



Knockout

Battle of bands slated Saturday in auditorium

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

A spot on the Rock the Desert 2007 stage will be on the line Saturday, as The Knockout battle of the bands prepares to take the stage at Municipal Auditorium.

The show, which was postponed last weekend because of icy weather, is expected to feature Hit The Ground Running from Big Spring; A Death Foretold from Seminole; Blank from Andrews; Epic Fire from El Paso; All Rights Reserved out of San Angelo; Midland-based Simplearth; and Abilene's In His Arms.

Jim Koerber, president of Scars Entertainment and promoter for the show, said moving the date back a week could cause some scheduling conflicts, but he expects a fun, energy filled show nonetheless.

"We're really excited about bringing The

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A FRIENDLY PAT ON THE BACK



Local business owner Skip Burcham offers a thank you note for the entire city to see, posting his gratitude to city of Big Spring water department employees Thursday on this sign, located on Gregg Street. City repair crews have been working around the clock to repair more than 50 main water line breaks since a recent cold snap sent the mercury plunging below freezing.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Cornell, FCI pact to spur construction

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

A contract completed between Cornell Companies and the Federal Bureau of Prisons is expected to spur approximately \$20 million in construction at the existing Big Spring Correctional Center.

The contract — effective April 1, 2007 — provides for an initial term of four years, with three two-year renewal option periods.

According to Cornell officials, the facility currently houses as many as 2,900 inmates for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Under the new contract, the Big Spring facility will expand to potentially house as many as 3,500 inmates.

Expansion-related construction — which would include expanding housing facilities at existing Cornell sites estimated at approximately \$20.0 million — is expected to take up to nine months to complete, according to Cornell officials.

The company estimates it will earn \$268.8 million in revenue over the four-year base term of the contract.

"We couldn't be more pleased with

"This is wonderful news for both us and the city of Big Spring, whom we view as a key component of our success at the facility."

—James E. Hyman,
Cornell CEO

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U.S. Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond (R-Mo.) and President George W. Bush, right listen to Dr. Jim Hart in the emergency room unit at St. Luke's East Health Systems hospital in Lee's Summit, Mo., Thursday.

Kansas City Star, MCT photo/David Eulitt

Bush touts health-care plan

Reaction mixed; Democrats say it doesn't go far enough

By STEVE KRASKE
and ALAN BAVLEY

McClatchy Newspapers
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Wounded in Washington, bleeding from Iraq, President Bush on Thursday stopped into a Lee's Summit, Mo., emergency room.

Two days after his State of the Union speech, Bush was at St. Luke's East Hospital looking for a political tonic in health-care reform, a topic that has re-emerged as one of the nation's hottest domestic priorities.

When he left a little more than an hour later, some were already calling the plan DOA.

Although the president is seen as trying to find common issues with which to reach accord with the Democratic majority in Congress, that party was busy deriding the plan to restructure the tax code as not going far enough and failing miserably when it comes to providing coverage for the nation's poorest citizens.

Clearly impressed by the digital wonders of St. Luke's, Bush stood firm, saying: "We believe that we've designed a solution that will help a lot." Later, he said: "This plan helps people be able to afford private health insurance, and that is really the crux of

good health care."

The president's plan is aimed at ending what he called a glaring disparity in the tax code. That is, citizens who get their health coverage through their jobs get that benefit tax-free.

But individuals who are self-employed do not get the same tax advantage.

"We've got to level the playing field, from a taxes perspective," Bush said.

"The tax deduction is going to help your folks."

Bush used a round-table discussion to illustrate the plan's benefits.

"Have you looked at this

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SPRINT CHARGE QUESTIONED

AUSTIN (AP) — State leaders are investigating a new fee on Sprint cell phone bills that many believe is overcharging Texas customers and may even be illegal.

Sprint began charging the 1 percent "Texas Margin Fee Reimbursement" on cell phone bills this month, but the company will owe a .7 percent tax on their revenue under the state's new business tax, often called the margins tax.

Sprint spokesman John Taylor contends that the total collections will actually be less than what is owed. Some commercial customers are only being charged a 0.6 percent surcharge, he said Thursday.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Something about desolation apparently agreed with Harry Spannaus.

Spannaus, whose 26-year Air Force career culminated with him being the final wing commander at Webb Air Force Base, was honored as the Veteran of the Month by Hangar 25 Air Museum during ceremonies Thursday night.

When Webb closed in 1977, Spannaus retired and remained in this area, first as director of the Big Spring Airpark, then as an executive in the oil and gas industry in Big Spring.

Not bad for someone who didn't have the greatest first impression of West Texas. "I thought it was quite desolate," Spannaus said. "When we arrived here, my wife and family asked me, 'What have you got us into now?'"

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Obituaries

Kenneth B. Bryant



Kenneth B. Bryant, beloved husband, father and grandfather passed into the light to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Jan. 21, 2007. His unexpected passing was due to sepsis and renal failure. Ken had a long career as a photographer and retired from Optigraphics in 1997. Ken was a resident of Big Spring from birth to 1964. He and his wife, Janet were residents of Arlington for over 30 years prior to moving to Lakeside Village in 1998 after Ken's retirement.

Ken loved spending time with his family and enjoyed walking, fishing, boating and gardening. Ken and his wife, Janet would have celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 6, 2007.

Arrangements: Memorial service Saturday, Jan. 27, 2007, at 10 a.m. at Lawson Funeral Home, 803 North Main, Meridian. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Ken to Providence Hospice, 4830 Lakewood Dr., Suite 2, Waco 76710.

Survivors: Wife, Janet Bryant; daughter, Corby Bryant of Dallas; daughter and son-in-law, Sonia and Ray Bauer of Oceanside, Calif.; son, Kevin Bryant of Mansfield; son, Alex Bryant of Ft. Worth. Ken also left behind six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, Thomas Yeats of Big Spring; and brother-in-law; and sister-in-law, Bill and Carolyn Davey, of Colorado City.

Paid obituary

Nita Senter

Nita Senter, 85, of Plainview, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007, at Santa Fe House. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, 2007, at 11th and Amarillo Church of Christ with Dee Teel and Scott Pinkerton, officiating. Interment will follow in Plainview Memorial Park by Kornerstone Funeral Directors of Plainview.

Mrs. Senter was born June 8, 1921, in Big Spring to Roscoe and Mae McKinnon Dunagan. She grew up in Elbow and graduated from Forsan High School in 1939. Nita married Richard Wendell Senter, July 19, 1943, in Big Spring. The Senters farmed in Big Spring and Stanton area before moving to Plainview in February 1949 where they farmed in Quarterway. Mr. Senter passed away April 20, 1986. She had been a member of 11th and Amarillo Church of Christ since 1955.

She is survived by two sons, Lewis Senter and his wife, Joyce of Plainview, Roger Senter and his wife, Cindy of Canyon; one brother, Rafor Dunagan and wife, Jeneva of Big Spring; one sister-in-law; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to 11th and Amarillo Church of Christ Building Fund, 2800 W. 11th, Plainview 79072 or Area Community Hospice, P.O. Box 5087, Plainview 79072.

Take Note

THE 5TH ANNUAL RELAY RASCAL RAZZMATAZZ will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 24, in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at KBST and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Entry deadline is Feb. 20.

SAY IT WITH CAKE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT RELAY FOR LIFE orders are being taken until Feb. 9. Personalized heart-shaped cakes in either 8-inch size for \$5 or 5-inch size for \$3.50. Your choice of chocolate or vanilla. Delivery is available. Contact Angel Sosa at 264-4108 or Georgia Torres at 267-1312.

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.

THE CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS ASSOCIATION meets at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the TravelCenters of American truck stop.

THE POWWOW COMMITTEE OF BIG SPRING is planning its 2007 Powwow and is in need of new members and volunteers. Anyone interested in Native American dancing or just interested in helping to bring an exciting weekend event to Big Spring is encouraged to contact Robert Downing at 263-3255 or Randy McKinney at 267-4843.

CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them.

To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

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Police blotter

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

- MELISSA KAY FINCHUM, 38, of 2630 Langley, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JO LINDA CANTU, 26, of Sherman, was arrested Thursday and held on a Grayson County warrant.
- VANESSA HOLLIS, 33, of 615 Ridgelea, was arrested Thursday on a local citation and a charge of driving while license suspended.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 400 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 4800 block of Highway 80.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS OF A HABITATION/SHELTER CENTER was reported in the 1800 block of Lancaster.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg Street.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of FM 700.
- ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 300 block of 19th Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 32 inmates at the time of this report.
- ROBBIN LYNN BARNES, 17, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- GARY LEW CHRANE, 56, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- JEREMIAH COKER, 30, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 4000 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Rickbaugh Road. 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.

TUESDAY
The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.

Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at 263-0027, ext. 236 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
Spring City Senior Citizens Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY
Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
The Knockout, a battle of the bands, will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 each and available at Bean's World Cafe and Cowboys Steakhouse.

SUNDAY
"A Yellow Butterfly," a play written by Howard College student Joe Baker, will be performed at 2:30 p.m. in the Hall Center for the Arts on campus. The public is invited.

MONDAY
Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. 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.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s. South winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Colder. Highs in the mid 40s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Northeast winds around 10 mph.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Northeast winds around 10 mph in the morning becoming light and variable.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Monday...Partly cloudy. Not as cool. Highs in the mid 50s.

Monday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Tuesday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-15-22-29. Bonus Ball: 32. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$200,000
Winning ticket sold in: San Antonio.

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-10-15-31. Number matching five of five: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) - The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-8-7.

Correction

In Wednesday's article on Assistant Superintendent Rey Villarreal leaving Big Spring Independent School District, it was reported that Villarreal was reassigned by the BSISD school board Jan. 12. That action was taken by BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes.

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Former wing commander fondly remembers Webb

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Something about desolation apparently agreed with Harry Spannaus.

Spannaus, whose 26-year Air Force career culminated with him being the final wing commander at Webb Air Force Base, was honored as the Veteran of the Month by Hangar 25 Air Museum during ceremonies Thursday night.

When Webb closed in 1977, Spannaus retired and remained in this area, first as director of the Big Spring Airpark, then as an executive in the oil and gas industry in Big Spring.

Not bad for someone who didn't have the greatest first impression of West Texas.

"I thought it was quite desolate," Spannaus said. "When we arrived here, my wife and family asked me, 'What have you got us into now?'"

Fortunately, that impression didn't hold.

"Once we got onto the base, we found it was quite nice," he said. "And

we eventually fell in love with the base and Big Spring."

After entering the Air Force in 1951, Spannaus spent most of his time as a fighter pilot, eventually flying 239 combat missions over Korea and Vietnam. During his career, he earned 39 military decorations, including the Bronze Star and the Air Medal.

He eventually logged more than 9,000 hours flying time and served overseas at bases in Japan, Korea, Thailand, Germany, Italy, Spain and Turkey.

While he joked that almost every base he served at eventually closed, it was clear that the Webb closing continues to be a sore spot.

"Webb shouldn't have closed," he said. "The fact is, the Air Force made a mistake by closing Webb and six other bases in a short time during the 1970s ... Webb was superior to the other (pilot training) bases that remained open."

While he proudly recalls Webb's leading status



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Retired Air Force Col. Harry Spannaus, the last wing commander at Webb Air Force Base, speaks to a large crowd at Hangar 25 Air Museum after being named the museum's veteran of the month during ceremonies Thursday night.

among training bases with regards to training time and safety record, his fondest memory of the time is of a more personal nature.

"My best memories are the friends I made in Big Spring," he said.

The museum further honored Spannaus by dedicating the upstairs mez-

zanine area as the "Spannaus Office" in recognition to both his military service and membership on the Hangar 25 Board of

Directors.

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

KNOCKOUT

Continued from Page 1A

Knockout to Big Spring," said Koerber. "The show is a great chance for these bands to get their music out to the people, and for the people of Big Spring to see some of the up and coming bands. It's really a win-win situation for

everyone involved." Koerber said the show will also feature special guests Crimson Soul and Road Less Traveled.

"The guys from Crimson Soul are really looking forward to performing," said Koerber. "They started out here in Big Spring, so this is their hometown. That really means a lot to them."

Tickets for the show are

\$10 and are available at Cowboys Steakhouse and Beans World Cafe. Tickets will also be available at the door, with limited seating.

"We're really hoping Big Spring and Howard County will come out and show their support," said Koerber. "Some of these bands are going to be like Crimson Soul and go on to become huge, so this is

a great chance to see them while they are still up and coming."

Koerber said the show, which is set to begin at 6 p.m. at Municipal Auditorium, represents a golden opportunity for the winners of the competition.

"We're having several rounds of The Knockout, with a winner from each of them," said Koerber.

"Once we have all the finalists, we'll have one last competition to choose the winning band."

"The winning band will go on to take the stage at Rock the Desert, which will feature headline acts like Family Force Five, Kutless, Emery, Shawn McDonald and Hawk Nelson. Anyone that wants more information on Rock the Desert can

find it at www.rockthedesert.com.

For more information on The Knockout series, visit www.scarsentertainment.com or www.myspace.com/scarsentertainment.

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

CORNELL

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the Federal Bureau of Prisons' decision to continue our long-standing relationship at the Big Spring Correctional Center," said James E.

Hyman, Cornell's chairman and chief executive officer.

In 2006, the Federal Bureau of Prisons issued the Criminal Alien Requirement VI (CAR-6) procurement, aiming to replace four existing intergovernmental service agreements in West

Texas with direct contracts, including the contract under which Cornell currently manages its facility in Big Spring.

"This is wonderful news for both us and the city of Big Spring, whom we view as a key component of our success at the facility," said Hyman. "Our

employees and management team remain committed to delivering quality services in an expanded capacity for the Federal Bureau of Prisons."

Cornell Companies is a private provider of corrections, treatment and educational services out-

sourced by federal, state and local governmental agencies. The company has 78 facilities in 17 states and the District of Columbia with a total ser-

vice capacity of 18,555.

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

BUSH

Continued from Page 1A

deal that I proposed?" he asked Jim Henderson, president of a St. Louis construction supply company that employs seven.

"Yes, sir, I have," Henderson replied. "And from what I've looked at, off of the information you've sent to me, I think that it's going to be very attractive."

The president's plan would allow a \$15,000 standard deduction from income taxes for families with health insurance and a \$7,500 deduction for individuals.

If a company-provided benefit was more generous than those benchmarks, then taxes would be assessed on overage.

Those tax dollars would offset the cost of new tax breaks going to those now denied them.

Bush called the proposal revenue-neutral, meaning costs would be offset by the higher taxes on well-off individuals.

While Bush received glowing reviews for his proposal at the hospital, others were more skeptical.

Arzelia Boyd of Kansas City earns \$10 an hour as a security guard. Her husband is in poor health and

can't work. Her teenage sons are still in school.

While her sons are on Medicaid, Boyd, 40, can't afford the insurance coverage offered by her employer.

"I don't see it. I really don't, not with the bills I have," she said before going to an appointment Thursday at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic.

Boyd's federal income tax bill is nil and a deduction moot.

"A tax break isn't going to work for everybody," she said. "I need something totally different."

Technology, not taxes, began the presidential visit.

First stop on the tour was the emergency room. Looking up, he viewed a flat-screen television monitor filled with bright, blinking lights that displayed the vital signs of patients: blood pressure, heart rate, what kinds of tests have been done on which patient,

and their medication.

"Medicine is finally catching up with the rest of America in terms of information technology," Bush could be heard telling assembled doctors and nurses at one point.

Escorted by George Pagels, the hospital's chief executive officer, and James Hart, director of emergency services, Bush later visited an intensive-care room featuring a sophisticated, high-resolution camera that allows doctors even in remote locations to keep close watch on patients.

Bush, who donned reading glasses to check out the high-definition picture on a nearby computer screen, noted that doctors can even check on patients through their home computers.

"Pretty fantastic, isn't it," he said.

Reading the charts of political change in Washington, University

of Kansas political scientist Burdett Loomis dismissed Bush's proposal, saying it would have gotten more traction if Republicans still controlled Congress. Democrats, he said, view the health-care system as needing "serious and comprehensive" overhaul. The president "is tinkering with the rear-view mirror."

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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.

Ronnie Cupetid
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- Winners in the Boss Hogg Chili Cook-off and the Harley Davidson Shop for hosting the event one more time.

- Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, for putting together a "break even" budget for the first time in several years.

- Big Spring city water department crews, working around the clock at times to repair multiple water line breaks caused by the cold snap. Thanks, guys.

- Col. Harry A. Spannaus, the January Veteran of the Month at Hangar 25 Air Museum, which also honored the decorated former wing commander with a new permanent display, the "Spannaus Office."

- Cornell Corrections on its new, larger contract with the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

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

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We can take the high road, Lord, with You.

Amen

Lacking conviction and purpose

President Bush — whose approval rating has fallen to 35 percent — seemed to borrow a page from the Team Arnold playbook when he delivered his State of the Union Address Tuesday night. The Bushies should want to mimic Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's impressive turnaround. In 2005, only one-third of California voters approved of the governor. In 2006, Schwarzenegger handily won re-election and a majority of voter approval.

How did Schwarzenegger do it? The governor admitted that he erred in holding a special election, assured voters that he got their message and promised to play better with state Democrats. Bush lacked Mr. Universe's exuberance when eating humble pie. Nonetheless, Bush was gracious as he addressed "Madam Speaker" Nancy Pelosi and acknowledged that he was addressing, for his first time, a Democratic Congress. Harkening back to the "uniter" rhetoric of his 2000 campaign, Bush observed, "Our citizens don't care which side of the aisle we sit on — as long as we're willing to cross that aisle when there is work to be done."

As California GOP Chairman Duf Sundheim noted, Bush and Schwarzenegger both have tapped into the public's desire to "move forward" and get things done.

On the issues, Bush moved into areas that Democrats have claimed. He pledged to reduce the federal deficit — and yes, I know that he kept signing spending bills that changed the Clinton-era federal budget surplus into a \$248 billion federal deficit.

On health care, Bush did not match Schwarzenegger's call for universal health coverage. Then again, Bush probably won't have to retreat from his proposal — as

Schwarzenegger already has by not including illegal immigrant adults, as promised.

Bush and Schwarzenegger have radically different approaches on health care. Schwarzenegger went with a model that requires most employers to provide health care for their workers or pay into a fund. Bush wants more Americans to own their health care as the best way to curb rising costs.

On the policy, Bush may be right that only private policies will cut costs. But politically he is completely out of touch with how Americans think about health care — and he said nothing Tuesday to move public opinion.

On climate change, Bush has learned that when it comes to greenhouse gas, hot air rises. President Clinton did next to nothing about automobile fuel-efficiency standards and never even tried to ratify the Kyoto global warming pact, but he said he supported Kyoto — and that gave him big environmental cred.

Schwarzenegger signed a bill to cut California greenhouse gases by 25 percent in 2020, 10 years after he is out of office — and that makes him a green governor. Bush already has increased fuel-efficiency standards for light trucks and SUVs, more than Clinton ever did, but critics only notice that he rejected Kyoto. Now he's promising big gasoline reductions in the future, too.

Big promises sell better than small but actual remedies. One big difference between Bush and Schwarzenegger: The more Schwarzenegger tries to do his job — balance the state budget and reform state government — the worse he fares in the polls. Bush, on the other hand, has sunk in voter approval precisely because voters feel that he failed as an executive on Iraq and Hurricane Katrina. By doing his job better, Bush should be more popular. Tuesday night, Bush showed that he has the courage of his convictions — while Democratic leaders do not.

"Whatever you voted for," Bush

told Congress of its passage of the Iraq war resolution, "you did not vote for failure."

Then, on Wednesday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee did vote for failure — or at least it passed a nonbinding anti-troop surge resolution. Lt. Gen. David Petraeus had told the Armed Services Committee Tuesday that such an action would embolden Iraqi insurgents.

For years, Democratic critics have faulted Bush for not listening to military leaders on troop strength. By military leaders, the critics meant not Army Gen. Tommy Franks, who got the number of troops he wanted, but Gen. Eric Shinseki, who wanted many thousands more U.S. troops in Iraq.

Now Bush is listening to Petraeus, who told Congress he needs 20,000 more troops — and the critics are not heeding what the brass say they need. A recent Fox News/Opinion Dynamics poll asked Democrats if they personally wanted the new Bush plan to succeed in Iraq, and 51 percent of Democrats said yes, while 34 percent said no and 15 percent didn't know. So they shouldn't get indignant when those who support the war question the patriotism of some war critics.

Let me acknowledge that war opponents have done a service to the extent that they have sent Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki the message that U.S. troops will leave if he does not reform. But when senators vote for resolutions that have no effect other than to undermine the war effort, you cannot respect that vote. It lacks conviction and purpose.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS

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Faked fear of persecution is asylum fraud

Immigrants who obtained green cards after entering the United States through political asylum now run the risk of losing that privilege if they return to the countries where they claimed they were persecuted, according to a warning posted on a federal government Web site.

The measure is long overdue! For too long, too many immigrants have made a mockery of the political asylum system.

While many who truly deserve asylum are not getting it, others are exploiting U.S. compassion for the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Immediately after receiving a green card, they turn around and return to their homelands as tourists — although they claimed to have a "well-founded fear of persecution" upon returning.

If they go back home so quickly, then obviously their green cards were obtained through fraudulent claims, and their permits to remain here should be revoked. Since they no longer fear traveling to their country of origin; when they go home, they should not be allowed to return.

And that's exactly what may now happen to fraudulent asylum seekers.

The warning came in the form of a "fact sheet" posted in late December on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Web site.

While those who truly fear per-

secution in their homelands would not dare return anyway, the warning will undoubtedly deter others from abusing the system.

Although the warning is based on longstanding laws and regulations, the policy of enforcing them is new. Legal U.S. residents who obtained their green cards through political asylum had never been given such a warning.

The new policy has immigration attorneys and some immigrants very concerned. Some are even outraged by the warning.

Why? Because for attorneys, the business of representing asylum seekers may dwindle. For fraudulent political refugees, there will be a price to pay for cutting in front of the immigration line. If they come in under asylum, they will have to wait a few years — until they become American citizens — to be eligible to return home.

Critics say the policy is unfair to green-card holders who may need to visit a dying relative, attend a funeral or tend to some other emergency. That's a valid concern.

They also claim that those returning to countries where political conditions have changed, and where their chances of being persecuted have evaporated, should not be penalized. That's also a valid point.

Yet U.S. government officials told The Miami Herald that those who return home because of emergencies or changed political conditions would not be affected by the new crackdown. Officials say they are after those who are obviously abusing the system by frequently traveling to countries where the political conditions have not changed, making it clear that

their claimed fear of persecution was a fraud.

These asylum seekers, who come from many countries where some people are actually persecuted, were really economic refugees pretending to have political motives for coming here.

And there are plenty of them. The "tourists" who go back to vacation in countries where they were allegedly persecuted are a much larger group than those who have genuine emergency reasons to return.

Some go back to their hometowns to boast about the wealth they have acquired in the United States. Some even make a business out of it — flying back and forth as "mules" carrying either cash or goods to resell in their own countries.

Of course, there are thousands of political refugees who do deserve to be here. Those are the ones who have proven that their fear of persecution was legitimate by staying away from the countries and the people they love — even after becoming American citizens.

But those who came under false pretenses, those who lied about a fear that never existed, deserve the new policy.

For making a mockery of an asylum system that is meant to save lives, and to make room for those who really deserve political asylum, they need to be stopped.

To find out more about Miguel Perez, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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News in brief

Bush wants \$10.6 billion to rebuild, strengthen security forces in Afghanistan

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The Bush administration plans to ask Congress for \$10.6 billion for Afghanistan, a major increase aimed at rebuilding the country and strengthening government security forces still fighting the Taliban five years after the U.S.-led invasion.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said all but \$2 billion of the money is for security needs. She detailed the plan as she prepared to attend a NATO gathering meant to plan for an expected Taliban military offensive in the spring.

Among other issues Rice planned to raise Friday with her NATO colleagues were the divisions within the alliance on sharing the burden in Afghanistan. Some NATO countries have shown a greater willingness than others to send troops to areas of conflict.

The administration funding proposal follows a year in which Taliban forces launched surprisingly fierce attacks across the country, poppy production expanded and relations worsened between Afghanistan and Pakistan, a key ally in the fight against global terrorism.

"The challenges of the last several months have demonstrated that we want to and we should redouble our efforts," Rice told reporters flying with her to Brussels for the NATO sessions.

Bomb strikes animal market in central Baghdad, killing at least 14, wounding dozens

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A bomb hidden in a box carrying pigeons struck a crowded animal market in central Baghdad on Friday, killing at least 14 people and wounding dozens, officials and witnesses said.

The explosive device was hidden in a box when it detonated at about 10 a.m. at the Souq al-Ghazl, which attracts buyers and sellers peddling birds, dogs, cats, sheep and goats and exotic animals such as snakes and monkeys.

Police and hospital officials said at least 14 people were killed and 33 were wounded.

A witness said a man arrived with an egg carton containing pigeons for sale, but it exploded after he walked away to get a drink, tearing through the potential buyers gathering around the box.

NATO: Suspected Taliban militants killed in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A NATO airstrike destroyed a Taliban command post in southern Afghanistan, killing a suspected senior militant leader, the alliance said Friday, while 10 rebel fighters died in a clash with police in the east.

An undisclosed number of the militant leader's deputies also were killed in Thursday's airstrike in Musa Qala district of southern Helmand province, a NATO statement said. It did not disclose the name of the leader killed.

Later Friday, a suicide bomber blew himself up outside the offices of an aid group in the capital of Helmand province, Lashkar Gah. A policeman and two civilians were wounded, police said.

NATO has claimed a string of successes against Taliban leaders — including the killing last month of a top lieutenant of the militia's fugitive chief, Mullah Omar — after a year of bitter fighting that has left thousands dead.

The airstrike happened outside the town of Musa Qala, where a deal signed between local elders and the Helmand governor, with the support of the British task force based in the province, turned over security responsibilities to local leaders. The deal also prevents NATO-led troops from entering the town.

No compromise seen in Senate as lawmakers craft resolutions to rebuke president over Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The leader of a bipartisan effort to rebuke President Bush's Iraq strategy said he would not strike a compromise with a harsher Democratic resolution the Senate will debate next week.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., former chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said Thursday he won't negotiate with Democrats to develop a single proposal

on Iraq. His comments — as well as the emergence of other resolutions the Senate might consider — underscored how a Congress largely against Bush's proposal to send more troops to Iraq remained divided over what to do about it.

Warner's decision bolsters chances that his resolution will be the one to win final Senate approval. Democrats are expected to vote for his proposal if their measure fails, and several Republicans said they prefer Warner's approach because it is less divisive.

His decision to avoid bargaining also decreases the odds that a single resolution would emerge that would garner a strong, bipartisan vote reproaching Bush's plan, which the White House hopes to avoid.

Warner's resolution would put the Senate on record as opposing Bush's decision to send 21,500 more troops to Iraq. It leaves open the possibility that a small number of forces could be sent to the western Anbar Province, where al-Qaida members are believed to be operating.

Soldiers reinforce patrols and checkpoints in tense Beirut after curfew lifted

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Soldiers reinforced patrols and checkpoints Friday following a rare nighttime curfew imposed by authorities seeking to quell escalating clashes between factions supporting the Western-backed government and Hezbollah protesters trying to bring it down.

The order to clear the streets — lifted just before dawn — came after rival groups turned a university campus into a battle zone on Thursday with at least three people killed when mobs faced off with homemade clubs and stones.

Army officers reported snipers opening fire during the melee, but there was no clear indication of whether the gunmen were acting on orders from any of the leaders locked in the deepening standoff or saboteurs seeking to inflame the situation.

Yet all sides recognized that the country could be stumbling dangerously in the direction of civil war. Government officials and Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, appealed for calm and allowed security forces to enforce the first blanket curfew in the Lebanese capital in 11 years.

Walid Jumblatt, a senior pro-government politician, called on the Hezbollah-allied speaker of parliament to reconvene lawmakers in an attempt to restore dialogue between the feuding sides.

Study finds most with diabetes or at risk for it ignore doctors' advice to exercise

DENVER (AP) — Bad news when it comes to diabetes and exercise: Most people with Type 2 diabetes or at risk for it apparently ignore their doctors' advice to be active.

Fewer than 40 percent get exercise, a new study found, and the more in danger the patients are, the less likely they are to be active.

That's despite an earlier study that found nearly three-quarters of diabetics said their doctors had advised them to exercise. The patients who got the strongest warnings to get moving were the least likely to listen, according to research being released Friday.

Without exercise, Type 2 diabetics face complications ranging from nerve damage to high blood pressure.

California air regulators enact nation's 1st statewide ban on toxic dry-cleaning chemical

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — When a soil test revealed a potentially carcinogenic chemical had seeped into the ground beneath his dry-cleaning store, the cleanup set Thomas De Pippo back \$200,000.

After that, De Pippo began using an environmentally friendly "wet cleaning" system instead of using the toxic solvent perchloroethylene. On Thursday, the market for such "green" technologies got a boost when California enacted the nation's first statewide ban of perchloroethylene by 2023.

"It cost me my entire life savings, my marriage," De Pippo recalled of the cleanup at his Orange County store, "Julie's Cleaners."

De Pippo is among thousands of dry cleaners across the country who are turning to such environmentally

friendly options.

The regulation by the California Air Resources Board begins to phase out the use of perchloroethylene next year, banning dry cleaners from buying machines that rely on the solvent that state officials have said causes a variety of cancers.

Perry orders Texas Southern to begin financial cleanup

HOUSTON (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry has ordered the regents of Texas Southern University to develop a plan for fixing the school's financial problems or resign.

Perry met with the regents last week and set a 30- to 45-day deadline for a plan that would begin this year to tackle the historically black university's multimillion-dollar budget woes, according to the governor's office.

A recent report by TSU's interim chief financial officer outlined overspending, missing purchase orders and poor financial projections at the school.

The school has requested an emergency appropriation of about \$25 million, much of which would go to repairing worn-out buildings.

Soldiers with Texas ties killed in Iraq

RAYMONDVILLE (AP) — A 27-year-old soldier from South Texas and an Ohio soldier from Fort Bliss have been killed in Iraq, the Department of Defense said Thursday.

Staff Sgt. Hector Leija, who grew up in Raymondville, died Wednesday from wounds he sustained during combat operations in Baghdad, the military said.

Leija was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Spc. Nicholas P. Brown, 24, of Huber Heights, Ohio, was killed Monday when an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle in Mosul, the military said.

Brown was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. He is the seventh soldier from the 4th Brigade Combat Team to be killed since the soldiers deployed to Iraq in late October.

Contract Bridge

Bidding Quiz

Partner bids One Club, and the next player passes. What would you bid with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠K93 ♥AKJ2 ♦QJ8 ♣964
2. ♠AKQ9874 ♥J6 ♦62 ♣83
3. ♠AJ98 ♥9 ♦KQJ10 ♣QJ74
4. ♠AQ6 ♥AQ8 ♦KJ93 ♣985

1. **One heart.** Although the hand is not trump-oriented and many players would respond two notrump, it is better to bid one heart. This is in keeping with the general principle that it is easier to make game in a major suit than in notrump if you have a combined holding of eight cards in the suit. Since partner may have four hearts, this possibility should be explored.

If partner doesn't support hearts, you can bid notrump at your next turn.

2. **Four spades.** You'd hardly want to play this hand at any contract other than four spades, so you might as well bid it at once.

The leap to four indicates that your trumps are strong enough to justify a game in spades opposite a normal opening bid. Four spades is not a slam try. If you had potential slam values, you'd start by bidding one or two spades.

3. **One diamond.** You might con-

sider responding one spade, hoping to find a major-suit fit, but when you have a hand with which you plan to make more than one bid, it is better to bid four-card suits "up the line." This gives you maximum space to operate in while you try to determine where the best game or slam contract lies. You do plan to bid spades at your next turn if partner bids one heart over one diamond.

When you bid spades at your second turn, partner will know you have only four of them and will have a better idea of how to continue. You plan to show your club support later if the bidding develops favorably, thus pinpointing your shortness in hearts.

4. **Three notrump.** This is a picture bid showing 16 or 17 points, nearly always 4-3-3-3 distribution and strength in the unbid suits. In effect, the leap to three notrump indicates the values for an opening notrump bid.

There is not much point in responding one diamond when a different bid is available that, in one fell swoop, perfectly describes your hand. The opening bidder is free to go on or not, as he sees fit, knowing that the hand opposite him contains the values for an opening notrump bid.

Tomorrow: Instinctive plays may be costly.

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B.B. King hospitalized

GALVESTON (AP) — B.B. King was hospitalized for undisclosed reasons but was in good condition today, hospital officials said.

The 81-year-old bluesman, who had been scheduled to perform at the Grand Opera House on Thursday night, was admitted to The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston that evening, said Paul McCarthy, a nurse administrator.

King had a low fever but was resting comfortably, hospital spokesman John Coloan said today. He said he had no information on the ailment for which King was being treated, but he and McCarthy said King was expected to be discharged later today or Saturday.


King has a history of diabetes. In December, President Bush awarded King the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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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The Stamps Quartet
Friday, January 26
7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church
705 W. FM 700

You are invited to Come
and enjoy an evening of worship with Southern Gospel
singing at its very best. No tickets needed ...
A Love offering will be taken.

Church News

United Country
Heart of the City Realtors

sponsored by

1209 Gregg St. • 714-4555

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church

Elder James Taylor of Crosbyton will be the visiting minister for the Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship service at the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St.

Visitors are always welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Bible study and prayer meeting are scheduled for Wednesday at 7 p.m.

You may call John Wayne Metcalf at 394-4067 or Dennis Walker at 935-3196 for more information on these services.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Please join us for worship Sunday as the Rev. Lea leads us in our continuation of study on "Disciplines for Disciples" during regular worship service. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. followed by the worship service at 11 a.m.

There will be an "All Committee Planning Meeting" Sunday at 3 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. This is a required meeting for all those coming into leadership positions for 2007.

Wednesday, Jan. 31, the youth will meet at 6 p.m. at the church for worship and study to be followed by Praise Band worship at 7 p.m.

Ministry Team will meet Thursday, Feb. 1, at 7 p.m. at the church fellowship hall. Please continue to be in prayer for this newly formed team that will be working to share the message with our community.

The Community Choir has begun rehearsal of the Easter Cantata. Rehearsals are at First Baptist Church of Coahoma. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the choir.

Baptist Temple Church

Baptist Temple Church is located at 400 E. 11th Place. Sunday morning worship service is at 10:45 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. A children's church and nursery are provided.

On Monday, the Rev. Miller Zhuang, vice president of Asian Partner's, and also the Rev. Randy Galloway, also of Asian Partners, who along with the Rev. Don. Snipes of Baptist Temple, have just returned from China and will be reporting on the work of God in China.

It begins at 11 a.m. and there will be lunch provided. All are welcome. Call 432-267-8287 or visit www.baptisttemplechurch.org

Berea Baptist Church

The new choir for Children and Youth at Berea Baptist Church meets for rehearsal each Sunday from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The group is under the direction of James and Bernadine Grissett, who also direct the Jubilee Singers.

For those who need transportation, call the church office at 267-8438. If there is no answer, leave a message and we



The Stamps (at left) will be at the First Baptist Church tonight at 7 p.m. while the Zamblan Vocal Group (above) will be at Trinity Baptist Church at 6 p.m. Sunday. Both performances are free and the public is encouraged to attend. An offering will be taken at both events.

will return your call. If parents have specific questions, the church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Berea Baptist Church is at 4204 Wasson Road. Our service times are Sunday Bible study at 9:45 a.m., worship at 11 a.m., and Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m. Our midweek service is at 6:30 p.m.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Come visit with us at 1512 Birdwell Lane where the Church exists for the sole purpose of glorifying Jesus Christ and being a blessing to you and your family. Services are informal with good gospel singing, plain Bible preaching, and a friendly atmosphere. Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A nursery is provided.

The ladies will have a fellowship Saturday morning in the fellowship hall from 10 a.m.-noon. The Valentine Banquet will be discussed.

For further information or a ride to Church, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First United Methodist Church

This Sunday Dr Shane Brue will continue his sermon series concerning God's Word regarding the family. This week's sermon is titled "Singleness, Marriage, and Divorce." Worship services are at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:45.

The new Beth Moore Bible study has begun on Wednesday mornings; there will be a Thursday evening class. For information regarding availability, contact Nell at the church office, 267-6394.

Starting Feb. 4, First United Methodist youth will change their Sunday evening schedule to: Junior High at 5:30, Snack Supper at 6:30 and Senior High at 7.

Southern Gospel Music-Texas Style will be the program presented by the Brazos Brothers on Saturday evening, Feb. 10 in the sanctuary at First Methodist. This group will also be special performing guests at both Sunday morning worship services on the 11th.

The Children's Choir will resume meeting on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 11 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

There's still time to sign up for the Senior Adult Ministries trip to Midland on Sunday, Feb. 18 for Midland Community Theatre's presentation of "Beauty and the Beast." Price is \$15 which includes ticket for the performance and dinner afterward. Sign up in the secretary's office at the church.

Project Light continues to teach English as a Second Language on Sundays at 6 p.m., Tuesday mornings at 10 and both Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6.

First United Methodist Church is located in downtown Big Spring at the corner of Fourth and Scurry streets. There's a place for you at First Methodist.

East Side Baptist Church

"The Darts" will be in concert Tuesday evening. The Dart family travels full-time, singing and proclaiming the good news. They sing a variety of

is held at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A nursery is provided for all services for four years old and younger.

Friends of Unity

In the Tuesday noon study group, Friends are learning to walk in the newness and freshness of the Christ consciousness.

Sundays at 1 p.m., Friends take turns bringing the lessons.

The Unity Center is located in the Downtown Railroad Plaza in the east boxcar.

First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church welcomes The Stamps Quartet to our church this evening. You are invited to come and worship as we hear one of Southern Gospel's premier groups. We'll begin at 7 p.m. There will be no tickets sold, but we will honor to take a love offering to give to these men in support of their ministry. See you tonight

at 7. We welcome Dr. Ken Lyle to our church this Sunday. If you missed Dr. Lyle several weeks ago, you won't want to miss him again. Dr. Lyle comes to us from the Logsdon Theological School at Hardin Simmons in Abilene.

Trinity Baptist Church

Trinity Baptist Church, 810 E. 11th Place, will host the Zamblan Vocal Group at 6 p.m. Sunday and the public is invited.

The group comes from the country of Zambia in the south-central region of Africa. These young men faced a childhood where poverty, disease and tribal divisions were commonplace. With their respective families making an average of \$30 a month and hailing from six different tribes, the Zamblan Vocal Group

See CHURCH, Page 8A

GO RED FOR WOMEN
NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY
FEBRUARY 2, 2007

music styles. Sunday services are at 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. Youth meet at 6 p.m. Sunday. Bible study

Big Spring Independent School District Financial Statement for the Year Ending August 31, 2006

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
<i>Local and Intermediate Sources</i>	\$10,595,891	\$1,058,195	\$11,654,086
<i>State Program Revenues</i>	12,732,687	1,004,464	\$13,737,151
<i>Federal Program Revenues</i>	572,102	5,015,725	5,587,827
Total Revenues	\$23,900,680	\$7,078,384	\$30,979,064
EXPENDITURES:			
<i>Current</i>			
<i>Instruction</i>	\$13,029,592	\$3,145,273	\$16,174,865
<i>Instructional Resources and Media Services</i>	\$438,899	\$33,544	\$472,443
<i>Curriculum and Staff Development</i>	\$107,111	\$346,570	\$453,681
<i>Instructional Leadership</i>	\$270,228	\$25,938	\$296,166
<i>School Leadership</i>	\$1,370,579	\$16,089	\$1,386,668
<i>Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services</i>	745,633	243,748	\$989,381
<i>Social Work Services</i>	50,280	38,497	88,777
<i>Health Services</i>	287,226	4,958	292,184
<i>Student Transportation</i>	780,839	8,398	789,237
<i>Food Services</i>	603	2,168,688	2,169,291
<i>Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities</i>	1,083,673	3,962	1,087,635
<i>General Administration</i>	805,072	3,082	808,154
<i>Plant Maintenance and Operations</i>	3,256,701	29,643	3,286,344
<i>Security and Monitoring Services</i>	23,658		23,658
<i>Data Processing Services</i>	452,265	193,453	645,718
<i>Principal on Long-term Debt</i>	70,000	470,000	540,000
<i>Interest on Long-term Debt</i>	8,913	680,181	689,094
<i>Bond Issuance Costs and Fees</i>	150	695	845
Total Expenditures	\$22,781,422	\$7,412,719	\$30,194,141
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	\$1,119,258	(334,335)	784,923
Other Financing Sources and (Uses):			
<i>Transfers In</i>	376	\$161,360	161,736
<i>Other Resources</i>	14,295	257,816	272,111
<i>Transfers Out</i>	(161,736)		(161,736)
Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	(147,065)	\$419,176	\$272,111
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$972,193	\$84,841	\$1,057,034
<i>Fund Balances - Beginning (September 1, 2004)</i>	\$4,418,327	\$201,700	4,620,027
<i>Prior Period Adjustment</i>	\$15,369		\$15,369
Fund Balances - Ending (August 31, 2005)	\$5,405,889	\$286,541	\$5,692,430

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CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7A

was united through a common desire to serve and praise the Lord with music.

These seven young men have brought a new definition to "a capella," whether performing traditional hymns or original verse and song. Their sound is a unique combination of traditional African rhythms, vocal percussion and complex vocal harmonies.

We would like to invite you to join our church family in being blessed and edified by these Christian young men. There is no admission fee. We will take an offering during the program.

Spring Tabernacle

They're coming in from different states and even Canadian provinces and the speakers are from Canada, South American and North Carolina. All of this is happening at Spring Tabernacle, 1209 Wright St., beginning tonight.

The theme for this weekend of special services is "It's the Anointing." Everyone is invited to these special, spirit-filled services tonight at 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Those preaching the word of God include Bro. Terry Miller and Bro. Brian Hannigan from northern Canada. They'll be joined by Bro. Robert Persaud from South America and Bro. Rick Yskiewitz from North Carolina. These are spirit-filled men bringing an anointed word.

Everyone is invited to these special services. These meetings are sponsored annually by Sharon Children's Homes and Schools of Global Missions (Canada), cour-

tesy of Spring Tabernacle. Sharon Schools is the site of a great revival that has impacted Christianity worldwide.

It's going to be an old time spirit-filled worship in the old Spring Tabernacle. For more information, call Sis. Mona Lu Tonn at 270-0160.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. St. Mary's annual meeting will be held Sunday and therefore Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. only.

Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our Web site: www.stmarysbst.org

St. Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church

Saturday is delivery day for Angel Food Ministries. Orders must be picked up between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at North Birdwell Lane UMC, located at 2702 North Birdwell Lane.

You have to cross under the I-20 overpass, cross the railroad tracks, go approximately two miles. The church is located on the right side of the road.

Orders not picked up by 1 p.m. will be donated.

You may also place your order for February during this time. Other dates and times for placing February orders will be Feb. 1-2 and 9 at North Birdwell UMC from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. For more information, call 267-2203 or 267-4082 or visit our Web site at www.angelfoodministriesofbigspring.com

The decision was made to work toward raising

funds for adding on to the church building and expanding the parking area. The Angel Food Ministry has grown to the point of making changes necessary. Additional classrooms are needed as well as more storage area and a place to accommodate the new food pantry. If you would like more information on any of these projects, call the Rev. Miller at 267-4082.

Dates for the annual chili supper and Vacation

Bible School have been set.

The chili supper will be March 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This year, instead of a book sale, we will have a craft and bake sale. Vacation Bible School is set for the week of June 18. More details of these events will be presented as time gets closer.

As always, you are invited to attend any of the services or activities offered by North Birdwell

E-mail your church news to the Herald at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com or life@bigspringherald.com

Lane UMC. Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 10:30 a.m. Bible study is on the first

and third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and the United Methodist Women meet on the second and fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

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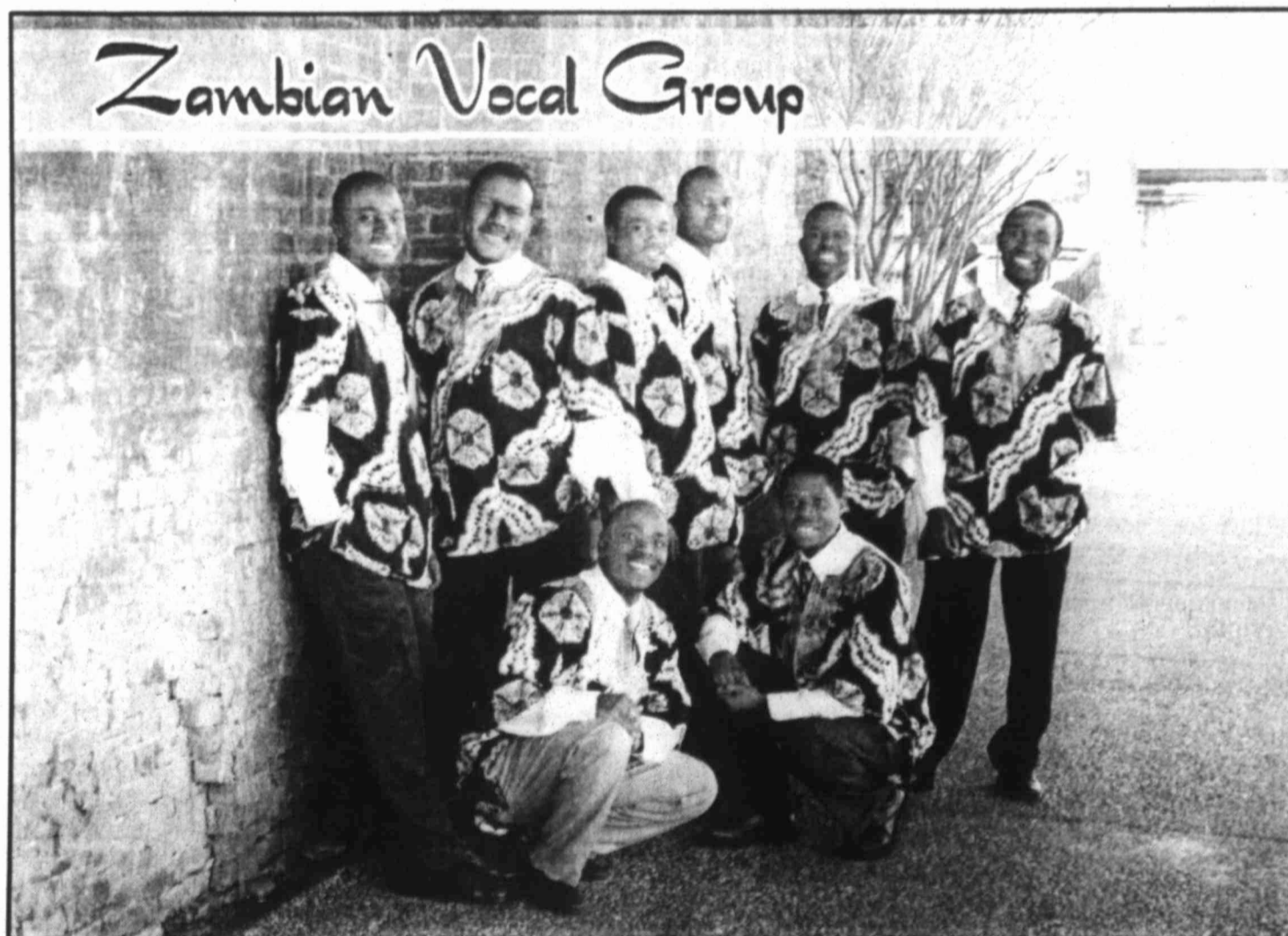
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IN BRIEF

Dallas Mavericks lose to Chicago

Nowitzki had 28 points and 11 rebounds, but shot 7-for-22 from the field and the Mavericks lost for just the second time in 23 games.

See Page 2b

Cowboys hire Jason Garrett, but as what?

The Dallas Cowboys added Jason Garrett to their coaching staff, and said he would remain a candidate to replace retired head coach Bill Parcells.

Garrett, the backup to Hall of Fame quarterback Troy Aikman for two Super Bowl titles in Dallas from 1993-99, was quarterbacks coach in Miami the last two seasons — his only coaching experience. Garrett also had been in line to become the Dolphins' offensive coordinator for new head coach Cam Cameron.

The Cowboys said Garrett's responsibilities and title won't be determined until the head coaching search is complete. The most likely scenario, however, is that Garrett will become the offensive coordinator if he's not the head coach.

Little League needs board members

Coahoma Boy's Little League Baseball is in need of 2007 Board Members.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Tish Hill at 213-3189 or be e-mail at coahomaps@yahoo.com

Big Spring Boy's Little League will be holding its annual board meeting on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library.

Anyone interested in volunteering for Big Spring board positions should attend the meeting or contact Chuck Rosenbaum at 263-1792.

Rare race car hidden during war to be sold

A rare Nazi-era race car hidden in a German mine shaft during World War II and said to be worth millions of dollars has gone on display.

The sleek silver D-Type from Audi fore-runner Auto Union is to be on display for two days through Friday at the car company's fancy showroom on Park Avenue. It will be auctioned as part of Christie's Retromobile auto sale on Feb. 17 in Paris. The anonymous seller expects it to fetch \$12 million to \$15 million.

While Adolf Hitler gave about 500,000 reichsmarks to Auto Union and Mercedes-Benz to promote racing and technology, the car is not specifically affiliated with the Third Reich, Christie's said.

The car, one of only two in existence, is thought to be the grandfather of modern race cars. It revolutionized racing by putting the driver in front of the engine instead of behind it and reached speeds up to 185 mph.

"This car was really quite ahead of its time," said Rupert Banner, head of Christie's International Motors.

Howard thumps New Mexico Military Institute

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

Dan Sencanski led the Howard Hawks basketball team to a 84-49 victory over New Mexico Military Institute (5-10, 0-4) by dropping a game-high 19 points Thursday night and in the process Howard (15-4, 2-3) began its second winning streak of the season.

The last winning streak lasted 13 games and ironically enough that is exactly the number of games the Hawks had left on the schedule when they began this streak — now at two games and counting.

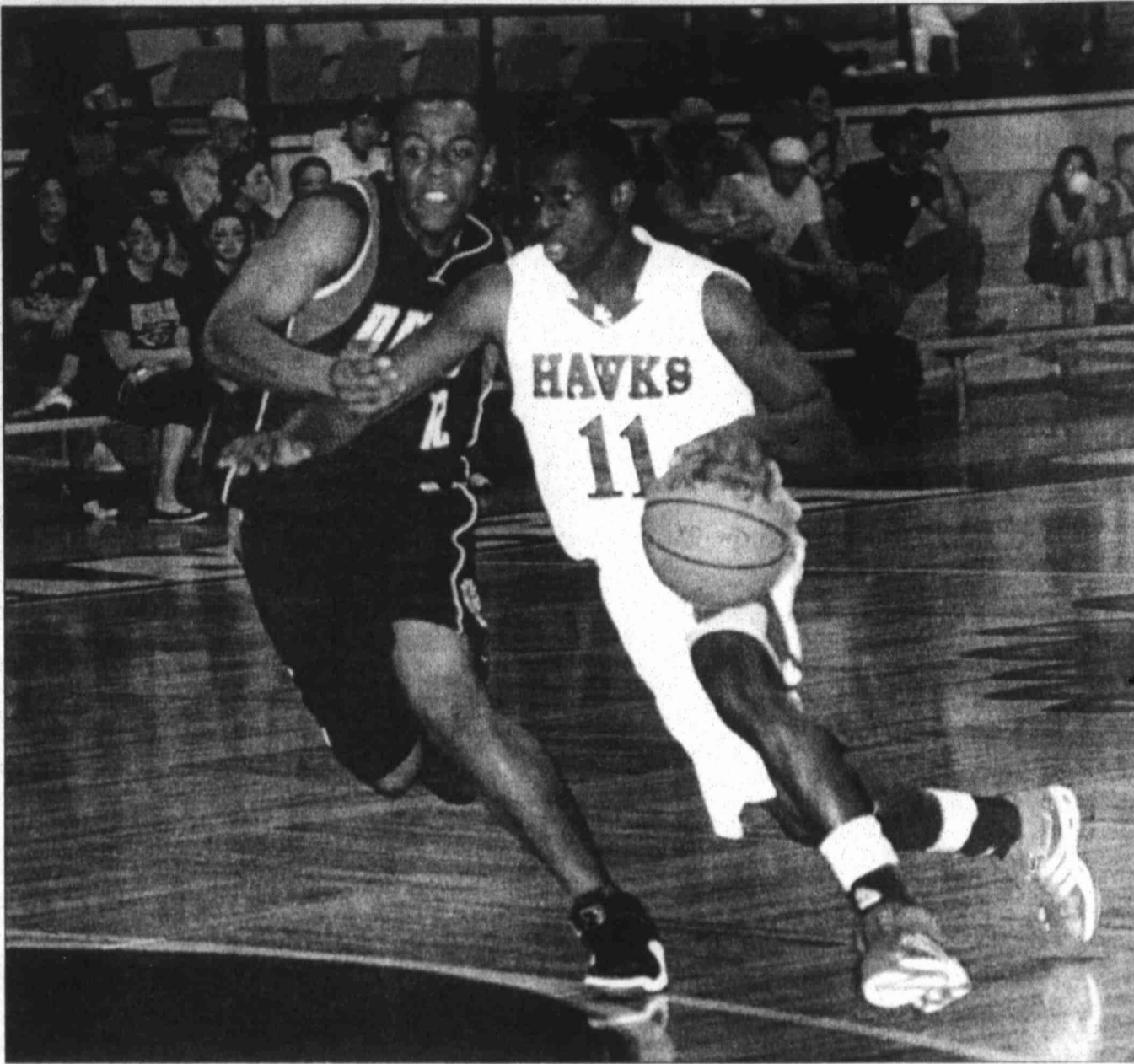
From the opening tip, this contest was never in doubt.

The Hawks jumped out to an early 9-0 lead. With 10 minutes to play before the half, New Mexico Military trimmed the advantage to 18-11, but that was as close as the score would get.

Sencanski, who had a hot hand in Monday night's win over Western Texas, continued to showcase the shooting touch that helped lead the Hawks to a top 5 ranking early in the season. With 6:04 to play in the first half, he hit a mid-range jumper to give the Hawks a 27-16 advantage. In the first 20 minutes of play he made 5-of-6 shots from the floor, including going 2-for-3 from behind the 3-point line.

"Dan is getting back to where he was in the first semester and that's a really good sign," Mark Adams, the Hawks head coach said after the 35-point win. "We need his scoring — everyone here knows he's a great shooter, but he's also a great scorer. He played really well tonight and we're going to need him to continue to play like that."

When the Hawks trotted to the



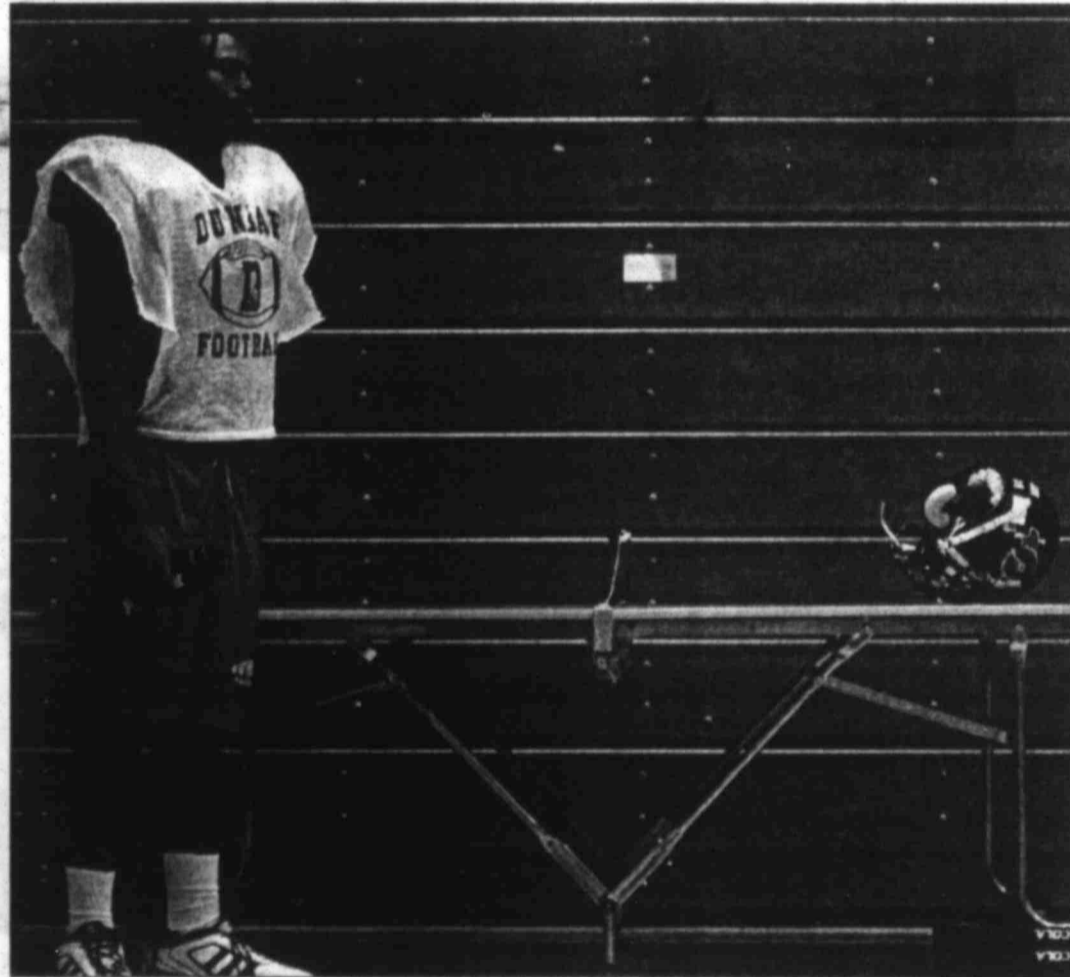
Hawks guard Mike Johnson drives to the basket before dishing off for a second half assist in the Hawks' 84-49 win over New Mexico Military Institute Thursday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The men's basketball team is now 15-4 on the season and 2-3 in conference.

locker room, the only time that New Mexico seemed to keep up with the home team, Sencanski was the leading scorer with 12

points. "Dan always has the hot hand," explained Terrence Hill, the other starting guard, "but when

his confidence is as high as it was tonight — he's money. We

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B



Former Dunbar football player Vernon Davis, who rested his helmet on a ping pong table, takes a break during practice. The pressure on high school athletes in Texas has raised steroid questions in Austin.

Official wants Texas HS athletes tested for drugs

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Texas is a hotbed of high school football, where the Friday night lights burn brighter and many of the athletes are among the biggest, fastest and strongest in the country.

A key state leader is pushing to make Texas kids the cleanest athletes as well.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, a Republican, is proposing a sweeping mandatory random testing program in public schools for steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

And it would go far beyond football. Athletes in baseball, basketball, track and other sports likely would be tested, too.

If approved, it would be the nation's largest program of its kind at the high school level, with

tens of thousands of students tested every year.

"It will save lives. That's the whole purpose," Dewhurst said. "I'm convinced steroid use in high schools is greater than people want to admit."

The question is whether local school districts, a powerful lobby at the state Capitol, will want to go along. They have resisted in the past.

"Many schools would say they have a bigger problem with alcohol and other drugs," said Charles Breithaupt, athletic director for the University Interscholastic League, the governing body for Texas public school sports. "A lot of them think this is a local issue and way below the radar."

Dewhurst's proposal

See **TESTED**, Page 2B

Meissner in lead halfway through short program

By NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

SPOKANE, Wash. — One more night like this, and Kimmie Meissner should have a national title to go with her world championship.

Meissner skated a clean yet uninspired short program Thursday night that was enough to give her the early lead in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships. There were still 11 skaters to go, including Bebe Liang and Alissa Czisny, but her main competition of Emily Hughes had already skated.

Meissner had 65.69 points, giving her a comfortable lead over Hughes, a fellow Olympian. Hughes was in second place with 62.32 points.

Earlier Thursday, Evan Lysacek added some new spice to his rivalry with

three-time champ Johnny Weir by winning the short program. Barely.

Lysacek finished with a personal-best 78.99 points after his first clean short in almost a year, putting him less than a point ahead of Weir. The three-time national champ scored 78.14 points. Ryan Bradley was third.

The free skates are Saturday.

Most skaters win a national title before a world championship. But not Meissner. In one of the biggest surprises ever at the world championships, Meissner beat Japanese veteran Fumie Suguri and Sasha Cohen.

That made Meissner the first woman since Kristi Yamaguchi in 1991 to win the world championships before having a senior national title. But with Michelle Kwan and Sasha Cohen mov-

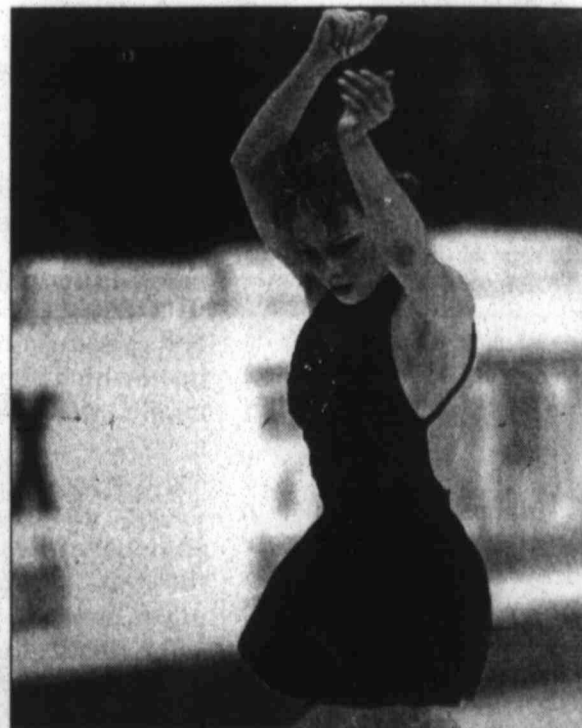
ing on — at least temporarily — Meissner can fill in that gap.

Meissner's strength has always been her speed, both in the air and on the ice. Her triple lutz-triple toe loop jump was solid, and she was the only woman in the first half of the competition to even attempt a triple-triple combination.

Her footwork was nice, and matched her music from "Snowstorm" as nicely as her lovely powder-blue dress. But Meissner, who just turned 17 in October, still has a ways to go before she can be described as lyrical.

For most of the program, everything was skated at the same speed — fast. At times, it seemed she could have been skating to anything, or nothing, and her program

See **SKATING**, Page 2B



Sarah Hughes of the U.S. competes in the women's short program at the World Figure Skating Championships.

Mavericks drop one to Bulls

CHICAGO (AP) — P.J. Brown's first priority was guarding Dirk Nowitzki. The key points Brown scored in the fourth quarter were a bonus for the Chicago Bulls.

Brown played his typically good defense and scored six points down the stretch to help Chicago snap the Dallas Mavericks' eight-game winning streak with a 96-85 victory Thursday night.

"Tonight things were rolling and the ball felt good," said Brown, who finished with 12 points. "Sometimes you have to want to take the shot. I got in a nice little rhythm and after that I just kept shooting. It was just one of those nights."

"I didn't think we needed much from me on the offensive end. Most important was for me to stay with Dirk and not let him have a monster night."

Nowitzki had 28 points

and 11 rebounds, but shot 7-for-22 from the field and the Mavericks lost for just the second time in 23 games.

Ben Gordon scored 30 points for Chicago and Luol Deng added 21.

After nearly blowing an early 17-point lead, the Bulls pulled away late.

Nowitzki's 3 closed Chicago's lead to 79-76 with 4:31 left.

Brown followed with a basket and Kirk Hinrich added a 3, making it 84-76. Erick Dampier's dunk for Dallas cut the lead to 86-81, but Brown answered by going around Nowitzki for a basket and hitting a jumper to make it 90-81 with 1:16 left.

Hinrich added 15 points and eight rebounds and Ben Wallace had 17 rebounds for Chicago, who improved to 19-6 at home.

Jerry Stackhouse scored 16 points and Jason Terry added 12 points and six assists for Dallas.

"It's a disappointing loss but sometimes a loss wakes everybody up again and we know we haven't arrived," Nowitzki said.

Josh Howard, Dallas' No. 2 scorer behind Nowitzki, also had poor shooting game. Entering the fourth quarter, Nowitzki was 4-for-16 and Howard was 1-for-15.

"They finally got it going in the fourth."

Nowitzki's jumper cut Chicago's lead to 53-48 early in the third quarter, but the Bulls responded with a 12-3 run. Brown had back-to-back baskets for the Bulls and Gordon followed with a jumper. Deng's steal and a dunk gave the Bulls a 65-51 lead with 2:28 left in the quarter.

"I thought we didn't execute very well offensively. We had a lot of good looks that we normally make," Nowitzki said.

HAWKS

Continued from 1B

just have to make sure we find him and get him the ball."

Hill was second on the team in scoring with 18 points, 14 of which came in the second half and he led the Hawks in rebounds with 6.

"We have been getting outrebounded on the offensive boards and Coach really stressed the importance of us getting better at rebounding," Hill informed the media after the win. "Every day he talks to us about the rebounding and I was just trying to get in there and help out the big fella's tonight."

Catrell Currie, starting for the second consecutive game at point guard, had 7 assists at the break and seemed at ease running the show. In over 16 minutes of action, the young point guard had only 1 turnover.

Byron Byrd led New Mexico Military with 14

points, but as a team the visitors managed to shoot 30 percent from the floor and only 3-of-20 from beyond the arc.

In the second half of the game, it was more of the same.

The Hawks ran the floor from one end to the other, hit open jumpers on offense and caused turnovers on defense.

A pregame goal set by the coaching staff, the Hawks also managed to keep New Mexico Military to under a total of 52 points. Late in the game, Howard maintained its defensive intensity to achieve that goal and avoid some extra running in practice this week.

"We played pretty good tonight," Sencanski, who ended the game by making 7-of-10 shots, said outside of the team's locker room. "My shooting touch came back about a week ago and tonight I kept telling Catrell, Sean (Watson) and Terrence to look for me. Maybe I need to say that a little more often. Tonight those guys

did a great job of finding me and I was able to make the most of the opportunity."

As a team, the Hawks shot over 54 percent from the floor and made 16-of-20 from the free throw line.

Brandon Sampay hit for 17 points — 10 of which came in the first half — and Watson scored 14 as he shot 50 percent from beyond the 3-point line.

"This was nice tonight ... it was good to take some pressure off our guys and allow them to just enjoy the win," Adams said in the post game interview. "We were not as focussed as we should have been early in the game, but we shot the ball very well."

"The last couple of games on the road we have lost our composure and that's a concern with two big road games coming up, but if we can stay focussed then we have a chance. We just need to make sure we're more efficient with the basketball."

TESTED

Continued from 1B

wouldn't be the first of its kind — New Jersey started a testing program last fall — but it would be the biggest.

Texas had 733,026 students participate in public school sports during the 2005-06 school year, more than any other state.

The New Jersey program only tests athletes who qualify for state championships. Dewhurst envisions a much broader, season-long program in Texas, although he has yet to reveal details.

That's when the questions over local control, student privacy, punishments for failed tests and other issues must be answered.

Some Texas schools already are testing, and their numbers are growing. Of about 1,300 member schools, a UIL survey in 2005 found that 53 schools tested athletes for steroids. By 2006, that number rose to 127.

The 2005 survey also asked the schools that didn't test: "Why not?"

More than half said it was either too expensive or because they did not think steroids are a problem on their campus. Only 39 schools said they considered steroids a problem on their teams.

Of the schools with testing programs in place, only one of 4,100 tests performed in 2005 came back positive for steroids.

And when asked who should decide whether to test, more than 800 schools said it should be handled locally.

School districts worried about cost — the tests can run up to \$200 each — scuttled a playoffs-only testing proposal in 2005. With the low rate of positive results at the schools that do test, they wonder if it is worth the money, Breithaupt said.

A state study of substance abuse among 141,000 Texas students in grades 7-12 conducted by Texas A&M University

found that steroid use fell from 2 percent in 2004 to 1.5 percent in 2006. Among 12th graders, it went down from 2.4 percent to 1.8 percent.

Tremain Smith, a lanky 17-year-old senior long jumper at Dallas Wylie High School, said he's never taken performance-enhancing drugs or competed against anybody he suspected of taking them. But he thinks testing is a good idea and would be a deterrent.

"It wouldn't be fair. You have to catch the ones trying to get an unfair advantage," Smith said.

His father, Julian, a junior ROTC instructor at the school, agreed.

"I think they should test," Julian Smith said. "These kids these days are trying to buff up their bodies and get bigger and faster."

Dewhurst said schools should be willing to go along if the state pays the bill.

Texas lawmakers began the current legislative session with a \$14.3 billion budget surplus for the next two years. A random sampling of 30,000 students, about 4 percent of athletes statewide, at \$200 each would cost about \$6 million.

"You can't put a price tag on a young person's life," Dewhurst said.

But there's more than money at stake. Schools also worry about privacy — how to collect a urine sample from a 14-year-old female freshman runner, for example — penalties and the litigation that might ensue. Routine disqualifications over eligibility often end up in court.

A look at the New Jersey program might satisfy some of those concerns.

New Jersey contracts with the National Center for Drug Free Sport in Kansas City, Mo., to collect samples and send them to a lab at UCLA. Students and a parent must sign a consent form before the season. The form includes a list of banned substances.

New Jersey randomly selects athletes who qualify for team or individual state championships. The state will test about 500 students this school year.

"It forced parents to take a look at the substances that were banned and maybe take a look at what their children were ingesting," said Bob Baly, assistant director of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

To protect student privacy, samples are collected by a monitor of the same sex as the athlete. The athlete must take off most of his or her exterior clothing but is allowed to step into a closed stall to urinate. At the college and professional levels, the monitor watches the athlete produce the urine sample.

"We have not violated their rights," Baly said.

Athletes caught with banned substances must sit out competition for a year and attend counseling. Although students and their families are notified, overall results aren't made public until the end of the school year.

Rather than catch a lot of cheaters, Baly said, New Jersey officials hope the program's real impact will be keeping kids from taking steroids or other drugs in the first place.

"They are worried about being caught and being labeled as the cheater," Baly said. "Adolescents, if you tell them speeding is dangerous, they're still going to speed. If you tell them about the cop around the corner with the radar gun, hopefully they slow down. It's the fear of being caught."

Dewhurst's plan has drawn support from Don Hooton, who became an activist for steroid testing after his son Taylor committed suicide at the age of 17. Doctors said they believe Taylor Hooton became depressed after he stopped using steroids.

"I hope his plan to curb steroid use in Texas will become a model for this nation," Hooton said at a Dewhurst campaign stop.

D.W. Rutledge, president of the 18,500-member Texas High School Coaches Association, said he believes coaches do a good job steering athletes away from steroids.

Rutledge hasn't sur-

veyed his organization's members, but said coaches would likely have the same worries as school administrators about how such a program would work.

He also said testing

would probably be a good thing for the students.

"It gives them a chance to escape the peer pressure, to say 'I can't get involved with that,'" Rutledge said. "It gives them an out."

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SKATING

Continued from 1B

would have looked the same.

Hughes, who stepped in after Kwan had to withdraw from the Olympics, was all about power last year. She still has that rare talent — there are NBA players who would take her springs — but her performance to "Carmen" was graceful, too.

She was both passionate

and playful, depending upon which section of the music was playing. It marked a dramatic improvement from last season, and Hughes was obviously pleased with the result, beaming as the music ended.

She turns 18 on Friday, and as she skated off the ice, many of her fans screamed, "Happy Birthday, Emily!" Hughes turned back around with a big smile and waved.

Big Spring Little League

Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 30th
At the HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY

Purpose of the Meeting is to elect the president and other board members to begin the

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FRIDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6 PM	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Duelo de Pasiones	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Entertainment	Vida de Blanco	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	John Hage	News-Lehrer	Diry Jobs (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Howreyed	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	Karate: ISKA Boxing: Friday	NBA Basketball: Washington Wizards at Detroit Pistons	Heroes (CC)
7 PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	La Faa Mas Bella	Nanny 911 (CC)	Ghost Whisperer	Marina	1 vs. 100 (CC)	Movie: Men in Black II (CC)	Update/Israel Alan Granger	Wash. Week NOW (CC)	Survivorman (CC)	Movie: Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines	CSI: Crime Scene Investigator	Movie: Waking Up in Reno	Movie: Holiday Heart (CC)	Han, Montana Cory in House	Night Fights (CC)	Washington Wizards at Detroit Pistons	The Dresden Files (CC)
8 PM	St. Jude Fighting for Life	Brothers & Sisters (CC)	Mundo de Fieras	Trading Spouses	Close to Home (CC)	Amor Mio Amor Mio (CC)	Las Vegas (CC)	45 Movie: Light of the Southwest		Oprah's Roots: Alcan	Survivorman (CC)	Rise of the Machines	Movie: Waking Up in Reno	Movie: Swordfish (CC)		Movie: Lilo & Stitch (CC)	Tennis: Australian Open	Games (CC)	Jake 2.0 (CC)
9 PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Not-Telemundo Titulares y Mas	News Late Show	Movie: The	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Sturt Junies Sturt Junies		Pros vs. Joes (CC)	Movie: Swordfish (CC)	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Zack & Cody That's-Raven	Women's Final Figure Skating	SportsCenter	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
10 PM	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Incognito	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	12 Corazones Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night	Replacements (CC)	Global Force In-Crosshairs	Sign Off	Survivorman (CC)	:15 Movie: Them!	Wild World MXX	Movie: The Specialist (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	Han, Montana Kim Possible	U.S. Champ. Dance and Pairs Free Programs	NFL Live	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
11 PM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Mercury Media	My Wife-Kids Malcolm-Mid.	The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien Paid Program		Update/Israel CCM Ministries		Survivorman (CC)		Game Head Airo Samurai	BET After Dark (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister		Gamenight SportsCenter	John Doe (CC)	
12 AM	News (CC)																		

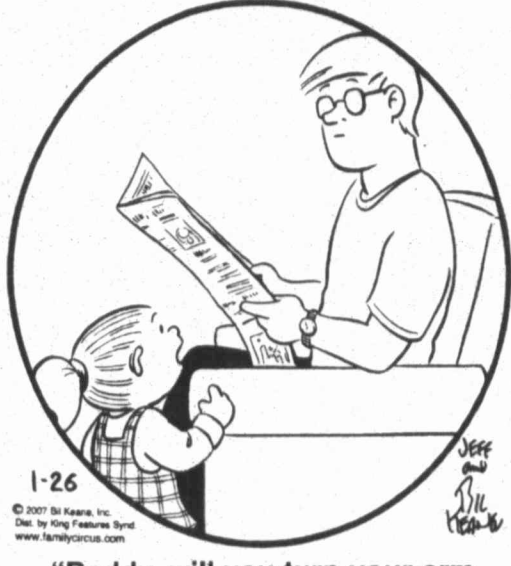
DENNIS THE MENACE



"CAN YOU TEACH ME A FEW BIG WORDS TO USE THE NEXT TIME I HAVE AN ARGUMENT WITH MARGARET?"

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Daddy, will you turn your arm upside down so I can see what time it is?"

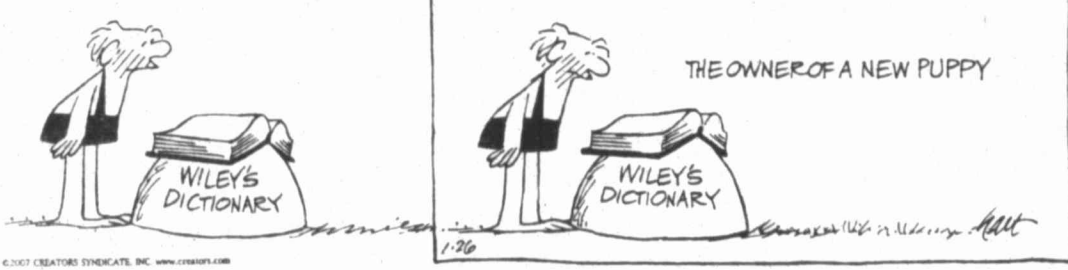
HAGAR



BLONDIE



puddle jumper



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 26, the 26th day of 2007. There are 339 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 26, 1788, the first European settlers in Australia, led by Capt. Arthur Phillip, landed in present-day Sydney.

On this date:

In 1837, Michigan became the 26th state.

In 1841, Britain formally occupied Hong Kong, which the Chinese had ceded to the British.

In 1861, Louisiana seceded from the Union.

In 1870, Virginia rejoined the Union.

In 1907, Congress passed the Tillman Act, which prohibited corporations from making direct campaign contributions to federal election candidates.

In 1942, the first American expeditionary force to go to Europe during World War II

went ashore in Northern Ireland.

In 1950, India officially proclaimed itself a republic as Rajendra Prasad took the oath of office as president.

In 1962, the United States launched Ranger 3 to land scientific instruments on the moon — but the probe missed its target by some 22,000 miles.

Ten years ago: The Green Bay Packers beat the New England Patriots 35-21 to win their first Super Bowl in 29 years.

Five years ago: Jennifer Capriati produced the greatest comeback in a Grand Slam final to overcome Martina Hingis and defend her Australian Open title, 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-2.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Charles Lane is 102. Actress Anne Jeffreys is 84. Actor Paul Newman is 82. Cartoonist Jules Feiffer is 78. Sportscaster-actor Bob Uecker is 72. Actor Scott Glenn is 68. Singer Jean Knight is 64. Activist Angela Davis is 63. Rock musician Corky Laing (Mountain) is 59. Actor David Strathairn is

58. Singer Lucinda Williams is 54. Rock singer-musician Eddie Van Halen is 52. Reggae musician Norman Hassan (UB40) is 49. Actress-comedian Ellen DeGeneres is 49. Hockey star Wayne Gretzky is 46. Musician Andrew Ridgeley is 44. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jazmine B. (Soul II Soul) is 44. Actor Paul Johansson is 43. Gospel singer Kirk Franklin is 37. Actress Jennifer Crystal is 34. Rock musician Chris Hesse (Hoobastank) is 33. Actress Sarah Rue is 29. Country musician Michael Martin (Marshall Dyllon) is 24.

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Newsday Crossword

FAMILY VIEWING by Patrick Jordan
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Grunt work, slangily
- Sicily's highest point
- "Agreed!"
- Run to Reno, maybe
- Tidbit for a canary
- Shaft behind a hubcap
- Jason Priestley sitcom
- Certain cage components
- Gibbon or gorilla
- Top off, as a room
- Australian airline
- Classic giant-ant movie
- "Wiedersehen!"
- John Forsythe sitcom
- Spiny desert plants
- Granola grain
- "How sweet ___"
- Roseanne's original surname
- Lapis lazuli color
- Not this
- Surface statistic
- Fail to keep up
- Tony winner Rivera
- Jerry Van Dyke sitcom
- Pale
- iMac operator
- Box for valuables
- Beam with flanges
- Greek X
- Holler Derby track

DOWN

- Arizona city
- Scissor (out)
- Tenor Carreras
- Select, with "for"
- Timber trees
- Caribou hunter
- Short-necked duck
- Hair cover
- Sufficient
- "Oh, heck!"
- Interstate turnoff
- Jessica of *Fantastic Four*
- Minus
- Projection-booth item
- Where the rudder is
- Aries
- From a distance
- Rum cake
- Smoke-detector part
- Actor Feldman
- Cheek reddener
- This way
- Moral value system
- Rodeo rope
- Chinese-checkers board shape
- Liturgical assistant
- CNN anchor
- Square-cut stogie
- Have yet to repay
- Applied polish
- Pre-1917 despot
- Poggun projectile
- Cooking-show fixture
- Lose brilliance
- Proceed smoothly
- Prince of opera
- Guy, in Greenwich
- Villain
- vanquisher
- S&L plans
- Call ___ day
- Quaker pronoun

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