

BIG SPRING

HERALD

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Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

FRIDAY

February 25, 2005

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 34°-36° TOMORROW 54°-56°

BRIEFLY

Senior driving course offered

A senior citizen driver safety course will be taught at the Big Spring Senior Center March 2-3.

The course will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. each day with a half-hour lunch break.

There is a \$10 fee for books. Most auto insurance companies give a discount on insurance premiums when the course is completed. To register, call the Senior Center at 267-1628. Class size is limited to 35.

The course is the nation's first and largest classroom refresher for motorists age 50 and older. It deals with the physical changes of the mature driver and identifies ways that such drivers may compensate for those changes.

Benefit cook-off set for FHS band

A benefit barbecue cook-off for the Forsan band trip to Washington D.C. is set for March 12 at 703 W. Third. Categories are brisket, pork ribs, chicken halves, sausage and jackpot beans.

Cooking will begin early that morning and judging will be at 1 p.m. Dining begins at 1 p.m. also.

Registration is \$10 per category and plates are \$5 per person. Cooks may register now by calling 263-6862.

The event is sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 3188, the American Legion Post 506, the Permian Basin Chapter of the Cossacks MC and the Big Spring Bass Club.

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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.



U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, brought area residents up to speed on the current efforts to adopt a new federal Transportation Bill during a special presentation Thursday morning.

Progress on Ports-to-Plains going well but long road ahead

U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer discusses the Transportation Bill, Page 3A.

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Officials with the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition took time to update local residents on the groups efforts Thursday morning, and while a great deal of progress has been made

in the past year, there's still a very long road ahead.

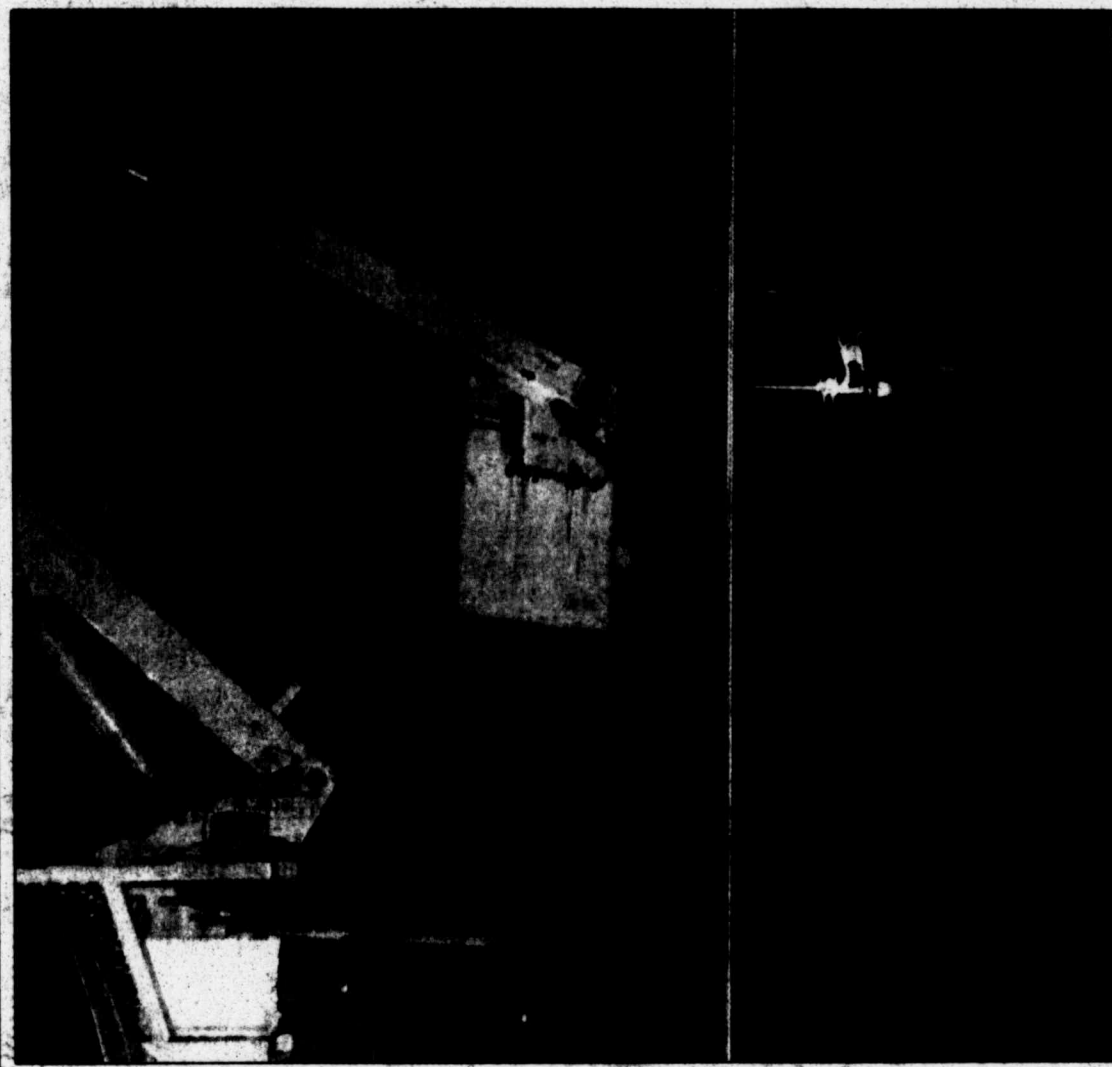
"The corridor is about 1,400 miles long," said Michael Reeves, president of the Ports-to-Plains Coalition. "We found out during the planning stages that the good thing about it is 511 miles of it is already four- to six-lane divided highways. It's important to have as much of it already in place, because that's less we have to do to build the

corridor.

"Another 137 miles are currently under construction or design, so that puts us about halfway where we need to go in expanding these roads to at least four-lane divided highways. There are also 15 reliever routes planned for the corridor, one of which will be right here in Big Spring. The reliever routes make up about 113 miles."

See ROUTE, Page 3A

SPEEDY REPAIRS



A traffic accident at the intersection of FM 700 and Gollad at 8:05 p.m. Thursday forced TXU employees to work on these electrical lines while they were still "hot." According to police officials on the scene, the pole was sheared off approximately 3 feet from the ground after a pickup ran a stop sign at the intersection of Gollad and the FM 700 S. Service Road. The truck hit the pole and rolled once, coming to a stop in the empty field southeast of the intersection. TXU employees worked for several hours to erect a new pole for the lines, which provide electricity for the warning lights on several towers located on South Mountain. The driver of the pickup was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center in what emergency officials described as serious condition.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Encore!

Symphony set for performance Saturday night

By STEVE REAGAN Staff Writer

Saturday's performance of the Big Spring Symphony provides



Graumann

Keith Graumann an opportunity to do more than just have the orchestra strut its stuff, musically speaking. It will also be a reunion of sorts as Graumann and the symphony team with piano soloist Cynthia Bauhof-Williams in "An Encore Performance" at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium.

See ENCORE, Page 3A

Recent rainfall benefits O.H. Ivie Reservoir

Special to the Herald

Recent rainfall and the promise of more is producing positive results for at least two Colorado River Municipal Water District lakes.

San Angelo received about 0.7 inches of rainfall over two days and higher amounts fell across the Colorado River and Elm Creek watersheds. The result was good inflows for the CRMWD, particularly at the Ivie Reservoir, which was up 1.5 vertical feet and still rising Thursday.

"With each rain episode, we seem to be getting better inflows. That indicates the watershed is in better shape than we have seen for much of the last 10 years..."

John Grant, CRMWD general manager



Internet provides key to finding downed WWII pilot's remains

By STEVE REAGAN Staff Writer

The Internet has been described as both a blessing and a curse. For author Diana Thompson Dale, it provided a gateway to solving a 56-year-old mystery.

Dale's uncle, Billy Wisner, was a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps when his P-38 fighter plane disappeared over northern Italy in 1944. His family's quest to discover his fate resulted in the book, "Finding Billy: An Internet Odyssey," which Dale discussed at a luncheon at Hangar 25 Thursday morning.

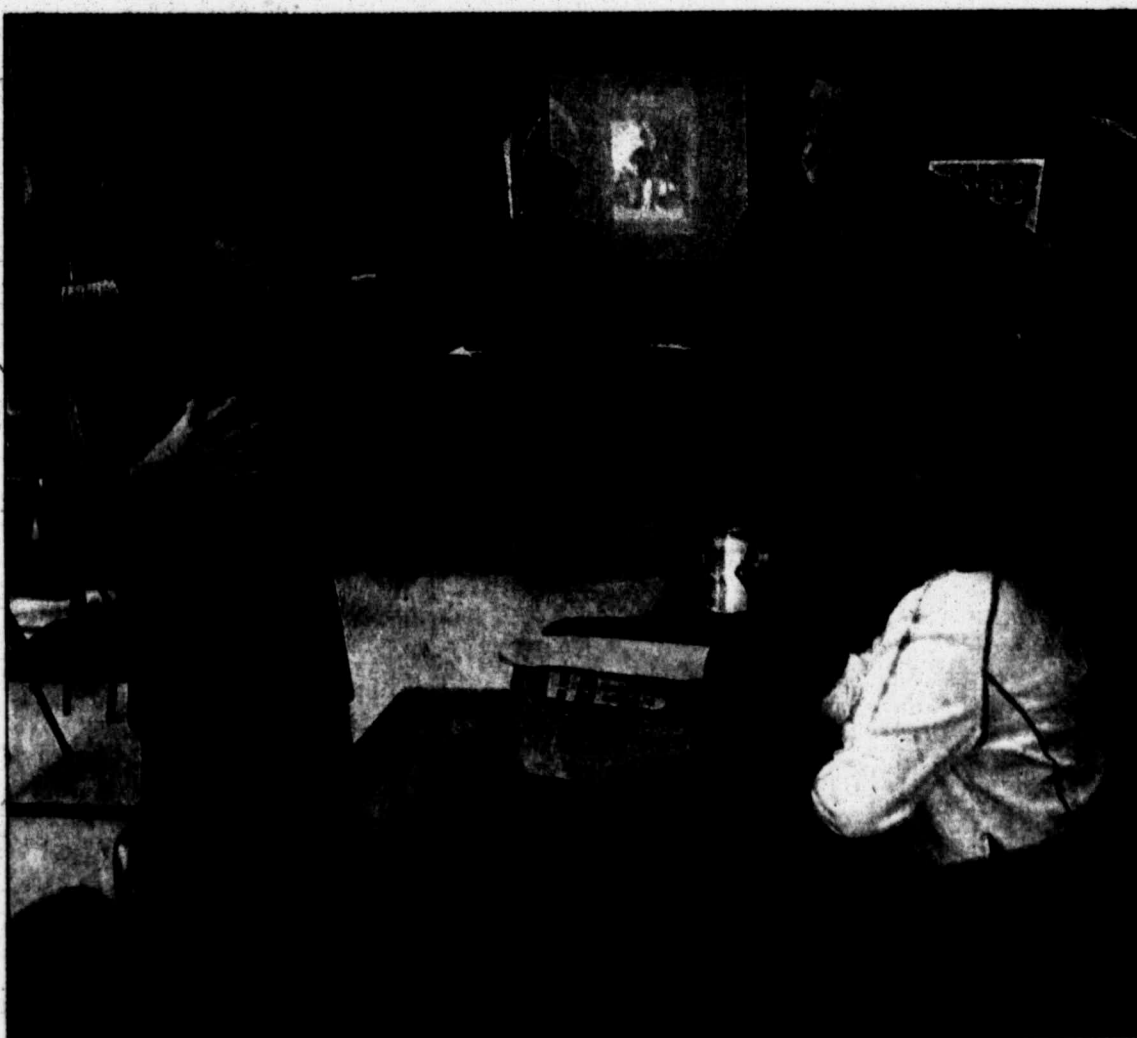
Wisner's plane went down while he was performing bomber escort duty over the Italian Alps

in October 1944. Debris struck his aircraft, causing it to crash, Dale said. What followed was more than a half-century of frustration for Wisner's family, as they struggled to find out what happened to the lost airman.

Dale estimates that Wisner's mother — her grandmother — wrote "at least 350 letters" to various agencies and individuals for information, before finally giving up her search.

"My grandmother used to tell me about him. She said I even looked like him," Dale said. "Like I wrote in the book, she imprinted her loss onto me ... So I told myself I would find out what hap-

See BILLY, Page 3A



"Finding Billy" author Diana Thompson Dale, left, and her husband, Jack Dale, center, talk with Martha Dawes Davis during a reception at Hangar 25 Air Museum Thursday morning. Ms. Dale spoke as part of Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Lunch and Learn program.

FEBRUARY 25 2005

Obituaries

Fr. Tom Kelley



The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, and specifically the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of San Juan in Midland, lost a most beloved priest after a valiant battle with cancer. The Rev. Thomas (Tom) Kelley went to be in the bosom of the Lord from the Midland Memorial Hospital in Midland Feb. 21, 2005.

Fr. Tom was born in Titusville, Penn., Jan. 8, 1943, as the only son of DeAnna Heher Kelley and Spicer C. Kelley, who had two daughters. He attended the Cathedral Preparatory H.S., St. Mark Seminary H.S. and Gannon University all in Erie; the St. Bonaventure University and Christ the King Seminary in Olean, N.Y., and the North American College in Rome, Italy.

He was ordained Dec. 21, 1967, at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Italy. He received a degree in theology from the Gregorian University in Rome, and a master's degree in education from Edinboro University in Edinboro, Penn.

The following are Fr. Tom's assignments prior to the Bishop of Erie agreeing to send Fr. Tom to the Diocese of San Angelo: from 1968 to 1972, he was a parochial vicar at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie; from 1972 to 1985, he served as faculty member, principal, vice-rector and finally rector of St. Mark Seminary in Erie; from 1985 to 1989, he returned to the North American College in Rome, Italy and served as the academic dean; from 1989 to 1990, he was the administrator of St. Michael parish in Greenville, Penn., and then served as pastor from 1990 to 1994.

The Bishop of Erie then sent Fr. Tom to the San Angelo Diocese for a six-month period July 5, 1994. He was officially attached - incardinated - to the Diocese of San Angelo Feb. 1, 2001.

His many assignments within the Diocese of San Angelo follow: his first assignment was as Parochial Vicar at St. Agnes and St. Joseph Churches in Fort Stockton, St. James Church in Sanderson, St. Isidore Mission in Coyanosa and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission in Imperial; Sept. 6, 1994, he became the pastor of St. Agnes in Fort Stockton and the St. Isidore Mission in Coyanosa and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission in Imperial; Feb. 11, 1995, Fr. Tom received permission from the Bishop in Erie to remain in the San Angelo Diocese for another year, beginning Jan. 5, 1995; Oct. 10, 1995, the Bishop of Erie told Fr. Tom to return to Erie after Dec. 5, 1995; Nov. 11, 1996, he received permission from the Erie Diocese to return to the San Angelo Diocese for three years, effective Jan. 2, 1997; and on that date he was assigned as parochial administrator of Our Lady of San Juan Church in Midland; Feb. 1, 2001, Fr. Tom was incardinated into the San Angelo Diocese; Aug. 8, 2003, he was assigned as pastor of Our Lady of San Juan, where he served until his death, became the director of Deaconate and guided 30 men of the Diocese until they were ordained as deacons of the church.

Aug. 28, 2003, Bishop Pfeifer assigned Fr. Tom as dean of the Midland/Odessa Deanery.

Throughout his priestly vocation, Fr. Tom was a member of the following boards and committees: Continuing Education of Diocesan Priests, Ethics Committee of Greenville Regional Hospital, president of the Association of Eastern Region of College Seminaries, Papal Evaluation Team of American Seminaries, Priestly Formation Committee of the National Bishop's Conference, the Seminary Board of the National Catholic Education Association, the Diocesan Priests' Senate and Personnel Board.

Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI, will be the main celebrant of the Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. today, Feb. 25, 2005, at Our Lady of San Juan Church. The Rev. Joseph D. Wolf will deliver the homily. Burial will immediately follow the funeral Mass in Resthaven Cemetery in Midland.

Fr. Tom's mother, DeAnna Heher Kelley, died Jan. 11, 2003, and his father, Spicer C. Kelley, died March 27, 2003.

He is survived by his two sisters, Mrs. Susan Dixon and husband, Kenneth of Dyer, Ind.; and Mrs. Mary Margaret Gupta and her husband, B.D. of Swampscott, Maine. Fr. Tom is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Final arrangements are being done by the Pipkin Funeral Home in Midland.

"Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the kingdom of God."

Paid obituary

Tommy C. White

Tommy C. White, 60, of Coahoma died Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2005, at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005, at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. today at the funeral home.

He was born April 19, 1944, in Big Spring and married Lois Henderson July 23, 1966, in Las Vegas, Nev. He retired from Fina after 13 years of service, had served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Lois White of Coahoma; two sons, James White of Frisco and Tommy R. White of Big Spring; three daughters, Melissa Sharp of Big Spring, Liz Adamson of Coahoma and Lisa Herrington of Big Lake; five brothers, Johnny White and Rommy White, both of Brownwood, James White, Vernon White and Roland White, all of Big Spring; four sisters, Serena Currier of Liberty City, Judy Mann of Big Spring, DeeDee King of Coahoma and Ginger Gossett of Colorado City; 11 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and a granddaughter.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Gideon's International, P.O. Box 133, Big Spring 79721-0133.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Mary Nellie Allen



Mary Nellie Allen, 78, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2005, in a local hospital. Memorial services are 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Byron Brown, pastor of the Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene, officiating.

She was born April 14, 1926, in Russell County, Ky., to Frank and Mary Hare. She married William Allen Feb. 23, 1957, in Tunica County, Miss., and he preceded her in death May 14, 1989. She had lived in Big Spring since the 1980s and she was a Christian.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Rosie Stapp of Big Spring; a sister, Elizabeth Rooks of Columbia, Ky.; a brother, Elva Hare of Rustle Springs, Ky.; five grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

She also was preceded in death by one son, William Stapp; her parents; one sister, Adda Withers; and one brother, Alva Hare.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Virginia May Smith

Virginia May Smith, 77, of Snyder, died Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005, at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Services are 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005, at Bell-Cypert Seale Chapel. Burial will be at Hillside Memorial Gardens in Snyder.

She was born April 3, 1927, in Scurry County and married A.P. Smith Dec. 2, 1945. He preceded her in death Jan. 17, 2005. She was a member of East Side Church of Christ in Snyder and had lived in Snyder since 1945.

She also was preceded in death by one son, John Lynn Smith, one sister, Fannie Rachael Due and one brother, Raymond Richard Brunkhurst.

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Gloria Jean and Dennis Watson of Big Spring and Jo Ann and Tim Mitchell of Fort Worth; her sons and daughters-in-law, Charles "Butch" and Jean Smith of Carlsbad, N.M., Curtis and Marilyn Smith and Terry and Billie Smith, all of Benicia, Calif., and Tommy and Cheryl Smith of Fairfield, Calif.; an adopted son and his wife, Brent and Mary Jo Shafer of Ira; three brothers, Ray and Jerry Brunkhurst and Bob Meese, all of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Evelyn Anderson of Washington and Stella Fredricks of Oregon; 24 grandchildren; and 46 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home in Snyder.

Rodger Darrell Mize

Rodger Darrell Mize, 41, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Weather

Tonight...Cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. Lows in the Mid 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. Highs in the lower 50s. Light and variable winds becoming east around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the upper 50s. South winds around 10 mph.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. Lows in the Lower 30s.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 60.

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

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

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

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-11-22-23. Bonus Ball: 22. Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$200,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 15-16-34-35-36. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-4-9

BIG SPRING HERALD
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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

Police blotter

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

- **AGUSTIN FIERRO JR.**, 38, of 106 E. 24th Street, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving while intoxicated - third offense, no liability insurance and no driver's license.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Road.
- **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 11th Street.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1000 block of Main Street.
- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported in the 100 block of Third Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- **ERIK PAUL WAYNE QUALLS**, 39, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of criminal trespass of a habitation and criminal mischief.
- **JONATHAN ALCANTAR**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **VICTOR FLORES JR.**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury/family violence.
- **NAKITHA LAQUITHA WEST**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and intentionally giving false information.
- **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 3000 block of S. Anderson Road.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 200 block of Refinery Road.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported near the intersection of Highway 350 and County Road 53 at 8:08 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Donley at 8:58 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3900 block of Rice at 10:36 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 11th Place at 10:28 a.m. Thursday. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 8900 block of N. Highway 350 at 12:52 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to the VA Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Vines at 7:23 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Goliad at 8:04 p.m. Thursday. Two people was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Virginia at 9:26 p.m. Thursday. Two people was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 100 block of E. 19th Street at 12:39 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3000 block of S. Anderson Road at 9:02 p.m. Thursday. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Cherokee at 8:16 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road at 5:15 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87 at 7:11 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to the VA Medical Center.

Take note

□ **VFW POST No. 2013 ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER** is set for 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday at the post, 500 Driver Road. Dinner, including chili, beans, cornbread and desert, is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Open to the public. Call 393-5715 for more information.

LIFE AFTER LOSS
In conjunction with the American Cancer Society

Free Grief Support Group
Six Consecutive Thursday Nights
March 3rd thru April 7th
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Weekly Topics:
† What to Expect
† The Process of Grief
† Living with Memories
† Needs When You Are Grieving
† Honoring Special Occasions
† What Now?

111 E. 7th Street, Ste. A
Space is Limited-Registration Required
Closed After Second Session
264-7597

Home Hospice
10 YEARS OF DEDICATION

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Neugebauer hopes to see transportation bill pass this year

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

As a new federal Transportation Bill remains in limbo on Capital Hill, U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, said he and his colleagues hope to see the bill completed this year — maybe.

"We are hopeful that we will get a transportation bill this year," said Neugebauer, who spoke Thursday during an update meeting on the Ports to Plains Corridor, one of the many Texas transportation projects that will be directly effected by the bill. "We were hopeful last year. I think things are materializing in Congress and we had some changes in the House and the Senate. Some of the folks that had been obstructing the transportation project didn't get to come back. "We're hoping as we move forward, particularly on the Senate side, to make sure we do as much negotiating as we can

to make sure we get this bill passed in the House and the Senate, so we can pass a bill that makes sense."

Neugebauer said last year's failed bill was a result of two different arms of the government with two different ideas on what direction the bill should take.

"Last year we passed a bill in the House and the Senate. They were pretty far apart and we were never able to get both sides to agree," said Neugebauer. "The White House had a dog in that fight, and you have the House and the Senate, and it was just difficult to get all the parties to agree to that. As a result of that, we extended the current transportation bill until May of this year. This one won't be a six-year bill. Instead, it will be a five-year bill."

One of the key arguments between the three entities was the overall cost of the bill, and according to Neugebauer, that may be a hurdle that's soon

behind them.

"We're hopeful the number that's being kicked around right now is about a \$284 billion bill," said Neugebauer. "This is a number the White House has signed off on and I think the House leadership has signed off on. I think we're working to get the Senate to sign off on that as well."

"They've always had a larger number in mind, and we would all like a larger number — the problem is we don't have the revenues to do that without going into the general fund, and that creates either additional deficit or you have to find a way to finance it. And I believe the consensus right now is that's not a direction we need to move in."

Speculating on the outcome of the bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, Neugebauer said he expects to see it hit the floor sometime in March.

"I think the House Transportation Committee is

going to mark up their bill, and I think that bill is going to look a lot like the bill we had on the table last year ... I think we could actually see the transportation bill on the House floor by the first or second week in March. Once it gets out of the House that will put the ball in the Senate's court, and hopefully we can get them to go to work on it pretty quickly."

While from a distance it may appear the bill is coming together, Neugebauer said there are still serious negotiations going on concerning the return rate for Texas — the percentage of funds Texas is getting back from the federal government compared to what the state is chipping in.

"One of the points that is still being ironed out right now is the number," Neugebauer. "And I think they're getting close on what the number should be ... Texas has certainly always had a tremendous interest in that because we're a

major donor to the process. So the amount of money we are able to get back and put into Texas projects is of tremendous interest to us. Some people are still arguing over 2 to 3 percent. Well, when you talk about whether Texas gets 89 percent or 92 percent, we're talking about lots of money."

"We want to make sure that as we work on this transportation bill we don't negotiate away the return for Texas. Because even if you make it bigger, if you don't address that transportation return number for Texas you really don't accomplish a lot of the goals we're trying to accomplish. Personally, I think we'll see a number around 92 or 93 percent. I think the ability to negotiate a full 95 percent return for Texas is going to be extremely difficult."

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



ROUTE

Continued from Page 1A

Reeves said the corridor is still approximately 30 years from completion, and will carry a very hefty price tag.

"One of the things people ask me most often is how much will it cost," said Reeves. "We just completed a study conducted by all four states involved in the corridor and came up with a total cost of about \$2.8 billion. That's to fund the entire project."

"Most of that is for expansion and reliever routes — about \$2.6 billion. Also included is about \$10 million for railroad crossings, which are very important to safety, and \$47 million for the ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems), which includes computerized road signs and things like that."

One of the topics drawing the greatest amount of attention during Thursday's town hall

meeting was the reliever route planned for the west side of Big Spring.

"Reliever routes can be controversial," said Reeves. "What we like to do is work with TxDOT and help the community get in on the planning of those reliever routes to maximize the benefits from them. You don't want to cut off the town from everything. However, you want to make sure you have a safe environment in the community."

"Folks in Lamar, Colo., are a great example of that. They're flooded with truck traffic running right through the middle of Main Street in downtown Lamar. You have a hard time opening your car door on Main Street to go in the shops because of all the truck traffic."

Blair W. Haynie, director of transportation planning and development for TxDOT's Abilene District, said the Big Spring reliever route project will be broken into six projects.

"The first project will be to build a 4-lane divided

highway from U.S. 87 to south Interstate Highway 20," said Haynie. "This will be the southwest portion of the route. There will be a key intersection at the southern end at Highway 87, and there will be a diamond interchange at Interstate 20. The cost of this will be \$30 million with the cost of the right-of-way \$2.7 million."

Haynie went on to explain the remaining projects, which will place key intersections in and around Big Spring. However, the time frame is anything but an exact science.

"The schematics are currently 75 percent complete," said Haynie. "So TxDOT is moving along fairly well with the plans for here in Big Spring. We're definitely making progress."

"We'll have to go through a standard bidding phase, but we're still a ways away from the construction phase of the project. We still have to purchase right of way and go through the entire plan

and develop process. I'd say we're approximately 10 to 20 years away from completion of the Big Spring reliever route."

BILLY

Continued from Page 1A

opened to him."

The Internet proved to be the key to finally unlocking the mystery to locating Wisner, Dale said.

A former squadronmate of her uncle helped obtain an Individual Deceased Personnel File, an Army document that included pertinent information on the details — including location and dates — surrounding Wisner's crash. From there, she said it

was a matter of enlisting the aid of Army veterans, Italian journalists and other interested parties to compile enough information on the whereabouts of Wisner's remains to convince U.S. Mortuary Affairs officials to conduct a search in northern

Italy that eventually resulted in the location of the crash site and final resting spot of Wisner's remains.

Compared to a half-century of silence, the speed in which the search ended was almost shocking, Dale conceded.

"The core search ... took four months," she said. "This is after 56 years of knowing nothing."

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

ENCORE

Continued from Page 1A

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students, and will be available at the door.

Graumann and Bauhof-Williams taught together at Brazosport College, and he said he is looking forward to working again with the pianist.

"She's a good friend of mine," Graumann said. "We collaborated a lot in those days, and this is the first time since then that we've worked together, so I'm very excited about that."

Bauhof-Williams will perform Grieg's Piano Concerto during the second half of Saturday night's performance. The first half will feature the

symphony performing a variety of music styles, Graumann said.

Graumann said the symphony will begin its performance with a "spectacular opening" — Beethoven's Egmont Overture — then follows that with the somewhat-melancholy Adagio for Strings" by Samuel Barber.

"It's beautiful, yet sad," Graumann said of Barber's piece. "It was played at the funerals of presidents Roosevelt and Kennedy."

The orchestra will then liven things up with Mussorgsky's "Night on Bald Mountain," one of the many classical pieces featured in Disney's animated masterpiece, "Fantasia," Graumann said.

The symphony concludes the first half of the performance with "Land of the Mountain and the Flood," by Hamish MacCun.

Graumann said the performance, aside from

being a reunion with a colleague, will also be a special "thank you" to those who have supported the symphony in the past.

"We're grateful to the generous donors who make our symphony a

reality," Graumann said.

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

CRMWD

Continued from Page 1A

For years, the district has seen poor inflows even when rains did fall because soils were parched and streams and draws were clogged with vegetation. During 2004, above average rainfall and several big rains helped to soak the soils and clear the waterways.

"With each rain

episode, we seem to be getting better inflows," said John Grant, CRMWD general manager. "That indicates the watershed is in better shape than we have seen for much of the last 10 years and it gives us good reason for optimism. Some normal spring storms across West Texas could really improve our water supply situation."

The forecast calls for continued rain throughout the weekend.

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John W. Birdwell, Sr., 67, died Tuesday. Funeral services were at 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- The Eagles Lodge and all of the groups and individuals supporting the Vietnam Memorial Committee fund-raiser to support the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial grounds.

- Howard College dental hygiene students on another well-run Children's Dental Health Fair.

- Patti Meeks, who is retiring after almost 23 years as secretary to the warden at the Federal Correctional Institution — Big Spring.

- The Howard College Drama Department, for its presentation of "The Phoenix Dimension," which continues today, Friday and Monday at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday in the college Practical Arts Building.

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

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

We will suffer because of 'battle of elephants'

Among those still interested in fiscal sanity, and that includes quite a few Republicans, I bring your attention to two tax cuts that should be repealed right now for the sound reason that they are perfectly nuts.

A whopping 54 percent of the two cuts goes to the two-tenths of one percent of Americans who make more than \$1 million a year. And 97 percent of the cuts goes to the 4 percent of the population with incomes over \$200,000. (All figures from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the Joint Committee on Taxation.)

The two cuts were not part of President Bush's original tax-cut proposals, they were slipped in by Congress in 2001 and will be fully effective only in 2010. One repeals a provision that scales back the magnitude of itemized deductions taken by high-income taxpayers. The other repeals a provision under which the personal

MOLLY
IVINS

exemption is phased out for households with very high incomes.

The Joint Committee estimates that these two cut tax cuts will reduce the government's income by \$9 billion in 2010 and \$16 billion in 2015. The center points out that the cost of cuts are significantly understated because the estimates do not assume relief from the alternative minimum tax, a measure popular on Capitol Hill this year.

The center's report says, "If these two tax cuts were to be cancelled ... Congress and the president could avert cuts in areas like health care, child care, housing assistance and food stamp assistance for low-income working families."

It is a rather clear choice of moral values.

Also of note is what appears to be a new dimension in how monied special interests buy legislation through Congress. We are all familiar with both corporate lobbyists and the system of legalized bribery known as "campaign finance." But now comes an unholy tsunami of corporate money aimed not at politicians but at ourselves. Over \$200 million will be spent to convince us

that we should privatize Social Security and change the rules of class-action lawsuits. In other words, they want to make us in favor of our own screwing by corporate special interests.

This has been done before, but not at this incredible level. When the insurance industry mounted a \$10 million campaign in 1993 to defeat the Clinton health insurance plan (remember Harry and Louise?), no one had ever seen that kind of money spent to kill a single bill before. And now, The Washington Post reports, "Corporate America, the financial services industry, conservative think tanks, much of the Washington trade association community, the Republican Party, and GOP lobbyists and consultants are prepared to spend \$200 million or more to influence the outcome of two of the toughest legislative fights in recent memory."

Bush's Social Security privatization plan is so bad that it is not mentioned that it is Social Security, which he now admits, it is unclear if even a massive public relations campaign can save it. But be prepared to watch them try. Coming soon to a televi-

Women say — or imply — the same thing all the time. They demand work schedules that are friendly to mothers. They observe that women excel in social and verbal arenas — and that's no biggie. But when a man says about women that women say about women, it can be career-ending offense.

Summers' third mistake was that he did not treat women badly. Take Summer's old boss, Bill Clinton, who was able to date while married, as his top female staffers (who considered themselves feminists) strove to protect him from nubile workers. In this politically correct era, words speak louder than actions: You can act like a sexist cad, but you can't talk as if you think a sexist cad conceivably might have a point.

Summers' fourth mistake was that he was reasonable. Before his remarks on women in science, Summers noted that he might be wrong and that he didn't think it was right that there were differences in gender socialization.

If Summers sounded like a deranged, uneducated misanthrope, however, Harvard Yard would be filled with protesters citing the need for — all bow — "academic freedom." As it is, rare voices, such as that of law professor Alan Dershowitz, have invoked academic freedom in Summers' defense. But Dershowitz's take is by no means universal. A Harvard Crimson poll of the university's Arts and Letters faculty found that a disgraceful 32 percent of respondents said Summers should resign, while 55 percent said he should not.

Meanwhile, the "academic freedom" lobby has mobilized in support of University of Colorado, Boulder, ethnic studies professor Ward Churchill, who wrote a piece that called the Sept. 11 victims "little Eichmanns inhabiting the sterile sanctuary of the Twin

Towers." Churchill later tried to excuse the piece by explaining that he was targeting "people who function in investment and brokerage and trading capacity" because their activities lead to mass misery and death in the Third World.

Apparently, you don't have to be even remotely academic to hide behind academic freedom.

Or could it be that academic freedom only works for those on the left or the far left? Summers already had won ill will among Harvard's left for opposing university divestment from Israel, for questioning the academic performance of African American professor Cornel West (who split for Princeton) and for supporting a return of the ROTC on campus.

Academic freedom for members of the military? — I guess that would be taking academic freedom too far. After all, it would be wrong for academia to treat reserve officers — the men and women who protect this country — as equals. No, the ivory tower is too special for that.

Then, after banning the ROTC, Harvard profs whined that Summers is "dismissive and arrogant" — as one professor told the Boston Herald. Dismissive and arrogant? If anything, Summers is too accommodating. He keeps apologizing and promising to be more sensitive and a better listener when he ought to be blasting his critics for their intolerant rush to exile people who express unpopular ideas.

My advice to the Harvard president: Don't apologize and promise to be a better listener. Be a man.

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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Mob rule in academia: Summers' plight

Harvard president Lawrence H. Summers apologized yet again at a meeting with Harvard professors Tuesday for remarks he made some five weeks ago about the lack of substantial "presence of women in high-end scientific professions."

I can't believe I am even writing this column. The furor should have died down weeks ago, but thanks to a fiercely intolerant streak in most Harvard professors (who were emboldened by Summers' propensity to self-immolate), the controversy lives on as a mob of angry academics tries to run Summers out of Cambridge.

Where did Summers err? To start with, he concentrated on the wrong gender. If, for example, Summers had said that men are less likely to play the role of primary caregiver in the home, say, because men tend to be less nurturing than women, academia would have applauded his insight. There would be no charges of sexism, as sexism against men is no problem in the Ivy League.

Summers' next mistake was to be male. In his infamous speech to the National Bureau of Economic Research, Summers noted that women often don't want to work the hours needed to get to the top and that girls are "socialized toward nursing" while boys are "socialized toward building bridges." The quote that killed him: "In the special case of science and engineering, there are issues of intrinsic aptitude, and particularly of the variability of aptitude, and that those considerations are reinforced by what are, in fact, lesser factors involving socialization and continuing discrimination."

DEBRA
SAUNDERS

Gunman kills ex-wife, bystander in shooting spree

By ANABELLE GARAY
Associated Press Writer

TYLER (AP) — A man angered over a child support dispute with his ex-wife opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle outside the Smith County Courthouse, killing her and a man who tried to stop the bloodshed.

Before police killed the gunman a few miles away Thursday afternoon, three law enforcement officers and the man's son, who had been acting as a mediator between his parents, lay wounded on the historic courthouse square.

Police estimated David Hernandez Arroyo Sr., who had a history of spousal abuse and

weapons violations, shot 50 rounds outside the courthouse. Arroyo, 43, wore a military flak jacket and a bulletproof vest.

"He definitely came well-armed and prepared. We do understand there had been some threats made by him the previous week," Police Chief Gary Swindle said.

But Joshua Winters, an attorney who represented 41-year-old Maribel Estrada, said he doesn't believe she thought her ex-husband was dangerous. Estrada worked at a meat packing plant in Tyler and raised a 17-year-old and a 6-year-old with the help of her eldest son, Winters said.

Estrada and Mark Alan Wilson, 52, died in the gunfire.

Smith County Sheriff's Deputy Sherman Dollison, 28, was in critical condition at East Texas Medical Center after being shot four times in the liver, lungs and legs. The man's son, 23-year-old David Hernandez Arroyo Jr., was shot in the legs and was in fair condition. A sheriff's lieutenant and a Tyler police detective were treated and released.

Friends who visited the son in the hospital Thursday night said he told them that his father was always open about having a collection of weapons. The younger Arroyo said his father told him not to be afraid to use the guns if he were threatened, the friends said.

Aurea Seanez said the son

told them, "And look now, he used them on us."

Seanez said the younger Arroyo was a dutiful son who chauffeured his mother around because she couldn't drive and helped care for his younger siblings.

"He took good care of his mother," she said in Spanish.

Pilar Flores said the son recalled watching someone fire repeatedly at his father but he told them his father was shooting faster.

Wilson was credited with saving the son's life.

"One of the deputies at the scene said if it hadn't been for Mr. Wilson the son would be dead," Sheriff J.B. Smith said.

Wilson, a gun enthusiast who

once owned a shooting range, intervened after Arroyo killed his ex-wife and began shooting his adult son, witnesses said. Swindle said Wilson shot at Arroyo several times but his rounds weren't penetrating the armor.

"They traded shots, missing each other, and then the gunman hit Wilson and Wilson went down," Tyler Morning Telegraph publisher Nelson Clyde III said in Friday's editions of the newspaper. Clyde watched the shooting from a nearby restaurant.

"The gunman walked up to Wilson and shot him while he was on the ground," Clyde said. "I couldn't believe what I was seeing. It was sickening."

Pope breathing on own again day after doctors perform tracheotomy

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II is again breathing on his own but his doctors have advised him not to speak for a few days, the Vatican said Friday, a day after he was rushed to a hospital and underwent surgery to ease another breathing crisis.

Papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the frail 84-year-old John Paul spent a restful night at Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic, where doctors said there was no sign the pope had a lung infections such as pneumonia.

The pontiff had been taken by ambulance to the hospital on Thursday after suffering his second bout of breathing trouble in less than a month. Navarro-Valls told reporters that the operation doctors performed to cut a small breathing hole in the pope's neck "was not an emergency procedure."

"It was a question of assuring adequate breathing of the patient," he said.

"He's breathing better. He has a significant feeling of relief," the papal spokesman said.

John Paul had no fever, Navarro-Valls added. He said the pope's post-operative condition was progressing normally.

U.S. soldiers killed, wounded in explosion north of Iraqi capital

TARMIYAH, Iraq (AP) — An explosion near a group of U.S. soldiers north of the Iraqi capital Friday killed and wounded several troops, the U.S. military said. Witnesses said they saw about a dozen injured soldiers lying on the ground.

Lt. Col. Clifford Kent, a spokesman for the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division, confirmed "there were soldiers killed and wounded" in an explosion, but he had no other information.

"We're trying to figure out what the details are," Kent told The Associated Press.

Witnesses said the attack took place around midday in Tarmiyah, 20 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Residents saw about a dozen injured U.S. soldiers lying on blood-splattered ground after the attack.

"I was heading to our house ... there was a group of American soldiers walking in the road while around five Humvees were parking behind them," said Waleed Nahed, 35, who lives in the area.

"I heard a very loud explosion and I saw bodies flying."

Nahed and Alaa Nagy, 22, who works as a guard at a nearby factory, said helicopters landed in the area 15 minutes after the explosion and took the injured soldiers away.

Anglican leaders ask U.S., Canadians to withdraw from key council over gays

LONDON (AP) — Anglican leaders struggling to resolve explosive differences over homosexuality have asked the U.S. Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to temporarily withdraw from a key council of their global communion because of the election of a gay bishop in the United States and the blessing of same-sex unions there and in Canada.

The request was made following a meeting in Northern Ireland that the Anglican leaders, or primates, convened on the crisis this week. Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, the spiritual leader of the 77 million-member world Anglican Communion, did not comment but was scheduled to appear at a news conference Friday.

House approves ban on tickets from red light cameras

By BRANDI GRISSOM
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Smile, red-light runners. Candid cameras won't be busting drivers who zip through red lights if the Texas House gets its way.

The House on Thursday gave overwhelming preliminary approval to a bill prohibiting "cities from using cameras to issue citations for red-light runners."

Rep. Gary Elkins, R-Houston, the bill's sponsor, said the practice increases rear-end collisions and serves as a moneymaking mechanism for cities.

Proponents argued that using the cameras decrease red light running and side-impact accidents.

"No one is for anybody running a red light, and no one is for anyone getting hurt or killed by a

red-light runner," Elkins said.

The bill protects drivers' privacy and protects vehicle owners from getting tickets for violations they didn't commit, he said.

In 2003, legislators rejected a bill giving cities authority to issue criminal citations to red-light runners caught on camera. But they approved a change to the transportation code that year that allowed cities to issue civil tickets for traffic violations.

Elkins said most lawmakers were unaware of the loophole, and his bill closes it.

"We were tricked," he said.

The city of Garland has issued about 36,000 civil tickets to red-light runners since cameras were installed in four intersections in September 2003, said Garland Mayor Bob

Day.

Republican Rep. Joe Driver of Garland said use of the cameras in his hometown has reduced red light running by 20 percent and injury accidents in the city by 80 percent. He also said using cameras to catch violators frees up police officers to catch criminals.

The money from the tickets, which Garland police say totals about \$600,000, has been used to fund more traffic safety programs, Driver said.

In December, the Houston City Council voted to put cameras in up to 50 intersections to catch red-light violators. Houston Mayor Bill White, said he's not giving up hope that the city will be able to use cameras to issue civil tickets.

Even if the bill does become law, he said the city will seek a way to fol-

low through with its camera plan.

"The citizens of Houston ought to be allowed to try to devise strategies to keep our streets safer," White said at a Houston news conference.

"We shouldn't have a mandate from the state that we have to have police officers stationed at each intersection."

Rep. Martha Wong, R-Houston, a former Houston City Council member, voted against the ban. The city, she said, should be able to use all available options to improve traffic safety.

Cameras used by Garland and proposed for Houston are triggered when a vehicle enters the intersection during a red light.

A photo is taken of the car's rear license plate, and a ticket is mailed to the vehicle owner.

Abortion clinics ordered by Kansas AG to turn over full records of 90 girls

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — The Kansas attorney general, a staunch opponent of abortion, has demanded the medical records of nearly 90 women and girls who had late-term abortions, saying he needs the material to investigate crimes.

The two abortion clinics involved in the case say the state has no right to such personal information and are fighting the request in the Kansas Supreme Court.

But Attorney General Phill Kline insisted Thursday he needs the records because he has "the duty to investigate and prosecute child rape and other crimes in order to protect Kansas children."

Sex involving someone under 16 is illegal in Kansas.



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Pilgrimage from the street

By MARGO HARAKAS

(KRT)
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — I got a feeling, everything's gonna be all right, be all-right, be all right....

Rosalind Osgood claps her hands, her voice rising, body swaying at this noontime Bible study at New Mount Olive Baptist Church in Florida.

Sixteen years ago, it looked like nothing in Osgood's life was going to be right. Using and selling cocaine, sleeping in cardboard boxes in an overgrown lot off Sistrunk Boulevard, she was without doubt one sorry, sorry mess.

Then, oh Lord, the crack house shooting. And she the only witness.

Osgood fled, hid out at her grandmother's house for two weeks. By that time, the victim had died and the shooter had surrendered.

Undaunted, Osgood went right back to the streets and getting high. Until she found she was pregnant again.

Doesn't seem a likely narrative for this stylish Fort Lauderdale woman with the doctorate and more accolades than most folks earn in a lifetime.

Hers was for sure one perilous and uncertain journey.

"It's an example," says her daughter, Shennette Sheffield, 17, "of how someone can come from the bottom and lift themselves up." Rather than an embarrassment, Shennette finds in her mother's story "a positive message." Proof of redemption and the possibilities of hope.

"I'm so happy and proud of her I can't even explain it," says Osgood's grandmother, Agnes Wade, 81. Wade wasn't present last October when the Urban League of Broward County, Fla., honored Osgood, president and CEO of Mount Olive Development Corp., with its Kathleen Wright Legacy Award. But the pride certainly welled up in her. And come Feb. 26, she most definitely will be on the sidelines when Osgood, being honored as one of the outstanding people in the community, waves from a car in the Sistrunk Festival Parade.

"She added a whole lot of years on to my life," says Wade, smiling broadly. "Yes, she did."

And far more on to her own.

Drugs Sneaked Up

It was her grandmother who brought baby Rosalind home from the hospital those 39 years ago.

"My mother and father were 15 and 16 when they

had me. My grandparents took me and raised me so my mother could go on to finish school," Osgood said.

Her mom moved out of the house and eventually out of the state, and their contact became less frequent.

The Wades were hard-working and loving. And while they weren't rich, they weren't poor either.

Then came that first sneaked joint. Rosalind was 13.

"I used to see kids do it at the park. I'd see them and imitate them secretly on my own."

She didn't start "experiencing problems," she says, "until I switched drugs. I started using cocaine the second year of college. I was selling at the same time."

She was in Tallahassee attending Florida A&M, and on any given day she was walking around with as much as \$5,000 in cash. She bought cars, she bought clothes, she bought food, and for the dorm, she bought a microwave oven. And her trusting grandparents hadn't a clue.

On the honor roll her first semester, by her senior year Osgood was skipping classes and flunking everything. She was also pregnant. She dropped out and got married. "I had to get married. I knew otherwise my grandmother would die."

Feeling she needed a new environment, she and her husband moved to Daytona Beach, Fla.

"I'd go through periods of not using and not selling," she says. "I wouldn't use when I was pregnant." She hadn't realized when she left her husband and their daughter in Daytona in 1988 that she was pregnant a second time. When she learned, she stopped the drugs and returned to Daytona. After Anthony's birth, she again reverted to the old routine, abandoning the family for the streets of Fort Lauderdale. "I didn't see it as my having a problem."

This time, however, something was different. She had haunting visions of her children peering into her glassy, sunken eyes, an image that repulsed her. "I realized I'd become just like all those hoodlums and drunkards and addicts on the street. I'd become one of them," she says.

It was, she believes, God's way of intervening.

Hair matted, emaciated, long neglectful of basic hygiene, Osgood turned herself in to police in Daytona, where she was wanted for a missed court

date on a drug possession charge.

She was released after three days in jail to Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC).

"Dec. 2, 1989, was the last time I used."

Had she not come in off the streets, she has no doubt, she'd have wound up "killed or dead from an overdose."

At BARC, Osgood found she was pregnant with her third child.

After seven days in detox and a year in the cocaine mothers program, and with a job at McDonald's, Osgood took advantage of a new program.

"If you stayed clean for six months, (BARC would) get you an apartment and pay your rent for a year," she says.

Separated from her husband, working, and with two of her children now living with her, Osgood was remaking herself in a way even she had never imagined.

"Once I began to take responsibility for the bad decisions I made, I was able to move to a solution," says Osgood, who now serves on the BARC advisory board.

She even turned her firing from McDonald's into a positive by enrolling in a computer class and going to work for a temp agency, which exposed her to a whole new world of employment opportunities.

"I just kept getting jobs on a higher level," she says. "And I started thinking about going back to school."

Meanwhile, there was a new man in her life, Vernon Osgood. He, too, had battled drugs. He'd been clean a year when they met. She'd been off drugs only a couple of weeks.

"He helped me a lot getting acclimated to the recovery process," she says.

"We were helping each other," says Vernon, 44, who was going to school at the time to become a licensed electrician. In 1994, the two (both divorced) were married.

The call of education

Osgood kept saying she wanted to go back to school. Tired of hearing the constant refrain, her husband said, "Go. Go. Go. Do it."

She began with one accounting course at Broward Community College. Initially, that's all vocational rehab would pay for, given her grades her last year at FAMU. The thinking was she was incapable of doing the work.

She proved the doubters wrong by getting a B in the class. In 1996, with an



KRT Photo/Michael Laughlin
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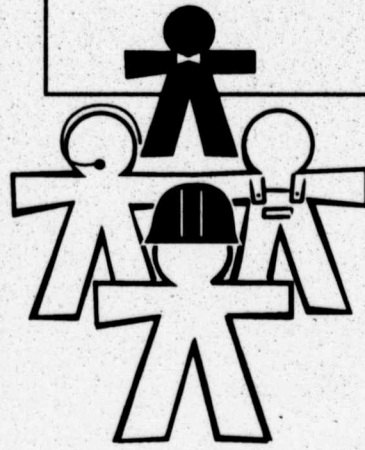
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GOOD NEIGHBORS, Yours, Mine and Ours



Profile, 2005
Sunday, March 27

This special edition will feature profiles of our good neighbors in Howard County.

If you have a good neighbor, whether personal or work related, and you'd like to share their praises, nominate them using the form below. We'll pick as many as we can, interview them and write a feature story about them.

I nominate

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____



as a GOOD NEIGHBOR

to be featured in the special edition "Good Neighbors"
Some good things to know about this person are: _____

My Name: _____
My Phone: _____
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS: Fri. March 4

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East Fourth Street Baptist Church

East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 401 E. 4th St., offers these opportunities for Christian growth and service for Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday school; 11 a.m., morning worship/Commissioning Service; 4:45 p.m. youth, Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, Mission Friends and Mission Babies; 5 p.m. choir practice; 6 p.m. evening worship/opportunity meeting; Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting, youth. From 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Feb. 28 Children's Fellowship Movie Night with hot dogs, popcorn and fun; March 9 at 7 p.m. Jews for Jesus. Call 267-2291 for

more information.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from John 4:5-42 Sunday during worship service. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. Take 10 is 10:35 a.m. and worship is at 11 a.m.

Following worship service is a covered-dish luncheon. Members are asked to bring a dish of their choice for the meal. There is a desert auction following the meal to benefit Relay For Life.

Opportunities for the week include Communicants Class at 5 p.m., Lenten Worship at 5:30 p.m. and choir practice at 6 p.m. Wednesday; a clean-up day is set for March 5. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this annual spring cleaning day in the church.

Join us for any of these activities. Everyone is always welcome at First Presbyterian Church, located on Runnels Street between Seventh and Eight streets.

College Park Church of God

Focus on the World Special Missions Service featuring the Rev. Benjamin B. McGlamery, field representative, is set for 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

McGlamery was licensed to preach in 1965 and he began his ministry in North Carolina. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and was in the Republic of South Vietnam in 1966.

He graduated from Lee University in 1971 and served as pastor for 10 years in Florida, North Carolina and Iowa.

He graduated from the Church of God Theological Seminary in 1984.

As a minister, he has served in a variety of areas, including service in missions states as pastor and state overseer.

He served in various administrative positions in the international office, including six years for the Church of God World Missions.

From 1996-2002, he

served as the administrative bishop in Iowa and Nebraska. He returned to the World Missions Department as a field representative in 2002. Currently he serves Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, North and South Dakota and Texas.

He and his wife, Joyce have been married for 39 years and have two children, both in ministry. His heart is to serve those who need the Savior, wherever they may be, but especially to those who have not heard.

College Park Church of God is located at 603 Tulane.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

We encourage you, if you do not have a church home, to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. We are the friendly church family you have been looking for.

March 7 and March 8 we are hosting the Big Country Baptist Fellowship and the Central West Texas Independent Baptist Fellowship.

Preachers, evangelists and missionaries from all over Texas will be here. Make plans now to attend.

Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Friends of Unity

Tuesday meetings involve truth students in spiritual studies at noon and 5 p.m. Unity believers approach the scriptures from the standpoint of oneness with God, as Jesus taught. All are welcome.

The center is located in the downtown railroad car on Main and First streets.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Area wide worship service is set for 6 p.m. Sunday. The Rev. Joel Miller, pastor of North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, is the minister for the evening.

A time of fellowship will follow the worship service.

For the Easter season: Palm Celebration Service is 11 a.m. March 20 in the sanctuary. There will be a children's performance.

Maudy Thursday is 6 p.m. March 24 in the sanctuary.

Good Friday service is 6 p.m. March 25 in the sanctuary.

The church is located at 401 N. Main St. in Coahoma. Call 394-4432 for more information.

East Side Baptist Church

Everyone is welcome to our regular service at 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday.

There are classes with great teachers for each age group. The Blessed Ladies Class is designed for single women who gather together to study God's word each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

March 8 is a concert featuring the David Warren Family. These folks offer a blessing to the heart.

Church members love company so be sure to visit East Side Baptist, located at 1008 E. Sixth St. For more information, call 267-1915.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's Sunday. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Lenten program continues Wednesday.

This year, a review and discussion of a series of short videos from "Pioneers of the Spirit" is planned. The all-parish

meatless pot luck supper is 6 p.m. The evening will end with a brief service of Compline.

During Lent, St. Mary's will have Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. Fridays in the church. Everyone is invited to this time of devotion.

For more information about St. Mary's, located at 1001 S. Goliad, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site at www.stmarysbst.org.

Church Women United

World Day of Prayer at 10 a.m. March 5 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church encourages women to respond to Jesus' challenge in the Sermon on the Mount: "Let Our Light Shine," the theme for the day this year.

Women are asked to share their talents, as well as their special gifts of grace and light in a special service with the Rev. Beasley Hall. Friends and families are invited to join in prayer and song and to support women's ecumenical ministries toward peace and justice.

Refreshments will follow the one-hour service.

Founded in 1941, Church Women United reaches 25 million Protestants, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women. There are more than 1,200 local and state units working for peace and justice in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

The local event is sponsored by the women of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Community.

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Scholarship applications accepted

Howard County A&M Club is accepting scholarship applications for Texas A&M through April 15.

A student must reside in Howard County and have an acceptance letter from Texas A&M. Academic and scholarly achievements, community-based extracurricular activities, sports participation and need are all considered with the application when determining

scholarship winners.

All applicants who completed the paperwork required received some financial reward during the 2004-2005 scholarship process.

Applications may be obtained at A&M Composites from Mike or Jeanne Niklasch at 1409 E. Highway 350 or by calling Howard County A&M Club President Dr. Tom Dawson at 267-7911, ext. 216.

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Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
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Pilgrimage from the street

By MARGO HARAKAS

(KRT)
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — I got a feeling, everything's gonna be all right, be all right, be all right....

Rosalind Osgood claps her hands, her voice rising, body swaying at this noontime Bible study at New Mount Olive Baptist Church in Florida.

Sixteen years ago, it looked like nothing in Osgood's life was going to be right. Using and selling cocaine, sleeping in cardboard boxes in an overgrown lot off Sistrunk Boulevard, she was without doubt one sorry, sorry mess.

Then, oh Lord, the crack house shooting. And she the only witness.

Osgood fled, hid out at her grandmother's house for two weeks. By that time, the victim had died and the shooter had surrendered.

Undaunted, Osgood went right back to the streets and getting high. Until she found she was pregnant again.

Doesn't seem a likely narrative for this stylish Fort Lauderdale woman with the doctorate and more accolades than most folks earn in a lifetime.

Hers was for sure one perilous and uncertain journey.

"It's an example," says her daughter, Shennette Sheffield, 17, "of how someone can come from the bottom and lift themselves up." Rather than an embarrassment, Shennette finds in her mother's story "a positive message." Proof of redemption and the possibilities of hope.

"I'm so happy and proud of her I can't even explain it," says Osgood's grandmother, Agnes Wade, 81. Wade wasn't present last October when the Urban League of Broward County, Fla., honored Osgood, president and CEO of Mount Olive Development Corp., with its Kathleen Wright Legacy Award. But the pride certainly welled up in her. And come Feb. 26, she most definitely will be on the sidelines when Osgood, being honored as one of the outstanding people in the community, waves from a car in the Sistrunk Festival Parade.

"She added a whole lot of years on to my life," says Wade, smiling broadly. "Yes, she did."

And far more on to her own.

Drugs Sneaked Up
It was her grandmother who brought baby Rosalind home from the hospital those 39 years ago.

"My mother and father were 15 and 16 when they

had me. My grandparents took me and raised me so my mother could go on to finish school," Osgood said.

Her mom moved out of the house and eventually out of the state, and their contact became less frequent.

The Wades were hard-working and loving. And while they weren't rich, they weren't poor either.

Then came that first sneaked joint. Rosalind was 13.

"I used to see kids do it at the park. I'd see them and imitate them secretly on my own."

She didn't start "experiencing problems," she says, "until I switched drugs. I started using cocaine the second year of college. I was selling at the same time."

She was in Tallahassee attending Florida A&M, and on any given day she was walking around with as much as \$5,000 in cash. She bought cars, she bought clothes, she bought food, and for the dorm, she bought a microwave oven. And her trusting grandparents hadn't a clue.

On the honor roll her first semester, by her senior year Osgood was skipping classes and flunking everything. She was also pregnant. She dropped out and got married. "I had to get married. I knew otherwise my grandmother would die."

Feeling she needed a new environment, she and her husband moved to Daytona Beach, Fla.

"I'd go through periods of not using and not selling," she says. "I wouldn't use when I was pregnant."

She hadn't realized when she left her husband and their daughter in Daytona in 1988 that she was pregnant a second time. When she learned, she stopped the drugs and returned to Daytona. After Anthony's birth, she again reverted to the old routine, abandoning the family for the streets of Fort Lauderdale. "I didn't see it as my having a problem."

This time, however, something was different. She had haunting visions of her children peering into her glassy, sunken eyes, an image that repulsed her. "I realized I'd become just like all those hoodlums and drunkards and addicts on the street. I'd become one of them," she says.

It was, she believes, God's way of intervening.

Hair matted, emaciated, long neglectful of basic hygiene, Osgood turned herself in to police in Daytona, where she was wanted for a missed court

date on a drug possession charge.

She was released after three days in jail to Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC). "Dec. 2, 1989, was the last time I used."

Had she not come in off the streets, she has no doubt, she'd have wound up "killed or dead from an overdose."

At BARC, Osgood found she was pregnant with her third child.

After seven days in detox and a year in the cocaine mothers program, and with a job at McDonald's, Osgood took advantage of a new program.

"If you stayed clean for six months, (BARC would) get you an apartment and pay your rent for a year," she says.

Separated from her husband, working, and with two of her children now living with her, Osgood was remaking herself in a way even she had never imagined.

"Once I began to take responsibility for the bad decisions I made, I was able to move to a solution," says Osgood, who now serves on the BARC advisory board.

She even turned her firing from McDonald's into a positive by enrolling in a computer class and going to work for a temp agency, which exposed her to a whole new world of employment opportunities.

"I just kept getting jobs on a higher level," she says. "And I started thinking about going back to school."

Meanwhile, there was a new man in her life, Vernon Osgood. He, too, had battled drugs. He'd been clean a year when they met. She'd been off drugs only a couple of weeks.

"He helped me a lot getting acclimated to the recovery process," she says.

"We were helping each other," says Vernon, 44, who was going to school at the time to become a licensed electrician. In 1994, the two (both divorced) were married.

The call of education
Osgood kept saying she wanted to go back to school. Tired of hearing the constant refrain, her husband said, "Go. Go. Go. Do it."

She began with one accounting course at Broward Community College. Initially, that's all vocational rehab would pay for, given her grades her last year at FAMU. The thinking was she was incapable of doing the work.

She proved the doubters wrong by getting a B in the class. In 1996, with an



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as a GOOD NEIGHBOR

to be featured in the special edition "Good Neighbors"

Some good things to know about this person are: _____

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Life Church at 600 E. FM 700, begins offering two morning worship services Sunday, first at 8:30 a.m. and again at 10:30 a.m. Children's Ministries are available during both services for ages 0-12.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 401 E. 4th St., offers these opportunities for Christian growth and service for Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday school; 11 a.m., morning worship/Commissioning Service; 4:45 p.m. youth, Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, Mission Friends and Mission Babies; 5 p.m. choir practice; 6 p.m. evening worship/opportunity meeting; Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting, youth. From 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Feb. 28 Children's Fellowship Movie Night with hot dogs, popcorn and fun; March 9 at 7 p.m. Jews for Jesus. Call 267-2291 for

more information.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from John 4:5-42 Sunday during worship service. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. Take 10 is 10:35 a.m. and worship is at 11 a.m.

Following worship service is a covered-dish luncheon. Members are asked to bring a dish of their choice for the meal. There is a desert auction following the meal to benefit Relay For Life.

Opportunities for the week include Communicants Class at 5 p.m., Lenten Worship at 5:30 p.m. and choir practice at 6 p.m. Wednesday; a clean-up day is set for March 5. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this annual spring cleaning day in the church.

Join us for any of these activities. Everyone is always welcome at First Presbyterian Church, located on Runnels Street between Seventh and Eight streets.

College Park Church of God

Focus on the World Special Missions Service featuring the Rev. Benjamin B. McGlamery, field representative, is set for 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

McGlamery was licensed to preach in 1965 and he began his ministry in North Carolina. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and was in the Republic of South Vietnam in 1966.

He graduated from Lee University in 1971 and served as pastor for 10 years in Florida, North Carolina and Iowa.

He graduated from the Church of God Theological Seminary in 1984.

As a minister, he has served in a variety of areas, including service in missions states as pastor and state overseer.

He served in various administrative positions in the international office, including six years for the Church of God World Missions.

From 1996-2002, he

served as the administrative bishop in Iowa and Nebraska. He returned to the World Missions Department as a field representative in 2002. Currently he serves Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, North and South Dakota and Texas.

He and his wife, Joyce have been married for 39 years and have two children, both in ministry. His heart is to serve those who need the Savior, wherever they may be, but especially to those who have not heard.

College Park Church of God is located at 603 Tulane.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

We encourage you, if you do not have a church home, to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. We are the friendly church family you have been looking for.

March 7 and March 8 we are hosting the Big Country Baptist Fellowship and the Central West Texas Independent Baptist Fellowship.

Preachers, evangelists and missionaries from all over Texas will be here. Make plans now to attend.

Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Friends of Unity

Tuesday meetings involve truth students in spiritual studies at noon and 5 p.m. Unity believers approach the scriptures from the standpoint of oneness with God, as Jesus taught. All are welcome.

The center is located in the downtown railroad car on Main and First streets.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Area wide worship service is set for 6 p.m. Sunday. The Rev. Joel Miller, pastor of North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, is the minister for the evening.

A time of fellowship will follow the worship service.

For the Easter season: Palm Celebration Service is 11 a.m. March 20 in the sanctuary. There will be a children's performance.

Maudy Thursday is 6 p.m. March 24 in the sanctuary.

Good Friday service is 6 p.m. March 25 in the sanctuary.

The church is located at 401 N. Main St. in Coahoma. Call 394-4432 for more information.

East Side Baptist Church

Everyone is welcome to our regular service at 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday.

There are classes with great teachers for each age group. The Blessed Ladies Class is designed for single women who gather together to study God's word each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

March 8 is a concert featuring the David Warren Family. These folks offer a blessing to the heart.

Church members love company so be sure to visit East Side Baptist, located at 1008 E. Sixth St. For more information, call 267-1915.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's Sunday. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Lenten program continues Wednesday.

This year, a review and discussion of a series of short videos from "Pioneers of the Spirit" is planned. The all-parish

meatless pot luck supper is 6 p.m. The evening will end with a brief service of Compline.

During Lent, St. Mary's will have Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. Fridays in the church. Everyone is invited to this time of devotion.

For more information about St. Mary's, located at 1001 S. Goliad, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site at www.stmarysbst.org.

Church Women United

World Day of Prayer at 10 a.m. March 5 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church encourages women to respond to Jesus' challenge in the Sermon on the Mount: "Let Our Light Shine," the theme for the day this year.

Women are asked to share their talents, as well as their special gifts of grace and light in a special service with the Rev. Beasley Hall. Friends and families are invited to join in prayer and song and to support women's ecumenical ministries toward peace and justice.

Refreshments will follow the one-hour service.

Founded in 1941, Church Women United reaches 25 million Protestants, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women. There are more than 1,200 local and state units working for peace and justice in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

The local event is sponsored by the women of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Community.

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Osgood

Continued from Page 6A

Many on Osgood's staff are women who, like herself, have stumbled along the way. "Not only are we saying we're here to assist you and we're here to do our faith, but we can understand the pain," she says. "We all have our own story. We come with that compassion, with that pain."

With a smile, she adds, "We teach and preach."

Family Support

Osgood's day is a whirlwind of appointments, meetings, problem solving and time spent with family.

Shennette, Anthony Sheffield, 15, and Gabriel Sheffield, 14, are nearly as busy as Mom. Three to five nights a week, they devote themselves to church ministries. And then there are school sports.

One recent Friday night at St. Thomas Aquinas High School gym, the family was, as usual, all in the stands, cheering Shennette (a junior and already receiving college scholarship offers) and the rest of the home team.

"Square up," hollered Osgood, still as competitive as when she played the game. "Play some defense, ladies, with your hands up."

Anthony and Gabriel also play, for the Upper Room Christian Academy. When both schools have games the same night, Rosalind begins the evening at one school, and at halftime switches to the other.

Though her days often run from 6:30 a.m. to 9 at night, "I make 90 percent of their games," she notes. She also makes time each day and evening to check homework and discuss with each child their day's activities.

"One of the biggest assets is my husband's commitment to family," Osgood says. He fixes dinner or goes to the school when she's not available.

"Being raised with two grandparents taught me to be strong and independent," she says. "But I learned you can't live independently. If you're going to succeed it's through God with the help of other people."

In addition to her family, she says, "I have a cadre of women I refer to as my success entourage."

Among them is Jackie Fulton. "We were in recovery together," says Fulton, of Fort Lauderdale. "When I met her in the probation office I immediately felt at home. She was my support, and I was her support. She's been my best friend ever since."

Fulton has been at every one of Osgood's graduation ceremonies and church services.

"I had no idea she was going to be such a success as she is today," says Fulton.

"To see us back then, as alcoholics and addicts ... People thought we would never amount to anything ... I tell you, it's something. It's just wonderful."

Osgood has never shielded her children from the shadows of her past. "There are rules," says Shennette, "and if you break them there are consequences."

In the Osgood household the rules broken are minor, and the consequences are writing scripture and verses, doing extra chores or losing privileges.

"I think it's good how she changed her life," says Anthony.

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Psalm 23: 1

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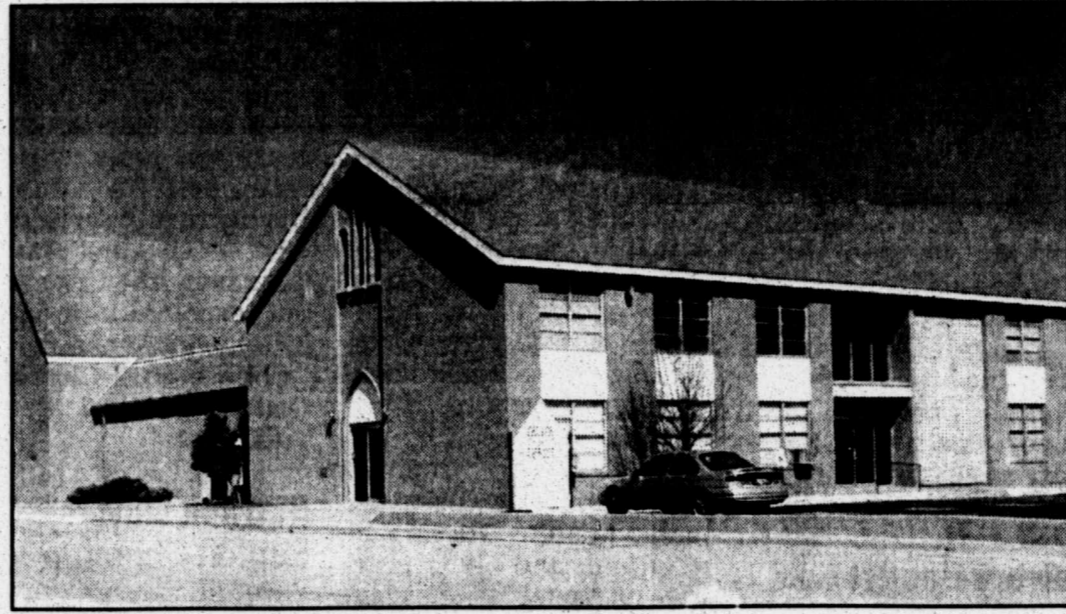
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Psalm 16:1

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Hebrews 11:1

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For you are the fountain of life, the light by which we see.
Psalm 36: 9

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IN BRIEF

2005 Little League to hold signups

Sign-ups for the 2005 Big Spring Little League baseball season is taking place through Saturday, 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 is required even if a player has played before, at least one parent or guardian must be present 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.

B.S. Little League umpires meeting set

The Big Spring Little League Umpires Association will conduct a meeting at 1 p.m. Saturday at the T & P Credit Union, which is located at 101 Main Street.

This is the first meeting of the year and all current umpires and anyone who wants to be an umpire should attend the meeting.

For more information, call Don Booth at 816-9748 (leave a message if no answer).

Baseball camp set for middle of March

The Mickey Owen Baseball School will take place Saturday, March 19, at the National League Little League Field off South Highway 87.

The camp is broken into two sessions as the first one takes place from 9:30 a.m. to noon and the second one goes from 12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Each session is broken down into instruction, practice and play.

One session costs \$40, but participants can get both camps for \$60. Participants can save \$10 if registered by March 10.

The first session will cover general instruction on hitting, fielding and throwing, while session two is position instruction involving catchers, pitchers, infielders and outfielders.

The camp is for anyone ages six through 12 and enrollment is limited.

The camp advises athletes to bring their own glove, cap, baseball pants, baseball shoes and gym shoes.

For more information, contact the Mickey Owen Baseball School at 1-800-999-8369.



Howard freshman Charles Burgess goes up strong inside against Odessa College Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The Hawk men won 81-55 and grabbed a hold of sole possession of second place in the WJAC Conference. Burgess finished with 15 points, five rebounds and four assists.

Howard grabs second place in conference

Howard routs OC at home, earns spot in Region V Tournament

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Heading into Thursday's game with Odessa College, Howard College men's basketball coach Mark Adams wanted his team to start playing like a squad that belongs in the Region V Tournament.

And, despite an 81-55 trouncing of Odessa College by his Hawk team, Adams isn't sure if Howard is there yet.

"We played a really good first half, came out aggressive and played excellent team defense," said Adams, whose team qualified for the Region V Tournament Thursday, "but our second half wasn't as good as I would have liked."

"We didn't move in a direction to get ready for the playoffs tonight. We need to be more consistent on both ends of the floor."

Howard (23-5, 9-3) scored the first eight points in the game and used a 25-5 run during the final nine minutes of the first half to put the game away. The Hawks led 38-16 at

halftime.

"We hang our hat on defense and this team has to if we want to beat the good teams in this conference," said Adams.

The Hawks maintained their advantage throughout much of the second half despite a brilliant shooting performance by Glen Forbes II. Forbes, who did not score in the first half, hit four 3-pointers in the first 10 minutes of the second half and finished with 14 points in the game.

Freshmen Rashad Mintz and Louis Rodgers matched Forbes II with deep shots for Howard, which did not allow Odessa to get closer than 16 points the final 20 minutes.

"Louis might have played his best offensive game of the season for us," said Adams of Rodgers, who played in his second game since recovering from an injured hip. "He gave us some offense that we needed tonight."

Rodgers finished with 15 points and three steals off the bench and Mintz scored a team-high 21 points, including three 3-pointers.

See HOWARD, Page 2B

Hawk women battle back, fall to Odessa in conference play

Turnovers plague Howard in WJAC loss to Wranglers

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

The Howard College women's basketball team fell behind early, battled back and then struggled to get over the hump late against Odessa College in a 67-58 loss Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Hawk women trailed by as many as 17 points in the first half before getting within one point in the second half, but couldn't find a way to grab the lead.

"We settled for jump shots and didn't move against their zone in the first half," said Howard head coach Earl Diddle. "We played better in the second because we moved to open areas, got the ball inside and picked up

some easy baskets."

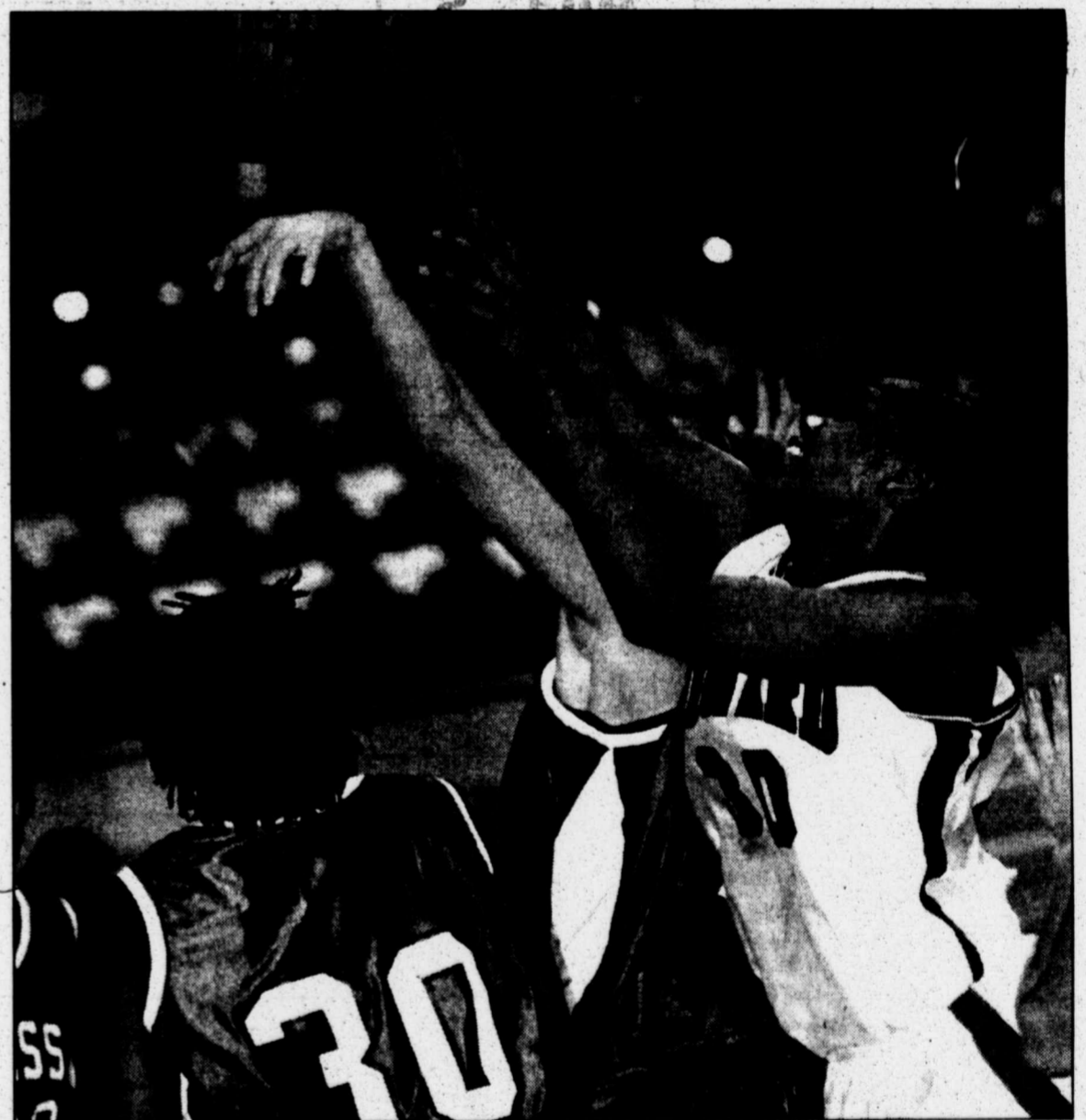
Odessa scored the first 13 points of the game and led 20-3 at one point in the first half before Howard (12-16, 1-9) ended the half on a 15-7 run and cut its margin to seven.

The Hawk women kept the Odessa lead around seven points early in the second half, but a 7-0 run — which included back-to-back layups by freshman Latoya Fairley — got Howard within two points. Odessa pushed its lead back to seven points with 10:00 to go in the game, but another push — an 8-2 Hawk run — made the difference just one at 52-51.

Odessa finished off the Hawk women though with a 15-7 run to close out the game.

"I will always think we are in it," said Diddle. "However, we play a pos

See HAWKS, Page 2B



Howard freshman Latoya Fairley gets fouled as she attempts a shot in the lane against Odessa College Thursday in Big Spring. The Hawk women lost to the Wranglers, 67-58. Fairley scored a team-high 20 points.

West Texas Classic (Midland)

Softball results from Thursday

Big Spring 14, El Paso Hanks 0
Big Spring 12, El Paso Montwood 0
San Angelo Lake View 5, Coahoma 2
Midland Lee Gray 13, Coahoma JV 0
Coahoma JV 7, Alpine JV 1
Midland Lee Maroon 17, Big Spring JV 0
Midland High JV 8, Big Spring JV 0

Friday's games

Big Spring vs. El Paso Andress, 1 p.m.
Big Spring vs. Dumas, 3 p.m.
Big Spring vs. El Paso Austin, 7 p.m.
Big Spring JV vs. Odessa Red, 11 a.m.
Big Spring JV vs. Estacado, 1 p.m.
Coahoma vs. Fort Stockton, 11 a.m.
Coahoma vs. Monahans, 5 p.m.
Coahoma JV vs. Seminole JV, 1 p.m.
Coahoma JV vs. Snyder JV, 5 p.m.

Coahoma, Stanton land two on all-District 4-2A first team

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Two members of both the Coahoma girl's basketball team and Stanton girl's basketball team were voted into the first team all-District 4-2A teams recently.

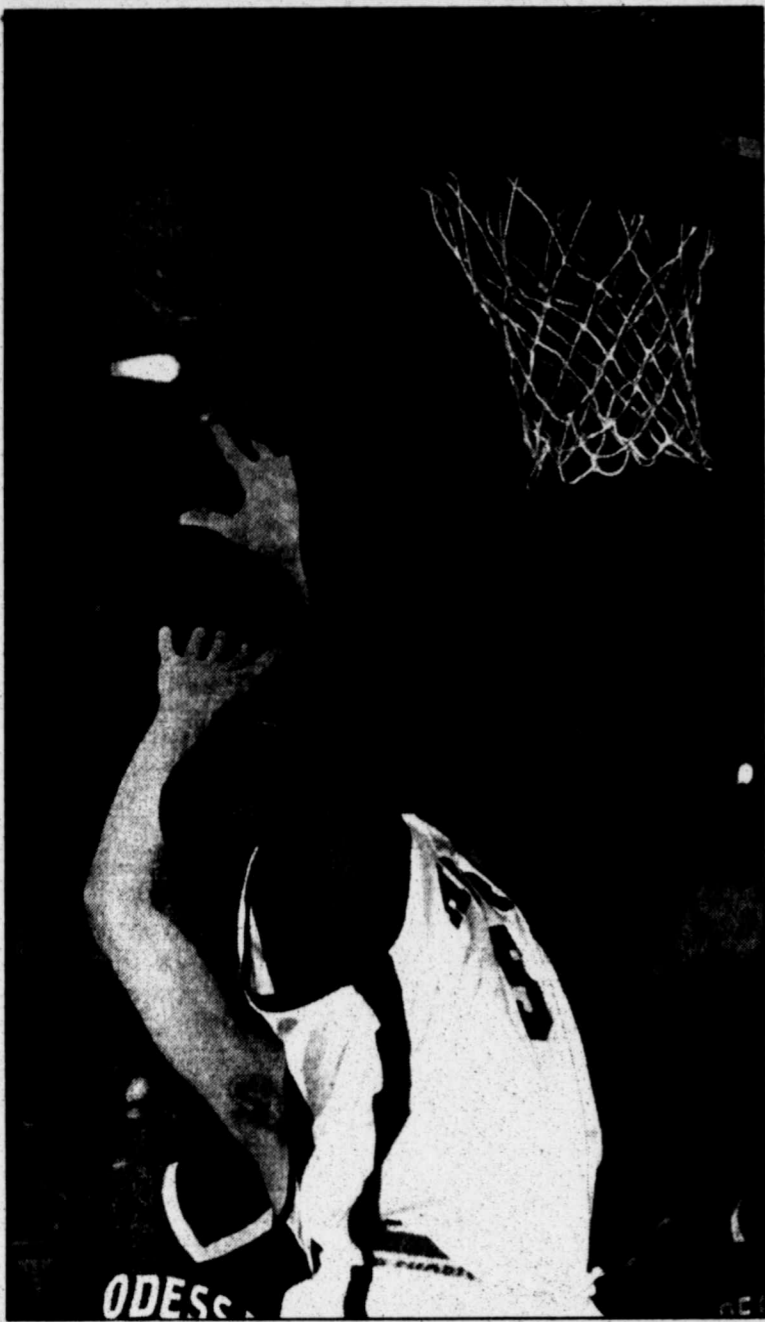
Senior Mandy Morgan and junior Sterling Gos of Coahoma and senior Stormy Dugan and junior Bonnie Kendall of Stanton were selected to the district's top teams. Coahoma also landed

one player onto the second team and two onto the honorable mention squad. Stanton matched those three selections, as well.

The Bulldogs' other three selections were senior Sarah Collier (second team), and seniors Liz Cobby and Drew Wells (honorable mention). Stanton sophomore Tracy Carr was voted to the second team.

Ringener both got honorable mention selections.

District 4-2A honorable selections: Coach of the Year — Chris Edwards, Anson; District MVP — Randy Dumas, Anson; Defensive Player of the Year — Tara Ford, Beaumont; Newcomer of the Year — Chelsea Phillips, Anson; First Team: Coahoma's Mandy Morgan, Stormy Dugan, Sterling Gos, Coahoma; Stanton's Stormy Dugan, Bonnie Kendall, Mandy Morgan, Sterling Gos, Coahoma; Coahoma's Mandy Morgan, Stormy Dugan, Sterling Gos, Coahoma; Stanton's Stormy Dugan, Bonnie Kendall, Mandy Morgan, Sterling Gos, Coahoma.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Howard freshman Brandon Sampay gets two points inside against Odessa College Thursday during the Hawks' rout of the Wranglers at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Howard won 81-55 and clinched a spot in the Region V Tournament. They improved to 23-5 overall and 9-3 in the WJAC.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B



"We had a lot of excellent individual performances, but I thought we played poor as a team," said Adams. "We played individual defense in the second half and took too many quick shots. Our shot selection was very poor."

Freshmen Charles Burgess and James Barrett also finished in double figures for Howard.

Burgess scored 15 points, grabbed six rebounds and dished out four assists.

Barrett added 10 points and five rebounds. He was a perfect four-for-four from the field and two-for-two from the foul line. Freshman Brandon Sampay added nine points and nine rebounds, while sophomore Munir

Shakir scored nine points, grabbed six rebounds and delivered four assists.

The Hawks shot nearly 62 percent from the field and 88 percent from the foul line in the game.

Forbes II was the only Wrangler in double figures for Odessa. Derrick Holland finished with seven points.

Howard grabbed sole possession of second place with the win and has two games left on its schedule before the Region V Tournament. The Hawks travel to rival South Plains Monday before closing out the regular season at home against third place Midland College (21-7, 8-4).

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

session game on offense and when you turn the ball over 26 times it is hard to win. That was the key in the game."

Fairley scored 14 of her team-high 20 points in the second half to lead Howard. She also added seven rebounds.

Freshman Jennifer Pena got her shooting touch back, scoring 11 of her 15 points in the second half. She finished with three 3-pointers, six rebounds, four steals and five assists. Sophomore Ciara Tidwell added 10

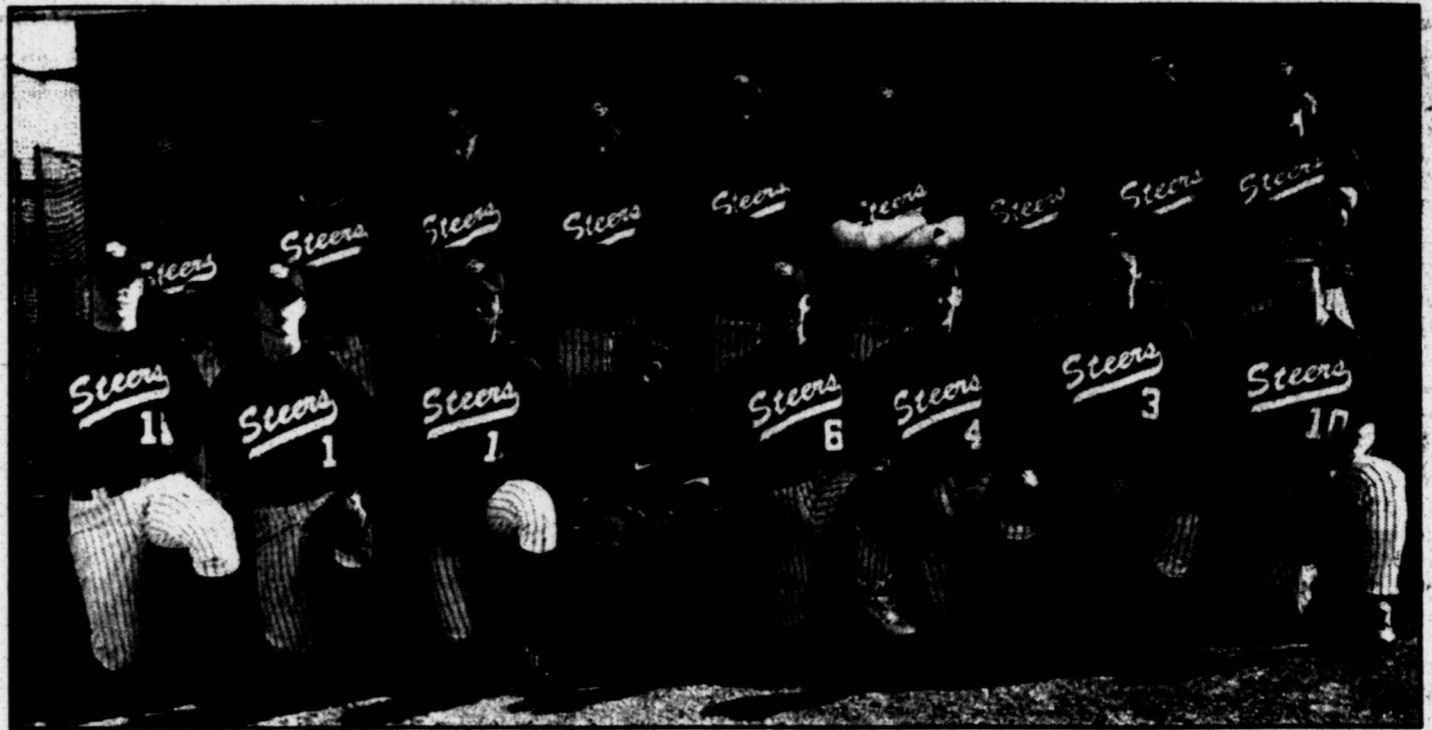
points and a team-high eight rebounds, while freshman Jessica Shusteric hit 3-pointers — all in the first half — and finished with nine points, four rebounds and five assists.

Helen Roden led Odessa College with a game-high 21 points. She hit two 3-pointers and connected on nine-of-11 shots from the foul line. Jade Wacker added 14 points, while Crystal Barringer scored 10.

Howard will travel to Levelland for a date with No. 2 South Plains Monday. Megan Morris enters the game averaging nearly 17 points and eight rebounds per game.

"We have our work cut out for us with that one," said Diddle. "We just hope we play well because we are mathematically out of any post-season trip this year."

BIG SPRING



2005 Steer Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Feb. 26	(DH) Snyder	(H)	1:00
March 1	Odessa Permian	(T)	4:00
March 3, 4, 5	Monahans Tournament	(T)	TBA
March 8	Midland	(T)	1:00
March 17, 18, 19	Andrews Tournament	(T)	TBA
March 22	Hobbs	(H)	4:30
March 26	Odessa Permian	(H)	12:00
March 29	*Lakeview	(H)	4:30

(DH) Double Header

*District Games

Head Coach: Jason Phillips

Asst. Coaches: Kenny Lowery & Paul Hidalgo



2005 Lady Steer Softball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TEAM	SITE	TIME
Feb. 24, 25, 26	Midland Tournament	V-JV	(T)	TBA
March 1	Abilene High	V-JV	(T)	3/4:30
March 3, 4, 5	El Paso Tournament	V	(T)	TBA
March 10	Greenwood	V-JV	(T)	4/5:30
March 12	Lubbock High	V-JV	(H)	11/1:00
March 14	Midland Christian	JV	(T)	5:30
March 15	Coahoma	V	(H)	4:30
March 19	Lubbock Cooper	V-JV	(H)	11/1:00
March 22	*Lakeview	V-JV	(H)	4/5:30
March 24	*Andrews	V-JV	(T)	6/7:30
March 29	*Frenship	JV-V	(T)	4/6:00

*District Games

Head Coach: Lea Daggett

Asst. Coach: Phillip Pearce

Good Luck To All Of You!

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WJAC Standings

Women	Men
South Plains 10-1	Frank Phillips 10-2
Midland College 7-3	Howard College 8-3
New Mexico JC 6-4	Midland College 8-4
Cleburne 4-4	Midland College 7-4
Odessa College 4-7	Midland College 7-5
Frank Phillips 3-7	Midland College 6-6
Howard College 3-8	Midland College 6-7
Region V tournament results	Midland College 6-8

Thursday's scores
Midland 75, Frank Phillips 75
Odessa 58, Frank Phillips 58
South Plains 63, Cleburne 54
New Mexico JC 54, Midland 54

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710 Scurry (432)263-7331

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GARAGE SALE: College Park Church of God, 603 Tulane, Saturday 8:00-3:00.

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Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9:00am-6:00pm. Hulk, YU-GI-OH cards, tools, toys, flowers, houseware, dolphin, Buddha, dragon, art set, religious clocks, hats and binnies, bras and panties, spiderman, notebooks, sharpies, and much much more.

MOVING SALE, 2918 Melrose. Saturday, 8:00-? Furniture, treadmill, miscellaneous.

MOVING SALE: 1707 East Hwy 350, Wednesday thru Sunday 8:00am-8:00pm. Too much to list.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
In spite of best intentions, it quickly becomes apparent that what will be will be—you are not entirely in charge. The restless energy that takes over is perfect for drifting on the waves of imagination and going where the tides tug. The moon enters Libra tonight, and what occurs after that will make the whole day seem worthwhile.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are people to meet, places to go and things to buy. If you put your attention on the people and places, it will seem less important to purchase the extra trappings to prove you were

there.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've played love's game, and now, your romantic prospect is exactly where you want him or her. As Dorothy Parker once said, "... and if that makes you happy, kid, you'll be the first it ever did."
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Life's juicy offerings go to the patient now. Once you arrive in a social setting, plan to stay as long as possible. If you loiter around long enough, the whole world will drift in and out.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your inner wild child comes to the fore. You may feel possessive when others howl at the moon. Your feral heart acts out in a way that no one else should be able to duplicate, crowd or stop.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You get what you aim for, so aim high. You might be surprised at what you actually stop yourself from accepting because down deep you still don't feel you deserve it. It's not too late to change your self-concept.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a fanciful twist in the plot of your love life—how delicious! Don't spend your energy telling everyone. Keep romantic secrets. Also, while chasing after fame or notoriety, you could actually make some money.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Restlessness sets in—you sense that other people in the world are having much more fun than you.

In this state, daily chores can seem lethal. If you can blow off responsibility and be spontaneous, you're cured!
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's so much creative energy at your disposal! But in order to keep producing, you must keep exposing yourself to new influences. Educate yourself. It's thrilling work.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The theme is compassion. Having more of it requires an effort, but you won't be sorry you tried. See a problem from at least three points of view before you make a judgment. A loving Aquarius helps.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your train of thought has definitely left the station. Now that you're on your way with this new project and your brain is humming with what to do next and next and next, you are extremely attractive to new romantic prospects.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Good news invigorates you and just when you need it the most! It's also stimulating to be around people who are riding out a wave of success. Say "yes" to the invitation tonight, but do put boundaries in place.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Take care of your body. Your mind and your relationships run beautifully when you feel good. It's a fine time to stop worrying about that family member who continues to march to a different drummer.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I have a 16-year-old daughter named "Angel." She is developing into a classic stereotype of the blonde airhead. Just today, she went to get the mail, set it down in an unusual place and promptly forgot about it. When I asked her what happened to the mail, she had to search for five minutes before she found it. Last month, I had to turn the car around because Angel forgot a birthday present that she'd had in her hands 30 seconds before we got into the car.
Angel is smart, caring, friendly and witty, but I'm afraid this absent-mindedness will be a major problem for her in the years to come. I teach high school, and I know how cruel kids can be and how quickly peers can reinforce such personality traits.
I've tried positive reinforcement. We've had long talks about awareness. We've even worked on reminders to help her remember glasses, homework, lunch money, etc. Nothing helps. I need help for my sanity a little, but mostly for Angel's self-esteem. I've already heard the "I'm so stupid" comment from her a couple of times, and it breaks my heart. Is there a 12-step program for this type of thing? Any suggestions?—Airhead's Dad in Las Vegas
Dear Dad: This could be hormones run amuck. It is not unusual for preteens and teenagers to seem scatterbrained and forgetful. However, before making that assumption, please have her checked out by her pediatrician. There may be a physiological reason why Angel cannot focus.
In the meantime, please do not make a fuss over this, or you will be reinforcing the behavior, too. Dad. Negative attention is still attention, and when she knows she is disappointing you, she feels inadequate. Give her a calendar so she can keep

track of her homework assignments and special dates, suggest she concentrate when she puts something down, set up specific places for keys, glasses, etc., and then let her deal with it. We think it will pass.
Dear Annie: I am 21 years old. Every five years, my grandparents take everyone in the family (about 20 people) on vacation. This year, my 25-year-old cousin asked if he could bring along his girlfriend of four years, and my grandparents agreed. My grandparents usually treat each grandchild equally, so I find it unusual that they didn't also invite my boyfriend of two years, "Brett."
Brett and I are studying abroad this semester and may live together over the summer. My grandparents know my cousin's girlfriend better than Brett, but it still doesn't seem fair that he gets to bring his girlfriend while I am alone.
Would it be selfish of me to ask if I can bring Brett? I realize my grandparents are being very generous, but I also know I wouldn't enjoy the trip as much without Brett. What should I do?—Beach Bummed in New England
Dear Beach Bummed: Your grandparents should not have allowed your cousin's girlfriend to come along if they weren't willing to do the same for you. However, this is a gift, and the level of generosity is up to them. Try to enjoy yourself without Brett, and maybe they'll include him next time.
Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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FRIDAY

FEB. 25

Time	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPICE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (28)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (30)
6:30	News (CC)	Midland News Wheel-Fortune	Spanish La Mujer de Madera	Celeste Raymond	Celeste Raymond	Telenovela Anita No Te Rajas	Midland News Wheel-Fortune	Atlanta Raymond	Celeste Raymond	News-Letter	American Chopper	Celeste Raymond	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. Live BET.com	Phi of Future That's-Raven	Til (CC)	NBA	Foreign Affair (CC)
7:30	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)	Rubi Amor Real	Bernie Mac	Joan of Arcadia (CC)	La Mujer en el Espejo	Dataline NBC (CC)	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	Wash. Week Well-Fortune	American Chopper	Movie: Easy Rider	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Holiday Heart	Movie: The Even Stevens	Til (CC)	NBA Basketball: Cleveland Cavaliers at	Movie: Striptease
8:30	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Hospital, Paises La Escuelita	Malcolm-Mid. 70s Show	NUMB3RS (CC)	Te Voy a Enseñar a Quererte	Medical Investigation	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Turbulence	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose	American Chopper	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Club Comic View	Lizzie McGuire Phi of Future	Farmly Fallz vs. Terry Smith	Indiana Pacers, NBA	Movie: Color of	
9:30	News (CC)	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Boleo	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Turbulence	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose	American Chopper	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Club Comic View	Nightly News NBA Recap	American Dign That's-Raven	SportsCenter (CC)	Basketball: Detroit Pistons		
10:30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	Pelicula se Anunciara	Becker (CC)	Letterman Late Late	Martinez vs. Santos	Late Night	CCM Ministries Del Sanchez	10 Movie: Turbulence	CCM Ministries Del Sanchez	Southern Steel (CC)	15 Movie: Rosemary's Baby (CC)	The Ultimate Fighter	Midnight Love	Mr. Whiskers Kim Possible	Til (CC)	at Los Angeles Lakers (CC)	Movie: Hudson Hawk (CC)	
11:30	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	PGA Wrap-Up	Spin City	Dharma-Greg	Show The Insider	Faltaba Programa	Conan O'Brien Frasier (CC)	Update/Israel Dineh Christian	Update/Israel Dineh Christian	American Hot Rod (CC)	Baby (CC)	Blind Date Shipmates	Movie: Devil in	Club Comic View	Boy World Lizzie McGuire	Til (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	

DENNIS THE MENACE

2-25
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"WHO NEEDS BRAKES? BRAKES ARE FOR SCAREDY-CATS!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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"I've been in here a long time, Mommy. Am I sorry yet?"

HAGAR

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GOOD NEWS, HILGA! YOUR LOVING HUSBAND IS HOME AT LAST!

SURE, HE'S FIVE HOURS LATE, BUT YOU SHOULD OPEN THE DOOR AND GIVE HIM A BIG KISS ANYWAY!

THAT'S NOT GOING TO WORK, HAGAR!

WELL, IT WAS WORTH A TRY!

BC

2-25
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ALL RIGHT, WHO CAN GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF GLOBAL WARMING?

SMITTY?

THAT'S WHEN YOU CAN'T GET A TEE TIME IN JANUARY.

WIZARD OF ID

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I HEARD BLANCH SUDDENLY LOST HER ABILITY TO TALK.

NOTHING SERIOUS, SHE'S OKAY NOW.

WHAT HAPPENED?

SHE JUST SHEARED A PII.

AGNES

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OK! TIME TO DO THE BIG CAR CHASE SCENE!

A MUSICAL WITH A CAR CHASE?

WE HAVE NO CARS, BUT IF YOU JERK THE CAMERA AROUND AND MAKE SCREECHING TIRE SOUNDS, NO ONE WILL NOTICE.

PEOPLE WILL NOTICE A LACK OF CARS IN A CAR CHASE.

WE WILL ALSO RAPID CUT TO THESE WILLING CAST MEMBERS WRIGGLING IN GRATUITOUS NUDITY!

EARTHWORMS?

HI AND LOIS

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I'M TOO SKINNY! WE NEED A HOME GYM!

OR YOU COULD USE BRICKS AS DUMBBELLS, LIFT CEMENT BLOCKS, DO CHIN-UPS ON A TREE BRANCH... THAT'S WHAT I DID WHEN I WAS A KID!

DIDN'T WORK, HUH?

BROWNE

THE OTHER COAST

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I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THE COST OF FUNERALS THESE DAYS.

THE CASKETS COST AS MUCH AS A SMALL CAR, YOU NEED TO TAKE OUT A MORTGAGE FOR THE FLOWERS...

AND THE COST OF A CEMETERY PLOT? WHY, I COULD BUY A...

SIGN HERE, PLEASE.

HEY! YOU PUT MY NAME DOWN AS THE DECEASED!

OPPS, SORRY. JAWFUL THINKING.

SNUFFY SMITH

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DON'TCHA FERGIT, MAW, I WEAR TH' BRITCHES IN THIS HOUSE !!

NOT UNLESS I KEEP 'EM WASHED, IRONED AN' MENDED !!

DANG !! ANOTHER DRAW !!

BETLE BAILEY

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ARE WE THERE YET?

BLONDIE

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HI, LET'S CHAT.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE THINGS TO DO?

EATING AND SLEEPING.

EATING AND SLEEPING?

DAGWOOD, IS THAT YOU?

This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 25, the 56th day of 2005. There are 309 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 25, 1793, the department heads of the U.S. government met with President Washington at his home for the first Cabinet meeting on record.

On this date:

In 1570, Pope Pius V excommunicated England's Queen Elizabeth I.

In 1836, inventor Samuel Colt patented his revolver.

In 1901, United States Steel Corp. was incorporated by J.P. Morgan.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the United States Constitution, giving Congress the power to levy and collect income taxes, was declared in effect.

In 1943, during World War

II, U.S. troops reoccupied the Kasserine Pass.

In 1948, Communists seized power in Czechoslovakia.

In 1964, Cassius Clay (later Muhammad Ali) became world heavyweight boxing champion by defeating Sonny Liston in Miami Beach, Fla.

In 1973, the Stephen Sondheim musical "A Little Night Music" opened at Broadway's Shubert Theater.

In 1986, President Ferdinand E. Marcos fled the Philippines after 20 years of rule in the wake of a tainted election; Corazon Aquino assumed the presidency.

In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, 28 Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud missile hit a U.S. barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Diane Baker is 67. Talk show host Sally Jessy Raphael is 62. Actress Karen Grassle is 61. Movie director Neil Jordan is 55. Rock singer-musician Mike Peters (The Alarm) is 46. Actress Veronica Webb is 40. Actor Alexis Denisof is 39. Actress Tea Leoni is 39. Actress Lesley Boone ("Ed") is 37. Actor Sean Astin is 34. Latin singer Julio Iglesias Jr. is 32. R&B singer Justin Jeffre (98 Degrees) is 32. Rock musician Richard Liles is 32. Actor Anson Mount is 32. Actress Rashida Jones is 29. Actor Justin Berfield ("Malcolm in the Middle") is 19.

Newsday Crossword

SAY WHAT? by Merle Baker
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 "Take ___ from me"

5 Darts venues

9 Burst forth

14 Unexciting

15 Troop group

16 Stand for a chorus

17 Postal service

20 Tec

21 Set apart

22 Little bit

23 Lt. ___

25 Hatshepsut, for one

29 ___ Pea

31 Poisonous snake

33 Lion prey

34 One on the run

36 Museum or think follower

38 Baloney

42 Macbeth tormentor

43 Castle protectors

44 "Wiedersehen"

45 Lacks

47 Butter containers

51 Yet

54 Columbus Day mo.

56 After-tax amount

57 Sooties

59 Sukova of tennis

61 "Look who just came in!"

65 Mix up

66 River of Russia

67 Isthmus

DOWN

1 White Sands events

2 CPA's expertise

3 Slow down

4 Place with llamas

5 Soft touch

6 Young ___

7 Bridge action

8 Treeless plain

9 All My Children role

10 Delaware or Missouri

11 Draw upon

12 A pop

13 Have a go at

18 List ender

19 Cowardly Lion portrayer

24 Claim on property

26 A long time

27 Some time back

28 Shade

30 Young newts

32 Senior dances

35 Tennis ump's call

36 Favorite

37 Part of M.I.T.

38 "No way!"

39 Soy product

40 It's inadvisable

41 Grips

42 Gangster's gun

45 Saintry radiance

46 Toddler, perhaps

48 Rough admonishment

49 Mom's corn holders

52 La ___ Opera House

53 Not real

55 Senator Kennedy

58 Violins and violas: Abbr.

60 Late-night name

61 Airline to Oslo

62 Fictional composer Bach

63 End of an admissions office e-mail address

64 Stetson or sombrero

Answer to previous puzzle

TSARS	EMCEE	MON
UTTER	VALLEY	ONE
FERTILE	SOIL	TEN
TRAY	ASTUTE	NOT
PAD	STEELE	
THESES	SPORTS	
ARI	ADAIR	SLOE
SAG	PADDIRT	ADE
HINO	SABER	NOR
ENGRAM	SPENDS	
RADISH	AVE	
TWO	ALTERS	GIST
YOU	PLANET	EARTH
RON	TERRA	STOLE
ODD	STRIP	TENON

Golf Insider

By T.J. TOMASI

BIRDIES AND BOGEYS

Bemoans from Beman

According to Deane Beman, former PGA Tour commissioner: "By the year 2020, they (tour players) will add another 50 yards in the long drive to an average of 350 yards. The deck is stacked in favor of the guy who happened to come out of the womb bigger and stronger."

Beman, a good player who, as a short hitter, relied on his accuracy and short game, thinks that the very nature of the game is threatened by the improvements in equipment, especially the golf ball.



BEMAN

He goes on to say: "I'm going to be 67, and I carry it farther and hit it longer than I ever had, and that doesn't make any sense at all."

Hold on now, this is a negative? Tell that to the average male golfer who hits the ball about 230 yards. And while you're at it, tell him that the ball goes too far and that golf is too easy.

Basically, the problem is not that the game is too easy, but that some of the patricians who guide the game care little about the struggles of the golfing public.

Beman need not worry, because it's possible that the game has already reached the outer limits of perfection. There are more players playing well today, but no one hits the ball better than the champions from 50 years ago, the likes of Hogan, Nelson and Snead. With the margin of error inherent to the game and the technology limited by rule, the game is already safe.

In the year 2050, we may have a hundred Hogans and a thousand Woodses, but they will still be shooting the same winning scores they are now. The only difference will be that the average golfer will be playing better golf, and who can argue with that?

GOLF BY THE NUMBERS

\$174.7 million

The Thunderbirds, hosts of the FBR Open in Phoenix, requested a study of the tournament's economic impact on Arizona. Conducted by Arizona State University's W.P. Carey School of Business and the Center for Business Research, it showed that the event pumped \$174.7 million into the state. This number includes \$69 million spent by non-local attendees (at \$319 per person per day) and a proven "multiplier effect" — the spending and re-spending of money throughout the local economy. The PGA should expand its motto from "These guys are good" to "These guys are good — for the economy."

15.2

Over the last decade, the average handicap for men has dropped from 17 to 15.2. This is the first significant drop since the USGA has kept records. Most people claim the main reason is improved technology, but as a teacher, I feel that the fact that more golfers are taking lessons is part of the reason.

\$340,000

Jack Nicklaus won the made-for-TV Senior Skins Game this winter and, ironically, the biggest winner's check of his storied, 50-some-year career — \$340,000. It was his first win in five years (the last win was a team event with Tom Watson as a partner).

18

Of the last 21 winners of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am 18 have won a major championship — the most of any regular tour event. During that time frame the Players Championship is next with 16.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME



On the left, Stuart Appleby's hips have a tilt to them, while Jill Finland's hips are turning parallel to the ground. Also, his right elbow is in front of his right hip, while Jill's is lagging behind, providing evidence that these players use different downswing sequences.

Small mistakes add up quickly

The player on the left above is Stuart Appleby. He's a great golfer, a six-time winner on the PGA Tour and member of three Presidents Cup teams.

The player on the right is Jill Finland, a good golfer who has won a college scholarship and regional tournaments, and competes on the LPGA Tour's developmental tour, the Futures Tour. But she has some work to do if she wants make it on the LPGA Tour.

One example of an area Jill needs to work on is illustrated by the near-impact positions pictured. There are two glaring differences.

Appleby's hips have a tilt to them, while Jill's hips are turning parallel to the ground. Also, his right elbow is in front of his right hip, while Jill's is lagging well behind.

These differences are evidence that these players use different downswing sequences.

In order to get to the impact position Appleby demonstrates, he

ABOUT THE WRITER



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is director of instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Conn. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: T.J.Insider@aol.com.

must have done the following: reached the peak rate of rotation with his hips first, followed in close order (about 35 milliseconds later) by the peak rate of rotation of his shoulders, followed (about 40 milliseconds later) by his peak hand speed, which occurred about 30 milliseconds before impact. This sequence is the most efficient for transferring power from the body through the shaft and finally into the ball at impact.

Jill, on the other hand reached the peak rate of rotation with her

shoulders first, 15 milliseconds before the peak rate of rotation of her hips (as her shoulders slowed down and her hips continued to pick up speed), followed by her peak hand speed, which occurred about 50 milliseconds before impact, severely decreasing her club head speed.

These small errors in sequence, measured in mere milliseconds, are big enough to keep Jill:

1. from maximizing her potential club head speed at impact and that costs her distance;
2. from maintaining the loft on her club face at impact, making distance control difficult.

To fix her swing, Jill must work on her hip tilt at impact. Measurements using state-of-the-art equipment show that great ball strikers are tilted about 12 degrees at impact. This will slow her hips after they have reached their peak rate of rotation, achieved early in the downswing, and allow her shoulders to catch up so she can deliver the club head on time.

SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS
Accenture Match Play Championship
• Site: Carlsbad, Calif.
• Schedule: Wednesday-Sunday
• Course: La Costa Resort and Spa (7,247 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$7.5 million. Winner's share: \$1.3 million.
• Television: ESPN (Wednesday-Friday 2-6 p.m.; Saturday 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.), ABC (Saturday 3-7 p.m.; Sunday 2-6 p.m.) and ESPN2 (Sunday 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.).

PGA TOUR
Chrysler Classic of Tucson
• Site: Tucson, Ariz.
• Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
• Course: Omni Tucson National Golf Resort & Spa (7,109 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$3 million.
• Winner's share: \$540,000.
• Television: USA (Thursday-Friday 6-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 11 p.m.-1 a.m.).

LPGA TOUR
SBS Open at Turtle Bay
• Site: Kahuku, Hawaii.
• Schedule: Thursday-Saturday
• Course: Turtle Bay Resort, Palmer Course (6,520 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$1 million.
• Winner's share: \$150,000.
• Television: The Golf Channel (Thursday 6:30-9 p.m.; Friday 3:30-5 a.m., 6:30-9 p.m.; Saturday 3-4:30 a.m., 6-9 p.m.; Sunday 2:30-4 a.m.).

CHAMPIONS TOUR
Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am
• Site: Lutz, Fla.
• Schedule: Friday-Sunday
• Course: TPC of Tampa Bay (6,638 yards, par 71).
• Purse: \$1.6 million.
• Winner's share: \$240,000.
• Television: The Golf Channel (Friday-Sunday 1:30-4 p.m.; Saturday 1:30-4 p.m., 9-11:30 p.m.).

DON'T MISS IT

Pretty as a picture

There are lots of factors that go into making a memorable golf hole — beautiful scenery, rich tradition and more. Author Jeff Barr, who oversees the travel section of Golfweek magazine, has captured 1,001 memorable holes in his new book "1,001 Golf Holes You Must Play Before You Die." Magnificently illustrated (more than 650 color photos), the book encourages all golfers, professional or amateur, to discover holes they simply must play — holes such as No. 1 at St. Andrews, No. 3 at Oakmont and No. 18 at Pebble Beach.

To order, log on to www.rsrvp.com, or call toll free at (800) 625-3396; the price is \$35.

GOLF HOLES

THE GOLF DOCTOR

The trouble with David Duval

David Duval had some horrible rounds at the finish of last year, and he's had some horrible rounds to begin this season (an 85 in the first round of the Hope, another 85 at the AT&T). He's a good guy down on his luck.

But in this game you make your own luck through hard work. So why did Duval spend the winter in the Denver snow lying around the house?

Granted, Justin Leonard took a couple of months off and still won his first tournament of 2005, but he has a good golf swing and can get away with taking time off. Duval is in the middle of making huge swing changes; he cannot afford time off if he wants to regain his championship form.

There's a big difference between saying you want to be good and working hard to be good.

Apparently, Duval simply saying he wanted to be good again is good enough for Nike Golf, which extended his contract this year.

"David's gone through some things in the last year, but we feel like he's coming back," said Kel Devlin, Nike's global sports marketing director. "(We) know he's going to get back into the winner's circle, and we hope that it happens this year."

Before giving Duval an extension (on the original \$28 million contract signed in 1999), Nike should have listened to his former instructor and coach at Georgia Tech, Puggy Blackmon: "Even when he won the British



DUVAL

TEENING OFF

Your swing is only half the battle

In a study published in the journal *The Sciences*, British biochemist Guy C. Brown reports on the effects of stress on gymnasts. He notes a significant decline in performance as stress increases. Brown says that "tension and doubt trigger biochemical changes that interrupt the muscles' automatic motor response, the 'muscle memory' honed by years of practice."

No golfer should be surprised by the conclusion that stress can ruin performance. In fact, I write extensively about these biochemical changes in my book "The 30-Second Golf Swing: How to Train Your Brain to Improve Your Game."

Under pressure, your body is flooded with powerful chemicals. It's called the fight/flight response, and it is hard-wired into your brain. Sugar pours into your bloodstream as muscle glycogen breaks down for a burst of energy, your blood pressure increases to drive more blood into your muscles, and your breathing quickens to maximize your carbon dioxide and oxygen exchange rates. It's all very necessary if you have to flee from a lion, but detrimental to sinking a 3-foot putt for the club championship.

The point is that although you may have taken the time to hone the technical skill of swinging a golf club, and that skill pattern is captured in the neural networks of your brain, if you interpret a situation to be stressful then you will flood yourself in a bath of anti-golf chemicals. And it is this chemical bath that blocks your access to your golf swing.

So learning how to swing a golf club solves only half the problem. The other half is controlling your stress response so that you can make your stress-free driving range swing on the golf course. This means that to be a player, first you learn how to control your swing, then you learn how to control yourself.

ASK THE PRO

Q: I read your instructional section in which you described an exercise to correctly judge how far away from the ball you should be when you are in the proper golf posture. The exercise makes a lot of sense and has helped me a lot. However, it starts while holding the club shaft parallel to the ground, and I can't figure how far away from my body my hands should be in this position. I would appreciate any help you can give me with this. — Robert G., Georgetown, Ky.

A: First, your upper arms should be braced against your upper chest. To get the feel of how far your hands should be from your body, brace your upper arms and then (without a club in your hands) extend your arms and turn your forearms so that your palms are pointing at the sky. Then imagine someone is about to hand you something of substantial weight (like your golf bag with all the clubs in it). The distance you instinctively hold your hands away from your body under this circumstance is the correct distance.

If you want further verification, place a mirror down the target line, address the ball and then take a look in the mirror to make sure that an imaginary line drawn perpendicular to the ground passes through the butt of the grip handle and the balls of your feet. This relationship may vary somewhat for different body types, but it is in the ball park. For more detail, see my book, "The LAWS of the Golf Swing."

Open (in 2001), it (his swing) was not good."

When Nick Faldo was having trouble putting good numbers on the board, he played a number of rounds from the white tees in order to get used to shooting low numbers again. Duval turns up at difficult courses without sufficient preparation and shoots huge numbers. That is a big mistake.

Last year, Hank Haney helped Duval make the swing changes necessary to fix his technical problems, but Duval hasn't followed up with the hard work of taking his new swing to the course.

Duval was a great college player, and he rose to No. 1 in the world because he learned how to play good golf with a bad swing. Now he's ingraining the habit of playing bad golf with a good swing.

Scoring well is a skill, a learned skill, one you don't learn in front of the fireplace.