



Council to consider terminating KBYG lease

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Final approval of an ordinance calling for a recall election for Mayor Russ McEwen and possible termination of local radio station KBYG's Comanche Trail Park lease top the agenda for Tuesday's meeting of the Big Spring City Council.

Council members are expect-

ed to give final approval to an ordinance calling for a May 12 recall election for McEwen, to be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled election for the position.

Mayor Russ McEwen was targeted along with four council members for recall in an affidavit filed last month by citizens objecting to the city council's passage of a no-smoking ordinance.

However, during the verification process, it was determined petitioners had not gathered enough valid signatures to force recall elections for District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton, District 3 Councilwoman JoAnn Staulcup, District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald or District 5 Councilwoman Joann Knox.

However, enough valid signa-

tures were obtained to force a recall election for the mayor, according to City Finance Director Peggy Walker. The finance director's office received petitions containing 661 signatures, of which 498 were certified as valid.

And while pro-recall citizens succeeded in one of five efforts, Walker said the election will have no bearing on who does — or doesn't — take the mayor's

seat on the council.

"I don't see how the recall election can have any effect on the electing of a mayor in May," said Walker. "Typically, this provision in our charter is used to remove an elected official prior to the end of their term. That's not the way this particular petition is going to work. They are going to vote on

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Max Green, right, samples some of his chili while son Dane continues preparations as they compete in the 18th annual Boss Hogg Chili Cook-off at the Harley Davidson Shop Saturday afternoon.

Cook-off produces some serious chili from some not-so-serious competitors

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

As long as there's been a Boss Hogg Chili Cook-off, Max Green has been part of the action, whether it has been cooking or wise-cracking.

The long-time accountant, former Big Spring mayor and namesake for the cook-off has been a mainstay at the event since its inception in 1989 and he was back Saturday, partnering with his son, Dane,

against 17 other teams.

Green had a ready answer for almost any question. Whether the answers were sincere was another matter.

For example — his secret chili ingredient?

"Roadkill ... fresh roadkill," Green said. "And you have to get up pretty early in the morning to get it, too."

His approach to the competition?

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Chili

1. Dalton and Carol Lewis, Big Spring
2. Tim Riebe, Big Spring
3. Jan Bartlett, Sweetwater

Showmanship

1. Max and Dane Green, Big Spring
2. Hoos Yer Chili Team, Coahoma
3. American Legion Riders, Snyder

Tax rebates up over last year for Big Spring

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Big Spring received \$370,393.20 in sales tax rebates to start the new year, a double-digit increase compared to January 2006, according to the Texas State Comptroller's Office.

January rebates for the Howard County seat compare to \$318,848.65 a year ago, up 16.16 percent. Since a new year has begun, the year-to-date

total is the same as the monthly total for January.

Coahoma received \$6,546.85 this month, a 55.18 percent increase when compared to the \$4,218.75 received in January 2006. It is not uncommon for smaller communities to witness large decreases and increases throughout the year.

Case in point is Forsan,

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Bombs kill at least 78 people in Baghdad

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — At least 78 people were killed and more than 150 wounded Monday after two nearly simultaneous bombs struck a predominantly Shiite commercial area in central Baghdad in the deadliest attack in two months, officials said.

The U.S. military reported the deaths of two Marines in a particularly bloody weekend for American forces in Iraq — a total of 27 dead in just two days.

Monday's first blast, a parked car bomb, tore through stalls of vendors peddling DVDs and secondhand clothes shortly after noon in the Bab al-Sharqi market between

Tayaran and Tahrir squares — one of the busiest parts of Baghdad. Seconds later, a suicide car bomber drove into the crowd.

Police estimated that each car was loaded with nearly 220 pounds of explosives.

Deputy Health Minister Hakim al-Zamili said at least 78 people were killed and 156 were wounded.

The explosions left body parts strewn on the blood-stained pavement as black smoke rose into the sky. Police sealed off the area and ambulances rushed to the scene.

Survivors were taken to nearby al-Kindi Hospital where emergency personnel worked feverishly over the bloodied and

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LOTS OF UPS AND DOWNS

WHITTIER, Calif. (AP) — Richard Krieger's life is a roller coaster.

Since semi-retiring from various odd jobs, the 61-year-old Whittier resident has spent his days at Knott's Berry Farm in nearby Buena Park riding the gravity-defying Xcelerator roller coaster.

On Saturday, he boarded the coaster for the 20,000th time, a park record.

"It feels almost the same as the first time, only I know what to expect," said Krieger, who has been on the ride an average of 12 times a day for the past 4 1/2 years.

He once rode it 124 times in one day, a feat that took eight hours.

HANGAR RECEPTION

Hangar 25 Air Museum will hold its annual meeting and Veteran of the Month reception Thursday.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. for museum members and previous Veteran of the Month honorees.

Non-members wishing to attend the Veteran of the Month reception for Col. Harry A. Spannaus and for the unveiling of the new permanent display, the "Spannaus Office," are encouraged to arrive at 7 p.m.

Col. Spannaus served 28 years in the military, flying 17 combat missions during the Korean War and 222 combat missions in the Vietnam War.

BLOOD DRIVE COMING

Cornerstone Church, in cooperation with United Blood Services, is having a blood drive from 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Feb. 3. Appointments are available by calling 263-3072 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"We're sponsoring this to raise awareness within our community about donating blood," said the Rev. Craig Felty, senior pastor of Cornerstone Church.

"One of United Blood Services yearly fundraisers is the Blood Gusher Run, which is scheduled for April 7. Anyone who donates blood at the February blood drive may count it as their entry fee into that 5K run," Felty said.



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Obituaries

Emil Zoltan Zilai



Emil Zoltan Zilai, 75, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2007, at Midland Memorial Hospital due to complications related to cancer. Memorial services will be held 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Pastor Wayne Frost, of St. Paul Lutheran Church, officiating.

He was born March 25, 1931, in Martin's Ferry, Ohio.

Mr. Zilai had lived in Big Spring for 37 years. He achieved Masters level education and attended various universities, including West Liberty State College, Thunderbird School of Business, University of West Virginia, Ohio State University and the University of Mexico City. Mr. Zilai retired from the Big Spring State Hospital where he worked as a hospital administrator. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and was a member of VFW Post 2013 in Big Spring. He enjoyed reading and traveling. Mr. Zilai traveled extensively and worked in many countries, including such places as China, Japan, Iran, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Turkey, the Yucatan, Sri Lanka, Europe and South America.

Survivors include longtime friend and companion, Lela Hansen of Big Spring; two sons, Zachary Zilai of Fairbanks, Alaska and Mike Zilai of Houston; the mother of his children, Gail Zilai of Big Spring; one brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Arlene Zilai of Martins Ferry, Ohio; one niece, Zana Zilai of Martins Ferry, Ohio; and one nephew, Zoltan Zilai of Martins Ferry, Ohio.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121.

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

Mary Alice McNew Rush



Mary Alice McNew Rush was born April 29, 1919, in Big Spring and died Jan. 17, 2007, in Dallas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd Eugene Rush; her parents, George Durah McNew and Florence E. McNew; her sister, Florence McKenzie; and her grandson, Matthew Jones.

Mary Alice's great-grandparents, the Schwarzenbachs and the Scholz, were early settlers in the 1880's in Stanton and Big Spring. Mary Alice graduated from Big Spring High School in 1936. She was quite popular and active in extra curricular activities. She had the lead in the school play, "Lady Spitfire" and was also a member of the Pep Squad. She attended New Mexico A & M, now known as New Mexico State University, where she met and married a rancher, Jeff Isaacks, in 1940. After the war, she moved back to Big Spring with her two daughters, Peggy and Ann, and began her career in education as a first grade teacher at West Ward, later known as Cedar Crest. She also taught at College Heights. Her favorite quote was, "I may be strict, but the children do know how to read going to second grade."

In 1952, she married Lloyd Eugene Rush and started a second family with the birth of their son, Gerald Eugene Rush. Mary Alice was an avid reader and enjoyed bridge with her friends. She was an excellent seamstress and made most of the clothes for Peggy and Ann. After retirement, she and Gene began traveling, going to Europe several times and also went to several United States Marine Corps reunions. A highlight of every week was meeting with some of her retired teacher friends for lunch at the Spanish Inn.

She is survived by her sister, Margaret Priest of Temple; two daughters, Peggy Isaacks Jones and husband, Art, of Dallas and Ann Isaacks Banks and husband, Glenn, of Garland; one son, Jerry Rush and wife, Vikki, of Lubbock; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the charity of your choice or to the Alzheimer's National Office, 225 N. Michigan Avenue, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

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

Victor Lewis Jackson

Victor Lewis Jackson, 86, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Jan. 21, 2007, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

• DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO LEARN ENGLISH? Amparo Snipes will be offering free lessons at Baptist Temple Church, 11th and Goliad. For more information, contact her at (432) 267-6885.

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- **CHRISTINA MARTINEZ**, 23, of 628 Caylor, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **FERNANDO KYONG ARRIAGA JR.**, 30, of 606 N.W. Eighth Street, was arrested Sunday on seven local warrants and three county warrants.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported:
 - in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
 - in the 500 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 800 block of Main Street.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
 - in the 300 block of 19th Street.
 - in the 3900 block of Parkway.
- **ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 1500 block of Bluebird.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 600 block of Eighth Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1500 block of Scurry.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 500 block of Lamesa.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 41 inmates at the time of this report.
- **JENNY MARIE LYON**, 32, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of interfering with an emergency phone call.
 - **CHRISTINA MARTINEZ**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
 - **DAVID CHRISTOPHER PETREE**, 22, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
 - **ROBERT EDWARD BAKER JR.**, 33, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of disregarding a stop sign, expired driver's license and violation of a promise to appear.
 - **JOSE ALFREDO JIMENEZ**, 46, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of theft.
 - **FELIPE VALLE VELASQUEZ**, 36, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated - open container and driving while intoxicated.
 - **SONNY NATHANIEL RILEY**, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charge of possession of marijuana and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3900 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1500 block of Kentucky. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Crestline. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported at Coahoma High School. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Brooke Road. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4000 block of Jackson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of West Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

MONDAY
• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

Bulletin Board

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

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

TUESDAY
• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY
• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
• West Texas Opportunities will hold a public meeting at 10 a.m. in the Howard County Library to explain the types of services WTO provides.
• Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY
• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow. Lows in the mid 20s. North winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.
Tuesday...Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain and snow in the morning. Then a slight chance of rain in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain in the evening... Then a slight chance of rain and snow after midnight. Lows in the upper 20s. Light and variable winds. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
Wednesday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the mid 40s. North winds around 10 mph.
Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.
Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.
Thursday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow. Lows around 30.
Friday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.
Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.
Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.
Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.
Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs around 50.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 11-12-15-16-17-43.
Number matching six of six: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$28 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 1-2-7-21-29.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$30,459.
Winning ticket sold in: Houston.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-9-9

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News briefs

Migrant rescued from abandoned mine shaft near Columbus

DEMING, N.M. (AP) — A 26-year-old Mexican national who crossed the border and fell down a 50-foot abandoned mine shaft west of Columbus was rescued by U.S. Border Patrol agents.

A group of migrants approached National Guard soldiers at a surveillance site Saturday to tell them the man had fallen into the shaft.

The National Guard team members then notified Border Patrol agents, who summoned the El Paso sector's Border Patrol Search, Trauma And Rescue, or BORSTAR, team.

Two team members were lowered into the cavern amid subfreezing temperatures, falling snow and freezing rain.

Agents said the man, whom they didn't identify, was conscious when he was lifted and raised from the deep hole using a rope and pulley system.

The man suffered from hypothermia and had a concussion, multiple spinal and neck injuries, a broken left wrist, cuts on his head and severe bruising.

Authorities continue search for kidnapping suspect

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A 10-year-old Texhoma girl who escaped from her abductor's vehicle in New Mexico has been reunited with her family, and investigators on Sunday issued a revised description of her captor.

Marissa Graham was abducted Thursday in Texhoma, forced into the trunk of a white vehicle and tied up, FBI spokesman Gary Johnson said. Her abductor later moved her into a purple vehicle, possibly a minivan or a hatchback.

She escaped Friday when she kicked open a door of the vehicle and ran into a convenience store in Clovis, N.M., about 200 miles away.

"She's a very courageous, smart child and we feel very fortunate that she's been recovered safely," Johnson said.

Johnson said the girl has been working with authorities to develop a more detailed description of her captor.

Johnson said the suspect is white, about 6 feet tall, with a thin build, in his 30s or younger. He had short, brown hair, parted on the side and wore glasses. He was wearing a blue shirt with "Princeton" in orange letters, tan cargo-style pants and white Nike tennis shoes.

Woman charged with capital murder in beating death of grandson

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A San Antonio woman has been charged with capital murder after she confessed to beating her 4-year-old grandson to death, authorities said.

Santa Magdalena Campos had been caring for her grandson, Jeremiah Campos, and five other siblings since March because their mother was incarcerated, said Mary Walker, a spokeswoman for Child Protective Services.

The boy's body was discovered Friday after his grandfather came home and found him unresponsive. Authorities said Jeremiah was pronounced dead after being taken to a hospital.

Doctors said the boy had suffered cardiac arrest and had bruises on his feet, legs, knees, arms, head and back, as well as a cut on his neck — and many of the injuries appeared old and consistent with severe child abuse.

Santa Magdalena Campos, 44, later confessed to police that she became upset when the boy soiled his underwear.

She said she took him to a bathroom and started punching him in the back and the buttocks. She also pushed him, causing his head to strike the edge of a door, police said.

She was being held in Bexar County Jail in lieu of \$500,000 bond.

CHILI

Continued from Page 1A

"I always take my competitors really serious," he said. "I like to see them get that worried look on their faces when we show up."

Realizing that comment might have stretched credulity a bit too far, Green down-shifted to more sincere mode.

"Seriously, we have a lot of fun," he said. "It's strictly for bragging rights here."

Green knows about holding bragging rights at the Boss Hogg cook-off — after all, he won the first event, held in downtown Big Spring in 1989.

"Of course, I think I was the only cook that year," he quickly added.

Max and his son took second place in the Best in Show competition

Saturday, behind the Hoos Yer Chili team from Coahoma and just ahead of the American Legion Riders group from Snyder.

First prize in the cook-off went to Dalton and Carol Lewis of Big Spring, followed by Tim Riebe of Big Spring and Jan Bartlett of Sweetwater.

There was a seven-way tie for fourth between Green, Jettley Walker, Mike Ramirez and Bobby Codoba, Howard Walker, Dubb Griggs, Lewis Davila and Mike Lindsey, all of Big Spring.

First prize for the cook-off was worth \$150, with second place garnering \$75 and third placing bringing in \$50.

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

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

the same ballot.

"If a citizen does not want Russ McEwen to be mayor, they have the option to simply not vote for him, rather than not vote for him and vote for the recall. It's a redundancy. One will not supersede the other. It's a very unusual situation, to say the least."

McEwen said the recall election will have no bearing on how he runs his campaign for re-election.

"This doesn't change how I plan to run at all," said McEwen. "I have a record, and if people think it's a good record, then they should vote for me. If they think it's a bad record, then they shouldn't vote for me."

REBATES

Continued from Page 1A

which witnessed an increase of 43.47 percent. Forsan counted up \$6,605.97 this month, which compares to \$4,604.17 a year ago.

Abilene received \$2,486,938.80 for January, a 9.33 percent increase compared to the \$2,274,638.71 the city received in January 2006.

Andrews took in \$268,674.03, an increase of 71.74 percent when compared to the \$156,438.50 received the same month in 2006.

Brownfield got off to a sluggish start for 2007, nothing a 6.53 decrease when comparing this year's January rebates of

Then they should vote for someone else. The situation (with the recall) doesn't change that at all."

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council is expected to meet in an executive session regarding pending or contemplated litigation against David M. Pappajohn, owner of KBYG Radio.

Following the executive session, the council is expected to consider terminating the lease agreement between the city of Big Spring and Pappajohn. The radio station is currently located in the municipality's Comanche Trail Park, near Wasson Road.

Also on Tuesday's agenda:

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a renewal agreement with the West Texas Water Ski

Club.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a mutual release of all claims with Thomas A. Land regarding the city's occupancy of and alleged damages to property.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a contract with Scenic Mountain Medical Center for its WorkSTEPS program.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a joint election agreement with Big Spring Independent School District.

• Final reading of an ordinance calling for a special election to be held May 12 for the purpose of voting for or against the recall of McEwen.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the

mayor to execute an election services contract with the Howard County Elections Administrator.

• Final reading of a resolution establishing TexSTAR Investment Pool as an authorized investment and authorizing the mayor to execute an application for participation.

• First reading of a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute a contract with Maximus, Inc.

• First reading of a resolution authorizing and directing the mayor to execute a contract with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the supply of water to the Big Spring State Park.

The meeting is slated for 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

cent increase compared to the \$3,208,658.11 the city received in January 2006.

Midland had an increase of 13.23 percent this month, comparing \$2,467,056.60 to \$2,178,655.37 for January 2004.

Monahans received \$103,112.02, a 13.94 percent increase when compared to January 2006's rebates of \$90,491.77.

Odessa noted a whopping 42.12 percent increase, comparing January 2007 numbers of \$1,629,099.67 to January 2006 numbers of \$1,146,274.65.

Pecos witnessed a 13.48 percent increase, comparing the \$78,687.75 for January of this year to the \$69,337.38 a year ago.

San Angelo received \$1,314,918.98 this month,

an eye-raising 6.66 percent above the \$1,232,782.72 it received in January 2006.

The Scurry County seat of Snyder had a solid increase in rebates to start the year. The community received \$167,144.78, up 20.02 percent compared to the \$139,258.65 it took in a year ago.

Stanton had a tough first-of-the-year decrease of negative 21.54 percent. The Martin County seat pulled in \$12,202.36 this month compared to \$15,552.73 in January 2006.

Sweetwater took in \$195,057.46 for January, up 8.25 percent when compared to the \$180,190.38 it received a year ago.

IRAQ

Continued from Page 1A

badly wounded.

Bodies covered in blue and white cloth littered the outdoor courtyard at the hospital. Family members and friends were at the side of the dead, screaming in grief and crying out oaths.

A suicide bomber killed at least 63 people in the same area last month.

The latest bombings were a further sign of what appears to be a renewed campaign of Sunni insurgent violence against Shiite targets. Last week, 142 Iraqis were killed or found dead on Tuesday alone, including 65 students at a leading Baghdad university who died in twin car bombings.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, a Shiite, denounced the attack.

"We condemn this crime and we promise that the security forces will pursue all those involved in this crime and bring them to justice," he said in a statement.

Monday's death toll made it the single deadliest assault against civilians in Iraq since Nov. 23, when a coordinated attack of car bombs and mortars in Baghdad's Sadr City Shiite slum killed at least 215 people. That onslaught was blamed on fighters for al-Qaida in Iraq.

Hours earlier Monday, gunmen killed a teacher as she was on her way to work at a girls' school in the mainly Sunni area of

Khadra in western Baghdad, police said, adding that the teacher's driver was wounded in the drive-by shooting.

The two U.S. Marines were killed Sunday in separate attacks in the Anbar province, an insurgent stronghold west of Baghdad, the military said. The deaths came a day after 25 U.S. troops were killed Saturday in the third-deadliest day since the war started in March 2003 — eclipsed only by the one-day toll 37 U.S. fatalities on Jan. 26, 2005, and 28 on the third day of the U.S. invasion.

The heaviest tolls on Saturday came from a Black Hawk helicopter crash in which 12 U.S. soldiers were killed northeast of Baghdad as well as an attack on a provincial government building in the Shiite holy city of Karbala that left five U.S. troops dead.

The U.S. military has not ruled out hostile fire. Col. David Sutherland, the commander of U.S. forces in the strife-ridden Iraqi province of Diyala, said the helicopter crash was still under investigation and his troops were participating in recovery efforts.

The violence underscores the challenges faced by U.S. and Iraqi forces as they seek to rein in Sunni insurgents and Shiite militias that have made the capital and surrounding areas a battleground.

Meanwhile, two government officials on Sunday said Iraq's prime minister dropped his protection of an anti-American cleric's militia after being con-

vinced by U.S. intelligence that the group was infiltrated by death squads.

Al-Maliki's turnaround on the Mahdi Army was puzzling because as late as Oct. 31, he had intervened to end a U.S. blockade of Sadr City, the northeast Shiite enclave in Baghdad that is headquarters to the militia.

Shiite militias began taking revenge after more than two years of incessant bomb and shooting

attacks by Sunni insurgents.

Sometime between late October and Nov. 30, when the prime minister met President Bush, al-Maliki was convinced of the truth of American intelligence reports which contended, among other things, that his protection of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's militia was isolating him in the Arab world and among moderates at home, two government officials said.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

Focus energy policy on slowing climate change

Both Congress and the Bush administration seem certain to return to energy policy this year. The subject is likely to be featured in President Bush's State of the Union address; a variety of energy bills have been proposed in Congress; and this year's reauthorization of the farm program may repackage agricultural handouts as ethanol-promoting energy policy. But there is a danger in the way political leaders are framing this issue. "Energy independence" is more elusive and less rewarding than is commonly perceived. It should not be allowed to take precedence over attempts to curb global warming.

The United States imports 60 percent of the petroleum it consumes, about double the share two decades ago. Those imports come mostly from countries whose governments are unstable, unsavory or overtly hostile to the United States: 60 percent of the world's oil reserves are in the Middle East, 10 percent in Africa, 6 percent in Venezuela and 5 percent in Russia. It sounds reasonable to argue that if the United States relied less on these regions for its fuel, it would be better off.

But consider this thought experiment: If the United States replaced all oil imports with domestically produced fuel, how much more secure would it be? Well, a Venezuelan or Iranian oil embargo could still hurt U.S. motorists and oil-consuming industries. An embargo would create a global scarcity of oil, and fuel prices would jump-including the price of fuel in the United States. Admittedly, Americans would be paying those high prices to producers in their own country rather than to producers abroad, but the importance of this distinction is debatable. Some producers in the United States are foreign-owned, and many production operations abroad are U.S.-owned.

Some military planners say that, even so, energy independence would boost national security. The nation must be able to count on access to sufficient fuel to power its military machine and key industries. But two-fifths of the oil consumed in the United States is domestically produced, and the nation maintains a strategic petroleum reserve. Besides, it would take a truly formidable enemy to prevent the United States from buying oil simultaneously from the Middle East, West Africa and Latin America. True energy security comes not so much from energy independence as from diverse sources of supply.

Another security argument for energy independence is that by importing oil from radical Islamic regimes the United States is financing both sides in the struggle against terrorism. But it doesn't matter to Islamic radicals who buys their oil; the United States has banned Iranian oil imports since 1979, but Iran's crude still fetches the world price in the international market. It's true that, in pursuing energy independence, the United States would either restrict its consumption or boost its output; this would slightly alter the global balance of supply and demand, perhaps reducing the oil price and diminishing Iran's revenue. But even this effect is not certain: Saudi Arabia might respond by pumping less so that prices remained stable.

This is not to say that curing the American addiction to oil would bring no security benefits whatever. Over the long term it would probably exert a moderating influence on oil prices; this would reduce the influence of authoritarian petro-states such as Russia or Venezuela. But this distant and uncertain benefit should not be the prime driver of energy policy. Mr. Bush and Congress should focus their energy policy on mitigating climate change and accept security gains that may flow from that as a welcome byproduct.

- THE WASHINGTON POST

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You, Lord, and Your heavens are our long-term goal.

Amen

How the left lowers our guard

In considering a funding cut-off for U.S. troops in Iraq, the liberal leadership in Congress runs the risk of making the United States more vulnerable to future attacks, not just in the Middle East but here at home. To understand this, it's not enough to revisit the factors that led to the Iraq invasion. We must consider the roots of 9/11 itself. Only by understanding the policies that sowed the seeds of 9/11 can we intelligently decide how best to proceed in fighting the war on terror.

Pundits on the left say that 9/11 was the result of a "blow-back" of resistance from the Islamic world against U.S. foreign policy. At first glance, this seems to make no sense. American colonialism in the Middle East? The U.S. has no history of colonialism there. Washington's support for unelected dictatorial regimes in the region? The Muslims can't be outraged about this, because there are no other kinds of regimes in the region. U.S. support for Israel and wars against the Muslims? Yes, but the U.S. has frequently fought on the side of the Muslims, as in Afghanistan in the 1980s or in the Persian Gulf War.

But in a sense the liberal pundits are right. The U.S. made two gigantic foreign policy blunders in recent decades that did sow the seeds of 9/11. What the liberals haven't recognized is that these blunders were the direct result of their policies and actions, and were carried out by Democratic presidents — Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

To understand this, we need a little perspective. Radical Islam became a global force in 1979, when it captured its first major state, Iran. Before that, radical organizations such as the Muslim Brotherhood were fighting losing battles to overthrow their local governments. This changed with the success of the Khomeini regime in Iran. The Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was the first Muslim leader to describe the U.S.

as the "Great Satan" and to counsel martyrdom and jihad against it. Iran continues to be a model for radical Muslims.

Khomeini's ascent to power was aided by Carter's policies. Carter came into office stressing his support for human rights. His advisers told him that he could not consistently support the shah of Iran, who had secret police and was widely accused of violating human rights. The administration began to withdraw its support and finally pulled the rug out from under the shah, forcing him to step down.

The result was Khomeini, whose regime was vastly more tyrannical than the shah's. The Khomeini revolution provided state sponsorship for Islamic radicalism and terrorism and paved the way for Osama bin Laden and 9/11.

Clinton's policies also helped to provoke 9/11. After the Cold War, leading Islamic radicals returned to their home countries. Bin Laden left Afghanistan and went back to Saudi Arabia; Ayman Zawahiri returned to Egypt. They focused on fighting their own rulers — what they termed the "near enemy" — in order to establish states under Islamic law. But in the mid- to late 1990s, these radicals shifted strategy. They decided to stop fighting the near enemy and to attack the "far enemy," the U.S.

The world's sole superpower would seem to be much more formidable than local Muslim rulers such as Hosni Mubarak in Egypt or the Saudi royal family. Bin Laden argued, however, that the far enemy was actually weaker and more vulnerable. He was confident that when kicked in their vital organs, Americans would pack up and run. Just like in Vietnam. Just like in Mogadishu.

Bin Laden saw his theory of American weakness vindicated during the Clinton era. In 1993, Islamic radicals bombed the World Trade Center. The Clinton administration did little. In 1996, Muslim terrorists attacked the Khobar Towers facility on a U.S. base in Saudi Arabia. No response. In 1998, al-Qaida bombed two U.S. embassies in Africa. Clinton responded with a few perfunctory strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan. These did no real harm to al-Qaida

and only strengthened the perception of American ineptitude. In 2000, Islamic radicals bombed the U.S. destroyer Cole. Again, the Clinton team failed to act. By his own admission, Bin Laden concluded that his suspicion of American pusillanimity and weakness was correct. He became emboldened to plot the 9/11 attacks.

Still, the 2001 attacks might have been averted had the Clinton administration launched an effective strike against Bin Laden in the years leading up to them. Clinton has said he made every effort to get Bin Laden during his second term. Yet former CIA agent Michael Scheuer estimates that there were about 10 chances to capture or kill Bin Laden during this period and that the Clinton people failed to capitalize on any of them.

Between 1996 and mid-2000, Bin Laden was not in deep hiding. He gave sermons in Kandahar's largest mosque. He talked openly on his satellite phone. He also granted a number of media interviews: in 1996, with author Robert Fisk; in 1997, with Peter Arnett of CNN; in 1998, with John Miller of ABC News; in 1999, with a journalist affiliated with Time magazine. Isn't it strange that all these people could find Bin Laden but the Clinton administration couldn't?

Two lessons can be drawn from these sorry episodes. The first one, derived from Carter's actions, is: In getting rid of the bad regime, make sure that you don't get a worse one. This happened in Iran and could happen again, in Iraq, if leading Democrats in Congress have their way. The second lesson, derived from Clinton's inaction, is that the perception of weakness emboldens our enemies. If the Muslim insurgents and terrorists believe that the U.S. is divided on terror, they are likely to escalate their attacks on Americans abroad and at home. In that case, 9/11 will be only the beginning.

Dinesh D'Souza, a fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, is the author, most recently, of "The Enemy at Home: The Cultural Left and Its Responsibility for 9/11."

Who wants a deep dish Olympics?

The last time L.A. landed the Olympics, it was because nobody else wanted them.

In 1977, when bids were due to host the 1984 Summer Games, the International Olympic Committee was still waiting by its mailbox in Switzerland for an application from some city somewhere in the world besides Los Angeles. Anyone? Anywhere? When the mailman didn't stop, the IOC gave it to L.A.

Tehran had been in the running, but the shah of Iran — who could have filled a hundred Olympic swimming pools with light sweet crude — decided that the Games were too expensive. Everyone was spooked by Montreal in 1976, when the Games ran a billion dollars in the red. After that, a chastened IOC agreed to a budget Olympics in Los Angeles — "spartan and businesslike," as then-Mayor Tom Bradley put it, and, as it turned out, the first Olympics to make money.

Monday is the deadline for the last two U.S. cities in the running for the 2016 Olympics to file detailed bids to the U.S. Olympic Committee: Chicago and L.A., City of the Big Shoulders versus City of the Big Breasts. The USOC will choose one to forward to the IOC.

I thought I didn't want another L.A. Olympics. I loved the no-traffic fortnight of the '84 Games; it was so pleasant, like living in L.A. after a neutron bomb blast. But I couldn't bear seeing "festive federalism" again, the 1984 Olympics' color theme that was so anxious to offend no one that it inspired no one: magenta, vermilion, aqua and the color of French's mustard when it dries on Levi's. Plus, I am still sitting on a closetful of 1984 Olympic souvenirs worth jack-all on eBay.

But now I truly do want Los Angeles to land the 2016 Games. It has nothing to do with this little spat you may have heard about between the L.A. Times and its Tribune Co. overlords in Chicago. Nothing.

Why L.A. and not Chicago? Where to start? L.A. jogs, Chicago, as the song says, merely toddles. L.A.'s BMI, at least in westerly ZIP codes, is awesome; Chicago was Men's Fitness magazine's fattest burg of 2006. Give us the Summer Games; Chicago can have the Olympic pie-eating contest.

I consulted my Chicago Trib sports-columnist pal Mike Downey for more analysis of our dueling cities.

Downey: President Obama could proclaim, "Let the Games begin," and Vice President Winfrey could host closing ceremonies.

Morrison: Nix. President Villaraigosa will do the honors, and Gov. Beckham will kick the first ball.

Downey: Chicago is a much safer city. When we throw an Olympic Games, our guests will be able to buy extra protection from some of our top mobsters.

Morrison: Have you ever seen the paparazzi in action? I'll put the Academy Awards security guys up against the Midwestern mob any time.

Downey: L.A.'s stadium is too old. I think Hercules threw the discus there.

Morrison: The Coliseum is only as old as Henry Kissinger, but Soldier Field? The soldier it was named after is Ulysses S. Grant. Old Soldier Fields don't die — they just get hideously made-over by crashing flying saucers.

It's sweet that Chicago has been trying so hard to copy us. Like California, it banned foie gras on the grounds of animal cruelty. Chicago's mayor believes in bikes. Chicago might even ban smoking at the beach. (Beach? I guess I slept through "Baywatch: Lake Michigan.")

Flattering. But why go with a

copy when you can have the real thing?

By 2016, as we all know, L.A.'s fabulous transit system will zip visitors from Riverside to Santa Monica, from San Clemente to Santa Clarita. The freshwater, free-flowing Los Angeles River will host every waterborne competition. Palmdale International Airport will welcome tourists with jet-lag aromatherapy booths. Every venue will be more or less in L.A. — unlike Chicago, which proposes preliminary soccer games at the University of Minnesota. And whatever we have to build — Frank Gehry lives here.

None of this will wind up in the actual Olympics bid, which reads like a college admission form, asking such questions as, "Describe your motivation behind the choice of location of key Olympic infrastructure."

Dump the essay questions. There is one supreme and salient reason L.A. should welcome the world: We are not America. At least we are not the Beltway-think America that people have come to distrust and protest and fear the world over.

California has already been culled from the American herd by public figures who seize on every cultural earthquake as proof of the Left Coast's depravity. Pat Robertson wrote a novel about a meteor hitting the coast and putting L.A. a mile under water, and don't think he didn't enjoy it.

Of course they hate us. We're the high-risk, high-payoff destination where Nobel laureates and migrants, the Silicon Valley and the Central Valley, Disneyland and Hollywood arise and flourish, create and heal, connect and feed and entertain everyone else. Come to think of it, is anything more American than that?

Not even Chicago deep-dish pizza.

Patt Morrison is a Los Angeles Times columnist and frequent commentator on public radio.



DINESH D'SOUZA



PATT MORRISON

Howard County Junior Livestock Show wraps up for another year

Editor's note: Photos of the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion animals, their owners and buyers will be published in the Herald later this week.

Herald Staff Report

Youth and adults alike overcame frosty temperatures to complete the Howard County Junior Livestock Show here Saturday.

Yanci Yeater, representing Howard County 4-H, exhibited the Grand Champion barrow. The Reserve Grand Champion pig was shown by Logan Gaskins of Sands FFA.

The Grand Champion goat was shown by Emilea Brumley of Howard County 4-H. Reserve Grand Champion went to a goat displayed by Britnee Nix of Coahoma FFA.

Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H, showed the Grand Champion lamb while Kelsey Jones, also of Howard County 4-H, exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion.

Showing the Grand Champion rabbit was James Lee Morgan of Coahoma FFA while Nova Caldwell, Howard County 4-H, exhibited the Reserve Champion rabbit.

Laurel Nix, Howard County 4-H took top honors in the steer show as her exotic breed won Grand Champion. Britnee Nix, representing Howard County 4-H, showed the Reserve Grand Champion.

Complete results follow.

SHOWMANSHIP

Goat Showmanship
Garrett Nichols, Senior, Sands FFA

Lamb Showmanship
Shelby Jones, Senior, Howard County 4-H

Rabbit Showmanship
James Lee Morgan, Senior, Coahoma FFA

Steer Showmanship
Keisha Yarbar, Senior Showmanship, Howard County 4-H

Swine Showmanship
Collin McMillan, Senior Showmanship, Howard County 4-H; Yanci Yeater, Junior Showmanship, Howard County 4-H

BARROWS

Light Weight Duroc

1. Braxton Iden, Coahoma FFA; 2. Brayden Iden, Coahoma FFA; 3. Tanner Ruiz, Coahoma FFA; 4. Brent Alan Wright, Coahoma FFA; 5. Landon Booker, Howard County 4-H.

Medium Weight Duroc

1. Judson Chevalier, Howard County 4-H; 2. Max Macik, Coahoma FFA; 3. Alex Hill, Coahoma FFA; 4. Dustin Ray Wright, Coahoma FFA.

Heavy Weight Duroc

1. Dakota Griffith, Coahoma FFA (Grand Champion Duroc); 2. James Lee Morgan, Coahoma FFA (Reserve Champion Duroc); 3. Landon Parker, Sands FFA; 4. Joshua Metcalf, Coahoma FFA; 5. Kelli Schaedel, Howard County 4-H; 6. Kaelyn Waters, Coahoma FFA

Light Weight Hampshire

1. Austin Nichols, Sands FFA; 2. Reagan Reid, Howard County 4-H; 3. Richard Hirzel, Howard County 4-H; 4. Collin McMillan, Howard County 4-H; 5. Logan Gaskins, Sands FFA; 6. Kaelyn Waters, Coahoma FFA.

Medium Weight Hampshire

1. Logan Gaskins, Sands FFA (Reserve Grand Champion Hampshire); 2. Berkeley Iden, Coahoma FFA; 3. Justin Cline, Coahoma FFA; 4. Kaylee Hill, Coahoma FFA; 5. Harrison Chevalier, Howard County 4-H; 6. McKenzie Metcalf, Howard County 4-H; 7. Bradley Dunn, Howard County 4-H.

Heavy Weight Hampshire

1. Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H (Grand Champion Hampshire); 2. Tanner Christie, Coahoma FFA; 3. Courtney Schaedel, Coahoma FFA; 4. Reagan Rainey, Coahoma FFA; 5. Mason Parker, Sands FFA.

Light Weight BOPB

1. Tanner Ruiz, Coahoma FFA (Reserve Grand Champion BOPB); 2. Dustin Ray Wright, Coahoma FFA; 3. Lindsey Booker, Howard County 4-H.

Heavy Weight BOPB

1. Harrison Chevalier, Howard County 4-H (Grand Champion BOPB); 2. Preston Zant, Sands FFA; 3. Ethan Zant, Sands FFA; 4. Garrett Nichols, Sands FFA.

Light Weight WOPB

1. Judson Chevalier, Howard County 4-H; 2. Logan Gaskins, Howard County 4-H; 3. Harrison Chevalier, Howard County 4-H; 4. Ryan Reid, Howard

County 4-H; 5. Landon Booker, Howard County 4-H.

Medium Weight WOPB

1. Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H (Reserve Grand Champion WOPB); 2. Braxton Iden, Coahoma FFA; 3. Brayden Iden, Coahoma FFA; 4. Brayden Iden, Coahoma FFA.

Heavy Weight WOPB

1. Collin McMillan, Howard County 4-H (Grand Champion WOPB); 2. Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H; 3. D'Amberly Averette, Howard County 4-H; 4. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H; 5. Abbygail Saucedo, Howard County 4-H.

Light Weight Cross

1. Braxton Iden, Coahoma FFA; 2. Collin McMillan, Howard County 4-H; 3. Nathan Hughes, Coahoma FFA; 4. Ryan Reid, Howard County 4-H; 5. Reagan Rainey, Coahoma FFA; 6. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H; 7. Judson Chevalier, Howard County 4-H.

Medium Weight Cross

1. Logan Gaskins, Howard County 4-H (Reserve Grand Champion Cross); 2. Zane Parker, Sands FFA; 3. Lindsey Booker, Howard County 4-H; 4. Landon Booker, Howard County 4-H; 5. Kirstyn Pullis, Coahoma FFA; 6. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H.

Heavy Weight Cross

1. Kiefer Pullis, Howard County 4-H (Grand Champion Cross); 2. Tanner Christie, Coahoma FFA; 3. Alex Hill, Coahoma FFA; 4. Zane Parker, Sands FFA; 5. Casey Roberts, Coahoma FFA; 6. Sarah Macik, Coahoma FFA; 7. Nathan Hughes, Coahoma FFA; 8. Abbygail Saucedo, Howard County 4-H

Grand Champion Barrow

— Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H
Reserve Grand Champion Barrow — Logan Gaskins, Sands FFA

GOATS

Class 1

1. Harrison Chevalier, Coahoma FFA; 2. Judson Chevalier, Coahoma FFA; 3. Judson Chevalier, Coahoma FFA; 4. Laurel Nix, Coahoma FFA; 5. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H; 6. Austin Nichols, Sands FFA; 7. Harrison Chevalier, Coahoma FFA; 8. Kaylee Hill, Coahoma FFA.

Class 2

1. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H; 2. Garrett Nichols, Sands FFA; 3. Reagan Rupard, Coahoma FFA; 4. Amanda

Brown, Howard County 4-H; 5. Tyler Nichols, Sands FFA; 6. Sloan Robinson, Howard County 4-H; 7. Dannon Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 8. Sloan Shaw, Sands FFA.

Class 3

1. Mia Medina, Coahoma FFA; 2. Austin Nichols, Sands FFA; 3. Reagan Rupard, Coahoma FFA; 4. Reagan Rupard, Coahoma FFA; 5. Rusty Martin, Howard County 4-H; 6. Rusty Martin, Howard County 4-H; 7. Garrett Nichols, Sands FFA; 8. Jess Brooks, Howard County 4-H.

Class 4

1. Brittnee Nix, Coahoma FFA; 2. Kelsey Jones, Howard County 4-H; 3. Reagan Rupard, Coahoma FFA; 4. Kylee Borchardt, Howard County 4-H; 5. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 6. Emilea Brumley, Howard County 4-H; 7. Rebecca McEndree, Coahoma FFA; 8. Rebecca McEndree, Coahoma FFA.

Class 5

1. Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H; 2. Ali Knight, Howard County 4-H; 3. Foster Burchett, Howard County 4-H; 4. Garrett Nichols, Sands FFA; 5. Trevor Burchett, Howard County 4-H; 6. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 7. Dannon Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 8. Hannah Weber, Howard County 4-H.

Grand Champion Goat

— Emilea Brumley, Howard Co 4-H

Reserve Grand Champion Goat

— Britnee Nix, Coahoma FFA

LAMBS

Southdown

1. Sloan Robinson, Howard County 4-H; 2. Sloan Robinson, Howard County 4-H; 3. Rosie Morgan, Coahoma FFA.

Champion Southdown:

Sloan Robinson, Sands FFA

Reserve Champion Southdown:

Sloan Robinson, Sands FFA

Finewool

1. Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H; 2. Kirstyn Pullis, Coahoma FFA; 3. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H.

Champion Finewool:

Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H

Reserve Champion Finewool:

Kirstyn Pullis, Coahoma FFA

Lt. Wt. Finewool Cross

1. Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H; 2. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 3. Rosie Morgan, Coahoma FFA; 4. Colter Morgan, Coahoma FFA.

Hvy. Wt. Finewool Cross

1. Kirstyn Pullis, Coahoma FFA; 2. Morgan Flores, Howard County 4-H; 3. Sloan Robinson, Sands FFA.

Champion Finewool Cross:

Tanner Christie, Howard Co. 4-H

Reserve Champion Finewool Cross:

Braeson Ramey, Howard Co. 4-H

Lt. Wt. Medium Wool

1. Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H; 2. Colter Morgan, Coahoma FFA; 3. Seth Fry, Sands FFA; 4. Seth Fry, Sands FFA; 5. Sloan Robinson, Howard County.

Med. Wt. Medium Wool

1. Kelsey Jones, Howard County 4-H; 2. Tanner Christie, Howard County 4-H; 3. Shelby Jones, Howard County 4-H; 4. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H.

Hvy. Wt. Medium Wool

1. Kylee Borchardt, Howard County 4-H; 2. Dannon Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 3. Kaemen Watkins, Howard County 4-H; 4. Rusty Martin, Howard County 4-H; 5. Kaemen Watkins, Howard County 4-H; 6. Braeson Ramey, Howard County 4-H; 7. Dannon Ramey, Howard County.

Champion Medium Wool:

Tanner Christie, Howard Co 4-H

Reserve Champion Medium Wool:

Kelsey Jones, Howard Co 4-H

Grand Champion Lamb:

Tanner Christie, Howard Co 4-H

Reserve Grand Champion Lamb:

Kelsey Jones, Howard Co 4-H

RABBITS

Class 1

1. Nova Caldwell, Howard County 4-H; 2. Kaylee Hill, Coahoma FFA; 3. Reagan Rainey, Coahoma FFA; 4. Chris Biddison, Howard County 4-H; 5. Sloan Robinson, Sands FFA; 6. Callie McMorris, Sands FFA; 7. Erin Fontana, Coahoma FFA; 8. Lindsey Deel, Howard County 4-H.

Class 2

1. Jason Gonzales, Coahoma FFA; 2. Casey Kilpatrick, Coahoma FFA; 3. Miranda Jennings, Howard County 4-H; 4. Hannah Weber, Howard County 4-H; 5. Will McMorris, Sands

FFA; 6. Lupe Abrego, Coahoma FFA; 7. Dylan Weaver, Howard County 4-H; 8. Brittney Hergert, Howard County 4-H.

Class 3

1. Dakota Griffith, Coahoma FFA; 2. Hayden Tubb, Howard County 4-H; 3. Bradley Dunn Howard County 4-H; 4. Ashley Buske, Coahoma FFA; 5. Lindsey Booker, Howard County 4-H; 6. Ashley Buske, Coahoma FFA; 7. Will McMorris, Sands FFA; 8. Amanda Brown, Coahoma FFA.

Class 4

1. James Lee Morgan, Coahoma FFA; 2. James Lee Morgan, Coahoma FFA; 3. Nathan Gomez, Howard County 4-H; 4. Reagan Rainey, Coahoma FFA; 5. Colter Morgan, Coahoma FFA; 6. Dakota Griffith, Coahoma FFA; 7. Logan Gaskins, Howard County; 8. Breanna Conner, Coahoma FFA.

Grand Champion Rabbit:

James Lee Morgan, Coahoma FFA

Reserve Champion Rabbit:

Nova Caldwell, Howard County 4-H

STEERS

Class 1

1. Laurel Nix, Howard County 4-H, Grand Champion; 2. Braxton Iden, Coahoma FFA, Reserve Grand Champion; 3. Keisha Yarbar, Howard County 4-H; 4. Ali Knight, Howard County 4-H; 5. Casey Roberts, Coahoma FFA; 6. Mason Parker, Sands.

Class 2

1. Berkeley Iden, Coahoma FFA, Reserve Champion Exotic; 2. Teryn Bibb, Howard County 4-H; 3. Machel Barr, Coahoma FFA; 4. Jesus Casas, Sands FFA.

Class 3

1. Teryn Bibb, Howard County 4-H; 2. Jess Brooks, Howard County 4-H; 3. Ali Knight, Howard County 4-H; 4. Jerry Casas, Sands FFA.

Class 4

1. Brittnee Nix, Howard County 4-H, Champion Exotic; 2. Keisha Yarbar, Howard County 4-H; 3. Landon Parker, Sands FFA.

Grand Champion Steer:

Laurel Nix, Howard County 4-H

Reserve Champion Steer:

Britnee Nix, Howard County 4-H

Odds and Ends

LA CROSSE, Wis. (AP) — "Earl" ate the stolen ice cream 35 years ago, but the guilt has been eating at him ever since.

The Green Bay-area businessman decided to atone for his sin by returning to the scene of the crime, his former middle school, and treating students to an ice cream party.

The donor preferred to remain anonymous. But staff members at Lincoln Middle School in La Crosse have dubbed him Earl after title character Earl Hickey on NBC's "My Name is Earl" in which Earl sets out to right his past wrongs.

Vice principal Jacque Durnford lauded the man's attempts to do the right thing more than three decades after the crime. "I think his statute

of limitations is up," she joked.

The man and a friend had stolen ice cream from the school cafeteria when he was a student.

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — A police officer who dragged a homeless woman's shopping cart alongside his cruiser for 12 miles so she wouldn't lose her belongings was ordered to undergo retraining and counseling.

Officer Nicholas Evans was praised by homeless advocates but jeered by peers after arresting Marie Brooks on an outstanding warrant and

then pulling her cart to the county jail. The trip took an hour.

The 26-year-old Evans, who has been with the department for three years, will not be suspended for 20 days as a lieutenant had recommended, Police Chief Michael Radzilowski said Friday.

According to a police report, Evans bragged to colleagues that he had gotten the cart up to 40 mph.

Department investigators concluded that Evans showed poor conduct for an officer because he brought negative attention to himself and to the

department.

Also, Evans was written up for failing to follow state law — towing a cart could be considered careless driving, the report said — and failing to operate a vehicle safely.

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World news briefs

Two leading Senate Democrats seek support for resolution

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two leading Senate Democrats are seeking to dispel concerns that a resolution on Iraq doesn't go far enough, saying it would make a strong statement to President Bush that a troop increase is wrong.

"It will be a very powerful message if a bipartisan majority of the Congress say that they disagree with the increased military involvement in Iraq," said Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Division over whether Democrats should push a stronger measure could spell defeat for the resolution, he cautioned.

"The worst thing we can do is to vote on something which is critical of the current policy and lose it," said Levin, D-Mich. "If we lose that vote, the president will use the defeat of a resolution as support for his public policy."

Bush, meanwhile, says in a new interview that the best way to convince skeptics "that this makes sense is to implement it and show them that it works."

Two-thirds think country headed down wrong track, AP poll finds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans seem sour on the state of the union in advance of President Bush's address on the subject. A poll finds most believe the country is on the wrong track — a complete flip from five years ago.

Most people also are not confident that Bush and the Democrats who now control Congress and share responsibility with him for running the country can work together to solve its problems, an Associated Press-AOL News poll finds.

At the same time, Americans see the

president as likable, decisive and strong — but also stubborn. And only a minority think he is honest — 44 percent, down from 53 percent two years ago.

Bush delivers his State of the Union address Tuesday night, nearly two weeks after he told the nation he is sending 21,500 additional U.S. troops to Iraq in a new effort to end violence there.

The White House says the speech will focus on a few issues, energy and health care among them, on which Bush might be able to reach agreement with Democrats, who control the House and Senate for the first time during his two-term presidency.

Partial results show no party emerging from vote strong enough to govern Serbia alone

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Serbia's ultra-nationalist Radicals won the most votes in the country's parliamentary election, but several pro-democratic groups collected enough seats to form a new government if they can unite, according to official results released Monday.

The Serbian Radical Party, loyal to late ex-leader Slobodan Milosevic and staunchly opposed to Kosovo's independence, won 28.3 percent of the vote. But that was not enough for the party to govern alone, the state electoral commission said.

The Western-backed Democratic Party of President Boris Tadic was second with 22.6 percent, and the center-right Popular Coalition led by Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica had 16.3 percent, according to official results with about 70 percent of the vote counted.

Sunday's vote was the first since the

breakup of Serbia's union last year with Montenegro, its last partner from the former Yugoslavia that split up in wartime campaigns conducted under Milosevic in the 1990s.

Shortly after the vote, a United Nations' plan for the future of Serbia's breakaway Kosovo province is expected to be published. The West had feared a crisis if the Radicals emerged as outright winners and if Kosovo were given independence, as it is expected to gain.

Fisheries officials discuss how to increase tuna stocks

TOKYO (AP) — How to reverse a sharp decline in tuna stocks is the focus of talks as fisheries officials from around the globe begin a five-day conference on Monday.

The meetings, which bring together the world's regional tuna management groups, is seen as a key step in combating the downturn in one of the most valuable and endangered high-seas fisheries.

The conference runs through Friday in the western port city of Kobe.

"We are deeply concerned about the future of global tuna stock," Fisheries Agency chief Toshiro Shirasu said in opening remarks. "We must strengthen our cooperation to tackle the issue."

Representatives from the commercial fishing industry, environmental groups and government regulators were set to discuss ways to strengthen information sharing and cooperation among regional organizations to track and manage tuna stocks, Japanese Fisheries Agency official Takaaki Sakamoto said in a telephone interview from Kobe.

Participants are seeking to create a framework requiring fishermen — not

just exporters — to produce certificates of origin for the tuna they catch, and call for a monitoring system that would track the tuna catch from the open sea to the fish market, Sakamoto said.

The talks are for the first time bringing together the five regional fishery management organizations, including the oversight bodies for tuna fishing in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Venezuela leader, in broadcast, tells U.S. to 'go to hell,' calls Condoleezza Rice 'missy'

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez told U.S. officials to "Go to hell, gringos!" and called Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice "missy" on his weekly radio and TV show Sunday, lashing out at Washington for what he called unacceptable meddling in Venezuelan affairs.

The tirade came after Washington raised concerns about a measure to grant the fiery leftist leader broad law-making powers. The National Assembly, which is controlled by the president's political allies, is expected to give final approval this week to what it calls the "enabling law," which would give Chavez the authority to pass a series of laws by decree during an 18-month period.

On Friday, U.S. State Department deputy spokesman Tom Casey said Chavez's plans under the law "have caused us some concern."

Chavez rejected Casey's statement in his broadcast, saying: "Go to hell, gringos! Go home!"

He also attacked U.S. actions in the Middle East.

Golden Globe winner Forest Whitaker describes struggles as an actor

NEW YORK (AP) — Over his career, Forest Whitaker has played roles that weren't written for black actors.

"I had moments where the directors were open enough to let me do that, yeah," he told Newsweek for editions on newsstands Monday. "In 'Good Morning, Vietnam,' my character was written as a nerdy Jewish guy. In 'The Color of Money,' the character was originally a Yuppie."

Whitaker received a Golden Globe for best actor in a drama for his portrayal of Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland." He also is considered a favorite for an acting Oscar.

But there was a time when his family had doubts about his choice of careers.

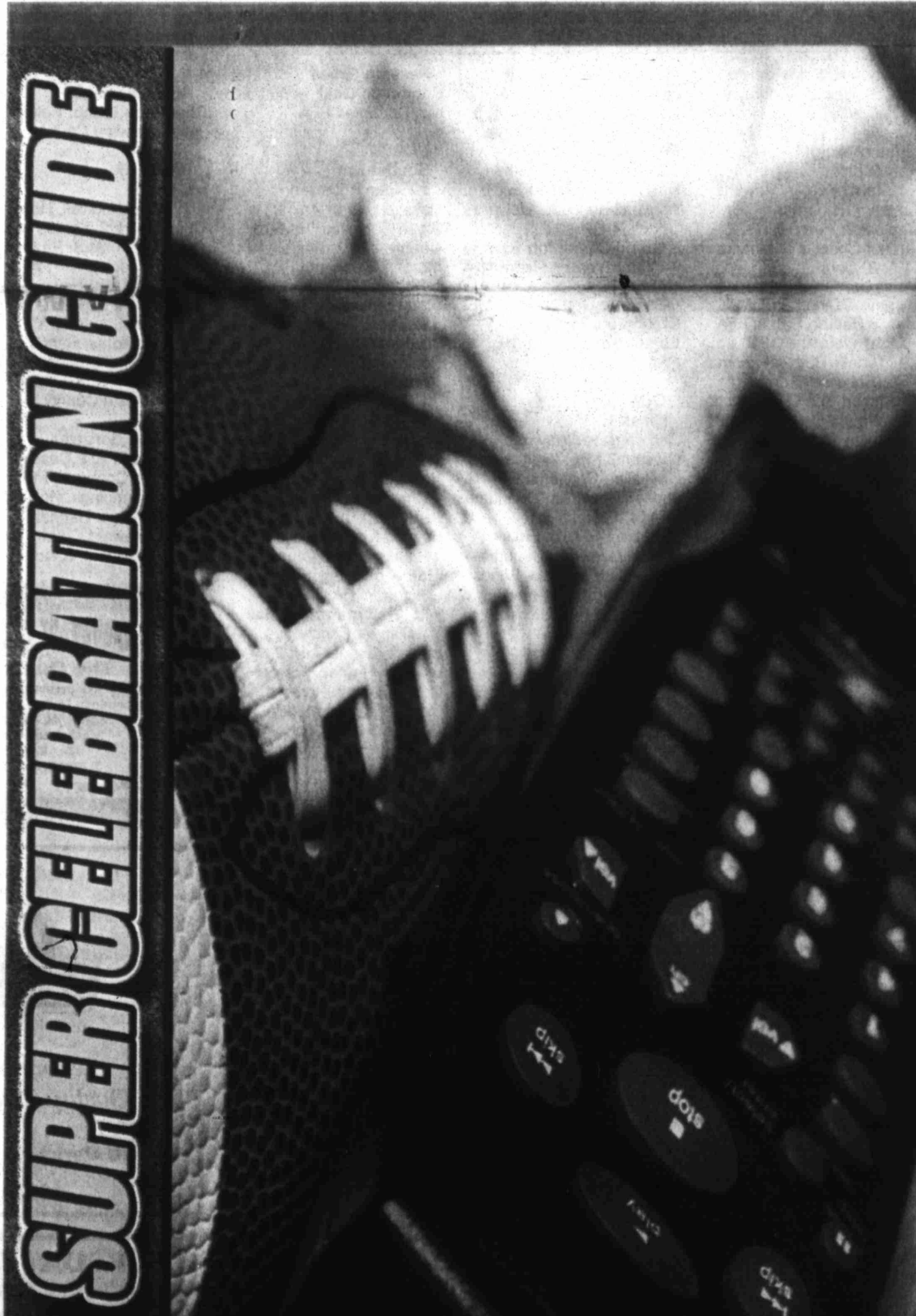
"I wasn't making much money, and sometimes really struggling, but I was, like, 'No, Ma. This is what I want to do.' Those were difficult conversations because I had my own doubts," he said at the magazine's Oscar panel discussion with other actors.

Chief of Needville ISD killed in crash

WHARTON (AP) — A Wharton construction worker with four previous drunken driving convictions was charged with felony murder Saturday after he fled the scene of a crash in which the police chief of the Needville Independent School District died, authorities said.

Guillermo Paniagua, 29, was driving his pickup truck east on Farm-to-Market Road 1301 late Friday when he veered into the westbound lane and collided with a police cruiser driven by Ernie V. Mendoza, the police chief of the Needville ISD, according to Senior Trooper Gary Pflughaupt, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Pflughaupt said Mendoza, 54, died at the scene. Paniagua, meanwhile, fled the crash on foot but was soon caught.



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IN BRIEF

Howard Hawks return to the court

Howard's women will return to action at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum tonight as they host conference rival Western Texas College. Game time is scheduled for 6 p.m.

The Hawks men's are scheduled to tip-off against Texas Western at 8 p.m.

San Antonio Spurs hold off Philadelphia



The Sixers rallied in the third quarter to make a comeback attempt against the Spurs, hustling, chasing loose balls and playing with more energy than the visiting team from Texas.

See Page 2 B

NFL Super Bowl schedule and update

Super Bowl XLI
Sunday, Feb. 4
Played at Miami's Dolphin Stadium.
Chicago Bears (NFC) vs. Indianapolis Colts (AFC), 5 p.m. central.

Televised on CBS.

Early Las Vegas betting line:
Colts -6 points

Bears coach Lovie Smith became the first black head coach to make it all the way to the NFL's marquee game Sunday when his Chicago Bears won the NFC championship. About four hours later, his pal and mentor, Tony Dungy, joined him there when his Indianapolis Colts took the AFC title.

For the first time in the big game's 41-year history, not one, but two black head coaches will be on the sidelines. Smith was one of Dungy's assistants when they were with Tampa Bay from 1996-2000, and they established a friendship that has grown in the years since.

Chicago will play for the NFL title for the first time in 21 years, after Mike Ditka's Bears shuffled through the regular season and playoffs and routed New England.

Bears win NFC and head to Super Bowl

By BARRY WILNER

AP Football Writer

CHICAGO — The defense, the running game, the sleet and snow at Soldier Field. It was the perfect scenario for the storied Chicago Bears to secure a long-awaited return to the Super Bowl.

This picture has an historic element, too: Da Coach this time is Lovie Smith. His opponent is his mentor, the Indianapolis Colts' Tony Dungy. They are the first black head coaches to reach the big game in its 41 years.

"Being the first black coach to lead this team, of course our players knew about it and they wanted to help us make history," Smith said after a 39-14 rout of the New Orleans Saints for the NFC championship Sunday. "So I feel blessed to be in that position."

"I'll feel even better to be the first black coach to hold up the world championship trophy."

To do that, the Bears will have to beat the Colts in two weeks in Miami. Indianapolis rallied to defeat New England 38-34 for the AFC crown.

"It means a lot," Dungy said of his part in creating history. "I'm very proud to represent African-American coaches, but more than that it's about the Indianapolis Colts."

Smith's team erased so many questions about its true strength. That might seem odd for a team that is 15-3, but Chicago's inconsistencies meant no comparisons were made to the 1985 squad that shuffled through the NFL for the Bears' only Super Bowl crown. That doesn't mean the Ditka-



Chicago Bears' Brian Urlacher celebrates after stopping the New Orleans Saints during the NFC Championship game at Soldier Field in Chicago, Sunday. The Bears defeated the Saints 39-14.

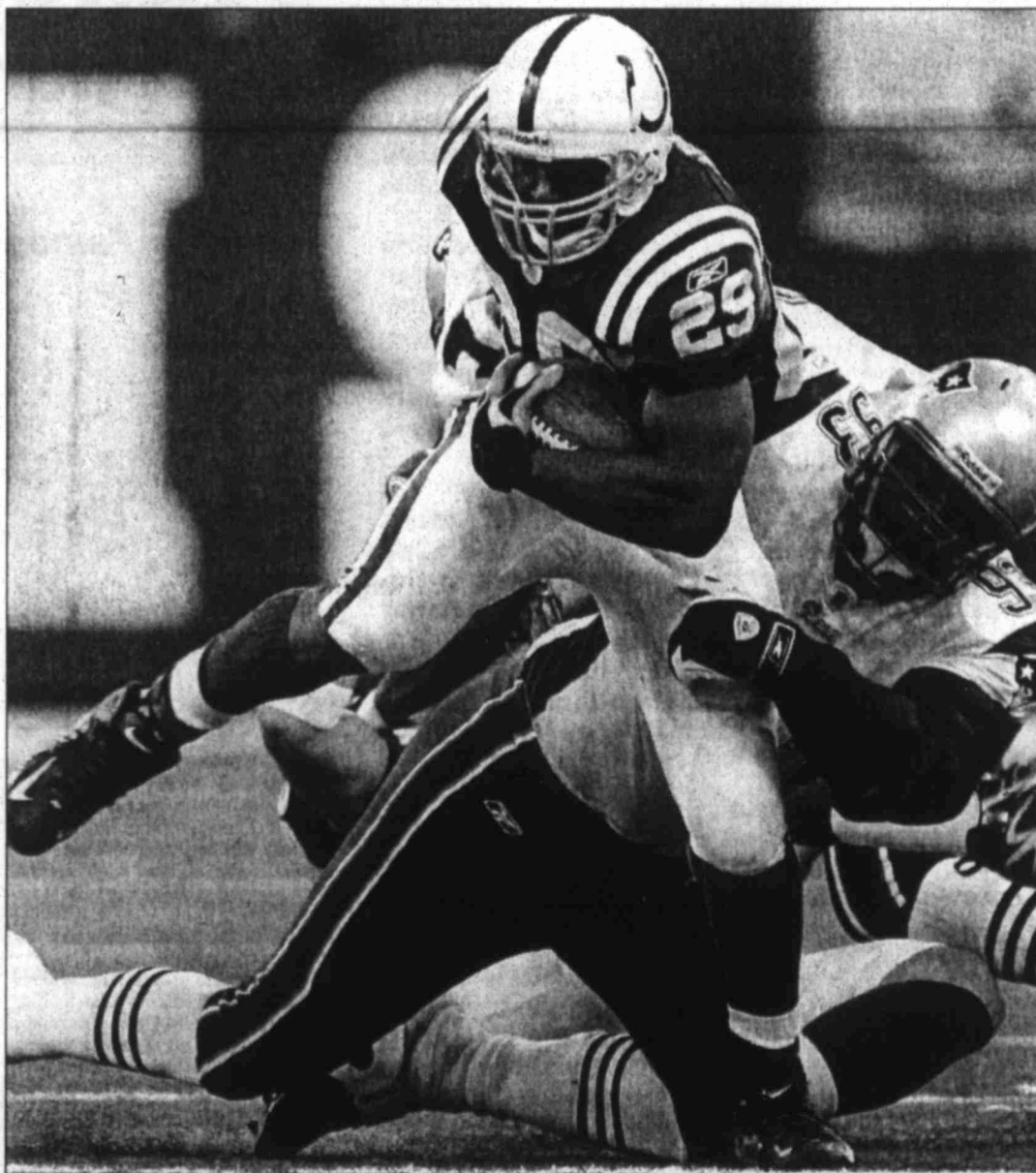
McMahon-Payton-Fridge wild bunch isn't on the minds of these Bears.

"For our franchise, this is big," All-Pro middle linebacker Brian Urlacher said. "They are a big

part of this city, and what they did in '85 is huge. We have an opportunity to do that right now. We're excited to have the opportunity to kind of put the '85 guys in the background for a lit-

tle while." The only way to really do that would be by beating Peyton Manning and the Colts, who odd

See BEARS, Page 2B



New England Patriots' Richard Seymour takes down Indianapolis Colts running back Joseph Addai in the first quarter during the AFC Championship game in Indiana, Sunday. Addai scored the winning touchdown for the Colts as they won, 38-34.

Manning and Colts finally win AFC title

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

INDIANAPOLIS

Peyton Manning insists his latest masterpiece wasn't all about history, legacies or demons.

In a way, he's right.

It was more.

Manning led the Indianapolis Colts to a stirring comeback and a late-game touchdown drive Sunday to defeat New England 38-34 and finally make it to the Super Bowl. Winning the AFC championship was a defining moment for the long-suffering quarterback, and Manning's name will forever be associated with one of the best games the NFL has ever seen.

"Win, lose or draw, he is the greatest quarterback ever," Colts tight end Dallas Clark said.

There's a long way to go before that, though Manning could certainly shift more opinions in his favor on Feb. 4, when the Colts (15-4) play the Chicago Bears in what will be a very special Super Bowl.

Tony Dungy, himself on the Super Bowl schneide until Sunday, joined Lovie Smith to become the first black head coaches to meet in the NFL's biggest game.

"It means a lot," Dungy said. "I'm very proud to be representing African-Americans. I'm very proud of Lovie."

The Colts are the early seven-point favorites to beat the Bears, who defeated New Orleans 39-14 in the NFC title game.

Manning finally broke through despite throwing an interception that put his team behind 21-3 early in the second quarter. He led the biggest comeback in conference title-game history, yet still, he refused to concede that a huge weight had been lifted with this win, the biggest in his nine-year NFL career.

"I don't get into monkeys and vindication," he said. "I don't play that card. I know how hard I worked this season, I know how hard I worked

See COLTS, Page 2B

Howard and Mavericks rattle the Heat

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Sports Writer

MIAMI — Just like in last year's NBA finals, the Dallas Mavericks couldn't find anyone capable of truly stopping Dwyane Wade from scoring.

Yet this time, it didn't really matter.

Jerry Stackhouse scored 16 of his 23 points in the final quarter as the Mavericks held on to beat the Miami Heat 99-93 on Sunday in the first matchup between the teams since last season's NBA finals.

Josh Howard had 25 points and Dirk Nowitzki added 22 points and 11 rebounds for Dallas,

which improved its NBA-best record to 34-8 and is 20-1 in its last 21 games. Plus, the Mavs got some tiny measure of revenge over the Heat, who lost the first two games of last year's finals before rallying to win the title in six games.

"It wasn't perfect. It wasn't great," Dallas coach Avery Johnson said. "But a road game in our league, especially against the world champions, you can't discount that. We will take it."

Wade — who suffered a left ankle injury in the first quarter, but returned and played 44 minutes — finished with

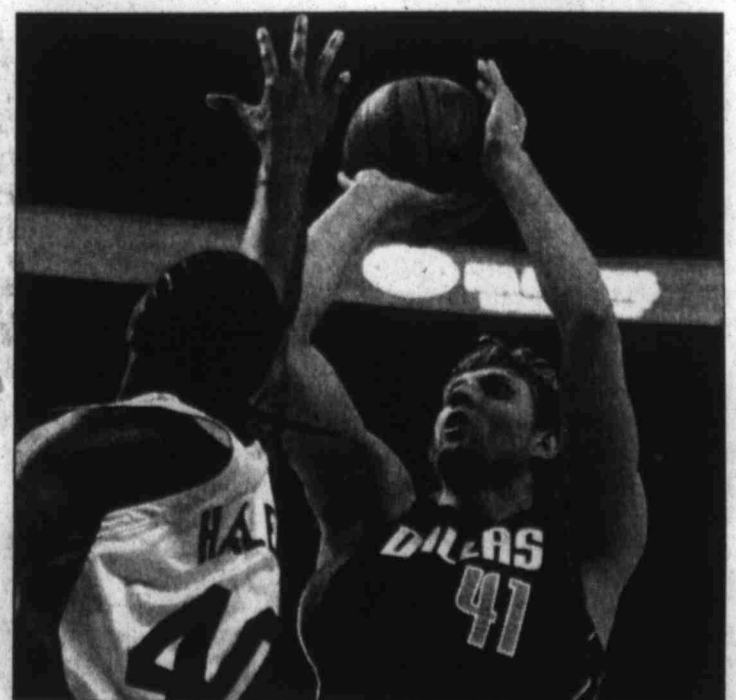
31 points, six rebounds and six assists for Miami, but missed a 3-pointer that would have tied the game with 5.8 seconds left.

Jason Williams had 17 points and Udonis Haslem, who missed his first eight shots, had 15 for the Heat.

"We still had an opportunity to win the game," Heat center Alonzo Mourning said. "When you put yourself in a position to win, you don't want to just settle for that. They don't keep stats for moral victories."

The Heat were down by

See MAVS, Page 2B



Heat's Udonis Haslem defends against Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki in the second half of the Maricks 99-83 win.



MCT photo/Ron Cortes/Philadelphia Inquirer
Philadelphia 76ers' Andre Iguodala drives between San Antonio Spurs' Francisco Elson (right) and Tim Duncan at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia, Sunday. The Spurs defeated the Sixers 99-85.

Spurs use first half to run away from 76'ERS

By DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — The Spurs dominated early and hit all the big shots at the end. Not even a sour stretch in the second half kept them from beating the 76ers.

Tim Duncan had 17 points and 15 rebounds, and Brent Barry scored 23 points to lead San Antonio to a 99-85 win over Philadelphia on Sunday night.

Robert Horry and Manu Ginobili each scored 12 points for the Spurs, who never trailed and shook off a second-half funk to win for the sixth time in eight games.

"We took the punch fairly well, came back, made some stops and got it done," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said.

Andre Iguodala led the

Sixers with 20 points and Steven Hunter had 10 points and a career-high 15 rebounds. The Sixers dropped to 3-14 against Western Conference teams.

There was no immediate carryover for the Sixers from their overtime win against Miami on Friday night. The Spurs opened a 10-point lead late in the first quarter, stretched it to 22 points, and seemed set to coast toward an easy win against the worst team in the East.

The Sixers gamely rallied in the third quarter, hustling, chasing loose balls and playing with more energy against a Spurs team that has a better record than every team in the East.

But Horry hit a 3 late in the fourth to end a Sixers'

sprint and seal the win.

"It's a credit to them because they just scrapped and stayed in the game, but we made it more of a game than it should be," said Barry, who scored 18 in the first half.

With the Spurs cruising from the start, Philadelphia pulled to within 13 at the end of the

third. Kyle Korver sank a 3-pointer and hit a 19-footer, then Iguodala scored on a driving layup that pulled them within single digits for the first time since the opening minutes.

"It's tough to climb out of a hole against a team like the Spurs," Sixers coach Maurice Cheeks said.

BEARS

Continued from 1B

smakers have made a 7-point favorite. If the Bears can force turnovers — they had four against the Saints — get sacks (three) and stop the running game (56 yards) the way they did Sunday, their 10th NFL title could come with it.

For now, they can celebrate owning the George Halas trophy that goes to NFC champion, an award named after their founder. It was presented to Halas' daughter, Virginia McCaskey, after the game as the Soldier Field fans chanted "Super

Bowl, Super Bowl."

The Saints (11-7) didn't have nearly such a happy ending to their feel-good saga. But the turnaround they achieved after a nomadic 3-13 season in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina's destruction was remarkable. As their city rebuilds, the team has provided an uplifting respite in the story.

"Obviously, this has been a special season just to reach this point," said running back Deuce McAllister, a Gulf Coast region native. "Right now, it stings. It hurts because you lost a game. I guess after a couple of weeks, you'll go back and look at it and see the

enthusiasm that our fans showed. ...

"I am really into the great tradition we have with the Chicago Bears," Smith said. "I am just trying to get our football team up to that same standard Mike had his team at, especially that '85 team."

For all the worries about how genuine the Bears' outstanding season was, their performance Sunday should place a stamp of approval on their legitimacy. Thank running back Thomas Jones (123 yards rushing, two touchdowns), All-Pro kicker Robbie Gould (three field goals), and a defense that, while not dominant, made enough

decisive plays.

Most notably the three fumble recoveries, one interception and a safety by a team that led the NFL with 44 takeaways.

"We told ourselves to just keep playing hard every time we went out there, and we did it," Urlacher said. "We got 11 guys to the football. We got takeaways just like we did all year long, and came out on top."

For a while in the third quarter, though, they seemed to be in trouble.

Reggie Bush's electrifying 88-yard touchdown catch and dash to the end zone pulled the Saints to 16-14. But from then on, Urlacher and the Bears' defense took over.

COLTS

Continued from 1B

He threw for 349 yards and one touchdown and took the Colts to their first Super Bowl since Bob Irsay's midnight flight out of Baltimore brought the team to Indy in 1984.

The Patriots (14-5) lost in the championship game for the first time in six tries and saw their hopes of winning four Super Bowls in six years — a la the Steelers of the late 70s — derailed by Manning and Co.

Joseph Addai capped Manning's late drive with the winning score, a 3-yard run with 1 minute left to help the Colts complete the rally and give them their first lead in the game.

"I said a little prayer on that last drive," Manning said. "I don't know if you're supposed to pray for stuff like that, but I said a little prayer."

This was a game filled with crazy bounces and unexpected heroes. New

England guard Logan Mankins opened the scoring by pouncing on a loose ball in the end zone.

Not to be outdone, Colts center Jeff Saturday also recovered a fumble for a touchdown. Manning's lone touchdown pass was to defensive tackle Dan Klecko, though the Colts quarterback also threw a pass that was intercepted by Asante Samuel and returned for a touchdown.

Samuel's interception gave New England an 18-point lead early in the second quarter. That put Manning in catch-up mode, but he insisted it was no time to panic.

"You hate getting down to these guys because hardly anyone comes back when the Patriots get the lead," Manning said. "But what are you going to do? It's last game of season if you don't win. There's no use in panicking. You just go about your job."

He led the Colts on an 80-yard drive late in the first half for a field goal to make it 21-6. In the third quarter, he was at his cruel best, dissecting an exhausted Patriots

defense for a pair of long drives and scores.

After Indy's tying score, the Patriots answered with an 80-yard kickoff return by Ellis Hobbs, which set up a 6-yard touchdown pass from Brady to Jabar Gaffney.

Manning came right back but his handoff to Dominic Rhodes misfired. The ball scooted forward and Saturday got this touchdown to tie the score at 28.

After that drive, Manning could be seen on the sideline, nursing a sore thumb. But he wasn't coming out.

"I was a little worried at first, but I went over, made a few warmup throws and it was fine," he said. "I guess adrenaline pulled me through there a little, too."

The teams traded field goals, then Patriots kicker Stephen Gostkowski put New England ahead 34-31 on a 43-yarder with 3:49 left.

That set the stage for Manning's drive: 11 yards to Reggie Wayne, 32 yards to Bryan Fletcher, another scary completion to Wayne, who nearly lost

the ball but snatched it back.

A roughing-the-passer call gave Indy the ball at the 11, then Manning handed off three straight times to Addai for the last 11 yards.

"It was momentum swing after momentum swing," Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi said. "It was all about momentum swings and theirs was the one that finished it."

Manning entered the game 5-6 in the playoffs and 0-2 against New England. Last year.

This story had a happy ending for the Colts, as Belichick found himself uncharacteristically unable to shut down Manning and Co.

So while that dynasty is dead, it is now Manning's turn to take a shot at starting a new one.

"It probably won't shut anybody up until we win" a Super Bowl, Dungy said. "But Peyton Manning is a great player. Anybody who doesn't know that doesn't know much about football."

MAVS

Continued from 1B

13 early in the second half and their chances clearly didn't look good, especially with Shaquille O'Neal inactive for the 34th straight game because of his surgically repaired knee and Wade hobbling around after injuring his ankle by stepping on Nowitzki's foot late in the first quarter.

"A stupid play," Wade said.

But he returned after getting re-taped Miami pulled into a 90-all tie with 3 1/2 minutes left.

Miami was within 76-75 after a three-point play by Wade with 10:44 left, but Stackhouse scored seven straight points to quell the rally, giving the Mavericks an 83-75 lead.

Another jumper by Stackhouse with 5:34 left

pushed the Mavs' edge to 90-84, but the Heat scored the next six points and tied it 2 minutes later when Wade hit a jumper.

"They're the world champions. ... You knew they were going to come back with a champion's heart," Stackhouse said.

Dallas scored the next six points, with Nowitzki and Howard scoring 26 seconds apart to put the Mavs back on top. Miami got back within 96-93 on a Wade layup with 57 seconds left, but the Heat wouldn't score again and wound up with their 10th home loss of the season — matching the total from all of last year.

"We gave up a big lead, they tied it up but we didn't give up either," Johnson said. "They didn't give up. We didn't give up. That's what I think championship teams and championship organizations are all about."

Jason Terry had 11 points and 11 assists for Dallas, which outbounded Miami 48-35. Antoine Walker had 11 points for the Heat.

Dallas never trailed in the game, which was only tied once after tipoff. The Mavs held a 16-5 rebounding edge in the first quarter — Nowitzki had six boards that period alone — and disrupted Miami's offense so much that the Heat managed three assists in the entire opening half.

While Miami clearly improved after halftime, the Mavs' edge in rebounding and second-chance points (19-5) proved to be crucial.

"That's the bottom line," Heat interim coach Ron Rothstein said. "If we held our ground there I think I would be sitting up here really happy with a win."

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
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♥ A
♦ 10 9 3
♣ J 10 9 7 6 5
WEST
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EAST
♠ K Q J 8 3
♥ 8 2
♦ K J 7 6 5
♣ Q
SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ K Q 9 7 6 3
♦ A Q 4 2
♣ 8 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1♠ 1♥ 2♥ 3♠
Pass 4♣ 5♣ Pass
Pass Dble
Opening lead — king of clubs.

spades (which probably would have gone down one). South was now faced with a difficult problem. After great thought, he bid five diamonds — which East, of course, doubled — and everyone passed.

West led the king of clubs and continued with the ace, East discarding a heart. West then shifted to a spade. Declarer took dummy's ace and returned the ten of diamonds, covered by the king and ace. He then crossed to the ace of hearts and led the nine of diamonds, covered by East's jack and South's queen.

Six tricks had been played, and South had won four of them. At this point, East turned to declarer, showed him his cards and said matter-of-factly, "I think the rest are mine."

And so they were. East had the 7-6-5 of diamonds and K-Q-J-3 of spades. Whatever declarer led next, East would win the trick with a trump and cash the 7-6 of diamonds and four spades to defeat the contract seven tricks — 2,000 points!

Of course, South could have saved a bushel of points had he not persisted with trump leads. Instead, he should have tried to score his low trumps and save what he could from the wreck. If he had, though, this column featuring a 2,000-point penalty would never have been written.

Tomorrow: Let's not rock the boat.
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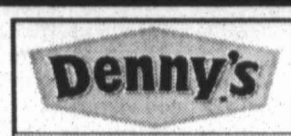
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The classic tenet of business is supply and demand. Saturn represents the supply, and Venus drums up the demand side of the equation. Venus and Saturn in opposition highlights the changing way people are making money. Discipline is still necessary, and so is the basic attractiveness of a product, person or idea.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Virtues to live by now include stillness, silence and simplicity. If they're not working, perhaps the best thing to do is just give up for the day. Get a night of refreshing sleep, and see what brilliance you can come up with tomorrow.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The company of special friends will fuel you. Even though they adore you just as you are, being around them makes you want to accomplish more and be the person you are in your mind's eye.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're a stellar communicator. But sometimes things happen to remind you that the way to be even more effective is to listen more, talk less. Your receptiveness can transform an ailing relationship.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Many irons in the fire

give the illusion of productivity, but is that actually the case? Take a few irons out, and you'll find that suddenly you're on fire with results! Enlist the help of a Sagittarius person. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The planets offer zany distractions — but resist! Stay involved in what's important to you. Otherwise, you could get behind and be anxious and cranky instead of your usual sunny self.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your mind is filled with information that would be useful to others, if only they'd tune in. Break everything down into small, easily digestible bites to make your message clear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's what you do in the world, not what you do in your prayers or meditations on a yoga mat, that helps you grow as an individual. However, such moments of reflection will help you make the right choice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're being mysterious again. With every sentence you utter, there's another unspoken sentence that's only understood by someone who knows you intimately.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're generous. Still, when it's other people's money you're spending, you don't want to be disrespectful. When others trust you, you honor their trust, and for this you're rewarded.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A shrewd economic approach will serve you

well. But be extremely generous where love is concerned. Negotiate on paper instead of verbally to avoid confusion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Assignments are lucrative, especially the ones you give yourself. Have the courage to be unorthodox, innovative and special. Someone close is dropping fairly obvious hints.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Keep working. The discipline you apply to one area of your life spills over into other areas. Virgo and Sagittarian colleagues encourage you. Tonight your secrets are revealed — what a relief!

FORECAST 2007 — AQUARIUS: It's an enterprising, courageous year in which you take your pie-in-the-sky dreams down from the sky and eat them on your kitchen table. This requires, above all things, faith. LOVE: A new way of looking at the people in your life allows you to love them the way they need to be loved, instead of how you need to be loved. This difference causes a romantic plot twist in March. Your finances and career impact your love life in interesting ways in July. Creative solutions bring you much happiness.

CAREER: There's a benevolent boss, customer or investor who helps you get work pumping at a higher intensity through the summer. Perhaps this person even funds your education or business start-up. ADVENTURE: Your

best time for exploring comes at the end of August. Long-distance travel turns out to be more fun en route than arriving at the destination. FINANCE: Opportunities are a direct result of your estimation of what you can do. Therefore, visualizing and imaging your money matters improving is crucial to your success. April brings top dollar for your work. Marketing is everything in July. It's a winning move to appear in the most attractive light possible, even if it's expensive.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Aquarian Alicia Keys has taken fans on a musical journey for more than five years and now hopes to broaden her own artistic path by dipping her talented digits in the acting world. The upcoming "Nanny Diaries," co-starring Scarlett Johansson, will prove that Keys is as much a thespian as she is a musician. I see the personal side of Keys reaching a high point over the next two years as well.

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

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for almost 20 years. Although we've had our share of ups and downs, we have always been committed to making our marriage work.

Last year, my husband had an affair with a subordinate at his office. It lasted about four months and ended when she moved across the country to be closer to her ailing mother. He said it would have ended sooner, but he knew she was leaving and decided to just let her go away and never see her again. When he refused to visit her at her new home, she threatened to contact me and his boss, and sue the company. At that point, he decided to come clean with me so I would not be blindsided.

That was 14 months ago. Since then, he has remained in contact with her. She calls a few times a month, although he does not call her except to return a call on occasion. The initial contact was supposedly to keep him from getting fired. She no longer is threatening that. Since day one, he has been promising me that the calls will end, and now he says that will happen "when she moves on."

I am tired of being lied to and am considering divorce. I can get over the betrayal of the affair if it would just end. My husband says the calls are simply a visit with an old friend and I am making too much of them. Am I a fool to throw away a good marriage over a small thing like an occasional phone call? — Fed Up with Lies

Dear Fed Up: Your husband needs to break off contact with this woman immediately. It is not his job to see that she "moves on." It's his job to save his marriage. The longer he stays in touch with her, the



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

more he undermines your trust and bolsters her belief that the affair will be rekindled. Insist on counseling. Your husband owes it to you.

Dear Annie: My 54-year-old father is depressed again. Dad has had bouts of depression and anxiety that can be traced back to his childhood. He's made a few suicide attempts and has been placed under observation at hospitals. He is overweight, and when he's really depressed, he doesn't bathe or go to work for days or weeks on end. His wife is in her 60s and cannot support the family on her income alone.

My stepmother and I understand the general causes of his depression, and we want to help him get better, but we are at our wits' end. Dad can be difficult and is incredibly resistant to encouragement to do rational things even when he's healthy, and it's worse when he's depressed.

My stepmother has talked about having him put in the hospital (at least for a temporary suicide watch), but I worry that would devastate him even more. How do we help him without going crazy ourselves? — California Girl

Dear California: It sounds

as if your father needs to be in counseling and on medication, and many depressed people are unwilling to seek such help. Please contact the National Alliance on Mental Illness (nami.org) at 1-800-950-NAMI (1-800-950-6264), and ask for assistance. They will direct you to local resources that can help you.

Dear Annie: I'm one of the many culprits who have often asked kids and grandkids for a wish list. I now send my kids, grandkids and great-grandkids a two-column list. One side is for "Gifts To," where I list names of people they ought to think about, and the other column is "My Wish List." In this manner I hope to somehow equalize the idea of gifting and getting. By the way, my wish list for little kids always says "a hand-colored picture by you." Let's always try to make lemonade! — Grandma Judy B.

Dear Grandma Judy: An interesting, and sweet, solution. Those who want a wish list should feel free to ask for one. It is, however, inappropriate to send one at random to any person who you think owes you or your child a gift.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ANSWERS

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

MONDAY

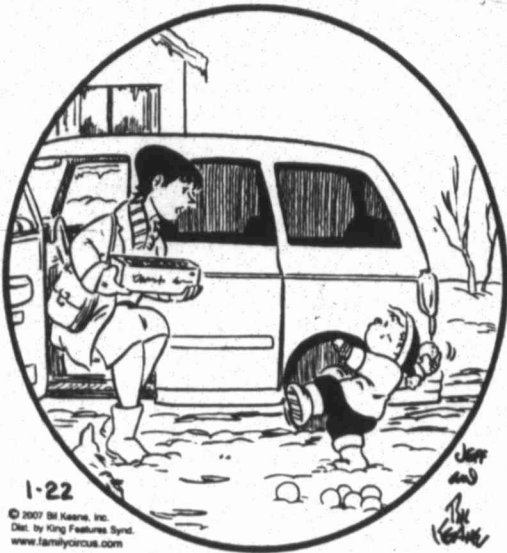
Table with 20 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 5 rows (6-12 AM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

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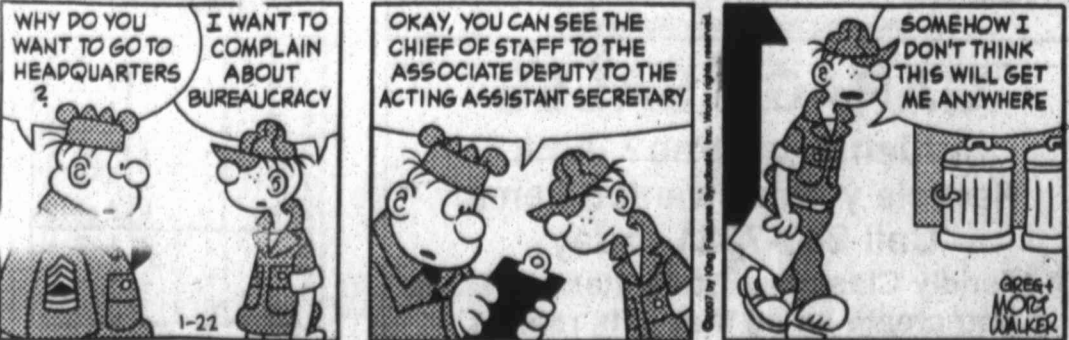
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Sunday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2007. There are 343 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 22, 1917, President Wilson pleaded for an end to war in Europe, calling for "peace without victory." In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 82. In 1905 (New Style calendar), thousands of demonstrating Russian workers were fired on by Imperial army troops in St. Petersburg on what became known as "Bloody Sunday." In 1907, 100 years ago, the Richard Strauss opera "Salome" made its American debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York; its racy content (including the Dance of the Seven Veils) sparked outrage. In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces began landing at Anzio, Italy. In 1957, suspected "Mad Bomber" George P. Metesky was arrested in Waterbury, Conn. (He was later found mentally ill and committed to a mental hospital until 1973.) In 1973, the Supreme Court handed down its Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion. In 1987, Pennsylvania treasurer R. Budd Dwyer, convicted of defrauding the state, proclaimed his innocence at a news conference before shooting himself to death in front of horrified spectators.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., is 79. Actress Piper Laurie is 75. Actor Seymour Cassel is 72. Author Joseph Wambaugh is 70. Actor John Hurt is 67. Country singer-musician Teddy Gentry (Alabama) is 55. Movie director Jim Jarmusch is 54. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Mike Bossy is 50. Actress Linda Blair is 48. Actress Diane Lane is 42. Actor-rap DJ Jazzy Jeff is 42.

Answer to previous puzzle
ARTUR FLAK MERV
JEOPARDIZE PLEA
ADULTERATE GUMM
ROTATE REPO CUP
TALC CELLINI
JUVENILE READER
UPI SNAGS SPARE
MRED GRANT STAB
POTOK ADORE ETA
FANNER SWINGS
ORATION YEAR
RIM ROOS SCALAR
JOEL TEAPOTDOME
OUST ENGINEERED
YSER RDAS DRESS

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- ACROSS: 1 1, 6, or 9; 6 Shade trees; 10 Once around the track; 13 Get out of bed; 14 Genuine; 15 Marathon unit; 16 Target-practice place; 18 At a distance; 19 Executor's concern; 20 Tasty morsels; 22 Prefix for bucks; 24 Polite fellow; 25 Water faucet; 28 Dangerous snake; 31 Jerusalem is its capital; Abbr.; 34 Landed; 36 Star Wars princess; 37 Game-show host; 39 Dug for coal; 41 Rainbow shape; 42 ___ of one's appreciation; 43 One who walks back and forth; 44 Ooze; 46 Folk singer Seeger; 47 Fireplace residue; 48 King Kong costume; 51 Haul, as a trailer; 52 Water conduit; 54 Church-bell sound; 56 Protects, as a fort; 59 Rocking bed for a baby; 63 Ages and ages; 64 Barrier that slides into a wall; 66 Late-night TV host; 67 Jai ___; 68 Wedding site; 69 Cook in hot oil; 70 Give temporarily; 71 Oboe inserts; 8 Star of Bethlehem followers; 9 Heavy hammer; 10 Skier's purchase; 11 "So sorry!"; 12 For each; 15 Most important; 17 Kingly; 21 Artist's cap; 23 "Relax, soldier!"; 25 West Florida city; 26 Assumed name; 27 Tightwad; 29 Loses enthusiasm; 30 Get ready to ice-skate; 32 Take care of; 33 Subscribe again; 35 Golf accessory; 38 Floor-washing implement; 40 Window curtain; 45 Jigsaw-puzzle item; 49 Long-distance friend; 50 Toothbrushing target; 53 In that case; 55 Soup server; 56 Active type; 57 Mete (out); 58 Read the bar code; 60 Lavish affection (on); 61 Fill, as a dishwasher; 62 Messes up; 63 North Pole aide; 65 Baby goat

