

# SPRING - HARA

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Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

#### THURSDAY

March 3, 2005

#### WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW 41°-43° 64°-66°

#### BRIEFLY

#### Wear red, get in free to Hawk games

Wear red tonight to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum and get into. the college basketball games free. In regular season finales, the Hawk women take on Midland at 5:50 p.m. while the Hawks face off against the Chaparrals at 7:50 p.m.

#### **Municipal Court** closed March 7-11

The Big Spring Municipal Court will be closed the week of March 7 through March 11. The computer system is being updated to a new, more efficient format and the staff will be training the entire week to learn the new system. The court will open for business Monday, March 14.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Cover Story: From minus 75 in McGrath, Alaska, to 124 degree in Yuma, Ariz., the United States has its share of extreme weather. So what are the sunniest, cloudiest; wettest, driest, foggiest, and windiest places in America? Which places get the most snow, hail, hurricanes, tornadoes and lightning?

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Vol. 101, No. 71

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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.

"I have every reason to believe from past history that a bill that passes out of one body very rarely is in the final form, so there's

a lot of massaging, a lot of

debating left."



By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans could soon be paying much less in property taxes, but will see some increased expenses such as the cost of bottled water and car washes.

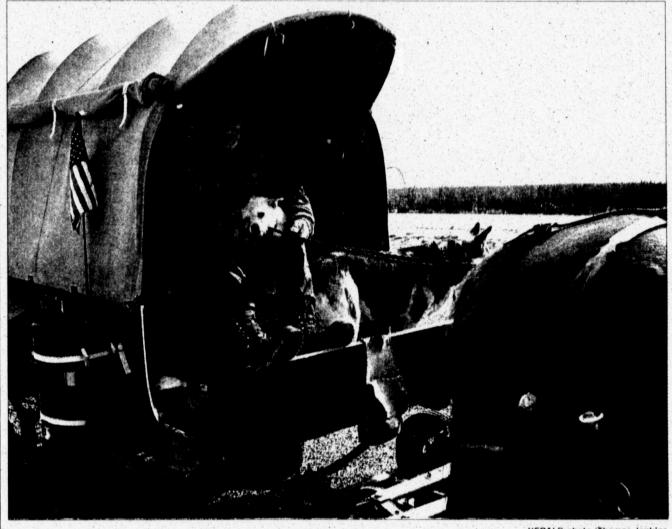
Tax-writing panel considers slew of new taxes

The tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee approved a measure Wednesday that replaces a reduction in school property taxes with a new business tax on wages and a slew of other new taxes. A plan to reduce property taxes by a third left lawmakers with a \$5.4 billion-per-year-hole to plug with other

The state sales tax, now at 6.25 percent, would be increased to 7.2 percent, and would be expanded to include other products and services such as bottled water, billboard advertising, car washes and vehicle repair services.

Most of the revenue, about \$3.5 billion,

See TAXES, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Herman Huerta continues his journey from New Jersey to New Mexico Wednesday afternoon, traveling in his covered wagon south of Big Spring on U.S. Highway 87. Huerta, who is traveling with his two horses, a blind German Shepherd named Tasha and a second dog named Lolita, plans to write a book on his journey once he reaches New Mexico.

# Wagon Ho!

## New Jersey man on trek to New Mexico

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

"I'm headed to New Mexico." Not necessarily a statement that would surprise someone. especially when it comes froma person traveling north on Highway 87 along with plumes of other traffic, each traveling to some destination, near or German Shepherd named

Unless, of course, that statement came from a man driving a horse-drawn covered wagon. Herman Huerta, caught firmly in the spotlight of his eccentric ways, is traveling from New Jersey to New Mexico

Tasha and a second canine named Lolita.

The New Jersey man's trek led him along S. Highway 87 approximately four miles from Big Spring Wednesday afternoon, eliciting everything

with his two horses, a blind See TREK, Page 3A

# Pending lawsuit

Parents of Stanton man contend local agencies responsible for his death

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The family of a 33-year-old Stanton man who died in the custody of the Big Spring Police Department in September have named several local agencies in a pending lawsuit.

"I've ruled

Mr. and Mrs. David Miller, parents Robert Charles Wiltsie. announced this week the proceedings have begun with a letter from, Shaw Associates, a law located, in Dallas that's handling the plaintiff's side of the officers." matter, to

it an accidental death because it wasn't JP Green any type of suicide attempt or anything like that. It was an attempt to conceal, to hide the cocaine from

the BSPD. "A letter was sent to them advising them that we intend to bring this lawsuit forward," said Mrs. Miller, who resides in Arizona, Wednesday after-

Police Chief Lonnie Smith confirmed the letter was received by the police department, and said the matter has been turned over to the appropriate channels.

"I turned the letter over to City Attorney Jean Shotts, who in turn is working with the city's insurance

See SUIT, Page 3A

# Kiwanians ready for flapjack feast

☐ 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday in the Howard. College student cafeteria. Cost is \$5.

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Kiwanis Club will be celebrating 60 years of batter, griddles and syrup Friday, as the local group gets ready to fill the Howard College cafeteria with hungry people in search of pancakes.

"We plan to sell a bunch of pancakes."

spokesperson for the local Kiwanis group, with a grin. "We want to get the community involved. This is our biggest annual fundraiser, and usually our most lucrative. We want people to come out and invest in us, so we can invest in the community.

"We help the Salvation Army, Howard College, the Westside Community Center these are just some of the local organizations

we donate money to on a regular basis." Along with the golden brown pancakes, See PANCAKES, Page 5A

sausage and bacon," said Rick Hearn, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee are included in the \$5 admission cost for the all-you-can eat dinner.

"We are hoping to catch folks leaving town before the spring break holiday," said Hearn. "If they'd like to come, they can fill up on good, homemade pancakes made from a secret recipe. We'll even have to-go boxes ready for them."

Money raised from the supper supports the

# Candidate filing ends Monday

## Trustee seats looking to be mostly uncontested this year

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

With the filing deadline only a few days away, area school board elections are shaping into rather anticlimactic affairs.

For the most part, area school board candidates will face uncontested elections when voters head to the polls May 7. Only district Sands Consolidated — has a contested - lot. election on the ballot as of Wednesday, officials indicated.

Deadline for getting your name on the ballet is Monday, while write in candidates have until March 14 to file.

Sands Superintendent Wayne Blount said three candidates have filed for the two at large positions up for election. Incumbents Mark Nichols and Robin Barraza will join newcomer Wes Hughes on the May 7 bal-

See SCHOOLS, Page 5A

## Some city council seats still 'candidate free' down stretch

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

With less than three days left to file for elected seats in area cities, it appears the fate of many seats are going to go down to the March 7 deadline — if anyone applies for them at all.

Nearly three weeks into the filing period, ballots for two seats on the Coahoma City Council held by incumbent councilmen Ricky Stone and David Elmore See CITY, Page 5A

have yet to draw a candidate including the incumbents.

Coahoma Mayor Bill Read has filed to run for re-election, but has yet to draw an opponent.

Incumbents are the only ones who have filed in Big Spring, where District 1 council member Stephanie Horton and District 3 council woman Joanne Staulcup look to serve another term:

In Forsan, incumbents Mary

#### **Obituaries**

#### Cruz H. Martinez



Cruz H. Martinez, 74, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 2, 2005, in a local hospital. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. today, March 3, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 4, 2005, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born May 3, 1930, in Alpine and married Jose Martinez, May 27, 1951, in Big Spring.

Mrs. Martinez moved to Big Spring when she was 40 days old. She graduated from Sul Ross University and was a retired school teacher. She was a very active and devoted member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and a member of the Guadalupanas and the

Survivors include her husband, Jose Martinez of Big Spring; her daughter, Amelia Martinez of Big Spring; her son and daughter-in-law, Jose and Maria Martinez of Christoval; two brothers, Ramon Holguin of Big Spring and David Holguin of Phoenix, Ariz.; and five sisters, Esperanza Mendoza, Anita Valles, Libby Uribe and Elma Flores, all of Big Spring and Alicia Fierro of Milwaukee, Wis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ramon and Amelia Holguin, two sisters, Angelita Holguin and Maria Arispe and one brother, Ismael Holguin.

The family suggests memorials be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 508 N. Aylford, Big Spring

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

Paid obituary

#### Maryel Kirby

Marvel Kirby, 85, of Abilene, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 3, 2005, in an Abilene nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

#### Take note

- ☐ KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL REGULAR MEETING is noon Monday in the La Posada Restaurant. The recent meeting place poll will be discussed, among other items. The 2005 annual membership dues of at least \$5 are needed. Dues may also be mailed to KBSB Treasurer Jan Foresyth, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane
- ODESSA ART ASSOCIATION 47th ANNUAL JURIED ART EXHIBIT is 7 p.m. today at the Ellen Noel Art Museum. Call Jean Johnson at 432-362-4019 or Lura Sivalls at 432-550-2662 for more information.
- ☐ BIG SPRING SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION monthly board of directors meeting is 5:30 p.m. March 14 at 808 Scurry St.
- □ BOOK FAIR AT KENTWOOD ELEMENTARY TODAY THROUGH FRIDAY. Call the school at 264-4130 for more information.
- □ HOME HOSPICE OFFERS LIFE AFTER LOSS SIX-WEEK PROGRAM beginning today. The course, free to the public, is every Thursday from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 to register.
- □ BIG SPRING KIWANIS CLUB 60TH ANNUAL PANCAKE SUPPER from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday in the Howard College Cafeteria. All you can eat pancakes, sausage and bacon, \$5 per person.
- ☐ MEMBERS OF THE PUGA FAMILY are searching for family members to invite to a family reunion July 2 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Contact Anna Gutierrez-Trevino at 466-1780.
- □ CHURCH WOMEN UNITED CELEBRATE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2005 beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday at Immaculate Heart of mary Catholic Church. Theme for this year is "Let Our Light Shine." For more information, call 263-3766.
- ☐ HERITAGE MUSEUM OPENS A NEW EXHIB-IT, LAW AND ORDER, MARCH 10, featuring memoribilia from the Howard County Sheriff's Department, the Big Spring Police Department and local and past attorneys. Special items in the exhibit include the murder trial in Howard County and a 1902 shoot-out. Contact the museum for more information at 267-8255.
- □ A BENEFIT BARBECUE COOK-OFF FOR THE FORSAN BAND WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP is set for March 12 at 703 W. Third. Categories are: brisket, pork ribs, chicken halves, sausage and jackpot beans. Cooks may register now by calling 263-6862.
- ☐ HOWARD COUNTY A&M CLUB SCHOLAR-SHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2005-2006 are being accepted. Applications may be obtained from Mike or Jeane Niklasch at 1409 E. Highway 350 or by calling the club president, Dr. Tom Dawson at 267-7911, ext. 216. Application deadline is April 15.
- DEREK CHURCHWELL MEMORIAL SCHOL-ARSHIP has been established at Howard College. Donations may be made to the Howard College Foundation in care of Jan Foresyth, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Designate the Derek Churchwell Scholarship Fund.
- □ HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD is seeking financial donations to provide support for children in Howard County who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. Contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or mail donations to HCCWB P.O. Box 3101 Big Spring; 79721.

## Police blotter

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

- · MARISSA OLALLA SOTO, 24, of 1605 Kentucky, was arrested Tuesday on a local traffic warrant.
- · DEBRA SHAEFFER, 36, of 2900 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant.
- EDWARD WILLIAM BERRY JR., 46, of 5910 Ratliff Road, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended and local traffic war-
- ISABEL GONZALES LOMAS, 48, of 806 N. Goliad Street, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for a parole violation.
- LUIS CARRILLO FLORES, 25, of 1501 Bluebird, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while
- JOSE MANUEL JIMENEZ JR., 25, of 301 NW 10th Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- THEFT OF SERVICES was reported in the 500 block of S. Gregg Street. • THEFT was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell
- ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported in the 700 block
- ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

## Sheriff's report

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

- · RUDY GUTIERREZ, 32, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- · PAUL BROTT, 26, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of failure to register by a sex offend-
- · CARL WILLIAM-TABOR WELLS, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 100 block of Sandlin.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia at 12:19 p.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street at 12:09 p.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- · MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of E. 17th Street at 12:43 p.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to the VA Medical Center.

## Support groups

#### THURSDAY

- ☐ Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.
- ☐ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m.
- The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet the fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center beginning in January. Call 263-8273 for more information.
- ☐ Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

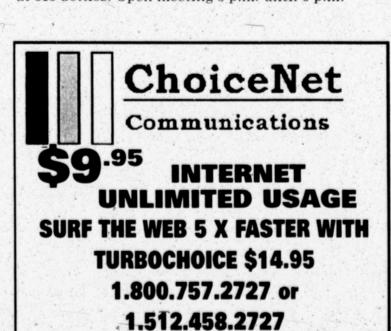
☐ AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

- ☐ Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8
- ☐ West Texas Gluten-Free Support Group (Celiacs Helping celiacs) meet from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Jan. 15 in the Odessa Regional Hospital. For more information, conact Barbara at 432-694-3614 days, or 432-520-2119 evenings.

#### SUNDAY

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



## **Bulletin** board

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

- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-
- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- · Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

#### FRIDAY

- · Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- · AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. · Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- · Big Spring Kiwanis Club 60th annual Pancake Supper from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Howard College Cafeteria.
- · Spring City Senior Citizen's country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

- Church Women World Day of prayer begins at 10 a.m. in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn St. .
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third. · Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more infor-
- mation.

#### MONDAY

· Keep Big Spring Beautiful regular meeting at noon in La Posada Restaurant. · District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets

- at noon at 610 Scurry.
- · Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-6-11-27-37. Number matching five of five: 2.

Prize per winner: \$17,150.

Winning tickets sold in: Jacinto City, Stephenville. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-24-34-41-43. Bonus Ball: 29 Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$17 million.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-7-7

## Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday - Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s. East winds 10 to 15

Friday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 60s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s.

Sunday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the lower 60s. Sunday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent

chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s.

Monday - Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 60s. Monday night - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 30s.

Tuesday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs around 60. Tuesday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower

Wednesday - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

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Spring Herald

Spring, Texas

# Caseworker funding still up in the air

By NATALIE GOTT

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas Senate gave preliminary approval to an overhaul of the state's troubled child and adult protective services agencies, but lawmakers still must determine how much money they will pony up to hire more caseworkers.

Lawmakers and Gov. Rick Perry have made reforms to Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services top issues for the Legislature following recent high-profile cases of child abuse and elder neglect.

in the Senate would change the investigation processes at both agencies, increase caseworker training and increase cooperation with law enforcement.

Legislative budget writers, however, still are working out funding details for hiring more caseworkers.

"It's not a discussion of how many caseworkers can we afford," Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said after the debate. "The issue is, what do we need to solve the problem."

The Senate, which tentatively approved the bill on a non-roll call vote, is expected to give final approval to the bill

The bill debated Wednesday Thursday. The bill will then move to the House, where a committee has been taking testimony on reforms to both CPS and APS.

> Much of the blame for recent child deaths has been placed on the high number of cases that Child Protective Services workers face.

A typical CPS investigator is responsible for 74 cases, or families, per month. The Child Welfare League of America recommends investigators generally be assigned 12 to 15 cases, though Sen. Jane Nelson, who sponsored the bill, said no states meet those guidelines.

Problems with Adult

light after an El Paso judge sent Perry details on cases of elderly people living in homes without water, electricity and gas, and littered with garbage and human waste.

Nelson, R-Lewisville, said her bill strengthens the investigations, of child abuse cases, increases collaboration and cooperation with law enforcement, makes malicious false reporting of child abuse a felony and outsources some parts of the foster care system to private entities.

On APS, Nelson said her bill improves the investigations of neglect cases, requires more more caseworkers.

Protective Services came to training for caseworkers and reforms the guardianship services. Under a guardianship, another person is given legal authority to make financial and other decisions for an elderly client.

"What I present to you now is our best attempt at fixing the systematic breakdowns in our protective services," Nelson told the senators. "The reason that we are working to move this legislation so quickly is because there are children and seniors in danger as we speak."

Nelson's bill has an estimated price tag of \$119 million, but that does not include hiring

#### WORLD **NEWS**



Hutchison to have say in Veterans Affairs funding

WASHINGTON (AP) - Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison will have more say over Veterans Affairs spending following a reorganization of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Hutchison had feared she might lose her chairmanship of the military construction subcommittee after the House reorganized its Appropriations Committee and reduced its subcommittees from 13 to 10.

The Senate, while not required to have the same number of subcommittees, was left trying to figure out how to retool its 13 subcommittees without costing some senators their chairmanships.

Hutchison ended up with an expanded subcommittee that will oversee Veterans Affairs funding. Hutchison already is a member of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, which authorizes how much money the agency gets from Congress.

Hutchison's oversight on Veterans Affairs may help efforts to keep open VA hospitals in Waco and Big Spring.

It also gives her more influence over President Bush's proposed plan that would charge some veterans \$250 a year to help pay the cost of veterans' health care. Many veterans groups oppose the idea, but two key lawmakers have endorsed versions.

U.S. troop deaths in Iraq rise to 1,500; car bombs explode in capital

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The number of U.S. military deaths in Iraq rose to 1,500 after the military announced Thursday that a soldier was killed inaction just south of the capital, an Associated Press count showed.

The latest fatality occurred Wednesday in Babil province, part of an area known as the "Triangle of Death" because of the frequency of insurgent attacks on U.S.- and Iragi-led forces there.

Amid the violence, Iraq's government said it will extend a state of emergency across the country, except for Kurdish-run areas, until the end of March.

The emergency decree, first announced nearly four months ago, includes a nighttime curfew and gives the government extra powers to make arrests without warrants and launch police and military operations when it deems necessary.

In eastern Baghdad, two suicide car bombs exploded outside the Interior Ministry, killing at least two policemen and wounding five others, police Maj. Jabar Hassan said. Officials at nearby al-Kindi hospital said 15 people were injured in the blasts.

Vatican says pope improving, following the daily life of the church

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Pope John Paul II is "progressively improving" but doctors have not yet set a date for the frail pontiff to leave the hospital, the Vatican said Thursday.

Papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the scar on John Paul's throat from surgery to insert a breathing tube was healing. He said the pope wants to go back to the Vatican, "but at the same time, he accepts doctors' advice" not to rush back.

"In recent days, the pope has been receiving several of his collaborators with whom he daily follows the activity of the Holy See and the life of the church," Navarro-Valls told reporters.

He said the Vatican would decide on Saturday what the pope's schedule for Sunday would be. The next health update was expected to be given on Monday.

Michael Jackson prosecution witness helps defense on some points

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) - A public relations specialist who worked for Michael Jackson six days told jurors the pop singer's team planned a smear campaign against the mother of his young accuser.

Ann Marie Kite, hired in 2003 to help rehabilitate Jackson's image after the airing of a damaging documentary, testified Wednesday that his associates hoped to portray the accuser's mother as a "crack whore."

Jackson, 46, is accused of molesting a 13-year-old cancer survivor at his Neverland ranch in 2003.

#### **TAXES**

Continued from Page 1A

would come from a reform of the state's main business tax, which allows five of every six businesses to avoid paying. The new system would tax wages in Texas at 1.1 percent of salaries under \$80,000 per employ-

Property taxes would drop from a cap of \$1.50 per \$100 in assessed property value to \$1.

The proposal, along with an education overhaul package, is expected to be considered by the full House beginning next week.

· A last-minute push by Democratic Rep. Vilma Luna of Corpus Christi would have reduced the amount of property tax relief, freeing up more money for other state programs in need. Rep. Jim Keffer, who chairs the committee and wrote much of the bill, refused to include the proposal in in the final form, so the adopted version.

really hard to do, but if we just keep the focus on where it needs to be, people will see why we're doing it and that we're not trying to be onerous. on any particular business or industry," said Keffer, an Eastland Republican.

The measure does not include an increase in the alcohol tax. but Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick said earlier in the day such a tax could be added as an amendment when the full House takes up the measure next week.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry said he likes that the bill is moving forward and is more interested in progress than in the specific proposed taxes.

"I have every reason to believe from past history

that a bill that passes out of one body very rarely is there's a lot of massaging, "I realize changes are a lot of debating left," Perry said.

> The property tax relief bill is part of a package of legislation aimed at overhauling the state's public education system.

Consideration of a payroll tax sparked a meltdown in the Legislature last spring after Perry, on the eve of the floor debate, indicated he would not support the measure. Perry argued that the bill would discourage job creation in Texas.

He has been noncommittal on the current proposal, but Craddick said Wednesday that conversations with Perry have indicated "he's more for a broad-based tax today than he was" during the special session.

"I think he realizes, as does everybody, that we

need some type of a change," Craddick said.

Craddick and Keffer have been careful not to refer to the proposal as a payroll tax, even though it taxes salaries. They've instead billed it as a reform of the franchise tax.

Echoing Perry's concerns, Wanda Rohm, a small business owner from San Antonio, told the committee that she was aghast at the prospect of a payroll tax.

"I probably will not hire additional employees," said Rohm, who has 11 employees at her Presto Printing shop. "It's going to stifle hiring, because I don't want to face having to pay more taxes, which comes out of my bottom line."

If the measure passes in the House, it would still have to be approved by the Senate and be signed by the governor before becoming law.

#### SUIT

Continued from Page 1A

provider," said Smith.

Smith said the lawsuit described in the letter names the city of Big Spring, Howard County and the Big Spring Police Department, along with numerous officers involved in the arrest of Wiltsie.

Wiltsie collapsed while he and another Stanton man were being booked into the Big Spring City Jail by a Comptroller of Public Accounts officer on a charge of using dyed fuel in a taxable manner on Sept. 2, 2004.

According to police officials, reports indicated that Justin Scott, an offiwith

Comptroller's streets just before 9:30 a.m. on Sept. 2, on the suspicion it was being operated on "dirty fuel."

While questioning the driver, 39-year-old Tracy Lynn Kruse of Stanton, Scott reportedly observed the passenger in the vehicle swallow something. The passenger, Wiltsie, had locked both doors to the truck in an effort to keep officers at bay.

Big Spring police officers were called for backup and transported the two men to the police department, where they were booked at the request of Scott.

Authorities believed Wiltsie had ingested a quantity of a controlled

Office, substance during the traf- metabolite," read a report stopped a pickup truck at fic stop, but the Stanton issued by the examiner's the intersection of West man repeatedly denied office. "The autopsy Fourth and San Antonio doing so when questioned revealed portions of plasby officers.

After he collapsed, Wiltsie was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center where efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. The Texas Rangers were

immediately called in to investigate Wiltsie's death in accordance with Spring Police Big Department policy.

In late December, an opinion released by a board of five forensic pathologists with the Lubbock County Medical Examiner's Office blamed ingested cocaine for the death Wiltsie.

"Antemortem blood toxicology was positive for cocaine and cocaine

tic within his (wiltsies stomach."

Justice of the Peace Bennie Green said he has ruled the manner of death as-accidental.

"The deceased placed multiple plastic wrappers containing cocaine in his mouth and swallowed them," said Green. "I've ruled it an accidental death because it wasn't any type of suicide attempt or anything like that. It was an attempt to conceal, to hide the cocaine from officers."

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

#### TREK

Continued from Page 1A

from stares to cheers from the vehicles traveling along the highway.

"I started in New Jersey," said Huerta. "I started out on horseback three horses, riding one and packing two going through the mountains, and that's how I traveled for a while. I got to Tennessee and stayed there for a while, which is where I got the idea to build the wagon. I thought it might be fun to do that, and have been riding the wagon since

"I built the wagon out piece-meal parts of the the

wagon.

So, why New Mexico? Does Huerta have family waiting for him? A sight he's always wanted to

"There's nothing in particular waiting for me in New Mexico," he said with a grin. "I just want to visit there. When I get there I'm probably going to write a book about all of the adventures I've had along the way. It's really been overwhelming.

"It's not a simple life. I left New jersey to lead a simple life, and I've had such an adventurous one. It's really fascinating."

As for what those interof a lot of different esting tales are all about, scrap," said Huerta, it appears America will pointing to different simply have to wait for book

Huerta's lips are sealed behind a weathered grin for now.

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



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"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.

John A. Moseley Managing Editor **Bill McClellan News Editor** 

OUR VIEWS

# Kiwanis pancake supper excellent opportunity for all

't's hard to find a better deal — good food and a good cause. That's what will be available Friday when the Big Spring Kiwanis Club holds its annual Pancake Supper at the Howard College cafeteria.

Slated for 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday's fund-raiser will mark 60 years that local Kiwanians have staged this event.

Tickets for the pancake supper can be purchased from any Kiwanian or at the door. The price is \$5 for all the pancakes, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee you can eat. In addition, the Kiwanians will have to-go boxes of pancakes available for sale.

According to Kiwanis spokesman Rick Hearn, the supper is the local club's biggest money maker of the year and allows the club to make donations to the Salvation Army, Howard College, Westside Community Center and other local organizations on a regular basis. The club also provides a scholarship to Howard College each year.

The club's primary focus is helping children and we here at the Herald simply can't think of a better cause.

So, we encourage our readers to load up the family tomorrow evening and head for the Howard College Student Union Building.

After all, the price is right and so's the cause. We'll see you there.

#### 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

#### LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

· Sign your letter.

· Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes. · We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

· We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per

30-day period per author. · Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone

number or address will not be considered.

· Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be emailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

#### A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we be true to You, Lord.

Amen

# Inside report: Social Security blues

eorge W. Bush, who is not prone to confessing mistakes, has confided to close associates that he committed a whopper on Social Security. He admitted error in pushing for new per-

sonal accounts while not stressing the repair of the safety net for seniors. As a result, Republicans returned to Washington this week from the congressional recess deeply shaken by what they encountered back home.

Thanks to the orchestrated effort of the AARP and organized labor even in the most Republican districts, GOP lawmakers encountered angry opposition to President Bush's plans at town meetings. These pressure groups have overwhelmed the campaign for personal accounts by planting fear among 50-something voters. Republicans face a dilemma: strengthening the safety net means higher taxes and lower benefits that would make the package unpalatable to members of Congress from both parties. For many Republicans, the Bush

Social Security bill is beginning to look like a bridge too far. They would like to abandon what they see as an impossible quest. However, the president is committed — a commitment that now is not limited to personal accounts but necessarily includes basic revision of how Social Security is financed and distributed.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, a firstterm Republican senator from South Carolina, has taken the lead in searching for a bill that would

attract a few Democrats who are essential for passage. Three months ago, he proposed raising above \$90,000 the amount of individual income subject to the Social Security payroll tax in order to pay "transition costs" for personal accounts. That brought down the conservative house on Graham for "negotiating with himself."

Many things have happened since then. Bush said that raising the tax cap is on the table. Graham's package is a work in progress, including a cut in the payroll tax rate from the current 12.9 percent to 11.9 percent to accompany raising the cap above \$90,000. He would also change the indexing for Social Security benefits to the inflation rate, replacing the much faster rising wages - a 30 percent cut in benefits, All this will be necessary eventually to save the system without even adding personal accounts. For now, such personal pain would make possible the pleasure of using 4 percentage points of the payroll tax for personal accounts. I find some Republicans who

denounced Graham three months ago have moved closer to him. Indeed, some would reduce benefits more than he does in the upper income brackets. Others would establish a means test to end benefits for the rich. All this would establish a graduated Social Security system that might please some Democrats sufficiently to sell them on personal accounts.

But not if Democratic leaders in Congress, Sen. Harry Reid and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, have a say. They are determined to block Bush's proposal, and compromise is not in their lexicon. A party in search of a theme and purpose, Democrats want to deal the president a humiliating defeat.

So, the question is whether there will be any Democratic defectors. in the Senate. The most prestigious potential compromiser is Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut. He could be joined by Thomas Carper of Delaware and Ben Nelson of Nebraska. On the Senate Finance Committee, the best bet may be Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas. Also possible on Finance if the Democratic dam breaks are Max Baucus of Montana (the committee's ranking Democrat), Kent Conrad of North Dakota and Ron Widen of Oregon.

None of this seems realistic to many Republicans, stunned by the organized opposition and minimal support they encountered in their home districts over the recess. One idea is to forget about compromising and pass an unadulterated Bush bill in the House, sending it to certain death in the Senate. Rather than compromise. some conservative activists would await another election (2006) and perhaps another presidential election (2008) before trying Social Security reform.

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That sounds like "never" as the probable date for reaching the longtime free market goal of personal accounts. The question thus becomes: How important is it for Republicans to reach that goal of multiplying share owners in America through means of a partially privatized Social Security system? It cannot be done without swallowing a lot that is distasteful for conservatives, but it may be worth it.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE,

INC.

#### YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Tax season is well underway and a very busy one it's been. Although we are not even halfway through the season. I would like to take this time to thank those that make it possible for us to provide this ser-

First, I would like to thank the media - KBST and KBYG radio stations with a very special thanks to the Herald and especially Thomas Jenkins for the wonderful publicity. Thanks to the media, we were able to recruit some very good volunteers for our program and we've had an excellent response to our free service.

I would also like to thank the staff and especially Bobbie Leonard of the Spring City Senior Center for all they do and have done for us. Bobbie has gone over and beyond the call of duty in making us feel welcome and in providing us with everything we need. We literally take over a good portion of the center from mid-January through April 15. We are truly blessed as a community to have such a facility and dedicated workers like Bobbie and the others on her staff.

We will continue to provide free income tax preparation each Monday from 8 a.m. to noon through April 11. For any residents that cannot make it to the center but need their taxes done, we can pick up their returns and have them completed.

> GLORIA HOPKINS AARP LOCAL COORDINATOR BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am outraged that after a Big Spring woman lost her life at Moss Lake, the Big Spring City Council has done nothing about the safety at the lake. I was at home that night listening

to the police trying to find out where to go. In my opinion, it took emergency crews too long to get to the lake. Something absolutely needs to be done about the safety at the lake. It's not good enough to say swim at your own risk. Emergency crews need to be close.

This was not the first life lost at Moss Lake, and if nothing is done it won't be the last.

I challenge the council to do ized every day. residents at Moss Lake. If the council can put a law on the books against chaining up dogs, surely it can put something on the books about safety at Moss Lake.

How many more lives will it

ERICKA WILLIAMS BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

The Downtown Revitalization Association would like to thank the West Texas Farmers and Producers Market for the replacement of three canopies lost during the previous Farmers Market season.

We wish them continued success as an independent organization.

> ALLAN JOHNSON DRA PRESIDENT BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank the Big Spring Herald and Sports Editor Troy Hyde for the excellent coverage on the Big Spring High School swimmers who went to the state It meant a lot to the team as well

as the parents and grandparents to see such a great show of support. The team and Coach Pacheco

deserved the publicity and commu nity support.

Thanks to all those sponsors who paid for the ads in Thursday's paper.

Way to go Big Spring Herald!

CAROLYN BURKHART BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR: Spring break ... it's a time for

suntans, good fun and great friends. Whether you plan to travel north

to the ski slopes, south to the beach or stay right at home for your break, be certain to stay on guard about your personal safety. Sexual

nearly 2 million Texans, and more Texas women and men are victimsomething to protect Big Spring There are some simple tips you

assault is a crime that has affected

can follow to keep your spring break a safe one.

· First, trust your instincts. Do not enter environments that are obviously unsafe.

· Second, constantly be alert for anyone who is paying undue attention to you or for anyone who might be "conveniently" following you. Additionally, always be aware of potential escape routes around

· Third, watch your drink. If possible, watch while your drink is being prepared, and only accept drinks from servers. Keep in mind that GHB and Rohypnol cause no significant change when added to drinks, so the only way to know for sure your drink is safe is to keep an eye-on it yourself.

· Fourth and finally, keep in mind that the most common weapon used in a sexual assault is not a gun or a knife - it is trust. The vast majority of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim - a relative, friend, acquaintance or coworker.

Keeping this simple advice in mind can help make the difference between great memories and ones you would rather forget. Most importantly, sexual assault

is never a victim's fault. There is a difference between making a bad judgment and committing a crime. A sexual assault is the fault of the perpetrator, no matter how the victim may have dressed or behaved. Whether a victim does everything right or everything wrong, the blame belongs to the rapist. If you or someone you know has

been sexually assaulted, contact Victim Services at 263-3312. It's free, it's confidential and it's available 24-7. The Victim Services staff can

help you with counseling, advocacy and many other free services.

SHANN THOMAS **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** VICTIM SERVICES

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The White House

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BILL CROOKER - Home: 263-2566.

GARY SIMER - Home: 263-0269: Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.

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# SUV luxury

# Lexus RX330 offers familiar styling

The Orlando Sentinel

Lexus claims to have created the "car-based. luxury SUV segment," and who am I to argue? Certainly, there's no argument, though, that the introduction of the Lexus RX300 in 1998 revolutionized the SUV market. The RX300 was an immediate

hit. Based on the Toyota Camry platform, the RX300 was far more "sport" than "ute," targeting customers who needed a minivan or station wagon but couldn't deal with the associated social stigma. Though the RX300 didn't have the room for passengers or cargo that most minivans, station wagons or even other SUVs have, it did come with stylish looks, a

Lexus RX330

Base price: \$35,775.

Price as tested: \$43,275.

EPA-rated fuel mileage: 19

mpg city, 25 mpg high-

way.

Details: Front-engine,

front-wheel-drive SUV

with a 3.3-liter, 230-horse-

power V-6 engine and a

five-speed automatic

transmission.

By STEVEN COLE SMITH deluxe interior and carlike ride and handling.

What it didn't have was much in the way of offroad credentials. You could get all-wheel drive if you wanted it, but that still didn't make the Lexus a rock-crawler. You want that, you get the Lexus LX 470 or GX470. The RX300 was kinder and gentler.

It still is, but for 2004, it became the RX330, reflecting the bump in engine size from 3.0 to 3.3 liters. With 230 horsepower and a five-speed automatic transmission, the 2005 RX330 has plenty of acceleration, and fuel mileage isn't bad — 19 mpg in the city, 25 mpg on the highway. That's for the frontwheel-drive test vehicle: With optional all-wheel drive, it drops a bit to 18



The 2005 Lexus RX330

towing package, it will' haul 3,500 pounds, or 2,000 pounds without the pack-

It's a bit surprising how much the RX330 resembles that original RX300, and the styling is beginning to get a bit too familiar, both inside and out. That said, Lexus certainly mpg city, 24 mpg high- has kept the RX at the

way. With the optional front of the class for technical innovations. For 2005; the RX330 gets rollover-sensing curtain air bags, in addition to the standard side-curtain air bags. The adaptive

front-lighting system, which helps illuminate a turn or a curve as the driver steers into it, is now available with High-Intensity Discharge (HID) headlights. Lexus is now on its fourth-generation

> tooth wireless capability and voice activation. You can also get the "Dynamic Laser Cruise automatically maintain a rain-sensing

DVD-based navigation

system, and the RX330's

nav system gets Blue-

way cruiser for an SUV, but it's equally adept around town. With an overall length of 186.2 inches \_ 3 inches shorter than a Camry\_it's quite maneuverable in the mall parking lot.

All this comes at a price, of course. The base RX330 starts at \$35,775, which is something of a bargain, considering the level of standard equipment, such as stability control, anti-lock brakes, 17-inch aluminum alloy wheels, a power rear hatch and a tire-pressure monitor.

Start adding options, though, and the RX330 Control" system, which can top \$55,000. The test uses lasers to measure model had bigger 18-inch distance to a vehicle trav- tires and wheels (\$215), apparent Lexus knows elingahead of you, to help heated, front seats and the RX330's audience.

backup camera (\$2,350), a "Premium Package" that added upgraded leather upholstery, a sunroof. power tilt-and-telescoping steering wheel and a few other features (\$2,960), a heavy-duty alternator. transmission cooler and radiator (\$160) and a sixdisc, in-dash CD player (\$500). With \$650 in shipping, the bottom line was \$43,275.

I like the RX330, just as I've liked it since the RX300 was introduced. but I'd be willing to trade some of the carlike luxury for a little more capa bility and towing capacity. But because this vehicle remains the best-selling luxury SUV, it's

wipers Distributed by Knightsafe distance. The RX330 (\$665), that navigation Rideer | tribun'e is an above-average high-system and a neat color Information Services

## **SCHOOLS**

Continued from Page 1A

In addition, Sands voters also will select a trustee to fill the unexpired term of Steve Parker, who resigned earlier this year. Parker's wife, Amy, is the only candidate who has filed for election to that seat.

Elsewhere, school board elections are shaping up to be uncontested affairs.

In Big Spring, incumbents Irene Bustamante (District 1) and Alan Partee (District 3) are the only ones to have filed for the election as of Wednesday, school officials said.

Incumbent Dale Coates has been joined on the ballot by newcomer Mike Blissard in the race for two at-large reporter@bigspringherald.com

seats in Coahoma, officials said. Incumbent John Wayne Metcalf has not filed for re-election as of Wednesday.

Forsan's three incumbents — Marty Whetsel, Dale Humphreys and Beckie Wash — are the only candidates to have filed for that district's three open seats.

In Garden City, incumbent Karla Hoelscher and newcomer Kevin Hirt have filed for the two open at-large seats in the Glasscock County school district.

Incumbents Brad Tunnell (District 4) and Tony Sawyer (District 3) have filed for re-election to the Grady school board. No other candidates have filed as of Wednesday, school officials said.

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

## CITY

Continued from Page 1A

Gressett and Fred Holguin have filed to retain at-large seats. Jim Alexander's spot on the board is still unspoken

first incumbent to cast his hat in the ring. Cazares is currently being challenged by Steven Jerome Villa. Incumbent Mark Briseno, who currently holds an at-large seat on the coun-

In the city of Stanton, cil, has yet to file for re-District 4 Councilman election. However, his Carmen Cazares is the seat is currently being sought by Thomas W. Haislip.

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

## **PANCAKES**

Continued from Page 1A

club's civic projects. "Each year we send someone from this area to Howard College for two semesters," said Hearn.
"The pancake supper is part of that scholarship. That's where the money we make from this fund-

raiser goes." The club's primary focus is helping children. "Our motto is: Children

Priority One," Hearn said. "It's a great family time. I tell people to bring the entire family and get

Gale's Sweet Shoppe Now Serving Sandwiches On Saturday - 11 am - 2:30 pm

Hrs. Mon-Fri., 8 am - 5 pm Sat., 8 am - 3 pm 1200 1200 E. 4th St. 263-2253 out here and have fun. with a laugh. "They You get to see a lot of people you might not normal- Kiwanis cap. ly see. It's a very familywant to bring people

Members of the Big Spring High School Key Club, a youth arm of the Kiwanis, will also help serve dinners during the

together."

As for the famous Kiwanis pancake recipe, don't expect any of the charitable organization's members to give it up without a fight.

"I can't divulge that information," Hearn said

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER-Our Community. Our Hospital. 1601 W. 11th Pl. Big Spring, TX

might take away my

"I think if most people oriented thing and we saw what went into the pancake batter, they'd say 'you mean'that's it?""

Tickets for the pancake supper can be purchased from any Kiwanian member or at the door. The event will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard College cafeteria, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

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



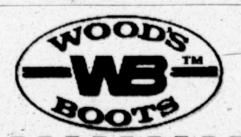


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## **Texas Historical Commission**

Commission holds three days of tours, workshops, events

AUSTIN — The Texas Historical Commission (THC) explores Texas' diverse culture in three days of sessions, tours, workshops and special events focusing on the importance of sharing the cultural heritage and diversity of Texas.

Registration is open for "Texas Tapestry -Weaving Cultural Threads," . the 2005 Historic Annual Preservation Conference April 14 through April 16 at the Marriott Capitol Hotel in Austin. The event is co-sponsored by Preservation Texas and Texas Historical Foundation.

Conference highlights include a walking tour of downtown Austin, the THC Awards Iuncheon, a public meeting on diversity hosted by THC Executive Director Larry

Oaks, a Celebration Americans Luncheon Saturday and the popular preservation marketplace. For a comp sessions and

Two workshops are featured Thursday. The THC's Museum Services Program Coordinator Laura Casey will lead "Strategic Planning for Museums: What is It? Why Do We Need It? How To We Do It?"

Cynthia Beeman, director of the THC's history programs division and Dan Utley, chief historian, will lead the workshop, "Remembering World War II in Texas through Oral History."

speaker Keynote Cassandra Berry address-"Why the topic, Diversity" April 15 at the opening session. Other sessions include "Art and Ethnicity," "Collections Management, Protecting Artifacts," Historic "Surprising Archival Treasures: Pappy O'Daniel Photos and More," and "A Diversity Voices:

Americans Recount Austin's Past."

For a complete listing of sessions and other events, refer to the annual conference brochure available on the THC Web site at www.thc.state.tx.us.

To receive a brochure by mail, please call 512-463-6255.

The conference registration deadline is April 1.

Thirteen new endangered places

Austin's Congress
Avenue Historic District
is one of 13 sites across
the state on the 2005 list of
Texas' Most Endangered
Historic Places
announced by

Preservation Texas.
The Texas Historical

Commission (THC) partners with Preservation Texas to recognize these landmarks, through the Historic Endangered Landmarks Program (HELP), which identifies, tracks and publicizes

endangered historic properties in Texas.

The THC maintains a statewide database of identified properties, used to direct assistance to those properties most in need.

The other sites included

on the 2005 list are Zedler's Mill, Luling, Caldwell County; Winkler-House. Castroville. Medina . County; Residential Tear Downs Inner-City Neighborhoods, Dallas, Dallas County; Iron Bridges of Collin County, Sister Grove Creek, Collin County; Wayside Church at Trezevant Hill, Fort Worth, Tarrant County; near North Side neighborhood, Houston, Harris County; San Jacinto School House, Walker County; St. George Orthodox Antiochian Church, El Paso, El Paso County; Sanderson Railroad Depot. Terrell Sanderson, Jefferson County:

Playhouse, Jefferson, Marion County; Bloomburg State Bank Building, Cass County; and Ranch San Francisco, near San Ygnacio, Zapata County.

If there is an endangered property in your area, please download and complete the Endangered Historic Property Identification form at www.thc.state.tx.us, or contact the THC at 512-463-6100 for more information.

# Texas First Lady tours main street cities

Texas First Lady Anita Perry joins Texas Historical Commission (THC) members and staff for the Texas Main Street Program's 2005 First Lady's Tour.

The tour, sponsored by the Independent Banker's Association of Texas, celebrates the designation of the 2005 Official Texas

Main Street Cities of San Angelo and Sinton March 29. LaPorte and Livingston host celebrations March 30.

Livingston host celebrations March 30.

Perry will give the keynote address at each celebration and unveil the first design rendering for

Program.

A reception follows the ceremony.

the local Main Street

The THC's Texas Main Street Program is a revitalization and preservation program for historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.

The program, one of the most successful in the nation, was implemented in 1981 and has assisted more than 140 communities.

For more information on the Texas Main Street Program, please contact Kim McKnight at 512-463-5758, or via email at kim.mcknight@thc.state.t x.us, or visit the Web site at www.thc.state.tx.us.

#### Red Cross offers baby-sitter's class

The American Red Cross of the Southwest has scheduled a spring break baby-sitter's training class set for 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Wednesday in Midland.

Registration for the \$35 class is required.

The class is open to all youth age 11-15.

Class objectives include infant and children cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid, a baby-sitter's responsibilities and a baby-sitter's role.

Call 432-570-6161 to reg-

ister.

Also, the Red Cross is seeking donations to fund their assistance of victims of fire, flood or natural disasters.

There are 26 West Texas counties served by this Red Cross.

For more information, call 432-570-6161, 432-332-5641 or 1-800-219-2154.

Or write to the American Red Cross of Southwest Texas, 120 E. Second St., Odessa 79761 or P.O. Box 60310, Midland 79711.

#### **▶** Local briefs

## Barbecue benefit for Forsan 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

Chapter of the Cossoacks MC and the Big Spring

Bass Club.

by calling 263-6862.

per person.

Girl Scouts selling cookies

Big Spring Area Girl Scouts booth sales are at Harris Lumber, Wal-Mart

Cooks may register now

The event is sponsored

by the Fraternal Order of

Eagles Aerie No. 3188, the

American Legion Post

506, the Permian Basin

and the Big Spring Mall, as well as other locations, Friday through March 20. Prices for the eight variety of cookies is \$3.25 per

This fund-raiser helps local Girl Scout troops earn the funds needed for activities as well as provide funding for the local council.

Participation in the program teaches budgeting, money management and sales skills, goal setting and long term planning

for the girls.

It also teaches communication, organizational skills and helps improve a girl's self-esteem.

To order cookies or to

learn more about Girl Scouting in this area, contact Connie Schooler at 263-4502 or Rachel Stinson at 816-3899.

The West Texas Girl Scout Council serves 16 countles —including Howard County.

They are a local United Way agency.

# Ladies Spring Sandals And Shoes From All The Major Brands TRIPTING DAILY

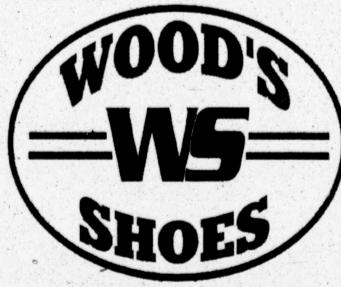


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# Sports

# SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde, at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Thursday, March 3, 2005

## IN BRIEF

#### Howard wins WJCAC cheerleading title

The Howard College cheerleading squad traveled to Odessa College Saturday and yelled and danced/its way to a first place finish at the first ever Western Junior College -Athletic Conference (WJCAC) cheerleading/championships.

South Plains took second, while New Mexico Junior College captured third place.

"The / cheerleaders worked so hard and I am very proud of the young ladies," said Cheerleading Sponsor Linda Berry. "I want to thank all the people that came to support

#### 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.

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

#### 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 outfield-

The camp is for anyone ages six through 12 and enrollment is lim-

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.

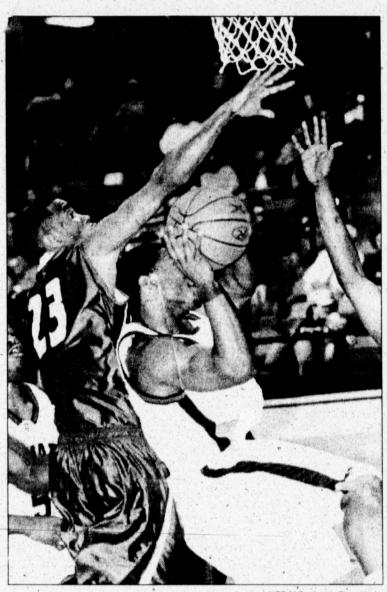
#### **B.S. Little League** umpires meeting set

The Big Spring Little League Umpires Association will conduct a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Big Spring Athletic **Training Center** 

This is the second 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).

# Hawk men hope to 'pack the gym' for big finale



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde Howard College freshman Charles Burgess goes up in traffic and draws contact against Odessa College last Thursday. The Hawk men host rival Midland tonight in a game that has a lot on the line for both teams.

## Howard looks to play role of spoiler in finale

· Midland needs win to secure No. 2 seed. avoid South Plains

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The Howard College women's basketball team hopes to play the role of spoiler tonight at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum overall record. when they take on arch rival

Midland at 5:50 p.m.

Hawk be not advancing the into Region V Tournament

While the

DIDDLE next week in Lubbock after the season finale tonight, they can prevent the Lady Chaparrals from claiming the conference's No. 2 seed with a victory.

A Midland win locks up the No. 2 seed and helps the Lady Chaps avoid second-ranked South Plains until the Regional Championship.

"They are playing for a lot and we are playing for the pride of the Howard-Midland rivalry," said Howard first year coach Earl Diddle. "We are heading into two different directions this year and we just want to do things the right way and get

ready for next season." Midland enters the game with a one game lead on New Mexico the Western Junior College Conference. Athletic They are 21-8 overall and See HOWARD, Page 2B.

11-1

8-3

3-8

1-10

Women

**'South Plains** 

\*Clarendon

\*Midland College

\*New Mexico JC

Odessa College

**Howard College** 

Tonight's games

Midland at Howard

South Plains is open

Frank Phillips at Clarendon

Odessa at New Mexico JC

\* Region V tournament qualifier

Frank Phillips



8-3 in the WJCAC.

The Hawks enter the game in last place in the WJCAC with a 1-10 conference record and 12-17

Midland is led by sharpshooter Irma Kmitaite, who averages 15 points per game. She hit some big shots late in the second half at the Chap women will Center earlier this season against Howard as Midland won the game 61-

However, Howard led 39-38 with six minutes to go in the game and has been very competitive throughout the WJCAC season.

"With the exception of a few games, this team has been in every game they have played to this point," said Diddle. "Tonight, we must stop their inside game and get out on Irma because she can hit some big shots in a hurry."

While Diddle emphasized defense, he also said scoring will be important tonight against the Lady Chaps.

"I want to play defense and rebound, but we need to stay consistent on offense," said Diddle. "We don't want to take bad shots and get the ball to right people. Junior College as they are Everyone has to do what in second place in the they do to generate offense."

23-4

24-5

22-7

20-9

15-14

11-17

10-21

2-11 10-18

11-2

10-3

9-4

7-6

7-6

4-9

2-11

\*Frank Phillips

South Plains

Odessa College

New Mexico JC

Tonight's games

Midland at Howard

Frank Phillips at Clarendon

Odessa at New Mexico JC

South Plains at New Mexico Military

Region V tournament qualifier

N.M. Military

Clarendon

**'Howard College** 

\*Midland College

**WJCAC Standings** 

21-8

20-7

14-12

15-12

12-16

#### By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

A lot will be on the line tonight at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in the second game of Thursday night's regular season doubleheader finale when the Howard College men's basketball team takes on the Midland College Chaparrals.

"The rivalry itself is a reason for this to be a big a game, but a lot of others are on the line tonight, too," said Howard first year head coach Mark Adams. "We both need to be playing well heading the Region Tournament next week."

Both teams are already qualified for the Region V Tournament next weekend at the Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock, but tonight's contest will seriously shake things up as far as seedings go.

A. Howard win and Frank Phillips loss who plays at Clarendon which is undefeated at home this year — would give the Hawks a share of College.

No. 1 seed from the WJCAC due to the conference's power points sys-

seed because we would have defeated Midland twice," said Adams.

Midland can claim the conference's No. 2 seed by beating the Hawks tonight and winning a coin flip.

The two teams couldn't be more similar on the court. Both are led by outstanding guards in Howard's Charles Burgess and Midland J.D. Lewis.

Both have lost to the same three teams in conference play this year. The difference coming in against the Chaps earlier this season in Midland.

Lewis enters the game on a roll offensively. He scored 21 points against Howard in the first meeting and has scored 45, 20 and 40 points in each of his last three games.

"They have been trying the Western Junior to get the ball to him Athletic more the last couple of Conference crown. It games so we need to limit would also mean the his touches tonight," said

Hawks would clinch the Adams. "And when he does touch it we need to guard him with five play-

Burgess leads the "If we win tonight then Hawks in scoring this that would give us the top year. He scored 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in Howard's win over Midland earlier this year, but Adams knows balance on offense is the key to defeating the Chaps

"We need to spread the points around and get to the foul line tonight because honestly both teams play an ugly offense." said Adams.

Defense, however, has been the name of the game for both team's this year as Howard enters the game with the nation's No. 2 overall detense as was Howard's narrow win they allow just mor than 56 points per game, while Midland is fifth in the country.

As an incentive to get fans in the seats, school officials have announced anyone wearing red gets free admission into the game as the Hawks attempt to "pack the house.

The men's game will follow the women's game at approximately 7:50 p.m.

#### Baker leads Forsan on 8A district team

#### By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Forsan junior Tye Baker got the first team nod for the boy's District 8-A basketball team announced recent

Baker - who led the Buffaloes in scoring and 3-point shooting this season - was joined by second teamer Adam Bailev and honorable mention selections Kuykendall, Josh Paredez and Jeremy Johnson

Baker averaged 13 points per game and made 56 3-pointers this past season as the Buffaloes narrowly missed a playoff spot. Bailey, a freshman, averaged 10 points per game and led Forsan on the glass, averaging, 12 rebounds per contest.

Wink's Ryan Raska won the league MVP, while McCamev's Rudy Juarez claimed the Defensive Player of the Year award. Iraan sophomore Blake Dodds won the newcomer award.

McCarrey, Baker, Forsan, ble Mention: Kuykendall: Forsar Paredez, Forsan, Johnson, Forsan

## Lady Kats take second in opener

Howard College sophomore Ciara Tidwell puts up a shot

against Odessa College last Thursday at the Dorothy

Garrett Coliseum. Tidwell and the Hawk women host rival

HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

#### · Kayla Medrano leads G.C. golf team

Midland tonight in the season finale.

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor MCCAMEY The Garden City girl's golf team finished one stroke above Wink and grabbed second place at the McCamey Invitational Tuesday.

McCamey won the meet with a 396, while Garden City and Wink shot a 440 and 441, respectively.

Rankin and Crane finished fourth and fifth, while McCamey's No. 2 team came in sixth.

The Lady Kats were led by junior Kayla Medrano. She shot a 94 and earned second medalist honors.

came in seventh place care of business. after shooting a 111, while sophomore Erin Hirt the Lady Kats' team score scored a 113.

Seniors Rebecca Cmerek and Brandi Halfmann rounded out Garden City's top five shooters with a 122 and 124, respectively.

"I am real proud of the girl's efforts," said Garden City coach Ken Hoskins. "They took

#### Big Spring boys golf junior varsity at Lamesa

1. Collin Carroll - 97 2. Jarred Wilkerson - 106 3. Dan Mendoza -- 115 4. Heath Wilkerson - 117 5. Josh Rodriguez — 131 next: @Seminole Invitational

3/16/05

Senior Amanda Hirt things serious and took

Hoskins also added that was 75 strokes better than their best tournament last

"I am feeling pretty good about things right. now," he said.

Garden City's next tournament will take place at the Lamesa Country Club as part of the Sands Invitational next Monday

## Forsan girls golf

Robert Lee Invitational 3 1 05

Shiloh Sanders -2. Hayley Lewis - 136 3. Audrey Montgomery - 144 next: @Colorado City Invitational 3/15/05

Announcer

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## IN BRIEF

Coahoma Little

League sets tryouts The Coahoma Little League has set up basevouts and sign-Thursday and the Coahoma ballmark. The tryouts

night gn-ups are for The and girls ages six e year of expe-

take place from 6

10' 8 p.m. each

through 16. e interested in or helping a team may nd the meetalso ing

F more informacontact Jill tion Rings ther at 816-1532 or James Sanders at 394-

#### B.S. Country Club announces scramble

Big Spring Country Club has set a four person scramble golf tournament for Saturday and Sunday.

The tournament cost 875 per player plus golf cart, but private corts are welcome. The entry fee includes a Bloomeal on the both days. There are also practice available Friday but the golf

carls me extra. The urnament will beg with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. both Sature ty and Sunday.

For more information or to enter a team, contact the Pro Shop at

#### Ragball tournament set for early April

A maball tournament to benefit Relay For Life has been set up for April 2 and 3 at Cotton Mize Field inside Comanche Trail Park. Registration for the tournament will take

place Saturday at 1 p.m. tournament COS 10 per player to and each team have five men e women. The money raised in the tou ment will be

or Relay. For Life li literested or for more information, call And the Big Spring ISD barn at 264-

#### He and rodeo team awfish boil

e loward College rodeo cam will hold its annual crawfish boil April 16 at 2 p.m. at the Rodeo Bowl during Howard College's annual rodeo.

The cost is \$15, includes ticket deo.

# Cowboys continue busy FA offseason, works on defense

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, — The Dallas Cowboys didn't pass on a defensive back this time, filling one of their pressing needs when they cornerback signed Anthony Henry to a fiveyear contract on the first day of free agency Wednesday night.

Henry, who started 14 of 15 games for Cleveland last season, is likely to be the starting right cornerback in Dallas opposite Terence Newman.

Last offseason, the Cowboys didn't pursue another cornerback in free agency after Mario Edwards left for Tampa Bay. They ended up starting four players at the position during a 6-10 sea-

Henry's agent, Jerrold Colton, said his client's five-year contract puts Henry "with the elite cornerbacks in the league," but didn't provide financial figures. The Dallas Morning News' reported that it was a \$25 million deal that included an \$11 million signing bonus.

"Just the entire aspect career-high 85 tackles.

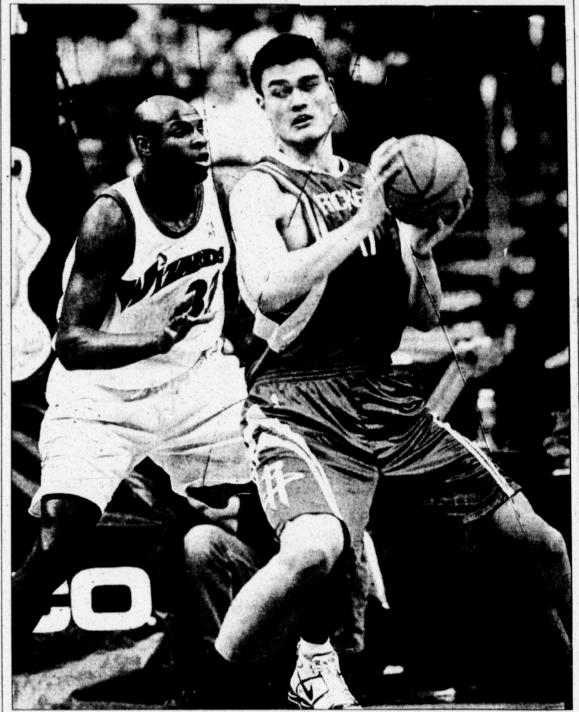
of being a Cowboy, he's so thrilled about being a Dallas Cowboy," Colton said. "A lot of teams around the league wanted him to be a starter. He feels this team can win, win now and will continue to be committed to winning.'

The Cowboys scheduled news conference Thursday morning to introduce Henry. The cornerback might not be the only new player involved, but team officials said they would have no more announcements before

Defensive tackle Jason Ferguson, one of the team's top.offseason targets, and Pro Bowl offensive guard Marco Rivera, were both in Dallas talking to team officials Wednesday.

Ferguson has spent all eight of his NFL seasons with the New York Jets since he was a seventhround draft pick in 1997 by Bill Parcells, who was then coaching the Jets. Henry led Cleveland

with four interceptions last season and had a



KRT photo/Harry E. Walker, KRT Houston Rockets Yao Ming (11) works against Washington Wizards Brendan Haywood (33) during their game played at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C., Wednesday night.

# Maggette leads Clippers to home win over Mavericks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — 101-92 Dallas Wednesday night to increase their home winning streak to seven and end the Mavericks' sixgame road winning streak.

The Clippers, beginning a stretch of nine consecutive games against teams with a better record, won games after losing eight the field. straight.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 25 Calvin Corey Maggette scored 34 points for the Mavericks, points and the Los and Jason Terry had 12 Angeles Clippers beat points and 10 rebounds. Jerry Stackhouse added 11 points in 20 minutes after missing the previous seven games because of a groin strain.

Dallas reserves with a 15.8 scoring average coming in, shot an airball way over the rim from 23 feet on his first attempt for the third time in four and finished 5-for-12 from

They got 19 points and ning his second stint with 10 rebounds from Elton Dallas this season, had Brand and beat the four points in 21 minutes. Mayericks for the second The Mayericks signed straight time, after losing him off waivers on 20 of the previous 24 meet- Tuesday, just five days

Stackhouse, who led all quarters.

Alan Henderson, begin-

after trading him and

#### **HOWARD**

Continued from Page 1B

Howard's offense is led by Latoya Fairley - who leads the Hawks in both scoring and rebounding - and Ciara Tidwell, but emphasized that everyone's role on offense will be key tonight.

Diddle will also see been for a month.

because she is a weapon year long.'

on offense and defense for us," he said.

Sources inside the Howard College Athletic Department are expecting a big crowd tonight as the Hawks attempt to "pack the house" by offering anyone who wears red free admission into the

"I think we will have a great crowd because it has been good the entire freshman Jennifer Pena time I have been with this as healthy as she has team," said Diddle, who joined the Hawks in "She looked good this January. "I have been week and we need that happy with the crowds all

Booth Milwaukee for Keith Van sixth in the last four. This to 73-68 with a 12-2 run Horn.

Kenny Anderson made his Clippers debut after being claimed off waivers Monday, scoring playing 5 scoreless minutes after sitting out the first three was 1993-94 with New

coach Mike Dunleavy, Portland during the 1997-98 campaign.

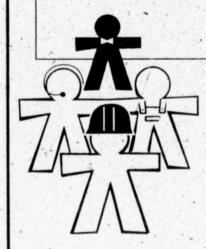
Anderson's best season Trailing by 14 at half-quarter

to 14 NBA seasons, and his time, the Mavericks cut it is his second stint with capped by Nowitzki's three-point play with 4:03 who also had him in left in the third quarter. But that was as close as they got.

The Mavericks wouldn't quit despite going more Jersey, when he averaged than five minutes without The Clippers are 18.8 points and 9.6 assists. a field goal in the fourth

# 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.



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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 4 710 Scurry, PO Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721

Phone: (432) 263-7331 FAX: (432)-264-7205 Email: editor@bigspringherald.com

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#### Announcements

CONCEALED HAND **GUN CLASS** SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH. CONTACT TOMMY SCOTT, (432)394-4492.

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#### Cemetery Lots

2 PLOTS at Trinity Memorial Park, Garden of Memories. Will take \$1,900.00 for both. Call (918)664-9445.

FOUR SPACES at Trinity Memorial Park. Choice lots Garden of Olivett. Value \$1,380 each. Sell all for \$5,000. Call (325)653-5160 325-944-0813.

#### Garage Sales

8601 N. Service Rd., Fri. & Sat. 9:00-5:00. Rolltop desk, halltree with mirror, grandfather clock, small dinette, electric guitar & amplifier, sewing machine and much more.

FRONT PORCH Sale, Saturday, 9:00- 5:00. 705 W. FM 700, south side First Baptist Church, Yard tools, tires, tools, household items and lots more.

#### Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Saturday 8-4, 2 1/2 miles from Fina Rd. at 6405 N. Serice Rd.

MOVING SALE: 1707 East Hwy 350, Thursday thru Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm. Weather Permitting! Gun cabinet w/storage, (2) sofas, (2) chairs, large dining table, '91 Nissan pickup.

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APARTMENT MAINTENANCE and grounds maintenance needed. Working skills required. Must be able to pass criminal background check. Responsibility and dependability required. Apply in person at Barcelona Apartments, 538 Westover Street, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**BEST HOME** Care continues to grow and need to fill RN case manager position. Great working hours and family oriented atmosphere. Competitive salary and good benefits. Please apply at 111 East 7th, Suite C.

BREAKFAST COOK and receptionist /cashier needed. Appointment only. Call (432)714-4001 from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. ask for Mary.

NEED CONTRACTOR that can do miscellaneous remodeling. Call (432)263-3461.

#### Help Wanted

CHILD CAREGIVER/ Van Driver position, full or part-time. Day or evening hours. Apply in person at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan. Prior applicants, please reapply. No phone calls please.

COSMETIC SALES Managers Swiss Skin Care Company Expanding/ Herbal, botanical products/ flexible hours/ Mercedes bonus. 888-204-9754.

COVENANT HOME Health in Big Spring looking for full time field RN. Experience preferred. (432)263-6816, 8:00-5:00 M-F. Fax resume to (432)263-5909.

#### S EARN EXTRA MONEY \$

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

DRIVER WANTED: Bob Tail/ Transport Driver. Excellent starting pay. All benefits -Medical & Retirement. Must have Class A CDL & good driving record. Call for appointment (432)263-0033.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

LOOKING FOR someone to do Alterations. If interested, please call (432)816-1703.

#### Help Wanted

FAR WEST Children and Family Services is now hiring day staff to work with boys ages 5-17. Criminal History must be clear and checks willbe run. To inquuire call (432)353-4464.

Foodservice Worker Needed Full & Part-time. EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!!!!! Apply in person SWCID Cafeteria.

HELENA CHEMICAL is now hiring a spray applicator driver; class A- CDL license and farm experience helpful. Start pay possible \$9.00, depending on experience. Excellent company benefits. Apply in person to: Chemical, Stanton, Helena

#### HIRING

Heavy Equipment (Trucks) Mechanic 2 yrs plus Experience Welder (must be able to fabricate)

2 yrs. plus Experience Belly Dump (1 yr plus Experience preferred) Valid Class A CDL Call Vernon at (432)332-5070

E.O.E. Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving 1401 S. Grandview

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Odessa, Texas 79761 NEEDED LVN'S/ RN's for Pediatric hourly case in Big Spring. Full time/ part time positions available. Benefits and competitive pay. Complete Home Health Care, (432)570-8899 or come by 2402 West Wall, Midland.

#### Help Wanted

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRI-CIANS with experience in commercial/industrial needed for contract at Goodfellow AFB (San Angelo). Must have basic hand tools and transportation to/from jobsite: Contact Mike (512)563-1906 (cell) between 8:00-4:00, M-F, Equal Opportunity Employer.

MARRIED COUPLES - Be a star in a child's life by helping heal the wounds of past abuse. Work together side-by-side in one of our homes or your own. NO EXPE-RIENCE OR DEGREE required. We will train you in proven child-care techniques. You will have: one spouse available to work outside the home - private quarters in attractive home - extensive training and support - tax-free reimbursements. Must be 21+ years with HS diploma, valid drivers license and good driving record. Call Jessica Riley at High Sky Children's Ranch, (432)694-3804, ext. 331 for more information.

#### MARTIN COUNTY Home Health (Stanton)

Full Time RN \$20-25/hr DOE M-F. On call \$175.00 week, mileage @ .35¢ Differential for bilingual ability. Contact Rose Carrillo RN DON (432)756-3259 Fax resume to: (432)756-4510.

NURSERY WORKER needed at East Fourth Street Baptist Church. Must be 18 years or older and a Christian. Call Gerry at (432)263-2535.

#### Help Wanted

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE **Now Hiring** 

10p-6a Charge Nurse **Excellent Starting Pay** 

Great Benefits including retirement & health insurance \* Friendly Atmosphere Please inquire at 2009 Virginia

#### MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE Now Hiring

**Certified Medication Aides** Very Competative Starting

Excellent Benefits including Retirement Plan, and Vacation Friendly, Family-like environ-

Please apply in person @ 2009 Virginiá Ave.

NEED EXPERIENCE retail salesperson. Holiday and vacation pay, group health insurance. Must be able to lift 100 lbs. Harris Lumber & Hardware, 1515 East FM 700.

NEED OIL Field Supply/Pump Hand. Experienced or entry level position available. Full benefits. Send resume to: PO Box 2234, Big Spring, TX

#### NIGHT FREIGHT DELIVERY **DRIVER NEEDED**

Fortune 500 company has driver position available part time or possible full time. Must have Class A/CDL. Excellent pay. Please fax resume to Kassie at (972)289-8741 or call (972)288-7614 for more de-

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract \$1.58 Per Day

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!







#### CONCRETE

#### **MARQUEZ** FENCE CO.



All types of fences & repairs.

Concrete work, carports. All work guaranteed. Free Estimates

Benny Marquez-Owner 267-5714

#### CONCRETE

STUCCO DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS **BLOCK FENCES** 

Chico and Sons Concrete (432) 267-4044 (432) 268-6322

621 Sqt. Paredez Big Spring, TX 79720 Frank Rubio

#### **CONCRETE**

J. T. Builders Remodeling . Drywall Ceramic Tile • Electrical Plumbing . Roofing Brick & Concrete Work Driveways . Sidewalks

(432) 213-0882 Cell (432) 263-2110 Res.

#### C & J Construction

Fireplaces • Stucco

Swimming Pool Decks JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ 108 E. 11th PLACE BIG SPRING, TX. 79720

#### CONSTRUCTION

· Residential & **Commercial Repair** Remodeling

 Custom Homes (432) 270-8252 (432) 213-3444

(432) 394-4805

#### **DIRT WORK**

#### **DECKER'S FARM SUPPLY** & NURSERY

We do Dirt Work, Brush Hog, Backhoe.

Bulldozing, Small Grubbing Jobs and Will Clear Lots.

432-756-3444

#### **GARAGE SALE**

#### **HAVING A GARAGE SALE**

CALL 263-7331 **Herald Classifieds** 

SPRING HERALD

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HANDY MAN

Evenings - 267-7659

Days - 263-5272

RENTALS

Home Repair, Remodeling,

Maintenance, Yardwork,

Painting, Etc.

Concrete Work

Sidewalks, Etc.

**VENTURA** 

COMPANY

432-267-2655

Houses • Duplexes

1, 2, 3 Bedrooms

For rent/sale

1204 BENTON

709 E. 12TH

1102 E. 5TH

905 E. 15TH

Patios.

#### **FENCES**



B & M Fence Co. COMMERCIAL . RESIDENTIAL **GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE** FREE ESTIMATES ROBERT MARQUEZ

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/

GARAGE

DOORS/OPENERS

Home Repair • Carpentry

**Sheet Work** 

Repaired/Replaced Kitchen & Bath

**BOB'S CUSTOM** 

WOODWORK

267-5811

263-1613 . 1-800-525-1389 **FENCE** 

J.T. West Texas Fence & Welding Garden City, Texas Metal Fence Pipe Corrals Wood Fence Pipe Fence Net Wire Fence Barbed Wire Fence

Free Estimates Home (432) 354-2513 obile (432) 466-1715 Big Spring (432) 263-4858 Sterling City (325) 378-3077

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Gibbs Remodeling

New home Construction • Room Additions

Carports • Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing & Exterior

Wallpaper Hanging • Ceramic Tile

Installation & Repair

All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home.

Call 263-8285

#### Quality Fence Co.

Finest In Fencing Wood & Chainlink **Free Estimates** 

432-267-3349

## Jimmy Marquez-Owner

#### **FENCES**

#### AFFORDABLE HOME MAINTENANCE ·Renovation

·Repairs Maintenance = Quality Work You Can Trust Satisfaction Guaranteed NO JOB IS TOO SMALL! Russ Crain (owner) 432-270-2585

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Speedy

We Do It All!

Residential & Commercial

Ceramic Tiles, Cabinets, Drywall,

Textures, Plumbing, Electrical AC, Roofs, New Additions

Phone: 432-263-2911

Cell: 432-816-3832

Construction Diag

#### **HOME IMPROVEMENT** HOME IMPROVEMENT

#### RS HOME REPAIR

Custom Wood Decks. Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical

FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair, Appliances installed 816-3030

MOWING • WEEDEATING

CALL 816-6150

## **LAWN SERVICE**

TILLING • TRASH HAULING TREE TRIMMING

> 432-267-5460 LEAVE MESSAGE

#### **LUPE'S TREE** DAN'S TREE SERVICE

More than 20 years and removal.

Call Lupe

#### **TAX SERVICES**

**FAST CASH** On Income Tax Refund

Refund Loan Within 24 Hrs.' TAX ASSOCIATES 406 Runnels

CALL (432) 264-6134 Se Habla Espanol'

#### **PEST CONTROL**

409 E. 3RD

SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL **Since 1954** 432-263-6514

2008 Birdwell Lane Max F. Moore www.swalpc.com

mm@swalpc.com

## ROCFING

**PALACIOS** ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured & Bonded

Home Phone#

432-263-5430

Cell#

432-213-0363

#### ROOFING JOHNNY FLORES

ROOFING Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs **Doctor of Repairs!** 

Free Estimates!!

Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.

267-1110

#### TREE TRIMMING

Tree Removal Specialist. Minor/Major trimming, stump removal, flower bed cleaned, hedges

trimmed. Prices nego-(432) 570-9617 (432) 238-6770, cell

#### TREE TRIMMING

## TRIMMING

of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming

## 432-267-8317

432-268-6406

#### Help Wanted

**NOW HIRING** COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT Must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction.

Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to: GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

P.O. BOX 60708 Midland, TX 79711

#### **PIZZA INN**

Now hiring drivers. Earn \$9-\$12/hr. with salary commissions & tips. Up to \$100 Hiring Bonus. Better Pizza! Great People & More Money! Full or Part Time. Apply in person only, 1702 Gregg St.

Seeking dedicated & professional LVN'S 2:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. shifts

Salary commensurate with experience. Competitive Wages - Health Insurance & Benefits Contact Robin Petty, RN-DON @ Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home 1809 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas 79720 (432)268-8387

**Equal Opportunity Employer** SHARP PERSON I am looking for an ambitious individual to learn my business. High earning potential. Call to hear recorded info 1-888-310-8114.

(432)268-1987

SOLID COMPANY NEEDS DRIVERS. Competitive hourly pay, lots of overtime! Paid travel, per diem, and motel Home one week every month! Oil field labor along with driving. Medical and life insurance! Requires 2 years Class A CDL experience and good driving record. Call 1-800-588-2669.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Needs Retirees with own RV for all types of jobs. Office, housekeeping, cooks, maintenance and RV parks. For information and application write Personal Director, 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx. 76049.

WANTED SALES person for Major Equipment Dealer. Must have experience and knowledge in Construction and Paving Equipment. Send resume to: PO Box 13255 Odessa, TX 79768

538 Westover

#### Help Wanted

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Needs students to work all types of jobs. Housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen and maintenance. Salary, room, board & bonus. For information and application write Personal Director, 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx. 76049.

TAKING APPLICATIONS: All Positions - Shop Tire Tech, Experienced Road Service-Tireman & Mechanic. Counter person. Computer & Knowledge of Tires a Must. Apply in person only, Don's Tire & Truck Service, S. Service Rd. Exit 178. No phone calls.

The most diamagnetic financial intuition in Howard County Cosden Federal Credit Union is looking for team members to join us. You will be opening new accounts, CD's, IRA's, closing loans, and doing teller work. This is a part-time position to start 25 to 30 hours per week. Need high school or GED. We are looking for movers and shakers. Persons that want to move up with a great financial institution. No phone calls apply in person only.

#### Items for Sale

18' ROUND above ground swimming pool with gas heater. Rebuilt fan filter with pump. New liner an all the equipment. \$1400.00. Call (432)517-0466.



PRESTO BATTERY Powered Mini Fork Lift. Cost \$2646.00 will sell for \$1250.00. Call (432)213-0426 for appointment to see.

WINDMILL FOR Sale. Call (432)399-4302.

#### **Jobs Wanted**

STAY-AT-HOME MOM will keep children ages 6 months and up in my home, daytime Call Shelly, hours. (432)264-9173.

> "It Pays To Read **Big Spring Herald** Classifieds"

FOR SALE

**No Down Payment** 

**OWNER FINANCING** 

**Bad Credit O.K.** 

2-3-4-5 & 6 Bedroom Brick Homes

**Call Beverly 263-3461** 

PRODUCTION FOREMAN

Energen Resources Corporation has an immediate opening for a Production

- Guiding and directing lease operators in the daily operations of assigned

- Working closely with Superintendent & Senior Foreman in order to

Insuring that all safety, environmental and regulatory guidelines are

Position requires 5-10 years' oil and gas experience in the Permian Basin with

1-3 years supervisory experience. A proven track record in supervising field

personnel as well as a working knowledge of State and Federal oil and gas reg-

ulations required. Position requires past experience in waterflood operations,

proficiency in the use of personal computers, along with strong written and

We offer a highly competitive compensation plan, which includes an incentive

For immediate consideration, please forward your resume and salary history

**Human Resources Department** 

**Energen Corporation** 

605 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. N

Birmingham, AL 35203

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Foreman in its Westbrook, Texas office. Responsibilities include:

Production scheduling and work over activity.

decrease LOE and increase revenue.

verbal communication skills a must.

bonus, and a complete benefit package.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

**Choose Your Own Monthly Rent Options** 

\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. Such As ALL BILLS PAID

**Housing Assistance Accepted** 

**OPEN SATURDAY** 

#### Lost and Found

\$500.00 REWARD for lost male Italian Greyhound, Choc. Brown. Lost between Big Spring and Midland on 1-20. Call (405)823-3897.

LOST: MALE Boston Terrier, black & white with blue collar & tags. Reward! (432)267-8291, 270-8591.

TAKEN FROM fenced yard, Midway Road. 1-1/2 year old female Rottweiler. (432)213-2379.

#### Miscellaneous

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarious. 10% Discount on Arches, Candelabras, florals w/cake order. Grishams (432)267-8191

**National Ads GOVERNMENT JOBS!** WILDLIFE / POSTAL \$16.51 to \$58.00 per hour. Full Benefits. Paid Training. Call for Application and Exam Informa-

#### Pets

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tion. No Experience Neces-

sary. Toll Free 1-888-269-6090

FEMALE SHIH Tsu; female Jack Russell; Pomeranian male stud, all AKC registered. \$250. each. Also (1)male & (1)female pups, \$100, each. For appt. (432)213-0426, 2102 Allendale.

FREE KITTENS: Multicolored female 7 mo. old, spayed, vaccinated, very loving. Also solid black male 3 mo, old, very playful. Call (432)268-9480, leave message.

FREE TO good home 4 Golden retriever mix puppies. Found on side of the road. Friendly and playful. Call (432)714-4614.

FREE TO good home. Five mo. old female Heeler/Aussie. Shots current. (432)213-4698.

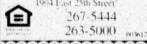
#### **Real Estate for Rent**

#### LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX Swimming Pool

Carports. Most Utilities Paid. Senior Citizen Discounts. 1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths

Unfurnished KENTWOOD





#### Real Estate for Rent

100 1/2 Lockhart: 2 Bedroom Mobile home. Refrigerator and furnished. stove (432)267-7906.

1104 Stanford, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$335. Month, \$150. deposit. 448 Armstrong. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$385. Month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

1308 BIRDWELL. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, garage, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard No Pets!!! \$350.00 month \$200.00 deposit. (432)263-7850 leave message. 1308 NORTH HWY 350, \$200.00 month plus \$200.00

Parts at (432)263-5000. 1400 Sycamore- 3/1 bath. \$475. month \$250. deposit 407 1/2 East 8th- 1/1 bath. \$275. month \$150. deposit Both have CH/A.

deposit. Call WESTEX Auto

Call (432)267-2296. 1903 GREGG St. for rent. Great office or retail space. \$375/month plus deposit. Call (432)213-2681.

FOR RENT or Rent to Own. Four bedroom, 2 bath, carport. 1509 Wood. \$1,500. down, \$289. month. 15 years. Call (432)264-6611.

#### HEIGHTS APARTMENTS

403 E. 8th Street Spacious 1 Bedroom's Furnished & Unfurnished All bills paid \$200.00 Move in Special \$200.00 deposit Call (432)267-2771

Nicest Apartments in area 700 sq ft one bedroom \$150.00 move-in CORONADO HILLS APTS. (432)267-6500 801 W. Marcy Big Spring, Tx 79720

ONE BEDROOM \$275.00-12th., Two bedroom, \$300.00- East 13th. & Two bedroom. \$300.00- 1410 Park. required. Moren, Lease (432)267-7380.

#### SUNSET RIDGE **APARTMENTS**

2911 West Hwy 80 1 & 2 Bedrooms Cable TV Service Central Heat & A/C Friendly Staff On-site Maintenance Laundry Facility \*\*\*\*Move in Special\*\*\*\* Call (432)263-2292

Superbly private second story 1 bedroom furnished apartment, \$395.00 includes utilities. 1 Non smoking person. Excellent credit background required. Zero pets. Sunroom & balcony. McDonald Realty (432)263-7615.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath. stove & refrigerator, in Sandarea. (432)466-3171.

#### Real Estate for Sale

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

1280 ACRES. Hunting ranch, Mitchell County. (817)300-0345.

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

4 BEDROOM, 3 bath house on 40 acres for Sale, w/barn and work shop, in Coahoma School District. \$224,000.00 For appointment call (432)263-0658 or 816-9565.

804 DOUGLAS: 2 Bedroom, one bath, dining room, closed porch and carport. Don @ Call \$18,900.00. (325)378-2401.

FOR SALE, 3 bedroom, 2 bath house to be moved. Need some repair. Luther area. \$5,000. Call (210)414-9858.

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

NO DOWN Payment on 2 thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. We can adjust your monthly payments to fit your Call Budget. (432)263-3461.

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

> OWNER FINANCE Low Down payment

3 Bedroom, 1 bath 1103 College. Call Pam (432)631-5468.

#### Real Estate for Sale



home. 2150 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, office, 2 living areas, ash cabinets, fireplace. Gazebo, 2 storage bldgs., 3/4 acre, secluded. Lovely yard. \$105,000. Call (432)263-4080.

#### Vehicles

#### '04 Freestar Vans \$6000 Available Rebates Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 4th 267-7424

1994 DODGE Grand Caravan SE. Fully loaded. Everything works. Runs great. \$2,850.00 OBO. Call (432)213-2425.

BUY-SELL-TRADE In the Big Spring Herald Classifieds 263-7331

#### Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOW:

TO: J.A. Hensley, Deceased if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause and any and all other unknown owners or persons, including adverse claimants, owing or having or claiming any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the following described property delinquent to Plaintiffs herein, for taxes, to wit: Lot Ten, Block Five, Settles

Heights Addition, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$1,384.83, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and costs thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against Estate of J.A. Hensley, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on the 24th DAY OF JUNE, 2004, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL-VS. ESTATE OF J.A. HENSLEY, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is T-4709 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this

suit, are NONE Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law

All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendants(s), and Intervenors, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be covered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, and all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein, and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suits at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance thereof, the same being the 4 day of April, 2005 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 18 day of February, A.D. 2005. Priscilla Ginnetti

Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District #4470 March 3 & 10, 2005.

#### Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Yolanda Trevino if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause and any and all other unknown owners or persons, including adverse claimants, owing or having or claiming any legal or equitable in-terest in or lien upon the following described property delinquent to Plaintiffs herein, for taxes, to-wit:

Lot 11, Block 14, Original Town of Big Spring, Howard County; **Texas: Delinquent** Amount Owed -Value - \$33,396.00 \$45,511.56;

Lot 12, Block 14, Original Town of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas: Delinquent \$30,344.79; Amount Owed Value - \$26,202.00

Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$75,856.35, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and costs thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against Yolanda Trevino, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on the 17 DAY OF FEB. 2005, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. YOLANDA TREVINO, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 4584 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE. Plaintiffs and all other taxing units

who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, theron up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as

provided by law. All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenors, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law theron, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, and all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein, and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 4 day of April, 2005 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse therof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to an including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 18 day of Feb., A.D. 2005.

Priscilla Ginnetti Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District. #4471 March 3 & 10,2005

#### Notice of Application to Inject

ConocoPhillips, 4001 Penbrook, Odessa, TX, 79762 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. Applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Yates formation in the Settles Yates Unit Well, #122 (previously the W.R. Settles B #13). The proposed injection well is located 4 miles West of Forsan, in the Howard Glasscock Field in Howard County, TX. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval of 1320-1340'.

Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of Texas Water Code as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of

Request for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within 15 days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, PO Box 12967, Austin, Texas 79711 (512)463-6780. #4479 March 3, 2005.

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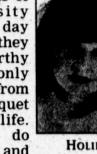
#### Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The word "deserve" is subjective. Some people perform

great acts of generosity every day and feel they are worthy of only crumbs from the banquet of life. Others do nothing and

expect



HOLIDAY MATHIS

peeled for them. Mars and Jupiter square off, encouraging us to consider our sense of entitlement. Is it balanced? Fair-minded?

#### Legals

No. 43546-CV IN THE INTEREST OF **CALLEIGH JEAN FARMER** A CHILD IN THE **DISTRICT COURT** 118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF TEXAS

To JOHN EDWIN FARMER, Re

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of ADRIAN AY-ALA and STARLA AYALA, Petitioners, was filed in the 118th Judicial District Court of Howard County, Texas, on February 22, 2005 against JOHN EDWIN FARMER, Respondent, number 43546-CV and entitled "In the Interest of CAL-LEIGH JEAN FARMER, a child. The suit requests the termination of the parent-child relationship. The date and place of birth of the child who is the subject of the suit:

**CALLEIGH JEAN FARMER** February 22, 2003 Big Spring, Texas

The Court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adop-

grapes to be

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You sometimes feel that if you're not acting against an opposing force, you're not working hard enough. But everything doesn't have to be a fight. Try compliance for a change. You may actually like it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's something grand and melancholy about working alone, and you'll revel in it. You'll probably burn the midnight oil tonight, too just remember, there is a point of diminishing returns.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll have extraordiinsights while accomplishing ordinary tasks like cleaning up, making phone calls and clearing your desk. Get out in the world this afternoon. Your luck is uncanny. You could even win a raffle or lottery.

CANCER (June 22-July

#### Legals

Notice of Application to Inject Fluid

ConocoPhillips, 4001 Penbrook, Odessa, TX, 79762 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. Applicant proposes to inject fluid into San Andres formation W.R. Settles, Well #39. The proposed injection well is located 2 miles West of Forsan, in the Howard Glasscock Field in Howard County, TX. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval of 2341-2515 Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of

Texas Water Code as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Request for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within 15 days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, PO Box 12967, Austin, #4473 February 24 & March 3, 10,000 Texas 79711 (512)463-6780. #4480 March 3, 2

22). No one wants to admit bad behavior, but your refreshing honesty drives you to do just that. You could find yourself defending the very thing only a fool would defend. You're in good company, though!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Romance permeates your environment, though it's not necessarily the kind that involves being in love. Very grown-up behaviors are highlighted this could include deep business, litigation or some lofty form of decadence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Learning to do something creative with your hands (gardening? sketching? cooking?) will keep you out of the restless prison of tedium. Also, make a firm, regular date with someone you care about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's so much to get done now that you'll wish you had your own staff unless, of course, you do have your own staff, and then, you'll wish they were one-tenth as efficient as you are!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Cause and effect are clearly illustrated in your life. The more forthright you are, the more successful you'll be. Don't keep anyone waiting on hold — it's bad karma. Tonight features an eternally seductive temptation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You need a break from rigorous selfobservation. Return to childish innocence by refusing to over-think your work. Also, make more time for "recess." Frivolous activities are lucky.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Though you can appreciate a well-told story as heartily as the next person, today, it's the facts you're after, not imagination. Ask direct and pointed questions, and you'll learn exactly what you need to know.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Avoid the (juicy) rumor mill! If you can take the high road, you stand to gain while others learn their lesson. On a financial note, you'll get access to the money once you prove you can handle

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Diverse characters delight and inspire you. You're to be commended for being able to relate to people of all walks of life. If you follow the golden rule, everyone gets along. Your connection with a Scorpio is particularly strong. ASTROLOGICAL

QUESTIONS: "Me: born May 12, 1964, female. Life: not so great and hasn't been for a few years. Always striving and trying to change and learn and grow, not making a lot of progress. 'Nicest person I ever met with the worst luck of anyone I know' is a common comment people make. 2005 (or ever): Any changes? Any reason to get out of bed, much less continue this pathetic joke of a life? Born under bad stars?"

Oh dear. Taurus does depression with vengeance! You've also got the moon and Mercury in that stubborn placement, so the sadness and rage are all encom-

passing. However, in spite of the popular phrase, it's not "all good," and neither is it "all bad." Your job in the next seven weeks is to separate the good from the bad and isolate the real problem. It has something to do with an event that you still haven't forgiven yourself over and anger at someone close that you are unwilling to let go of. It's not your fault, and it never was. But it is up to you to pick up the pieces and do something about it now. Yes, I do see a change by the end of April, you can look back in pity at this letter.

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

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## Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Ricky" for several years. He and his widowed mother own a cabin in the woods. Ricky and I work hard, barely seeing each other, and look forward to spending weekends at the cabin where we can rest and relax.

The problem is Ricky's cousin "Karl," who is unmarried and unemployed. Karl is the biggest mooch you have ever seen. He constantly drops by the cabin uninvited and intrudes on our time. If we have guests for the



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

weekend, Karl assumes he is part of the gang. When Ricky and I go out

with friends, Karl finds us. He has never once reciprocated, brought anything or chipped in to pay for refreshments.

Ricky and I argue about this constantly. I have discussed it with my mother-in-law and have even told Karl directly that he should call first and contribute once in a while. It has made no difference.

I rarely go to the cabin anymore, and I leave if Karl shows up. Ricky says it's his mom's cabin, too, and she likes having Karl there, although he has never done a single thing for her in his life. I say we've earned the right to choose who spends time with us. Karl is ruining our marriage. What can we do? -Marsha in Montana

Marsha: Dear Obviously, it doesn't bother Ricky or his mother that Karl visits all the time or that he comes empty-handed. He is family, and they love him, which means they are not going to toss him out because he is a freeloader.

Decide how much this bothers you, because if it is wrecking your marriage, you are giving it more importance than it merits. The cabin is a nice getaway, but it comes with Karl attached. Look for ways to relax without going there.

Dear Annie: My three sisters and I are very close, and we want to take a vacation together, but there is one problem. older 'Rhonda," has recently been ordered by the court to go to AA or she will lose visitation rights to her kids.

In spite of this court order, we happen to know Rhonda still drinks. We are concerned that if we take her with us on vacation, especially if the rest of us drink, she will get out of control. If we go without her, she will be very hurt. But if we take her, we'd have to watch her every second. What should we do? - Little Sister

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SPRING HERALD

Dear Little Sister: Rhonda needs your support to stay sober and be part of her children's lives, but your plans should not be dependent on her. Maybe if she knew why you preferred to go without her, it would give her the incentive to stop drinking. Meanwhile, please look in your phone book for Al-Anon, or call 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) (www.al-anon.org), and ask how best to help your troubled sister.

Dear Annie: My husband and I are raising our grandchildren. We enjoy doing it, but we know we aren't the only ones. What has happened to today's young parents? They want children, but apparently not the lifelong commitment, so they dump their children on their parents. How did we raise them to be so selfish?

Having children is expensive and nerveracking, but it also has many rewards and joys. Children are not new toys that you can ignore because you are tired or don't feel like taking care of them. If young adults are not prepared for this kind of life-altering event, they should keep their legs crossed and their pants zipped. Or consider giving up these little ones for adoption to families who will cherish them and take the time to raise them properly.

Dear Grandma: There is no greater responsibility than raising a child, and too many new parents are unprepared for the amount of non-stop effort involved. Thank heavens there are grandparents like you who are willing to step in and do the hard work. For a list of support groups, contact AARP **Grandparent Information** Center (aarp.org), 601 E. St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20049 or call: 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).

Grandma in Texas

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, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators .com.

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# SPRINGHERALD

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# A USER'S GUIDE TO

THE

# 

Each day. The *Big Spring Herald* receives calls from readers - just like you - who have important questions about how the newspaper works and the services it offers. For your information and convenience, we have compiled this page of answers to readers' most frequently asked questions.

Save this page for future reference

# HOW TO

#### REPORT THE SCORE

You can report your sports results between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 263-7331, faxing 264-7205 or drop your results at the *Big Spring Herald* office at 710 Scurry, Big Spring.

# HOW TO

#### SUBMIT NEWS INFORMATION

To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editior John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

# HOW TO

#### LOCATE A SPECIFIC STORY

If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the *Big Spring Herald* at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the *Big Spring Herald*.

# HOW

#### **OBITUARIES ARE HANDLED**

Obituaries, whether paid or non-paid, are provided to the *Big Spring Herald* by funeral homes. Non-paid obits follow a standard form, while paid obits can include virtually anything the deceased's family requests. Any questions should be directed to the Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

# HOW TO

#### GET DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME

Call our office at 263-7335 or come by 710 Scurry. Our subscription rate is \$93.42 per year or \$8.65 per month.

# HOW TO

#### **OBTAIN BACK ISSUES**

Back issues of the *Big Spring Herald* are kept on file for one year and may be purchased during regular business hours. However, some back issues sell out quickly and we cannot guarantee that any given issue will be available. You may also check with the Howard County Library reference department at 264-2262.

# HOW TO

# SUBMIT MARRIAGE, ENGAGEMENT OR BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at www.bigspringherald.com. If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Marsha Sturdivant at 263-7331, ext. 236.

# HOW TO

#### PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 or come by 710 Scurry. Ads can be placed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

# HOW TO

#### PLACE A DISPLAY AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 and ask for a retail advertising sales representative or visit our office at 710 Scurry. Telephone lines are open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



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Th	HU	JRSDAY								MAR. 3										
		WFAA 2	KMID 3	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	WTBS 11 Atlanta	KMLM 12 Odessa	KOCV 13 Odessa	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE 22 Spike TV	TNT 23	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN 27 Disney	ESPN2	ESPN 29 Sports	TMC (250)
6	:PM :30	News (CC) Wheel-Fortune	News Wheel-Fortune	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	Malcolm-Mid. Raymond	News : Ent. Tonight	Anita No Te Rajes	-	Raymond Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lehrer	American Chopper	Journey (CC)	CSI: Crime * Scene Invstgtn	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET Style	The second second	College Basketball	College Basketball	. 7 %
7	:PM :30	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Rubi	The O.C.	Survivor: Palau (CC)	La Mujer en el Espejo	Joey (CC) Will & Grace	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	West Tex Jrnl TX Mnthly Talk	Human Cannonballs	Movie; Death Warrant	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	NBA Basketball	The Parkers Girlfriends	Movie: Inspector	Charlotte at	Miami at Duke (CC)	Movie; Bulletproof
8	:PM :30	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Amor Real	Point Pleasant (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	Gitanas	The Apprentice	Austin Powers: International	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Stomachs of Steel	45 Movie:	MXC .	Indiana Pacers at Denver	Soul Food (CC)	Gadget (CC) Phil of Future	College Basketball:	Tilt (CC)	Monk (CC) :45 Movie:
9	:PM :30	PrimeTime Live	PrimeTime Live	Aqui y Ahora	Malcolm-Mid. '70s Show	Without a Trace (CC)	Te Voy a En- senar a Querer	Law & Order: Trial by Jury	Man of Mystery		A Hot Dog Program	American Casino	Lionheart	MXC	Nuggets NBA	Club Comic View	Sister, Sister Even Stevens	Teams TBA . (CC)	Tilt (CC)	The Quick a the Dead
10	:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	Control of the Contro	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.		News Late Show-	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	:10 Movie: In the Army	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Human Cannonballs		MXC MXC	Basketball: Detroit Pistons	Nightly News BET Style	That's-Raven That's-Raven	Gamenight College	SportsCenter (CC)	(CC) Movie:
11	:PM :30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel		Becker (CC) Becker (CC)	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night-	Now (CC)	Sam Peak Jesse-Lee Pe.	Sign Off	Stomachs of Steel	Bruce Lee: A Warnor's	Wildest Police Videos	at Phoenix Suns (CC)	Midnight Love	Proud Family Kim Possible	Basketball . Slam Dunk	Tilt (CC)	Candyman (CC)
12	:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Live (CC) Paid Program	Alma Rebelde	Spin City Dharma-Greg	Show The Insider	Mana Celeste Programa	Conan O'Brien Frasier (CC)	12:10 Movie: The Jerk	Update/Israel Faye Hardin		American Casino	Journey (CC)	Blind Date Shipmates	Inside the NBA	Club Comic View	Boy World Lizzie McGuire	and 3-Point	SportsCenter (CC)	12:15 Movie The Crow

#### DENNIS THE MENACE



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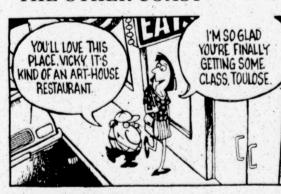


HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST





SNUFFY SMITH.





BEETLE BAILEY



### This Date In History

#### By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 3, the 62nd day of 2005. There are 303 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 3, 1931, "The Star-Spangled Banner" officially became the national anthem of the United States:

On this date:

In 1845, Florida became. the 27th state.

1849, the U.S. Department of the Interior was established.

In 1849, Congress created the Minnesota Territory.

In 1879, Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood became the first woman to be admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1940, Artie Shaw and orchestra recorded

"Frenesi" for RCA Victor. In 1969, Apollo 9 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a

mission to test the lunar module. In 1974, nearly 350 people died when a Turkish Airlines DC-10 crashed

shortly after takeoff from Orly Airport in Paris. In 1985, coal miners in Britain voted to end a yearlong strike that proved to be

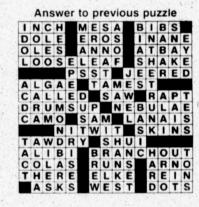
the longest and most violent , walkout in British history. In 1991, in a case that sparked a national outcry, motorist Rodney King was severely beaten by Los Angeles police officers in a scene captured on amateur

video. In 1991, 25 people were killed , when a United Airlines Boeing 737-200 crashed while approaching the Colorado Springs air-

Ten years ago: President Clinton held a news conference in which he asserted his administration had built a safer world and stronger economy while Republicans were trying to cut money for the needy to

give tax breaks to the rich. The dollar plunged to a new low against the Japanese

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Doohan is 85. Lee Radziwill is 72. Actress Hattie Winston is 60. Singer Jennifer Warnes is 58. Actor-director Kazurinsky is 55. Singermusician Robyn Hitchcock is 52. Actress Miranda Richardson is 47. Actress Mary Page Keller is 44. Olympic track and field gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersee is 43. Football player Herschel Walker is 43. Rapper-actor Tone-Loc is 39. Rock musician John Bigham is 36.



40 Check out

43 Eager, so

44 Clip, as a

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47 Seagoing

49 Sony rival

53 Activist

pronoun

48 Most mature

Hoffman

54 Piece of the pie

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45 Meteorologist's

to speak

#### Newsday Crossword

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Banquet
- platform 5 Bldg. units
- 9 Mine passage 14 Hamburg's
- river
- 15 Pitfall 16 Domed
- dwelling
- 17 Dutch
- South African
- 18 Hefty volume
- 19 Pipsqueak 20 "Don't ask me!"
- 23 Sri Lankan
- tongue 24 Theater award
- 25 Fill with ammo
- 29 The Lion King
- song 32 Pigskin part
- 35 Anonymous Jane
- 36 Middle Eastern faith 37 Yes, to Yvette
- 38 Immigrant's
- subj.
- 39 Sax player
- Beneke
- 41 Common street name
- 42 Senator Hatch 44 Put into words
- 45 Gathering
- dust 46 Newspaper staffers
- 50 Guinness of film
- 51 Writer Wiesel
- 52 Shoreline 56 Demanding
- and unrewarding
- 59 Invite to enter 62 Biblical twin
- 63 Slightly

#### **BOARD MEETING** by Doug Peterson Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

#### 64 Mix together

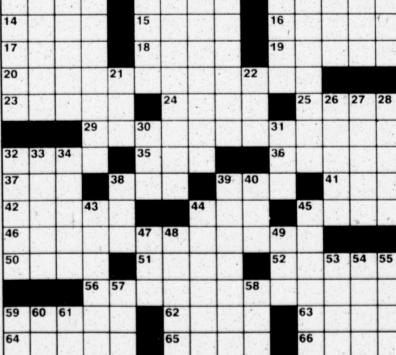
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  - 3 Skyscraper
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- 9 In (undisturbed)
- 10 The Invisible Man writer
- 11 Tankard filler 12 In support of
- 13 Spinning toy. 21 Ivy Leaguer
- 22 Sign of the zodiac
- 26 Silenced a squeak
- 27 What pride goeth before
- 28 Philadelphia
- director
- 30 Map rtes. 31 Pickle
- 32 Bath sponge
- 33 Hearing-related 59 Muscles
- 34 Mythical
- sorceress
- 38 Ref. book
- 39 Parting words
- National Park 57 Rag doll 58 Grooves in

55 Grand

- the road
- worked in
- sit-ups -pitch softball
- 61 Brew holder

69



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ON TV

The Telcel-Motorola

Mexico 200 airs Sunday

at 3 p.m. (ET)

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Grossing borders

Attempting to reach out to a new set of fans, NASCAR will run its first race in Mexico

BY CAMMY CLARK Knight Ridder Newspapers

hen NASCAR Nextel Cup driver Jeff Burton fired up his car's engine. before taking a test drive at Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City in January, the spectators were not used to hearing the loud roar of stock cars.

"Everyone went, 'What was that?" Burton said. "There was a lot of interest. I think it's going to be very well-received."

That is what NASCAR officials, Mexican track promoters and local businessmen are banking on.

This week, the Busch Series goes to Mexico City for the first sanctioned race south of the border in the 57-year history of NASCAR, and an estimated 150,000 fans are expected.

"We're not going to Mexico really to just run a Busch race," NASCAR chief operating officer George Pyne said. "We're trying to build awareness in the Hispanic community in a real, authentic way.'

To help make the Telcel-Motorola Mexico 200 a success, the richest Busch purse of the season — \$2 million — is being offered. Nine Nextel Cup regulars will attempt to make the field, including Rusty Wallace, Robby Gordon and Kevin Harvick. It will be televised live on

#### LOCAL TIES

But more important to Mexican fans, 10 native drivers are on the entry list. That includes the country's most beloved racer, Adrian Fernandez, who owns an IRL team but will be competing for elite Hendrick Motorsports

"The Latin market is huge in America, and it hasn't been touched," Fernandez said. "This is a great opportunity for NASCAR. And a good opportunity for us. So it's win-win."

Auto racing is second to only soccer in popularity in Mexico. NASCAR has been going after the Hispanic market domestically for the past few years. In 1995, only 1 percent of NASCAR fans were Hispanic. In 2002, it had grown, but only to 9 percent.

NASCAR and Mexico is a match Cuban Jose Sabates and Carlos Slim, Telmex chairman of the board and huge racing fan, thought could work a few years ago. But getting NASCAR to

think so took some time. Sabates prodded his brother, Felix, a coowner of a Nextel Cup team with Chip Ganassi,

to set up the initial meeting. "They [NASCAR] said, nope, nope, nope,"

Felix Sabates said. But when Brian France was about to take over the reins of NASCAR from his father, Bill France Jr., the younger France was at least will-

ing to take a look for himself. A NASCAR contingent went to Mexico City for the initial meeting in July 2003. Jose Sabates, who works for his brother and does business in Mexico, chuckles when he recalls how it went.

Mexico France and Pyne went to Mexico with the thought of **Mexico City** 

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advertis-

ing," Slim said.

regional series.

"Carlos Slim really made the case of why our

At dinner the night of France and Pyne's

Mexican fans would not take to quickly, France

"Felix looked at me and winked," Jose

Sabates said. "I knew then we would make it

see its season-finale Ford Championship week-

sides announced the Busch Series race and

Eleven months after the initial talk, the two

NASCAR Mexico, a new base of operations in

Last year, NASCAR Mexico began backing

"It's in its infancy, like NASCAR was 30 or

40 years ago," France said of the Corona Series

that is being headed up by Enrique Contreras,

the brother of driver Carolos Contreras who is

The goal is to create a pipeline, where that

series becomes a feeder system to Mexican dri-

vers making it up the NASCAR ladder and

"But first, let's have a good event next

weekend," France said. "And then see where

competing in the Busch race.

eventually to Nextel Cup.

this thing goes."

Mexico that will support and build local stock

Desafino Corona, which means "The Corona

Challenge" series. It's similar to NASCAR's-

NASCAR invited the Mexican contingent to

style and brand of racing would work well

first visit, the entire group talked. With the Mexicans nixing the trucks, which they said the

brought up the Busch Series cars.

end at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

maybe holding a NASCAR Trucks event there. Slim and officials of big-time entertainment company and track promoter Ocesa thought NASCAR wanted to bring its elite Nextel Cup series to their country.

Only the Sabates brothers and Mexican driver Jimmy Morales knew both sides.

Felix told his brother to keep quiet, saying, "If the track is as good as you say it is, get everyone there and then you can talk about it."

"Wow," is how Pyne described his first look at the modern Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez track, which was named after the Rodriguez brothers who raced frequently at Daytona International Speedway in the 1960s and '70s.

The Mexico contingent also wooed Pyne and France with the companies that would support the venture.

That included Corporación Interamericana de Entretenimiento, the parent company of Ocesa and the leading live entertainment company serving the Spanish- and Portuguesespeaking markets in Latin America, the United States and Spain:

"Going down there, we did not know what to expect," Pyne said. "But we walked in and said, 'Wow, these guys are great operators with a great facility and they really have a passion for racing. This could work."

France took a spin around the 2.518-mile road course, which has hosted Formula One and Champ Car World Series events.

"I almost went off the course big time," France said. "But I didn't crash." That was a good thing for him and the deal.

#### **OPEN TO STOCK CARS**

Slim said by telephone from Mexico that even though Mexican race fans were used to the exotic-looking, open-wheel cars of Formula One and Champ Cars, the stock cars would have better appeal to the masses once they had a chance to see them run.

"We're doing a lot of teaching and explain-

The Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City will play host to the Tecel-Motorola Mexico 200 NASCAR Busch Series race. It's the first sanctioned event NASCAR has held in

#### RANKINGS 📭

#### THAT'S RACIN'S TOP **PICKS**

1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): If he hadn't passed Busch on the last lap at California, the top two would be flip-flopped. Last week; 2.

2. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): Has finished second and third in season's first two races. Now the Vegas native gets a home game. Last week: 3.

3. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): No. he didn't make it to the California finish. But that doesn't erase the Daytona 500 win. Last week: 1.

4. Greg Biffle (car No. 16): California victory was about as close at you can come to a "called shot" in NASCAR. Last week: 12.

5. Mark Martin (car No. 6): Told everybody he'd race as hard as he knows how to this year. So far, he

ain't lying. Last week: 6.

6. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): Wasn't around the front nearly as much at California as he was in the Daytona 500. Last week: 4.

7. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38): Eighth at California, despite flying under radar all day, leaves him sixth in points. Last week: 9.

8. Ryan Newman (car No 12): Successfully overcame a truckload of obstacles to pull out top-10 finish at

California. Last week: 8.

9. Jamie McMurray (car No. 42): Like Biffle's, this team shows early signs that preseason optimism was well-founded. Last week: 14.

10. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): Long day at California with Las Vegas — last year's nightmare next on the schedule. Last week: 5.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit www.thatsracin.com.

## There are no simple answers for qualifying system

ignorance is bliss, lack of perspective is absolute ecstasy. It's simple to choose a side on

any issue when you only consider how it affects you and your place in the world without having to factor in any other point of view

Politicians understand that, at least the ones who win elections do. That's the reason they keep their messages mindlessly simplistic.

That's the reason why we live in a sound-bite world.

In NASCAR, the concept easily applies to new. qualifying rules that govern who gets into races like last Sunday's Auto Club 500 at California Speedway.

It's easy to sell the argument that the fastest 43 cars in qualifying should make the race. What could be fairer?

Provisionals be damned, give everybody who shows up an equal chance to go racing.

But suppose your favorite driver is Jeremy Mayfield, and you live in central California. You booked a hotel, got time off from work

and arranged to be here at sunrise Sunday to beat the traffic. In qualifying, though,

Mayfield runs over a rock that somebody kicks up on the track and cuts a tire. The tire blows, Mayfield spins, hits the wall and doesn't finish a

qualifying lap. He posts no speed and isn't among the fastest 43. So he goes home, right?

Pouch luck, Mayfield fans. Deal

All right, now suppose that same thing happens to the No. 8 Chevrolet. Put yourself in the race track's shoes.

You're going to tell several thousand people who've paid \$75 to \$100 per ticket that Dale Earnhardt Jr. isn't rac-

Oh yeah, that'll go over big. As simple as the "fastest 43" argument sounds, it just doesn't work. There has to be some protection, for lack of a better word, for the top teams in Nextel Cup and, by extension, the

fans of the drivers who race for them. That brings us to this year's new rule that guarantees 35 teams starting spots in Nextel Cup events and 30 teams slots in Busch and Truck series

The sound-bite argument there is it's just another way for the rich to get richer, a method for allowing the people who're already in the NASCAR club to keep out someone who'd like to join. But, again, it's far more com-

plicated. This rule, actually, is several years too late in coming. Had it been in

place for the past 10 years, owners like Travis Carter and Larry Hedrick might still be in the NASCAR business. People who commit to running every race should get some benefit from that commitment.

Had this rule been in place last year, even, we might have been spared the ridiculous parade of field-fillers who showed up, earned a starting spot because of a shortage of cars and then ran a few laps before collecting a check and heading home.

Even though the idea of guaranteeing full-time teams a race slot is good, NASCAR has gone a little bit too far.

Cut the number to 30 in Cup and maybe 25 in Busch and Truck and you would truly reward teams who're contributing to those series while allowing more opportunities for new and parttime teams to earn their way into the

fraternity. It all sounds pretty simple, doesn't

#### **POLL POSITION**

#### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

NASCAR debuts in Mexico this weekend. Where else should it consider racing?

Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

#### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

New spoiler rules go into effect this weekend. How much of an effect will this have on the racing at California?

Number of votes: 2,532

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
None at all	894	35%
More passes for the lead	714	28%
Closer racing	623	25%
Aero push? What's that?	301	. 12%

#### STOP 'N' GO



TOM PENNINGTON/KR

The Oakland Raiders played the Dallas Cowboys at Azteca Stadium in Mexico City in

#### U.S. SPORTS IN MEXICO

NASCAR is not the first American professional sport to venture south of the border. Some sporting events with connections to Mexico City:

■ GOLF: The LPGA, including Annika Sorenstam will play the MasterCard Classic March 4-6 at Bosque Real Country Club in Mexico City. It will be the first LPGA event in Mexico.

■ MLB: In March 2004, the Houston Astros and Florida Marlins faced off in a two-game series in Mexico City, and in 2003, the Los Angeles Dodgers played the New York Mets. Baseball games have also been played in Monterrey, Mexico, where Estadio Monterrey has met Major League Baseball's standards, even hosting the first regular-season series outside of Canada and the United States in August 1996 when the Mets played the Padres.

■ NBA: The Dallas Mavericks played the Utah Jazz in a 2003 preseason game at the Palacio de los Deportes in Mexico City. Since 1992, the NBA has staged 15 games in Mexico at the site.

■ NFL: The most recent American Bowl was held at Azteca Stadium in August 2001 between the Dallas Cowboys and the Oakland Raiders. It was the sixth American Bowl in Mexico, fifth in Mexico City. The previous four games at Azteca Stadium averaged 102,000 fans. The 1994 game there between the Cowboys and then-Houston Oilers set an NFL attendance record of 112,376.

- Cammy Clark

#### BY THE NUMBERS

#### WINSTON CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Feb. 27.

Rank/Driver	<b>Points</b>	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kurt Busch	340	21. Jeff Green	202
2. Jimmie Johnson	n335	22. Travis Kvapil	197
3. Mark Martin	301	23. Jeff Burton .	187
4. Carl Edwards .	287	24. Joe Nemech	ek185
5. Greg Biffle	273	25. Scott Wimme	r 184
6. Elliott Sadler	272	26. Jeremy Mayf	ield 183
7. Tony Stewart .	268	27. Dave Blaney	182
8. Rusty Wallace	268	28. Casey Mears	182
9. Sterling Marlin	260	29. Ken Schrade	r 167
10. Jeff Gordon	258	30. Bobby Hamil	ton Jr. 1,61
11. Dale Jarrett	248	31. Bobby Labor	ite 158
12. Ryan Newman	246	32. Kyle Busch.	
13. Kevin Harvick.	239	33. John Andrett	1146
14. Dale Earnhardt	Jr 237	34. Kasey Kahne	140
15. Mike Bliss	236	35. Mike Wallace	128
16. Kyle Petty	231	36. Matt Kenseth	
17. Jamie McMurra	ay227	37. Jason Leffler	107
18. Scott Riggs	224	38. Ricky Rudd.	106
19. Kevin Lepage.	208	39. Michael Walt	
20. Brian Vickers .	205	40. Boris Said	82

NEXT RACE: Sunday, March 13, UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400, Las Vegas

#### BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

Rank/Driver Points	Rank/Driver Points
1. Kevin Harvick 340	11. Shane Hmiel 216
2. Reed Sorenson 293	12. Justin Labonte 215
3. Carl Edwards 289	13. Stacy Compton 209
4. Clint Bowyer 287	14. J.J. Yeley 197
5. Tony Stewart 271	15. Michael Waltrip 195
6. Ashton Lewis 254	16. Tim Fedewa 191
7. Joe Nemechek248	17. Mark Martin 190
8. Martin Truex Jr 233	18. Greg Biffle 190
9. Paul Menard 220	19. David Stremme 185
10. David Green 218	20. Michel Jourdain Jr. 181

NEXT RACE: Sunday, Telcel-Motorola Mexico 200, Mexico City

#### TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of Feb. 25:

	2.10			
R	ank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1.	Bobby Hamilton	n355	6. Steve Park	279
2.	Ricky Craven .	330	7. Johnny Benso	on 271
3.	Jimmy Spence	r 321	8. David Reutim	ann 256
4.	Ted Músgrave	310	9. Dennis Setzer	254
5.	Matt Crafton	280	10. Casey Atwood	d 251

NEXT RACE: Friday, March 18, World Financial Group 200, Hampton, Ga.