



Police report rise in several crime categories

BSPD crime statistics for 2006

Crime	2006	2005	% Increase/decrease
Murder	2	0	200
Sexual assaults	18	18	0
Robberies	15	13	5.4
Burglaries	344	337	2.1
Thefts	741	482	53.7
Vehicle thefts	59	45	31.1
Criminal mischief	447	412	8.5
Family violence	236	190	24.2
Public intoxication	342	330	3.6
Unlawful weapon	19	16	18.8
DWI	86	98	-14
Drug sales	0	4	-400
Drug possession	147	100	47
Assaults	313	83	277.1
Minor accidents	570	413	38
Major accidents	138	150	-8.7
Traffic injuries	201	216	-7.5
Traffic fatalities	0	1	-100
Patrol miles	260,703 mi.	279,774 mi.	-7.3
Gas used	24,704 gal.	26,060 gal.	-5.5
Total arrests	1,486	1,599	-7.6

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The city saw major increases in the number of murders and assault cases in 2006 when compared to totals amassed during 2005.

According to statistics released this week by the Big Spring Police Department, murders were up 200 percent with 2 reports compared to 2004, when no homicides were reported. Assault cases also rose more than 277 percent, with 83 reported in 2005 and 313 reported last year.

"There really isn't one particular thing to pinpoint the cause of the increase in assaults," said Lonnie Smith, Big Spring Police Chief. "I've seen some articles that suggest assaults and violent crimes in general are on the rise all across the nation, so this isn't just a problem in Big Spring. It's a problem everywhere."

Sexual assaults saw no fluctuations between 2005 and 2006, with 18 reported cases in both years.

The number of robberies rose slightly last year, with 15 reported cases in 2006, compared to 13 in 2005, accounting for a 15.4 percent increase. Of the robberies, the number involving firearms rose 300 percent, with one in 2005 and four in 2006.

"A lot of the robberies that were reported last year would have been simple shoplifting charges," said Smith. "However, the suspect made physical contact with the store clerk — sometimes just pushing them out of the way or threatening them — and that elevates it to a robbery."

The number of robberies involving knives fell 400 percent last year, with five reported in 2005 and only one case reported in 2006. By far the most popular weapon, however, was hands and feet, which rose 100 percent with five reports in 2005 and 10 reports last year.

Burglaries only saw a slight increase of 2.1 percent last year, with 337 cases reported in 2005 and 344 in 2006. Of the

residential burglaries reported last year, 53 occurred at night, 79 happened during the day and 105 happened at unknown times.

The number of non-residential burglaries in Big Spring rose in 2006, with 27 occurring at night, seven during the day and 73 happening between unknown hours.

Thefts jumped considerably in the Big Spring area last year, rising 53.7 percent with 741 cases reported in 2006 and 482 cases reported in 2005. Shoplifting saw the biggest jump — rising 251.7 percent — with 204 cases reported in 2006 and only 58 cases reported in 2005.

"It's really hard to say why thefts rose so much in 2006. I suppose you have to point to the economy," said Smith. "Sometimes, when the economy is going well for the rest of us, it's going well for those that decide not to work for a living as well."

Smith said he doesn't feel gas

See **STATS**, Page 3A

Local artisan displays work at gem show

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

By Lorrie Padron's thinking, a little patience and creativity — and a handful of glass rods — is about all you need to make beautiful jewelry.

Padron, the proprietor of Miss Mollie's Creations in Big Spring, has been following that simple formula for the past five years, turning glass rods into decorative beads and jewelry.

She said making one's own jewelry isn't necessarily a craft that takes years to learn.

"I just wanted to make my own jewelry," she said. "I couldn't find the color combinations and kinds of beads I was looking for, so I started creating my own ... I started out making Venetian beads until I got tired of that, then I bought some glass rods and started making glass beads."

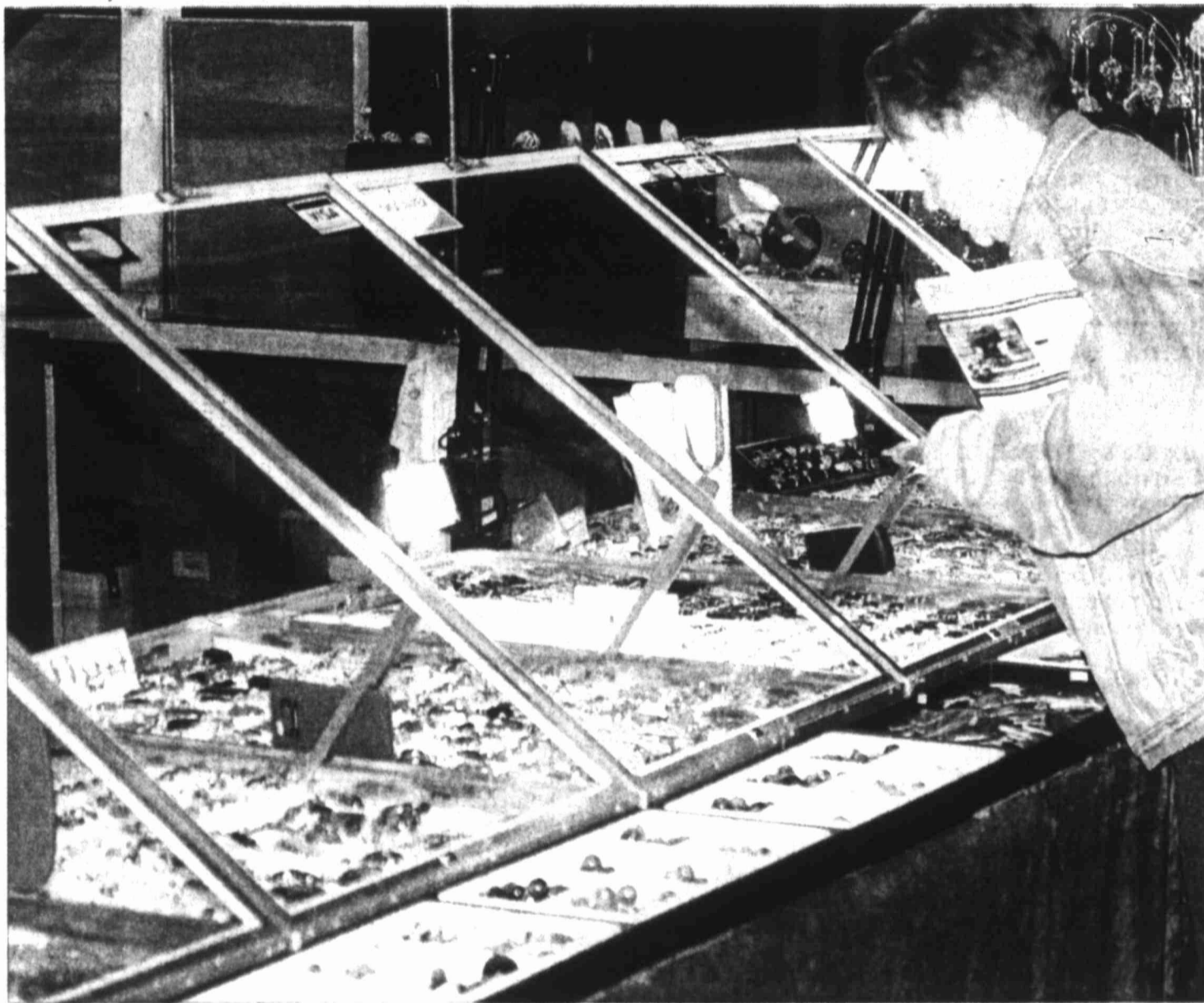
Padron read every book she could find on the subject, browsed the Internet for ideas and took some classes, but mainly, she learned the old-fashioned way — by doing.

"A lot of it is just trial and error," she said.

Making beads can be either quick work or time-consuming, depending on the amount of detail placed on each item. Padron said the process can last anywhere from five minutes to an hour. Multiply that by the number of beads that go into a particular piece of jewelry, and you have a rough idea how much time she has to spend on her creations.

That patience is starting to pay off for Padron, who travels to several gem shows a year, "and that number is growing," she said. "I do arts and crafts shows, too."

See **SHOW**, Page 3A



Doris Carson gets a close look at some of the merchandise for sale at the Big Spring Prospector's Club 38th Annual Gem and Mineral Show Saturday morning at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The show continued through Sunday.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

INDEX

Classified 3-5B
 Features 5A
 Obituaries 2A
 Opinion 4A
 Sports 1-2B



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HC MUSICIAN HONORED

Howard College's Mark Lozano, trumpet player from Big Spring, placed fourth chair of 16 finalists in the Texas Music Educator's Association/Texas Community College Band Director's Association Collegiate All-State Band auditions at San Antonio.

Lozano has also received several full-time scholarships from University of Oklahoma and others during the course of the event.

The concerts on Feb. 17 afternoon were recorded and are available through TMEA offices in Austin or can be purchased through the organization's Web site at tmea.org.

TO YOUR HEALTH



Their business is putting you to sleep.

See Page 5A.

SKYWARN CLASS

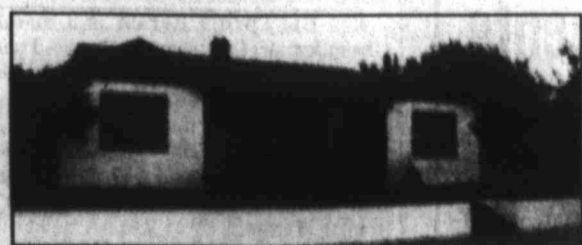
The Howard County Emergency Management Agency will be hosting a Skywarn class from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday in the Big Spring City Council Chambers.

The training is open to the public. The purpose of the class is to prepare citizens for severe weather, a key to protecting communities. Pat Vesper, meteorologist for the National Weather Service, will be conducting the presentation.

There is no cost to attend the training class.

For more information, contact Lt. Terry Chamness at 264-2561.

Council chambers are at 307 E. Fourth.



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Obituaries

Howard Alexander Marlar

Howard Alexander Marlar, 76, of Iowa Park died Friday, March 2, 2007, in Dallas.

Services will be 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2007, at the First Baptist Church of Iowa Park with the Rev. Glen Pearce, pastor, officiating. Masonic rites and military burial will be at 4:30 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park Cemetery in Big Spring under direction of Dutton Funeral Home of Iowa Park.

Mr. Marlar was born April 12, 1930, in Lefors to Robert Sidney and Jessie Juanita Lamb Marlar Sr. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a flight engineer from 1949 to 1953 and left the service as a staff sergeant. He was a Korean War veteran. He left the service and began work for Texaco and retired in 1989 after 37 years service. He worked as a roustabout, mechanic, electrician, head roustabout, drilling foreman and ended his career as field superintendent over the Electra office. His work moved him from Pampa to Lefors to Snyder and finally to Electra. He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Iowa Park and a member of Top of Texas Masonic Lodge No. 1381 AF&AM in Pampa.

Survivors include his wife, Adell; sons, Mike Marlar of Garland and Brian Marlar and wife, Aletha, of Big Spring; four grandchildren; a sister, Dorothy Crump of Everman; and two brothers, Lloyd Marlar of Abilene and Vernon Marlar of Fort Worth.

He was preceded in death by father, Robert (Whity) Marlar Sr.; mother, Juanita Marlar; brothers, Robert (Bob) Marlar Jr. and Larry Marlar; and two sisters, Phyllis Word and Jan Mattingly.

The family suggests memorials to First Baptist Church of Iowa Park.

Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. today, Monday, March 5, 2007, at Dutton Funeral Home.

Mary Ann Andrews

Mary Ann Andrews, 60, of Richmond, formerly of Big Spring died Sunday, March 4, 2007, in Richmond. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Marie Eason

Marie Eason, 99, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 4, 2007, at Mt. View Lodge. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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. Monday through Wednesday.

• **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).

• **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.

Police blotter

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

• **ANSELMO HILARIO JR.**, 22, of 1708 W. Third Street, was arrested Saturday on 12 local warrants.

• **ALEJANDRO FRANCO JR.**, 40, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd., was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **LAWRENCE HARRISON**, 30, of Snyder, was arrested Saturday on four local warrants.

• **TAVIANCE DAVON CLEMONS**, 20, of 1505 E. Cherokee, was arrested Saturday on two local warrants.

• **MELVIN WILLIAM BIDDLE**, 44, of 5203 Sterling, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **JOSHUA ALLEN PARIS**, 19, of Snyder, was arrested Sunday on a charge of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

• **ILESABETH JAEMES**, 18, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday and held for immigration.

• **LOZA VENCES SALVADOR**, 24, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday and held for immigration.

• **ROGELIO VIVAREO SANCHES**, 29, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday and held for immigration.

• **LOZA MONDRAGON ALVARO**, age not provided, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday and held for immigration.

• **INDALECIO MORALES ESPINOSA**, 42, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday and held for immigration.

• **JOHNNY ISAIAS GONZALES**, 18, of 810 E. 14th Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of criminal mischief.

• **ROBBIN LYNN BARNES**, 17, of 1407 Nolan, was arrested Sunday on a charge of criminal mischief.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

• **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported: in the 500 block of Seventh Street, in the 700 block of 11th Place, in the 2700 block of Central, in the 700 block of Settles, in the 2600 block of Ann, in the 800 block of Owens, in the 1400 block of Nolan, in the 600 block of Ridgelea, in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet, in the 400 block of Westover Road, in the 1100 block of Birdwell Lane and in the 1500 block of Runnels.

• **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 300 block of Young.

• **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY - FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 2300 block of Allendale.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1600 block of Gregg Street.

Sheriff's report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 45 inmates at the time of this report.

• **JAMES EVERETTE ROBERTS**, 38, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• **RICKY WINTERS**, 64, was arrested Friday on a judgment/sentence for driving while-intoxicated - open container.

• **PEDRO PAREDEZ CARRILLO**, 42, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of contempt of court.

• **ANGELA SUZANNE COKE MAYHALL**, 38, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of speeding - 53 mph in a 45 mph zone.

• **JON LLOYD MCLEOD**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **DUTCH WESTON BARR**, 34, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of driving while license invalid and driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.

• **ALEJANDRO FRANCO**, 40, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.

• **TERRELL CHARLES FRYAR**, 37, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ISRAEL TREVINO FLORES JR.**, 27, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.

Support Groups

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

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

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

Bulletin Board

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

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

Fire/EMS

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

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3400 block of Morrison. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of N. FM 820. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Pickens. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Fifth Street and Young. Service refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of E. First Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Tulane. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3800 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported near the intersection of 11th Place and Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Today - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Tonight - Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. South winds around 10 mph.

Tuesday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday - Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Thursday - Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Thursday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 25-26-33-36-37-38. Number matching six of six: None. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$50 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 14-18-28-33-34. Number matching five of five: None. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 9-4-9

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 8-6-2

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Child identification kits available at sheriff's office

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

It's every parent's greatest nightmare. And while there is only so much area parents can do to protect their children from abduction, state and local law enforcement officials are offering a special step aimed at home schooled children that don't benefit

from school-run identification programs. According to Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker, identification kits are currently available for area children between pre-kindergarten to sixth grade not enrolled in public schools. "These kits are designed especially for these children," said Walker.

"The distribution is being sponsored by the Sheriff's Association of Texas, along with the American Football Coaches Association. Also joining in are the FBI's National Child Identification Program, Texas Association of School Administrators and Gov. Rick Perry's office." Walker said 600 kits have been provided to the

HCSO especially for children not in public school to make sure all students — home schooled or otherwise — aren't left out. "Kits have already been provided to the area school districts," said Walker. "Those either have been or will be distributed to the students by the school administrations. However, so many students these days are

being home schooled, we wanted to make sure they weren't left out of this important effort. "Each kit contains an inkless fingerprinting card, a DNA swab and preservation envelope, and a wallet card. All information can be completed by a parent or guardian and stored at home. In the event of an emergency, the ID kit can

be handed over to authorities to help locate a missing child." For more information on the program, contact the Howard County Sheriff's Office at 264-2244.

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



Lorrie Padron heats and shapes a bead during a demonstration at the Big Spring Prospectors Club's 38th Annual Gem and Mineral Show Saturday at the County Fair Building.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Four arrested after weekend vandalism

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Two adults and a pair of juveniles were arrested over the weekend and charged with criminal mischief after police officials claim more than \$23,000 in damages were reported at nearly three-dozen locations.

Johnny Isaias Gonzales, 18, of 810 E. 14th Street, and Robbin Lynn Barnes, 17, of 1407 Nolan, were both arrested on a charge of criminal mischief Sunday after what police officials describe as a destructive spree.

"The majority of the damages reported have been to vehicle and vehicle windows," said Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the Big Spring Police Department. "By the time you count up all of the criminal mischief reports from the city and the county, we're looking at 34 reports at this time, and we believe all of them

are related." Everett said locations hit by the vandals include the 500 block of Seventh Street; the 700 block of 11th Place; the 2700 block of Central; the 700 block of Settles; the 2600 block of Ann; the 800 block of Owens; the 1400 block of Nolan; the 600 block of Ridgelea; the 1000 block of Bluebonnet; the 400 block of Westover Road; the 1100 block of Birdwell Lane; and the 1500 block of Rannels. "We also have several we're looking at in the county," said Everett. "By the time it's all said and done, I believe we're looking at about 34 reports that are related to this, worth about \$23,000. We're still trying to sort everything out, and we have a third juvenile we're investigating." Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

STATS

Continued from Page 1A

thefts — stimulated by higher prices at the pumps — played a large role in the increase.

"I think we've pretty much taken care of gas thefts with the pay at the pump option," said Smith. "So I don't think you can say that really contributed much to the increase in thefts."

Motor vehicle thefts also saw an increase, jumping 31.1 percent with 59 stolen vehicles reported in 2006 and 45 reported the previous year. Of those, 42 were recovered locally and five were recovered out of jurisdiction.

Criminal mischief only saw a slight increase of 8.5 percent, with 447 cases reported last year and 412 cases reported in 2005.

Family violence saw a considerable increase in 2006, with 236 reports compared to the 190 reports filed in 2005.

Reports of drug possession shot up 47 percent last year, with 100 cases reported in 2005 and 147

reported last year. The amount of marijuana seized in the Big Spring area almost doubled, as police officials reported more than 202 ounces were seized in 2006, compared to 107 ounces seized in 2005.

While marijuana seizures increased in 2006, it was cocaine seizures that showed the largest increase, with 3.21 ounces recovered in 2005 and more than 76 ounces seized last year.

Other seizures saw dramatic increases compared to 2005, including \$106,383 in property; \$142,754 in currency; \$15,609 in clothing; \$459,480 in vehicles; \$31,752 in office equipment; \$153,082 in radios and televisions; \$27,864 in firearms; \$28,405 in domestic goods; and \$270,997 in miscellaneous items.

The number of major traffic accidents in Big Spring fell 8.7 percent in 2006, with 138 reported last year and 150 reported in 2005, while minor accidents saw a stiff increase of 38 percent, with 570 reported last year and 413 reported in 2005.

Injuries as a result of traffic accidents saw a slight decrease of 7.5 percent, with 201 reported last year and 216 in 2005. No traffic fatalities were reported in the city of Big Spring in 2006, with only one reported the year prior.

The number of calls for service in the city decreased only slightly in 2006 compared to the previous year, with 19,200 reported last year and 19,298 reported in 2005. The police department also saw a slight drop in its patrol statistics, with a 7.3 percent drop in the number of miles driven and a 5.5 percent decrease in the amount of fuel used.

"These decreases are a direct result of us being understaffed in our patrols," said Smith. "We actually had to decrease the size of our investiga-

tive staff to compensate for the shortage in patrol, which has had an impact on these statistics and others."

And while the number of crimes reported in the Crossroads area was on the rise in 2006, the number of arrests made fell 7.6 percent, with 1,486 made in 2006 and 1,599 made the previous year.

"When you're understaffed the way we are, you have to be reactive to crime, instead of being proactive," said Smith. "And when you do that, you're going to see an increase in the crime rate. Hopefully, once we get some officers out of the academy and can get some more certified officers on the street, we can go back to being proactive."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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Marie Eason, 99, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mary Ann Andrews, 60, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

SHOW

Continued from Page 1A

Vendors from Texas, New Mexico and Alabama featured their wares at this year's show, the 38th

annual hosted by the Prospectors Club.

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

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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

OTHER VIEWS

Open records technology is a step forward

Sure, to some people this may seem to be "Oh, get a life" stuff, but for advocates of open government, it's an important step.

The Texas House of Representatives has begun putting copies of bills and their proposed amendments online during floor debates, updated in real time so anyone who wants to can follow the action as it takes place in Austin. Live video of those debates has been available online since 2001, but sometimes the process is a little hard to follow if you can't see the documents under discussion.

The new system is an expansion to the World Wide Web of the computerized displays that have long been available to members sitting at their desks in the House chambers.

Under rules adopted last month, the House also will speed up online publication of record vote reports. Texans will be able to see how their representatives voted within an hour of the votes.

Both of these services rolled out last week through links on the Texas Legislature Online Web site, <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>. Initially, they're in a test phase, but they seem to be working well. Any flaws are expected to be fixed by Thursday.

Over in the Senate, business is still done by distributing pieces of paper. Anyone who is interested can watch online, but (for floor amendments especially) they can't read the words that lawmakers are arguing about. Vote results are reported in the Senate Journal, usually online later in the day.

No newspaper is going to argue against the value of words on paper, but spreading those words instantly by the Internet is an excellent advancement in technology and open government. Secretary of the Senate Patsy Spaw says that her side of the Capitol expects to work on delivering online displays of floor documents during the 2009 legislative session.

When it comes to how government works, more information to those who are governed is always good — and sooner is better.

THE STAR-TELEGRAM
FORT WORTH

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

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- 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

May everyday of our lives involve a wonderful encounter with You, Lord.

Amen

Ending Dems' free ride on Iraq

For liberals like Washington Post columnist E.J. Dionne, it is far worse for Vice President Dick Cheney to accuse congressional Democrats of playing into Al Qaeda's hands on Iraq than for Democrats actually to play into Al Qaeda's hands on Iraq.

It's perfectly fine for liberals to liken Bush and Cheney to Adolf Hitler or falsely accuse them of lying us into war in Iraq to steal its oil. It's perfectly fine for liberals to attribute failures in the federal response to Hurricane Katrina to alleged Republican racism.

But don't you dare question the wisdom of the Democrats' proposals on Iraq in such a way as to cause the hypersensitive to infer you were challenging their patriotism.

Apparently to Dionne and other like-minded liberals, the potential dire consequences of the Democrats' policies on Iraq are not appropriate for discussion and debate because they might make Democrats look bad, or even feel bad — and those are far worse evils than throwing our national security in the toilet.

Precisely what did Dick Cheney — the public servant who Democrats may, with impunity, stoop to any depths to slander — say to make House Speaker Nancy Pelosi so indignant? Well, he issued his assessment of the Democrats' legislative proposals to emasculate our current offensive in Iraq.

Cheney said, "Al Qaeda functions on the basis that they think they can break our will ... and cause us to 'quit and go home. ... That's their fundamental underlying strategy. ... If we adopt the Pelosi policy ... we will validate the strategy of Al Qaeda. I said it, and I meant it."

What's wrong with that state-

ment? If Cheney believes the Democrats' cut and run policies will benefit Al-Qaeda, doesn't he have an obligation to warn us? Not according to Pelosi, who said Cheney was questioning her patriotism.

Not once did Cheney suggest the Democrats were unpatriotic. He said, "I didn't question her patriotism. I questioned her judgment." Likewise, President Bush recently made clear that he didn't view the Democrats' proposals to withdraw from Iraq unpatriotic.

But if accusing your political opponents of playing into the enemy's hands constitutes an attack on their patriotism, the Democrats' hands are hardly clean either.

How many times have we heard Democrats say that President Bush's policies in Iraq are the best terrorist recruitment tool we could have possibly given to Osama bin Laden? Have you ever heard President Bush whine that Democrats were questioning his patriotism? No, perhaps because Bush is quite secure about his own patriotism.

What is the administration supposed to do in the face of the Democrats' relentless campaign to undermine any possible chance of our victory in Iraq? Should it simply remain silent as congressional Democrats, more concerned with mollifying their militant antiwar base and kicking a beleaguered president in the teeth than with assuming the sober responsibility their office requires, try to engineer America's surrender and defeat?

Until very recently the Democrats have had a free ride, slamming President Bush's policy, even parts of it they approved and authorized, without offering any alternative solutions.

Click Here
Now that they control Congress and are presenting actual legislative proposals, they can't stand the scrutiny their plans invite. In the midst of these partisan

skirmishes, we best not lose sight of the momentousness of the issues before us. Questions about the Democrats' patriotism pale in comparison to real issues at stake in the war on terror.

What is absolutely scandalous is that we are seriously considering unilateral surrender in a war without so much as contemplating the consequences to the Middle East or to our national security.

Democrats (and some Republicans) are advocating that we leave Iraq now, refusing even to consider what might happen if we withdraw prematurely. Presidential candidate John Edwards openly admitted as much.

Surely, they recognize the strong possibility that a bloodbath will ensue, that the constitutional republic our soldiers died to make possible will implode and that America-hating Islamists could seize control of Iraq and its oil and convert it to a launching pad for international terrorism.

It is imperative we begin to have a discussion about Iraq that involves more than dwelling on the problems if we stay, but also weighs those against the even greater problems that will accompany our precipitous departure. We must have a debate whose sobriety matches the gravity of the national security issues involved.

The administration and congressional Republicans must not be intimidated by false charges of name-calling from proceeding with a public debate that will force Democrats to emerge from their hiding places to explain and justify the inevitable, devastating consequences of their reckless policies. Haven't they had a free ride long enough?

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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DAVID LIMBAUGH

HI, I'M ART BUCHWALD AND I JUST DIED.



NOW THAT'S AN EXIT STRATEGY.



Insurance: A wart on the body politic

It's very good to have insurance. What's bad is to have an insurance company. How often, for example, do mothers say, "My son, the insurance broker?" Perhaps they'll say, "My son, the doctor," or maybe even, "My son, the lawyer," but the "insurance broker" may make one wonder, "When does his trial start?"

Iraq, curiously, can again help us grasp just where insurance fits into our social framework. It seems that another of the many provisions of the United States inserted in the Iraqi constitution requires that foreign insurance companies be given free rein in the local industry. Insurance there, as here, is a cash cow and insurers close to the Bush administration didn't want to miss out on claiming their share of the booty.

Not that there isn't plenty of booty here at home. Connecticut's attorney general has his hands full dealing with complaints from customers, agents, and miscellaneous abused parties. Our state remains, at least in its own mind, Insurance Capital of America, much as Waterbury remains the Center of the Universe. Indeed the whole

nation is an insurance battleground, but with so many companies headquartered here, our courts are a hotbed in the national struggle.

Symbolic of industry mentality is United Health Group Inc. of Minneapolis. Its chairman, William McGuire, rode off into the sunset in December with an annual pension of \$5.1 million and severance pay of \$6.5 million. Seems there had been some problem with backdating of stock options so he had to go.

This helps explain where our premiums go too.

For all of us though, it is worth reflecting on how insurance companies maximize profits. There are two ways. One is to deny coverage to applicants who look as though they might one day file a claim. The other is to find ways to deny claims that have already been filed.

Health insurers thus try to avoid customers who have ever been sick, and auto insurers avoid drivers who have ever had an accident. Property insurers are similarly staying away from regions that have ever had a storm.

And once you're sick, health insurers often resist covering your illness or your medication, an may severely limit your number of days in the hospital or in rehab. It's nothing personal, mind you,

just business.

In our own household the auto insurance seemed to be getting a little steep recently, for a couple with no accidents, so the local agent looked around for us. He found another company that quoted the same price for a year that the first company wanted for 6 months. That's called a "competitive marketplace." There are lots of competing prices out there, but only a clairvoyant shopper can find them for herself.

Nor can one necessarily trust the independent agents either. Another scandal involved insurers paying agents (including one of the nation's biggest) under the table to steer business their way. And now insurers are taking heat for steering auto repair to certain shops with whom they have a secret deal. You don't always end up with very good parts that way.

Luckily for health care there is a way to escape all this conniving universal government insurance, as Europe and Canada have. (Medicare for All!)

For other coverage you probably want to give your agent a lie detector test.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn. DISTRIBUTED BY MINUTEMANMEDIA.ORG.



WILLIAM COLLINS

By CHEN MA

McClatchy N MINNEAPOLIS night's sleep business.

Sleep centers up to address be an epidemic problems rare plain old lack to complex can raise the tension and s

Nationwide 1,106 accrediters, up from ago.

"Sleep d incredibly most are treat Mark Mahovist and a p medicine County Med Minneapolis.

At \$800 to overnight sleep boom is occurring hospitals as outfits that staffed by c sionals.

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March Women's

Their business putting you to sleep

By CHEN MAY YEE

McClatchy Newspapers

MINNEAPOLIS — A good night's sleep has become big business.

Sleep centers are popping up to address what seems to be an epidemic of sleep problems ranging from the plain old lack of nightly rest to complex disorders that can raise the risk of hypertension and stroke.

Nationwide, there are now 1,106 accredited sleep centers, up from 374 a decade ago.

"Sleep disorders are incredibly prevalent, and most are treatable," said Dr. Mark Mahowald, a neurologist and a pioneer in sleep medicine at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

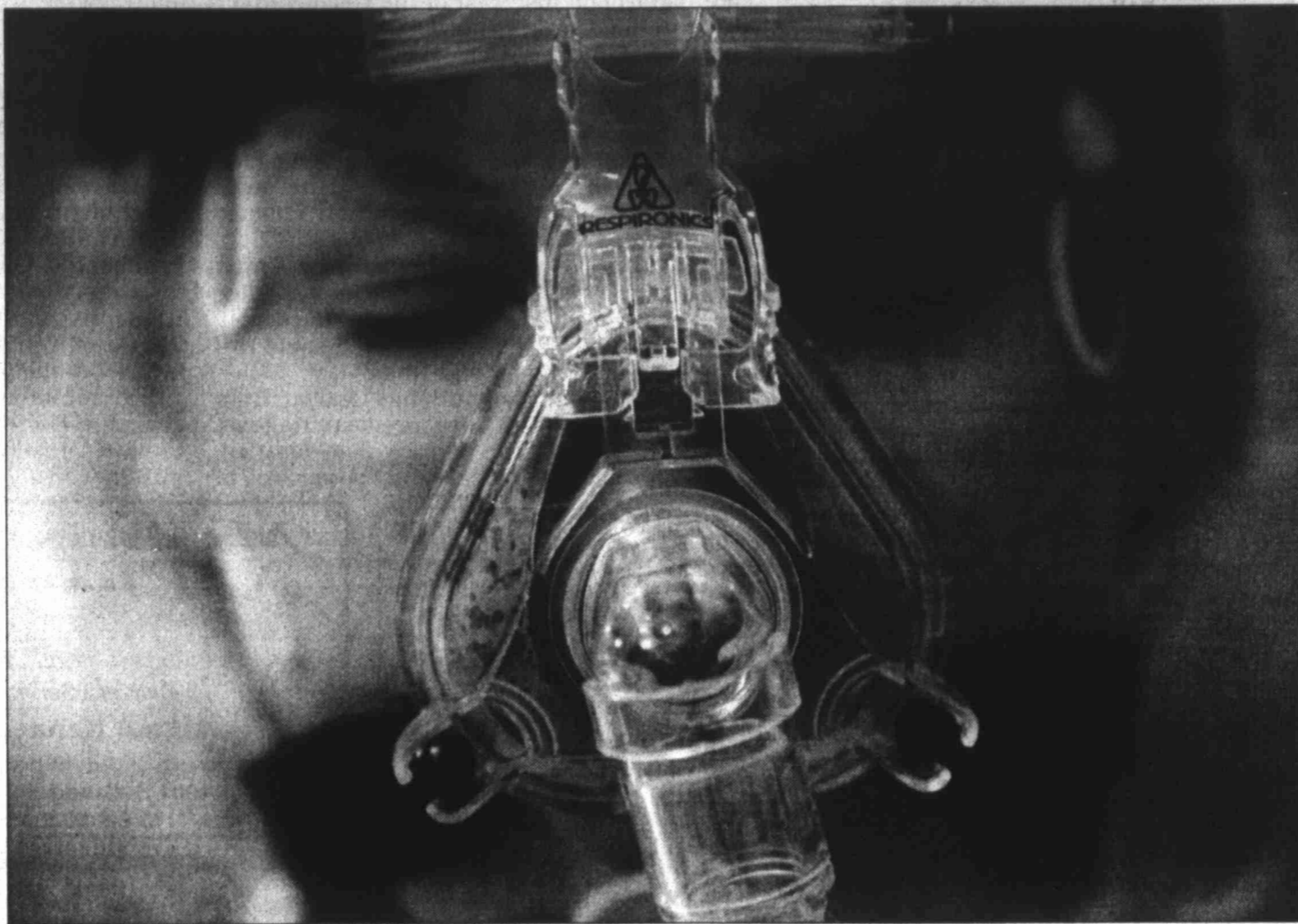
At \$800 to \$2,400 for an overnight sleep study, the boom is occurring at big hospitals as well as smaller outfits that aren't always staffed by certified professionals.

What's clear, though, is more people are seeking help.

Consider Fred Fox. For months, his wife urged him to see a doctor. He not only snored, she said, he regularly seemed to stop breathing at night. Finally, Fox went to Regions Hospital's Sleep Health Center in Maplewood, Minn. In a hotel-like room, technicians attached wires to his head, chest and abdomen. Lines zigzagged across a computer screen — mapping brain waves, blood oxygen levels, chest and eye movements — while Fox slept.

The results were eye-opening. Fox learned that he stopped breathing up to 70 times an hour, sending the oxygen levels in his blood plummeting. When he left the next morning, he was carrying a facemask and a bedside device the size of a clock radio to help push air into his windpipe.

"I can't imagine wearing this mask every night," said



Laura Sigler of St. Paul is test fitted with a CPAP mask during a sleep test at Regions Hospital Sleep Health Center in Maplewood, Minn.

the 53-year-old accountant from Burnsville. "But when I see how many critical symptoms I have, I'm gonna do it."

Sleep medicine has exploded primarily for two reasons.

The first is our culture of 24-hour cable television, 24-hour stores, the Internet and pressure to fit ever more work and play into each day. What's more, sleepiness often is seen as a sign of weakness and sleep deprivation as a badge of honor, proof of how hard someone is working.

The second reason is the growing body of medical knowledge on sleep. Doctors now know, for example, that sleep apnea can increase the

risk of heart failure, high blood pressure, stroke and diabetes. Many people who seek help have obstructive sleep apnea, such as Fox. During deep sleep, their muscles relax so much the tissues of the airway close inward. As their blood oxygen level falls, the brain realizes something is wrong, their sleep becomes lighter and the airway opens again. The cycle can be repeated hundreds of times a night, leaving the person about as well-rested as someone who spent the night holding his breath a few dozen times an hour.

There are three ways to treat obstructive sleep apnea — surgery, a dental device that draws out the

lower jaw and opens the airway during sleep, or the method prescribed for Fox — a mask and device called a CPAP, which stands for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure.

Not all disorders require a sleep study — insomnia doesn't, for example — but they are the fastest-growing part of the sleep business.

How fast? Three years ago, Regions Hospital in St. Paul opened two beds for sleep studies, then went to four and then six. Even then, there was a 55-day wait to get in, said Gretchen Leiterman, a vice president at Regions. When the hospital opened its Maplewood center last summer with 10 beds, the wait time was cut

to 12 to 14 days.

The center's statistics further illustrate the rapid rise in interest: Regions did more than 2,300 sleep studies in 2006, up from 244 in 2003.

Doctors say patients these days come in much more aware of sleep disorders.

Ten years ago, if you told a patient to wear a mask to sleep, "they looked at you like you were an alien," said Dr. Patrick Wright, a pulmonologist at Minnesota Sleep Institute, which has four standalone centers in the Twin Cities area. "Now you might get a patient who goes hunting or fishing with five other guys and all of them have a mask."

A diagnosis doesn't come

cheap. At North Memorial Medical Center in Robbinsdale, Minn., charges for an overnight sleep study start at \$2,400, but insurers often negotiate discounts. Medicare typically pays about \$800, while a private insurer such as HealthPartners might pay as much as \$1,500, said Bob Bryant, supervisor of North Memorial's sleep center.

Wright and others worry that the wider popular interest in sleep disorders is leading to the proliferation of storefront sleep labs that are more focused on profits than cures. Some patients are misdiagnosed, given masks that don't fit well or equipment with faulty settings.

Mahowald of Hennepin County Medical Center said he believes some facilities are skimming off the most profitable part of the business — diagnosis — while leaving the actual care to others.

When Mahowald started the Minnesota Regional Sleep Disorders Center at HCMC in 1978, sleep disorders were thought to be rare.

HCMC's physicians have since gained international recognition for their work on parasomnias, which include sleepwalking, sleep eating and sleep paralysis.

But Mahowald says wider recognition of the problem doesn't help research, since patients are spread over a larger number of centers, making it harder to spot patterns or identify new disorders.

On a recent Tuesday, doctors gathered over lunch at HCMC's sleep center. At one point, Mahowald passed around a grab bag from the expanding marketplace of sleep health — a \$65 tub of an oral supplement carrying the motto "Never Sleep Again" and a flier advertising better sleep through feng shui.

"Feng shui," Mahowald said. "Gimme a break."

A French classic made healthier

American Institute
for Cancer Research

Julia Child introduced us to classic French cuisine, which often meant complicated, rich dishes that now seem outdated.

Today's time-pressured world expects dishes both easy to make and healthful as well. One of the best-loved recipes from Mastering the Art of French Cooking (1960) is French Onion Soup, which is delicious but time-consuming and high in unhealthy saturated fats.

But by using Japanese miso, you can skip the long process of making the classic beef-and-wine stock and still achieve a delicious soup that is easy to prepare and far healthier.

Miso is a basic Japanese ingredient made from fermented soybeans. It has the consistency of peanut butter and comes in many different flavors and colors. It is used as a flavoring agent for sauces, for example, but primarily as a base for soups that range in color from pale gold to deep russet.

Miso's flavor can vary in saltiness, sweetness and even its slightly "meaty" mouth feel. It can be found in most supermarkets as well as in specialty food stores. Like all soy products, it is believed to offer many health benefits.

Onions, so essential to a classic French country-style soup, are linked to a decreased risk of several cancers, including those related to the digestive tract.

March is National Women's History Month

which, for "foodies," might mean celebrating the late, great Julia Child, the woman most often associated with bringing American cuisine to the forefront of the international food arena.

MISO ONION SOUP

- 2 Tbsp. canola oil, divided
- 3 peeled red (Spanish) onions, halved and thinly sliced
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon-style mustard
- 1 tsp. dried thyme
- 3 cups fat-free, reduced-sodium beef broth
- 5 cups water
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 6 1-inch thick slices whole-wheat Italian bread
- 1/4 cup red or brown rice miso
- 1/3 cup freshly-grated Parmesan cheese (optional)

Heat half the oil in large Dutch oven or pot over medium-high heat. Add

the onions, stirring to coat them with oil. Cover tightly, reduce heat to medium low and cook until onions are wilted, about 10 minutes.

Sprinkle the sugar over the onions and stir in. Increase heat and sauté until onions are well browned, about 12 minutes, stirring often.

Remove the pot from heat and scrape it to loosen all the browned bits on the bottom. Stir in mustard, thyme, broth and water. Return to high heat and cook until liquid comes to a boil. Reduce the heat, partially cover the pot and simmer until the onions are very soft, 30 to 40 minutes.

Meanwhile, brush bread on both sides with remaining oil. Grill or toast bread in 400 degree oven. Set aside to cool. Cut into rough cubes with a sharp, serrated knife.

Place the miso in a small bowl. Gradually stir in about 1/4 cup of the soup, mixing until well blended. Stir the mixture into the soup. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Ladle soup into deep



bowls. Sprinkle top with toasted bread cubes. Sprinkle 1 scant tablespoon cheese on top (optional).

Makes 8 servings.

Per serving: 102 calories, 4 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 13 g. carbohydrate, 5 g. protein, 3 g. dietary fiber, 608 mg. sodium.



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TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Renovated Fort Worth Water Gardens reopen

FORT WORTH(AP) — A prayer and the unveiling of plaques honoring six people who died from accidents at the Fort Worth Water Gardens marked the reopening of the downtown park on Sunday.

The park of artistic pools and fountains closed following the June 2004 drownings of four Chicago tourists in town for a religious convention. Since then, more than \$3 million in modifications to improve the park's safety have been made.

"The renovations from the past month don't take away from the mystique and make the park brighter, safer and more vibrant than ever before," Mayor Mike Moncrief said Sunday.

Some relatives of the four members from Chicago's Antioch Missionary Baptist Church who drowned in the gardens — Myron Dukes, 39; his daughter, Lauren, 8; his son, Christopher, 13; and a family friend, Juantrice Deadmon, 11 — attended the ceremony.

Jailed serial child killer eyed in East Texas murder case

BIG SANDY (AP) — Authorities are investigating whether a former soldier who pleaded guilty to killing three young Dallas-area girls in the 1980s could also be responsible for the disappearance of an East Texas girl in the same time period.

David Elliott Penton, who is serving a life sentence in Toledo, Ohio, for killing a 9-year-old Columbus girl in 1988, allegedly mentioned Ara "Niece" Johnson to fellow inmates, said Detective Freddie Fitzgerald of the Upshur County sheriff's office.

The 5-year-old was abducted from her bedroom in Big Sandy, about 95 miles east of Dallas, one night in April 1986.

"We have to talk to him — there is no getting around it," Fitzgerald said. "We have to err on the side of caution, but this information brings hope to a case where hope was all but abandoned."

Penton said in an Ohio jailhouse interview with the Tyler Morning Telegraph that authorities are using him as a scapegoat to settle old cases that he had nothing to do with.

Texarkana slated to be link on high-speed rail, backers say

TEXARKANA (AP) — Putting high-speed passenger and freight trains on the rails between Fort Worth, Texas, and Little Rock would require only upgrades to lines already in place, according to the head of a group working to establish a high-speed rail corridor into Texas.

Although the idea is years old, the interest and need is still alive, backers say.

Texarkana, which straddles the Arkansas-Texas state line, sits on one of the routes for high-speed rail service for passengers and shipping that were designated by the Federal Railroad Administration in 2000.

Peter LeCody, president of Texas Rail Advocates, said funds are not currently available to develop the South-Central High Speed Rail Corridor, so the next step will be to coordinate the various groups to seek federal and state funding.

Second man arrested over video of kids smoking pot

WATAUGA (AP) — Another teenager has been arrested in connection with a videotape showing a 2-year-old and 5-year-old smoking marijuana, police said.

Vanswan Polty, 18, of Fort Worth, faces two counts of injury to a child. Polty was being held at the Watauga Jail on Sunday. Bail was set at \$150,000 following his arrest late Friday.

The children's uncle, Demetris McCoy, 17, of Watauga, was arrested Feb. 23, on a charge of injury to a child. He was being held at the Tarrant County Detention Center on \$150,000 bond.

It wasn't immediately clear if the two had attorneys.

A telephone listing found for a Vanswan Polty in the Fort Worth-area was not in service. A telephone listing for McCoy could not be immediately found.

Laredo police crack down on student scavenger hunt

LAREDO (AP) — A citywide scavenger hunt turned sour for 40 high school students when Laredo police caught wind of the caper and arrested them on felony charges of theft and engaging in organized criminal activity.

Police accused the students — most of them seniors at Laredo high schools — of swiping up to five truckloads of loot from across town. The scavenger list included items such as city traffic signs and pinatas, police said.

"We will cooperate fully, review the case and collaborate with officials to

determine all the facts," said Marco Alvarado, spokesman for the Laredo school district. "If needed, we will take appropriate action as specified in the student Code of Conduct."

Police arrested the 32 adults and eight juveniles early Saturday morning. The students' names were not released.

Officers first uncovered the escapade when a group of five students was pulled over for speeding. The car contained numerous stolen stop signs, a garden hose and other items, police said.

A short time later, the police department started receiving calls from residents who were angry about commotion caused by cars speeding in their neighborhood and stopping at a vacant lot.

Police determined the lot to be a drop-off point for stolen items. Officers then set up surveillance of the area and arrested the students as they came to drop off stolen items, the department said.

The older students were taken to the Webb County Jail, while the younger students were taken to a juvenile detention center. The police also impounded several of the students' vehicles.

Juan Cruz, an attorney for United Independent School District, said the district would review the criminal charges on Monday and figure out what action to take.

A third-degree felony charge of engaging in organized criminal activity is punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. A state jail felony theft charge is punishable by up to two years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Police: Irving father fatally shoots infant, injures toddler

IRVING (AP) — An Irving man fatally shot his 8-month old daughter and gravely wounded his 3-year-old son before turning the gun on himself, police said.

Irving police spokesman David Tull said officers found Hector Rolando Medina lying in the front yard of a home shortly after 6:30 p.m. Sunday. The 27-year-old had multiple gunshot wounds to his upper body but was still alive.

Inside the home, police found Medina's injured son and daughter. The children were rushed to a Dallas hospital, where the girl later died, Tull said. The boy was listed in grave condition late Sunday.

Tull declined to release the children's names.

Medina, who is the children's biological father, was listed in critical condition at a Dallas hospital, Tull said.

The children's mother was gone when the shooting took place and arrived home shortly after the police arrived. Medina and the two children were the only people in the house when the shooting occurred, Tull said.

"From what we've put together so far, apparently there were marital problems ongoing, but nothing that had risen to this magnitude," Tull said. "Unfortunately it looks like it's a domestic violence situation that went terribly, terribly wrong."

Police were investigating Medina for a possible murder charge but he had not been charged as of early Monday, Tull said.

Coast Guard searches for four people missing in Gulf of Mexico

GALVESTON (AP) — The U.S. Coast Guard was searching Sunday for four people after a man called Galveston police to say his boat was sinking in the Gulf of Mexico about 10 miles offshore.

Melquisedec Acevedo reported in his first call to authorities that his boat was disabled. While a rescue boat crew was en route, Acevedo called to say his boat was sinking, Petty Officer Mario Romero said in a news release.

There was no sign of the boat or crew when the rescue boat arrived. One of those reported to be on the boat was a 12-year-old child, Romero said.

Two rescue boats, a rescue helicopter crew, a jet and two patrol boats were helping in the search.

Boy, 14, shocked when gunfire cuts power line

WACO (AP) — A 14-year-old boy was seriously injured Sunday when a power line severed by gunfire fell on the car he was trying to get into and shocked him, police said.

The teenager, whose name was not released, was flown to Parkland Hospital in Dallas from a Waco hospital.

Waco police say the strange turn of events began when dozens of shots were fired in the parking lot of a club. Investigators believe two men shot into the air and the bullets struck a power line, cutting it in half.

The power line fell onto the car, jolting the teenager who was trying to get in it. Residents nearby lost power for part of the morning, authorities said.

Officers were sent to disperse the crowd after getting reports of shots being fired. Police found more than 30 shell casings at the scene.

28 Union Pacific cars derail in East Texas accident

CHANDLER (AP) — Twenty-eight cars of a Union Pacific train derailed Sunday afternoon just west of the Neches River in Henderson County.

No injuries were reported but some nearby homes were evacuated as a precaution when a fire broke out, Henderson County Sheriff's Lt. Pat McWilliams said. Evacuations also took place in Smith County. Residents were allowed to return to their homes Sunday.

Joe Arbona, a spokesman for Union Pacific, said Sunday night a grass fire that appeared unconnected to the derailment but may have involved some rail ties had been extinguished.

Some lubricant oil had leaked from one of the cars. But there were no toxic inhalants in the 28 cars that derailed. The cars were carrying a variety of

things and some were empty, Arbona said.

Greg Morgan, operations manager for Tyler Water Utilities, said the city shut down its Lake Palestine water treatment plant as a precaution because some material spilled into the lake.

Patients at Austin treatment center arrested by police

AUSTIN (AP) — Six patients at an Austin residential center for people with psychiatric disorders were arrested Sunday after a disturbance that led staff members to lock themselves in an office for protection, police said.

Detective James Mason, a spokesman for Austin police, said no one was injured in the disturbance.

Two adults and four juveniles at the center were arrested on charges of unlawful restraint and felony criminal mischief.

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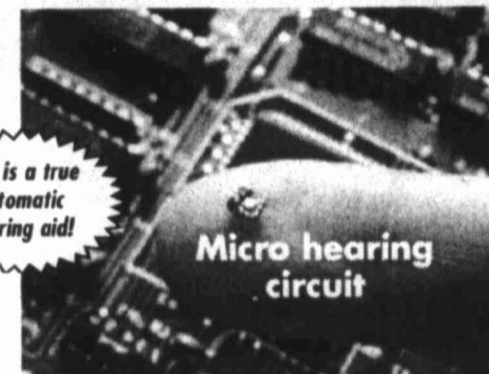
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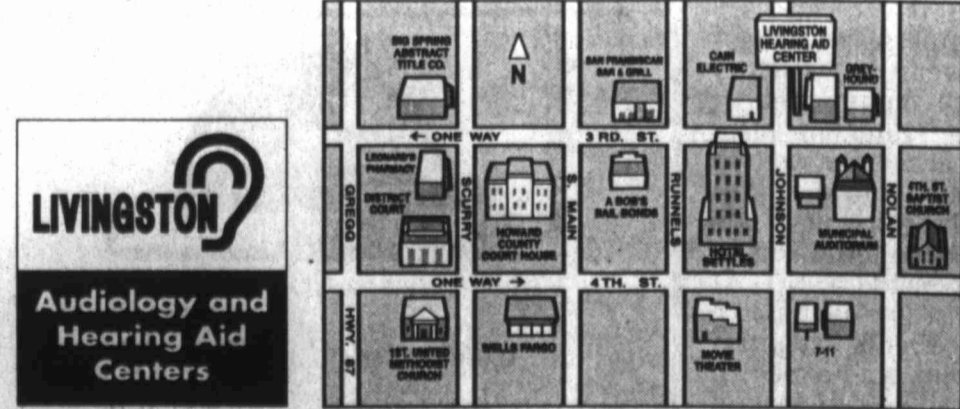
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IN BRIEF

Girls' softball registration set

The Big Spring Girls' Softball Association is holding registration for the upcoming 2007 season.

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

Sign-ups will be held 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.

CGA organization meeting slate

The Chicano Golf Association of Big Spring will hold an organizational meeting for the 2007 season at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Big Spring Bowl-A-Rama.

For more information, call 264-7116.

BSCC scramble winners named

Wally Hazelwood, Omar Sanchez, Adolph Garza and Chris Washburn combined for a 115 score to take first place in the championship flight of the Early Bird Scramble held Saturday and Sunday at the Big Spring Country Club.

Joe Sharpnack, Don Cook, Steve Hedges and Riley Wyatt combined to finish two strokes back and take second place, while the team of Steve Watson, Paul Berringer, Jerry Read and Nick Read won a playoff for third in the top flight.

In first flight play, M.P. Martinez, Mark Gonzales, Johnny Gonzales and Brian Heidelberg posted a 121 for first place, while the team of Jason Brock, Jacie Roberts, Jace Williams and Ryan Rodriguez took second place with a playoff win over the third-place team of Justin Myers, Ronald Black, Ryan Williams and Chad Wash.

James Collinsworth, Kirby Brown, Scott Mackenzie and Brad Roberts combined for a 134 to take first place in the second flight. Second place was shared by the team of Jesse Mendoza, H. Villanueva, Tony Guerra and Pete Guerra and the team of Rondel Brock, Jimmy Stewart, Don Belew and Philip Childs.

Sosa goes deep in spring game

Sammy Sosa had something to hop about for the first time in a while.

Showing he's still got some pop in his bat, Sosa hit his first home run in 19 months to help the Texas Rangers beat the Kansas City Royals 6-0 Sunday.

Bearkats earn own trip to Austin

By GREG BOGOMO

Special to the Herald

FORT WORTH — Up by three points and just seven seconds left in the contest, the only thing Garden City coach Koby Abney told his players was don't foul. The Bearkats didn't get the entire message as they committed a foul on a three-point shot with two seconds left to play.

Rankin's Garrett Avalos went to the line and missed the first shot, before making the second. He intentionally missed the

third, but the tip on the rebound landed in the hands of Garden City's Bo Eggemeyer and the celebration began as the Bearkats held on for a 32-30 Class 1A, Division II regional finals victory and a berth at this weekend's state tournament in Austin.

"I told them between free throws that we probably better rebound the miss or tip it away," Abney said. "I told Bo to scoot over because I saw they were brining two guys from the back and sure enough it ended up in his hands."

Garden City (18-8), which earned the third seed in its own district, will be making the school's first trip to Austin in boys' basketball. That caps a year in which the football team made a run to the state quarterfinals in football and the girls' basketball team reached the state finals before losing to Nazareth in Austin on Saturday. They were also the state UIL academic champions.

"These kids just work so hard in everything they do," Abney said. "They aren't just good in

sports, they are good in everything they do. They are competitive, tough and do what needs to be done."

It was a game that went back and forth the entire afternoon, as heading into the fourth quarter the Bearkats held the one-point lead at 25-24.

Rankin (22-8) took a 29-26 lead on a three-pointer and another basket. Taylor Niehues, who led the way for Garden City with 11 points, cut the deficit to one.

See BEARKATS, Page 2B

Lady Kats' dream dashed

Swiftettes too much to handle

By JEREMY WEBER

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — The Garden City Lady Kats saw their big for a state basketball title come to an end Saturday as they fell to Nazareth in the Division II, Class 1A state title game, 61-31.

Nazareth didn't disappoint on its 22nd trip to the state tournament as the Swiftettes won their 18th state championship.

The Swiftettes bombarded the Lady Kats from beyond the three-point line all game long, knocking down 9-of-19 from beyond the arc while out-rebounding Garden City 34-24.

Garden City's only lead of the game came in the opening moments as the Lady Kats scored the opening basket but Nazareth answered with a three to take the lead and never looked back.

The Swiftettes did all of the scoring in the remainder of the first quarter, using an 18-0 run to build an 18-2 lead after eight minutes of play.

"We were patient and got a good look on our first shot and then it all started to snowball,"



Garden City's Lady Kats pose, displaying the Class 1A, Division II state runners-up trophy following Saturday's loss to Nazareth's record-setting Swiftettes at the Frank Erwin Center on the University of Texas at Austin campus.

Garden City head coach Brent Kirkland said. "When they can hit threes like that, it's going to be hard."

Garden City cut the lead to 10 with six straight points to open the second quarter but Nazareth closed out the half with an 8-3 run to lead 26-11 at the break.

Garden City doubled its point output with 11 points in the third quarter but the Swiftettes added 14 to up their lead to 40-22 heading into the fourth quarter.

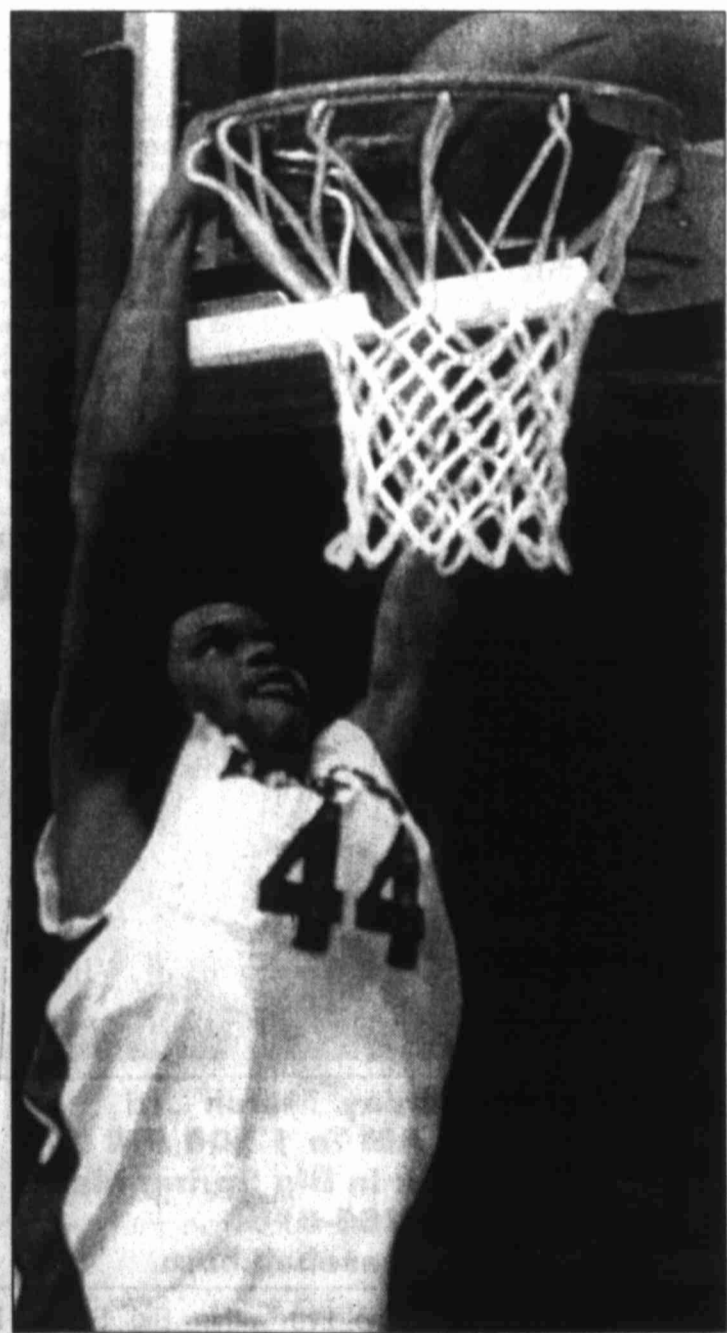
Nazareth continued to roll in the final frame, outscoring Garden City 21-9 to run away with the win.

Garden City finished the game 12-of-48 from the field and just 1-of-13 from beyond the three point line, while Nazareth was 23-of-43 from the field.

Whitney Kellmerleier led the Lady Kats with eight points, followed by Erin Hirt with seven points, two rebounds and two assists. K'Lann

Niehues finished with six points, six rebounds, one assist, one block and the Lady Kats' only steal of the game. Morgan Schwartz had four points and five rebounds; Julie Hirt had three points, one rebound and one assist; and Lauren Plagens had

See LADY KATS, Page 2B



Howard's Brandon Sampay prepares for the Region V Tournament by dunking in practice last week. The Hawks will face No. 1 seeded Temple Friday night in Belton. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Sampay to be asset for Hawks at region

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

For the past two seasons Brandon Sampay has been a fixture in the starting lineup for Howard's basketball team and, according to the coaching staff, he has been model student-athlete who will be missed when he graduates.

Sure as the Hawks take the court in white uniforms with red trim at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Sampay starts at power-forward. In fact, during his two seasons, only once did he not start and that was due to a family emergency.

"Brandon's work ethic in practice is second to none," Howard assistant head coach Jason Sauter said. "Over the past year he has improved his play in the post, become more dependable on the boards and he continues to run the floor extremely well. Everyone we have ever talked to is amazed at how well he runs the floor."

The 6-8, 255-pound sophomore from Inglewood, Calif., is enrolled in four classes at Howard right now, but needs only one to graduate. On the court he is averaging 13.4 points, 6.6 rebounds and 1.5 steals a game — good enough to rank in the top 10 in scoring and top 20 in steals for the Western Junior College Athletic Conference.

According to the Hawks coaching staff, Sampay has been nothing short of an asset to the entire Howard College athletic program.

"Brandon has always done well in the classroom and he has always represent-

ed Howard College the right way on and off the court," Sauter said.

"He's a lead by example type of guy and we're pleased to have him on campus. When he graduates from here, he is going to move on and help another college win a lot of ball games."

Some of the schools that have offered Sampay a scholarship are Wichita State, UNLV, Cal State Fullerton, Wyoming and California, to name a few.

"I've been to Wichita State and I really enjoyed my visit," Sampay said, when asked if he was leaning toward one school or another. "Right now I'm concentrating on the Regional V Tournament this week — I'll have plenty of time to decide where I go from here when the season is over."

At this time, according to NCAA rules, Brandon must wait until April before he can sign with another school.

Upon arriving at Howard, the young kid from California admitted to looking like more of a football player than a hoopster. According to Sampay, the coaching staff at Howard trimmed his physique and helped mold him into the player he is today.

"One of the biggest improvements in my game is at the free throw line," Sampay commented. "When I was in high school I shot 33 percent from the line. After working with the coaches here, I improved to 48 percent last year and right now I'm shooting 71 percent. My next goal is to develop a second move down low, something I must have

See SAMPAY, Page 2B

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Garden City's Bears pose after winning the Class 1A, Division II regional championship in Fort Worth on Saturday. The Bears defeated Rankin in earning a trip to this weekend's UIL state basketball tournament.

BEARKATS

Continued from Page 1B

Niehues then stepped up and hit a three for what proved to be the game winner with 1:50 left to go at 31-29.

In that final span, the Red Devils turned the ball over three times. Evan Jansa then hit one of two

free throws with 17 seconds for the three-point lead before Rankin's ill-fated trio of free throws to end the contest.

"This type of game today is all us ... we play ugly," Abney said. "That's the best thing you can say about us. If it's ugly, it doesn't matter if you don't like it, you don't have to watch it. We

do what works for us."

Garden City made eight of its 20 first half shots as it took a 18-16 halftime lead after Jansa hit a bucket to end the half. He also scored at the buzzer to end the first quarter and give the Bearkats a 9-8 lead.

The biggest lead of the first half was five — for Rankin at 5-0. Garden

City led by no more than two the entire first half.

The Bearkats made 13 of 28 shots for the contest, including just two-of-seven in the game's final period.

Score by Quarters:
Garden City 9 9 7 7 — 32
Rankin 8 8 6 8 — 30
Garden City (18-8): Evan Jansa 6, Bo Eggemeyer 5, Colton Schwartz 6, Taylor Niehues 11, Wade Jansa 4.
Rankin (22-8): Jon Pflug 2, Jason Martinez 6, Chase Epley 3, Garnet Avalos 13, Jacob Schmitz 6.

LADY KATS

Continued from Page 1B

two points and four rebounds. Macy Schwartz added one point and one rebound, Paige Niehues had two rebounds and Brittney Chudej had one rebound.

Nazareth had three players in double figures, led by Lacey Acker with 17 points, followed by Heidi Ramaekers with 16 and Kelcy Albracht with

11. Garden City finishes the season 33-4 while Nazareth finishes 31-5.

Despite the loss, Kirkland said he is extremely proud of what his players accomplished this season.

"I have six seniors who have fought and dreamed of this moment, getting our school to the state tournament," he noted. "This is something they can be proud of having started."

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2	5				3	9		
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♥ A
♦ 10 9 3
♣ J 10 9 7 6 5

WEST
♦ 10 9 7 2
♥ J 10 5 4
♦ 8
♣ A K 4 2

EAST
♦ K Q J 8 3
♥ 8 2
♦ K J 7 6 5
♣ Q

SOUTH
♦ 6
♥ K Q 9 7 6 3
♦ A Q 4 2
♣ 8 3

The bidding:
North 1♠ East 2♥ West 3♠
Pass 4♠ 5♠ Pass
Pass Dblc

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Odd things happen, even in national championships. For example, take this deal played in the Vanderbilt Teams. The four players at the table were all well-known Life Masters. The bidding was not letter-perfect, but it often isn't under the stress of competition.

North was a player who seldom passed when it was his turn to bid, and he elected to open one club. East-West were no shrinking violets either, and they quickly reached four

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

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

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

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

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

Tomorrow: Let's not rock the boat.
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Bloody Hansbrough leads N. Carolina past Duke

By JOEDY McCREARY
AP Sports Writer

Nothing like an airborne elbow and a bloody nose to inject even more energy into one of college basketball's most intense rivalries.

The always-ferocious Duke-North Carolina series found a new poster boy — Tyler Hansbrough, who left this game against the Blue Devils with 26 points, 17 rebounds and one bloodied face.

The eighth-ranked Tar Heels beat No. 14 Duke 86-72 on Sunday, but clearly the lasting memory of the game is that of the blood-stained star nicknamed "Psycho T" because of his relentless intensity.

"It's not like a prize fight where you ask what the other guy looked like," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "He looked pretty bad."

In other Top 25 games, it was: No. 5 Florida 85, Kentucky 72; Creighton 67, No. 11 Southern Illinois 61; No. 16 Louisville 86, Seton Hall 71; and Clemson 75, No. 21 Virginia Tech 74.

The victory helped North Carolina (25-6, 11-5 Atlantic Coast

Conference) clinch the No. 1 seed in the league tournament, and gave the Tar Heels their first regular-season sweep of the Blue Devils in 11 years.

But most of the postgame chatter centered on Hansbrough's injury — which looked worse than it was.

Hansbrough leaped for a layup with 14.5 seconds left, and after the ball left his hand, he was struck in the face by Gerald Henderson's right elbow.

"He got our guys in the air, and I came down on him," Henderson said. "It's unfortunate that it turned out like it did, but I wasn't trying to hurt the kid or anything. It just turned worse than it was."

Hansbrough crumpled to the ground, blood pouring from his nose onto the court and down his face, before he jumped menacingly to his feet. Walk-on guard Dewey Burke helped restrain Hansbrough from Duke's players, and he was taken to the locker room.

The officials reviewed the play and ejected Henderson, then later said in a joint statement that under NCAA rules he

would be suspended for one game.

After the game, Hansbrough had cotton in his nose while he watched his teammates cut down the Dean Smith Center nets. Williams said team doctors told him the center's nose was not broken, and though Hansbrough didn't speak to reporters after the game, point guard Bobby Frasor said Hansbrough calmed down and laughed about his near-confrontation.

"He said, 'Did you see me get up?'" Frasor said. Reyshawn Terry added 15 points in his final home game for the Tar Heels, who avoided their first three-game slide under Williams and gave the homespun coach his 100th victory at his alma mater.

Greg Paulus led Duke (22-9, 8-8) with 21 points before fouling out, and Henderson finished with 16.

Ty Lawson scored 12 points and Brandon Wright finished with 10 for the Tar Heels, who took control early with a hot start before a fired-up Senior Day crowd, dodged Duke's second-half rally and pulled away late for

their fourth win in their last five meetings with the Blue Devils.

North Carolina led comfortably for most of the way before Duke made things interesting midway through the second half, closing to 50-48 on Paulus' baseline jumper with 12:50 left.

The Blue Devils then forced Frasor to miss and had the ball with a chance to tie or take the lead, but Marcus Ginyard intercepted Paulus' pass to the interior.

Ginyard then started the fast break, and it led to a three-point play by Hansbrough. That play started the game-clinching 18-4 run, capped by Hansbrough's free throw that made it 68-52 with 5:14 left.

That led to a win which, coupled with Virginia Tech's loss to Clemson, gave North Carolina the top seed in the ACC tournament that begins Thursday in Tampa, Fla. Had the Tar Heels lost, they would have been the No. 5 seed and would have had to win four games in four days to claim their first league tournament crown since 1998.

SAMPAY

Continued from Page 1B

if I'm going to compete at the next level."

Another area of improvement he made this season, according to Hawk coaches, is the

physical style Brandon plays with in the paint and an improved jump shot around the basket.

"When the time comes to leave Big Spring and Howard College," Sampay added, "I'm going to miss everything and everyone. I have really grown as a player and as a person

during my two years here."

That says a lot considering he almost asked his mother and uncle to turn the car around in Midland and to drive back to California.

"The people here are great and I've learned a great deal here," he said.

"Believe it or not, Big Spring will always be like a second home to me."

Howard's Hawks open play in the tournament Friday, March 9 at 7 p.m. on the Mary Hardin-Baylor University campus in Belton, taking on No. 1 Northern Conference seed Temple.

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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.

AVON WANTS YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!
8 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)

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

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

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)
NCCCO 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

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.

Help Wanted

DO you want a CAREER in which you may retire after 20 years of service?
Join our team at the City of Big Spring
Apply for these positions today:
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We offer EXCELLENT BENEFITS
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Inquire to:
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City of Big Spring, Texas
Phone: 432-264-2346
Fax: (432)264-2387
For more details go to www.ci.big-spring.tx.us
EOE

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.

SOS Staffing

Great Company with Great Benefits. Shipping and Receiving position open in (Big Spring) with starting pay at \$10 per hr. Must have inventory experience.
General labor positions open (Big Spring) with starting pay at \$10.00 per hr. Background required and drug free environment. Call Angela or Gina at SOS Staffing (432)522-2232. DOE.

NEED BOB Tail/ Transport Driver for fuel deliveries. Excellent starting pay with benefits. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels, Big Spring.

Help Wanted

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.

GREATER OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PERMIAN BASIN INC.; Project Head Start has the following position available:
Bus Driver/Custodian: Must be 21 years or older, have a CDL and a good driving record and a High School Diploma or GED. This position is 6 hrs per day M-F and includes a full benefit package.
All applicants must:
Be 18 or older.
Pass a pre-employment drug screen.
Post-employment Criminal History check must be clear of felony convictions to continue employment with the agency.
Agency offers OJT, benefit package for all full and part-time employees. Applicants may apply at Lakeview Head Start 1107 NW 7th St. Big Spring, Tx. Positions will be opened until filled. Applications available on line @ www.gcpb.org. All interviews will be held at the Administration Office at 206 W. 5th in Odessa, 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

Help Wanted

HILLCREST CDC is looking for Part-time Caregivers. Mon.-Fri. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Must have high school diploma or GED. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.

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
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Please come by or send resume to: InHome Care, Inc. 1104 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720.

JANITOR NEEDED 30 hours a week. Could possibly become a full time position. Apply in person at PHIC, 3011 North Hwy. 87.

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.

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.

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.

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Mail: 1814 Ward Street, San Angelo, Texas 76901.



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Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required.
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Help Wanted

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

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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.

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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.

THE MARTIN County Hospital District of Stanton is seeking a FULL TIME NURSE FOR A RURAL HEALTH CLINIC. Please contact Paul McKinney, CEO at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or Call (432)756-3345, ext. 225.

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.

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FOR RENT, 3204 Drexel, \$675. plus deposit, 3 bedroom, 2 car garage, CH/A. Call (432)688-1929 or (432)661-9712.

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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 Maria (432)263-3461.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath, 2 acres, pecan trees, pool, shop, CIRD, RV carport, four car carport, sprinkler system, recently remodeled, fenced. \$150,000.00. Call (432)393-5966 info.

BY OWNER: 2307 Brent Drive, 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, sunroom, inground pool, 3 car detached garage with shop. 2181 sq. ft. Asking \$159,000.00. Call (432)268-9436.

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.

FOR SALE By Owner. Three homes, all three bedroom, one bath. Low down, low monthly. Call 432-270-3140.

FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$49,500! Spacious Must See! For listing Call 800-544-6258 ext F906.

I'M MAD... AT BANKS WHO DON'T GIVE HOUSE LOANS BECAUSE OF BAD CREDIT, PROBLEMS OR NEW EMPLOYMENT. I DO, CALL L.D. KIRK, HOMELAND MORTGAGES, (254)947-4475.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY-- Two houses on 1 lot. Both 2 bdr., 1 bath with a shared 2 car garage. Current income 8100/year. \$56,900. Please call 9432)263-8005 after 5:00 p.m.

NEWLY REMODELED home for sale at 1501 S. Main. 3bdr/2 bath, central heat/air, new paint, carpet, cabinets, tile, laminates & appliances. Call 267-8310 or 213-0775.

OWNER FINANCE, \$4000 down. Four to choose from. Call (432) 264-9907.

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.

Services Offered CHILD CARE in my home. Loving mother of 3 would like to care for your child. Anytime, any day. 2508 Ent. Call (806)549-4484.

RON'S HANDYMAN Roof Repair, don't replace it, fix it. 17 years exp. Please leave message if no answer (432)935-9486 or email: edwaw8@aol.com

Vehicles Several New 2006 Models To Choose From Huge Discounts! Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 11th 267-7121

\$500! Hondas from \$500! Buy police impounds! For Listings 800-544-1092 Ext. A106.

2000 SR5 Toyota 4 Runner SUV. \$10K. Black with gray leather. One Owner, 67,000 miles. Very Nice Condition. Call (432)213-1642.

2003 TOYOTA Sequoia Limited. Loaded, black. \$21,950. Call (432)267-8143.

su|do|ku © Puzzles by Pappocom ANSWERS

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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Libra moon is impartial. She doesn't look at the glass as half-full or half-empty. She instead looks at the perfect balance of air and water that is represented in such a glass and declares it beautiful. This is an opportunity to look at your own personal deficits as being perfectly complemented by your gifts.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You receive so many compliments that you're compelled to re-gift them! Follow the standard rules of re-gifting. Repackage with a nice bow and give them to someone the original "gifter" doesn't know.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Any celeb will tell you there are definite perks to being anonymous. Remind yourself of this when someone introduces you by the wrong name. Then go forward and make an unforgettable impression.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). OK, so you've been a little extravagant lately. But if you add up all the things you could have done, purchased or invested in and subtract the thing you actually did buy, you'll find you're way ahead!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The law of spiritual detachment applies in obvious ways now. By clinging too readily to the outcome you desire in a relationship, you may be blocking something better from occurring. Loosen your grip!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Wisdom is not only a gift that helps you get your wish; it's a gift that helps you know what to wish for. Knowing what to wish for is the key to happiness. Think it over. There's no rush.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your friends are not only imperfect, they're a

little irritating lately. It would be easy to go down the list of reasons why, but what's the point? Make the best of it and move on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Regardless of your age, you wonder whether you have enough experience to deal with your current challenging situation. Of course you do. This is no time to waver. Believe in yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You fantasize endlessly about closing a deal, but when it comes down to the real thing, you're even better than you could have imagined. Kudos. Go celebrate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though you're usually happier bustling around, you can be absolutely magnificent doing nothing at all — just ask the one who loves you most. Rest centers you. You're gathering strength.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A pattern repeats, but this time you're conscious of it. You recognize it and change the ending. This probably has to do with your personal life and a tendency to promise too much. Bite your tongue.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You test the extent of your own power. Relationship tricks that once worked well for you now seem like child's play. You don't need to be tricky. You're confident enough to ask for what you really want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you create something you love, you don't want to let it out of your sight. That's why your current project is so difficult to share. And yet, in order to go to the next level, collaboration is necessary.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Libra, born Oct. 9, 1984. I'm wondering, with all the pain and change I'm going through, whether I will finally be able to cope. My boyfriend dumped me, and I almost

feel like everything in life is going out of control. Also, I want to know whether I'll get over him if I still love him in a way, knowing that he made me unhappy sometimes."

Your Aries moon makes every hurt feel like the first one all over again. But being born under the resilient sign of Libra, I'm guessing that by the time you read this reply in the paper you'll already be interested in someone new. You're friendly, thoughtful, sweet and extremely attractive. Love planet Venus is in sultry Scorpio, suggesting that you've got more appeal than you know what to do with. Being hurt only makes you more worldly, adding to your draw. Your Mars is in Capricorn, suggesting that you're a hard worker and should concentrate on building a career, which will make you temporarily forget about your heartache.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jon Bon Jovi is a rock 'n' roll hotshot who has recently raised awareness and huge funding for Habitat for Humanity, while simultaneously raising his own songs up the Billboard charts. It's a win-win-win-win-win, as several families are currently living in homes constructed with funding from Habitat and corporate partners Sprint and Philadelphia Soul. Pisces interests are always best served by serving the highest good of those around them.

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

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am in my mid-50s and have a very low libido. I'm not a candidate for hormone replacement therapy due to a family history of breast cancer.

I thought men's libidos waned as they aged, but not so with my 63-year-old husband. His libido has increased, and he thinks there's nothing better than a romp in the sack now that he's retired and the kids are out of the house — to heck with daily responsibilities and the fact that I still have a full-time, high-stress job, working long hours and coming home exhausted.

My husband is always grabbing and pawing me, which, at times, is actually painful. I've repeatedly asked him not to do this, because it seems very disrespectful, but he usually makes some caustic remark like, "I have a marriage license that gives me the right," or "Baby, be thankful you still turn me on!" He also tells me that my attitude toward sex isn't normal.

I dread socializing, because he always brings up sex or makes crude jokes and embarrasses me. Recently, at a family gathering, with a leer on his face, he blurted out that I didn't like sex anymore. I was so humiliated, I wanted to sink through the floor. Thankfully, a relative put him in his place, saying this was a private subject best kept between the two of us.

I wholeheartedly believe in a loving relationship between a husband and wife, but everything is "sex" to my husband, with no tenderness or caring. I'm totally turned off by his

attitude and have told him so, but he ignores my feelings. I finally lost my temper and told him to keep his hands off me for good. So far he has, but not without nasty, snotty remarks slung my way.

Should I stand my ground and have some sexual peace, or just give in to keep him happy? — Frustrated in the Mountains

Dear Frustrated: It sounds as if your husband is trying to prove something. We don't blame you for being upset, but we don't think withholding sex is the best approach. It might be a good idea to get some joint counseling and let him figure out why he's so insecure that he needs to treat you this way.

Dear Annie: My mom is moving into an assisted living home, and she and I are cleaning out her house. Mom has quite a few photo albums. She would like to return the old pictures of her nieces and nephews to them or their parents.

Is this appropriate, or would it hurt their feelings?

Dear Annie: This is for "Tired of Feeling Down." I, too, was diagnosed with depression, and medication did little to help me. I was also unable to sleep and even felt tired on the days I did. I was finally diagnosed with overactive adrenal glands. The increased hormone production caused me to feel anxious even without cause. And because my adrenaline levels increased at night, they interfered with my ability to fall asleep or engage in REM-stage sleep.

Tell "Tired" to see an endocrinologist or a naturopathic physician. My treatment lasted a mere three months, and I am now fully functional without any type of medication. — Feeling Rested

Dear Rested: Thanks for the suggestion. Whenever a condition does not seem to be improving, be sure to have a complete physical to rule out other causes.

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KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

We are going to toss out the rest of the pictures since we can't identify them and no one is interested in people or places they don't recognize. Thanks for your help. — Archeological Digger

Dear Digger: It is perfectly proper to offer the pictures to your nieces and nephews, explaining that Mom cherished these photographs, but is now unable to keep them. And thanks, too, for the reminder to write the names and dates of the subjects on the back of the photos — and if you have digital pictures, caption them.

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ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104
Housing Assistance Accepted

MONDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (30)
6 PM	News (CC)	News	Duho de Pasiones	King of the Hill	News Entertainment	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Van Impe Pres John Hages	News-Lehrer	Mega Builders (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Live (CC) Hollywood	Phil of Future Zack & Cody	Women's College	College Basketball: CAA Final - Teams TBA	Star Trek: Enterprise
7 PM	Wife Swap (CC)	Wife Swap (CC)	La Fea Mas Bella	Prison Break (CC)	How I Met The Class	Marina	Deal or No Deal (CC)	Friends (CC)	Updates/Serial Charles Scott	Frank Patter-son: Ireland's	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Down and Out in	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Movie: Holiday Heart (CC)	Movie: Smart House (CC)	Basketball: Big Ten Final	CAA Final - Teams TBA	Star Trek: Enterprise
8 PM	Supernanny (CC)	Supernanny (CC)	Mundo de Fieras	24 (CC)	Two-Half Men Engagement	Zorro - La Espada y la Rosa	Heroes (CC)	Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Golden Great	Futureweapons	Beverly Hills (CC)	Movie: Sniper (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Replacements	College Basketball: MAAC Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: MAAC Final - Teams TBA	Star Trek: Enterprise	
9 PM	What About Brian (CC)	What About Brian (CC)	Cristina	Becker (CC)	CSI: Miami	Decisiones	The Black Donnelly	Family Guy	The Hour of Healing	Performances (CC)	Stunt Junkies	Movie: Carrie (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Soul Food (CC)	Ulo Derek Phil of Future	Strongest Man	Star Trek: Enterprise	
10 PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	70s Show	News Late Show	Noticias Dame	News Tonight Show	Seinfeld (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose	MyHustlers	Movie: Psycho II	Making of 300	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Jamie Foxx	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter (CC)	The Dresden Files (CC)	
11 PM	The Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill	Chocolate Late Late	Chocolate (AI Rojo Vivo)	Movie: Capitan Ron (CC)	N. McBride	Conan O'Brien	Sign Off	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Psycho II	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	In Living Color	Phil of Future Kim Possible	NASCAR Now 2006 World	Gamenight NBA Fastbreak	The Outer Limits (CC)
12 AM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	El Privilegio de Amar	Malcolm-Mid. My Wife-Kids	Show The Insider	Pagado	Conan O'Brien	Updates/Serial Curt Landy	Futureweapons	Star Trek: Voyager	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Comicview (CC)	Proud Family	Series of Poker 2006 World	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone			

DENNIS THE MENACE

...AND WHY DON'T YOU GET YOURSELF A GLASS OF WATER WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, PAD."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"Grandma hummed herself to sleep too."

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HAGAR

IT SAYS "THIS IS A NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH AREA - THE RULE AGAINST LITTERING WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!"

BLONDIE

SORRY I'M LATE!
I HOPE YOU DIDN'T WAIT FOR ME TO START THE MEETING
THE MEETING IS OVER!
THAT WORKED OUT WELL

BC

NO SHINNEYING

WIZARD OF ID

WHAT ARE YOU DOING 'BOUT GLOBAL WARMING?
I HAVE CANCELLED WINTER
"AL" WILL BE ECSTATIC

This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 5, the 64th day of 2007. There are 301 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On March 5, 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo. Said Churchill: "From Stettin in the Baltic, to Trieste in the Adriatic, an 'iron curtain' has descended across the continent, allowing police governments to rule Eastern Europe."

On this date:
In 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.
In 1849, Zachary Taylor took the oath of office at his presidential inauguration.
In 1868, the Senate was organized into a Court of Impeachment to decide charges against President Andrew Johnson.
In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote, enabling it to join with the Nationalists to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.
In 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died at age 73 after 29 years in power.
In 1970, a nuclear nonproliferation treaty went into effect after 43 nations ratified it.
In 1977, President Carter took questions from 42 telephone callers in 26 states on a network radio call-in program moderated by Walter Cronkite.
In 2004, Martha Stewart was convicted in New York of lying to the government about a stock sale; her ex-stockbroker, Peter Bacanovic, also was found guilty. (Each later received a five-month prison sentence.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Noble is 85. Actor James B. Sikking is 73. Actor Dean Stockwell is 71. Actor Fred Williamson is 69. Actor Michael Warren is 61. Actor Eddie Hodges is 60.
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AGNES

I AM GOING TO MASTER YOGA TODAY?
HOPEFULLY... BUT AT LEAST BY TOMORROW. I THINK BEING A YOGA MASTER WILL HELP ME TO KNOW WHO I REALLY AM.
I'M NOT SURE... WHEN I TALK TO MYSELF, I CAN BE PRETTY EVASIVE.
COOL! I HOPE THE REAL YOU HAS BETTER SMELLING FEET.

THE OTHER COAST

THIS SPOON DOESN'T MATCH THIS FORK.
WHY DON'T WE EVER USE THE FANCY SILVERWARE?
THAT'S FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS.
WHEN IS THAT?
THE DAY YOU KIDS FINALLY LEARN SOME TABLE MANNERS.

SNUFFY SMITH

HELLO, SOMEONE NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
HE LOOKS SUSPICIOUS. I'LL INTIMIDATE HIM WITH MY BORDER COLLIE STARE.
KOKO, IT'S A GARDEN GNOME MADE IN CHINA.
THAT'S OK, STARING IS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

BEETLE BAILEY

L'L TATER'S OUTGROWIN' HIS CRADLE, PAW!!
HMM... GUESS I BETTER GIT BUSY IN TH' WORKSHOP!!
THAR!! HOW'ZAT?
WHY DON'T I MAKE MORE MONEY?
THIS IS THE ARMY! IF YOU WANT TO MAKE MORE MONEY, GOTO WALL STREET!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

Newsday Crossword

GOTCHA by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Wedding present
- 5 Saw socially
- 10 Bench or chair
- 14 Norwegian city
- 15 Sad poem
- 16 Author Stanley Gardner
- 17 Stein fillers
- 18 Manicurist's target
- 20 Meadows
- 21 Have breakfast
- 22 Artist's stand
- 23 Nickels and pennies
- 25 Bit of numerical data
- 27 In the vicinity of
- 29 Where a plane lands
- 32 Hits, as with hailstones
- 33 Concerning
- 34 Quite uncommon
- 36 Building add-on
- 37 Beginning "Tiny"
- 38 "Tiny" Dickens boy
- 39 Radio tuner
- 41 Fruity drinks
- 42 Singer LaBelle
- 44 Chirping insect
- 46 Hair-setting item
- 47 Smooch
- 48 Syrup flavor
- 49 Salad-oil holder
- 52 Command to Fido
- 53 List-ending abbr.
- 56 Be very frugal

DOWN

- 1 Hockey objective
- 2 Maui, for one
- 3 Pooch's protector
- 4 Get rid of
- 5 Represent in court
- 6 Assumed name
- 7 Canvas shelter
- 8 Ormelet ingredient
- 9 Coloring solution
- 10 Washington politician
- 11 Important times
- 12 "That's ___" ("Not true!")
- 13 Spill the beans
- 19 Do a farmer's autumn chore
- 24 ___ and outs
- 25 Locations
- 26 Horse's gait
- 27 Mimicked
- 28 Ancient artifact
- 29 Balance-sheet item
- 30 Junky car
- 31 Hackneyed
- 33 South American mountains
- 35 Mideast ruler
- 37 Hardwood trees
- 40 In mint condition
- 42 Balloon-breaking sound
- 43 Eager to hear
- 45 Tampa or Tacoma
- 46 Newscaster Dan
- 48 Prefix for wave
- 49 IRS experts
- 50 Harness part
- 51 Open, as a knot
- 52 Snooty type
- 54 ___ mater
- 55 Election defeat
- 57 Good friend
- 58 Boise's state: Abbr.

BIG SPRING
VOLUME
Ab
Speci
Good
7-Elev
Alor
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