went out or she said. T located in L Knowlton l quilts for while her n at the hom progressed t Children's "Because my ported Medi Her church Main Church She branc quilts for o Gallup, CA Patalis N.M continued name as a so creation ar she said.

"Oh, Lord, tell you how dren's hom sent quilts to "Let's see, Abilene, Okl The quilts

HERALD phot

Upper right, sews her quilt: older model machine.

Right, for he ations Mrs. K sale materials ics which are She neatly sta als in a corne bedrooms in dense materia covers many and styles.

A stitch in time goes to charity

**Velma Knowlton
sews quilts for
orphanages; charity**

By **MARSHA ALLEN**
HERALD Lifestyle Editor

"Oh, dear Lord, I can't tell you when I started this, it's been so many years ago," said Velma Knowlton of Big Spring.

"At least past yesterday, anyhow," chimed in her brother, Alvin Smith.

"I have 44-year old grandson and he was in college when we really started out big," Knowlton said.

Mrs. Knowlton, widow of the late M.L. Knowlton, was referring to her quilting enterprise operated in her home, with the specific work going to orphanages and any charitable organization needing her quilts.

Her grandson, Bruce Knowlton, gave her the idea for making quilts.

"He had some friends in college, and a lot of them didn't have quilts. I had been crocheting afghans, and I sent him an afghan, and then his roommate wanted one, and then another one wanted one, so I decided I'd rather do quilts," she said.

That is how the whole idea began with the one quilt, because like the afghans, his friends wanted quilts.

Then they progressed into orphanages, with which she was familiar.

"I had a sister that passed away early in life and she left two sons," she said. "My mother wasn't able to take them, and I already had an extra daughter, my niece. My sister had died and left her daughter for me to raise, so I had all the children I could handle."

She couldn't take the two boys, so her mother put the children in the children's home in Lubbock. The boys were six and eight years old.

The boys grew up in the children's home until they were grown, "and went out on their own," she said. The home is located in Lubbock.

Knowlton began making quilts for orphanages while her nephews were at the home. Then she progressed to the Medina Children's Home.

"Because my church supported Medina," she said. Her church is 14th and Main Church of Christ.

She branched out with quilts for orphanages in Gallup, Carlsbad, and Patalis N.M. Her church continued to give her name as a source for quilt creation and donation, she said.

"Oh, Lord, I can't even tell you how many children's homes we have sent quilts to," she added. "Let's see, Sweetwater, Abilene, Oklahoma."

The quilts are donated

to other sources wanting the bed coverings.

They give to anyone needing quilts, such as those who have been victims of tornadoes, she said.

"During the '99 tornado we took a truck load of quilts to my sister's in Duncan, Okla.," she said. The load of items were being shuttled to Oklahoma City.

When Sweetwater residents suffered a tornado some years ago, "we sent quilts down there through our church," she said.

Knowlton doesn't know just how many quilts she has made, but she said "I imagine it's several thousand."

She sews several sizes, including crib size quilts for infants.

Her brothers, J.A. and Alvin Smith help her cut patterns which she has created herself. The pattern includes wedge blocks sewn into a box element which then is added to other blocks.

All sewing is done on the machine, with final tacking done with a hand stitch using large size yarn of varying colors coordinated with the overall tone of any quilt. Motel 6 and Motel 8 in Big Spring donate old sheets to her which she uses for quilt backing, she said.

Knowlton said she once sewed the quilts with the normal quilting stitch, but in later years her fingers have been not as nimble. "A lot of times my right hand just won't let me, and a lot of time I can't cut out. My hand goes dead. I just can't quilt anymore."



HERALD photo, page design/Marsha Allen

Mrs. Velma Knowlton, quilting for orphans

She once utilized a quilting frame, but said she "can't reach out to go around the frame, which is what you have to do; I can't do that anymore."

She also utilized quilt batting early in the quilt making ventures, but had

to give that up when orphanage workers would tell her in washing the batting didn't hold up, or would become knotted, making the quilts uncomfortable. "So I decided then that just straight sewing would be better,

and make the quilts hold up longer," she said.

She puts the blocks together on her trusty, older model Singer sewing machine, then

adds a back of solid color, a print or white to finish the quilt. "It is much more serviceable this way. You can just roll it up - if you want to," she said. Of her sewing machine, she said she has worn out so many, she can't keep track of the number she's used in the more than 20 years she has been sewing quilts for those in need of such bedding items.

Also her material usually is comprised of old double knit clothing. Her brothers will tear up the clothing, she said. "I get the clothing wherever I can find them. I've been going to Isaiah 58, and they will save the double knit for me when they come in."

Lanell Morgan of Big Spring helps with the sewing, she said. "She likes to sew prints," she said. "If we get print material, she gets the print material and sews it."

Morgan makes the quilt blocks for Knowlton and "I put them together," she said.

Knowlton grew up on a farm, the next to the oldest of 11 children of Jess Myrtle Smith. She has sewn "pretty much all my life," she said.

Her late husband ran a gun shop and served the community as a welder and blacksmith. In later years he worked as an oil field welder until his retirement in 1962. He died in 1996.

The quilting venture was shared by the two for many years, and now, with the diligent, faithful help of her brothers, the quilting continues to help comfort orphaned children and those in need of quilted warmth. She sews stitches in time out of a heart full of charity.



Courtesy photo

The Knowltons in days past



HERALD photo/Marsha Allen

Mrs. Knowlton's brother Alvin Smith (and J.A., not pictured) help with quilt assembly by cutting material patterns. They work everyday at Mrs. Knowlton's, and share lunch which she prepares for them each day.

HERALD photo/Marsha Allen

Upper right, Mrs. Knowlton sews her quilts on her trusty, older model Singer sewing machine.

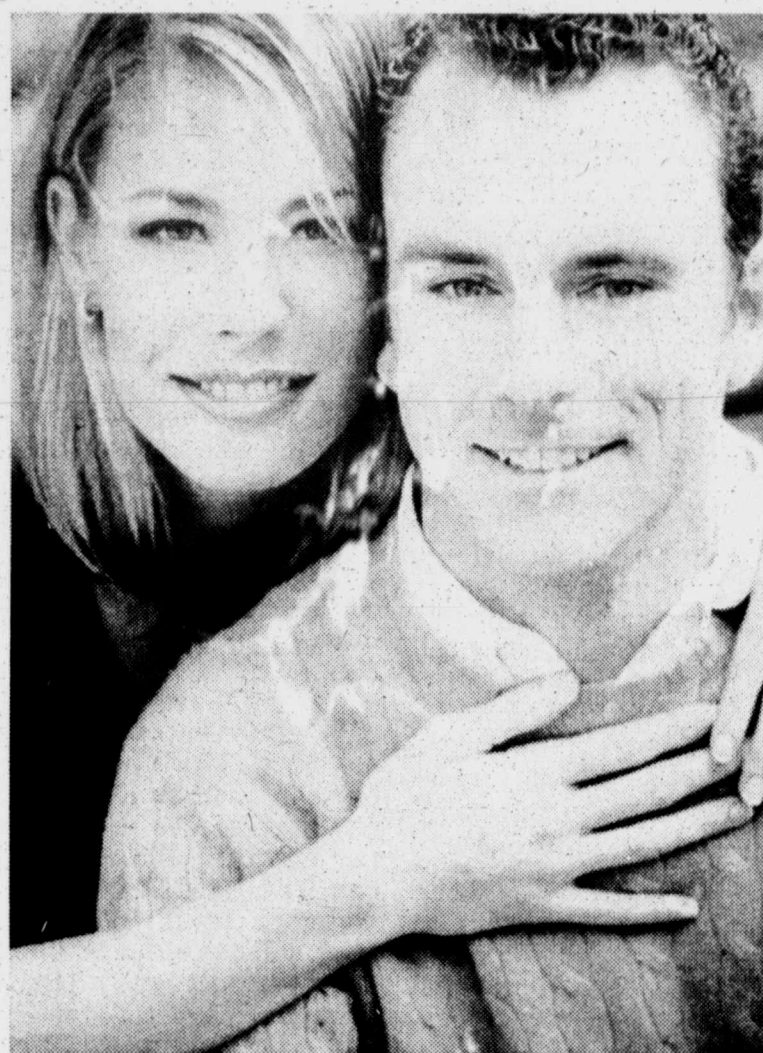
Right, for her quilting creations Mrs. Knowlton gathers sale materials along with fabrics which are given to her. She neatly stashes the materials in a corner of one of the bedrooms in her home. The dense material accumulation covers many fabric designs and styles.

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Engagements



Alyson Duncan and Powhatan French

Duncan and French

Alyson Anne Duncan and Powhatan Ernest Kirkpatrick French of Midland will be married March 27 in La Jolla, Calif.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Duncan II of Midland and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Duncan of Big Spring and Mrs. Peter Harmonson of Midland. She is a graduate of the University of Mississippi, having earned a degree in marketing and merchandising.

The prospective groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Robert French Jr. of Fort Worth and the grandson of Mrs. Rita Bettis of Houston. He earned a bachelor degree in humanities from Pepperdine University in California. He works for the French Oil Company.



Jennifer Petty and Gary Hale

Petty and Hale

Jennifer Louise Petty and Gary Allen Hale II of Snyder will be married at 6 p.m. Feb. 27, at the Willow Park Inn in Snyder.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mary and Alan Smith of Colorado City and Jim and Melissa Petty of Snyder. She is the granddaughter of Mr. Edward Nalepka and the late Josephine Nalepka of San Angelo, and Roy Petty of Westbrook and Margie Myers of Big Spring. She is the great-granddaughter of Mary Aiello of Monterey, Calif. She is a 2000 graduate of Colorado High School in Colorado City, a 2003 graduate of Midland College nursing program and is employed at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater.

The prospective groom is the son of Gary and Delaine Hale of Colorado City. He is the grandson of Doug and Lorna Lusk of Midland and Cecil and Joyce Hale of Colorado City. He is a 2000 graduate of Coahoma High School in Coahoma. He achieved his EMT Intermediate certification in 2001 from Western Texas College in Snyder, and in 2002 graduated from Texas State Technical College fire academy in Abilene. He is employed at Scurry County Sheriff's Office in Snyder.

After a cruise to the Western Caribbean, the couple will reside in Snyder.



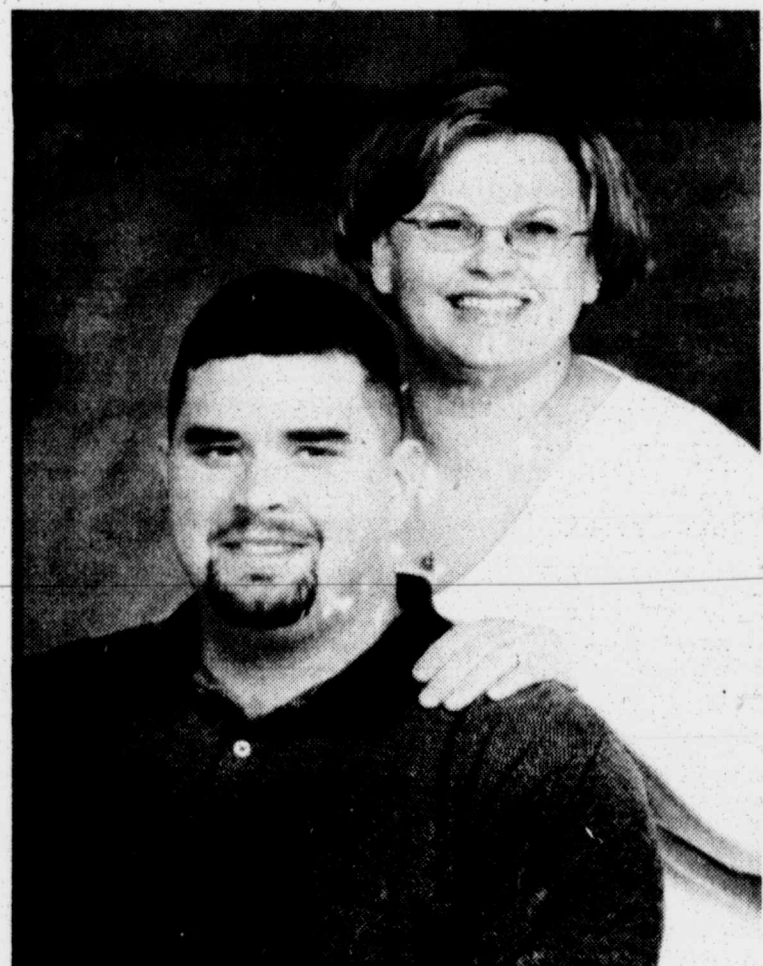
Leslie Grogan and Marvin Rubio

Grogan and Rubio

Leslie Christine Grogan and Marvin Ray Rubio of Austin will exchange marriage vows at 7 p.m. March 13, at Austin Marriott South Hotel.

The bride-elect is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Don Grogan of Gatesville. She is the granddaughter of the late Rev. and Mrs. Basil Goff and the late Earl and Dorothy Grogan of Chanute, Kansas. She is a graduate of Gatesville High School and earned a bachelor degree in music from Southwest Texas State University. She works for Austin Independent School District.

The prospective groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raul Rubio Sr. of Big Spring. He is the grandson of Felix Gonzales of Big Spring and the late Mr. and Mrs. Felix Rubio Sr. of Big Spring. He is a graduate of Big Spring High School and attended Howard College. He works from Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation.



Amy Groves and Stuart Butt

Groves and Butt

Amy Groves of Midland and Stuart Butt of San Angelo will exchange marriage vows at 2 p.m. March 6 at First Baptist Church in Stanton.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Jerry and Janell Groves of Big Spring and Faye and Barrett Moore of Stanton. She is the granddaughter of W.A. Ringener of Stanton and Christine Foster of Big Spring. She is a 1998 graduate of Stanton High School and works for Nicholas Consulting Group in Midland.

The prospective groom is the son of Elbert and Nan Butt of Pleasanton and the grandson of Charles and Elizabeth Swingle of Heber Springs, Ark. and Aleme Butt of Pleasanton. He is a 1994 graduate of Nacogdoches High School and works for Lockheed Martin in San Angelo.

Children can learn early about disabled at school

Many parents might not realize their young children and teens will likely experience their first contact with a person with a disability at school.

Thanks to the creation of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, today classrooms are inclusive of children with developmental disabilities.

This outcome, while positive, can lead to questions both in the classroom and at home. Because many parents did not attend schools that had inclusive policies, they often are unsure how to answer questions from their children regarding classmates with disabilities. Experts say the first tip is for parents to remind their children that every student is different in some way.

"No two people are exactly the same, whether it's a difference in skin color, body size, economic background, religion, or any other characteristic," said Sheila Romano, executive director of the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities, a federally funded state agency that advocates for the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into communities. "A disability is just one more thing that makes an individual a unique person."

When talking with their

children, parents can also remember while it is important to acknowledge some of the differences, experts say the key to fully overcoming the nervousness of meeting a student with a disability is to highlight the similarities between children.

People forget that a grade school student with a disability might be a big Britney Spears fan. Recognizing similarities allows students to see the

person first, instead of just seeing the disability.

Provide inclusive activities for children outside the classroom. Special events such as birthday parties are great opportunities for including children with disabilities. They are learning experiences for both the disabled child and the child without.

Experiences had at home are brought back to the classroom. Any added

comfort factor for a child or teen can be felt throughout the school day. Learn more from a Parent Training and Information Center or online at www.taalliance.org.

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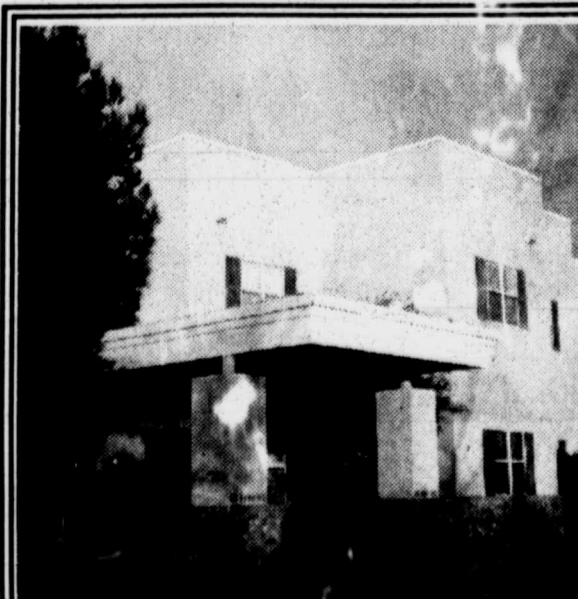
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Long and S

Cynthia and Samuel Sims were married on Jan. 13, 2004, at the Perryton, Texas, home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Perryton.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. and Mrs. Sammy Sims, pastor of the church. The groom, of the groom's father, was the mother's son, Von Sims.

Best man was the groom's brother, Sims of Abilene.

The bride wore a white suit accented with a white bead wrap. The groom's father, Mittie Ha, carried the bride down the aisle. She carried white roses.

Their wedding was attended by Jean Hardy, daughter of the bride, and Alison S. Jonas, daughter of the groom.

► Bi

Sa'Quan Tre

Sa'Quan Tre was born to Desiree Fizer Jan. 27, 2000, eight pounds, long, and measuring 18 inches. His grandparents include the Fizer Sr., O. Edward Tuc Mayes and F. of Chicago. His brothers and sisters are Jessica, Tar Diamond, Za'Quan Diamonique.

RaeAnn Kev

RaeAnn Kev was born to Teresa Ruthliff Spring at 8:20, 2004, at Mountain Me (SMMC). She includes Ju Martian Va Spring and H Faye Ruthliff Birmingham.

Stephen Tyl

Stephen Ty was born to Tanya Water p.m. Feb. 1, 2004, weighing 20 pounds, eight measuring 20 His grandparents Tim and Karen Coahoma and Teresa M Stanton.

Joseph Mart

Joseph Mar born to Meli at 6:51 a.m. F weighing six

A special t

Bir

For have coun Me BirthPlace and our ne Meet our your speci The Recovery, Memorial

Wedding

Longman and Sims

Cynthia Ann Longman and Samuel Christopher Sims were united in marriage on Jan. 31, at the Hardin Simmons gazebo.

The bride was given in marriage by grandfather of the groom, John Hardy of Perryton.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Sammy Sims, father of the groom, of Big Spring.

The matron of honor was the mother of the groom, Voncille Hardy Sims.

Best man was brother of the groom, Jon Michael Sims of Abilene.

The bride wore a beige suit accented with black adorned with a wire and bead wrapped shell pin that once belonged to the groom's great-grandmother, Mittie Hardy.

She carried a bouquet of white roses and baby's breath.

Their wedding was attended by John and Jean Hardy, grandparents of the groom, Jon and Alison Sims and son, Jonas, Natsha Hardy, cousin of the groom and



Mr. and Mrs. Sameul Christopher Sims

the groom's parents, Sammy and Voncille Sims.

A reception and shower immediately followed the exchange of marriage vows in the home of

Alison and Jon Michael Sims.

The couple will make their home in Cleburne, where the groom is assistant manager at McCoy's Building Supply.

Some diets are aided with good vitamin supplements

Many baby boomers—those born in the post-World War II baby boom usually defined as 1946, 1962, may soon have a bone to pick with the aging process.

By reputation, boomers are often concerned with looking good and feeling good—and, for many, "good" means "younger."

Experts suggest that, to be effective, an anti-aging program should begin with one's framework, the incredibly complex network of supporting structures called the skeleton.

As we age, many of us are at risk of developing osteoporosis because we lose bone density and skeletal mass with each year that passes.

Osteoporosis is a potentially devastating disease affecting one in three women and one in eight men worldwide by the time they reach age 50.

Osteoporosis does not strike overnight. In fact, it is known as the "silent" disease because it can develop unnoticed over decades until bones become so weak that they fracture or break very easily.

It's estimated that by age 65 many people will have lost as much as 45

percent of their normal strength, making routine activities such as climbing stairs and carrying groceries difficult.

According to government statistics, each year, 1.5 million broken bones are caused by osteoporosis in the U.S. alone.

Acute and long-term medical expenses associated with these fractures cost about \$14 billion annually.

The good news is that there may be ways such as diet and exercise to stave off the effects of osteoporosis, depending on a number of factors, including family history and the onset of menopause.

For example, taking a supplement twice a day is said to go a long way toward maintaining bone health and helping to

deter the gradual bone loss that can lead to osteoporosis.

It's said that taking a supplement product, along with maintaining a healthy diet, adequate intake of calcium and vitamin D, and engaging in weight-bearing exercise, can strengthen the skeleton.

In a recent study, all subjects had excessive bone loss and were suffering from various conditions associated with aging.

After 12 weeks of using the supplement, the subjects experienced a 57 percent reduction in overall pain, stiffness and mobility problems and a 67 percent reduction in lower back pain in particular.

To learn more about vitamin supplements, visit the Web site at www.youngbones.com.

Births

Sa'Quan Tre'von Fizer

Sa'Quan Tre'von Fizer was born to Steven and Desiree Fizer at 9:16 p.m. Jan. 27, 2004, weighing eight pounds, five ounces and measuring 21 inches long. His grandparents include the late Steve Fizer Sr.; Odessa Fizer, Edward Tucker, Denise Mayes and Robert Lowe of Chicago. Sa'Quan's brothers and sisters are Jessica, Tariah, Jazine, Diamond, Lil Steve, Za'Quan and Diamonique.

RaeAnn Kevi Rutledge

RaeAnn Kevi Rutledge was born to Kevin and Teresa Rutledge of Big Spring at 8:24 a.m. Jan. 30, 2004, at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC). Grandparents include Julian and Martian Valle of Big Spring and Harrison and Faye Rutledge of Birmingham, Ala.

Stephen Tyler Waters

Stephen Tyler Waters was born to Cory and Tanya Waters at 12:41 p.m. Feb. 12, 2004, at SMMC, weighing six pounds, eight ounces and measuring 20 inches long. His grandparents include Tim and Karen Waters of Coahoma and Joe and Teresa Moreno of Stanton.

Joseph Martinez Jr.

Joseph Martinez Jr. was born to Melissa Segundo at 6:51 a.m. Feb. 12, 2004, weighing six pounds, 12

ounces and measuring 19 inches long.

Hailey Lynn Beall

Hailey Lynn Beall was born to Jerrod and Stacy Beall of Big Spring at 6:42 p.m., Feb. 13, 2004, weighing five pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 20 1/2 inches long. Grandparents include Joe Paul and Rene Beall of Knott and David and Linda Humphries of Burnet.

Shelby Michelle Leos

Shelby Michelle Leos was born to Stacey and Christopher Leos at 11:25 a.m. on Feb. 11, 2004, weighing seven pounds, two ounces and measuring 20 inches long. Grandparents include Emma Leos and Sylvia and Dave Raimarez.

Pablito Daniel DeHoyos

Pablito Daniel DeHoyos was born to Pablo Alonzo DeHoyos and Daniella Viviana Sarmiento at 9:45 a.m. Feb. 6, 2004, weighing eight pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 20 1/4 inches long. Grandparents include Severino DeHoyos of Goliad, Ludin DeHoyos of Big Spring and Jo and Melecio Sarmiento of Big Spring.

Alisa Gonzalez

Alisa Gonzalez was born to Amy and Abel Gonzalez on Feb. 11, 2004, weighing seven pounds and six ounces and measuring 20 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents include Raul and Delia Gonzalez of San Antonio and Felix and Mary Hernandez of Lamesa.

Tobyn Gray Wilson

Tobyn Gray Wilson was born to Chris and Krisha Wilson at 3:10 p.m. Feb. 16, 2004 weighing five pounds, 14 ounces and measuring 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents include Pete and Tricia Wilson of Big Spring and Kyle and Peggy Springer of Miles.

Kaden Javier Molina

Kaden Javier Molina was born to Adam Molina and Meagan Bobo of Big Spring at 2:36 p.m. Feb. 14, 2004, weighing seven pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 21 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents include Tommy and Michele Bobo of Big Spring and Juan and Angie Molina of Coahoma.

Birth announcements are from the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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Menus

Senior Citizens Center

MONDAY—Smothered steak, macaroni and cheese, greenbeans, salad, milk, rolls, fruit.

TUESDAY—Chicken, rice, broccoli and cheese, salad, milk, rolls, cobbler.

WEDNESDAY—Catfish,

French fries, beans, salad, milk, cornbread, fruited gelatin.

THURSDAY—Chicken salad, sandwich, soup, lettuce, tomato, milk, bread, apple crisp.

FRIDAY—Turkey and dressing, sweet potatoes, greenbeans, milk, rolls,

fruit salad.

Stanton ISD BREAKFAST

MONDAY—Waffles, syrup, choice of cereal, buttered toast, choice of juice, choice of milk.

TUESDAY—Cheese omelet, sausage, biscuit,

choice of cereal, buttered toast, choice of juice, choice of milk.

WEDNESDAY—Oatmeal, cinnamon toast, choice of cereal, buttered toast, choice of juice, choice of milk.

THURSDAY—Biscuit, scrambled egg patty, cream gravy, choice of cereal, buttered toast, choice of juice, choice of milk.

FRIDAY—Cinnamon roll, choice of cereal, buttered toast, choice of juice, choice of milk.

LUNCH
MONDAY—Corn dog, baked fish, macaroni and cheese, peas and carrots, apple, French bread, pudding cup.

TUESDAY—Spaghetti sauce, Salisbury steak, green beans, garden salad, fruit gelatin, French bread.

WEDNESDAY—Pepperoni pizza, pizza cheese sticks, carrots, garden salad, fruit cocktail.

THURSDAY—Baked chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes, fried okra, peaches, hot rolls.

FRIDAY—Cheeseburger, hamburger, French fries, hamburger salad, orange slices, peanut butter cookies.

FRIDAY—Dry cereal, toast, fruit juice, milk.

LUNCH
MONDAY—Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, mixed fruit, hot rolls, milk.

TUESDAY—Nachos with meat and cheese, beans, vegetable salad, cookies, cornbread, milk.

WEDNESDAY—Tacos, salad fixing, fried okra, cobbler, milk.

THURSDAY—Hamburgers, French fries, vegetable fixings, cherry cups, milk.

FRIDAY—Turkey and cheese deli sandwiches, French fries, vegetable fixings, pickle spears, cookies, milk.

Big Spring ISD
MONDAY—Chili cheese dog, French fries, ranch style beans, strawberry bar.

TUESDAY—Chicken rings, mashed potatoes, green beans, jello with peaches, roll.

WEDNESDAY—Fish strips, broccoli with cheese, new potatoes, chocolate pudding, roll.

THURSDAY—Steak sandwich, potato rounds, baby carrots, applesauce.

FRIDAY—Green enchiladas, border beans, corn on cob, cornbread, lemon pie.

Sands ISD
BREAKFAST
MONDAY—Danish rolls.

TUESDAY—Eggs and toast.

WEDNESDAY—Muffins

THURSDAY—Pancake and sausage.

FRIDAY—Cereal and milk.

LUNCH
MONDAY—Burritos, slice potatoes, pork and beans, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY—Barbecue on a bun, pickles, fries, cheese, ranch style beans, pineapple, milk.

WEDNESDAY—Frito pie, salad, pinto beans, cornbread, fruit, milk.

THURSDAY—Steak fingers, whole new potatoes, peas and carrots, cake, milk.

FRIDAY—Pizza, corn salad, fruit, milk.

Good prenatal care is essential for healthy baby

Experts agree women may greatly improve the chances of a problem-free pregnancy and a healthy baby by following eight simple steps.

The chances of having a problem-free pregnancy and a healthy baby may greatly improve if you follow eight simple guidelines.

Choose an obstetrician or midwife you can build a good relationship with during pregnancy. Finding the right person can take time, so get started right away. Good prenatal care is essential to your baby's health.

Watch your diet. Up your intake of protein and calories, as well as certain vitamins and minerals such as folic acid and iron. Steer clear of raw seafood, unpasteurized milk and soft cheeses to avoid bacteria. Take prenatal vitamins. Most prenatal supplements contain more folic acid, iron and calcium than the standard multivitamin.



Slow down and take care of your health when pregnant. Painting by Degas

These are important to reduce a baby's risk of developing birth defects.

Exercise regularly. A good exercise program can give you the strength and endurance a woman needs to carry the weight gained during pregnancy and handle the stress of labor. It will also make it easier to get back in shape once the baby is born.

Just say no to alcohol. Women who have more

than two drinks a day are at greater risk for giving birth to a baby with fetal alcohol syndrome.

Cut back on caffeine. While a cup or two of coffee a day won't hurt your baby, no one knows for sure what the effects of drinking three to four cups are.

Stop smoking. Smoking increases your risk of miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abnormal placental implantation, premature placental detachment, vaginal bleeding, premature delivery and infant death.

Get some rest. The fatigue you feel during the first and third trimesters is your body's way of saying "slow down." So listen and take it easy. Relaxation techniques such as yoga, stretching, deep breathing and massage are a good way to combat stress and get a better night's sleep.

Tips on pregnancy, childbirth and life with baby are found at www.babycenter.com.

Exercise can make pregnancy, labor and recovery after childbirth easier, say experts at an informative Web site.

"Come With Me"

By Louise Burgess

Come with me where the dogwood grows
Through a lush green forest where a river flows
Absorb the scent of the honeysuckle vine
And climb the hills I once called mine
Come let's wander where the wild birds sing
And drink the fresh water from a cold mountain spring
Where the sounds of the forest are well understood
Like the rat-tat-tat of the pecker wood
Come with me to a shady glade
Where golden sunbeams penetrate the shade
As we watch an eagle majestically soar
High above the canyon

floor
Come with me where the wind blows free
Where the chipmunks scamper from tree to tree
And from the high lofty branches distinctly heard
Comes the shrill angry shriek of the mocking bird
Come with me to the swimming hole
Below the falls where the water's cold We'll splash and swim to our heart's content
And consider the time there is very well spent
Come with me as the sun sinks low
And the western sky is all aglow
And when it's too dark for us to roam Our faithful dogs will guide us home

Louise Burgess is a resident of Big Spring

DEDICATION

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Ardis McCasland
Big Spring Refinery Retiree
34 Years Service
Empower, BSR Manager

Mr. McCasland's dedication to his work, combined with his tenacity and strong will is part of the employee "can-do" spirit at the Big Spring Refinery. After joining the refinery in the late 50s, Mr. McCasland rose through the ranks as a promising engineer. In the 1970s and 1980s he became instrumental in major construction projects that helped enhance refinery operations and productivity.

Doing whatever it takes to help the refinery thrive is characteristic of the dedication exemplified by employees at the plant. It is part of the workplace camaraderie that makes the Big Spring Refinery a truly remarkable operation.

It is much more than a refinery; it's part of the very fabric of the Big Spring community because it has been intricately woven into our rich West Texas history for the past 75 years. Today, more than ever, it's evident in our ongoing dedication to our customers, to the Big Spring community, and to you.

Happy 75th Anniversary!



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Alfonso Preciado, M.D.

American Board of Surgery

Specialty: General Surgery

Education: Republic of Panama Medical School, Panama

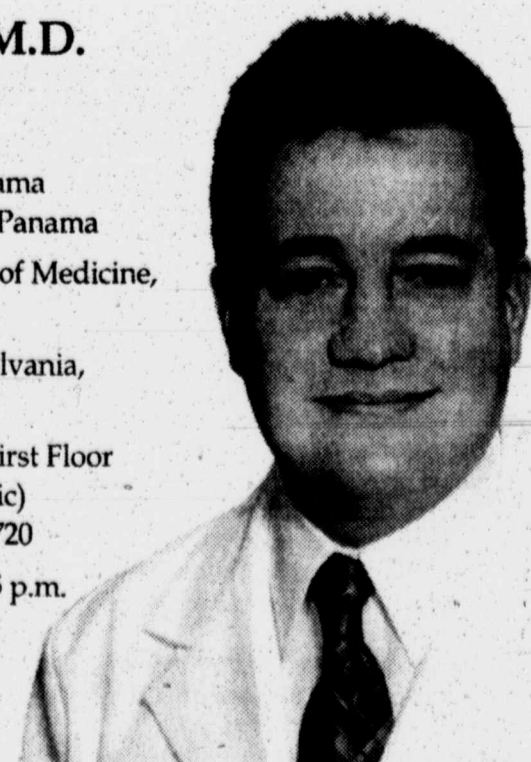
Fellowship: Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

Residency: Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA

Office: 1501 W. 11th Place, First Floor (Malone Hogan Clinic)
Big Spring, Texas 79720

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Phone: (432) 263-6018



The grand experiment, America: will it survive?

Will the grand experiment survive?

When our nation was formed by the founding fathers under the governing document of the U.S. Constitution, the Europeans mocked laughingly and said it was a style of government that could never work.

The fundamentals of the Constitution were Biblically based, as witnessed by quotations from the founding fathers.

For instance, Thomas Jefferson, who, by all historical data was not a very religious man, is quoted in his works as asking if a nation can be thought secure when the firm basis, "a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift from God?"



SEASONINGS
MARSHA
ALLEN

When George Washington took the first presidential oath of office, he personally added, "so help me God" at the end of the oath. Every president since Washington has recited the oath ending.

James Madison noted that the Constitution was not possible to implement if leaders and the people did not strive for high standing moral character; that the entire future of American civilization was predicated, not on the power of the government, but "... upon the capacity of each and everyone of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments." The U.S. Constitution will only work for a people with strong moral character.

Benjamin Franklin, who was not a reverential church goer, listed in his autobiography that reaching a personal morality required being "like Jesus," and he said during the Constitutional Convention that the convention members needed

assistance from Heaven.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, the 14th chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, said during his tenor on the Supreme Court (1953 - 1969) that he believed the Bill of Rights was created and written because of the forefathers strong knowledge of, and belief in Biblical principles. Warren guided his fellow Supreme Court justices in a number of landmark civil-rights and individual liberties decisions.

John Adams, an energetic framer of the Constitution, is often quoted this summation, "Statesmen may plan and speculate for liberty, but it is religion and morality alone which can establish the principles upon which freedom can securely stand."

He said while serving as the nation's second president, that the Constitution was created "only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

With the recent scan-

dals coming from out nation's capitol, the school shootings spinning out of control, with rampant drug use among the nation's teenagers, with the nation's literacy dropping like a brick in a river, with families being torn apart and children facing their childhood in a single parent home, with our leaders seemingly incapable of dealing with the many social ills plaguing our nation, are we galloping toward an immoral abyss

where the Constitution is no longer applicable to our way of life, and there will be no law except that of a dictatorship form of government which is government by a privileged few - often leading to harsh limitations on personal liberty?

Are we living in a time where good is called evil, and evil good? Is it a time when everyone does what is right in his own eyes. If this is true, then we as a people are headed toward sure destruc-

tion, with the lawless ruling until only martial law will be the solution for peace.

That will ultimately result in the loss of all freedoms. One has only to look at the era of Nazi Germany to understand what the loss of individual freedom can mean.

This grand experiment in liberty known as America, born from Judeo-Christian principles, nurtured through individual and corporate morality...will it survive?

Potatoes really are nutritious

Potatoes have been taking a beating lately as a result of fad diets. In response to the food confusion sweeping the nation, the United States Potato Board conducted extensive consumer research and discovered there was a lot of uncertainty surrounding the healthy benefits of potatoes.

Surprisingly, only six percent of survey respondents thought that pota-

atoes were rich in vitamin C, when, in fact, one medium (5.3 ounce) potato contains 45 percent of the recommended Daily Value for this essential nutrient. Only 34 percent considered potatoes with skins to be rich in potassium, when they are actually an excellent source of this mineral-higher than broccoli, spinach or bananas.

Why are these nutrients so valuable? Vitamin C is

a powerful antioxidant that protects your body's cells. It also helps keep gums healthy and can protect the body from infection by keeping the immune system healthy. Foods that are a good source of potassium and low in sodium, such as potatoes, may reduce the risk of high blood pressure and stroke. For healthy recipes and nutrition information, visit www.healthypotato.com.



Take a Closer Look at the Latest in Jewelry Styles

(MS) -- Back in 1477, when Archduke Maximilian of Austria proposed to Mary of Burgundy with a diamond ring, he was unaware that he had started a new tradition. Today, at least 82 percent of all brides in the United States receive a diamond engagement ring. Of those, more than half choose a classic, round, brilliant cut diamond, but the array of options to choose from is more than exciting. With fancy shapes like oval, pear, heart and marquise, today's brides are realizing that there is a shape that flatters every hand.

STILL A BRIDE'S BEST FRIEND

A recent survey found that 82 percent of women prefer larger diamonds. "Women today really want to make a statement with their diamonds, whether they are diamond stud earrings, a glittering pendant or the all-important engagement ring. In other words, in this case, bigger is better," says Elizabeth Florence, executive director of the Jewelry Information Center, a nonprofit trade association headquartered in New York City. "Branded diamonds such as the Ashoka, Leo, Rand, Gabrielle, Lovefire and

the Royal Asscher Cut are also gaining in popularity. American consumers are responding to the comfort level and element of trust that a brand name can add to the purchase of a diamond."

Trends in wedding gowns often influence what jewelry brides choose. The most up-to-the-minute designs are rich with romantic detail: embellished with dripping crystals, and covered with lace appliques and detailed embroidery. The matching jewelry offers details just as intricate: hand-engraved designs on gold and platinum, botanical motifs such as blossoms, vines and leaves with diamond or pearl detail, and textural finishes on the metals such as satin, brushed or granulation.

Strapless and halter-style wedding gowns continue in popularity, as do upswept hairstyles. This sleek look leaves the ears, neck and décolletage begging to be enhanced with glittering chandelier and pagoda earrings and multi-strand cultured pearl chokers. Vintage-influenced necklaces in diamonds and platinum with a nod to the Victorian, Edwardian or Art Deco periods

can be a bride's "something old."

As far as her "something blue," today's bride can choose from a variety of gemstones in the hues of sky and sea. If money is no object, how about a blue diamond -- one of the rarest and most precious varieties of colored diamonds? A bride with eyes on her wallet can choose from aquamarine, lapis lazuli, chalcedony, Peruvian opal, sapphire, peacock blue Tahitian cultured pearls, iolite, tanzanite (a bluish violet) or blue topaz.

If a bride is "thinking pink," she's not alone. Some of today's trend-setting celebrities are sporting this rosy hue, which is feminine and flattering. Jennifer Lopez is sporting her \$1.1 million pink diamond ring -- a gift that fiancée Ben Affleck found for her at Harry Winston. Both Julia Roberts and Gwen Stefani wore wedding gowns in a blushing shade of pink. How to show one's true colors without breaking the bank? Look for necklaces, earrings, and bracelets in pink tourmaline, pink freshwater cultured pearls, apple jade (rhodocrosite), rose quartz or cherry quartz.

For more information on bridal jewelry trends, celebrity jewelry news, savvy jewelry shopping tips, and care of jewelry, visit www.jewelryinfo.org.

BUYING A DIAMOND: WHAT'S THE FIFTH C?

There will be approximately 2.5 million weddings in the United States this year and many couples will be searching for the perfect diamond ring. Four factors, known as the "4 Cs," determine the value of a diamond. They are:

Cut -- The cut is designed to yield the maximum amount of

light to reflect back. This reflection, known as brilliance, is an important factor in evaluating the quality of a diamond. A poorly cut diamond will appear dull.

Color -- Diamonds come in every color of the spectrum, but the most popular gems are white. Stones are graded by color and given designations depending on how far they deviate from the purest white. Colorless stones are graded D and color grading descends through the alphabet, with each letter designating the yellower tint. The best way to see the true color of a diamond is by looking at it against a pure white surface.

Clarity -- A diamond's clarity is affected by any external irregularities and internal imperfections created by nature when the diamond was formed. Imperfections or "nature's birthmarks" such as spots, bubbles or lines are called inclusions. Although these marks make each stone unique, the fewer the inclusions, the more valuable the stone.

Carat -- This word for the measurement of a diamond's weight is derived from the carob beans that were used to balance scales at bazaars in ancient times. Because large diamonds are rare, they generally have a greater value per carat.

Confidence -- Jewelry industry experts add a fifth C -- confidence in one's professional jeweler. Be sure the jeweler is a member of a professional trade association, such as Jewelers of America (JA). JA requires high ethical standards of its members and provides them with ongoing education. A retailer finder, along with more jewelry information, is available online at www.jewelryinfo.org.



A BRIDE'S natural radiance is enhanced by the luster and sparkle of fine jewelry.

Diamond Solitaires

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3/4 Carat \$2495

1 Carat \$3995

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Government agrees to finance alternative to peanut butter

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — With encouragement from the federal government, more students will have a chance to eat sunflower seed butter instead of peanut butter in their school lunches. The question is, will they want to?

The Agriculture Department has added the product to its commodity list for school food service programs, which means cafeterias will be reimbursed for buying it. While agriculture officials are touting the decision as a boost to sunflower producers, students are shrugging their shoulders.

Richard Warner, principal at Fargo South High School, polled about 40 students in a study hall session Wednesday and none had heard of sunflower seed butter.

Calli Cebulski, a senior at Fargo North High School, had tried it.

"That stuff is really nasty," Cebulski said. "I guess I



would say there's no substitute for peanut butter."

North classmate Erin Hafliger said she would be willing to give the product a shot.

"I like sunflower seeds a lot and get addicted when I eat them," she said.

Sunflower seed butter has sold well in some grocery stores, and its appeal as an alternative for people who are allergic to peanuts in peanut butter convinced the USDA to endorse it, said Bob Majkrzak, president of a Fargo company that produces SunButter.

"The USDA researchers recognize that there's a looming problem with peanut allergies throughout the country," Majkrzak said.

Rita Giesen, a spokeswoman for the North Dakota School Food Service Association, said sunflower seed butter is a "welcome" alternative to peanut butter, though she warns that comparing the two won't win over many converts.

Big Spring native named Jaworski Award recipient

Special to the HERALD

Big Spring native Julius Glickman of Glickman and Hughes has been named recipient of the prestigious Leon Jaworski Award by the Houston Bar Association Auxiliary.



GLICKMAN

Glickman, an active community leader, will be presented with the award at the Auxiliary's luncheon on Tuesday, March 9, at the Houston Club in downtown Houston. Guest speaker will be Texas Supreme Court Justice Dale Wainwright.

One of Glickman's greatest passions has been and continues to be public television. He has just completed a two-year term as president of the Association for Community Television (ACT). He is currently chairman of the ACT board of directors. He and his wife, Suzan, chaired a fund-raising gala for ACT in 2002 that netted more

than \$1 million.

He had been involved with many organizations, including the Houston Symphony, the Blue Bird Circle, the Houston Junior Forum, Episcopal High School. He is a former director of the Texas Historical Foundation, Children's Resource Information service and the Bill of Rights Foundation. He is a past member of the Houston Symphony board executive committee. Currently, he is a member of the board of directors for the YMCA of Greater Houston, serves on the Museum of Fine Arts European Subcommittee and is co-chair of the annual luncheon for The Gathering Place.

His long history of leadership dates to his college days at the University of Texas where he was student body president, outstanding student and an active member of the Friars, Silver Spurs and the Tejas Club. His devotions to UT continue has

See GLICKMAN, Page 7B



Debbie Gross of Big Spring receives a \$500 gift certificate from H-E-B Store Manager Kenny Breazeale, right, as a prize in the YMCA Youth Basketball League fund-raiser while YMCA Executive Director Pete Thiry looks on. The fund-raiser netted \$6,200 to help support the league.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Protected wheat variety woes, what you don't know can indeed hurt you

Possession isn't necessarily nine-tenths of the law, especially if the purchase is a wheat variety protected by the Plant Variety Protection Act. This misunderstood and often-ignored law may soon become more stringently enforced, largely due to the stepped-up use of DNA plant testing.

Gary Bomar, Texas Cooperative Extension agricultural agent for Taylor County, said the practice of "catching" or keeping some of the current crop's production for planting the following season has long been practiced in the farming business.

"That's not a problem in itself," he said. "The law says farmers may save a limited amount of a protected variety seed for replanting, but they can't sell planting seed to anyone without permission from the owner. Of course, if the seed is not a protected variety, there are no restrictions."

"Variety infringement cases are popping up all over the United States, and there will be one here one day."

We've got too much wheat grown here for there not to be. It's already happened in Wichita Falls. We in Extension are always talking about an educational opportunity. But the real education in this case will be when a producer out here gets fined about \$35,000. That's going to educate them pretty quick."

JW "Dub" Vinson owns Abilene Ag Service and Supply. He also holds the rights to WinMaster, a PVPA wheat variety that's popular among Central West Texas producers.

Vinson explained the scenario: "Say a farmer plants some of this WinMaster seed, a protected variety, and that wheat did pretty well for him. So he says, 'Well I'll just catch some of that seed and sell it to my neighbor.' Abilene Ag is entitled to a royalty from that sale. If I don't get paid that royalty or give permission for that specific sale, then it's against the law. In fact it's a federal offense."

"That's the real kicker in it. It's not a misdemeanor, it's a federal offense and they can carry you to the federal courthouse. And the royalty owner wins them all."



TOMMY YEATER

See WHEAT, Page 7B

Too many work visas issued in 2003

By STELLA M. HOPKINS

Knight Ridder Newspapers

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — When it comes to allowing foreign workers to enter the country, the federal government appears unable to count.

Last year, the U.S. State Department issued nearly 79,000 work permits, called visas, for one category of immigrant workers. But that visa has an annual limit of 66,000. So, the agency dispensed nearly 20 percent too many.

The State Department, while it issues the visas, isn't responsible for counting them, agency spokesman Stuart Patt told the Observer. Patt said no other news media had asked about the overrun on what are called H-2B visas. The visas are used mostly to bring in landscaping, hospitality, forestry and construction workers.

Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., a member of the House panel that includes the immigration subcommittee,

wasn't aware of the overrun.

"It would probably be the basis for a hearing on why they are not keeping track of the number of peo-

"While Americans are being laid off, and the economy was barely chugging along, the immigration service was handing out American jobs to foreign workers."

David Ray, spokesman for advocacy group

ple they are letting in, and why they can't count," he said.

Critics say the overage is another sign that the nation's immigration system is a bureaucratic morass that lacks staff, funding and coordi-

nation. That's of particular concern now as President Bush has proposed immigration reform that could add as many as 10 million people to the system.

Bush last month proposed a temporary-worker program that would grant legal status for three years to illegal workers, as long as there isn't an American worker to fill the position. In 2002, fewer than 700,000 workers entered the country under all the existing temporary programs combined, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Critics, immigration lawyers and employers question whether the system could handle the huge influx possible under Bush's plan.

When told of the excess, David Ray, a spokesman for an immigration-control advocacy group, said, "What it screams of is an agency which is barely able to handle its current workload and is about to get strapped with many more huge responsibilities."

Greenspan urges care on employment issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan warned on Friday that "protectionist cures" being advanced to deal with the country's job insecurities would make the situation worse.

Entering the politically charged debate over U.S. service jobs being shipped overseas, Greenspan said that it was a lack of adequate educational training rather "outsourcing" which posed the greatest threat to future American prosperity.

Greenspan, speaking to

the annual meeting of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, said that it was not surprising that there was a high level of job insecurity in the country at present when more than 2 million people in the work force have been unemployed for more than a year.

He predicted, as he did in congressional testimony last week, that the strengthening economy should lead to stronger employment growth in the months ahead.

"We have reason to be confident that new jobs will displace old ones as

they always have," Greenspan said, "but America's job-turnover process is never without pain for those in the job-losing portion."

The issue of jobs — how to create them, find them and keep them — has dominated the Campaign 2004 early primary season talk. Sen. John Edwards, now the chief challenger to front-runner Sen. John Kerry, has sought to highlight the issue repeatedly at various stops.

The Bush White House has backtracked on a forecast in the president's economic report to

Congress which said 2.6 million jobs should be created this year.

Greenspan, without referring directly to the political campaign or the individual candidates, said that the current anxiety about losing jobs to other countries is not new. There were fears about losing jobs to low-wage Japan in the 1950s and 1960s and to low-wage Mexico in the 1990s and more recently to low-wage China, he said.

However, Greenspan also said the recent

See GREENSPAN, Page 7B

BIG SPRING
Weekend Edition

GREENSPAN

Continued from

migration of jobs, such as working in call centers, a new phenomenon cautioned that the trade barrier country would.

"The protectionist being advanced these days make matters rather than said."

Greenspan "protectionism" to create foreigners re will surely lose

He said the approach was efforts to in skills of the force, both

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Bomar sumr problem by say "Even if you c farm and buy a wheat straight combine and p without paying ty, then we're l — even if you, didn't know th was a protected Granted, I sho told you, but e didn't we're b technically liab "This is a se ter that's going

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GREENSPAN

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migration of service sector jobs, such as employees working in telephone call centers, to India is a new phenomenon. But he cautioned that any answer that involved erecting trade barriers in this country would be wrong.

"The protectionist cures being advanced to address these hardships will make matters worse rather than better," he said.

Greenspan said that "protectionism will do little to create jobs and if foreigners retaliate, we will surely lose jobs."

He said the better approach was to intensify efforts to increase the skills of the U.S. work force, both in better

instruction in such areas as math and sciences in high school, and increased support for community colleges, where much of the retraining of the work force occurs.

Both Kerry and Edwards have talked about the need to review such agreements as the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada to make sure that American workers are adequately protected.

Greenspan in his remarks also defended, without mentioning him by name, fellow economist N. Gregory Mankiw.

Mankiw came under fire last week for saying that the outsourcing of U.S. service jobs was just another way of doing international trade.

WHEAT

Continued from Page 6B

Vinson said they win them all because DNA testing is so accurate now that a person can plant a protected variety, sell the resulting seed and wheat heads pulled from the subsequent crop can be traced to the original parent crop.

"You can tell them it's against the law," said Vinson, "and they'll say 'Why, I bought that seed. That's my seed and I'll do what I want with it.'"

"But they know it's a protected variety. It's on the tag. They have to sign a form when they buy it. If a farmer brings wheat seed here for us to clean and treat, they've got to specify what variety it is. If they tell me it's a protected variety they want to clean and sell to somebody else, I tell them I won't process it. They'll have to go somewhere else."

Bomar summed up the problem by saying: "Even if you come to my farm and buy a PVPA wheat straight from the combine and plant it without paying the royalty, then we're both guilty — even if you, the buyer, didn't know the wheat was a protected variety. Granted, I should have told you, but even if I didn't we're both still technically liable."

"This is a serious matter that's going to result

in some mighty unhappy folks sooner or later if things don't change."

Quick Facts concerning the PVPA found on the Web at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/science/pvpo/PVPindex.htm> state:

"The PVPA provides developers of new varieties of plants patent-like rights that protect the reproduction and distribution of their varieties."

"Varieties that are protected under the PVPA can be sold as seed stocks only with permission of the certificate holder and in some cases, only as a class of Certified seed."

"Varieties that are protected must have labels on the seed containers indicating the type of protection."

"Farmers may save a limited amount of seed for replanting, but cannot sell it to anyone without permission of the owner."

For more information on the PVPA contact: Plant Variety Protection Office
Dr. Paul M. Zankowski, Commissioner, 10301 Baltimore Ave. Room 401 National Agricultural Library Build. Beltsville, MD 20705. The telephone number is (301) 504-5518; email address is paul.zankowski@usda.gov

Tommy Yeater is the Howard County Cooperative Extension agent for agriculture.

GLICKMAN

Continued from Page 6B

continued with current appointments to the Committee of 125, chair-elect of the development board, Chancellor's Council executive committee and the Jack Blanton Museum council. Additionally, he and his wife established a Plan II lectureship in liberal

arts, endowed a Texas Exes Excellence Award, a chair in business and professional ethics at the University of Texas Law School and helped fund the Larry Faulkner President's Excellence Endowed Fund. In 1988 the Houston Bar Association Auxiliary the Leon Jaworski Award program to honor a lawyer in the Houston community, selected for outstanding community service.

PUBLIC RECORDS

Hot Checks/Warrants issued:

The addresses listed are the last known addresses. If there are any problems with this list, please call 264-2226.

Arcidez, Roseann, 325 Tanglewood, Midland
Brito, Martin H., 112 E. K Street, Monahans
Buck, Sheli Lynn, Park Village Apt. No. 23, Big Spring

Chavarria, Esequiel Carrasco, 888 Settles, Big Spring
Chelette, Joyce, 1107 Jeffrey Rd., Big Spring

Cook, Charlene, 1606 E. 16th Street, Big Spring
Green, Jonathon, 3623 Connally, Big Spring

Hansen, Timothy Edward, 1310 Park Ave., Big Spring
Hines, Romas Wolfe, 901 Baylor, Big Spring

Jarrell, Jonathan, 2804 Williams Road, Big Spring
Lopez, Rachel Ortega, 704 S. Johnson, Big Spring

Massey, Shelby, 4301 Raleigh Dr. No. 901, Midland
Mathews, Katina C., 501 Birdwell Lane Apt. 18 or 2600 Crestline, Big Spring

McGuire, James A., 1910 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
Mitchem, David, 1706 College Ave., Midland

Mize, Carla S., 2600 Fairchild/538 Westover No. 235, Big Spring
Morales, Adam R., 506 N.E. Ninth Street, Big Spring

Moreno, Brigidom, 1330 Powell, Mesquite
McGlouthin, Marcus, 4000 Eastridge, Snyder

Parker, Shelby J., 1200 Lloyd, Big Spring
Ramirez, Robert, 2200 S. Monticello, Big Spring

Small, Chad Douglas, 2101 Runnels, Big Spring
Smith, Bonnie, 2708 S. Anderson, Big Spring

Sowell, Brenda Loper, 2912 Cherokee, Big Spring
Stearns, Karen, 613 Glenn Apt. 133, San Angelo

Taylor, Tonya D. Conner, 406 Goliad, Big Spring
Tovar, Julian, 3665 N. Dixie No. 18, Odessa

Tredaway, Terry, 2203 E. County Road 9, Midland
Valdez, Gina, 3235 Cornell, Big Spring

Valdez, Jaime, 2506 Cheyenne, Big Spring
Westmoreland, Myron Dewayne, 1102 Lancaster, Big Spring

Wren, Richard M. Jr., 3303 91st Street, Lubbock
Yates, Anthony, 1807 1/2 Johnson, Big Spring

District Court Filings:
Amanda Hernandez vs. Randall Eric Hernandez, divorce.
Becky Sue Mendez vs. Raul Mendez Jr., divorce.
Robert Anthony Esparza vs. Karma Marie Esparza, divorce.

Cynthia Rane Locklear vs. Paul Locklear, divorce.
Roger Lloyd vs. Patricia Lloyd, divorce.

Jeffery Aaron May vs. Synovus Leasing Co. aka Butterkrust Bakery and Michael Wayne Moore, injury of damages involving a motor vehicle.

Margaret Jean Newton vs. Peter J. Pegan, injury of damages involving a motor vehicle.

Enoch Gerald Kennedy vs. Pamela Gwen Kennedy, accounts, notes and contracts.

Enerquest Oil Ltd. vs. R.L. Williams Sr. et al, other civil.

Marriage Licenses:
Robert Dean Brewer 52, of California, and Glenda Sue Lewis, 51, of Big Spring.

Alberto Castaneda Loya, 21, and Jennifer Lynn Glass, 18, both of Big Spring.

Alfredo Covarrubias, 34, and Beverly Ann Covarrubias, 32, both of Big Spring.

Truitt Oneil James, 73, and Anita Hudman Killion, 67, both of Midland.

Warranty Deed:
Grantor: Rhonda Smith
Grantee: James Edwynn Parton and Cathryn Williams

Property: A 0.5 acre tract out of the SE/4 of Section 48, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 6, 2004

Grantor: Barbara Eastland, Christine Smith and Bonnie Schropp
Grantee: Iden Investments Inc.

Property: The S/2 of Section 9, Block 31, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 9, 2004

Grantor: Vincent Edward McVey
Grantee: Linda Hill

Property: Lots 1 and 2, Block J, Moore Addition
Date filed: Feb. 11, 2004

Grantor: Marie Rowland Brown
Grantee: Ben Kilgore and Janet Kilgore

Property: Lot 8, Block 4, Highland Park Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp.
Grantee: The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Property: Lot 2, Block 4, Suburban Heights Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Midfirst Bank
Grantee: The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Property: Lot 2, Block 1, Hayden Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Hydro-Dynamics Inc.
Grantee: Ricky L. Spencer and Tracey M. Spencer

Property: A tract out of the east part of SW/4 of Section 43, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 13, 2004

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Linda Sue O'Daniel
Grantee: Manuel Martinez Jr. and Lori Martinez

Property: The S/2 of Section 29, Block 30, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 6, 2004

Grantor: The Decorator's Center Inc.
Grantee: Nancy Robbins

Property: Lot 1, Block 5, College Heights Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Big Spring Humane Society Inc.
Grantee: Scott Emerson

Property: A 1.55 acre tract out of Section 31, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: David Hornsberger and Chrissy Shubert
Grantee: Realty Mortgage Corp.

Property: Lot 3, Block 3, Indian Hills Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Stacy Dykes
Grantee: Countrywide Home Loans Inc.

Property: Lot 2, Block 8, Hall Addition
Date filed: Feb. 12, 2004

Grantor: Wendell Campbell and Billie Vernell Campbell
Grantee: Pedro O. Sanchez and Isabel Ortega

Property: Lot 1, Block 2, Manning Addition
Date filed: Feb. 13, 2004

Grantor: Hayes Stripling Jr. and Dorothy Stripling
Grantee: Ricardo Soto and Bertha Soto

Property: A 1.97 acre tract out of the NW part of Section 24, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Feb. 13, 2004

Hurry, The Deals Are Great.... Come Get Your Vehicle Today, Before It's Gone!!

CARS

1997 Cadillac Catera 4-DR. - Stk# C177, Gold, Sunroof, Leather Seats, 54,000 Miles!

Was \$9,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

2000 Chrysler Concorde LX. - Stk# C158A, V6, auto., Power Seat, Windows, Locks/Mirrors, 39,000 Miles.

Was \$9,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

2001 Chevrolet Lumina - Stk# C158, White, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, 39,000 Miles.

Was \$8,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

1999 Buick Regal GS - Stk# C158, V6, 3.6 Liter, 5-Speed, Overcharged, Gran Touring Pkg., Tilt/Cruise, CD, Leather, 39,000 Miles.

Was \$9,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

1999 Buick Regal LS - Stk# C331, V6, Auto., Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Cassette, CD, Traction Control, Power Seat.

Was \$12,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

2001 Buick Century Custom - Stk# C103, V6, Automatic, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Cassette, Traction Control, Power Seat.

Was \$11,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

2001 Ford Taurus SE Sedan 4DR. - Stk# D1, 3.0L Flex Fuel, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power Steering/Windows/Door Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cassette.

Was \$10,995.....**NOW \$8,995**

2001 Buick LeSabre Limited - Stk# C110, Auto., Power Steering, Power Windows/Locks, CD, Traction Control, Leather, Dual Power Seats.

Was \$12,995.....**NOW \$10,995**

2003 Oldsmobile Alero GL - Stk# C111, V6, Automatic, single CD, Power Seat, Rear Spoiler, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$13,995.....**NOW \$10,995**

2000 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Sedan 4D - Stk# C146, V8, 4.6 Liter, Auto, A/C, Power Steering, Power Windows/Locks, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$12,995.....**NOW \$11,495**

2001 Buick LeSabre Custom Sedan 4D - Stk# C143, V6, 3.8 Liter, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power Seat, Alloy Wheels, 23,000 Miles.

Was \$13,995.....**NOW \$11,995**

2003 Oldsmobile Alero GL Sedan 4D - Stk# C173, V6, 3.4 Liter, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power/Steering/Windows/Door Locks, Tilt/Cruise.

Was \$14,995.....**NOW \$11,995**

2003 Buick Century - Stk#s C120, V6, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, AM/FM Cassette, Power Seat, Only 13,500 Miles!

Was \$14,995.....**NOW \$12,495**

2003 Chevrolet Malibu LS - Stk# C57, Automatic, AC, Power Equipped, AM/FM Stereo, CD, Power Seat, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$15,995.....**NOW \$12,995**

2000 Buick LeSabre Limited - Stk# C103, Auto., AC, Power Windows/Locks, CD, OnStar, Leather, Dual Power Seats.

Was \$14,995.....**NOW \$12,995**

PICKUPS

2001 Dodge 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D1, Automatic, 2WD, A/C, Power Steering/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$11,995.....**NOW \$9,995**

2002 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk #503A, V6, 5 Spd., A/C, PS, T/C, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$11,995.....**NOW \$11,495**

PICKUPS

1998 Ford F150 Super Cab Short Bed - Stk# D8, V8, Auto., 2WD, Third Door, XLT, A/C, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cassette, Only 47K miles.

Was \$12,995.....**NOW \$11,995**

2000 Ford F150 XL - Stk# C178, Reg. Cab SWB, White, 34,000 Miles, Tilt/Cruise, CD, 6 Cyl., Automatic.

Was \$12,995.....**NOW \$11,995**

2001 Chevrolet S-10 Ext. Cab Xtreme LS - Stk# D16, V6, Automatic, Blue In Color, Ground Effects.

Was \$13,995.....**NOW \$12,995**

1999 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Ext. Cab Short Bed - Stk# D12, V8, 5.3 Liter, Auto., 2WD, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, CD.

Was \$14,995.....**NOW \$13,995**

2002 Dodge 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D2, Automatic, 2WD, ST, A/C, Power Steering, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$15,995.....**NOW \$14,995**

2003 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D13, V8, 5.3 Liter, Auto., 2WD, A/C, Dual Front Air Bags, Alloy Wheels. Only 13,000 miles.

Was \$15,995.....**NOW \$15,495**

2000 GMC Sierra 1500 Ext. Cab SLE - Stk# C179, 47,000 Miles, Dual Power Seats, CD, Bed Liner, 5.3 V-8, Auto.

Was \$16,995.....**NOW \$15,995**

2001 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Extended Cab Long Bed - Stk# C167, V8, 5.4 Liter, Auto., 2WD, SLE, Towing Pkg., Alloy Wheels.

Was \$16,995.....**NOW \$15,995**

2002 GMC Sierra 1500 Pickup HD Crew Cab Short Bed - Stk# D3, Automatic, 2WD, SLT, A/C, Power Steering/Windows/Door Locks.

Was \$19,995.....**NOW \$18,995**

2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Stk# C100, V8 5.4L, Automatic, Power Equipped, CD, Running Boards, Alloy Wheels, Towing Pkg.

Was \$19,995.....**NOW \$18,995**

SPORT UTILITY

2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo - Stk# D21, 6 Cyl. Automatic, CD, Cassette, Tow Pkg.

Was \$13,995.....**NOW \$11,995**

2000 GMC Yukon Sport - Stk# C168, V8, 5.3 Liter, Auto., 2WD, SLE, A/C, Rear Air, Alloy Wheels.

Was \$20,995.....**NOW \$18,995**

2001 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Sport Utility - Stk# C131, Auto., 2WD, LT, A/C, Rear Air, Power Steering/Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cass., Towing Pkg., Alloy Wheels. One Owner!

Was \$25,995.....**NOW \$23,495**

2003 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Sport Utility - Stk# C156, Auto., 4WD, 271 Off-Road Pkg., A/C, Rear air, Power Steering/Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cass., Alloy Wheels. Below Wholesale!

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GUARANTEED WEALTH REPORT For average people to acquire wealth for retirement. Totally legal, brand new, not a get rich quick scheme. Call toll-free 1-877-889-6822 (24/7 rec.msg.)

Help Wanted

RODMAN NEEDED for local Company. Call for application and interview (432)263-1908.

Help Wanted

PRN Openings: Cogdell Memorial Hospital is taking applications for RN, LVN and CNA positions. Please contact Charles Hurst, Human Resources Office, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549, 325-574-7185, By Fax: 325-574-7135 or e-mail: churst@cogdellhospital.com

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice is hosting a **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HIRING SEMINAR**

at the Workforce Network of Big Spring
Thursday, February 26, 2004
7:00 pm
For more information, call 936-437-4098

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Help Wanted

CITY OF Big Spring will be testing for the position of Certified Police Officer at 8:30 a.m. Thursday March 25, 2004 at the Police Training Center on 307 E. 4th. Applications are being accepted through Wednesday March 24, 2004. For further information and detailed qualifications contact City Hall personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or Call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

FIBER GLASS SYSTEMS is now taking applications for the position of Maintenance Supervisor. Applicants should have strong electrical knowledge and experience. Please call Wayne Johnke at (432)263-1291 for further information.

Help Wanted

LEAD MAINTENANCE person needed with AC Cert. & Plumbing experience. Apply in person at 538 Westover.

Help Wanted

BARTENDER/ WAITRESS, part-time (Mixed Drink). Apply after 5 pm at 703 W. 3rd. No Phone Calls.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

West Texas Centers for MHMR:

Chief Accountant: Challenging fast paced position. Accounting degree required, supervisory experience preferred. Supervises a group of staff that perform accounting, budget and payroll activities. Salary \$40,000-\$50,000 annually. DOE.

Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels

JOBLINE at 800-687-2769, or visit www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE.

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Help Wanted

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

BAKER PETROLITE

There is an opening for a Contract Treating Driver in Howard County. Candidate will operate a treater truck for downhole and pipeline treatments. Must be physically capable as well as maintaining associated paperwork. Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent; good driving record; Class A or B CDL; HAZMAT and Tanker endorsements. Please call 800/658-2769 x7224 between 8-5 CT for appointment.
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mm@swalpc.com

Real Estate for Sale

FOR SALE: 2 story, 3,000 sq. ft., downtown office building. Would be ideal for Doctor's Office. Call (432)267-3126

FOR SALE: Commercial property High Traffic, Corner Lot, 901 East Third St. Zoned Industrial. \$69,995. Call 800-417-7419

OWNER FINANCE. 2 BDRM, 1 bath, 804 Settles, 2200 S. Monticello, 1226 East 15th, 1504 Benton. Call (806)773-0639 or 791-0367

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NEED A home? I can help, no credit, bad credit, I will finance your home with a low down/payment. Please call Annette Sanchez @ (432)413-0549 1811 State 1 Bdrm 1 bath & 705 Lancaster 2 Bdrm 1 bath.

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1991 CHEVY Passenger Van, 51k. \$3400. 1993 Ford 15 Passenger Van, 90k. \$4300. Call (432)393-5231.

1995 CHEVROLET 1500 pickup, single cab, high mileage. 510 Scurry. \$3,900. Call 267-2137 or 267-8255.

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BIG SPRING HERALD

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for highway improvements contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6108-82-001 for REHAB PICNIC AREAS in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 18, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$206,928.50.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 12344

State Office
Constr./ Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office (s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#4121 February 22 & 23, 2004.

RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTORS

The City of Coahoma will implement the HOME Program, single-family Rehabilitation/New Construction. Contractors require good references, financials, workers, compensation, and general liability insurance. HUBs are encouraged to participate. Pre-qualification Application is available by calling Sara, 512-420-0303.

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Program
#4123 February 22, 2004

ELECTION NOTICE

Filing for the May 15, 2004, election of Board of Directors of the Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District are now open for Precinct One (1), Precinct Two (2) and the At Large Position. Those wishing to file need to do so in the Water District office at 132 North Main St. in Garden City. Filing will close on the 15th day of March 2004. Office hours are Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Archivando para la eleccion del 15 de Marzo de 2004, para la junta directiva del distrito subterraneo de la conservacion del agua del condado de Glasscock esta abierto para el precinto Uno (1), y precinto Dos (2), y para un posicjon grande. Esos deseando de archivar necesitan registrase en la oficina de distrito de Conservacion de agua en la calle Norte Main 132 en Garden City. Archivando se cerrara el dia 15 de Marzo, 2004. Las horas de oficina son de lunes a viernes de las 8:00 de la manana hasta las 4:00 de la tarde.
#4124 February 22, 2004

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, WILL HOLD A MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2004, AT 5:30 PM, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR A ZONE CHANGE:

The owner of a 5 acre tract out of the SW/4 of Section 32, Block 33, T-1-N. T. & P. RR Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas (1 block east of W. Marcy Drive, North side of Martin Luther King Boulevard) has requested a zone change from Single Family -2 (SF-2) to Light Commercial (LC) for the use of a Multi-Family Complex.
#4125 February 19 & 22, 2004.

CITY OF BIG SPRING
CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, 5:30 P.M.
MARCH 9, 2004
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
307 E. 4TH STREET,
BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720

for
PROPOSED AMENDED SUB-DIVISION ORDINANCE
The City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider the Proposed Amended Sub-Division Ordinance for the City of Big Spring, Howard County Texas. Citizens will have the opportunity to express any oral or written comments or mail your comments to Todd Darden, Public Works Director, City of Big Spring, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call (432)264-2500.
#4129 February 22 & 24, 2004

Want to have the
adventure of a lifetime
without all the fuss?
Read!

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
Mars and Neptune are mounting a kind of astrological cold war.

Aggressive energies might be misplaced. Anger can be fuel if well directed, or it can cause unnecessary obstacles. Choose your battles. The moon in Aries lends plenty of energy to your endeavors, and relaxing in front of the TV will be nearly impossible!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Assume nothing. Before noon, the agenda will have turned on its head. Love tip: Keep things easygoing. The more fun you have together, the more your affection grows. Wait to ask for a serious commitment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're given the specific answers you've been looking for. Friends show they care. Your well-being seems almost to be an obsession for one close to you. Home life gets unruly, but there's no reason to lose your sense of humor.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Family work is noble. You are building on the dreams of your forefathers, and future generations will build on your efforts. You're attracted to a one-of-a-kind individual. See if he or she feels the same way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Make a specific list of what you need to get done, and then, don't let anything stop you. If you're already in a relationship, other prospects make plays for your affection because you show how wonderful a partner you can be.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's a struggle between what you expect of yourself and what others expect of you. Give yourself all the space you need to do your best thinking. Go for a long walk. Lucky contacts are

Gemini and Sagittarius. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are a bunch of "have-to's" that creep up on you early in the day. Get them done by noon, and you have an easygoing afternoon to look forward to. Love luck is all about how you use what you've already got.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your health routine is the focus and could be where you meet your next great love. Give your best efforts to friends working on a special project. Last-ditch attempts work beautifully because you are less connected to the outcome!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A competition is featured between you and someone who's supposed to be your friend. Don't sabotage this relationship because of your ambition. The loving support you get from this person is valuable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though you are feeling rather disorganized about your belief system, you could nonetheless make important connections (both inside yourself and socially) in an organized religious setting. A Pisces figures prominently.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's quite a bit of distraction floating around. Socially, you'll probably be judged by superficial things. No matter how entrenched you are in your own world, cover your bases by being orderly, stylish and on time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Assess your many attributes — on paper if you can. It's not egocentric, and in fact, nobody has to know. Being clear about what you have to contribute to the world gives you confidence. Tonight, you make a lucky guess and win.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Not content to muddle through, you want to win! Complexities thrown into the mix could knock you off balance. It's hard to think if you're not dressed, clean and fed, so start with those and see how well your mind works.

Annie's Mailbox •
Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My smart, pretty, college-educated sister-in-law is a veteran of almost 20 major orthopedic surgeries. It started when "Nadia" was in a freak accident as a teenager. Since then, there's been one medical crisis after another, each requiring surgery. The entire family, especially my mother-in-law, puts everything on hold to help with Nadia's recovery and rehabilitation process.

Despite all these surgeries, Nadia seems to be getting worse. Her cases are always complicated and slightly mysterious. The doctors can't quite figure out what's wrong or why her condition hasn't improved.

I'm sorry to say, I think Nadia has become addicted to the powerful drugs she is given in the hospital. I am starting to believe she is injuring herself intentionally and compromising her recovery, so she can be admitted to the hospital to have more surgery and get more prescription pain and sleeping medication.

Should I share my suspicions with her doctors, even though other family members think I'm wrong? I dearly love Nadia and want her to get better. At the same time, I resent her putting our family through this over and over, especially her elderly parents. What should I do? — Sister-in-Law in Iowa

Dear Iowa: If Nadia is returning to the same doctors, at the same hospital, they already should be suspicious of her condition. Twenty "mysterious" surgeries



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

since she was a teenager would ring alarm bells for anyone. Nadia may not be injuring herself or looking for painkillers, but something definitely is not right.

Talk to your husband and the other family members. Express your concern again, and ask them to discuss it with Nadia's physician. If they truly want her to get better, they should explore all possibilities — even the unpleasant ones.

Dear Annie: Why do I have to sit through commercials before the movie previews at my local theater? With ticket prices around \$10, I do not care to see commercials for shoes, candy, make-up and cars. Is there any hope? — Commercial Free in Southern California

Dear C.F.: Probably not. Commercials bring in money. Your only alternative is to rent the video or DVD, or wait until the movie comes out on commercial-free cable.

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Pet of the Week



Adopt "Wimpy", a male red and black Dachshund mix (basset). He is 2-2 1/2 years old. See him at:

Big Spring Animal Control
FM 700
North Service Road
264-2372
www.petfinder.com

Sponsored by:

Highland Animal Hospital
Scott Burt, D.V.M.

3600 Hwy 87 S.
432-267-8291

Big Spring, Tx 79720
432-267-8292 (fax)

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Vehicles

Vehicles

Vehicles

It's Truck Month

**OVERSTOCKED - OVER 75
NEW CHECKS TO CHOOSE FROM**



04 Ranger XL
Regular Cab

2 At
This
Price

\$16,720 -MSRP
<2,500> -Rebate
<1,230> - Bob Brock Disc.

\$12,990

Sale Price +TT&L



04 F-150 Supercab
Heritage XLT

Several
To
Choose
From

\$2,500 -Factory Rebate
\$500- Ford Credit Rebate
\$3,050 - Bob Brock Disc.

\$6,050

Total Available Savings



04 F-150
Supercab XLT

#9544

\$28,610 -MSRP
<1,000> -Rebate
<3,615> - Bob Brock Disc.

\$23,995

Sale Price +TT&L



04 F-150
Supercab

17
To
Choose
From

Motor Trend
Truck of the
Year

1.9% Apr

**TRUCK
MONTH**

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