MONDAY

February 14, 2005 WEATHER



TONIGHT TOMORROW 44°-46° 76°-78°

INSIDE



Happy Valentines!

To help you find a V-day date, we've come up with 52 pickup lines. Good ones. Or at least decent ones. All right, most of them are just kinda OK. You try and come up with 52 pickup lines. Heck, you can't come up with even one, which is why you're reading this.

Page 5A

BRIEFLY

Symphony set to perform here

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Keith Graumann, presents, Encore "An Performance" at 8 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Municipal Auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the Big Spring Herald, Blum's Jewelers, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Faye's Flowers, First Bank of West Texas, Heritage Museum, the symphony office, 808 Scurry or at the door.

For more information, visit the Web site, www.bigspringsymphony.com

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Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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

the age of 12.

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

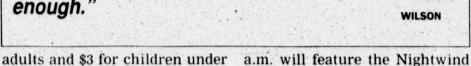
Managing Editor

It's time to begin making plans for the weekend, according to members of Big Spring's Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie No. 3188, who have scheduled a stew supper and dance for Saturday to benefit Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee.

The Eagles Lodge will be serving stew, corn bread, tea or coffee and dessert from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. Tickets for the meal will be \$6 per plate for

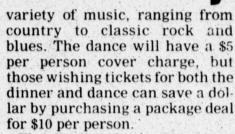
"The fact that the Eagles are wanting to hold this fund-raiser ... to help raise money to keep the memorial the way I think we all want it to be ... is absolutely fantastic. We really can't thank them enough."

Eagles to hold benefit for VMC on Saturday



Blues band. The dance, set for 8:30 p.m. to 1

Nightwind Blues performs a



The Eagles' fund-raising project has members of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee expressing considerable gratitude.

See BENEFIT, Page 3A

JUST HOLDING ON



Patty Blakeney has a hard time staying atop her ride during the Coahoma PTA-sponsored donkey basketball game

Midland woman's Westminster entry has members of Kennel Club excited

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

It stands to reason that members of the Big Spring Kennel Club would watch the annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, which has become something of a cult favorite for television viewers.

This year, however, BSKC members will have a rooting interest in the proceedings.

Club member June Moore, of Midland, will represent the BSKC at the nation's premier dog show today in New York,

when she and Nikki, her the non-sporting division.

Saturday night at the Coahoma High School Gymnasium.

Needless to say, the president of the local ken- Square Garden. nel club is ecstatic at this development.

is the first time a Big this country's first and Spring Kennel Club mem- only ber has qualified a dog for event, and is limited to the show," said Trellis 2,500 entries. The most-Lucas, who herself raises represented breed is goldand shows Schipperkes.

"The Kennel Club dog show is three varieties, have 64 like the Super Bowl of dog entrants. shows," she added. "It's a is really Everybody wound up about it."

Schipperke, compete in Schipperke division was expected to be held today at noon in Madison

proclaims "To my knowledge, this . "America's Dog Show," is en retriever, with 53 Westminster entries. Dachsunds, with

All 165 breeds and varivery, very big deal ... eties recognized by the American Kennel Club cast from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be represented at the

Three newly-recognized breeds will be competing for the first time at Westminster: Neapolitan The WKC show, which Mastiffs, Black Russian itself Terriers, and Glen of Imaal Terriers.

There are also 81 entries champions-only in Junior Showmanship, where young handlers age 10-18 compete based only on their handling abilities.

> USA Network will have live coverage of the AKC show tonight from 7-10 p.m., with a repeat of Monday's telecast broad-

Rebates

Slight increase seen in return of sales taxes

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

Sales tax rebates rose only slightly this month for Big Spring, far below the 6.1 percent hike the state collected.

According to the Texas Comptroller's Office, Big Spring \$443,315.09 this month, up just 0.85 percent when compared \$439,557.20 taken in during February of 2004. For the first two months of 2005, Big Spring has collected \$737,179.14, an amount ahead of last year's collections by 2.55 percent.

January state sales tax collections and February's local sales tax allocations primarily represent sales made in December, but also include some earlier sales by businesses that report sales tax to the Comptrofler on a quarterly or annual basis.

Most area communities received positive sales tax rebates when compared to a year ago. according to Comptroller's Office.

Coahoma received \$5,712.82, up 11.48 percent when compared to the \$5,124,16 taken in a year ago. For the year, Coahoma has received \$8,762.97, off 2004's pace by 4.47 percent.

Forsan continued to experience a strong increase in tax rebates. Forsan received \$6,027.68 this month compared to \$3,774.50 in February 2005, an increase of 59.69. For the year, Forsan has received \$13,061, an increase of 100.43 percent.

Rebates went up 2.74 percent for Abilene, comparing February 2005 rates of \$3,183,663.58 to February 2004 rates of

See REBATES, Page 3A

Auto thieves' favorite target remains a truck

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A vehicle is stolen every five seconds in Texas, and the type of vehicles being snagged just might surprise some people.

The favorite target for car thieves in Texas isn't a car at all.

"Pickups are not only popular among Texas drivers, they are also the top targets for Texas vehicle thieves," said Michelle Lanham, program manager for the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority. "As has been the case for several years, the Chevrolet pickup holds the No. 1 stolen vehicle position.

"Coming in a close second is the Ford pickup. In the third position the Dodge pickup also remains a popular target for Texas thieves. Honda's Accord

2004 Texas Top 10 Stolen Vehicles

1. Chevrolet Pickup

2. Ford Pickup 3. Dodge Pickup

4. Honda Accord

5. Honda Civic

6. GMC Pickup 7. Toyota Camry

8. Ford Taurus 9. Chevrolet Tahoe

10. Oldsmobile Cutlass

and Civic models round out the top five stolen vehicles."

Think your car or pickup is safe because it's several years old? Lanham said think again. "Vehicles are stolen for a vari-

ety of reasons, and contrary to

popular belief, the most stolen

vehicles are several years old,"

and stripped for parts. Others are stolen and resold by the thief to another party. Many vehicles are stolen for joyriding, for use in committing other crimes, to support drug habits or to perpetrate insurance fraud. And vehicle theft costs Texans more money than any other crime - over

\$782 million in 2003."

Movies such as "Gone In 60 Seconds" have painted a highly organized picture of vehicle thefts, but according to Big **Spring Police Public Information** Officer Sgt. Tony Everett, crimes in this area tend to follow a dif-

ferent logic. "Our area isn't exactly a hotbed for car theft rings or chop shops," said Everett. "Most of the vehicle thefts in this area are of an opportunistic nature. You

said Lanham. "Some are stolen have some fellow walking down the street, sees a car or truck and is just tired of walking. They're going to take whatever is around instead of looking for one particular make or model.

"Some of the car rings I've heard of actually take orders," he added. "They will actually go out and look for that make or model even that color — of a particu-

lar vehicle." "Most of the situations we see here are joy rides," said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker. "It's incredibly rare that we have a car simply disappear. You don't see the chop-shop type of thefts like you do in some of the major cities. We see approximately three to four cases of unauthorized use of a vehicle each year.

See THEFT, Page 3A

Maxine Kelly



Maxine Kelly, 80, of Stanton died Friday, Feb. 11, 2005, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services were 3 p.m. today, Feb. 14, 2005, at the Downtown Church of Christ Stanton with Elmore Johnson of Lubbock, retired minister, officiating and Van Pendergrass of Downtown Church of Christ assisting. Interment followed at Resthaven memorial Park in Midland.

She was born Sept. 21, 1923 in Mitchell County and married W. Owen Kelly Feb. 2, 1941, in Seminole.

She can to Martin County in 1938 and was a member of Beta Sigma Phi and the Home Demonstrators Club. She was a member of the Downtown Church of Christ, She was preceded in death by her parents, one broth-

er, Herman Cain and two sisters, Ruby Calhoun and Oleta Flowers.

Survivors include her husband, W. Owen Kelly of Stanton; three sons and daughters-in-law, Bobby Owen and Janice Kelly of Stanton, Roy and Sue Kelly, all of Stanton and Sandra and Eddie Cooley of Midland; her sister and brother-in-law, Deloris and Carey Boyer of Denton; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Margie Clardy



Margie Clardy, 80, of Stanton died Friday, Feb. 11, 2005, in a Midland nursing home. Funeral services were 10 a.m. today, Feb. 14, 2005, at the First Baptist Church Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery Stanton.

She was born July 11, 1924, in Baird and married Derwood Clardy Feb. 18, 1947, in Breckenridge. He preceded her in death Feb. 12, 2004.

Margie lived in Stanton since 1948 and worked at the Webb Air Base as a medical secretary and at the Stanton Care Center. She was a member of First Baptist Church Stanton and also a member of the Order of Eastern Star Chapter No. 409, the Rebekah Lodge and Preceptor Nu Theta.

Survivors include four daughters and sons-in-law, Margaret and Bert Foutch, Susie and Sam Weaverling, Dorothy and Terry Easley, all of Greenwood and Laura and Cliff Sikes of Midland; two brothers, Tommy Ingram of Burleson and Joe Ingram of Fort Worth; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchil-

She was also preceded in death by four brothers. The family suggests memorials to Masonic Lodge No. 951, P.O. Box 1065, Stanton or Order of Eastern Star Chapter No. 409, P.O. Box 132, Stanton 79782 or First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1168, Stanton 79782.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Utah A. Campbell

Utah A. Campbell, 83, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take note

□ ADOPTION AND FOSTER FAMILY CARE INFORMATION MEETING is 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Texas Department of Family and Regulatory Services, 2525 N. Grandview in Odessa. Call Iris Hall-Sanders, foster home developer, at 432-686-2273.

□ HOWARD COUNTY A&M CLUB SCHOLAR-SHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2005-2006 are being accepted. Applications may be obtained from Mike or Jeane Niklasch at 1409 E. Highway 350 or by calling the club president, Dr. Tom Dawson at 267-7911, ext. 216. Application deadline is April 15.

DEREK CHURCHWELL MEMORIAL SCHOL-ARSHIP has been established at Howard College. Donations may be made to the Howard College Foundation in care of Jan Foresyth, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Designate the Derek Churchwell Scholarship

□ YOUNGLIFE ROUNDUP BANQUET is set for Feb. 28 in the Dora Roberts Community Center. Round-Up provides community members an opportunify to enjoy a catered barbecue dinner while learning about the activities that take place during YoungLife club. For more information or to contribute to YoungLife, call leader Shelly Warren at 264-1234.

☐ HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD is seeking financial donations to provide support for children in Howard County who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. Contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or mail donations to HCCWB P.O. Box 3101 Big Spring, 79721.

LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments for 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.

D FRIENDS OF THE MARTIN COUNTY LIBRARY have scheduled a used book sale from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. every Thursday in the new building across from the White Ford Motor Company, near the post office. The sale benefis the restoration of a library building. For more information contact Bud Lindsey at 756-2306.

Police blotter

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

 JESSE ROY PEREZ, 34, 407 Sunset, was arrested on Howard County warrants.

• RICKY WINTER, 51, 309 N.W. 9th St., was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

JOSE ISABEL TORRES, 45, Lamesa, was arrested

on a charge of public intoxication. • MELISSA GUADALUPE GOMEZ, 24, 1604 E. 16th St., was arrested on a charge of assault/family vio-

 ANDREA RUIZ, 17, 1905 Wasson Rd., was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass.

 JAMES PERRY, 38, 1409 E. 11th Pl., was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• BRANDY LYNN BRUCE, 28, 1300 Harding St., was arrested on Howard County and local warrants.

 STEVE RODRIGUEZ, 23, 538 Westover Dr., was arrested on Howard County warrants.

· IRENE HINOJOSA, 42, 3910 Highway 350, was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

· RANDALL SHANE MOMAN, 25, Baytown, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspend-

 ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported on the 1600 block of 16th Street and the 500 block of Johnson Street.

ASSAULT was reported on the 300 block of Edwards, the 600 block of Sixth Street and the 300 block of Tulane Drive.

 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported on the 600 block of Ninth Street.

 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported on the 3900 block of Hamilton, the 1900 block of Wasson Road, the 400 block of Fifth Street and the 2900 block of W. Highway 80.

 DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED /INVALID was reported on the 1200 block of Third Street and 1100 block of 11th Place.

 POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported on the 1800 block of Gregg Street. POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARA-

PHERNALIA was reported on the 400 block of Interstate 20 Service Road.

 VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported on the 600 block of Ninth Street.

 THEFT was reported on the 1100 block of Lamesa Highway (three reports), the 1800 block of Gregg Street and the 900 block of Willia Street.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Saturday:

 CREDIT CARD ABUSE was reported at an undisclosed location.

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported on the 3900 block of Old Gail Highway and the 300 block of Davis Road.

· THEFT was reported on the 1800 block of Old Colorado City Highway.

· RICKY WINTERS, 51, was transferred from the Big Spring Police Department after his arrest on a charge of driving while intoxicated/open container.

• JESSE ROY PEREZ, 37, was transferred from the BSPD after his arrest on a charge of terroristic

· JIMMY JOE SANCHEZ, 27, began serving his sentence after being convicted of driving while intox-

· ROSALYNN DENISE YOUNG, 34, was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on a charge of theft

JUNIOR JONES, 18, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify.

 SHANE BRIM, 31, was transferred from the BSPD after his arrest on a charge of cruelty to animals.

 RANDALL SHANE MOMAN, 25, was transferred from the BSPD after his arrest on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid. MICHAEL ROY ROBERSON, 21, was transferred

from the BSPD after his arrest on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

 BRANDY LYNN BRUCE, 28, was transferred from the BSPD after her arrest on a charge of cruelty to ani-

 STEVE RODRIGUEZ, 23, was arrested on two charges of forgery, bondsman off bond for criminal trespass, and unlawful restraint.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-24-36-44. Bonus Ball: 14. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$9 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-15-22-25-32. Number matching five of five: 3.

Prize per winner: \$12,434. Winning tickets sold in: Beaumont, Bryan and

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night:

Coronado Hills Apartments

1 Bedroom - \$350 • 2 Bedroom - \$450 • 3 Bedroom - \$550

801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500

Big Spring, Texas 79720

Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn. 2-3 Bedroom



"Remember ... you deserve the best!!"

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

· The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

 Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

• 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. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

 Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the La Posada Restaurant.

• DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.

· Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.

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

TUESDAY

 Intermediate Line Dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628.

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

· A Stitchin' Time Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Everyone is invited to learn and share sewing skills, and portable sewing machines are welcome. Call Kay Sikes at 394-4835 for more information.

· Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

 Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at 1st and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.

 Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.

 Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, · Big Spring Chapter 67 Order of the Eastern Star

WEDNESDAY

· Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.

· Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.

· Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.

Weather

Today - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.

South winds 10 to 15 mph. Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.

Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night — Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday - Mostly cloudy. Much cooler. Highs in

the lower 50s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Wednesday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent

chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s.

Thursday — Cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the lower 50s.

Thursday night — Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. Lows in the upper 30s. Friday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of

thunderstorms. Highs around 60. Friday night — Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the lower 40s. The chance of rain is 20 per-

Saturday — Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Saturday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower

Sunday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Reflecting A Proud Community

432-263-7335 432-263-7331

(Main switchboard)

(Circulation calls only)

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Susanne Reed John A. Mosele Angle Worley Tony Hernande Dianne Marque

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Monday, Febr

BIG SPRING H

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Sergeant from while rescuin ABILENE (A from Dyess Air in Iraq while t

from a military

canal, Dyess of Staff Sgt. Ray with the 7t Squadron at th said Lt. Eliza Dyess public a hometown we Abilene Repor Monday online

Rangel was fo disappeared w soldiers after a canal, said 1st Dyess spokesm

The Defense Forces Press Se U.S. military Sunday accide near, Balad, I Baghdad.

Five military rescues were tal. All were ex according to th The accident gated Monday.

Thousands of units saved

HOUSTON Houston blood about 6,000 un fighters battle gutted the ban About 500 p

destroyed aft **Shores Region** "Everybody posed to do. center preside Houston Chi Monday's onli more importa

No one was night fire, w warehouse. cause to an elter was to re Monday. The fire ala

were testing

REBATE

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\$3,098,584.25. Abilene ha \$5,217,056.68, cent.

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> percent. Brownfield \$93,973.21 t compared to year ago, for of 7.28 perce year, Brow taken in \$14

BENEF

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"That reall prise me," "My underst has had this lem for s€ because of t tru

Gale's Suu Saturday - 1 Hrs. Mon-Fri

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Sergeant from Dyess AFB dies while rescuing soldiers in Iraq

ABILENE (AP) - A staff sergeant from Dyess Air Force Base died Sunday in Iraq while trying to rescue soldiers from a military vehicle that rolled into a canal, Dyess officials said.

Staff Sgt. Ray Rangel was a firefighter with the 7th Civil Engineering Squadron at the air base near Abilene, said Lt. Elizabeth Campanile of the Dyess public affairs office. His age and hometown were not released, the Abilene Reporter-News reported in its Monday online edition.

Rangel was found a few hours after he disappeared while working to rescue soldiers after a Humvee rolled into the canal, said 1st Lt. Brandon Pollachek, a Dyess spokesman.

The Defense Department's American Forces Press Service reported that three U.S. military personnel died in the Sunday accident while on combat patrol near Balad, Iraq, 50 miles north of

Five military personnel who attempted rescues were taken to a military hospital. All were expected to return to duty, according to the report.

The accident was still being investigated Monday.

Thousands of blood bank's units saved following fire

HOUSTON (AP) — The staff at a Houston blood bank scrambled to save about 6,000 units of stored blood as firefighters battled a four-alarm blaze that gutted the bank warehouse.

About 500 pints of blood had to be destroyed after the fire at the Gulf Shores Regional Blood Center.

"Everybody did what they were supposed to do. There was no panic," the center president, Bill Teague, told the Houston Chronicle for a story in Monday's online edition. "Our people are more important than 500 units of blood."

No one was injured in the Saturday night fire, which was limited to the warehouse. Investigators traced the cause to an electrical problem. The center was to remain closed for cleanup

The fire alarm sounded as employees were testing the 500 units of blood and

behind.

The blood had to be destroyed because it was exposed to temperatures higher than allowed. However, the staff was able to rescue about 6,000 units of stored blood, a three-day supply.

The center serves more than 200 hospitals and health care facilities.

"That supply was never in jeopardy," Teague said. "It was only out of the refrigerator a couple of hours and it was in really good shipping containers that were well-monitored."

Teague also said the center's blood-collection efforts were not affected seriously by the fire.

"We've been supplying blood throughout the process," he said. "We haven't missed a beat in terms of taking care of hospitals."

He said, however, that the center will not draw or test any blood until their equipment is checked for damage.

"We were told that some ingredients in smoke has a negative effect on computers," he said. "We have to have representatives from the manufacturer of the machines come in and tell us if it works properly."

He said they can ask other blood centers for help if needed.

"That resource sharing goes on all the time," he said. "Lots of different places are ready, able and willing to ship (blood)."

Investigation continues into Haltom City teen's death

HALTOM CITY (AP) - Police have arrested one man on a charge of hindering apprehension as they continue their investigation into the death of a-14-yearold girl found stabbed, bound and gagged in the playground of her apartment complex.

Meanwhile, police said Gustavo Flores, 19, remains a person of interest in their investigation of the death of Lan Thuan Bui. Detective Terry Stayer said police also are looking at others as the investigation continues.

Flores, who was arrested on an unrelated assault charge last week, has told investigators he wasn't in town the day Lan's body was found. Two of Lan's friends discovered her body last Monday in the courtyard of their apartment complex in this Fort Worth suburb.

Police have charged Flores' stepfather,

evacuated the center, leaving the blood Laverne Pratt, with hindering the apprehension of a suspect. Pratt has told police Flores was involved in Lan's death, Stayer said.

Pratt remained in police custody Monday.

Police said Sunday they have no motive in the murder and were searching areas near the apartment complex for a weapon. The Secret Service and the Texas Rangers are alding the small police department in the investigation.

Police on Sunday also said they don't believe there is any connection between the death and gang ties that Lan's father, Phu Bui, 43, had before he went to prison to serve a 99-year sentence in the 1991 stabbing of a Watauga man.

Meanwhile, about 250 people gathered Saturday to say goodbye to the teen, remembered for her smile, athleticism and interest in forensic science and crime shows.

Lan was a freshman at Trimble Tech High School in Fort Worth, where she was studying forensic science in the school's health and science technology program.

Mourners filing by the girl's white casket left behind a fuzzy stuffed frog, nail polish, student ID cards, pictures and

She played soccer, football and other sports, and she enjoyed chatting on the phone and listening to music, friends said.

"When I saw her, she was pretty much always smiling," Victory Baptist Church youth minister Cole Etheridge said at the service.

Abuse survivors, advocates use holiday to campaign for funding

AUSTIN (AP) - About 200 domestic abuse survivors and their advocates are marking Valentine's Day by lobbying at the state Capitol for continued funding for abuse shelters.

The state has proposed that domestic violence shelters be funded from the general revenue budget for the next two years. The shelters have been funded from the attorney general's Crime Victims' Compensation Fund, which has seen a dwindling surplus.

The victims' fund was created in 1979 to aid crime victims with anything from lost wages to funeral expenses. Over the past five years, it has been tapped for programs such as domestic abuse shel-

ters, foster care payments and the state's Adult Protective Services agency.

"They just can't cut our funding," said Julie Miller, a former abuse victim who works at Brighter Tomorrows, which operates three Dallas-area shelters. Without help, Miller said abuse victims will remain in abusive situations "and they're going to be killed, or they're going to end up on the streets.'

Miller said she would distribute brochures to state lawmakers in Austin. asking them to protect the funding.

Domestic violence programs received about \$40 million last year for shelter, counseling, food and preventive services. The money came from a \$180 million surplus in the victims' fund. The surplus is expected to only be \$46.5 million for the next two-year budget cycle. Some lawmakers say the fund, financed mainly from court fees, could be insolvent by next year.

"We are grateful they put us in the general revenue at full funding, but that's not protected," said Sheryl Cates, executive director of the Texas Council on Family Violence. "Everybody will be looking at that pile of money.'

Gay couples exchange vows at Houston church Sunday

HOUSTON (AP) — Even though Texas does not acknowledge same-sex marriages, 42 Houston gay and lesbian couples gathered over the weekend and exchanged vows as part of a national

"It's sad that we can't have a day like this every day, hosted by every church," said the Rev. Dwayne Johnson, pastor of Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, the site of Saturday's ceremony.

The ceremony was part of "Freedom to Marry Week," during which same-sex couples from across the country are expected to draw attention to the issue of gay marriage.

No opponents of homosexual marriage protested the event Saturday.

The mass ceremony comes a year after President Bush called for a constitutional amendment stipulating marriages are unions between a man and woman, and as state after state has moved to entrench bans on same-sex marriages. In Texas, state Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, says he'll push this year for a constitutional amendment essentially barring gay and lesbian marriages.

REBATES

Continued from Page 1A

\$3.098,584.25. For the year, Abilene has received \$5,217,056.68, up 4.95 percent.

. Andrews enjoyed a significant increase. The \$102,264.38 received this month is a 17.74 percent increase compared to the \$86,849.58 collected in February 2004. For the year, Andrews has collected \$169,584.58, up 17.07 percent.

Brownfield took in \$93,973.21 this month compared to \$87,588.45 a year ago, for an increase of 7.28 percent. For the year, Brownfield has taken in \$149,327.74, an

increase of 7.43 percent.

Colorado City collected \$44,825.68 for February February 2004. For the 2005. That's a 13.71 per- year, Kermit has received \$3,674,326.62 this month, \$91,334.56 this month, a percent. cent increase over the \$55,482.50, 0.55 percent up 6.77 percent compared whopping 23.58 percent \$49,091.62 the Martin County seat collected in February 2004. For the year, Colorado City has collected \$86,085.03, up 9.47 percent.

Fort Stockton was one of the few cities which witnessed a drop in tax rebates. Fort Stockton collected \$139,391.83 this month, 4.32 percent less than the \$145,689.61 taken in during February 2004. For the year, Fort Stockton has received \$245,549.10, up a scant 0.47 percent.

\$29,591.15 received in year,

\$31,775.02 received in over a year ago.

Lamesa took \$103,435.28 this month, an increase of 10.27 percent when compared to the \$93,795.62 received in February of 2004. For the year, the Dawson County has received seat \$165,097.98, up 7.57 percent.

Lubbock, which increased its sales tax from 1.25 to 1.5 cents in November, saw rebates this month. The city received \$4,567,173.94, Kermit also had a deficit compared to \$3,520,467.40 month, comparing the in February 2004. For the Lubbock

30.76 percent.

Midland collected' to the \$2,504,623.99 collected a year ago. For the Midland has year. received \$4,438,231.21, up 11.22 percent.

Monahans saw rebates soar 16.4 percent, comparing this months collections of \$101,524.54 to February 2004's \$87,218.65. For the first two months to of 2005, Monahans has received in February received \$163,251.90, an increase of 8.1 percent.

·Odessa received increase by 29.73 percent \$1,834,012.40 this month, a 7.72 percent increase when compared to the \$1,702,528.49 received in February 2004. For the vear. Odessa as received

February 2005 to the received \$7,464,802.63, up \$2,957,652.12, up 9.05 percent.

Pecos collected the \$73,905.67 received in February 2004.

For the year, Pecos has collected \$155,061.76, up 22.74 percent.

San Angelo managed \$1,695,687.33 in the year's second month, down 1.66 percent when compared the \$1,724,539.42 2004. For the year, the Tom Green county seat has collected \$2,821,296.56, up a scant 1.22 percent.

Snyder collected \$172,026.04 this month, 10.74 percent less than the \$192,748.58 the Scurry County seat received in February 2004. For the year, Snyder has received \$287,059.52, down 12.77

Stanton, which raised its tax from 1 cent to 1.75 cents in November, experienced a jump of 101.84 percent in sales tax. The Martin County seat collected \$28,790.81 this February compared to \$14,263.77 a year ago. For the year, Stanton has received \$45,990.22, up 97.47 percent.

Sweetwater also had a strong start to 2004, receiving \$254,093.83, a 25.56 percent hike when compared to \$202,366.27 in February 2004.

The Nolan County seat has received \$409,674.14, up 16.69 percent.

BENEFIT

Continued from Page 1A

"We're obviously extremely appreciative that the Eagles have decided to do this," said VMC President Gene Wilson. "The fact that the Eagles are wanting to hold this fund-raiser ... to help raise money to keep the memorial the way I think we all want it to be ... is absolutely fantastic.

them enough."

paramount importance because the committee the memorial that draws nation. Money is constantly needed for upkeep of the memorial.

And while any members of the VMC put their own money into that effort, they can't muster all the funds needed.

"We constantly need

We really can't thank money just to keep the memorial kept up," The fundraiser is of explained VMC member Jerry Groves. "A lot of the members of the comneeds help in maintaining mittee put a bunch of their own money into visitors from all over our maintaining the memorial, but there's no way we can do this by ourselves. We need help from the community. Luckily, the community has always responded.

> "It costs us a minimum of \$3,000 per year just to pay our utility bills," he

added. "And that doesn't include materials and equipment needed to keep the grounds and do essential maintenance. That's why it's such a blessing for us when groups like the Eagles want to help us out like this." All proceeds from the

used by the committee to maintain the memorial's grounds. Both Wilson and Groves

dinner and dance will be

also lauded Eagles Lodge members' interest in help-

ing the committee, noting that the supper and dance still allows the VMC to have the two fund-raising events the committee is allowed to hold each year by law. "Our charter as a tax-

exempt organization limits the number of fundraisers we can have each year, so we're doubly appreciative that the Eagles are taking on this project," Wilson said.

Those who will be unable attend to

Saturday's supper and dance but still want to help support the upkeep and maintenance of the memorial can do so by making make a taxdeductible contribution by mailing their donation to: Vietnam Memorial Committee, P.O. Box 2854, Big Spring 79720.

Managing Editor John A. Moseley can be contacted by calling 263-7331, ext. 230, or by e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com

THEFT

Continued from Page 1A

with very little change from year to year." Walker said Chevrolet

pickups making the top spot in Texas doesn't come as a surprise at all. "That really doesn't sur-

prise me," said Walker. "My understanding is GM has had this same problem for several years because of the way their are made. I

Gale's Sweet Shoppe Vow Serving Sandwiches Or Saturday - 11 am - 2:30 pm Hrs. Mon-Fri., 8 am - 5 pm

remember talking to a kid who literally explained how to break into a GM truck. He was just a little kid, and if he knows about this then you can bet the crooks know too. It's a basic defect in the design of the vehicle and its locks."

Coming in at sixth place was the GMC pickup, with the Toyota Camry following in seventh and the Ford Taurus in

The final two spots on the list belong to the Chevrolet Tahoe at ninth and the Oldsmobile Cutlass rounding out the top ten.

The DPS, along with local law enforcement. suggest the following measures to decrease the risk of having a vehicle stolen:

· Lock all doors, roll up windows and don't leave the keys in the vehicle. Many stolen vehicles had unlocked doors or the keys left inside them.

· Park in populated. well-traveled and well-lit cle burglary leaving

areas. About half of all auto thefts take place at night. · Use an anti-theft

device to make the vehicle more difficult to steal, especially if you have a vehicle that is on the most stolen list.

· Consider the use of a tracking system to help recover the vehicle if it is stolen. Some insurance companies offer rate discounts for reliable sys-

· Don't encourage vehi-

Benny Boyd

expensive items in plain view inside the vehicle.

Write down your license number and vehicle identification number and carry it in your wallet or purse to expedite the entry of the vehicle into the stolen vehicle data system when a police report is made.

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

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER Our Community. Our Hospital. 601 W. 11th Pl. Big Spring, TX

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Austin G. Sherrill, Sr., 87, died Thursday Graveside services will be at 1:30 PM, MST, Tuesday at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery, El

Paso, Texas. Ray Stribrny, 86, of Spring died Big Graveside Saturday. Services will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.



"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."

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

Susanne Reed

Managing Editor

Bill McClellan **News Editor**

OUR VIEWS

Hospitalized vets deserve attention from all this week

oday marks the start of several events the Big spring VA Medical Center will be staging to honor hospitalized veterans during its observance of National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week.

The observance began today with Howard College athletes and cheerleaders visiting the hospital and delivering Valentine's Day cards and candy to patients. Local musician Jody Nix also visited patients, as did Dimples the Clown.

A variety of events are planned through Saturday, however. On Wednesday, Coahoma High School students will prepare ice cream sum daes for the patients. And on Hursday, he pital staffers will hold a pancake by astage is seen.

On Friday, a group of veterans will be taken on a day trip to Odessa to visit the Presidential Museum, and that evening, Lindsey Rogers, a singer-songwriter from Spur, will perform at 6

Director Lou Ann Atkins is encouraging people of all ages to take part in saluting the veterans that are currently hospitalized.

We whole-heartedly agree. All of us should schedule some time this week to let these hospitalized veterans know they are not forgotten.

Remember, in serving in the United States armed forces, each of these veterans plan darrole in defending our nation — and in the process, all

To our way of thinking, they deserve more than lip service: Indeed, they have earned a more tangible expression of our appreciation and gratitude.

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Untying the knot for Catholics

ast week, the Vatican released 111 pages of new guidelines on how the Roman Catholic Church's tribunals should handle the annulment of marriages. Pope John Paul II already had let it be known he was unhap-

py with the spike in Catholic annulments, especially in America. In 1968, U.S. churches granted 338 annulments. By 2002, the number had swelled to close to 30,000. In America, the annulment has become so common that it is known as "Catholic divorce."



SAUNDERS

My tip for the pope: Instead of 111 pages, try this simple sentence. Stop granting annulments to help cads remarry.

The Catholic approach to divorce is clear: Divorce is a no-no; a union recognized by God cannot be broken. So Catholics who divorce and then remarry without a church annulment cannot take Communion — unless they vow not to have sex with their new spouses. They aren't allowed to take Communion because they plan on committing the sin of adultery, while mass murderers or pedophiles can still partake.

No surprise, the church was losing parishioners because its criteria for annulment were so strict for example, a spouse had to cite biological impediments or a spouse's failure to disclose a previous marriage — that few Catholics could remarry within the church. Then, around 1977, according to William Donohoe, president of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, the church added "the input of the behavioral sciences in a way it never had done." Then, it was Katie, bar the door.

Catholics then were able to argue that one or both spouses were psychologically unprepared for the sacrament of matrimony. If

the church asked, "Would God have ordained this marriage?" and the answer was no, the church could nullify the marriage.

It didn't matter how many children a marriage produced or how many years it lasted. To the church, it was as if the marriage never existed.

Worse, the church has granted annulments to people who, in its view, never marry in good faith. It's like a free pass for womaniz-

As someone who covers politics, I've seen the bad apples. Sheila Rauch Kennedy fought her ex-husband, former Rep. Joe Kennedy, D-Mass., when he sought an annulment because she didn't want to tell her children that they were not the product of a sanctified marriage. As she wrote in her 1997 book, "Shattered Faith," the church made many women "believe that their whole lives were in being wives and mothers," but when "their marriages fall apart, the church tells them they were never really married in the

annulment. The ex-wife of Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., fought his bid for an annulment for the same reasons. Kerry won.

first place." Joe Kennedy won his

On the right of the political spectrum, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani won an annulment because his first wife was his second cousin. Now, he's married to

wife No. 3. In 2002, two Republicans running for governor in California, Bill Simon and Richard Riordan, were annulment veterans. Riordan was especially embarrassing for the church. After Riordan's 23year marriage to his first wife (mother of his five children) was annulled, he first married his second wife within the church and then moved on to a third wife outside the church. Cynics wondered if Riordan's role in procuring a helicopter for Cardinal Roger Mahoney was a factor.

Since the church won't announce annulments, the press has to engage in what is known as "wafer watch" - if a divorced Catholic politician takes Communion, that should mean he won his annulment. So the press determined Ted Kennedy's first marriage was annulled. Ditto San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales whose marriage to his third wife led the San Jose Mercury News to speculate that he had won an annulment of his first marriage (the second marriage was outside the church) because a local monsignor officiated.

I should note that you don't have to be well connected to win an annulment. According to the Vatican, 56,000 Catholics worldwide requested annulments in 2002, and 46,000 were granted. That said, it must be frustrating to be one of those 10,000 and know that you didn't make the cut, while Ted Kennedy, Rudy Giuliani and Dick Riordan did.

"It angers most Catholics," noted Donohoe. "Clearly, they're angered in Rome." But the church can't just change its mind and recognize divorce. "They can't change the written word," Donohoe explained, "so they're looking for ways to justify allowing people to remarry again."

But if the church cannot rewrite Scripture on marriage, its solution cannot be to rewrite history — to claim that marriages that were, were not. "I was being asked to lie in the name of religion" is how Rauch Kennedy put it — a fine definition for a rotten procedure.

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

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Finding good in Bush's budget

feel snakebite about praising any proposal by George W. Bush. Every time I write a column saying, "Look, he's done something good!" he does something else that makes it either not so good or just plain bad. He

welched on his deal with Ted Kennedy in the Lots of Children Left Behind Act, now underfunded by \$12 billion. And nobody has ever seen that \$15 billion he promised to fight AIDS in Africa.



IVINS

The hideous Medicare prescription drug benefit, perhaps the most obscenely deformed legislation I've ever seen written, in addition to being a mother lode for the drug companiés now turns out not to cost the promised \$400 billion over 10 years but a whopping \$1.2 trillion. (For those of you who are fans of the Department of Great Big Numbers, the administration is now estimating there will be "offsets" to the prescription drug fiasco that will reduce the \$1.2 trillion to a mere \$720 billion. Remember when they tried to fire that whistleblower who said it would cost at least \$530 billion? And don't count on those offsets. These folks have remarkable imaginations — they're counting as certain revenue \$1 billion from oil drilling in ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), something Congress has rejected for the last four years.)

All that said, I did find a good idea in Bush's budget — putting a lower cap on farm subsidies. Three-fourths of federal crop subsidies go to the wealthiest 10 percent of agriculture businesses. This is not a red state-blue state issue. Two-thirds of American farms — those run by families and small operators — do not qualify for subsidies at all. For years, agribusiness has successfully hidden behind the sacred shield of

"the family farmer," who is still getting screwed. It's a monumental rip-off, made worse by a loophole that has allowed some huge agribusiness firms to collect millions of dollars a year by disguising themselves as several corporations. Farm conservation programs make much more sense and do benefit family farmers.

And that said, what a sham, what a rotten, phony, fake document this 2006 budget is.

In the first place, they're trying to fool you into thinking the deficit is less than it is by using a fake number from the previous year — an early deficit estimate set way high so they could claim the deficit had been "dramatically reduced." Last year's actual deficit was \$412 billion, the largest ever, and under Bush's budget this year, it will be \$427 billion. The actual deficit, with war spending included, would balloon to \$1.4 trillion by 2010 under this plan.

In the second place, the budget contains none of the expenses for the war in Iraq or Bush's plan for Social Security, presumably in place by then.

Third, the values reflected in this budget are deformed.

The cuts take away from schools in need, child-care assistance, environmental programs (a whopping 10.4 percent cut there), students (he lied about Pell Grants), veterans, Medicaid, food stamps basically the weakest and the poorest Americans. The money goes overwhelmingly to the richest Americans, who would get the permanent tax cuts, and to the Department of Defense, the monster.

According to this budget, Defense gets a 4.8 percent increase, bad enough (again, this is without counting Iraq). But as William Saleton explains in an article on Slate.com, what Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has done is to hide at least \$40 billion in normal defense expenditures in the supplementary appropriation that will have to be passed for the war in Iraq.

When if he asked if he was hiding regular spending in the emergency wartime bill, Rumsfeld said: "That would be wrong, and we wouldn't do that. It's all right out in the open." Whereupon the press laughed merrily. Saleton estimates it's a 10 percent increase, without Iraq. Others put it even higher. Ha, ha, ha.

Hubert Humphrey said, "The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life — the sick, the needy, the handicapped." Bush seems to think they're all targets.

I'm a great believer in put up or shut up, so here's where I'd get the money to pay for those programs. Don't make the tax cuts permanent — they do go disproportionately to the very richest people in this country, it's gross. And stop the two new tax cuts that go only to the very, very rich. Don't put another nickel, not to mention another \$9.7 billion, into that ridiculous boondoggle, Star Wars. Track down the \$8.8 billion the inspector general for Iraq reconstruction now says is effectively unaccounted for because of "severe inefficiencies and poor management." The scathing report also says lack of oversight opened the funds to corruption.

Oh, and if Congress would like to retain the power of the purse, I suggest it look very closely at the fine print in this doozy. It proposes biennial budgeting and appropriations (of course, not in election years), automatic appropriations, a presidential veto on the joint budget resolution (Congress' planning document for appropriations) and much, much more.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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BIG SPRING HER

Monday, Februa

Valentine's has arrived we're too la to help. Go ahead and begin practicing next year. us. You ne

By MALCOLM MA Knight Ridder Nev

It's either di you or depressin the red heart on zon: Valentine's

Now, if you've one in your l whom you will sl 14, flip to the ne this is not a story Matter of fact, y probably get yel your significant reading it.

And for those up their noses those who sim Val Day was a p day, this piece w no good.

This is a stor person - guys p but gals can join Valentine's Day night of watching dating shows an th "Everyone else i up - why can't

Maybe you can we think and can. Some of us all, know what be alone, to not eral children at us, to not h mortgage, to n second of free hmmm, so w problem with be again?

Anyway, to find a V-day d come up with lines. Good or least decent right, most of just kinda OK and come up wi up lines. Heck, come up with which is why y ing this. Good luck.

NICE GUYS I

FIRST Maybe they v use one of thes

lines, most of w courtesy of si sultant Melissa former matchi author of the "Dating 101: T Cure for Roma 1. You get pre

Pork Sirlo Beef Chuc Beef Botto Beef New Iceberg L Sunny De Shurfine Ha Wesson C **Kraft Asso** Post Hone Peter Pan

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52 pickup lines for Valentines

OK, so Valentine's Day has arrived and we're too late to help. Go ahead and begin practicing for next year. Trust us. You need it!

By MALCOLM MAYHEW

Knight Ridder Newspapers It's either disgusting you or depressing you the red heart on the horizon: Valentine's Day.

Now, if you've got someone in your life with whom you will share Feb. 14, flip to the next page; this is not a story for you. Matter of fact, you could probably get yelled at by your significant other for reading it.

And for those who turn up their noses at roses, those who simply wish Val Day was a paid holiday, this piece will do you no good.

This is a story for the person — guys primarily, but gals can join the fun, - for whom Valentine's Day means a night of watching reality dating shows and wonderto themselves: "Everyone else is hooking up — why can't I?"

Maybe you can. At least we think and hope you can. Some of us do, after all, know what it's like to be alone, to not have several children screening my poicture with you? day. I'm just asking for at us, to not have a big mortgage, to not have a second of free time . . . hmmm, so what's the problem with being alone

Anyway, to help you find a V-day date, we've come up with 52 pickup lines. Good ones. Or at least decent ones. All right, most of them are just kinda OK. You try and come up with 52 pickup lines. Heck, you can't come up with even one, which is why you're reading this. Good luck.

NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST

Maybe they will if they use one of these good-guy lines, most of which come courtesy of singles consultant Melissa Darnay, a former matchmaker and author of the new book "Dating 101: The Instant Cure for Romance Blues."



time I look at you. (Um, just don't use this one when you're totally drunk and it's plainly obvious that you can't really see a

2. Do you mind if I read the front page when you're through? "A great line to use when spending a leisurely Saturday morning at Starbucks," Darnay says, obviously assuming that men read.

3. You have the most beautiful teeth I've ever seen. Who is your dentist? 4. You have gorgeous

eyes. I bet they look great in the morning. 5. You're so good-look-

'Flattery gets you everywhere!" Darnay says. the room. "Use this one," she says, "and you'll get

an even bigger smile." 7. I'm a Wonderbra salesman, but I can tell you don't need my product. "You're guaranteed to get at least a smile,"

she says. Or a slap. CARD TRICKS

OK, so these are a bit on Hallmark cards. But just like there are people who cry in the card section at Walgreens whenever they read a particularly sappy card, some people do fall

8. Love is a very complex word, but I think I up line? just found the meaning of

9. If I had you, I wouldn't have to dream anymore. (Hey, stop making that barfing noise!).

10. I was going to tell you that I want to love you forever but forever suddenly seemed too

11. If I had a rose for every time I thought of you, I'd be walking in my garden forever.

12. I wish every time I opened my eyes I could see your face.

13. Don't let me fall for you if you won't be there to catch me.

14. Hershey's makes ing. Do you mind if I take millions of Kisses each

15. Offer a single rose 6. You have a great and say: "I wanted to smile - it just lights up show this rose true beau-

STRAIT TO THE POINT

Country singer George Strait, whom just about every woman in the world would like to have over for V-Day, recites a great pickup line in his song "The Chair:"

16. "Well excuse me, but the sappy side, like I think you've got my chair/No, that one's not taken. I don't mind if you sit here/I'd be glad to share."

CUTE 'N' CLEVER

for these lines - and - In our opinion, humorhopefully none of them ous is the way to go. If are reading this and won't you can make someone realize you've memorized smile, you can probably make them chat with you.

17. So what's your pick-

18. Pointing at the other person's beer: "Is that

beer taken?"

19. Take out a dollar bill and say, "I bet I can kiss you without touching you." Kiss them and say, "Oops, guess I lost."

20. Hi. I make more money than you can

spend. 21. My pickup line was published on the Internet. Would you like to hear it?

22. You might be asked to leave soon. You're making the other women look

23. Be unique and different, say "Yes."

24. Sweetheart, you make me wanna get a job. 25. I'm sorry, were you talking to me? No? Oh well then, please start.

26. If I were a guardian angel, I would guard you from the bad, the evil and all the guys that try to take advantage of you using lame lines they found on the Internet.

27. I want you to have my children. In fact, you can have them right now, they're out in the car. 28. Don't vou know me

from somewhere? 29. I lost my number.

Can I have yours?

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

When we started compiling this list, we uttered phrases like "Ewww," "So stupid," "No way would that work" and, eventually, "Hey, I like that one." You have been warned.

30. I may not be the bestlooking guy here, but I'm the only one talking to

31. Your body's name must be Visa, because it's everywhere I want to be.

32. Are you a parking ticket, 'cuz you got finefine-fine written all over 33. Is it hot in here or is

it just you? 34. Can I borrow a quar-

ter? I want to call your mom and thank her. 35. You: "Hi. Can I buy you a couple of drinks?"

Her: "A couple of drinks?" You: "Well, I figured by the time you finish them, I'll be lookin' pretty fine."

36. I know a church where we could go and talk. (We're still laughing at this one; not sure why).

37. Send a drink over to someone with this note written on a napkin: "Cupid no longer uses arrows as his weapon of choice. This shot's for you."

38. You're more intoxicating than champagne. (Perhaps you won't get laughed at if she's had too much champagne).

39. Why do you have to be so fine every single day? Can't you take a break and let me concentrate on something else?

CUT TO THE CHASE

Pretty self-explanatory. prepared to slugged.

40. So, what's for break-

41. I may not be Fred Flintstone, but I bet I can make your bed rock. 42. Great outfit. It would

look even better crumpled up on my floor.

43. My lips are registered weapons.

44. I know a great way to burn off the calories in that pastry you just ate.

BAND AID

A good pickup line to use in a live-music club. Donne — "And we will Be careful who you use some new pleasures these on; it's dark in prove" — you've got a those places.

45. So, who's this band? (Works especially well on someone who seems to be singing along. Just make sure that there is, in fact, a band playing.)

WORK IT

Found this on Web site www.pick-upwoman.com/good-pick-uplines.shtml.

46. "Imagine you are at the gym and you see a woman who is really attractive. But she's busy lifting weights, and it seems like your gym is not such a friendly place anyway. The opportunity is this: Time your leaving the gym for when she is between sets, or stretching. Then on your way out, introduce yourself like this: "Hi, I'm just leaving, but before I do, I really wanted to introduce myself to the woman who has such wonderful form. My name is (what-

"She says something back, like 'Oh, hi, my name is Tracy.' Then you say something like, "I hope to see you here again." Then you leave.

"This creates an opening for you to talk to her next time you see her.

"'Hi, Tracy, how are you?' It also gives you a way of interacting with her for the first time without there being much risk, since you tell her up front that you are leaving, she's less likely to be afraid of you wasting lots of her time, but you still show your romantic inter-

We're going to the Y right now to try it out.

CHEESE FACTOR Bad but good.

46. Hi. I suffer from amnesia. Do I come here often?

47. What time do you have to be back in heaven? (Boy, we can hear you groaning from here.)

48. Hi. I would like to award you the (whatever drink you're drinking) award for looking so good. Now if you will give me your name, number and other vital statistics, I would like to enter you in our grand prize drawing for an all-expensespaid date with me.

POETRY IN MOTION

This suggestion comes from the book "Hot Relationships" by writer Tracey Cox. So blame her if it flops.

49. Go up to someone and say, "Come live with me and be my love." If she continues with the second line from a poem by 16th century poet John match. If she says, "What, you freak?" well, walk away quietly and try it on the next person.

WOMEN'S CLUB

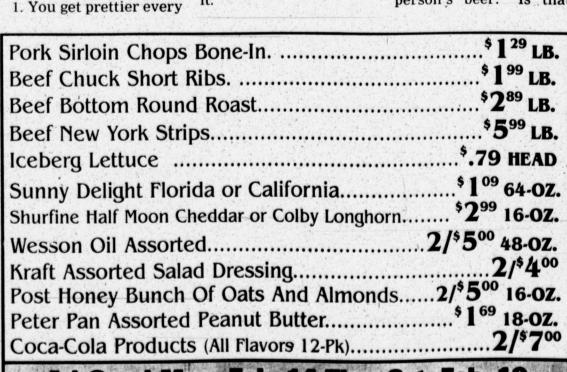
Women, give these a

50. Do you like animals? Because I'm a wildcat once you get to know me! (This comes from Melissa Darnay again; notice she's a "former" matchmaker). 51. Excuse me, I'm tak-

ing a survey. Which part of a woman's anatomy do you think is the most appealing: her breasts, butt, lips or eyes? "He'll definitely check out your assets before giving his answer," Darnay says, apparently under the impression that the assets have not yet been surveyed.

If all else fails . . .

52. Smile and say hello. "It sounds like a no-brainer," Darnay says, "but it really works."



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Researcher says cancers and other illnesses stem from structures that provide cells energy

By MAYRAV SAAR

Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. -Doug Wallace's pants are too big. They're held up by suspenders that peek out from beneath his oversized jacket. His hair is too long, falling on top of his too-big glasses. He is not a large man, but his gestures are so grand, his charisma so great, he seems to fill the big space he's created.

What he's saying right now is pretty odd, pretty fringe. But Wallace is used to being fringe. He's made a career out of the fringe.

If he's right, Wallace could change the way we understand, prevent and treat cancer. His work has the potential to slow or stop Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's.

If he's wrong, Wallace would have spent 30 years studying tiny structures at the outer edges of cells that do little more than serve as the catering service to the nucleus.

But he's pretty sure he's

"I think the world is on the wrong track," said Wallace, 58, a selfdescribed missionary of mitochondrial DNA research.

The room full of scientists and students at UC San Diego consider him with genuine interest. But if this is Wallace's revival tent, it's not clear how many converts he

For nearly two hours, the UC Irvine professor tells the crowd that the genes inside a mitochondrion are the real predictors of disease, as opposed to the nuclear DNA that most researchers evaluate. Whether a person is predisposed to develop Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's or other agerelated ailments, as long as that mitochondria is healthy, we'll stay healthy.

Hands shoot up after his lecture. The assembled scientists and medical students at UCSD want to know the particulars about what the small man with the big ideas has been talking about.

Does mitochondrial damage accumulate in human eggs? Is each generation getting sicker? How does this play out in a clinical setting?

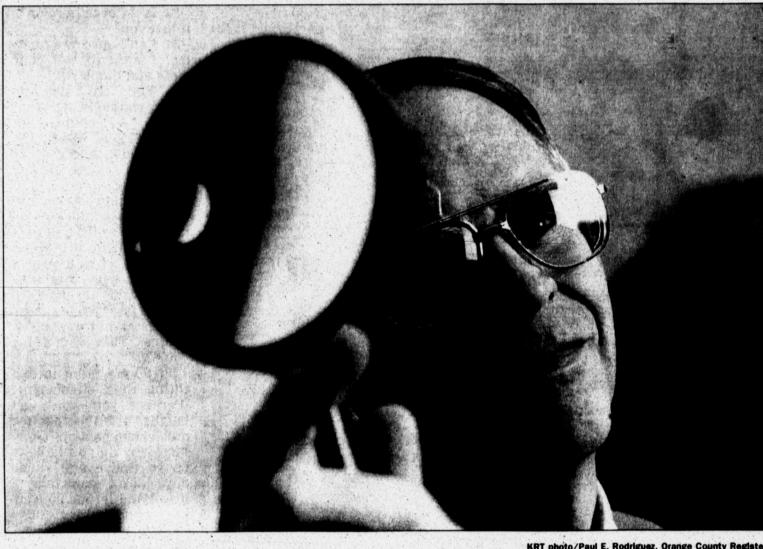
After a handful of questions, Immo Scheffler takes the stage. Scheffler, a professor of biology at UC San Diego who has also studied mitochondrial mutations, invited Wallace to speak. He'll say later that the lecture was interesting, but not entirely convincing. Now, though, he tells the crowd that Wallace can only take only one more question before being whisked off to prepare for a second lecture later that evening.

"Oh! I love it!" Wallace says, like a kid begging to stay longer at a friend's house. "Anytime I can proselytize about the mitochondria, I'll do it!"

And he does do it. In disease research, in biological evolution, in anthropology. There are few places Wallace hasn't been able to find the magic of the mitochondria.

In each of these fields Wallace is regarded like the mitochondria he studies: A powerhouse whose work is either inordinately important or not much more than interesting, depending on whom you

There are, after all, only



KRT photo/Paul E. Rodriguez, Orange County Register

Doug Wallace, director of UCI's Center for Molecular and Mitochondiral Medicine and Genetics, has published a study linking prostate cancer and mutations in the structures that power cells. He's using that discovery to test treatments on mice.

37 genes in the mitochondria, which isn't much. The nucleus has 20,000 genes. That's 20,000 genes that could mutate and cause a cell to die or run amok with cancer.

If the nucleus has 20,000 genes, it's where scientists should be looking to find the causes - and it is hoped cures - to every human disease. Except it's not. Or, at

least, it's not to Wallace.

It's quite obvious to Wallace: The mitochondria work like power plants. The nucleus might be the center of the city, but the power plants, operating outside, allow the city to run. If the blueprints are sound and the contractors built them well, all will be fine.

But if the contractors were lazy or sloppy, the power plants would spew smoke into the air, sputter and fail. The city would go dark, and all would collapse into chaos.

Wallace gives this analogy, speaking with such certainty you come away believing he's either completely right or completely crazy. He knows that he gives off those two impressions. But, again, he's pretty sure he's right.

And if the majority never sees it his way? Well, Wallace and his wife, Betty, 57, are Unitarians, so Betty says they're used to being on the fringe. Their son, David, has high-function-ing autism. And when their daughter, Lisa, was found to have a slight learning disability, Betty said she and Doug comforted her by saying, "If you were mainstream, we'd have to do a DNA test to make sure you were ours."

Dr. Sue Bryant, dean of UC Irvine's school of biological sciences, who helped recruit Wallace to UCI from Emory University in 2002, describes him as "one of a kind."

"We're just coming out of that place where everything is focused on the structure of DNA. It's all been focused on the nucleus and on nuclear genes," she said. "So it's so interesting that he didn't follow that paradigm."

Wallace began studying the mitochondria in 1970; when, as a graduate student at Yale, he realized nuclear DNA was terrifically boring stuff. Who cares about mapping a

gene on a chromosome? He wanted to study something that actually did something.

He figured the mitochondria were a good bet: Anything that produced 90 percent of the body's energy and contained complicated genes had to ing be significant. Right?

one studied the impor- tance of mitochondrial the wrong way by claim-

tance of mitochondrial DNA mutations. DNA mutations.

Now, 30 years later, after Wallace and his colleagues found mitchondrial DNA can mutate, after he found those mutations can cause diabetes and heart disease, after tracmitochondria's thumbprints all over tissue cancers ... virtually At the time virtually no no one studies the impor-

Wallace chalks up the spotty interest to mitochondrial DNA being more complicated to study than the muchlonger DNA chains of the nucleus. researchers, though, say their colleague is simply overstating the signifi-

cance of his work. "Doug rubs some people

ing to have found the solutions when really there are more questions out there we need to solve," Scheffler said. "Until 10 years ago, people definitely ignored mitochondrial DNA in human health and dis-

"Now they realize that paying attention to that small DNA is important. but the fact that we should pay so much more attention to it is something I don't agree with." This could change.

When UCI hired Wallace, it started the Center for Molecular and Mitochondrial Medicine and Genetics and named director. research is cited in fields as far-flung as anthropology and evolutionary biolo-

A recent study of his. published in Proceedings National Academy of Sciences last month, shows a link between mitochondrial DNA mutations and prostate cancer. He's using that link now to test non-toxic drugs to kill prostate cancer in

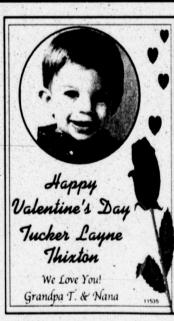
"People generally agree that he is a world leader in mitochondrial DNA issues," said Bill Parker, dean of graduate studies at UCI. "Should that field at some point, be considered for a Nobel Prize, he'll be right in the center of it."

The center? What an odd place for Wallace to





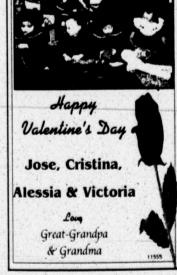






















2005 Little to hold sign

Sign-ups fo Big Sprin League sea through Feb Big Spring N place from 5 7 p.m Monda Friday and 10

5:30 p.m. Satu The league one ages five 16 that live v Big Spring lit bounda Registration required ever has played least one guardian mu sent and an o state-certified child's birth is required. For more tion, contac Rosenbaum a

Class of 200 host fund-ra The Big Sp of 2005 will l a softball fun

Cotton Mi March 11 and The entry \$125 and priz awarded to second and t teams. The fi enter the to will be March For more tion, conta Landin at 2 Able Rios at

Booster Club

Monday, Feb ATC at 6 p.m All parents involved in basketball, ing, track an are encou attend.

For more tion, conta Abner at 2 Kerry Rodris 6100.

Lady Steer . Booster me The Lad Softball Boo will meet Mo 21, in the A p.m. All parent

involved wit ball progrencouraged For more tion, cont Abner at 264

Softball um needed for

Anyone in becoming an tified umpir upcoming so son can obta mation from Ramirez at 4

C.G.A. sets tourney of The Chic Association first tourna year — the for Sunday Comanche Course. The tourn begin with start at 11:3 all particip be registered. This tourn

originally for Feb. 13, has been mo For more tion, call B at 264-7116

2005 Little Leagu to hold signups

Sign-ups for the 2005
Big Spring Little
League season will
take place Feb. 19
through Feb. 26 at the
Big Spring Mall.
Registration will take
place from 5:30 p.m. to

7 p.m Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

The league is for anyone ages five through 16 that live within the Big Spring little league boundaries. Registration required even if player has played before, at least one parent or guardian must be pre-

sent and an original or state-certified copy of child's birth certificate

is required. For more information, contact Chuck Rosenbaum at 263-1792.

Class of 2005 to host fund-raiser

The Big Spring class of 2005 will be holding a softball fund-raiser at Cotton Mize Field March 11 and 12.

The entry fee will be \$125 and prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams. The final day to enter the tournament will be March 9.

For more information, contact J.R. Landin at 264-1736 or Able Rios at 213-2115.

Lady Steer Booster

lub mooting set The Lady Steers oster Club will mee Monday, Feb. 21, in the ATC at 6 p.m.

All parents of players involved in volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, track and training are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Janet Abner at 264-0023 or Kerry Rodriguez at 263-

Lady Steer Softball **Booster meeting set**

The Lady Steers Softball Booster Club will meet Monday, Feb. 21, in the ATC at 7:30 p.m.

All parents of girls involved with the softprogram are ball encouraged to attend.

For more informacontact Janet Abner at 264-0023.

Softball umpires needed for season

Anyone interested in becoming an ASA certified umpire for the upcoming softball season can obtain information from Francisco Ramirez at 466-3670.

C.G.A. sets first tourney of new year

The Chicano Golf Association has set its first tournament of the year - the membership drive tourney — for Sunday, Feb. 20, at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 11:30 a.m. and all participants must be registered by 11 a.m. This tournament was

originally scheduled for Feb. 13, but the date has been moved up.

For more information, call Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

Hughey, boys' relay team advance to state

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Jessica LUBBOCK Hughey earned her third

trip to the state swimming meet Saturday after winning the girl's 100 breastroke at the Region 1-

4A swim HUGHEY in

meet Lubbock, while the boy's 4x400 meter relay team came out of nowhere to advance, as well.

Hughey's first place finish was recorded at 1:12.30, while the 4x400 relay team of junior Daniel Pike, sophomore Ryan Hughey, senior Scott Thomas and senior Todd Seber — who all advanced to state for the first time — took first at regionals, too, with a time of 3:34.66.

everyone in the breastroke," said Pacheco. "And Scott was our savior in the relay. He swam his

Friday and then came place at regionals, said back to break that time Saturday. He really helped us out in getting the team to state.

"The relay team was an exciting race. Us and Andrews were neck and neck the whole time and both school's fans went absolutely crazy during receive the race." The top-four finishing

"Jessica just smoked teams in the relay were separated by just more than one second as Big Spring's foursome became the first relay in best split time of the year school history to win first

Pacheco. Jessica Hughey, a senior, defeated the second-best breaststroke finisher by more than two seconds.

First place finishers at state automatic bids and next eight

SEBER fastest times also advance.

"My seniors really stepped it up," said Big

Spring Coach Casey Pacheco.

Hughey entered the day with a top-two seed in both the 100 breastroke and the 200 freestyle, but was only able to qualify for state in one event. Her time in the 200 freestyle, which some would say is her best event, was 2:10.03

as she finished second. The boy's state representatives also participated, but did not qualify, in a few other events.

Pike swam individually

See REGIONALS, Page 2B

Billalba takes second place at Invitational

· Cain disqualified in round two as Big Spring's "gold" team takes 11th overall

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Big Spring's Tommy Billalba maintained second place Saturday at the Spring Invitational as the junior shot a second round 75 at the Big Spring Country Club.

Billalba's two day total after shooting a first round 72 at Comanche Trail Golf Course Friday was 147, which put him behind strokes two Plainview's Bryston Jimenez.

That second place finish also helped the Big Spring "Gold" team finish in 11th place. The team's No. 1 golfer — Chance Cain — was disqualified Saturday, however, after shooting a first round 76 Friday. Midland Lee won the tournament by 21 strokes, while Big Spring district rivals Frenship and Andrews came in second and third, respective-

Collin Carroll shot a second round 94 and finished with a two-day total of 185, while Taylor Parks, who shot an 87 in round one, struggled Saturday, shooting a 100 and finishing with a 187 between the two rounds. Seve Watson was Big

er as his two round total was 203.

Brian Hale led the big Spring "black" team with a two-day total of 200, while the Big Spring "white" team was led by Sam Smith's 243.

The other boy's medalist was Tyler Sheppard of Midland Lee, who finished one shot behind Billalba with a two-day total of 148.

Senior Rachel Gee led the Big Spring girl's "gold" team. She shot a 90 round one, but improved her stroke in the the second round, finishing with an 85. Her two-day total equalled +75, which was good

enough for a top-10 finish. Megan McCormick tallied 196 shots in her two days on the course, while Cassie Gwinn shot a twoday total of 198. Amber Miller struggled in round one with a 107, but her 97 in round two was good enough to finish fourth on the team with a 204, while Kim Paredez finished in fifth after shooting a 205.

Kelsey Battle led the Big Spring "black" team with a second round 93 and fin

Spring's fifth place finish- See STEERS, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde Big Spring junior Tommy Billalba attempts a putt on the ninth hole at the Comanche Trail Golf Course Friday morning first round action at the Big Spring Invitational. Billalba entered round two in second and maintained that position in the end after shooting a second round 75. He finished with a two-round total of 147, which was two strokes behind Bryston

Rain puts damper on tourney

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Rain dominated the Big Invitational Spring Saturday as many tennis matches were delayed and eventually can-

Jimenez of district rival Plainview.

celled. T h e Steers did manage to get in a few matches before the cancella-

tion, which ROBINSON occurred at

about 2 p.m. Saturday. "We were forced to make a decision at that point because we had several teams which had four and five hour drives ahead of them and due to the delays we still had five hours of tennis left," said Big Spring coach Sarah Corse. "We didn't want the teams to have to

travel all night." The only Big Spring teams to play three matches were the doubles

Seniors Nick Rivera and Nick Paredez won their first round match, but struggled against a tough team from Levelland in round two. They began, but did not finish their match in round three. Rivera and Paredez lost the first set of the match 6-7, but led the second set 5-4 against a good Lubbock Coronado team before the match was eventually called.

Senior Jason Vela and sophomore Bryan Juan did not play a third match, but after losing in round one, were able to pull out a victory in the second round.

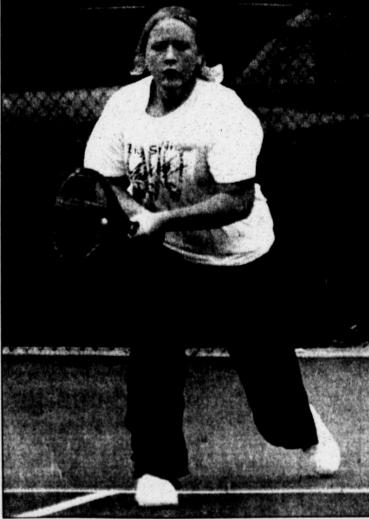
The junior tandem of Natasha Neighbors and Jamie Jordan and the team of senior Alex Gariepy and Reinhilde Robinson went 1-1 Friday before dropping their third match Saturday. Gariepy and Robinson lost their third round match 3-6, 5-7 as the contest was interrupted by a 30-minute rain delay.

Big Spring's No. 1s in the singles competition got in two matches over the weekend. Senior Veronica Villarreal took care of business in rounds one and two Friday, but did not get a chance to play Saturday. She won her second round match 6-0, 6-1. Sophomore Roshan Shroff won his first round match but lost his second round.

The other singles players this spring season are freshman Allison Ward and Ainhan Nghiem. Ward won in the first round and lost her second round match Friday. Nghiem lost his first round match before winning his match in round two Friday.

"We were doing good, but were unable to finish the tournament," said Corse. "We would have loved to finish the tourney though."

Big Spring travels to Odessa Friday and Saturday to take part in the Permian Invitational.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde Big Spring Junior Jamie Jordan sends the ball back over the net Friday morning at the Figure 7 Tennis Center at Comanche Trail Park during the Big Spring Invitational. Jordan and teammate Natasha Neighbors won their first round match, but lost their second and third matches.

N BRIEF

Carolina bounces back against UCONN HARTFORD, Conn.

cCants and Raymond Felton had big second halves Sunday to help No. 2 North Carolina bounce back from a tough loss with a 77-70 win over No. 19 Connecticut.

McCants had 11 of his 15 points in the second half for North Carolina, while Felton had 14 of his 16 points and seven of his 10 assists in the final 20 minutes.

The performances by the junior stars enabled the Tar Heels (20-3) to leave the court at the Hartford Civic Center with smiles on their faces instead of the stunned looks they wore following the lastplay breakdown in a 71-70 loss at No. 7 Duke Wednesday night.
Marcus Williams had

a career-high 18 points for the Huskies (15-6), who had won three straight and four of five.

James' Cavs take out Bryant's Lakers

CLEVELAND (AP) -LeBron James scored 21 of his 25 points in the second half, and Zydrunas Ilgauskas added 30 points to spoil Kobe Bryant's return to the Los Angeles lineup, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 103-89 victory over the Lakers Sunday.

James added nine assists and eight rebounds for the Cavs, who avenged a Jan. 13 loss in Los Angeles when the Lakers won despite losing Bryant early in the first half

sprained right ankle. Bryant, who until a few days ago wasn't expected to be back until after the All-Star break, had 26 points on 7-of-22 shooting in 41 minutes. He hadn't played since rolling his right ankle after stepping on Cave forward Ira Newble's foot last month.

Lamar Odom added 19 points and nine rebounds for Los Angeles.

Heat win at S.A. for first time since 2002

MIAMI (AP) Dwyane Wade scored 13 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter, including a jumper with 25.1 seconds left, and Miami beat San Antonio for the first time in more than three years, 96-92.

Wade hit five of his final seven shots, and added six assists and five rebounds to help Miami extend its winning streak to six games.

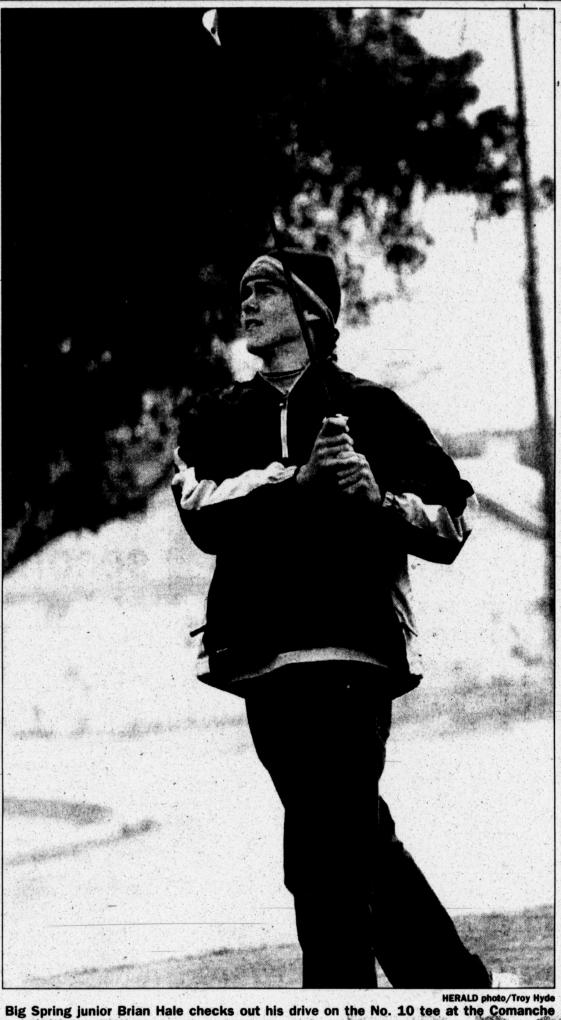
Shaquille O'Neal added 27 points and seven rebounds.

Manu Ginobili scored 24 points for San Antonio.

Longhorn women get back in Blg 12 race

AUSTIN (AP) Tiffany Jackson got acupuncture before the game to soothe a sore left ankle, then scored 14 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead No. 17 Texas over No. 13 Texas Tech. 64-43...

Almost written out of the league race a month ago, Longhorns (15-7, 8-3) mselves in a four-way tie for second, one game behind Baylor.



Trail Golf Course Friday morning as the Big Spring golf team's participates in the Spring Invitational. Hale led the Big Spring "black" team with a two-day total of 200.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

-ished with 190 total strokes.

The Big Spring "gold"

place overall with a 766. fifth, respectively. Monahans won the tournament with a 670, while Andrews placed second with a 689.

Plainview and Midland head to district rival

The Big Spring golf teams return to the course next weekend as the girl's travel to Pecos took third, while Snyder, while the boys

REGIONALS

Continued from Page 1B

in the 500 freestyle and 200 freestyle and recorded times of 5:26.42 and 1:57.21, respectively.

He placed third in the 500 and fourth in the 200.

Ryan Hughey took third in the 200 Individual Medley (I.M.) and 5th in the 100 breastroke with times of 2:14.63 and 1:06.87, respectively.

in the 500 freestyle, while Seber grabbed fifth in the one meter diving competition.

All four guys also participated in the 4x200 freestyle relay, but a sixth place finish was not enough to advance.

Two girl's relay teams also participated at the regional tournament, but neither qualified for state.

team of Jessica Hughey, Amber Sleight, Lauren Sage and Kendra Weeks placed fourth, while the 4x200 meter relay team

Stormy Hart grabbed

fifth. Sage also participated in the 200 I.M. and the

SAGE Weeks grabbed fourth in the 200 I.M., as well.

Sage really swam well, has a bright future."

Saturday, Feb. 26.

tively start at 3 p.m. both days, but swim times for each race was unknown at press time.

team finished in sixth Lee grabbed fourth and Plainview. Mickelson goes wire-to-wire

in victory at Pebble Beach

By DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) - Phil Mickelson took all the thrills out of Pebble Beach, and that was just fine by him.

Despite back-to-back bogeys that gave the final round Sunday about five minutes of intrigue, Mickelson won for the second straight week by closing with a 1-over 73 to become the first wire-towire winner in the 68year history of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

The only thing he didn't do on a cold, damp day along the Pacific was set the tournament scoring record. Mickelson finished at 19-under 269, missing by one shot the record set seven years ago by Mark O'Meara.

Still, it was the first time in his career he had won in consecutive weeks. Even more alarming is the margin of victory, especially for a guy round if a few things who usually keeps it entertaining to the very

He won by five shots last week in Phoenix. He wound up winning Pebble by four shots over Mike Weir.

been fun," "It's Mickelson said. "I've been playing well the last couple of weeks. I'm excited to get the year started with a couple of wins."

The margin might have been even wider except that Mickelson missed six birdie putts inside 18 feet over the final seven holes.

Weir posted the best round of a difficult day at Pebble with a 5-under 67, including a 3-wood into 6 feet for the only birdie on No. 9 that kept his hopes alive.

"I played one of the better rounds I've ever played," Weir said. "It could have been a special

could have dropped for me." Mickelson won for the

25th time on the PGA Tour. His \$954,000 check pushed him over \$2 million for the year and put him atop the money list. He will take the Nissan Open off next week, then head to La Costa for the Match Play Championship.

Only 14 players managed to break par at Pebble Beach, where sunny conditions gave way to a light rain that blew sideways and put some of the teeth back into the venerable cliffside course.

Mickelson had a sevenshot lead at the start of his round, and his plan was to play it smart without being defensive. But it was clear from the start he wanted to stick to his routine by attacking flags when he could.

Adams' equipment malfunction hurts NFC

Dallas offensive tackle Flozell Adams was unable to play in the Pro his equipment never arrived in Hawaii.

Adams was added to the NFC roster on Thursday when Philadelphia's

appearance after start- able in them. ing last year's game.

But because of an unexplained Honolulu, Adams didn't on the NFC's roster.

HONOLULU (AP) - Thomas dropped out have his Cowboys helwith a back injury. met, shoulder pads and Adams, a seventh-year other gear. He tried on pro, had hoped to make several other helmets, Bowl on Sunday because his second Pro Bowl but didn't feel comfort-

> His absence leaves Seattle's Walter Jones mixup and St. Louis' Orlando between Dallas and Pace as the only tackles

High School Playoff Games at the Dorothy Garrett Collseum Smyer vs. Hamlin, 8 p.m.

NHL still a no-go, talks don't better

· Hockey season now in serious jeopardy

By IRA PODELL

AP Sports Writer NEW YORK (AP) -Representatives from the NHL and the players' association met with federal mediators in Washington on Sunday, just hours before a weekend deadline to save the season, but no progress was made.

The meeting was arranged Friday at the request of a high-ranking federal mediator. Neither commissioner Bettman nor players' association executive director Bob Goodenow attended.

Instead, NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly was joined by outside counsel Bob Batterman, with association players' senior director Ted Saskin and outside counsel John McCambridge on the other side.

"There was no progress to report as a result of this meeting, and in fairness to the process it would serve no purpose to comment further," Saskin said in a statement.

The sides were assisted by mediators twice before - as recently as a Feb. 2 negotiating session in Newark, N.J. Sunday's meeting was requested by Scot B. Beckenbaugh, the acting director of the U.S. Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

"This isn't a negotiation that failed due to a lack of understanding," Daly said on Thursday. "This is a negotiation that has union even though it failed for other reasons. I agreed that the financial don't think a mediator landscape had to change. would help in this The players' association process." contended that there are

After two days of talks broke off Thursday in Toronto, Saskin also didn't see mediation as the way to reach a settlement.

"That's not something we've given a lot of consideration to, and certainly the NHL has made clear from Day 1 that

binding or nonbinding," he said. "If the NHL came forward and said they wanted to do binding mediation, then we'd have to do the analysis and have the discussion." Bettman said a new collective bargaining agree-

they're not interested in any form of mediation -

ment with the players' association had to be reached by this weekend or the season would be canceled. Earlier in the day nei-

ther side seemed willing to budge and come together again to work on a deal.

"Our position hasn't changed," a players' association spokesman said. "We will not be reach-

ing out to them," Daly said. The lockout reached its

151st day Sunday, when the league was supposed to hold its All-Star game in Atlanta.

So far, 824 of the 1,230 regular-season games have been lost and the remainder of the schedule seems close to being wiped out.

Bettman said a deal needed to be down to the writing stages by Sunday so the NHL could hold a 28-game season and a regular 16-team playoff.

The NHL said its 30 clubs need to know what their costs would be, and the only way that could be achieved was with a salary cap that linked league revenues to player

A cap was an automatic deal-breaker for the many other ways to fix it.

The sides have traded proposals throughout the stalemate that started Sept. 16.

But the owners haven't come off their salary-cap demands, and the players won't accept that solu-

tion.

of Jessica Hughey, Weeks. Sage

Thomas finished sixth

The 200 medley relay

100 butterfly, but just missed qualifying. She

finished third in the I.M. a n d fourth in the butterfly.

and

"My freshman Lauren

too," said Pacheco. "She Jessica Hughey and the boy's 4x400 four-

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CITY of Big Spring is taking applications for Animal Control Officer. Apply at the Personnel Department, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Tx 79720 or call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE. Applications may also be obtained from website:

www.ci.big-spring.tx.us

NURSERY worker needed, 15-20 hours per month. Must be 21 or older. College Baptist Church, 1105 Birdwell Lane. Pick up application at Church Office, Mon.-Fri., 8:00-12:00 or 1:00-4:00.

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IMMEDIATE OPENING for Sports Editor Ideal candidate will have sports writing background, computer and digital camera experience. Benefit package.

Reply with resume and salary requirements. Guymon Daily Herald PO Box 19 Guymon, OK 73942 or fax (580)338-5000. Email: publisher@guymon-

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Help Wanted CJ's Wireless Warehouse **New Hire**

CJ's Wireless Warehouse is now hiring for Cellular Account Executives in the Big Spring area. CJ's is a Cellular One authorized dealer that is interested in individuals that are self-motivated, goal-oriented and willing to work hard for aggressive compensation. CJ's has become one of the markets top-producing dealers by being dedicatd to their employees training needs and striving to help their employees hit their daily goals. Sales experience is preferred but not a must. CJ's Wireless Warehouse is an aggressive, yet team-oriented company that provides a healthy and productive sales environment for its employees. For more information please contact CJ's Wireless Warehouse at (432)264-9774.

DANCER/ COCKTAIL waitress needed. Must be 18 yrs. old. Call San Franciscan Bar & Grill (432)267-1767 leave message.

DOMINOS PIZZA Drivers needed. Hourly + mileage + tips. Competition says better commission, but you can't make commission doing dishes for the sit down lobby. Go by 2111 S. Gregg or call (432)267-4111.

DQ of COAHOMA looking for bright, friendly customer services leaders for day and night shifts. Starting at \$7.00 an hour for qualified help. Full and part time positions available. Vacation and holiday pay. Drug test required. Apply in person today with Manager, Shavae Rose.

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC The City of Big Spring is conducting a civil service entrance exam for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic on Saturday March 12, 2005. Qualified applicants must be at least 18 but under 36 years of age and must have a High School Diploma or Equivalent. To apply and obtain further information contact The Personnel Department at 310 Nolán St., Big Spring, Tx 79720 or call (432)264-2346. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm Wednesday March 9, 2005. Preference will be given to applicants certifiable in Fire/EMS. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HOWARD COUNTY Sheriff's Office accepting applications until February 25, 2005 for deputy. Street experience and bi-lingual preferred. Applications can be picked up at the Sheriff's Office, 300 S. Main, Big Spring, TX between 8:00-5:00, M-F.

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SURGERY CENTER in Midland/Odessa area is looking for an Administrator. RN preferred w/management experience in the OR setting required. No Call and no weekends. Competitive Pay & Excellent Benefits. Send resume: c/o P.O. Box 1431/114, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

Help Wanted

Travel Centers of America, Now Hiring for all positions. Apply in Person @ Hwy. 87 & 1-20. No phone calls. Must pass drug screening.

Truck Driver position available, apply at Laredo Paving, 2701 N. Hwy. 350, Big Spring. Must have current CDL, clear driving record & Medical Card. No phone calls. EOE.

Wanted: Experienced, Licensed, Oilfield Electrician. Apply at Colorado City Electric, 120 New Street, Colorado City.

WANTED: INDIVIDUAL with CDL for position of truck driver & general maintenance at natural gas plant, northeast of Big Spring. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or fax 432-399-4290.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY person needed to move furniture. Must be motivated. Good driving record required. Must be 21. Paid vacation & holidays. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg. No Phone



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The result may be a

ARIES (March 21-April

19). Ancient Rome cele-

in February with a fertili-

own fertility in some way

impressive productivity.

TAURUS (April 20-May

20). Though you consider

yourself to be a practical

sort, the spirit of the holi-

day brings out your sen-

sual side. If you've made

up your mind to give

gifts, you'll choose some-

romantic — and probably

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). Always on the cutting

edge, you'll find the

hippest, coolest way to

say, "I love you." It works

so we'll for one person,

you may use it on several.

You're oh-so-popular now,

CANCER (June 22-July

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Reference #4102

PRIVATE-GOVERNMENT Cash Grants! for Personal bills, School, Business, etc. Never Repay! Live Operators! Approx. \$49 billion left unclaimed 2004. 1-800-410-2592 ext. 34, 7 days.

SAWMILLS \$2,595.00 -LumberMate-2000 & Lumber-Lite-24. Norwood Industries also manufactures utility ATV Attachments, Log Skidders, Portable Board Edgers and forestry equipment. www.norwoodindustries.com

Information:

SECRET ENCOUNTERS 1-800-442-MEET .69 p/m Ladies Free!! 1-800-201-TALK

1-800-566-6899 Ext. 200-U.

FREE

VISIT - singles.com START DATING TONIGHT! Have fun meeting eligible singles in your area. Toll Free.

1-800-ROMANCE ext. 9735. STEEL BUILDING SALE! We'll Beat All Competitor Bids Spec for Spec or we'll send you a for \$200.00! 1-800-973-3366.

www.premierstee!.org

DRIVERS Wanted-Best Pay and Home Time! Apply Online Today over 750 Companies! One Application, Hundreds of Offers!

http://hammerlanejobs.com VIAGRA \$5.00, CIALIS \$6.25 Why pay more? Lowest Priced Refills and Free Shipping!! 1-866-402-5400.

YOUR ACCREDITED High School Diploma in 30-days or No classes. FREE less. evaluation. www.FinishHighSchool.com

1-866-290-6596.

On the Farm WANT TO buy or rent farm land in Martin county. 30+ years experience. Jerry Hollo-(432)459-2499

Real Estate for Rent

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD Swimming Pool Private Patios Carports Appliances Most Utilities Paid Senior Citizens

Discount •1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished PARKHILL TERRACE

APARTMENTS 263-5000

104 WEST 13TH. Between Main & Scurry. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, carport. \$250. month, Call Pierce \$200. deposit. Group at (432)264-6611.

1303 Marijo. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$375. Month, \$150. deposit. 1212 East 19th. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$350. Month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

1400 Sycamore- 3/1 bath. \$475. month \$250. deposit 407 1/2 East 8th- 1/1 bath. \$275. month \$150. deposit Both have CH/A. Call (432)267-2296.

1505 TUSCON. Four bedroom. bath, CH/A. two (432)270-3848.

1800 STATE. One bedroom. one bath. \$200. month, \$100. deposit. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

1903 GREGG St. for rent. Great office or retail space. \$375/month plus deposit. Call (432)213-2681.

Real Estate for Rent

2407 CARLETON, 3 bedroom 2 bath, CH/A. \$550.00 month deposit. (432)263-6997.

3 BEDROOM brick, fenced, air, view. \$325.00. Zero pets. Non smoking. Nice home for less rent. Good credit background required. McDonald Realty, (432)263-7615 or 263-4835.

3/2 WITH garage. Gourmet kitchen with built-ins. Forsan ISD, 2502 Cheyenne. \$500. month, \$300. deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

COAHOMA AREA 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large carport, fenced yard. 102 Weaver, \$300.00 month, \$150.00 deposit. Call 263-4528 or 432-296-0277 or 432-296-1523.

Could be a 3 or 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Also have a 1 Bedroom Apartment. Call weekand after 6:00 pm (432)268-1888.

FOR RENT 2 bedroom 1-1/2 bath in County, water paid, fenced yard, \$375. per month, \$350. deposit. (432)213-2810 or 213-2809.

FOR RENT one bedroom house, Full time rent & exchange for part time baby-sitting for 3 year old. Seeking a Christian elderly person or couple. Call (432)267-1689 or leave message.

FOR RENT: 800 Nolan. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. Utilities included. \$400.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS, 403 E. 8th Street. Spacious 1 Bedroom's. Furnished & Unfurnished. All bills paid. \$400.00 month, \$200.00 deposit. Call (432)267-2771.

HUD APPROVED. 3 Bedroom, bath, \$360.00 month \$200.00 deposit. Call (432)213-0989.

Midway Area - Small 3 Bdrm mobile homes. Stove & refrigerator, washer & dryer. CH/A. \$350.00 month \$150.00 deposit. HUD approved. Call 432-393-5585 or 270-3928.

NEWLY REMODELED 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, AC & CH, nice quiet neighborhood. Water & trash paid. \$275. month plus deposit. Call (432)268-1684.

Nicest Apartments

in area **CORONADO HILLS APARTMENTS** (432)267-6500 801 W. Marcy

Big Spring, Tx 79720 Month of February Move in for \$199.00 or \$299.00.

SUNSET RIDGE **APARTMENTS** 2911 West Hwy 80 1 & 2 Bedrooms Cable TV Service Central Heat & A/C Friendly Staff On-site Maintenance Laundry Facility

****Move in Special****

Call (432)263-2292

TWO BEDROOM, one bath, fenced yard, carport. References and deposit required. \$325. month. Also two bedroom, one bath mobile home. Private fenced yard. Call (432)267-5952.

Real Estate for Sale

\$1,000 TOTAL Move in Cost. On 1306 Marijo. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Reasonably good credit required, lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. Call now (432)520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

20 ACRES on Hwy 176. Set up for Doublewide. 45K, \$6,500.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 30 years. No Credit Check. Call (817)312-6322.

FOR SALE: Good 4 bedroom, Near Collegebath-\$5000.00. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath-Older- \$3000.00. 2 Bedroom-Brick- \$3000.00. 1 Bedroom-Cheap. Call (432)264-0510.

MUST SELL. Affordable country living close to town. 3-2-2 on 3+ acres. Barn, shop, pens, new roof and CH/A. Call (432)816-9441, (432)394-4183.

NO DOWN Payment on 2 thru Bedroom Brick Homes. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. We can adjust your monthly payments to fit your Budget. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

NORTH OF College 3/2/1 brick home. \$625.00 Month, \$500.00 deposit. Credit check & references required. New loan or 20% down. Call (432)268-8353 Cell (325)699-1042.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

recognizes three different martyred saints with the name "Valentine," which poses the question: Will the real Valentine please stand up? You'll be asking the same today!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your sign is associated with the heart, and you'll be subject to the sentimentality of the season. Do be careful not to get so carried up in a romantic notion that you forget the reality of a situation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Of the estimated 1 billion printed valentines that will be sent out this year, I predict not many will be sent by Virgos your sign prefers to make a personal call or share a handcrafted design.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Love may feel more like brated the rites of spring an unwelcome affliction ty festival in the middle of than a dreamy state of the month. Celebrate your bliss. It was the goddess of your ruling planet, today, starting with your Venus, who bore that arrow-wielding creative mind and your named Cupid. Consider yourself speared!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The history Valentine's Day shrouded in mystery and that's exactly how you prefer your romance, too. The compelling qualities of love are the intangible ones. You are seduced by unspoken cial?" promises.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're at your best after you've taken the time to calm down. Thoughtfulness counts more than spending money. A small token of affection or a handwritten note touches the heart of 22). The Catholic Church your valentine.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's a reason Cupid is personified as a child and not a wizened old matchmaker. Love's impulsive, naive and, yes, foolish aspects are highlighted — but thankfully, not by you ... at least not today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Pagan cultures incorporated the concept of purification into their February celebration. Right now, you also resonate with the idea of purging something messy, inconvenient or just plain unnecessary from your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are confident and know exactly what you're doing. Aggressive and eager moves only mess with the romantic pace you've established. You are patient and will wait for your love to come to you.

ASTROLOGICAL QUES-TIONS: "I'm a Capricorn who has been enamored with a Sagittarius for close to seven years now. He doesn't know that I feel this way about him because I've never told him. We lost touch a few years ago, and I'm wondering if we will ever reunite, and if we do, will it amount to anything spe-

He knew how you felt from the beginning. Capricorn likes to play it cool, but you'd be surprised just how much others are picking up about your true feelings in spite of your best efforts to hide them. You are coming into a new cycle for romance. You want a DICATE, INC.

more tangible, less cerebral love life. Part of that process is admitting that sometimes you make up a romantic life in your mind that doesn't exist on the reality plane. There are many wonderful aspects to a fantasy love life that will be hard to give up, like the safety of not being rejected and the way you can spin things so that you never have to get hurt. Use the Pisces energy of the next few weeks to go inside yourself and answer a few tough questions. What are you willing to risk for the chance to experience true love?

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Air sign John Travolta is a pilot with his own plane who embodies the freewheeling spirit of his Aquarius sun sign. Mercury in spiritual Pisces is emphasized in a way that increases Travolta's desire to share his spiritual beliefs. He'll be an advocate for a philanthropic effort reflecting positively on his faith. Also, his risky artistic choices at the end of 2005 will be much admired and talked about in the press.

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, the Creators visit Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox .: Advice for those in need

Dear Readers: Happy Valentine's Day to all of you, and especially to our veterans in VA hospitals around the country. And a special thanks to all our readers who have taken the time to visit the vets and send valentines. Bless you.

Dear Annie: I am 22 years old and was engaged to "Marty" for three years. I thought everything was going great. I always gave him everything he wanted. If he needed groceries, I would buy them. If he needed money, I always gave it to him. There was nothing in this world I wouldn't do for Marty.

Last month, Marty decided I had nothing to offer him and he ended our relationship. I feel like I lost such a huge part of my life, and now that it's over, all that matters to me is keeping my friendship with him.

I recently found out there is a new girl in Marty's life. The news that he has someone else

Real Estate for Sale

home. 2150 sq. ft. 3 bedroom,

2 baths, office, 2 living areas,

ash cabinets, fireplace. Ga-

zebo, 2 storage bldgs., 3/4

acre, secluded. Lovely yard.

Vehicles

1975 ONE Ton Cab & Chassis.

New 350 engine, \$1,800.00.

2003 FORD Ranger XLT. Fully

FOR SALE 1991 Ford Taurus.

Good condition, loaded. Call

'04 Freestar Vans

6000 Available

Rebates

Bob Brock Ford

500 W. 4th 267-7424

16,000 Miles

Call (432)213-0989.

Loaded.

\$15,500.00.

(432)466-0240.

(432)263-7373.

\$105,000. Call (432)263-4080.

TWO-STORY

our friendship? - Sad and Lonely in Colorado Dear Sad: For the moment, you can't. You need a breather from Marty so you can put the

breakup in perspective. You deserve to be in a healthy relationship where you don't have to be a doormat in order to gain someone's love. Marty did not appreciate your constant need to please him. Such effort can be suffocating.

Do not contact Marty. Go out with friends, get involved in fun activities. and concentrate on ways to be good to yourself. If you need counseling, get it. Time will ease your heartbreak. Relationships should be give-and-take, and yours was all give.

Dear Annie: My 33-yearold daughter, "Lily," is irresponsible when it comes to paying her bills. She has a full-time job and is divorced with two

teenage children. When Lily was married, she and her husband lied about the reasons why they could not pay rent, borrowed money that they never paid back and also moved in with us. Each time they screwed up, we bailed them out. My wife and I finally got tired of all the lies and threw them out of the house.

Now that Lily is divorced, she is back in our home and on the same destructive path. There are two grandchildren involved. What's a parent to do? — Desperate Dear Desperate: It's

hard to let your child make her own mistakes, sink or swim. Lily is 33 years old and needs to learn about fiscal responsibility. As long as she knows you will pay her way, she will let you. Teach her how to keep a budget, but don't bail her out. Show her how to start saving so she can live independently. If necessary, offer to keep the kids while she learns how to fend for herself.

Dear Annie: I am a road cyclist and would like drivers to please follow a few courteous behaviors:

1. When you are passing a cyclist, please wait until there is room. I've had many side mirrors nearly hit me and loose gravel flung in my face.

2. If you are approaching an intersection that has a right-hand bike lane, please make sure you are not cutting off a cyclist as you turn. 3. Pay attention to how

fast we're moving. Some cyclists can maintain speeds in excess of 20 mph. Misjudgment has led to many near-accidents.

4. Cyclists have the right of way, just like pedestrians, at intersections. Please allow us to cross the street before you zoom ahead at the green light.

I know there are some cyclists who don't obey traffic laws, but for those of us who do, could you please watch out for us? Dedicated Reader and Cyclist

Dear Cyclist: We appreciate your pointers. Drivers and cyclists both should take care to watch out for one another.

Dear Annie: This past summer, my 19-year-old daughter, "Joy," was arrested for murder. There is no question that

she did it.

Four years ago, Joy moved out of my house and went to live with my ex-husband and his wife. In those four years, Joy quit school, was in and out of trouble, and became pregnant. My ex and his wife now have custody of our 3-year-old granddaughter, and I must say, they are doing a wonderful job raising

Even though Joy always was a handful, we did our best to bring her up right and sought professional help all along the way. It just never did any good. I'm trying to come to terms with what my daughter has done, but I can't find any support groups for parents whose children have committed heinous crimes. There are lots of victims' groups, but none that address the grief and despair of the families of the perpetrators.

What do I say when people ask me how my daughter is doing? -Feeling Alone

Dear Alone: Society is quick to blame the parents when a child commits a crime, even when parents have done everything possible to provide a loving, decent home life. You do not have to convey any information about Joy's current status unless you want to. You need only say, "Joy is fine, thanks."

No matter what your child has done, we know you still love her. We are not aware of any support group, but counseling is always a good idea when faced with such anguish. Ask your doctor or clergyperson to refer you to someone.

Readers: We Dear recently printed a Web site for those interested in student financial aid. A more direct site is www.fafsa.ed.gov. Our apologies, and our thanks to those readers who knew better and told us





so soon after our breakup

has ripped me apart. I'm

not trying to ruin his new

relationship, but how can

I deal with such heart-

break and still maintain

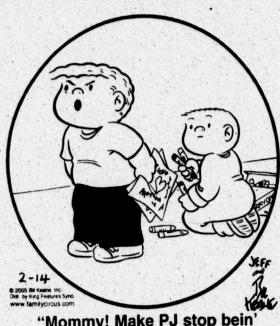
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7			Extreme Mak- eover: Home	Rubi	Trading Spouses		La Mujer en el Espejo	Fear Factor (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	Antiques Roadshow	Monster House	Officer and a Gentleman	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	Ltaw & Order (CC) (DVS)	Club Comic View	Movie: Aladdin (CC)		Pittsburgh at Syracuse	Movie: It Could Happen to You
8	:PM :30	The Bachelorette	The Bachelorette	Amor Real	24 (CC)	Raymond Two/Half Men		Las Vegas (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	American Experience	Monster Garage	(CC) -		(CC) (DVS)	Movie: Book of Love	:45 Movie:		College Basketbali:	(CC) :45 Movie:
		Supernanny (CC)	Supernanny (CC)	Cristina "	Malcolm-Mid. '70s Show		Te Voy a En- senar a Querer	Medium (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	:	(CC) (DVS) DeFord Bailey		Guide: Guilty Pleasures		(CC) (DVS)	1	Aladdin (CC)	25 Hottest Couples-Sports	Kansas at Texas Tech	The Cutting Edge
40	:PM	News (CC) Nightline	News	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.		News Late Show-	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	Movie: The Distinguished	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Monster House	Movie: Forget Paris	The Ultimate Fighter	Without a Trace (CC)	Nightly News Grown Folks	That's-Raven	Tilt (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Body o
	:PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC)	La Hora	Becker (CC) Becker (CC)	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night-	Gentleman (CC)	Booker Scrivner	Sign Off	Monster Garage	•	The Playbook Blind Date	NYPD Blue (CC)	Midnight Love	Proud Family Kim Possible	NBA Fastbreak Streetball	College Basketball:	Evidence (CC)
	:AM	Live (CC) News (CC)		Alma Rebelde	Spin City Dharma-Greg		Maria Celeste Programa		Movie: Amos & Andrew	Update/Israel How Can I		American Chopper	Guide: Guilty Pleasures	Blind Date. Shipmates	NYPD Blue (CC)	Club Comic View	Boy World Lizzie McGuire		Air Force at New Mexico	12:15 Movie: Species II

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Y'THINK I COULD HAVE A "SURE...IF WE CAN FIND, VALENTINE'S DAY HUG?" SOMEONE WHO'S WILLING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! Make PJ stop bein' helpful!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE







Today's Birthdays: TV personality Hugh Downs is

84. Actress-singer Florence

Henderson is 71. Country

singer Razzy Bailey is 66.

Jazz musician Maceo

Parker is 62. Movie director

Committee Chairman Judd

Gregg, R-N.H., is 58. TV per-

sonality Pat O'Brien is 57.

Magician Teller (Penn and Teller) is 57. Cajun singer-

musician Michael Doucet

Senate

Parker is 61. Journalist Carl Bernstein is

Budget

Alan

61.

BC





FOR A WHILE

NOT REALLY.



AGNES







HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 14, the 45th day of 2005. There are 320 days left in the year. This is Valentine's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 14, 1929, the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" took place in a Chicago garage as seven rivals of Al Capone's gang were gunned down.

On this date:

In 1778, the American ship "Ranger" carried the recently adopted Star and Stripes to a foreign port for the first time as it arrived in France.

In 1859, Oregon was admitted to the Union as the 33rd state.

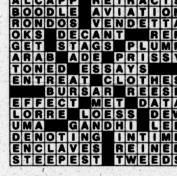
In 1903, the Department of Commerce and Labor was established. (It was divided into separate departments of Commerce and Labor in

In 1912, Arizona became the 48th state of the Union. In 1920, the League of Women Voters was founded in Chicago; its first president was Maude Wood

Chile and Ecuador joined

In 1979, Adolph Dubs, the ambassador U.S. Afghanistan, was kidnapped in Kabul by Muslim extremists and killed in a shootout between his abductors and police.

Lebanon, was freed. In 1989, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini



ACROSS

- 1 Tulsa's state: Abbr.
- 5 Not quite hot
- 9 Portrait holder 14 Curriculum
- 15 Director
- Kazan
- 16 Artist's stand
- gifts 20 Produce,
- 21 Throat-clearing
- 22 Stalactite site
- pucker
- of sound)
- 27 Cash-register
- key 30 Vanished
- 34 Business letter abbr.
- 35 British prep school
- 39 Valentine's Day
- gifts
- 43 Defeat in boxing
- 44 "Beware the
- 45 Metallic rock
- 48 Stubborn
- hammer
- for instance 52 Jai
- a crowd

- Park. In 1945, Peru, Paraguay,

the United Nations.

In 1984, 6-year-old Stormie Jones became the world's first heart-liver transplant recipient at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (she lived until November 1990). In 1985, Cable News

Network reporter Jeremy Levin, who was being held hostage by extremists in

called on Muslims to kill Salman Rushdie, author of "The Satanic Verses," a novel condemned as blasphemous.

(Beausoleil) is 54. Actor Ken Wahl is 48. Actress Meg Tilly is 45. Singer-producer Dwayne Wiggins is 44. Actor Enrico Colantoni is Answer to previous puzzle

Newsday Crossword

- section

- 17 Valentine's Day
- as a play
- sound
- 23 Things to
- _ 1 (speed

- 31 Skirt border
- 37 Worker bee
- _ of Troy
- of March"
- 46 Huntley or
- **Atkins**
- 50 Ball-_
- 51 Gorillas,
- 55 Sound of
- 57 In any way

- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 8 Was profitable 33 Not at all neat
- 9 Swampy ground
- 10 Cattle farm
- 11 On a cruise.
- 65 Simplify perhaps 66 Actress 12 TV producer Moreno

61 Valentine's Day

gifts 64 Employee's

extra pay

68 Gush

69 Ship pole

DOWN

1 Yours and

mine

2 Necktie

3 Capital

feature

of Peru

5 Drenched

6 Assumed

7 Well-to-do

name

4 Immediately,

- 67 Poker rituals Griffin
 - 13 Alternatively
 - 18 Astronaut
 - Armstrong Old
 - Cowhand"
 - 24 Fruit covering
 - 26 Hand over legally
 - 27 Mexican
 - snack
 - 28 None of the above
 - just by looking
 - 29 Fur coat
 - 30 Reached

 - 32 Go in
 - 31 Unruly crowd

- 36 Write things
- down in class 38 Cloudburst

GIFTS FOR TODAY by Sally R. Stein

- 40 Fairy-tale starter 41 Earring shape
- 47 "Present!" 49 Back part
- 50 Make angry
- 51 Stood up
- 52 Diplomat Eban 53 Lake bird
- 54 Mom's sister **56 PDQ**
- 58 Pakistan's locale 59 "Shall we?"
- response 60 Atty.-to-be's
- exam 62 Battleship
- letters 63 Hardly any

10 11 12 13 14 20 28 29 31 32 33 35 36 42 52 | 53 | 54

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