



Moore Board turns down Howard College request

Officials: Welding program is worthwhile, but doesn't fall under corporation's legal guidelines

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Howard College's request for a \$300,000 grant to fund a new welding program will have to go back to the drawing board, as board members with Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. denied it Wednesday night.

According to Larry McLellan, Moore Development board pres-

ident, the original request — consisting of a \$300,550 grant — would not be a legal investment for the economic development corporation because of state laws governing 4A finances.

"We had to ask ourselves two things," said McLellan. "First, does this project meet the criteria to create jobs, and the second is can we do it? After

researching the issue, we've found there is definitely a need in Howard County, as well as the entire Permian Basin. There is a great demand for this within not only the oil field, but also in farming and ranching.

"As a 4A corporation, we can help in this area, but not anywhere close to the amount

that's being requested by Howard College. The statutes currently reflect this and that is the advice from our counsel."

McLellan said Moore Development could help with certain aspects of the program, and hopes the college will submit a new proposal reflecting those limitations.

"We could help with advertis-

ing and recruiting," McLellan told college officials. "We hope you'll put together a new proposal that reflects that criteria and submit it to the board. This is most certainly a worthwhile program."

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks told the board

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Jail woes

County to sign pact for evac system Friday

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are expected to sign a \$223,000 contract with Anthony Mechanical Inc. of Lubbock Friday, as the court prepares to hold a special meeting.

During a meeting Monday, commissioners voted to enter into an emergency contract with Anthony Mechanical to install a smoke evacuation system in the jail, in hopes of bringing the facility into state compliance.

Commissioners also voted to contract with Southwest Control Systems to install the electrical wiring for the project at a cost of \$24,650.

Also on Friday's agenda, County Attorney Mike Thomas is expected to discuss possible approval of a counter claim with commissioners.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the court is currently in arbitration with local architect Phil Furqueron, who headed the jail design project for more than two years before having his contract terminated in January.

"For lack of a better word, Furqueron is suing the county for \$32,000," said Barr. "I believe this money is related to the termination fees that were a part of his contract. We're planning to file a

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Moss Elementary fourth graders watch and listen as Charles Yates presents the school with a Sun Spotter Solar Telescope Tuesday afternoon. The telescope is designed to allow students to safely examine the sun to see and track sun spots on the sun's surface.

Courtesy photo

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Annual drive set Saturday across county

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

If one good turn deserves another, area residents may have a hard time keeping up with local Boy Scouts, as they hold their annual canned food drive Saturday.

Between 40 and 50 area Boy Scouts will hit the streets Saturday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to collect canned goods for the group's annual effort, according to local scouting director Warren Wallace.

The food drive calls for

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Wallace

T. Boone Pickens says global oil production has reached its peak

By JIM KRANE

Associated Press Writer

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Legendary Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens sees today's stubbornly high oil price as evidence that daily global production capacity is at — or very near — its peak.

If demand for crude oil rises beyond the current global output of roughly 85 million bar-

rels per day, Pickens told The Associated Press, prices will rise to compensate and alternative sources of energy will begin to replace petroleum.

"If I'm right, we're already at the peak," Pickens said earlier this week in Doha, on the sidelines of the Forbes magazine CEO conference. "The price will have to go up."

The 78-year-old former wild-

"There's still oil to be found, but not in the quantities we've seen in the past. The big fields have been found and the smaller fields, well, there's not enough of them to replenish the base."

—T. Boone Pickens



catter, who now heads the Dallas-based hedge fund BP Capital, is credited with a his-

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CHOIR HERE FRIDAY

The internationally acclaimed African Children's Choir will be performing at Baptist Temple in Big Spring.

The public is invited to the concert, set for 7 p.m. Friday 2.

There is no admission fee. A love offering will be taken.

Since its inception in 1984, the purpose of the African Children's Choir has been to bring hope and joy and the love of God to people and communities throughout the world, shining the spotlight on the millions of children of Africa living in conditions of extreme poverty, war or AIDS.

For more information, contact Baptist Temple at 267-8287.

DOC SUES PRE-TEEN

MORRISTOWN, N.J. (AP) — A bicycling doctor is suing a roller-skating child, claiming the youngster caused a collision that left him with a broken collar bone.


Dr. Alexander Dlugi, a prominent endocrinologist, maintains he approached Lauren Ellis, then 11, from behind, shouted "watch out" and rang his bicycle bell. As the girl turned around on her in-line skates, the two collided, and the doctor tumbled from his bike.

Dlugi's lawyer, Thomas Jardim, said the doctor had to have surgery, losing a significant amount of work and income. Dlugi, 54, lost mobility in his shoulder and can't enjoy biking and tennis, Jardim said.

JUDGE OKS COAL PLANT

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal judge has approved a settlement between Alcoa, TXU and the U.S. Department of Justice that would allow TXU to build a new coal-fired power plant in Central Texas.

A spokeswoman said TXU will start construction as soon as possible on the plant at Alcoa's aluminum smelter in Rockdale, about 60 miles northeast of Austin. The Justice Department had joined environmental and citizen groups in challenging plans for the new plant. But the government came to terms with Alcoa and TXU in November, and on Tuesday, U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks approved the settlement.

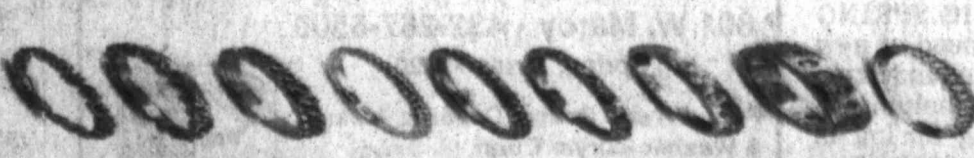


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Obituaries

Lorenzo 'Larry' Martinez



Lorenzo "Larry" Martinez, 47, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2007, at his residence. Prayer services will be 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Basilio Esquivel, pastor of Iglesia Bautista Central, officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born April 26, 1959, to Guadalupe and Federico Martinez Sr. He had worked most of his life at Taylor Implement, Bowlin Implement and later on farms.

He is survived by one son, Larry Martinez Jr. of Big Spring; two daughters, Teresa Fonseca of Venus and Melissa Mendoza of Dallas; two brothers, Andy Martinez and Jody Martinez, both of Big Spring; five sisters, Lucia Gonzales, Yolanda Calvio, Janie Rodriguez, Lillie Madrid and Chris Douglas, all of Big Spring; three grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Federico Martinez in 1984; his mother, Guadalupe Martinez in 2005; and one brother.

The family will be at 913 Moore School Road. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Doris Othelle Nichols

Doris Othelle Nichols, 86, died Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2007, in a McKinney nursing home. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park, Big Spring.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory, Big Spring.

Take Note

• **IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH** will have Stations of the Cross Friday at 6 p.m. A Fish Fry in the church hall. Plates are \$5 per adults and \$2.50 per child.

• **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY CHORUS REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN** at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room. The rehearsals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.

• **MY WAY, A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA**, will be held at Howard College's Hall Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m. March 5-7.

• **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.

• **NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ** is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• **THE PET PATROL** helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

• **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

• **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

• **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

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

• **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES** are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• **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.

Police blotter

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

• **SCHEMIEKIA CROSBY**, 24, of 706.5 E. 13th Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• **LEROY COLEMAN**, 18, of 3913 Hamilton, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of criminal mischief.

• **RONNIE DALE FREEMAN**, 49, of 1302 Tucson, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **JOSE MARTINEZ**, 20, of 1406 Lexington, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **RICHARD MARTINEZ**, 42, of 805 E. 15th Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **NORMA JEAN FRALEY**, 46, of 1021 Stadium, was arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 49 inmates at the time of this report.

• **DEMETRIUS LYNN PRUITT**, 50, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance.

• **KARISSA NICOLE GRAY**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on an Erath County warrant for insufficient funds by check.

• **CLINTON ROYCE JOINER**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.

• **STEVE TIMOTHY SANFORD**, 44, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.

• **RAMON PUGA NUNEZ JR.**, 57, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.

• **ORVILLE PIRRAGLIA**, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for injury to a child/elderly/disabled.

• **MICHAEL MENDOZA**, 38, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole.

• **DAVID ANTHONY JUAREZ**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence.

• **DAVID VILLAREAL JR.**, 20, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation driving while license invalid.

• **LARRY DALE KING**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of arson of a building/habitation/vehicle with intent to injure or damage and criminal trespass.

Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Park. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700. Service was refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 10-21-22-34-48-51.

Number matching six of six: none.
Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$48 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-15-24-27-33.

Number matching five of five: 2.
Prize per winner: \$14,667.

Winning tickets sold in: San Antonio and Schertz.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

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

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. West winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Friday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. Northwest winds around 10 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Colder. Highs in the upper 40s. North winds 15 to 20 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 20s.

Sunday...Sunny. Not as cool. Highs in the lower 60s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church will have Stations of the Cross at 6 p.m. A Fish Fry Will follow in the church hall. Plates are \$5 per adults and \$2.50 per child.

• Spring City Senior Citizens 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.

MONDAY
• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

• District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

• 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.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at The Event Center, 1607 E. Third St.

• Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.

• The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

• Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

TUESDAY
• Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• League of Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 6 p.m. in the board room of the YMCA. For more information, contact Jennifer Patton at 714-4185 or 263-6351 or 816-6962.

• Texas Motorcycle Rights Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Spanish Inn. The public is invited. Call 268-6421 for more information.

Support Groups

THURSDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY
• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

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

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

BIG SPRING HERALD

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SCOUTS

Continued from Page 1A

area residents to place canned goods and non-perishable food items in plastic grocery bags for the community-wide collection.

"What we're doing this year is very similar to what we've done in the past," said Wallace. "Normally, we would hold the food drive the first part of February, but this year we decided to wait until the first part of March. It's all part of the Good Turn for America program the Boy Scouts of America have been sponsoring for a number of years.

"Residents that would like to make a donation just need to put their canned goods in a plastic grocery bag and place it on their porch or front door. It's very important they make sure the bag can be seen from the street."

The food will be picked up by teams of Scouts and brought to the collection point at the Wal-Mart Supercenter's east entrance, said Wallace. "We're having the drop off point at Wal-Mart in hopes people who see us there will also make a donation, or maybe even purchase something specially for the drive while they are doing their grocery shopping."

Wallace said the Scouts will be scouring the streets of Big Spring, Coahoma and Sand Springs.

"We've looked at covering Forsan, but everything is just too spread out," said Wallace. "So we're asking Forsan residents to please bring their donations to the drop off point at Wal-Mart Saturday."

For more information on the food drive, contact Wallace at 263-3407.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Paula Brooks, right, presents gifts to Moss Elementary Librarian Kaye Clawson at a reception honoring Clawson at the school Tuesday afternoon. Clawson is retiring after 22 years in the education field, the last five at Moss.

MOORE

Continued from Page 1A

her staff would repackage the proposal to meet the criteria.

While the college received less encouraging news, McLellan said the Settles Hotel Development Company recently received some good news from a local business.

"Moore Development received a letter on behalf of the Settles Hotel Development Company from Rufus Duncan Jr., who represents the local Higginbotham-Bartlett hardware store," said McLellan. "Mr. Duncan is offering assistance to the Settles project and has offered to provide \$5,000

in Benjamin Moore paint. Mr. Duncan said his company is willing to do anything they can to help."

McLellan said he feels like the offer is a step in the right direction for the project.

"I think it shows commitment from the community," said McLellan. "And I think it will stimulate more interest from area businesses. I know this project is moving slower than a lot of people would like. However, it doesn't just involve the Settles, it also involves property around the Settles. Once the acquisition of the property is completed, I think we'll see some movement, hopefully in the very near future. We're very optimistic about this project."

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors voted unanimously Dec. 8 to provide up to \$3 million to help former Big Spring resident Brint Ryan — manager of the Dallas company and the founder and CEO of Ryan & Company — renovate the Settles Hotel, which he agreed to purchase for \$75,000 from the city of Big Spring.

According to city officials, Ryan has not yet paid the \$75,000 tab.

SHDC announced plans for a \$12 million renovation project which includes plans for commercial and residential use of the property, with retail space available on the first and second floors.

JAIL

Continued from Page 1A

countersuit against him to recover some of the money that was paid to him."

How much the countersuit will be for is still up in the air, according to Barr, who moved to ter-

minate Furqueron's contract because he felt the separation was necessary to satisfy the "political climate" following the failure of the proposed \$10 million bond election in November.

"Phil, you've been an advocate of this big jail that's been defeated, and I think that's hurt you,"

Barr told Furqueron during a Jan. 8 meeting of the court. "And I think the political climate as such, if we are to proceed with this matter, is to start over and get some new ideas."

Termination fees should come as no surprise to the commissioners as Furqueron's attorney,

Bass Club sets 3rd fish fry Saturday at Eagles Lodge

The third annual Big Spring Bass Club Fish Fry will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

Plates, at \$6 each, will include bass and catfish,

french fries, hush puppies and cole slaw. To-go plates will be available.

The event raises funds to benefit a boy and girl in the local community each year.

Senate calls for conservator for Texas Youth Commission

AUSTIN (AP) — Fed up with allegations of sex abuse and a cover up at the Texas Youth Commission, the state Senate unanimously called for a conservator to take over the troubled agency on Wednesday, hours after Gov. Rick Perry replaced its board chairman.

"This will not be tolerated," said Republican state Sen. Dan Patrick of Houston. "We are watching and we will be watching from this day forward."

In a rare evening session, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution that seeks to speed up the process of replacing the commission's seven-member board with an independent administrator who can investigate and fire employees who covered up abuse.

A Texas Rangers investigation in early 2005 found that the assistant superintendent and the principal at the West Texas State School in Pyote had repeated sexual contact with inmates.

A later internal investigation found that many prison staffers had complained about the abuse to their immediate bosses and to officials in Austin, but for more than a year, no one in charge did anything to stop it.

On Wednesday afternoon, Perry replaced the board's chairman with its vice chairman and said he wants a top official with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to become acting executive director. Former executive director Dwight Harris resigned last week, and his duties have been handled by the agency's general counsel.

Perry also wants the agency to hire an inspector general who can root out any additional problems.

"The governor has said that all options have to be on the table to address this issue," Perry spokesman Ted Royer said. "But the most drastic steps will be the last ones taken."

But Democratic Sen. John Whitmire, chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, said he believes there should be a complete change of management.

"We gotta come in and clean house," added Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, a Democrat from Mission who helped bring the allegations to light.

Tim Yeats, warned the court during the same January meeting the separation would have its cost.

"Make no mistake about it, there are termination penalties in that contract," Yeats told commissioners, who approved the termination on a 3-2 vote. County Auditor Jackie

Olson is also expected to present a purchase request during the meeting.

The meeting is to get under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioner's courtroom.

PICKENS

Continued from Page 1A

about the direction of oil markets. His bets have paid off handsomely. BP Capital's returns have exceeded 800 percent since 2001, he said.

Still, most industry and government analysts are far less pessimistic than the straight-talking Texan. Most believe petroleum will be a growing energy source for decades. The U.S. government expects oil demand to rise to 120 million barrels a day by 2030 and says a peak in output — the point at which half of the world's reserves are depleted — won't arrive until mid-century.

Forbes publisher Steve Forbes challenged Pickens' assumptions during an exchange in the conference, saying political — not technological, or geological — roadblocks stood in the way of increasing the world's oil output. With the right incentives in places such as Mexico more oil could be brought to market and prices could drop, Forbes said.

Pickens responded by saying that Mexico is a declining producer of oil, as are most other countries, naming the United

States, Norway, Britain, Canada and soon, Russia.

"The world has been looked at," Pickens told Forbes. "There's still oil to be found, but not in the quantities we've seen in the past. The big fields have been found and the smaller fields, well, there's not enough of them to replenish the base."

Pickens predicted oil prices will rise this year to an annual average of around \$70 per barrel. On Wednesday, prices settled at \$61.79 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Global consumers, led by the United States, have already burned through 1.1 trillion barrels of oil, or what Pickens described as nearly half of the world's estimated 2.5 trillion barrels of historic oil supply. Other experts put total reserves at 3 trillion barrels and potentially more than 4 trillion barrels.

U.S. government assumptions about the size of global reserves could be based on skewed reporting by Saudi Arabia and other major producers who ban independent

verification of their reserves, Pickens said.

"I think there are less reserves around the world than are being reported," Pickens said, reclining in a leather club chair at the Doha Four Seasons hotel with a glass of Coke. "There are no audited reserves in the Mideast. It makes me suspicious."

From now on, Pickens said, rising demand will be met by higher prices rather than ever-larger crude production. Alternative energy sources will begin to take a share of the energy mar-

ket until the world evolves from a hydrocarbon-based economy to "something that's a mix of hydrocarbons and something else."

Everything from nuclear, coal, wind, solar, hydrogen and biofuels stands a chance to assuage growing demand for energy, Pickens said.

Pickens started his career in the 1950s as a petroleum geologist, built his reputation in the following decades as the founder of Mesa Petroleum Co. and enshrined himself in the

history books in the 1980s with attempts to take over major oil companies.

BP Capital's has \$4 billion under investment, including \$1.5 billion of Pickens' own money, he said.

CINEMARK logo and listing for CINEMA 4 at 1801 East FM 700. Shows include Ghost Rider, Reno 911: Miami, Robbit, and Daddy's Little Girl.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL. 24th & Johnson 267-8288. Services for Carlos Rodriguez, 81, died Monday. Services at 10:00 AM Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Amy E. Reese, D.D.S., P.C. 432-267-4102. Logo for Amy E. Reese.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD By Eddy Pitchford

Successful teams know the importance of sacrifice. There must be a willingness to put the good of the team before personal ego. The same is true in life for you and me. Marriage is blessed when there is a willingness to give up personal preference for the good of the relationship.

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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.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's all support our Boy Scouts' local food drive

Perhaps no group is better known worldwide for doing good deeds than the Boy Scouts. That's exactly what local Scouts will be doing Saturday as they take part in their annual canned food drive.

Between 40 and 50 area Boy Scouts will hit the streets Saturday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to collect canned goods and other non-perishable food items for the drive that will help replenish the seemingly always depleted programs operated by the Salvation Army and Isaiah 58.

"What we're doing this year is very similar to what we've done in the past," said local Scouting director Warren Wallace. "Normally, we would hold the food drive the first part of February, but this year we decided to wait until the first part of March. It's all part of the Good Turn for America program the Boy Scouts of America have been sponsoring for a number of years.

"The food will be picked up by teams of Scouts and brought to our collection point, which will be set up at the Wal-Mart Supercenter's east entrance," said Wallace. "We're having the drop off point at Wal-Mart in hopes people who see us there will also make a donation, or maybe even purchase something specially for the drive while they are doing their grocery shopping."

Wallace said the scouts will be scouring the streets of Big Spring, Coahoma and Sand Springs. Anyone needing additional information on the food drive can contact Wallace at 263-3407.

Each year, the Scouts collect thousands of pounds of food to help out the needy in our community. It's an important endeavor, and one we can all be proud of. It helps teach these young men responsibility to others and reminds us there are many others out there much worse off financially than we are.

So we are asking that you take the time to gather together cans, bags or boxes of food — anything that won't spoil will be acceptable. Then on Saturday morning, place your bag or box full of food on your doorstep or in a visible place outside your home.

You'll be helping our local Scouts, but more importantly, you'll be helping them help others. That's what you call a "win-win situation" for our community.

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

A lot of unusual and exciting things happen, Lord, when we walk with You.

Amen

Iraq has worn out my patience

Several months ago, I shocked my Peacenik brethren by saying that despite my early opposition to the war in Iraq I did not think we should pull out. Like Hillary, I had my reasons.

To abandon the Iraqis to a chaos of our making would be less than honorable, I said, and if that chaos enveloped the Middle East, it could produce a disaster of historic proportions. The stakes were too high to pull out without giving the effort a fair chance.

You see, at the time, I thought we still had a chance of success in Iraq, an outside chance to be sure, but a chance. I no longer think that.

The latest National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) dragged me into reality on the Iraq war.

The NIE is no mere think-tank opinion, you understand; it is the consensus judgment of all U.S. intelligence agencies. And the judgment is bleak.

"Iraqi society's growing polarization, the persistent weakness of the security forces and the state in general, and all sides' ready recourse to violence are collectively driving an increase in communal and insurgent violence and political extremism," the report stated.

But...even if violence is diminished, given the current winner-take-all attitude and sectarian animosities infecting the political

scene, Iraqi leaders will be hard-pressed to achieve sustained political reconciliation."

In English, that means putting a stop to the bombings, shootings and kidnappings will be hard, dangerous work and even if we get it done, there is little chance order will last.

That's it for me, kids. Count me out. I quit.

This misbegotten war is lost. We have spent hundreds of billions of dollars building the best-trained, best-equipped army in the history of humankind and we have contrived to put it in a hopeless situation.

It takes talent to do that. No wonder they used to call Bush's foreign policy advisers "the dream team."

They tell us we can't leave because of the afore-mentioned catastrophic result. But staying will produce the same catastrophe, only with more American soldiers being killed, maimed and scarred for life. They also tell us that if Congress votes to cut off funds for the war or merely registers its disapproval, it will harm the morale of the troops.

Nonsense. You know what really hurts morale? It's coming to the end of your tour of duty and having that tour extended.

Show me a soldier in combat who doesn't know, to the hour, how much time he or she has before it's time to go home. It is a cruel joke to have that day pushed back at the last moment. And that's what we're doing.

If I were running things, I'd call in the warring factions of Iraq and say: "We had a good idea here —

democracy and all — but you guys screwed it up. We're going to go fight terrorism someplace else and spend the money we're spending here on making the United States safer.

"Adios chumps." Then we could get on with the business of ending the war with Iran. What? We're not at war with Iran, you say? You couldn't prove it by the stuff coming out of the White House and Pentagon of late.

Last week, in a series of hush-hush anonymous briefings, we stated we had proof that Iran was supplying Iraqi insurgents with armor-piercing explosives and other weapons.

It could be true. Governments do this sort of thing. We did it ourselves when President Reagan's boys sold arms to Iran in order to fund the Contra insurgents in Nicaragua. But how can you tell? This could as easily be another Dick Cheney fantasy made flesh.

This administration has cooked the books on every issue it's laid its hand on, from the war to global warming to stem cell research to Social Security.

You think it wouldn't bend the truth a little in order to gin up a war with a charter member of the Axis of Evil?

Oh, please.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaul1@verizon.net

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DONALD KAUL



Attending defensive driving school

It was a beautiful day in early January. I was headed to East Texas to do some interviews. The sun was out, the sky was a perfect blue and I could see for miles down the highway. God's in his heaven, all's right with the world.

The only thing wrong with this day was the car in front of me doing 40 miles an hour.

The speed limit was 70. I was in a no-passing zone, but what the heck, this car I had been following for miles was just poking along so I eased around it. The highway ahead was straight and clear of traffic and there was a string of cars behind me. I didn't notice that the second vehicle behind me happened to be one driven by a deputy sheriff.

As soon as I passed the car, I noticed the flashing lights on the deputy's SUV. He was courteous enough. He introduced himself to me and asked me if I knew why he pulled me over.

I admitted my guilt. What else could I do? He must have been new on the

force because he spent nearly an hour writing the ticket.

This occurred in a little place just outside Athens called Seven Points. I called the Henderson County justice of the peace and asked what I needed to do to prevent this from getting on my driving record. He told me I had to take defensive driving. I paid him \$104, paid the state \$10 to get my driving record (which was perfect) and paid A-1 Defensive Driving \$30 to keep my good driving record.

I took the defensive driving course the weekend after Valentine's Day. Some members of my family had taken the course online or spent three nights taking it at a college. They said both were unsatisfactory.

I found out that every first and third Saturday a guy came over from Abilene to teach a defensive driving course at our local Furr's Cafeteria. I showed up there at 9 a.m. along with 19 other people. We were to be there until 3 p.m. Lunch was included in the tuition price.

The instructor, named Joe, made the time fly by. He talked, made jokes, showed videos and got everybody in the course involved. Before noon he knew the names of everyone in the class.

The course is a good thing for any driver. You learn about recent changes in traffic laws and you come away a better driver. And you get a 10 percent reduction in your car insurance rates.

The material was, shall we say, sobering.

Like 35,000 to 50,000 people are killed on our nation's highways every year because of drunk drivers and people who don't use seat belts. Drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to have an accident than people who don't use the phone while driving. The reason so many teens have wrecks is because they are inexperienced. Drivers most likely to die on the highway are those over 80 years old. Teens are second.

Momentary distractions cause crashes. These include dialing the radio, eating and applying make-up.

In a single year in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, eight women died from pushing a mascara brush through their eye into their brain.

We learned that it takes one hour for our bodies to absorb a drink of alcohol and you really can't afford to get a DWI.

February is the most dangerous month for drivers, October is the safest.



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BIG HIT

Saturn Outlook, GMC's Acadia ace skid, kid tests

By MARK PHELAN
Detroit Free Press

The first hit vehicles of 2007 have arrived.

The Saturn Outlook and GMC Acadia, GM's new fuel-efficient and family friendly SUVs, have the looks, practicality, comfort and room to set the standard in their class.

Competing with vehicles like the Toyota Highlander, Honda Pilot, Chrysler Pacifica and Ford Taurus X (formerly known as the Freestyle), GM's new models set the standard with exceptionally attractive styling and a spacious interior that combines a third seat fit for grown-ups and usable cargo space.

GM's got a couple of clear winners on its hands, and based on the prices for the Outlook and Acadia, the folks in marketing know it. The stickers on both SUVs betray the confidence of a poker player holding a straight flush.

The Outlook and Acadia are the first new GM vehicles I've tested in years that felt as if the company had built a premium into the manufacturer's suggested retail price, as if GM knows its offering is clearly superior to anything else on the market.

The budget-minded Irishman in me recoils at the thought, but they're right.

Even though the \$32,799 Outlook I drove 700 miles lacked a few features that should be mandatory at that price, it's still a good buy, because it's a great vehicle. A few hours at the wheel of a luxurious Acadia convinced me that, like the Outlook, it is a winner.

Outlook prices start at \$27,355 for a front-wheel-drive XE model. The least expensive all-wheel-drive model costs \$29,255. I drove a well-equipped XR AWD model with a base price of \$31,555 and \$1,244 worth of useful options — a power tailgate, rear parking assist, remote start, heated windshield fluid, XM satellite radio and a 115-volt power outlet. All prices exclude destination charges.

All Outlooks and Acadias get their power from GM's powerful and efficient 3.6-liter V6 and drive the wheels with the automaker's smooth new six-speed automatic transmission.

The Outlook I tested lacked heated seats and memory and mirrors, however. No matter how stylish, practical and well-engineered, any vehicle that costs \$33,000 should have those basic amenities.

The Outlook I drove to Chicago and back did have six standard air bags, including curtain

bags to protect passengers in all three rows of seats, antilock brakes, electronic stability control and a sensitive all-wheel-drive system that kept the SUV steady and stable as I passed one jackknifed truck after another following a snow and ice storm in western Michigan.

Safety and security are vital in family vehicles, and the Outlook provides both in spades.

It's also a comfortable vehicle, with plenty of head, leg and shoulder

room for passengers in all three rows of seats. The mechanism to fold the rear seat flat for cargo and tilt the middle row forward for ingress and egress functions simply and logically, and the SUV's low step-in height made it easy for small children to get in and out unassisted.

Interior space is amazing, as GM's designers

created an optical illusion on wheels: a vehicle that looks only slightly larger than a 174.9-inch Ford Escape compact SUV, but at 200.7 inches long is actually a mere 1.3 inches shorter than a Chevrolet Tahoe full-size SUV.

The Outlook's and Acadia's accommodating interiors and excellent fuel economy — EPA ratings of 18 mpg city and 26 mpg highway for front-drive models; 17/24 with all-wheel-drive — stem from the SUVs' unibody, car-type structure, as opposed to the heavier and bulkier body-on-frame construction of traditional SUVs like the Tahoe, Ford Explorer, Toyota Sequoia and Nissan Armada.



The 2007 Saturn Outlook

That kind of construction is ideal for SUVs that will be used mostly for hauling people and luggage, because the vehicles don't have to be over-engineered to haul horse trailers and scale rock piles.

The Outlook and Acadia boast a very useful 4,500-pound towing capacity, however. That's 650 pounds more than a base Dodge Durango, despite that SUV's use of a traditional body-on-frame chassis, 1,000 pounds more than a base Honda Pilot and 984 pounds more than a base 2007 Toyota Highlander.

Toyota hasn't revealed

the towing capacity for the base model of the 2008 Highlander that goes on sale in July, but an optional towing package gives it a maximum capacity of 5,000 pounds.

In a week of driving, the Outlook I tested proved comfortable and quiet, with little wind or road noise and excellent stability on ice and in gusty crosswinds.

The suspension absorbed the bumps from rough pavement but felt a little floaty and disconnected from the road in fast highway curves.

The brakes provided excellent stopping power

and had a firm pedal feel that made for easy modulation.

The speed-sensitive steering provided a good combination of low effort in parking lots and a secure on-center feel in fast highway driving. The all-wheel-drive system transferred power imperceptibly from front to rear, with no noticeable torque steer, despite the engine's 275-horsepower output.

Power and fuel economy. A stylish exterior and a large, comfortable interior.

If the Outlook were a person, it would have brains and beauty, strength and sensitivity.

Valentine's Day may have passed, but that combination makes for a keeper every day of the year.

Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

2007 SATURN OUTLOOK AWD XR

Vehicle type: All-wheel-drive eight-passenger SUV
Base price: \$31,555 (excluding destination charges)
As tested: \$32,799

Standard equipment: Antilock brakes, electronic stability control, front-seat side air bags, curtain air bags, passenger sensing system, power door locks and windows, one-year OnStar basic coverage, theft deterrent system, remote keyless entry, front fog lamps, roof rails, power heated outside mirrors, 18-inch aluminum wheels, oil life monitor, tire pressure monitor, front bucket seats, eight-way power driver seat, eight-passenger seating with second- and third-row split bench seats, sliding second-row seat, dual-zone automatic front climate control, driver information center, cruise control, center console, auto dimming rearview mirror with compass, tilt/telescope steering column, leather-wrapped steering wheel with audio and cruise controls, universal garage door opener.

Options: Power tailgate, ultrasonic rear parking assist, remote start, heated windshield fluid, 115-volt power outlet, XM satellite radio.

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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

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

Contract Bridge

Bridge Is a Game of Probabilities

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 9 8
♥ A Q 10
♦ 8 5 2
♣ 9 7 4 3
WEST
♠ 6 3
♥ J 7 6 2
♦ Q J 10 4
♣ A J 5
EAST
♠ A 4
♥ K 9 5 4
♦ 9 7 3
♣ 10 8 6 2
SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 7 5 2
♥ 8 3
♦ A K 6
♣ K Q

The bidding:
South 1♣ West Pass North 2♦ East Pass
4♦
Opening lead — queen of diamonds.
If you toss a coin in the air, it is even money it will come down heads. If you toss two coins, however, it is 3-to-1 that they will not both come down heads. With three coins the odds become 7-to-1.

Although it is not essential for a competent bridge player to be able to compute various probabilities exactly, it is nevertheless helpful in many hands to be generally familiar with the principles of chance. Bridge is, after all, a game of probabilities, and the player who consistently adheres to the percentages will come

out best in the long run.
Consider this deal where South was in four spades. He won the diamond lead and led a spade to the jack, losing to the ace. East returned a diamond to declarer's king. After drawing another round of trumps, South led a heart to the queen, losing to the king. He then lost a diamond and a club to go down one.

Declarer erred by staking the outcome strictly on a simple heart finesse. In effect, he gave himself only a 50 percent chance to make the contract, since it was even money whether East or West had the king of hearts.

But he would have had a 3-to-1 chance in his favor if he had taken the queen-of-hearts finesse at trick two, instead of later on. If it won, 10 tricks would have been assured.

Suppose, however, the queen lost to the king, as in the actual deal. South could then win the diamond return, lead another heart to dummy and finesse the ten. If West held the jack, the finesse would succeed, and South could then dispose of his diamond loser on the ace of hearts to make the contract.

By this method of play, declarer gets two chances to get home safely instead of just one. He combines two even-money shots, which, as in the case of the coins, make him a 3-to-1 favorite.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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News in brief

Army helicopter makes 'hard landing' in Iraq; military says problem was mechanical

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A U.S. Army helicopter made a "hard landing" in northern Iraq on Thursday, but the military said the problem was mechanical and not the result of hostile fire.

Two pilots were injured and evacuated to an American military hospital in Kirkuk, about 180 miles north of Baghdad, the military said in a statement. There was no word on the extent of the pilots' injuries.

The helicopter, an OH-58 Kiowa, is mostly used in surveillance and some light combat missions.

"Preliminary reporting shows the cause of the hard landing was mechanical and not hostile fire," the statement said.

Last week, ground fire forced a Black Hawk helicopter to make an emergency landing north of Baghdad, the military said. At least eight other U.S. helicopters have crashed or been brought down by hostile fire in Iraq this year.

U.N. human rights chief criticizes U.S. action barring detainees from using courts

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. human rights chief expressed concern Wednesday at recent U.S. legislative and judicial actions that she said leave hundreds of detainees without any way to challenge their indefinite imprisonment.

Louise Arbour referred to the Military Commissions Act approved by Congress last year and last month's federal appeals court ruling that Guantanamo Bay detainees cannot use the U.S. court system to challenge their detention. The case is likely to go to the Supreme Court.

Arbour was critical of the ruling, calling on the judicial system to "rise to its long-standing reputation as a guardian of fundamental human rights and civil liberties and provide the protection to all that are under the authority, control, and therefore in my view jurisdiction of the United States."

Twice before, the Supreme Court issued ruling giving Guantanamo detainees full access to courts. But last June, the justices suggested President Bush could ask Congress for more anti-terrorism authority, prompting passage of the commissions act that in part stripped federal court review.

The act grants suspects at Guantanamo Bay the right to confront the evidence against them and have a lawyer present at specially created "military commissions."

But it does not require that any of them be granted legal counsel and specifically bars detainees from filing habeas corpus petitions challenging their detentions in federal courts.

Sen. John McCain to formally enter presidential race in April after trip to Iraq

NEW YORK (AP) — Republican Sen. John McCain plans to make a formal announcement of his presidential candidacy next month after a trip to Iraq.

The Arizona senator discussed the early-April timing of the long-expected announcement with reporters Wednesday evening a few hours after taping an appearance on CBS' "Late Show With David Letterman."

McCain told Letterman: "The last time we were on this program, I'm sure you remember everything very clearly that we say, but you asked me if I would come back on this show if I was going to announce. ... I am announcing that I will be a candidate for president of the United States."

He told reporters later that he would visit Iraq before his formal announcement and that his campaign would be about "whether I have the vision, experience and knowledge to lead the nation."

Discussing the war with Letterman, McCain repeated his assertion that U.S. troops must remain in Iraq rather than withdrawing early even though the war has been mismanaged.

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and Kennedy insider Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. dies at 89

NEW YORK (AP) — Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and Kennedy insider who helped define mainstream liberalism during the Cold War and remained an eminent public thinker into the 21st century, has died, his son said. He was 89.

Schlesinger suffered a heart attack while dining out with family members Wednesday night in Manhattan, Stephen Schlesinger said. He was taken to New York Downtown Hospital, where he died.

Among the most famous historians of his time, Schlesinger was widely respected as learned and readable, with a panoramic vision of American culture and politics.

He received a National Book Award for "Robert Kennedy and His Times" and both a National Book Award and a Pulitzer for "A Thousand Days," his memoir/chronicle of President Kennedy's administration. He also won a Pulitzer, in 1946, for "The Age of Jackson," his landmark chronicle of Andrew Jackson's administration.

With his bow ties and horn-rimmed glasses, Schlesinger seemed the very image of a reserved, tweedy scholar, but he was an assured member of the so-called Establishment, friendly with everyone from Mary McCormack to Katherine Graham and enough of a sport to swim fully clothed in the pool of then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

He was a longtime confidant of the Kennedys, a fellow Harvard man who served in President Kennedy's administration and was often criticized for idealizing the family, especially for not mentioning the president's extramarital affairs.

New survey shows oversight of child care lax in many states, praises military's system

NEW YORK (AP) — Many states are distressingly lax in their regulation and oversight of child care centers, according to a new nationwide survey which gives its lowest marks to Idaho and Louisiana and its highest grade to the far-flung system run by the U.S. military.

Among the common problems in the states are infrequent inspections, deficient safety requirements, and low hiring standards — including lack of full criminal background checks — for center employees.

"State child care standards and oversight in this nation are not protecting our children and are not preparing them for success in school," said Linda Smith, executive director of the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, which was releasing the first-of-its-kind ranking Thursday.

She urged action by Congress and state legislatures. An estimated 12 million children under age 5 are in non-parental child care each week.

The association reviewed policies and regulations for all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Defense Department, which ranked a decisive No. 1 overall and led both subcategories — one measuring standards that are in place, the second measuring how vigorously the standards are enforced.

Los Angeles police mark 10th anniversary of infamous shootout that changed policing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sgt. James Zboravan was fresh out of the Police Academy ten years ago when he was caught up in an extraordinary gunbattle with bank robbers that nearly killed him and underscored an intensifying arms race between criminals and lawmen.

He and other officers who put their lives on the line that day were honored Wednesday in a ceremony that drew 200 people to a parking lot across the street from the bank.

"This is a day of remembrance for what was the Los Angeles Police Department's finest hour," Police Chief William Bratton said.

The Feb. 28, 1997 shootout, caught on camera and beamed around the world, changed the way police forces arm themselves and continues to touch the lives of those involved.

Zboravan vividly recalls the morning gunfight outside the North Hollywood bank.

NKorea pledges to denuclearize in talks with SKorea

By KWANG-TAE KIM

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea's No. 2 leader pledged his country's commitment Thursday to giving up its nuclear program amid intensifying diplomacy aimed at implementing Pyongyang's pledge to disarm.

"The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is the dying wish" of the country's late founding president Kim Il Sung, Kim Yong Nam said in Pyongyang during a visit from a high-level South Korean delegation.

The North "will make efforts to realize it," he said.

At the meeting, South Korean Unification Minister Lee Jae-joung pressed the North to implement a Feb. 13 pledge made with the U.S. and four other countries to take initial steps to disarm.

"It is important to make efforts to ensure that South and North Korea cooperate and six countries each assume their responsibilities," Lee said.

Kim Yong Nam also called on the Koreans to cooperate to achieve the reunification of the peninsula, which was divided in the wake of World War II and still remains technically at war since the 1950-53 Korean War ended in a cease-fire.

Kim also repeated the North's calls for inter-Korean collaboration, an idea South Korea has dismissed as a ploy to drive a wedge in Seoul's alliance with Washington.

This week's Cabinet-level talks between the North and South — the highest-level regular contact between the Koreans — are the first in seven months. The talks resumed after North Korea's agreement last

month in Beijing to shut down its main nuclear reactor within 60 days in exchange for aid.

Earlier Thursday, North Korean negotiators appealed for aid from the South, but Seoul appeared resistant to promising any major assistance until Pyongyang keeps its pledge to start dismantling its nuclear program.

"The North side has brought up the issue of humanitarian aid," a South Korean official told

reporters in Pyongyang, where talks between the two Koreas stretched into a third day.

But the official, indicating the South's reluctance to provide the North with badly needed supplies, said that a draft agreement between the two sides "does not specifically mention rice and fertilizer aid." The official did not give his name due to the sensitivity of the ongoing talks.

South Korea had regu-

larly sent aid to the impoverished North until last July, when Pyongyang test-fired a series of missiles, prompting a halt in shipments. Relations between the two countries further soured after the North tested a nuclear weapon in October.

North Korea also has proposed that the two countries resume economic cooperation talks in March, but Seoul was apparently opposed.

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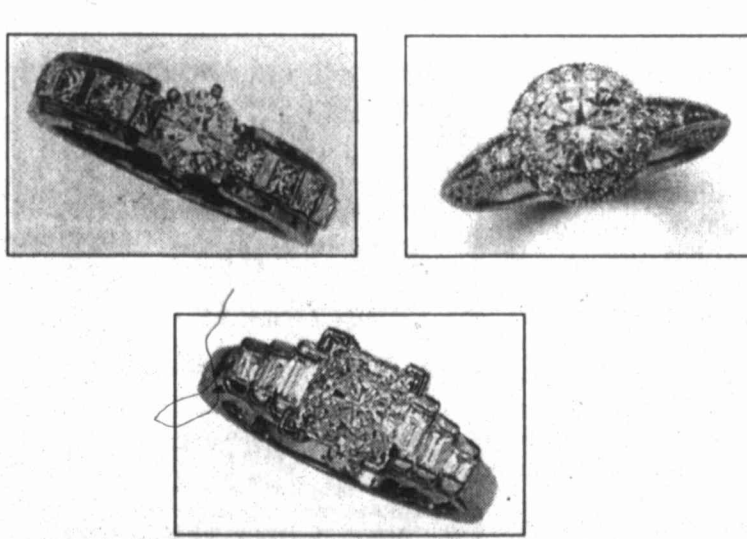
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IN BRIEF

Garden City girl's playoff schedule

The Garden City's Lady Kats (32-3) will face Kennard (28-9) Friday night in Austin for the Division II State Semifinals.

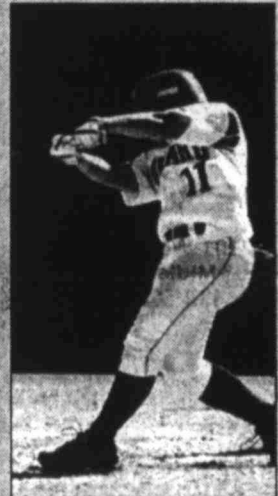
Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at the Frank Erwin Center.



Garden City boy's playoff schedule

The Bearkats basketball team will challenge Roby Friday night in Fort Worth for the Class A Division II Regional semifinals.

Tip-off is set for 8 p.m. at the Wilkerson-Greines Coliseum.



Howard Hawk athletic schedule

The Hawks softball team will play a doubleheader against El Paso Community College Friday at 1 p.m.

Big Spring girl's softball registration

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association will be holding sign-ups to register for the upcoming 2007 season.

Females from ages 4 to 14 (as of Jan. 1st) are eligible to participate in the league.

Sign-ups will be held each Saturday, beginning Feb. 24, through March 17, at the Big Spring Mall.

The registration fee is \$40 and there is a discount for the second child. This fee will cover full uniforms.

A division for boys between 4 and 6 years old will be available this season.

For more information contact Ron Shafer at 213-3747.

Big Spring Booster announces banquet

The Big Spring High School Boy's Basketball Booster is holding its annual banquet Monday at 7 p.m. inside the BSISD cafeteria.

Cost for the event is \$10 and all Big Spring Steer students, parents and fans are encouraged to attend.

Former Hawks coach earns hall of fame honors

Bill Griffin led Howard to the '91 baseball title

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

Former Howard College baseball coach Bill Griffin will be inducted into the Western Junior College Athletic Conference Hall of Fame as a member of the class of 2007, with a lifetime record of 986 wins and only 405 losses.

Griffin boasts a lifetime winning percentage of .708.

"Bill's record on the baseball diamond speaks for itself," current Hawks head coach Britt Smith said when asked about Griffin. "He came in here and restarted this program and guided Howard College to the only baseball national championship ever won here."

The Hall of Fame is nothing new to Griffin, who was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1983, largely in part to his work in 24 seasons as the head of the baseball program at Panola Junior College. During his time at Panola he amassed 639 wins en route to four zone titles, 14 conference titles, six regional titles and four state titles. He led the Ponies to the NJCAA World Series on four occasions and claimed the 1969 National Championship.

Coach Griffin revived the program at Howard College in 1982 and continued his already storied career for nine seasons in Big Spring. During his tenure as the Hawks' skipper he led the



Howard baseball coach Bob Thomas throws batting practice on Wednesday afternoon. The left field fence at Jack Barber Field is a reminder to everyone that former coach Bill Griffin and the 1991 Hawks won the national championship in baseball.

program to 347 wins, two conference crowns, two regional titles, one state title and the 1991 NJCAA National Championship.

Griffin was twice named National Coach of the Year and served as the president of the

National Junior College Baseball Coaches Association from 1978-1980.

During his career, he coached 23 All-Americans and had 64 players drafted into professional baseball, 40 of them from his

Hawks program.

In the summer of 1976, Griffin was one of four coaches selected by the American Baseball Federation to coach in the World

See **COACH**, page 2B

No. 15 Texas tops No. 7 Texas A&M in double OT

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — A sign crowned him "King Durant" and the crowd was chanting "Three More Years."

Texas fans knew they just might be watching freshman Kevin Durant's last home game for the No. 15 Longhorns.

And boy, it was a doozy.

Durant had 30 points and 16 rebounds to lead Texas to a wild 98-96 double-overtime victory over No. 7 Texas A&M that will be remembered as much for how the Aggies and Acie Law nearly spoiled the party.

Every time the Longhorns (22-7, 12-3) seemed to have put the Aggies away, Law came up with big shots to keep A&M alive — until he finally couldn't muster another.

Law finished with 33 points, hitting 3-pointers that forced both overtimes. With both game-tying shots, he posed and pointed at a loud group of Aggie fans in the upper deck of the arena.

But eventually the shots ran out and Durant and the Longhorns got the win that sends them into Saturday's regular-season finale at No. 3 Kansas with a chance to earn a

share of the Big 12 title.

The back-and-forth between Durant and Law will only fuel debate over which player should earn Big 12 player of the year honors. Should it be the precocious freshman who took the league by storm or the flashy senior who has led the Aggies to their best season in a generation?

"If you really look at the value of those two guys, both teams would be very different without them," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "When we recruited Kevin Durant, we knew how good he was and told him, 'Our expectation for you is to be the best player in college basketball.'"

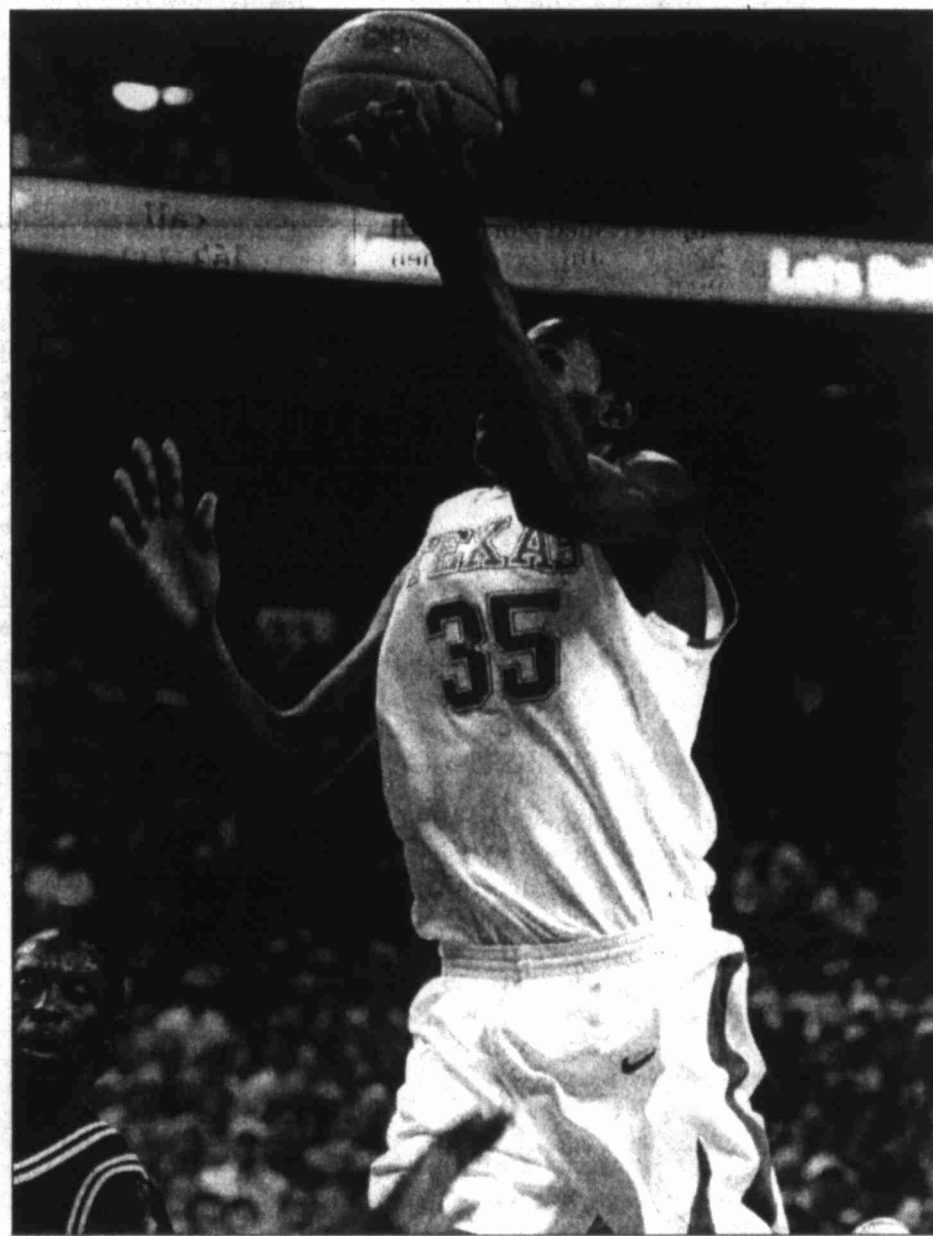
In the only other Top 25 games, it was No. 24 Maryland 85, No. Duke 77; and No. 19 Vanderbilt 99, South Carolina 90 in OT.

Three conference tournaments also began Wednesday.

In the Patriot League, it was Holy Cross 83, Lafayette 53; Bucknell 62, Navy 42; Army 47, Lehigh 46; and American 59, Colgate 44.

In the Southern Conference, Chattanooga beat Wofford 64-55; Western Carolina edged

See **HORNS**, Page 2B



Texas forward Kevin Durant goes for a shot over Texas A&M players at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin. The Longhorns won the shoot-out 98-86, to keep Big 12 title hopes alive.

Red Raiders rough up the Bears

By BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — Bob Knight has seen his Texas Tech team stumble in second halves this season.

That's why he was pleased at how well they came out after the break against Baylor, beating the Bears 85-74 on Wednesday night.

"I think that our play in the second half, when we had to have it in a game that I think was essential for us to win, was as good as we've had anytime this year," Knight said.

Jarrius Jackson scored 26 points to lead Tech and Jon Plefka had a career-high 22 points for

the Red Raiders. His previous high, 19 points, came in a 73-70 loss to Baylor in Waco last month.

Tech has wins in four of its last five games and needs a victory at Iowa State on Saturday to go above .500 in Big 12 Conference play for the season.

The loss was the sixth in the past seven games for Baylor (13-15, 3-12). Tech held Aaron Bruce, the Bears' second-leading scorer, to two points. Bruce hurt his ankle earlier this month against Oklahoma and that affected his play, Baylor coach Scott Drew said.

"Aaron is one of those players, especially with

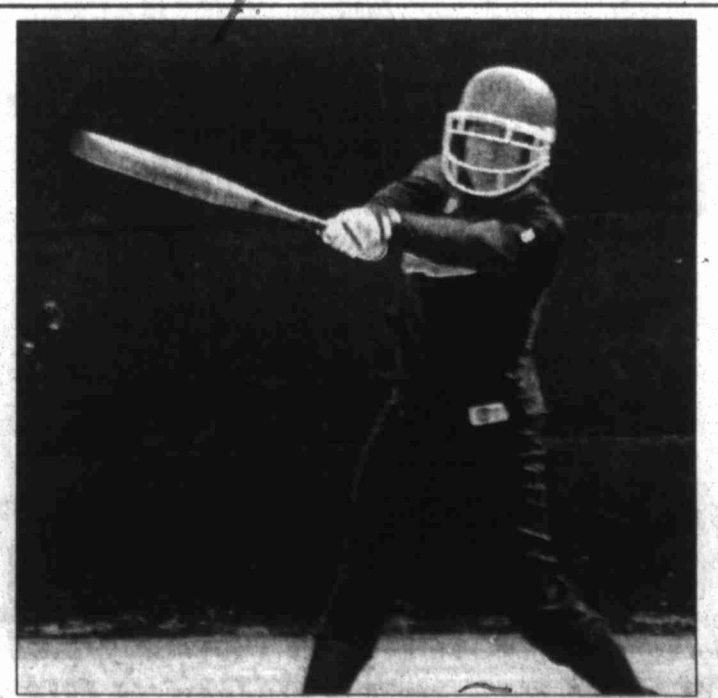
his ankle, it's a little tougher for him to break people down," Drew said. "We have to do a better job as a team getting him looks."

Tech (19-11, 8-7) got its biggest lead at 75-62 with 4:56 remaining on a bucket by Jackson. The Bears pulled within 82-74 on two free throws by Tweety Carter with just more than a minute remaining. They got no closer down the stretch.

Plefka got some big baskets from outside at key times, Knight said.

"I mean, I really can't explain how I play against this team," Plefka said. "But I was

See **TECH**, Page 2B



Howard's softball team dropped a doubleheader to Odessa, 4-2 and 11-8 in extra innings Wednesday. The Hawks are now 2-4 on conference.

New technology brings fans closer to on-track action

By MIKE HARRIS
AP Auto Racing Writer

What sports fan wouldn't love to listen to Peyton Manning in the huddle or talking strategy with his coaches on the sideline?

Or stand beside Joe Torre and his infielders and listen as the Yankees manager tells Mike Mussina how he wants to pitch to the guy at the plate?

Or see through the eyes of LeBron James as he soars toward the basket for a slam dunk?

None of those things is likely to happen anytime soon. But NASCAR fans are breaking through the wall between drivers and teams and the grandstands in unprecedented ways.

You want to ride along with Dale Earnhardt Jr. at Daytona from your couch? OK.

How about listening from your family room to Jeff Gordon talk with crew chief Steve Letart about what he wants done on the next pit stop? No problem.

You left your grandstand seat just long enough to get another beer and you missed "the Big One." Just watch the replay as many times as you want on your new handheld device.

Oh yeah. What position is your favorite driver in after that last pit stop? Heck, just check the live stats at your fingertips.

During last Sunday's Daytona 500, fans both at home and at the speedway were able to do all of the above, thanks to a new era of technology.

"It's a wonder of the times," said Jay Abraham, president and CEO of NASCAR Images, which boasts that it manages the most technologically advanced television compound in the world. "Most of this wouldn't even have been possible just a few years ago."

All of the new technology is funneled through that compound, which is made up of trailers and trucks connected by more than 100,000 feet of fiber optic cable and sprouts a maze of antennas and microwave dishes.

Steve Stum is director of field operations for NASCAR Images and the man who oversees the TV compound, which

has expanded in size by 2 1/2 times this year to accommodate all the new technology.

"It's three times the size of the compound at the Super Bowl," Stum said. "And we have two days to move it from Daytona to California and 48 hours to set it up for the next race — all the equipment, cables, everything."

"We have more RF (radio frequency) transmitters in our compound than there are in New York City," Stum said. "There are 17 or 18 production trucks, 23 work areas and about 600 workers. We feed everything through here, including NASCAR's timing and scoring and whatever television feeds there are."

And it's not just the fans who benefit. The new technology also allows NASCAR officials to view replays from up to 16 different camera angles.

"We even give them touch screens, so they can make images larger or see some part of the replay more clearly," Stum said. "Everybody benefits from all this new technology."

But fans benefit the most. Each of the new technologies has its own trailers or truck, designed specially to handle its specific needs.

DirectTV built a truck with individual, cubicle-sized production studios to accommodate its new NASCAR HotPass, five fully produced channels allowing fans to watch the race from the vantage point of a single driver and team.

The thing that makes HotPass unique is that each of its five channels has its own announcing team, director and producer and offers multiple camera angles, real-time stats and telemetry, and in-car audio.

A spokesman for DirectTV said there is not yet any system in place to determine which driver is being watched the most each week.

Here's a rundown of some of the other services available these days:

— Sirius Satellite Radio has "Team Talk," 10 fully produced channels putting fans inside the helmet of one of 10 drivers for the whole race. It includes all radio communications between the driver and his team. When team mem-



MCT photo/Gary W. Green/Orlando Sentinel
NASCAR Busch Series Orbitz 300 at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida, Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007. NASCAR has grown in popularity with its innovative ways to keep the fans closer to the action.

bers aren't on the radio, the live race broadcast audio comes up, allowing listeners to follow the race.

— At the track, Sprint Nextel has FanView, a state-of-the-art scanner offering live audio, video and real-time statistics.

— Fans can follow the race on their computers through NASCAR.com's TrackPass, which now has a 3-D offering and a "social networking" component.

— NASCAR.com To Go with PitCommand is a mobile phone service that allow fans to listen to driver-crew conversations on their Sprint Nextel phones. It also provides real-time race data over the phone.

— TrackPass RaceView, is a 3-D application on NASCAR.com that features

animation similar to sports video games. Fans can watch race data displayed on a computer screen showing drivers' positions and movements to within a few inches. They can select one driver or switch among the full field, following them around the track while viewing driver data such as live position, speed and time behind leader, as well as listening to in-car audio feeds.

Three different race views are available for each driver, including Lead View, which shows the front of the driver's car, as well as the cars in pursuit; Flyover View, an aerial view from above; and Draft View, showing the car from behind and the field in front of the driver. Other features include pit road statistics, lap-by-lap editorial commentary and a fantasy game integration.

TECH

Continued from 1B

lucky to have played this well. I really haven't played too well these past couple of games, so I had to contribute to the team and this was a good night to do it."

The Red Raiders trailed only briefly early in the game and withstood a couple of runs by the Bears in the first half. Baylor pulled within 53-51 early in the second half and stayed close the rest of the way only because they got the ball inside to Mark Shepherd and Josh

Lomars.

The Bears finished with 42 points in the paint.

But fouls hurt Baylor. Lomars fouled out with just more than six minutes remaining in the game and Mamadou Diene, another of Baylor's big men, fouled out with about 13 minutes remaining in the game.

Curtis Jerrells scored 20 points and Carter added 13 to lead Baylor.

Jackson, Plefka and Martin-Zeno finished with a combined 22 of 36 from the field for 48 points. Together they added 17 points on free throws.

Knight said he'd heard recent-

ly that Tech was alone in the country in having beaten teams as highly ranked as Texas A&M, which the Red Raiders did twice, and Kansas. Both were in the Top 10 when Tech beat them.

With three wins like that, he said, "I think that has to work well for us" to get into the NCAA tournament.

After the game, Knight told the crowd and his seniors, who were playing their final home game, how much he's enjoyed coaching them. He added a little motivation.

"Let's make damn sure we're not done yet," Knight told

them.

Tech led most of the first half, and a livid Knight was off the Red Raiders bench often. In one instance he stalked one official all the way to the baseline by the Tech bench to complain about a call.

At the break, he remained on the court and shouted at more than one official at center court before he walked off the court to loud applause from Tech fans.

The Red Raiders were hot early in the opening half, at one point hitting 81 percent from the field. They used a 15-4 run — including 3-pointers by Zeno,

Darryl Dora and Plefka — to go up 21-9.

But Baylor hung tough and slowly crept back. Down by 10 with just more than five minutes remaining before the break, the Bears went on a 12-3 run to pull within 42-41. The Bears capped the run when Shepherd got a putback bucket off a rebound following Jerrells' miss on the second of two free throws.

Tech went to the free-throw line often and hit 11-15 in the first half. For the game, Tech hit with 23-of-31 from the line.

HORNS

Continued from 1B

Elon 69-66,

A boisterous sellout crowd came to watch what most assumed was Durant's last home game at Texas. Many expect he'll leave college for the NBA this year, although he hasn't publicly stated that.

Texas thought it had the game won when Durant hit a long 3-pointer with 20 seconds left in regulation for a four-point lead.

Law forced the first overtime when he got the ball deep in the right corner and put up a high shot

over the 6-foot-9 Durant. It seemed to take forever to drop in with 1.1 seconds left.

"I tried to put as much arc on it as I could," Law said. "I was just lucky."

Texas led by as much as seven in the first overtime. Law tied it again with 26 seconds left, 88-88.

It looked like Law would do it again when he drove to the basket for a tying layup at the end of the second overtime, but his shot was blocked by Damion James with 15 seconds left.

Durant hit three of four free throws in the final seconds to seal the win.

Law, who finished with 33 points for A&M (24-5, 12-3) got to the free throw line with the Aggies down by three with 1.4 seconds left. He made the first to pull them within two, but was forced to miss the second to give his team a chance to grab the rebound. Chinemelu Elonu got the ball, but his final putback was off the mark.

D.J. Augustin added 25 points for the Longhorns. James scored 22 and had two key blocks late.

"He just takes over games at the end," Durant said of Law. "He's a great player. Me and Acie are real good friends. It was fun going back and forth."

COACH

Continued from 1B

Baseball Games held in the Republic of China. These games were the forerunners of baseball being introduced into the Olympic Games in 1980.

"Thanks to Coach Griffin we have baseball here," Coach Smith added. "Howard was one of the first junior college schools west of Dallas to even have a baseball program and he was responsible for that. Now we

have 10 schools in our league and his fingerprints are all over baseball across West Texas."

Coach Griffin is a lifetime member of the Texas-New Mexico Baseball Junior College Coaches Association for his leadership and contributions to the association.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the induction ceremony for Coach Bill Griffin will be held at a time and date to be determined in the future.

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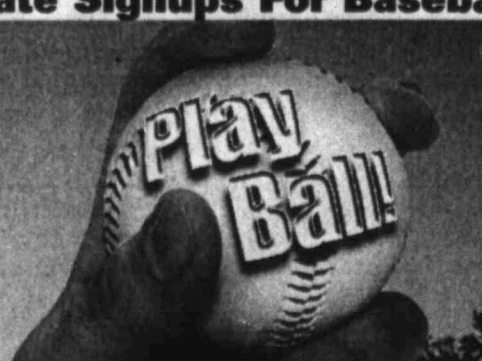
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<h4>HOME IMPROVEMENT</h4> <p>Gibbs Remodeling New home Construction • Room Additions Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing Ceramic Tile • Installation & Repair All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home. Call 263-8285</p>	<h4>SUBSCRIPTION</h4> <p>SUBSCRIBE TO THE PAPER CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD</p>	<h4>JANITORIAL</h4> <p>BREATHE-EZ CLEANING SERVICE Chimneys, Carpets, Air Ducts, Maids, Make Ready's And More. Now Offering Security Products, Stun Guns, Mace, Alarms & Much More. 432-353-4849</p>	<h4>YOUR AD</h4> <p>PUT YOUR AD HERE CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD</p>	<h4>LAWN SERVICE</h4> <p>MOWING, ALLEYS TILLING, TREE TRIMMING LIGHT HAULING CALL 267-5460 CELL 816-6150 Scoggin Lawn Service</p>	<h4>NAIL SALON</h4> <p>Pro Spa Nail Salon Pedicure: \$21.99 Manicure: \$11.99 Full Set: \$20.00 & up Refill: \$15.99 & up SPECIAL Solar Nails: \$29.00 111 E. Marcy Dr. Ste 110 (432) 263-6245</p>
<h4>PEST CONTROL</h4> <p>SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL Since 1954 432-263-6514 2008 Birdwell Lane Max F. Moore www.swa1pc.com mm@swa1pc.com</p>	<h4>PLUMBING</h4> <p>ADVANCE PLUMBING All your plumbing needs Commercial & Residential • Licensed • Bonded • Insured M-373559 263-4973 or 517-0751</p>	<h4>RENTALS</h4> <p>VENTURA COMPANY 432-267-2655 Houses • Storages Commercial Buildings For rent/sale 610 E. 12th 1003, 1011 E. 11th</p>	<h4>REPAIRS</h4> <p>Sewing Machine Guy Steve REPAIR AND SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS (432) 935-6380 All Work Guaranteed</p>	<h4>RESALE SHOP</h4> <p>TRADING POST • BUY-SELL-TRADE • • Appliances • Jewelry • Clothing • Collectibles • Toys • Furniture • Kitchenware • Electronics 611 E. 3rd 432-264-1692</p>	<h4>ROOFING</h4> <p>JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs! Free Estimates!! Big Spring & Surrounding Areas. 267-1110</p>
<h4>STORAGE</h4> <p>AAA Mini-Storage 1/2 OFF First Month No Deposit 3301 E. FM 700 263-0732</p>	<h4>TAX SERVICES</h4> <p>FAST CASH On Income Tax Refund Refund Loan Within 24 Hrs. TAX ASSOCIATES 406 Runnels Harris From Big Spring Blvd CALL (432) 264-6134 "No Hable Espanol" *With RAL Approval</p>	<h4>TREE TRIMMING</h4> <p>LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe Villalpando 432-268-6406</p>	<h4>VIDEO PRODUCTION</h4> <p>BAKER VIDEO PRODUCTIONS MAKING MEMORIES LAST Commercial, Intermarriage & Court Depositions VCR, Pictures, Slides & Film Transfers Photo Montage & Tribute DVDs 206 S. Main St. Big Spring, Texas (432) 263-5500</p>	<h4>WINDOW TINT</h4> <p>C & D Truck Accessories 2706 N. HWY 87 432-263-3600 Solar Gaurd Window Tint 5 year limited warranty</p>	<h4>YOUR AD</h4> <p>PUT YOUR AD HERE CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD</p>

Garage Sales

SPRING CLEANING: 1211 Wilson Road, Sand Springs off Midway, LittleTykes, appliances, furniture, knickknacks, football, air compressor, mirrored doors, bedding, sports goals and more. Saturday 8-1.

YARD SALE, 2401 Merrily, Friday & Saturday, 9:00-5:00. Knick-knacks, collectibles, antiques, furnishings, electronics, tools, clothing & more.

YARD SALE/ bake sale. 2510 Chanute. Fri. & Sat. 9am-? Lots of baby clothes. Premie to 6T, boys and girls.

Help Wanted

EARN EXTRA MONEYS
Independent Contractors (must be at least 18) needed to deliver the Western Plains Area Wide Phone Book in Big Spring & surrounding areas.
1-888-606-8900

AMERICAN STATE Bank is currently accepting applications for a Part Time Teller. Qualified applicants will be responsible for providing a variety of paying and receiving functions, including processing deposits, withdrawals, loan payments, official checks, money orders, and cash advances. Must be customer service oriented and have cash handling and sales experience. Apply in person at 1411 Gregg Street.

APPLICATIONS BEING accepted at Paradigm Physical Therapy, 602 Main St., for physical therapy technician afternoon and evening shift. Will train. (432)268-9800.

AVON WANTS YOU!!!!!!
10 Immediate openings in this area. For a limited time - no start up fee. Up to 50% commission and great benefits. Call 432-270-2125 (Independent rep)

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come **FILED** under Hwy., and pick up an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come **FILED** under Hwy., and pick up an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

BUS DRIVER and caregiver for Christian school. Must have CDL. Apply at 118 Cedar Rd.

COBS is HIRING:
Police Officer, Certified & Non-Jailer
WWPT Plant Operator
COBS, Benefits Add an Est. 30% to Pay
Human Resources
Big Spring, Texas 79720
Phone: 432-264-2346
EOE
www.ci.big-spring.tx.us

COME JOIN our friendly team at Kate's Fina Mart. Good benefits. Now hiring full & part time. Apply at 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy.

COOK II
Needed Cook with large institutional type experience. \$1472.00 monthly Health Insurance, Paid Holidays, Vacation and Sick Leave
Contact: Job Center
432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298
Or
Complete an application on line at
https://accesshr.hssc.state.tx.us
Big Spring State hospital
1901 N. Hwy 87
Big Spring, TX 79720

CUSTOMER SERVICE Rep needed for local insurance office. Must be willing to get insurance license. Bilingual a plus. Salary depends on experience. Come by 205 W. 15th to pick up application.

HOWARD COUNTY Appraisal District
HIRING:
Full Time Receptionist.
Requirements:
High School Diploma or GED. Ability to work with Microsoft word and Excel.
Salary is contingent on experience. Comprehensive benefits package included. Interested parties need to apply at the Workforce Network. Submit with a resume.

Help Wanted

D.H. BLATTNER & Son's (est. in 1907) is seeking the following experienced, safety-oriented individuals for our Wind Project in Roscoe, TX:
Laborers
Forklift Operators
Equipment Operators (Dozer, Blade, Excavator, Roller)
Water Truck Drivers (must have CDL)
NCCO certified Crane Operators

Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply at the Workforce Center, 606 E. Broadway St., Sweetwater; apply on-line at HYPERLINK
www.dhblattner.com; or call 1-888-356-2307 to request an application.
Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply
EOE

DRIVER PART TIME CDL Local. Ideal for Retiree to earn extra income. Call (432)267-3217. or 325-660-4304.

DRIVERS NEEDED
Big Spring bases
Drivers wanted. Must have 2 years experience over the road. Must have class A and Tank Endorsements. To apply call Jack Murphy at Andrews Transport Inc. 800-364-2018 Lubbock, Texas. Call between 9am and 5pm Monday thru Friday.

ENJOY COOL Colorful Colorado - Summer Employment
Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado, needs STUDENTS, YOUNG ADULTS and ADULTS for the full season or part of the 2007 season for all types of jobs: Kitchen, dining room, housekeeping, stores, maintenance, horse wrangler, office, (Salary/room or RV site/meals/activities). ADULTS must have their own RV for their housing. STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS live in the girls or boys dorm. For information, write Personnel Director, Fun Valley Family Resort, 6315 Westover Drive, Granbury, Tx 76049.

EVENING DISHWASHER - supervisor. Apply in person 2401 S. Gregg. Good pay to the right person.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Needed. Must have the following skills: Organization, multi tasking, typing accuracy - not speed, phone etiquette, some computer knowledge. Salary contingent on skills. Great Benefits. Drug Free Facility. Must be Bondable. Resumes taken at: Workforce Network, Big Spring, 310 Owens.

GREAT PAY! GOOD BENEFITS!
A Great Career Opportunity. Now Hiring Drivers for: Pump Trucks, Transports, Hot Oiler, Vacuum Trucks. Requirements: Valid CDL, 21 years of age, Clean MVR. Must pass drug screen. Call 432-756-2875. Apply in person at Key Energy, West I-20 South Service Road, Stanton, TX.

HELP NEEDED
Personal Care Attendants needed immediately to help elderly and disabled with personal care & light housekeeping in the clients' homes. Must be at least 18. Please contact:
InHome Care, Inc.
(432)570-4475 or 1-800-551-6451.

HOUSEKEEPING NEEDED. Competitive pay and paid holidays & vacation. Pick up application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford Street.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 7 days- 7 days off. Must have own car. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for RN with home health or related experience preferred but will train. We offer:
* Health and Life Insurance
* Paid Vacation
* Sick leave
* 401K
* Mileage paid
Please come by or send resume to: InHome Care, Inc. 1104 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720.

NOW HIRING mental health aide for assisted living facility. Come by 2607 Chanute and ask for Paula.

Help Wanted

LOCAL MANUFACTURING facility has an opening for a Clerk Position. Skills must include proficiency in MS Word, Excel, and Window based applications. Experience in warehouse and/or parts inventory desired but not required. Must pass a drug screen. Salary will be 20-25k depending on experience. Benefits package is available. Apply with application and resume at 1211 N. Midway Road, Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Company. For questions, call 432-263-7389, ext. 25.

LOCAL MANUFACTURING facility has a need for occasional janitorial relief duties. Hours will vary. Pay rate starts at \$10/hour. Could work into a permanent position. Must pass a drug screen. Apply with application at 1211 N. Midway Road, Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Company. For questions, call (432)263-7389, ext. 25.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER
Kelly services has an immediate opening for a mechanical engineer in Big Spring. Engineering background helpful. Auto Cad experience required. Salary DOE. Call Kelly Services at (432)689-9801 or email resume to lopezla@kellyservices.com
Never an Applicant Fee
An Equal Opportunity Employer

MOUNTAIN VIEW Lodge is seeking professional and dependable employees for the following positions: C.N.A.'s all shifts, 2-10 M-F Charge Nurse & Weekend only Charge Nurse 6:00am-10:00pm. Full time Assistant Maintenance Worker. Please contact Lana at 432-263-1271 for further details.

NEED EXPERIENCED dozer operator and general laborer to work for a area oil company. Most work will be around this area. Must be able to pass drug test. Please call (432)238-4431.

NEED RELIABLE, honest people. Housekeeping positions (\$5.15/hour), sales associates (\$6.00/hour + Bonus). Apply in person, Comfort Inn, 2900 East I-20, Big Spring. No Phone Calls please.

NOW HIRING
Big Spring Insurance Agency seeking office help. Competitive wage rate and incentive program. Computer skills a must. Apply by submitting resume to one of the following:
Email:
krissy@harrisonmillerinsurance.com
Fax: 325-658-9001
Mail: 1814 Ward Street, San Angelo, Texas 76901.

StarTek
Now hiring
English & Bilingual Customer Care Representative.
StarTek is offering Great NEW pay rates and benefits.
Come by
501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 30
or call 432-264-2700

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction. Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required.
Mail resume to:
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
PO BOX 60708
MIDLAND, TX 79711

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

POLLARD CHEVROLET is seeking a Finance & Insurance Sales person. Sales experience required. Benefits, 401K, Health Ins.. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

RAINBOW CHRISTIAN Pre-School needs full time Child worker. Must be 18 with HS Diploma and experience required. Come by 409 Goliad to apply.

STATE LICENSED JOURNEMEN ELECTRICIANS and HELPERS
Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. All interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

Help Wanted

ROSE DRYWALL & Acoustical Const. Now hiring and taking applications for const. helpers, journeyman drywallers, and metal bldg installers. Must pass drug test and have transportation. Starting pay at \$10 to \$15 per hr. Depending on experience. We are looking for men to run crews, pay negotiable. Call 432-570-1259 or come by #12 East Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas between 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full & Part time cashiers and assistant managers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS and caregivers needed for Christian School. Apply at 118 Cedar Rd.

TexasStone Quarries is hiring full time laborers to work in the plant and also in the quarry. Benefits available. Apply in person 1400 Sherrod Road Garden City or call 432-354-2569.

VACUUM TRUCK driver needed at Westbrook, TX. CDL & tanker endorsement. 6 Months experience a plus. Please call JD's Services (325)575-0851.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

WHITTEN INN at 700 West I-20. Needs all positions. Please apply in person between 10:00am-3:00pm.

WORK TODAY! WE ARE SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT LOCATED IN BIG SPRING
* Forklift Drivers
* Baggers
* Mechanical Assembly
\$8.50
\$11.00
Call Kelly Services 432-689-9801 to schedule an appointment.
Never an applicant fee.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Items for Sale

A NEW QUEEN Pillow top mattress set. \$129.00 Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

CAMPER 1988 Prowler Trailer, 28 ft Self-contained. Excellent condition. \$4,250.00 Cash. 1800 N. Birdwell, 432-263-6292.

FIREWOOD. PREMIUM OAK FIREWOOD. Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$275.00 Full Cord & \$175.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 325-648-2818 or 512-913-8297.

Miscellaneous

\$199. KING/ Cal King Pillow-Top mattress set. In plastic, warranty.
(806)549-3110

5-PC BEDROOM set. Still in boxes. Must move. \$499. 806-549-3110.

A KING PILLOWTOP Mattress Set. Must Sell \$249. Brand New still in Plastic. Full Factory Warra. **NASA MEMORY** FOAM Mattress Set. Sacrifice \$350.00. New in plastic. 432-349-4043.

BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set. In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. Sacrifice \$175.00. **NEW CHERRY** Sleigh bed \$259.00. Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceaneros. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

DINING ROOM and chairs, cherry mirror finish, brand new in box. Must sell now \$249. 806-549-3110.

FOR SALE: Mahogany gun case. Holds 10 guns, 2 glass doors that lock. Storage below includes one drawer that locks. Call (432)263-4342

FULL MATTRESS and box \$129. Twin mattress set \$93. Brand Name, in plastic. (806)4549-3110.

MEMORY FOAM mattress set. Conforms to body. \$399. Never used. In plastic. (806)549-3110.

MICROFIBER SOFA, loveseat, & coffee table set. Stain resistant. NEW, lifetime warranty, \$489. (806)549-31 0.

Miscellaneous

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT New \$549. **NEW LEATHER SOFA & LOVESEAT** Lifetime warranty. \$869. 432-349-7945.

NEW BEDROOM SET 5 pieces. Still in boxes. Sell \$550. **DINING ROOM SET** Table, chairs. New and boxed. Sacrifice \$475. Can deliver. 432-349-7945.

SEWING MACHINE Guy. Repair and Service sewing machines. Call 935-6380 or go by 1704 Austin St., Big Spring, Tx.

Real Estate for Rent

South Plains Apts
Efficiency, 1 & 2 Bdrms
New Appliances & Fixtures
Dish Network w/ 300+ Channels incl 34 Latino
Hi-Speed Wireless Internet
Picnic/BBQ Area
New Laundry & Vending
Ask about our Move-In Special!
3304 W. Hwy. 80
(432) 714-4840

\$390/MO! buy a three bedroom, 2 bath! 5% down, 20 years, 8% APR. For listings 800-544-6258 ext F086.

1102 LANCASTER Two bedroom, 2 bath. Pets. Call (432)267-1111, 517-0642.

1200 DIXIE Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A. \$750. Month plus deposit. Long term lease preferred. Call (432)263-4528 or (432)296-0277.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461-Tom.

712 GOLIAD. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$550. month, +deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

NICE 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home for rent or sale, in Coahoma School District, Call (432)263-2345.

ONE BEDROOM trailer partially furnished, single or married couple preferred, fenced yard, washer & dryer connections, no pets. Call (432)267-3826 or 466-3335.

THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/ Owner.

Real Estate for Sale

#30 MEADOWBROOK Rd. CISD. 3/2, large 2 car garage, large front verandah. New Carpet & Paint. 3 Extra Lots. \$129,500. Vicki Dahmer 432-264-8048 or Dana Baker 432-816-6258.

1812 BENTON. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, 1224 sq. ft. Close to Goliad school. Covered patio and yard. \$44,900. No Owner Finance. Call (432)264-8983, (432)263-0118.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call **Marla (432)263-3461.**

THREE BEDROOM, two bath, 2 acres, pecan trees, pool, shop, CISD, RV carport, four car carport, sprinkler system, recently remodeled, fenced. Call 393-5966 for information.

DARLING STARTER home. 1108 Mulberry. \$39,900. 1804 Main, \$49,900. 1211 Lloyd, \$44,900. 1102 Mulberry, \$49,900. Call Kim @ Heart of the City Realtor, (432) 213-2842. Owner finance available.

OWNER FINANCE- Tough Credit OK- Homes from \$49,900. Down PMT. 3%. Call 432-687-2696 or pick up a list at 1611 W. Texas, Midland.

AUCTION

First Saturday of each month. Next auction is Saturday, March 3, 2007. Viewtime starts at 8:00 AM, Auction starts at 10:00 AM. View time will be Day of Sale, all items must be moved day of sale. ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS SALE DAY SUPERCEDE ANY WRITTEN OR ORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.
1609 E. 4th, Big Spring, TX 79720
For Directions Or Questions
CALL 432-264-0822 or 432-466-3088
Armoire Chest, desk with chair, dressers, misc. tables, chairs, Lowery organ, large dining table, pictures, jewelry, misc. tools, glassware, lamps, kitchen items, many small items, computers, DVD's, VCR, CD changer, quilts & linens, cars and MORE cars from A-Z, and lots lots more!
TOO MANY ITEMS TO LIST!
Don't miss this one!
Visit our website @ littlevalleyauction.net
All items sold "as is", no warranty or guarantee.
Check Items Before You Buy! No Refunds.
Little Valley Auction
Auctioneers: Eddie & Margaret Barber
TDL 15209 & 15207

BARCELONA APARTMENTS
\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL. + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.
ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104
Housing Assistance Accepted

BASIC ENERGY SERVICES
Now Hiring
A leader in the oilfield services industry has an immediate opening for
Drivers
Both day time and night time Drivers needed. Prefer minimum of 1 year Oilfield Transport/Vacuum or Pump Truck experience. Valid Class A CDL and good driving record a must. High school diploma or equivalent preferred.
Apply at: Basic Energy Services
2206 North Hwy 87 • Big Spring, TX 79721
We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service; and paid holidays.
EOE/M/F/D/V • Drug Free Environment

BY HO
It's the your ho talent u the kar b a Piro u into the light, say, "Ta And worry, don't ha be the talented the bun be a hi the stag life. The brave a Further first pla plays w ARIES 19). It's only w temptat it. This

COMBIN
CIT NOTIC SIGNIFIC ENV NOTI REQUES TO: ALL I GROUPS / Seventeen location, in Texas, in the office of R (ORCA) to under the Community 1974 (P.L. 725060). Exempt Ac Administra Planning a Environme ties install 27 sewer line sewer line bore, 4.4 feet of tr yards of r control; re bilitate 1 c the pump equipment ment plant FINDING IMPACT. It has be request to constitute affecting the vironment City of C to prepar Statement ronmental 91-190). 1 sion not i ment is b environm ther be m An En respecting been ma document view of tl sets forth Staterem vironment file at th First Stre and is av tion and tween th 4:00 p.m. PUBLIC ING All intere persons (sion are comment City of C set forth ments m dress sp days aft written c be consi not requ take any the proje fied in the RELEASE The City take the with C Block Gr from its grant nu Housing ment Act tifying to in his o consents of the Fe brought in relati views, d and that been sa the certifi provol. Block G satisfied the Nat Act of 1 objector one or r cedures 58.75. (dressed munity Capitol 78711. Object on basi above w ORCA. later tha this put by ORC M

#5267 N

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
It's the Leo moon. Toot your horn. March your talent up to the front of the karaoke bar. Pirouette into the spotlight, and say, "Ta-da!" And don't worry, you don't have to be the most talented in the bunch to be a hit on the stage of life. The prize goes to the brave and entertaining. Furthermore, there's no first place. Everyone who plays will win.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's been said that the only way to get rid of temptation is to give in to it. This can be done in a



HOLIDAY MATHIS

mental way, by following an action with your mind clear to the consequences it will most surely bring.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's in everyone's best interest to let you have plenty of space to explore. If you're held on too tight a leash, or too strict a schedule, you'll rebel. A Sagittarius person helps you strike out on an adventure.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Though it's easy for you to think about the distant future as being filled with rosy possibilities, the near future is where the real exhilaration is. Why wait until next week when you can take action this afternoon?
CANCER (June 22-July 22). It feels as though strong emotions are carrying you forward in a rushing river. You don't have to be the lone person in an inner tube getting bashed by the currents. Climb on board the raft with your support team.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whatever you take on, do it without a doubt. Hesitation equals losing out. Let your well-honed instinct carry you toward the smart people who can help you succeed.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Someone else's trash

is your treasure. Check out flea markets, used bookstores, online auctions and vintage clothing stores. A fantastic find is yours for the asking.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Good news: You don't have to pressure yourself to produce brilliant solutions. Your real brilliance is in inspiring other people to produce the brilliant solutions. And that makes you a great leader.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've always been interested in life's mysteries, and today's events provide a juicy one you can follow. Tonight you're busy cutting down the weeds of worry by creating an extensive to-do list.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your most loyal ally is in need of attention. You're perceptive now and should be able to recognize this person's need — though he or she is trying desperately to cover it up!
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). Knowledge is power, sure. But having power can be overrated. Today is like a magic trick. You don't have to understand what made it all come together in order to enjoy it.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). "If" is in the middle of the word "life." Today you can expand your life by asking yourself "what if?" Unless you're looking at all the possibilities, there's a good chance you're running on autopilot.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone is trying to hide their flaws from you. Have compassion. Nobody likes to be exposed. Let others know that it's safe to be real with you. And then honor the statement with your discretion.
ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I'm an obese person, and I readily admit I have an eating disorder — I can't stop. Even when I feel totally stuffed I just keep going, and I often eat until I'm

exhausted. What should I do? My birthday is March 12, 1970."
Instead of beginning a diet, concentrate on creating your own personal set of daily traditions. For instance, instead of telling yourself to cut out sweets, begin to add 15 minutes of planning and meditation to your morning routine. Instead of skipping meals, take time to go for a walk. Focus on giving yourself gifts of health instead of deprivation. Also, fight against the Pisces all-or-nothing mentality. If you disappoint yourself, pick up where you left off. Your moon in Cancer shows that water can be healing for both your body and mind. Drink plenty, and when you feel stressed, take a hot shower before heading for the refrigerator. Passionate, sensitive Pisces does not readily accept change, but when it happens the change will be lasting. A good time to start new cycles is the "dark of the moon" —

a day and a half before the new moon.
CELEBRITY PROFILES: Pisces Michael Bolton is known for his world-class singing voice, but he has the chart of a shrewd businessman. Planets in Sagittarius shout out that he's a risk-taker, always willing to walk away from the deal that isn't sweet enough for him. But with lucky Jupiter in Gemini, he also has a "no hard feelings" policy and can charm associates, rivals, backers — whomever he focuses on!
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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Legals

COMBINED NOTICE BY THE CITY OF COAHOMA
NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS
Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the City of Coahoma, Texas, intends to request the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) to release Federal funds under the Title I of the Housing and Community Development act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for project no. 725060.
Exempt Activities
Administration
Planning and Engineering
Environmental Assessment Activities
Install 27 linear feet of 10" gravity sewer line, 619 linear feet of 8" sewer line, 262 linear feet of 20" bore, 4 48" manholes, 646 linear feet of trench safety, 200 square yards of pavement repair & traffic control; replace 1 lift station; rehabilitate 1 outfall manhole & replace the pumps & side roll irrigation equipment at the wastewater treatment plant
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the City of Coahoma has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The reason for such decision is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.
An Environmental Assessment respecting the within project has been made by Coahoma which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Mayor's office, 122 N. First Street, Coahoma, TX, 79511 and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDING
All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Coahoma to the address as set forth below. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication. Such written comments so received must be considered and Coahoma will not request the release of funds or take any administrative action on the project before the date specified in the preceding sentence.
RELEASE OF FUNDS
The City of Coahoma will undertake the activities described above with Community Development Block Grant Funds under the Title I from its Program Year 2005 under grant numbered 725060 from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coahoma is certifying to the ORCA that Bill Reed in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that, upon its approval, Coahoma may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. ORCA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the bases and procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Office of Rural Community Affairs, PO Box 12877, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.
Objections to the release of funds on basis other than those stated above will not be considered by the ORCA. No objections received later than thirty-five (35) days after this publication will be considered by ORCA.
The Honorable Bill Reed
Mayor, City of Coahoma
122 N. First Street
Coahoma, TX 79511
#5267 March 1, 2007

Legals

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM
In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, and 4 Tex. Admin. Code, Chapter 3, Subchapter A, the Texas Department of Agriculture (the Department) will conduct a referendum on the proposition of whether cotton growers shall continue a boll weevil eradication program in the Permian Basin Boll Weevil Eradication Zone. This referendum will be the final referendum on continuation for the Permian Basin Zone. However, Texas Agriculture Code, §74.112 (f), provides that if 30 percent or more of eligible cotton growers in a zone present to the commissioner a petition calling for a referendum of the qualified voters on the proposition of discontinuing the program, the commissioner shall conduct a referendum for that purpose.
The Permian Basin Boll Weevil Eradication Zone consists of all of Dawson, Ector, Howard and Martin Counties; all of Borden County except all land east of a line 7 miles west of the Scurry County line that runs from the Garza County line to the Howard County line; and all of Midland County except for the southern region located south of a line 15 miles south of Interstate 20 running from the Ector County line east to the Glasscock County line.
Also, as part of the referendum, a representative of the above-referenced zone will be elected to serve on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board of Directors. The board is charged with administering the boll weevil eradication program in Texas.
The referendum and board election will be held by mail balloting. Ballots will be mailed to cotton growers by March 20, 2007. All ballots cast by mail must be post-marked no later than April 12, 2007, in order to be valid. Any cotton grower having cotton production in the year 2006 within the zone defined above is eligible to vote, and, if he or she resides in the Permian Basin Zone and has at least seven years experience as a cotton grower, can have his or her name placed on the ballot as a candidate in the board member election. A cotton grower is defined as a person who grows cotton and receives income from the sale of cotton. The term includes an individual who, as owner, landlord, tenant or sharecropper, is entitled to share in the cotton grown and available for marketing from the farm, or share in the proceeds from the sale of the cotton from the farm.
Any person eligible to vote in the referendum or board member election that resides in the Permian Basin Zone and meets the seven-year experience requirement may place their name in nomination for election to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board by written application to the Department at the address provided below. Nomination forms are provided by the Department and must be signed by the nominee and at least ten other eligible voters. The nomination form must be received by the Department at its office located in Austin by March 12, 2007, and must provide the legal residence of the applicant. A nomination form may be obtained by contacting the Department office or any county agent located in the voting area.
For more information regarding the referendum and election, or if you are a cotton grower in the above-referenced area and do not receive a ballot, please contact the Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12947, Austin, Texas, 78711, telephone 512-463-7553, #5255 February 23 & March 1 & 8, 2007

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR INJECTION WELL PERMITS
CrownQuest Operating, LLC, c/o Box 953, Midland, Texas 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced formation water/fluid into a formation that is productive of oil or gas.
The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the San Andres (Clearfork) (formation) in the Mary Foster (lease), well numbers 508W and 509W. The proposed disposal well is located 13 miles in a 5-W direction Westbrook, the Jatan, East Howard field, in Mitchell County. Fluid will be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2300 to 3300 feet.
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.
Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512/463-6815).
#5268 March 1, 2007

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I've been dating "Bonnie" for six months, and it's been great. We really are ideal for each other. We are in love, and it all seems too good to be true.
The problem is that I'm the first person Bonnie has dated since she separated from her husband six years ago. She caters to her kids, and they are extremely spoiled. Her 16-year-old daughter refuses to make her own food or clean her room. She won't even get herself a drink of water. She'll call out to her mother, and Bonnie will get her the water just so she'll stop complaining. The 13-year-old is a mama's boy.
Neither child will accept me, even though we've never formally met. They refuse to allow their mother to be happy and want her home with them. Bonnie has met my kids, and they like and respect her. Do I let her children's immaturity ruin our relationship, or do I stick it out? People tell me it's just that the kids are teenagers, but I don't think so. My children are exactly the same ages and don't behave that way. What do I do? — Lost in New York



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Lost: Unless Bonnie demands some respect and consideration from her children, she will not get it and neither will you. Bonnie may believe such coddling is a form of love, but in reality, she is being a lazy parent. It's hard work to properly discipline children and teach them how to be independent.

ple they're writing about, instead of substituting phony names for anonymity. That way, when "Jane" read your advice, she would be sure to get the point because her name wouldn't be changed at all. What do you say? — Too Much Time on Our Hands.
Dear Too Much: It's not likely. We change all the names that are sent to us — just to be sure. If you see your name in print, chances are we aren't talking about you. But if the advice fits . . .
Dear Annie: My wife is one of four sisters, all of whom were molested by their father between the ages of 7 and 17. She and her sister "Sally" were the two youngest, and they were the ones who ended up with the most abuse.
This has been eating at me (and the other husbands) for the past 20 years. My wife's emotional scars and nervous habits are still noticeable. I know their mother knew about the abuse, because when they confronted her 15 years ago, she yelled at them and said, "There are certain things you don't tell your husbands."
I very badly want to go to the cops or get a lawyer and make their father pay for psychiatric help for everyone. I don't understand why an insurance company should have to pay when the person responsible is well off and able to walk the streets freely. Your help would be appreciated. — Confused with Morals

Dear Confused: We understand your outrage, but this must be your wife's decision. Any action you take without her approval will only create more problems for her, and we know you don't want that. We agree that Dad should not get off without taking responsibility for his abuse and making amends. Your wife is apparently in counseling, which is good, so suggest she discuss with her counselor how to deal with Dad, and then please abide by her decision. She needs you to support her choices, whatever they are.
Dear Annie: My mother-in-law has a social anxiety that makes visits increasingly difficult. Try as we might, we are running out of patience.
For the past seven years, Mom slowly has been regressing to her bedroom. Our children used to have a grandmother who baked and taught them fun and interesting things. Now

she just smokes and watches TV in bed. When we visit, we must sit on the end of the bed or stand around in her room.
I am not a heartless person, but I no longer feel comfortable visiting too often. We are required to call ahead, and most times she gives us the "I don't feel like visitors" line. Yet if we don't come by frequently enough, she calls and chews us out. What do we do? — Torn

Dear Torn: First, has your mother-in-law spoken to a therapist? Would she be amenable to medication? Contact the Anxiety Disorders Association of America (adaa.org), 8730 Georgia Avenue, Suite 600, Silver Spring, MD 20910, for information and assistance. Meanwhile, please do what you can to visit. Mom cannot control her anxiety without professional intervention, so bring folding chairs into the bedroom and you won't be standing around on one foot waiting to leave.
Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "Heartsick Parents," whose daughter went to college and came back a lesbian. My beautiful and very intelligent daughter was engaged and living with her fiancé, but when I came home from a short vacation, she had moved back home and announced she was gay.
Tell "Heartsick" their daughter is the same beautiful woman they raised. Just because she dresses or looks different does not mean she isn't beautiful inside. I almost lost my daughter because she believed I did not accept her choice. She moved across the country, and we did not speak for six months. She now lives closer to home. She and her partner have been together for five years, and I have delightful 18-month-old twin granddaughters (through artificial insemination). I love my daughter and her family with all my heart.
I truly do not understand this lifestyle, but they are as stable and happy as any married couple I know. Love your children no matter what life they choose. It is still hard for me, but it would be harder to live without my daughter in my life. — Accepted It in Missouri

Dear Accepted: Bless you for putting things in the proper perspective. We hope other parents are listening.
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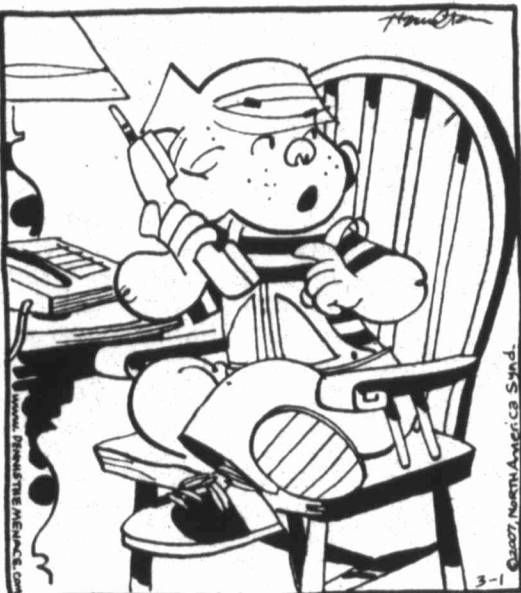
Dear Annie: My co-worker and I always hoot over the possibility that some of the folks who submit letters would put quote marks around the actual names of the peo-

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THURSDAY

Table with 24 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLN, KWES, WTBS, KMLN, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 7 rows (6-12 PM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

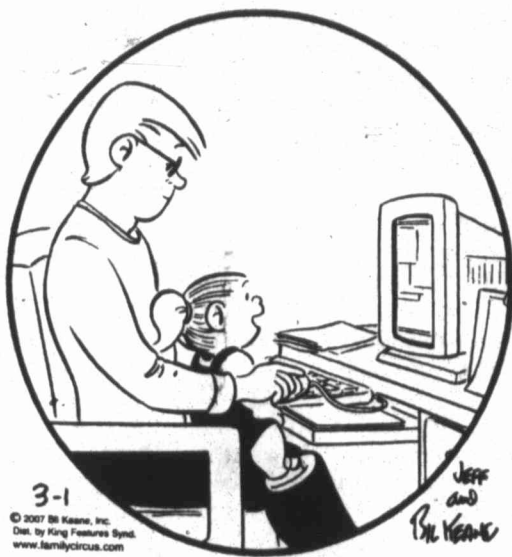
DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S NOT A TELEMARKETER, MOM. SHOULD I STILL HANG UP?"

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"In kindergarten we're learning to cut and paste without even using a computer."

HAGAR



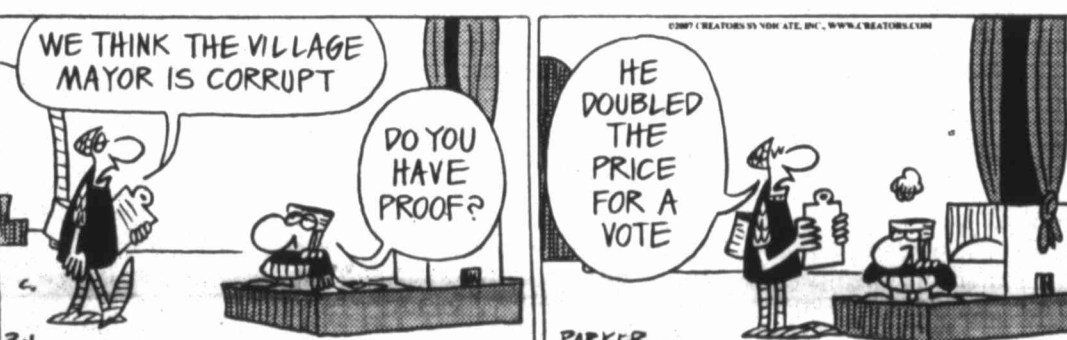
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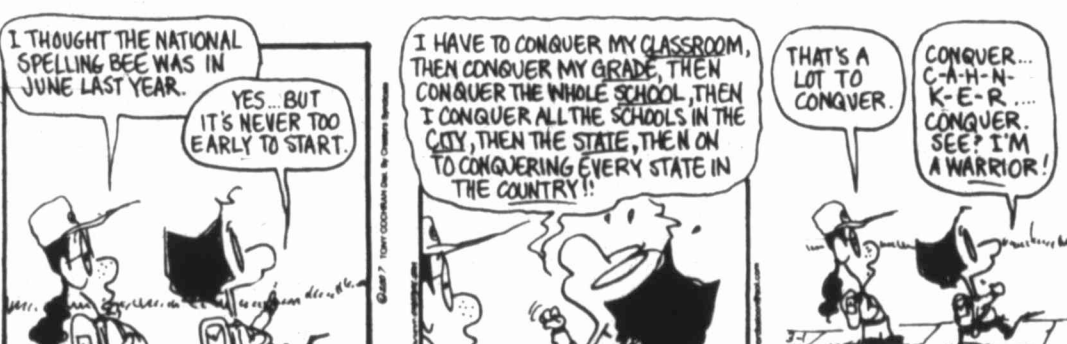
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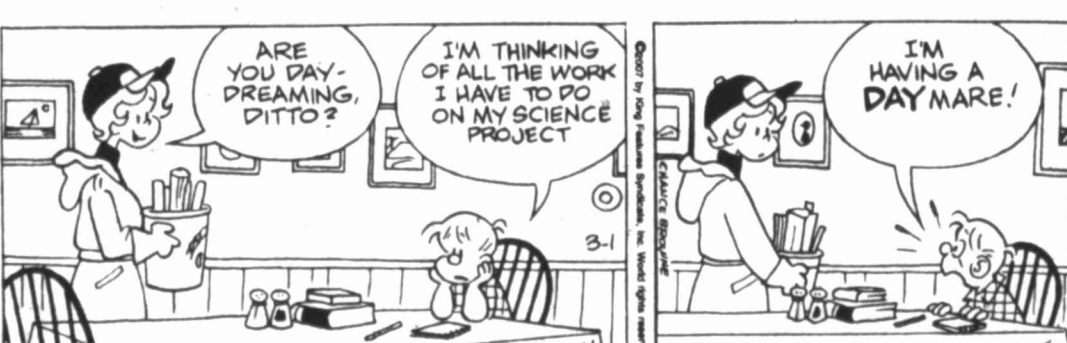
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, March 1, the 60th day of 2007. There are 305 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 1, 1932, Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. (Remains identified as those of the child were found the following May.) On this date: In 1781, the Continental Congress declared the Articles of Confederation to be in force, following ratification by Maryland. In 1790, Congress authorized the first U.S. Census. In 1864, Rebecca Lee Crumpler became the first black woman to receive an American medical degree, from the New England Female Medical College in Boston. In 1867, Nebraska became

the 37th state. In 1872, Congress authorized creation of Yellowstone National Park. In 1945, President Roosevelt, back from the Yalta Conference, proclaimed the meeting a success as he addressed a joint session of Congress. In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen. In 1961, President Kennedy established the Peace Corps. In 1967, U.S. Rep. Adam Clayton Powell of New York, accused of misconduct, was denied his seat in the 90th Congress. (The Supreme Court ruled in 1969 that Powell had to be seated.) In 1981, Irish Republican Army member Bobby Sands began a hunger strike at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland; he died 65 days later. Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Clary is 81. Singer Harry Belafonte is 80. Former U.S. Solicitor General Robert H. Bork is 80. Actor Robert Conrad is

72. Rock singer Mike D'Abo (Manfred Mann) is 63. Former Sen. John Breaux, D-La., is 63. Rock singer Roger Daltrey is 63. Actor Dirk Benedict is 62. Actor Alan Thicke is 60. Actor-director Ron Howard is 53. Actress Catherine Bach is 53. Country singer Janis Gill (AKA Janis Oliver Cummins) (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 53. Actor Tim Daly is 51. Singer-musician Jon Carroll is 50. Rock musician Bill Leen is 45. Actor Russell Wong is 44. Actor John David Cullum is 41. Actor George Eads is 40. Actor Javier Bardem is 38. Rock musician Ryan Peake (Nickelback) is 34.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like CROW, ADAM, OPRAH, ROVE, MICE, READS, IDEA, MORN, ERNST, SERVEONES, ELDER, ARSENAL, SNO, AMFM, RECEDE, SPRIG, THEN, DRIVEHOME, APPOINT, RATA, MENLO, ARAGON, SELL, HBO, BELARUS, ATEAM, SAXON, RAVE, CHAR, OWING, ORAL, HEAT, SLIDE, PENT, SERA.

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Criticize, 5 Praise for an actor, 9 First-rate, in Variety speak, 14 Wahine's dance, 15 "Terrible" ruler, 16 Swiss mathematician, 17 Computer-screen picture, 18 Essence, 19 Animated mermaid, 20 Barnum employees, 23 Thickness, 24 Aerie dweller, 25 Healthful program, 27 Methuselah's father, 30 Take testimony from, 33 Rump, 36 Innocent one, 38 Relies (on), 39 Quick to learn, 40 Sort of duck, 42 Music style, 43 1 or 66, 45 Use, as a key, 46 Atwitter, 47 Ultimate goal, 49 Bicycle part, 51 Franciscan or Dominican, 53 Nth, 57 Org. for Singh, 59 Illegal mailing, 62 Main artery, 64 Jagged rock, 65 Performer of Cheers. DOWN: 1 Pacino's sister in The Godfather, 2 di, 3 In the course of, 4 Old-fashioned wringers, 5 Pasta variety, 6 Budget rival, 7 Wide, 8 Sign up for, 9 Beachcomber's overhang, 10 Miss Brooks, 11 Coach's accouterment, 12 Ship stabilizer, 13 Charles de Gaulle alternative, 21 Chess pieces, 22 Wine choice, 26 Mimic, 28 Songsong speech, 29 Try to borrow money from, 31 Hitch, 32 Catch sight of, 33 Lunar plain, 34 Atop, 35 Stallions' retirement homes, 37 Cabbie's passenger, 40 Water birds, 41 Babied, 44 Popeye, e.g., 46 Something shady, 48 -di-dah, 50 Had a bite, 52 Really moves, 54 Different, 55 "evil...", 56 Cafeteria equipment, 57 Hardly robust-looking, 58 Takes off, 60 Mesopotamian land, 61 Armada, 63 Part of a shoe.

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