



Alon to buy Skinny's

Abilene-based chain of convenience stores will become 7-Elevens

Special to the Herald

Goodbye Skinny's, hello 7-Eleven.

Alon USA Energy announced Monday a \$70 million acquisition of Abilene-based Skinny's Inc., which owns and operates 102 FINA-branded stores in Central and West Texas.

Of the 100-plus stores, two-thirds are owned and one-third are leased.

Alon currently operates

206 stores in West Texas and New Mexico through Southwest Convenience Stores. Alon officials said they expect to continue to operate the Skinny's stores under the FINA brand and to supply gasoline to them from its Big Spring refinery. Alon also anticipates converting the acquired stores to the 7-Eleven brand.

"This acquisition builds on our strategic objective of expanding the physical



Morris

integration of our Big Spring refinery with our retail outlets through Southwest Convenience Stores," said Jeff Morris, Alon president and CEO. "The addition of 102 stores to our current retail operations will strengthen our leadership position as the largest 7-Eleven licensee in the

United States.

Over the past 30 years, the Davis family has built a very strong business and we are delighted that the Skinny's family is joining our retail operations."

"We are excited about the opportunity to join the Alon team under the 7-Eleven brand," said Joe Davis, president and CEO of Skinny's. "Our cultures are founded on the same

skinny's

premise of serving the customer. Both of our companies are proud of our West Texas heritage. We are confident that our 102 stores will be a strong addition to Alon's existing 206 locations."

Officials expect the acquisition to take place



in the second quarter of 2007, following regulatory approval and other closing conditions.

Big Spring to have its day at state capitol

Chartered bus leaves early Wednesday en route to Austin

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Hit the road! That's exactly what nearly 200 local residents are expected to do Wednesday, as the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce prepares to hold its Big Spring Day in Austin at the state capitol.

"We have quite a few people traveling to the capitol for the day," said Debby ValVerde, executive director of the chamber. "We have 36 people signed up to ride the chartered bus, while more than 100 school children and their parents are also slated to attend. I'm also expecting at least 40 area residents will be taking their own vehicles to be in attendance."

The bus is to leave Big Spring at 4:30 a.m. and return at 10 p.m.



ValVerde

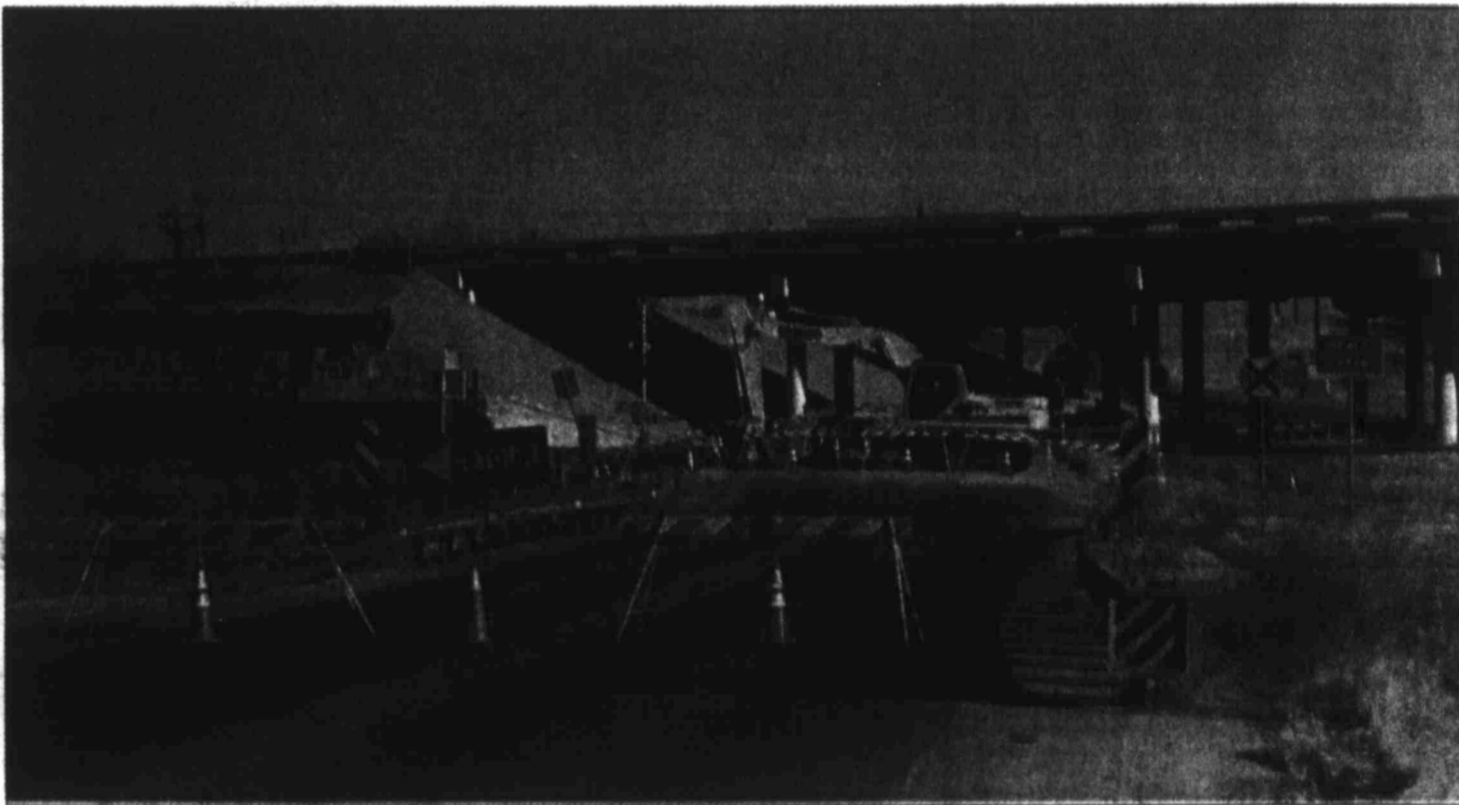
Among the activities planned for the visit to the capitol are:

- Reading of a resolution on the floor of House and Senate proclaiming Wednesday "Big Spring Day" in Austin.
- The Howard County School Choir to perform in the Rotunda.
- Box lunch to be served on the east grounds of the Capitol.
- Coca-Cola and Blue Bell Ice Cream reception on east grounds of the Capitol.
- Group photo on the steps of the Capitol with legislators.

ValVerde said the dress code for the day will be the usual denim Big Spring shirts and khaki pants.

And while it's too late to reserve a spot on the chartered bus or lunch on the statehouse lawn, ValVerde said any last minute travelers can reg-

See AUSTIN, Page 3A



City crews continued work near Beals Creek on N. Birdwell Lane this morning, as efforts to repair a broken water line continued. City officials said the roadway would be closed until the work is completed, which is expected to be approximately two to three days.

Officials said taking closer look at residential fire on Birdwell Lane

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Howard County volunteer firefighters and the Big Spring Fire Department responded to a house fire Monday morning that caused an estimated \$100,000 in damage to a home on N. Birdwell Lane.

According to HCVF Chief Tommy Sullivan, firefighters responded to a blaze at 2709 N. Birdwell Lane at approximately 5 a.m. Monday.

"Engine No. 4 with the city was

the first on the scene," said Sullivan. "There was a lot of smoke, and we had fire coming out one of the windows. Once they knocked that down, firefighters entered the home and found multiple burning points throughout."

Sullivan said investigators with the Howard County Sheriff's Office are taking a closer look at the blaze.

"Multiple burning points like that just don't happen on their own. It's

"Multiple burning points like that just don't happen on their own. It's not natural."



Tommy Sullivan, volunteer fire chief

not natural," said Sullivan. "Also, I

See FIRE, Page 3A

INDEX

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



Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us: Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

MAN FINALLY CONFESSES

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. (AP) — Shortly after reporting his wife missing, Stephen Grant went before TV cameras, crying, begging her to come home.

But authorities were suspicious. "We thought it was a confession waiting to happen right then," Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith said Monday.

The alleged confession came Monday, more than three weeks after Tara Grant last was seen alive. Authorities said Stephen Grant, 37, told them he killed his wife in the couple's home and later dismembered her. He was arrested early Sunday and treated for hypothermia after he spent 10 hours hiding in a park.

ACCOUNTABILITY URGED

AUSTIN (AP) — Open government advocates urged a state House panel to approve a measure that would solidify new rules requiring public votes on final adoption of all legislation.

The advocates made their case for tightened record voting requirements for state lawmakers in a Monday night meeting of the House State Affairs Committee.

Fred Hartman, with the Texas Daily Newspaper Association, said it makes sense to make into law the rules adopted by the House earlier this session.

"Rules can change, every session potentially. Also rules can be suspended," Hartman said.

EASY DRUG BUST

ORANGEBURG, S.C. (AP) — It might have been one of the easiest drug busts in the history of the South Carolina Highway Patrol: A car with 43 pounds of marijuana crashed into a trooper's cruiser.

The easy bust happened after two patrolmen parked their cars in each lane of northbound Interstate 95 near Santee early Sunday morning following a series of wrecks that had tied up traffic.

A Chevrolet Malibu going about 70 mph hit one of the cruisers.

Officers found two large duffel bags in the trunk with 43 pounds of marijuana in plastic bags, worth more than \$150,000 and arrested the 54-year-old driver.

Big Spring Get Your Local Channels

\$39.99 200 All-Digital Channels
Including Your Local Channels

*Prices Valid For 10 Months (After Mail-in Redemption)

PICK ONE PREMIUM MOVIE PACKAGE AND SAVE! \$10.00 3 MONTHS FREE

CATCH EVERYTHING. MISS NOTHING

DishDVR Advantage.
It's About Time.

DishDVR Advantage. An all-inclusive TV package loaded with our most popular options for one low price. No extras fees. Plus, your everyday price is guaranteed through January 2009.

Come By And See Us!

1702 E. FM 700, Suite B
(432) 264-7603

Don't Wait Another Minute. Switch To Dish Network Now!

Obituaries

Nita Mathis

Services for Nita Mathis, 74, of Lamesa will be held Thursday, March 8, 2007, at 10 a.m. at the Crestview Baptist Church with the Rev. Clifton Igo and the Rev. Gerald Parsons officiating. Visitation will be Wednesday from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park. Nita died Sunday, March 4, 2007, at her residence. She was born July 19, 1932, in Coleman County. She married Ray Mathis Aug. 14, 1955, in Talpa. Survivors include: two daughters, Donna Hedges of Big Spring and Patti Kizzar of Lamesa; one son, Lane Mathis of Roanoke; one sister, Pat Hudgins of Forsan; two brothers, Don Sikes of Lubbock and Ronnie Sikes of Houston; 13 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters; her husband; two sons; and one grandson. The family suggests memorials to Texas Rehab in Abilene and the American Cancer Society.

Johnny Wayne Wendeborn

Services for Johnny Wayne Wendeborn, 41, of Andrews will be 1 p.m. Thursday, March 8, 2007, at Calvary Baptist Church. Officiating will be Joe Harper. Burial will be at 4 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park Cemetery in Big Spring. Services are under the direction of McNett Funeral Home of Andrews. Mr. Wendeborn died Sunday, March 4, 2007, at his residence after a lengthy illness. He was born Jan. 12, 1966, in Big Spring. He graduated from Kermit High School in 1984. He was a past volunteer member of the Hamilton Fire Department. He worked for the Andrews schools in the maintenance department from 2001 to 2005. He was a member of the Andrews Volunteer Fire Department serving as a captain. He was also a paramedic for the city of Andrews. He married Rhonda Chase Nov. 13, 1993, in Midland. Survivors include: his wife, Rhonda of Andrews; his parents, Bob and Lana Clark of Forsan; his father, Wayne Wendeborn of Thoreau, N.M.; sons, Colby Wendeborn of Andrews and Matt Morgan of Austin; daughters, Misty Vanderburg and Desiree Tucker, both of Odessa; brothers, Jeffrey Wendeborn of Gustine and Mike Clark of Greenwood; and one grandson. He was preceded in death by grandparents, John and Doris Day who lived in Big Spring. Memorials may be made to Colby Wendeborn Fund, National Bank of Andrews, 1501 N. Main, Andrews, 79714. To register or send condolences, go to www.mcnett-funeralhome.com

Dwain Bond

Dwain Bond, 64, of Big Spring died Monday, March 5, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

- **MY WAY, A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA**, will be held at Howard College's Hall Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m. March tonight and Wednesday.
- **IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH** will have Stations of the Cross Friday at 6 p.m. A Fish Fry in the church hall. Plates are \$5 per adult and \$2.50 per child.
- **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY CHORUS REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN** at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room. The rehearsals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.
- **CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS.** These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.
- **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.
- **NEW LIFE MINISTRIES** Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.
- **THE PET PATROL** helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).
- **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

Coronado Hills Apartments
1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575
801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500
Big Spring, Texas 79720
Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn.
2-3 Bedroom
"Remember...you deserve the best!"

Police blotter

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

- **ROSA YANEZ**, 57, of 1100 E. Fifth Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of Class C assault.
- **JOSE JIMENEZ**, 46, of 3910 E. Highway 350, was arrested Monday on a local warrant.
- **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 1600 block of Donley.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1600 block of Scurry.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 600 block of Ninth Street.
- **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY - FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 44 inmates at the time of this report.

- **ISABEL TREVINO FLORES JR.**, 27, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- **JOSE DOLORES FRANCO JR.**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **ROBERT EARL REED**, 51, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- **JUAN JESUS VIASANA**, 50, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of parole revocation.
- **JOHNNY ISAIAS GONZALES JR.**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **CHRISTINE MICHELLE BEAM**, 26, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, failure to identify - giving false information, violation of parole and failure to stop and render aid.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Donley. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of Monmouth. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of Driver Road. One person was transported to SMMO.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Duke. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of Wood. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 5100 block of Wasson. Service refused.
- **GRASS FIRE** was reported in the 3600 block of Bethel.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of S. Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Tulane. Service refused.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness. All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at 263-0027, ext. 236 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NORMAN HARRIS, M.D.
OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
Board Certified
PPO PROVIDER FOR:
HEALTH SMART • UNITED HEALTHCARE • PRONET
CHAMPUS • BCBS • AETNA • HUMANA • BEECH STREET
ACCEPTS MEDICAID
Obstetrical Care at Midland Memorial Hospital & Odessa
Morning Appointments Now Available!!
267-8226 1-888-729-BABY
616 GREGG STREET
Serving Big Spring 18 Years
NEXT CLINIC VISIT 3-8-07

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Texas Motorcycle Rights Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Spanish Inn. The public is invited. Call 268-6421 for more information.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 8-12-20-27-31.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$33,332.
Winning tickets sold in: Houston.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-16-25-28. Bonus Ball: 25.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-6-4

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. East winds around 10 mph.
Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. East winds around 10 mph.
Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.
Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.
Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.
Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.
Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.
Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 70.
Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.
Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

Slaton Insurance Agency
 **FARMERS®**
Vicki Slaton
• Life • Annuities • Home • Auto • Commercial • Medicare Supply
205 W. 15th (432) 267-2398

BIG SPRING HERALD
www.BigSpringHerald.com
Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring
432-263-7331 (Main Switchboard) 432-263-7335 (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m. Sup. 8a.m.-noon)
432-264-7205 (Fax)
Ron Midkiff Publisher... Ext. 250
John A. Moseley Managing Editor... Ext. 230
Rick Nunez Advertising Manager... Ext. 229
Duane McCollum Circulation Manager... Ext. 244
Tony Hernandez Production Manager... Ext. 256
The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.
Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

BIG SPRING
Tuesday, M

9 U.S. sold
by roadside
north of Ba
BAGHDAD
Nine U.S. sol
two separa
north of Bagl
itary said Tu
Six soldier
when a bo
near their ve
a comba
Monday in
province, t
said in a sta
Three ot
were wound
ported to a
military hos
ment, it said
In another
same day, th
diers were
roadside bo
province, a
ment said:
was wounde
All nine v
to Task For
Names we
pending fat
tion.

Indonesian
at least 70
hundreds
PADANG
(AP) — A p
quake kille
people
Indonesia o
left hosj
whelmed v
injured, off
The num
expected
result of t
6.3 quake
island, w
lowed by j
shocks.
The quak
reds of r
Singapore,
office bu
evacuated,
boring Mal
"Women
out in
fled as a
could," s
welder ir
town of l
with thous
he was fle
ground, fe
tsunami. /
the quake
any tidal a
Indonesi
Secretary
told repor

FIRE
Continued
believe
acceleran
fire. We h
any cause
While n
reported,
the dama
was sever
"The st
contents

AUST
Continued
ister at
office.
"We've
the numb
they will
their
ValVerde
are tryin
on the m
attending
call or co
and just
plan to r
would ce
ate it."
For m
on Big S
in Austi
Spring (C
7641.
Contac
Thomas
7331 ext.
at cityde
ald.com

Amy
D.D
432-

News in brief

9 U.S. soldiers killed by roadside bombs north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Nine U.S. soldiers died in two separate incidents north of Baghdad, the military said Tuesday. Six soldiers were killed when a bomb exploded near their vehicles during a combat operation Monday in Salahuddin province, the military said in a statement. Three other soldiers were wounded and transported to an American military hospital for treatment, it said. In another incident the same day, three more soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb in Diyala province, another statement said. One soldier was wounded. All nine were assigned to Task Force Lightning. Names were withheld pending family notification.

Indonesian quake kills at least 70, flattens hundreds of buildings

PADANG, Indonesia (AP) — A powerful earthquake killed at least 70 people in western Indonesia on Tuesday and left hospitals overwhelmed with scores of injured, officials said. The number of dead was expected to rise as a result of the magnitude 6.3 quake on Sumatra island, which was followed by powerful aftershocks. The quake was felt hundreds of miles away in Singapore, where some office buildings were evacuated, and in neighboring Malaysia. "Women were crying out in terror. We all just fled as quickly as we could," said Alphon, a welder in the seaside town of Padang. Along with thousands of others, he was fleeing to higher ground, fearing a possible tsunami. Authorities said the quake did not cause any tidal activity. Indonesian Cabinet Secretary Sudi Silalahi told reporters at least 70

people had been killed by the quake.

Lawmakers vow to get to bottom of Walter Reed scandal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers say they want to know why U.S. troops returning from combat are being stuck in dilapidated housing and battling excessive red tape to get medical care. "We want answers," said Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Fla. "We want to know why things were overlooked and why matters were not addressed when brought to the leadership's attention." Nelson and other members of the Senate Armed Services Committee were expected to pepper Army officials Tuesday with questions about Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where wounded soldiers have said they experienced neglect and substandard living conditions. During a hearing Monday, two soldiers wounded in combat and a spouse of a wounded soldier recounted nightmarish stories of frustration as they tried to get medical attention and disability compensation. Several lawmakers say they are concerned Walter Reed reflects a much broader problem of the nation's ability to care for the thousands of soldiers gravely wounded from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

NATO launches offensive against Taliban in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — NATO-led troops launched an offensive against Taliban militants Tuesday in a volatile southern Afghan province where hundreds of militant fighters have amassed. The operation, which will eventually involve 4,500 NATO troops and 1,000 Afghan soldiers, was launched at the request of the Afghan government and will focus on the

northern region of Helmand province, NATO's International Security Assistance Force said.

"Our first maneuver elements reached their positions at approximately 5 a.m. this morning," said Maj. Gen. Ton van Loon, ISAF's southern commander.

Dubbed Operation Achilles, the offensive is NATO's largest-ever in the country. But it will involve only half the number of soldiers who fought in a U.S. offensive in the same region just nine months ago, when some 11,000 U.S.-led troops attacked fighters in northern Helmand province during Operation Mountain Thrust.

NATO said that Achilles initially would focus on improving security conditions, but that its "overarching purpose is to assist the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (to) improve its ability to begin reconstruction and economic development."

Vice President Cheney to be treated for blood clot

WASHINGTON (AP) — Doctors discovered a blood clot in Vice President Dick Cheney's left leg Monday, a condition that could be fatal if left untreated.

The 66-year-old Cheney, who has a history of heart problems, will be treated with blood-thinning medication for several months, said spokeswoman Lea Anne McBride.

She said Cheney visited his doctor's office in Washington after feeling minor discomfort in his calf. An ultrasound showed the blood clot — called a deep venous thrombosis — in his left lower leg.

Blood clots that form deep in the legs can become killers if they break off and float into the lungs. This is called a pulmonary embolism. Deep vein thrombosis strikes an estimated 2 million Americans each

year, killing 60,000.

Many people suffer DVT after spending long periods without moving, such as passengers on long-haul airline flights. Cheney spent about 65 hours on a plane on a nine-day, round-the-world trip that ended last week.

U.S., North Korea open historic talks on establishing diplomatic relations

NEW YORK (AP) — The United States and North Korea began landmark talks on establishing diplomatic relations, but a State Department official cautioned against high expectations during this week's meetings.

North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill met for four hours Monday for talks and dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York. They left without making any comments to reporters.

Kim and Hill are to meet again Tuesday amid rising expectations of improved U.S. relations with a country President Bush called part of an "axis of evil" five years ago, along with Iran and prewar Iraq.

This is the first U.S. visit by Kim, North Korea's top nuclear negotiator, since the international standoff over the North's nuclear ambitions flared in late 2002.

Under an agreement reached at six-nation talks in Beijing last month on the North's nuclear program, the U.S. and North Korea are supposed to open bilateral talks on establishing diplomatic ties.

Lawsuit charges Sean 'Diddy' Combs with assault and battery

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A lawsuit has been filed against Sean "Diddy" Combs, alleging the music mogul punched and pushed a man and his girlfriend at a Hollywood nightclub. Gerard

Rechnitzer is seeking unspecified compensatory and punitive damages in the suit, which was filed Friday in Los Angeles Superior Court.

An attorney for Combs called the suit "completely baseless." Police are investigating the alleged incident.

Rechnitzer, 27, claims he and his girlfriend ran into Combs at the club, Teddy's, inside the Roosevelt Hotel in the early morning hours of Feb. 25. According to the lawsuit, Combs was talking to Rechnitzer's girlfriend when Rechnitzer approached. Combs, 37, then yelled at Rechnitzer "in a threatening and ominous matter," the suit claims.

The rap star and clothing designer then "intentionally, willfully, knowingly and unlawfully attacked, assaulted and battered" Rechnitzer, according to court documents, causing him to "fly backward several feet" and hit a parked car. The suit further alleges that Combs pushed Rechnitzer's girlfriend and "attempted to spit on another female member" of Rechnitzer's group.

'Mexican Mafia' inmate set to die

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Robert Perez went to death row for two 1994 slayings in San Antonio that were part of a wave of violence unprecedented in modern times in the Alamo city.

Perez, 48, who rose to the upper ranks of the Mexican Mafia, a notoriously violent gang that took its extensive prison presence outside Texas prison walls, was set to die Tuesday evening for the shooting deaths of Jose Travieso and James Rivas.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Mary Ann Andrews, 59, died Sunday. Graveside Services are at 10:00 AM Thursday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Marie Eason, 99, died Sunday. Funeral Services are at 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 8:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Dwain Bond, 64, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

CINEMARK
The Best Seat in Town
CINEMA 4
1801 East FM 700 (432) 263-2232
ADULT MATINEE BEFORE 4PM \$4.99 / ADULT \$6.99 / CHILD \$3.99
• GHOST RIDER (PG-13) 4:30 7:00
• WILD HOOS (PG-13) 4:30 7:20
• MORRIS (PG-13) 4:40 7:10
• KENO BITE: MARI (R) 5:00 7:30
VALID 3/4/07
ADVANCE TICKET SALES • NO PASSES • NO SUPERSAVERS
Showtimes available at cinemark.com

FARMERS®
Call For Competitive Quotes
On All Your Insurance
Tommy Churchwell
2303 Goliad (432) 267-3857

Gartman Sheetmetal
Air Conditioning & Heating
NOW YOUR
American Standard
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
DEALER
3206 E. F.M. 700
Big Spring, TX 79720
432-263-1902
Buster Gartman
TACL003559E

FIRE

Continued from Page 1A
believe there was an accelerant used in the fire. We haven't ruled out any causes at this point." While no injuries were reported, Sullivan said the damage to the home was severe. "The structure and the contents were estimated

at a value of \$100,000," said Sullivan. "Luckily, the owner was in Midland at the time. From an insurance standpoint, I'd say the home was a total loss, but it could have been much worse.

"The firefighters on the scene did a tremendous job. By all rights, the home should have been

burned to the foundation, but they did a great job keeping the damage to a minimum. You really can't ask any more than that from them."

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

AUSTIN

Continued from Page 1A
ister at the Chamber office. "We've already sent in the numbers for lunch, so they will have to provide their own," said ValVerde. "However, we are trying to keep a tally on the number of people attending, so if they will call or come by our office and just let us know they plan to make the trip, we would certainly appreciate it." For more information on Big Spring Area Day in Austin, call the Big Spring Chamber at 263-7641.

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

QUICK CASH REBATES
The Quick Way to Payday
We'll cash your personal check in minutes, deposit it on your next payday, up to 14 days, give you the money you need, the long distance you want and the discount you deserve!
Requirements For Service: 1) Valid Picture ID
2) Verification Of Income
3) Most Recent Checking Account Statement
612 S. Gregg Big Spring, Texas 432-263-4400

Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy
Our Therapy Services can help you or your loved one regain independence from a hospital stay.
Come See How We Can Help You
MVL Mountain View Lodge
A Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
2009 Virginia Avenue Big Spring, TX 79720
(432) 263-1271 - (432) 263-5338 Fax
"Where Everybody is Somebody"
Jessica Paredes Director of Marketing & Admissions

DREXEL HERITAGE.
Welcome Home
2101 West Wadley
Midland, TX
432-682-0029
www.drexelheritage.com

2 Large 1 Topping Pizza \$17.99
Delivery • Carry-Out • Dine-In
1 Medium 1 Topping Pizza \$6.99 (Pick Up Only)
Pizza Inn.
1702 Gregg 263-1381

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

Nationwide no-roaming plans, starting @ \$29.99

Wireless Depot
Located In The Big Spring Mall
1801 E. FM 700 Ste F-1
Big Spring, TX 79720
432-267-1631
432-264-1253 - Fax
e-mail: wdepot@crcom.net

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Public School Week chance to be involved

Texas Public School Week is in full swing at schools in Big Spring and Coahoma, not only giving youngsters a chance to get excited about their education, but more importantly, encouraging parents to get involved in the process.

Activities began Monday at elementary schools throughout the Big Spring Independent School District and will continue throughout the week. Those activities include:

- Bauer Magnet — Every grade will be spotlighted during the week. Kindergartners were highlighted Monday, first graders today and progressing upward from there. Parents are invited to share lunch with their children during the week.

- Kentwood — Reading, math, singing, physical education and Texas heritage will be highlighted during the week.

- Marcy, Moss and Washington elementaries will have similar programs to Bauer, with each class getting its spotlight day. Also, parents are invited to share lunch with their children.

- Goliad Intermediate students will host a cook-out and open house at 5:30 p.m. today. Other activities, such as "Crazy Cotton Hat Day" Thursday, are planned, also.

- Big Spring Junior High School has history trivia contests, reading promotions and special dress-up days.

- Big Spring High School has no activities scheduled for the week, but officials said parents are welcome to visit the campus.

In other words, the celebrations remaining run the gamut from open houses to special dress days and opportunities for parents to eat meals with their children on campus.

Coahoma Elementary is also welcoming parents this week. Special activities include a third-grade "reader's theater" and a "Around the World" project in which sixth-graders will don costumes from different countries and offer food from exotic locales.

The Herald wants to take this opportunity to salute the public schools in our community, expressing our support for the important task teachers and administrators at area schools undertake each day.

Furthermore, we encourage parents in the community to do whatever it takes to get involved in this week's activities at their children's schools and to use this opportunity to take an active role in the educational process on a daily basis.

After all, the children of our community are our future. They are collectively our greatest asset — one that is much too valuable to waste.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we mature in Your love and as Your followers, Lord. Amen

Why I hate race-baiting columns

What people in the news business want to know is: How did the "Why I hate blacks" column by Kenneth Eng that ran in AsianWeek on Feb. 23 ever make it by the paper's editors?

AsianWeek announced yesterday that Eng had been dismissed and editor-at-large Ted Fang acknowledged a "failing of our editorial process" at a press conference with the NAACP.

I still want to know: Did editors think that running a racist column would be cutting edge? That an Asian Ann Coulter wannabe would create buzz? That they could get away with running racist copy because it is a publication serving an Asian-American audience?

Presumably, AsianWeek management will provide an explanation at a Friday town meeting in San Francisco billed as an open discussion on "the media's role and responsibility in fostering dialogue that leads to a greater understanding between Asian and African-American communities."

That's high-minded language from a paper that published a column that listed among "reasons we should discriminate against blacks" the assertion that blacks are "weak-willed" and "the only race that has been enslaved for 300 years."

No AsianWeek manager can claim surprise at the column. Eng is a self-described "Asian

supremacist," who wrote a "Why I hate Asians" column in January. In November, he wrote, "White people hate us and will always hate us." Unlike the anti-black column, those columns sparked no San Francisco Chronicle story and no City Hall resolution against AsianWeek.

"It's kind of shocking that those two other articles did not bring the level of attention" to AsianWeek as the anti-black article, San Francisco Supervisor Ed Jew, who is an Asian-American, told me. Jew believes the anti-Asian and anti-white columns should have received the same scrutiny as the anti-black screed.

Except the Special City has a way of making excuses for bigotry and intolerance — when they percolate from the left or ethnic groups. Imagine if a white columnist or conservative politician had made the same remarks about African-Americans. You wouldn't see NAACP dons flocking to a post-slur town meeting.

It doesn't hurt that AsianWeek is published by the politically wired Fang family. How can it be racist for Joe Biden to say Barack Obama is "articulate," but an opportunity when an AsianWeek columnist calls blacks "easy to coerce"? Yet that was the response to Delaware Sen. Biden's comments — while here in San Francisco, African-American leaders' response to Eng's writings was that this was an opportunity for dialogue about race.

On the bright side, at least the purveyors of this ethnic slur are not trying to hide behind the First Amendment. Be it noted, Eng has

the First Amendment right to express his low opinion of black people. As San Francisco State journalism professor Yumi Wilson explained over the phone, bloggers post this sort of racist rhetoric every day.

But it's also important to note that AsianWeek has the First Amendment right to refuse to print Eng's copy, as well as a responsibility not to print fact-free racist rants. If the Eng column were not a collection of ignorant generalizations without qualifiers, Wilson noted, if it had been based on research and interviews, if Eng had addressed how some Asians feel about some blacks, that would be "a whole different story." Instead, Eng treated readers to sweeping and inaccurate stereotypes — even as he bemoaned what he perceived as unacceptable Asian stereotypes.

"Blacks hate us," Eng wrote. "Every Asian who has ever come across them knows that they take almost every opportunity to hurl racist remarks at us." Wilson, who noted that Eng "did touch a chord with some Asian-Americans," also remarked on how inaccurate that unqualified statement about hatred was. She knows: Her father is African-American and her late mother, Japanese-American.

News organizations have a responsibility to print copy that withstands vetting. As for Eng's work, Wilson noted, "It's not journalism, and it's not acceptable."

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@sfcchronicle.com.
COPYRIGHT 2007 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

ADDRESSES

• GEORGE W. BUSH

President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• JOHN CORNYN

U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• RANDY NEUGEBAUER

U.S. Representative (19th

Cong. District)
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

• RICK PERRY

Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• JOE HEFLIN

State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (512) 463-0604

• KEL SELIGER

State Senator
401 Austin, Suite 101

Big Spring, 79720
(432) 268-9909

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

• RUSSELL McEWEN, MAYOR

— Home: 263-0907; Work

(Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413.

• GREG BIDDISON

— Home: 267-6009; Work

(Greg's Grill): 267-7121.

• MANUEL RAMIREZ JR.

— Home: 268-9692; Work

(VAMC): 263-7361.

• STEPHANIE HORTON

— Home: 264-0306; Work

(VA Medical Center): 263-7361..

• JOANN STAULCUP

— Home: 263-4980.

• GLORIA McDONALD

— Home: 263-4835.

• JOANN KNOX

— Home: 816-9083; Work (BSISD):

264-3635.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OFFICE — 264-2200.

• MARK BARR, COUNTY JUDGE

— Home and Office: (432) 517-0707.

• EMMA BROWN

— Home: 267-2649.

• JERRY KILGORE

— 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.

• BILL CROOKER

— Home: 263-2566.

• GARY SIMER

— Home: 263-0260.

200 years for child pornography

Lots of people who know about such things have been waiting to see what the Supreme Court would do about the case of Morton Berger. Mr. Berger was sentenced to 200 years in prison, with no possibility of probation or early release, for possessing 20 pornographic images of children.

I'm not defending kiddie porn or pornographers, thank you, Bill O'Reilly, but we're not dealing with the person who made the pornography or even sold it. We're dealing with a viewer who got caught by the use of his credit card number on a Texas website.

Ten years is the minimum sentence in Arizona for any crime involving "sexual exploitation of a minor," and the rule is that sentences for multiple counts must be served consecutively. So the sentence for 20 counts automatically becomes 200 years.

Mr. Berger's lawyers argued in the papers filed with the Court that had their client been prosecuted in federal court, as he could have been, for possessing the same images, the sentence would have been five years, as it would have been in most of the states — most having no prohibition on early release or good-time credits. Arizona's law, as applied to the facts of this case, produces the harshest sentence in the country, according to the dissent in the Arizona Supreme Court. That court upheld Mr. Berger's sentence in an opinion that focused on the legality of the 10-year minimum term, standing alone, rather

than the accumulated impact of 20 of them, served consecutively.

The petition to the Supreme Court focused on the total term. Surely a differential of 195 years between what the feds think the conduct is "worth" and what Arizona thinks might suggest that the Arizona scheme is fundamentally out of whack, which is essentially what's required for a conclusion that a punishment is "cruel and unusual" within the Constitution's prohibition of such treatment.

It's easy to understand legislators voting for a law setting tough minimum sentences for those who are in any way involved in "sexual exploitation of a minor," including those who pay to view it. After all, it's just such demand that creates the market for the product. And who wants to be the one to argue for different levels of criminality for the viewer, the purveyor and the manufacturer, when doing so may lead to the label of being "soft" on crime, especially kiddie porn, a label that requires no further explanation, and invites none, from voters? When it comes to crime, and this kind of crime in particular, the conventional wisdom, at least for those seeking office, is that you can't be too tough.

The problem is that when you apply the results to real cases, especially when rules combine to multiply mandatory minimum sentences, as they do here, you can be too tough. The justices of the Supreme Court have been increasingly willing to examine the extent to which judges have been denied the ability to judge due to federal sentencing guidelines that have limited their discretion to individualize sentences. The tendency of such laws to shift

rather than limit discretion, effectively increasing the power of the prosecutor to set sentences by deciding what to charge, comes at the expense of the person who is most likely the oldest and smartest in the room, and the one chosen for that function. This shift is increasingly well-recognized.

But the Court has been much less willing to look at the sentences themselves, lest they be required to start drawing lines for which there is no particular basis.

If not 200 years, then what?

A hundred? Fifty? Twenty? Short of death, what is too much, and how do you define it, given that there is no necessarily "right" answer to the question of what constitutes just punishment?

Interestingly enough, no similar reluctance affects the Court when confronted with corporate punishment viewed as unduly harsh.

As Ohio State University law professor Doug Berman has pointed out, both in his blog and in press interviews, this Court has repeatedly shown its willingness to limit "extreme corporate punishment" by reducing or throwing out excessive punitive damage awards, most recently vacating an order against Phillip Morris just last week. But "extreme individual punishment" by the criminal justice system has produced no similar solicitude.

Unfortunately for Mr. Berman, that didn't change this week. The Court turned down his petition for review.

The 57-year-old former high-school teacher will die in prison for the images he bought online.

COPYRIGHT 2007 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.

Bird Po
Res

In the ea
fog, driv
slow an
Usually,
work was
the day. H
readily se
the bare m
fence posts,
ular teleph
was the hig
between her
Midland.

With her
windshield
wipers
clearing the
persistent
moisture,
she looked
forward to
seeing what
would be on
the pole
that morn
ing. As the
seasons
changed, so
occupants.
to rest dur
the structur
tremendous
surrounding
try. Any ma
by a bird of
eyesight co
captured fo

As the roa
a natural dr
the fog slo
progress to
Coming out
barrier, the
wiper revea
dark bird at
"My God, th
eagle," she
"Couldn't b
else, it's so
stopped in t
Uneasy, a
the large of
only a few f
away, the r
crouched. U
and legs to
the air, the
its quick w
rapidly left
disappeared

For sever
afterward,
continued t
eagle. Only
tailed hawl
top of the p
guessed th
and only cl
an eagle in



Poor V
had no t
even kno
rememb
friends v
young lik
Now that
he still
friends.
of friend
do, too.
find out
friends.
very nee
son, or I
that hap
The fir
was a p
and me.
Willie ar
ed chas
stick in
Willie ev
to ask.
scare V
hoped
never c
Willie.
What h
the pers
could th
that th
farmer
chicken
all of th

Bird Poop: Rescue leads to 'eagle heaven' for grounded eagle

In the early morning fog, driving was slow and tedious. Usually, her drive to work was the best part of the day. Hawks were readily seen perched in the bare mesquites, on fence posts, and a particular telephone pole that was the high point between her house and Midland.

With her windshield wipers clearing the persistent moisture, she looked forward to seeing what would be on the pole that morning. As the seasons changed, so did the pole's occupants. A safe place to rest during the night, the structure offered a tremendous view of the surrounding open country. Any mammal noted by a bird of prey's keen eyesight could easily be captured for a meal.

As the road dipped for a natural drainage area, the fog slowed her progress to a crawl. Coming out of the dense barrier, the swipe of the wiper revealed a large, dark bird atop the pole. "My God, that's an eagle," she thought. "Couldn't be anything else, it's so big." She stopped in the roadway.

Uneasy, and wary of the large object that was only a few fence posts away, the raptor crouched. Using its feet and legs to spring into the air, the eagle, with its quick wing beats, rapidly left the area and disappeared into the fog.

For several mornings afterward, the woman continued to look for the eagle. Only the usual red-tailed hawks graced the top of the pole. She guessed that was her one and only chance to see an eagle in the wild.

As February turned into March, the lady's drive became routine again. The wintering hawks seemed to have left, and it would be a while before the summer raptors returned. In the low area south of the telephone pole she noticed a big bird on the ground about 30 feet inside the fence line. Dark brown, it was the size of the eagle she had previously seen. Pulling over into the grass beside the road, she stopped the car. "It has to be my eagle."

This time the raptor didn't leap into flight and leave. Instead, it ran a few feet, stopped, and jumped. Struggling to become airborne, the eagle was unable to control its long, round wings. Awkwardly, it set back down in the grass. Although its primary feathers kept touching the earth, the bird made several more attempts at flying.

Realizing that something was wrong with the eagle, she called us as soon as she reached her office. With the exact location of the bird, I called Parks & Wildlife. Upon arriving at the site, a game warden could find no bird. His office had been receiving calls for several days about a large brown bird somewhere along the county road. This was the first exact location he had been given. Alerting the lady that the warden would continue checking the area, I asked that she continue her daily vigil.

In response to yet another call, the warden checked the area again. Using his binoculars, he scanned 180 degrees of scrubby brush, cactus, and mesquites. Beside an agrito bush loaded with potential blooms, he found the bird. "Need some help out here," he



BEBE
MCCASLAND



Courtesy photo
Known as one of the most graceful birds of prey, the golden eagle may soar for hours. Because of its majestic flight and regal appearance, it is often called the "King of Birds."

**Coming March ...The Big Spring Herald
"Who We Are" Profile Edition 2007
Toot Your Horn With An Ad That Will
Last All Year Long!!!
CALL 263-7331 FOR DETAILS!**

Bedtime Stories

WILLIE WEASEL WANTS TO CHANGE

Poor Willie Weasel! He had no friends. He didn't even know why. He didn't remember having any friends when he was very young like you and me.

Now that he is much older, he still didn't have any friends. Do you have lots of friends? Sure you do! I do, too. Maybe he could find out why he had no friends. He would ask the very next weasel, or person, or bird, or any animal that happened along.

The first to come by Willie was a person, just like you and me. The person saw Willie and right away, started chasing him with a big stick in his hand before Willie even had the chance to ask. He was trying to scare Willie away. And he hoped that Willie would never come back! Poor Willie.

What had he done to make the person so mad? All he could think of was the fact that the person was a farmer and he had some chickens. Willie had eaten all of the farmer's chicken's

eggs the night before. Was that why the farmer didn't like Willie Weasel? "That must be the reason," Willie said to himself. "I didn't know that he didn't want me to eat those eggs. The chickens all ran away and let me have those eggs when I walked into the chicken house. They didn't ask me not to eat the eggs. Maybe they all ran away because they were afraid I was going to eat them, too! I will change!"

The very first thing Willie did was to take some nice straw into the chicken house and made new soft beds for every one of those chickens. The chickens loved their new beds. They layed more eggs than they had ever layed before. The farmer had seen Willie carrying the straw into the chicken house and watched as the chickens seemed to love their new nests.

He knew that Willie had done something very good for his chickens. He also saw that the chickens were

much happier now and were giving him many more eggs every day. Now he had more than he could ever use. What could he do with the rest of those eggs? You and I know, don't we? Yes, he gave them to Willie. Willie loves scrambled eggs. Do you like scrambled eggs? Just being nice and doing something that would help someone, Willie had made one friend. The farmer was now his friend. He would never chase Willie Weasel with that big stick again. He even liked Willie now!

The next thing to come Willie's way was another weasel. Willie would ask him why no one else liked

him. His name was Obie Weasel. "Obie, why do you not like me?" Willie asked. "Why, it is because you are a weasel just like me, and no one likes weasels." "But, it could be because we never do anything nice for anyone," said Willie. "I was nice to the farmer and his chickens and now all of them like me and even called me their friend. Why don't you try being nice to someone?" "I will try your idea," said Obie, "I would like to have friends, too!"

The very first thing Obie saw was a big hawk sitting on a high tree branch, looking at the big bug down on the ground. The hawk was going to have the big bug for lunch. Obie shouted at the big bug to run and hide quickly before the hawk came

swooping down to eat him. The big bug crawled into his hole in the ground just as the hawk came flying toward him. The big bug was safe. Obie had made a friend. The hawk was not happy with Obie for warning the big bug, but that was okay because Obie would do something nice for the hawk, too. Then he would have two new friends. Obie showed the hawk where some very nice fish could be found for lunch. The hawk loved fish and soon was a friend of Obie's, too. Obie ran back to tell Willie that he had already made two friends that day and all because he had done something nice for them.

Obie came running up to Willie to tell him the good news. Obie was smiling. Willie didn't know it right away, but he now had another new friend. Obie! The hawk told all the other hawks about the nice weasel named Obie. Obie told all of them that he was

**MEDICINE CENTER
PHARMACY**
1001 Gregg • 263-7316

nice because of Willie. Soon all of the other weasels became Willie's friends. And all of the hawks became Willie's friends. And all of the big bugs became Willie's friends, too. And the farmer and his chickens told all of the other farmers and chickens about the nice weasel named Willie. Even the fish became Willie's friends too because he had something nice for them the very next day.

Willie Weasel can't be called "Poor Willie" anymore because he has so many friends that he can't count them all. And, it was all because he had done something nice for one farmer and his chickens. Sometimes, that's all it takes to make a friend.

Happy Willie Weasel just told me to tell you, "Good Night!"



Preparing to make the most of the rest of your life

Recently I came across some ideas about living that were proposed to add quality to ones life. As I was reading these proposals I thought they were good enough to incorporate into my life and share them along the way. I hope you will also find optimism and depth as you read them.



DARRELL RYAN

Starting this moment I will no longer worry about yesterday. It is in the past and the past will never change. But I can change by choosing to do so. Starting now I will no longer worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will always be there, waiting for me to make the most of it. But I cannot make the most of tomorrow before I make the most of today. Starting now I will look in the mirror and I will

see a person worthy of my respect and admiration. This capable person looking back at me is someone I enjoy spending time with and someone I would like to get to know better.

Starting now I will take my life one day at a time. Discouragement will not be allowed to taint my positive self image, my desire to succeed or my capacity to live.

Starting now I will cherish each moment of my life. I value the gift of life that has been bestowed upon me and I will unselfishly share this gift with others.

Starting now I will take a moment to step off the beaten path to revel in the mysteries I encounter. I will face challenges with courage and determination. I will overcome what barriers there may be which hinder my quest for growth and self improvement.

Starting now I will walk with renewed faith in human kindness. Regardless of what has gone before, I believe there is hope for a

brighter and better future.

Starting now I will open my mind and my heart. I will welcome new experiences. I will meet new people. I will not expect perfection from myself nor anyone else. I will realize that perfection does not exist in an imperfect world. But I will applaud the attempt to overcome human failures.

Starting now I am responsible for my own happiness. I will do things that make me happy; admire the beautiful wonders of nature; listen to my favorite music; pet a kitten or a puppy; soak in a bubble bath. Pleasure can be found in the most simple of gestures.

Starting now I will learn something new; I will try something different. I will savor all the various flavors life has to offer. I will change what I can and the rest I will let go. I will strive to become the best me I can possibly be.

From this moment, I will live differently than I did yesterday. I will

make a conscious effort to realize that life is a wonderful thing and it's a privilege and a challenge to face each new day in a positive manner.

Starting now I will treat everyone I meet as if I will never see them again and I will extend to them all the care, kindness and understanding I can muster. Starting now I will be aware that there will always be people who have more than I do and less than I do, so I should be aware of what I have and be thankful for it.

Starting now I will understand the value of love and appreciation and the many other things that are mine. Starting now I will attempt to be the best me I can become for now and the rest of my life.

Darrell Ryan is the director of federal programs for Big Spring Independent School District.

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

EAGLE

Continued from Page 5A

told his captain. "There really is a bird. It's a golden eagle," he said with relief. "I'm staying with it. We'll need Animal Control to help."

"How did you finally capture it?" was my first question when the warden called. Saying it wasn't easy, he added, "That sucker had a bunch of grown men running like crazy. Guess it finally wore out. They put a net over it when it bumped into a telephone pole. Otherwise, it would have crossed the road and gone into the brush again."

Once at our home, we examined the eagle's wings. Extended, they had a span of six and a half feet. One had no evidence of a break. The other wing had the tell-tale lump or calcification of a healing fracture. As the eagle dined on mice, we were able to see the golden hackles on the back of its neck and head. The rest of the feathers were a dark brown, as were its eyes. Its black bill and talons were convincing evidence of a large, powerful bird. Although smaller than a female, this male had managed to subsist on rabbits, ground squirrels, rats and birds while trying to survive.

Handing the "golden" over to the manager of the wildlife center in Lubbock, we learned that the calcification was probably two to three weeks old. That was about the time frame given by the numerous sightings of the eagle on the ground. Otherwise, the raptor was healthy. Although it was determined that the golden eagle would never be able to soar again, or dive toward its prey at

150-200 miles an hour, the raptor was taken to west-central New Mexico. Upon entering the Zuni reservation, the eagle, as all eagles before him, was blessed by their medicine man.

Following this private ceremony, the bird was taken to their sanctuary for golden and bald eagles. Placed with other

non-releasable goldens, it would be allowed to live out its life.

Overseen by a veterinarian employed by the Albuquerque Zoo, the huge facility was truly "eagle heaven" for an earthbound bird.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Contract Bridge

A Choice of Percentage Plays

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♦ 10
♥ A 10
♦ A J 8 5 4 3
♠ J 9 6 2

WEST

♦ Q J 8 6 3
♥ J 8 7 2
♦ 9
♠ Q 8 7

EAST

♦ K 9 7 5 4 2
♥ 9 5 4
♦ 6
♠ K 10 3

SOUTH

♦ A
♥ K Q 6 3
♦ K Q 10 7 2
♠ A 5 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass

Opening lead — queen of spades.

Many deals present declarer with more than one line of play. Whenever he is faced with such a situation, declarer should opt for the approach that offers the greatest likelihood of success.

Consider this deal where South reached six diamonds as shown. He won the spade lead, drew a round of trumps, cashed the A-K-Q of hearts and ruffed his last heart in dummy. He then played the ace and another

club, and the defenders collected two club tricks to put the slam down one.

Declarer's method of play would have worked against several distributions of the adverse clubs. If either opponent had been dealt the doubleton K-Q, or if East had started with the singleton king or queen, declarer would have been home free.

In addition, South would have succeeded if East had been dealt the doubleton king or doubleton queen of clubs. In that case, East would have been forced to return a spade after taking his club trick, allowing declarer to make the slam by discarding his last club as he ruffed in dummy.

Granting the legitimacy of South's line of play, the fact remains that he did not choose the best course of action. He was unlikely to make the contract by this line of play more than about a quarter of the time.

A far better approach — admittedly hard to think of because it is an unnatural thing to do — is to lead a low heart toward dummy at trick three and finesse the ten. As it happens, the ten wins, and declarer later discards two of dummy's clubs on his K-Q of hearts and so loses only one club trick.

Because the heart finesse will make the slam whenever West holds the jack — 50 percent of the time — it is clearly the better line of play.

Tomorrow: It only hurts for a minute.

©2007 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Airgas.

Industrial & Medical Gases,
Welding & Safety Supplies

We Also Carry Power Tools!

3210 E. 11th Place Big Spring, TX 267-2332

www.airgas.com

LIVE IN CONCERT!

"THE BLACKWOOD LEGACY"



Featuring Rick Price, Gospel Music Hall of Fame Member and former lead singer for the legendary

Blackwood Brothers Quartet, winners of 9 Grammy Awards and 27 Dove Awards

Keeping the Legacy Alive!

Performing hits such as...

"Beulah Land" and "How Great Thou Art"

TWO NIGHTS ONLY!

March 12 at 7 pm
Midway Baptist Church
6200 SR 120

March 14 at 7 pm
College Baptist Church
1105 Birdwell Lane

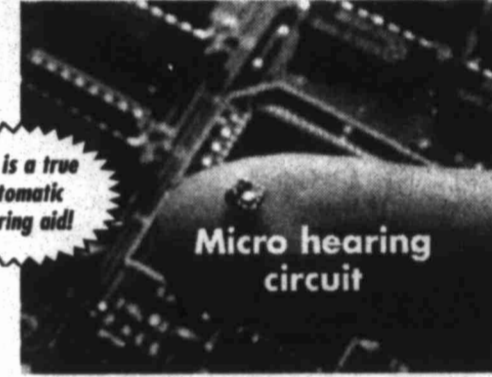
Admission is Free!

NANOSCIENCE

Technology Now Available at Livingston

A CHIP IN YOUR EAR

- ✓ Virtually eliminates feedback, no more annoying buzzing.
- ✓ Manages noise so hearing, comfort and quality are enhanced.
- ✓ Adapts to changing environments; As sounds change, so does the hearing instrument.
- ✓ Improves speech intelligibility in noise; Instantly reacts and responds automatically; no manual adjustments needed.



OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NANO
This week you can See...Demo...Try this amazing new technology - a technology so smart, it's nearly human. It allows the instrument to recognize, remember and classify the sounds YOU hear so you never have to make an adjustment.

NOW...A HEARING AID THAT LETS YOU HEAR LIKE YOU DID BEFORE YOU NEEDED A HEARING AID.



Almost Invisible

8 Reasons Open Ear Hearing Aids Are Winning Greater Customer Satisfaction

- Non-Occluding
- Cosmetically Appealing
- Comfortable
- Natural Sound
- Instant Gratification
- Directional Microphone
- Digital Sound Processing
- Natural Ambient Sounds

We invite you to come in for a listening demonstration of the new Open Ear technology. Hear for yourself!

During the introductory offer, TRADE IN your old hearing aids and we'll give you \$1,000 off the list price for a new set of OTE hearing instruments.

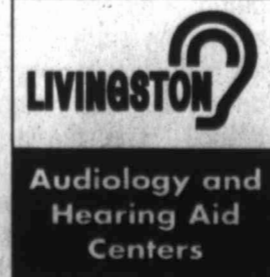
COMPARE BEFORE YOU BUY!

<p>Custom Full Shell</p> <p>Competitor's Advertised Price \$495</p> <p>OUR PRICE \$445</p>	<p>Digital Canal</p> <p>Competitor's Advertised Price \$895</p> <p>OUR PRICE \$805</p>	<p>Digital Programmable</p> <p>Competitor's Advertised Price \$1,495</p> <p>OUR PRICE \$1,345</p>
--	--	---



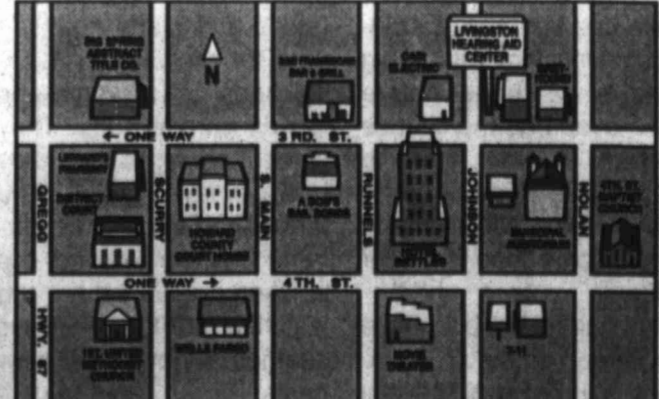
Low Price Guarantee

If you find a lower advertised price on an identical hearing aid at any local retail competitor, we will beat their price by 10% when you buy from us. Just bring us the competitor's current ad, or we'll call to verify the item's price that you have found. Competitor's remanufactured, discontinued, and used hearing aids are excluded from this offer.



211 Johnson St. in Big Spring

432-267-7052 or toll free 1-888-687-2955



IN BRIEF

Forsan players named all-district

Forsan's Buffaloes and Lady Buffaloes earned plenty of recognition when District 2-1A coaches met to select their all-district basketball teams.

The Buffs, having tied for the district championship and a bi-district championship, took a large share of the boys' team awards. Junior Adam Bailey was named defensive player of the year, while sophomore Jeremy Robbins was the league's newcomer of the year.

Senior Seth Johnson and sophomore Nathan Atkinson were both first-team selections, while juniors Blake Grantham and Cameron Parker both received honorable mention.

In the girls' balloting, freshman Amanda Longorio was selected a newcomer of the year, while senior teammates Kaylon Stanley and Kaley Eggleston were first-team honorees. Sophomores Tori Gauer and Faith Belew earned honorable mention status.

Landin wins ZAT tourney in Abilene

Jeremy Landin of Big Spring won the Abilene Zone Advancement Tournament (ZAT) and qualified for the championship level.

Landin defeated Tam Le of San Angelo in three sets, 6-2, 5-7, 10-8, to win the boys' 18 singles final.

To qualify for the next level, championship, a player must either win a ZAT or accumulate 64 points from his or her best four consecutive tournaments of the year.

ZATs are entry level tournaments sponsored by the USTA. They are offered once a month in different regions of Texas. Players compete to qualify for the championship level, and then onto the highest level, super championship.

The next Championship Major Zone is April 14-15.

CGA organization meeting slated

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

For more information, call 264-7116.

Forsan golfers third at Anson

The Forsan boys' golf team finished third in the team standings at the Anson Golf Tournament on Saturday.

Jake Moore finished third in the medalist standings with a round of 87.

Other team members were Josh Hatfield, Rick Bailey and Brantley Calhoun.

Stanton sweeps relays over weekend

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

STANTON — The Stanton boy's and girl's teams dominated the Stanton Relays over the weekend by totaling 155 points and 173 points en route to a clean sweep.

The Buffaloes finished 37 points ahead of second place Water Valley and took first place honors in the discus, long jump, high jump, 110 meter hurdles (16.21) and in the shot put.

Forsan won the 100 meter dash (11.23) and finished in sixth place with a total of 36

points.

Water Valley used first place finishes in the 3,200 meter run, 400 meter relay, 1,600 meter relay and 800 meter relay to total 118 points.

The boy's final results:

Stanton (155), Water Valley (118), Sterling City (90), Merkel (87), Permian (43), Forsan (36), Colorado City (15), Reagan County (13) and Coahoma (12).

In the girl's division, Stanton was even more impressive by finishing 69 points ahead of Merkel.

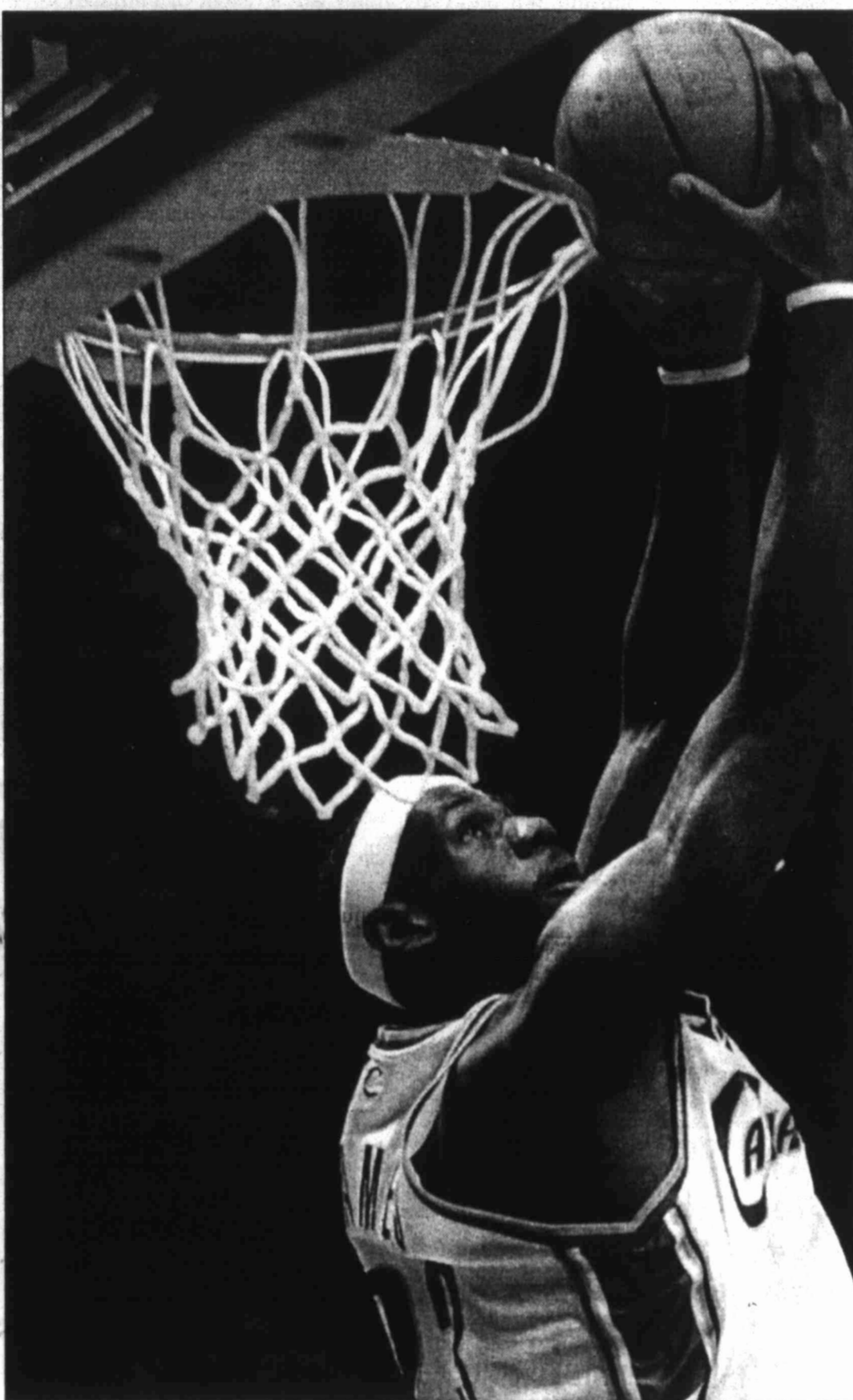
The Lady Buffaloes finished first in the

1,600 meter relay (4:30.28), 3,200 meter relay (12:52.06), the discus, the shot put and taking first, second and third place in the pole vault.

Coahoma finished first in the 800 meter run (2:35.56) and the 200 meter dash (28.40) and Forsan came in first with a time of 1:08.45 in the 400 meter dash.

The girl's final results:

Stanton (173), Merkel (104), C. City (99), Coahoma (86), Water Valley (65), Sterling City (49) and Forsan (26).



LeBron James dunks against the Lakers on Feb. 13. Monday night James spoiled the return of Houston's Yao Ming by scoring 32 points and leading Cleveland past Houston, 91-85. Ming finished with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

Cavaliers rip Rockets in Yao Ming's return

By JOE MILICIA

Associated Press Writer

CLEVELAND — LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers made Yao Ming feel like he was back in high school.

Yao struggled in his first game after missing more than two months with a leg injury and the Cavaliers held off the Houston Rockets 91-85 Monday night, led by James' 32 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists.

Yao sat at his locker with a bag of ice on his right knee after the game. He finished with 16 points, 11 rebounds, two blocks and five turnovers.

The 7-foot-6 center had just one practice since recovering from a broken bone under his knee. It showed.

"In the second quarter, third quarter, I was almost like a high school player," Yao said. "Sometimes, Cleveland would just steal the ball from my hand."

Yao airballed a left hook on the Rockets' first possession, but immediately got in the Cavaliers' way on the other end by blocking a shot.

Wearing a black brace on his right knee, Yao looked slow and out of synch on offense, letting a crisp pass tip off his hands and missing open shots.

"Uneven, which is to be expected," Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "But he's got to cut down on his turnovers. We can't play well if he goes right back to what he was doing before he got hurt, which is being a high turnover guy. It's impos-

sible to have offensive rhythm."

James, whose popularity in China helped him top Yao in All-Star voting this year, scored more than 30 points for the fourth straight game. The Cavaliers have won three of those four.

James got help from Larry Hughes, who had been struggling until recently and is finally starting to complement the superstar as the Cavaliers envisioned.

Hughes had 22 points, seven assists and six rebounds and said this is the most comfortable he's felt since joining the Cavaliers as a free agent last season.

With rookie Daniel Gibson out with a sprained toe, Hughes played some point guard, which he said he'd like to do more often.

"I'm able to create," he said. "I'm able to get everybody involved, feel the flow of the game, know what plays we can run."

James wouldn't mind seeing that as well.

"If he keeps playing the way he is playing now, we might have to keep him in there," James said.

Yao, who played 27 minutes, helped spark the Rockets in the fourth quarter after they trailed by 14. He scored seven straight points and provided a presence inside that forced Cleveland to take outside shots.

The Rockets, who have lost four of five, pulled to within 84-82 on Tracy McGrady's jumper with

See **CAVS**, Page 2B

District 4-AA Girls' All District Team

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

Coahoma's Laci Sterling, Christie Rich and Janice Gonzales joined Stanton's Eva Dyck on the District 4-AA Girl's All-District Team.

Other district honors include:

MVP — Dylan Carter — Sr. Merkel
Defensive MVP — Kenzie Tarpley — Sr. — Merkel
Newcomer — Hope Reid — So. Haskell
Coach of the Year — David Middleton — Haskell

First Team

1. Laci Sterling — Soph — Coahoma
2. Alyssa Hoadley — Sr. — Stamford
3. Hailey Arnold — Sr. — Merkel
4. Samantha Rodriguez — Sr. — Haskell
5. Christie Rich — Jr. — Coahoma
6. Eva Dyck — soph — Stanton
7. Myka McMeans — Sr. — Stamford

8. Cenee Hood — Jr. — Merkel
9. Chelsea Phillips — Jr. — Hawley
10. Janice Gonzales — Jr. — Coahoma
11. Lacey Peiser — Jr. — Haskell
12. Lacesha Johnson — Jr. — Colorado City

Second Team

1. Kim Medford — Sr. — Haskell
2. Sarah Rodriguez — Sr. — Anson
3. Brennan Harp — Sr. — Stanton
4. Sharadyn Andrews — Sr. — Merkel
5. Christian Nauert — Jr. — Stamford
6. Britney Jordan — Jr. — Hawley
7. Jessica Castillo — Sr. — Colorado City
8. Chambray Bartley — Sr. — Haskell
9. Haley Shugart — Sr. — Merkel
10. Alyssa Flores — Soph — Anson
11. Shelbi Paige — Soph — Coahoma.

Spurs play tough defense — beat LA

By KEN PETERS

AP Sports Writer

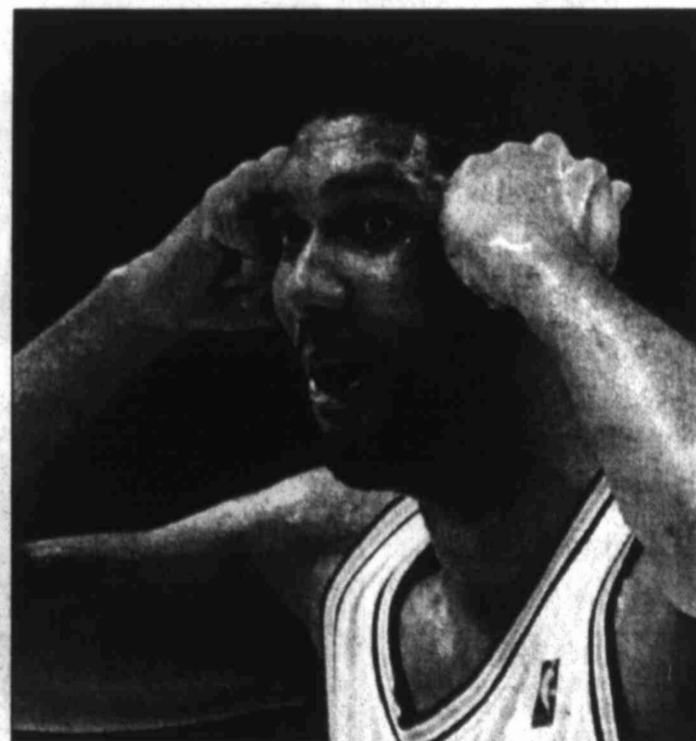
LOS ANGELES — The San Antonio Spurs are doing it with defense.

For the third consecutive game, the Spurs held their opponents to 74 points, this time in an 88-74 victory Monday night over the Los Angeles Clippers to extend their season-high winning streak to nine games.

The San Antonio reserves provided the majority of the offense, with Manu Ginobili and Beno Udrih combining for 30 points and pulling down eight rebounds each. Michael Finley added 10 points as the players off the bench outscored the Spurs' starters 49-39.

The Clippers, led by Corey Maggette's 19 points, trailed all the way and were held to 38 percent shooting as they matched their season low in points.

Tim Duncan, who had 12 rebounds and nine points in the win, said the Spurs have started to



Spurs center Tim Duncan can't believe a call by the NBA referee in the Spur's 88-74 win over the Los Angeles Clippers.

play well at the right time.

"We've still got a bunch of games to finish this season, but the streak we're on right now is the way we want to play and the way we want to end out this sea-

son," Duncan said. "Defensively, we've been solid and we're moving the ball real well."

"We're giving up less offensive rebounds and we're keeping oppo-

See **SPURS**, Page 2B

Kings forward Artest arrested after woman reports violence

By JULIET WILLIAMS

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Sacramento Kings forward Ron Artest was arrested Monday and excused indefinitely from the team after a woman said he shoved her to the floor inside his home and prevented her from calling 911.

Placer County sheriff's authorities said the woman reported she and Artest were arguing inside the home Monday morning when he pushed her. The argument moved outside when Artest tried to leave in his Hummer, sheriff's Sgt. Andrew Scott said during a news conference.

"It resulted in some pushing," Scott said of the argument. "Mr. Artest had shoved the victim to the floor several times, then he attempted to leave."

The woman threw a pot at the Hummer, shattering its windshield, Scott said. He would not disclose the woman's relationship with Artest but said a 3-year-old girl was inside the house during the incident.

Deputies arrived around 9:30 a.m. at Artest's five-acre estate in the Sacramento suburb of Loomis and arrested him on

suspicion of domestic violence, sheriff's spokeswoman Dena Erwin said. He also was arrested on suspicion of using force or violence to prevent the woman from reporting a crime. "He was very cooperative," Scott said of Artest, found sitting calmly outside the home. "He gave no problems to any of the officers on scene."

Artest, the central figure of the infamous 2004 brawl between Indiana Pacers players and Detroit Pistons fans, was booked into the Placer County Jail and released later on \$50,000 bail. His arraignment is scheduled for March 22.

Sheriff's deputies have been called to Artest's home at least once before, but there were no arrests, Erwin said.

Geoff Petrie, the Kings' president of basketball operations, said the team was removing Artest from the team, pending a full investigation.

"The Kings have excused Ron Artest indefinitely from any further participation with the team due to his arrest today for domestic violence," Petrie said in a statement.

Team spokesman Troy Hanson told The Associated Press that Artest had not been

suspended and still was being paid.

An emergency protective order obtained by sheriff's officials prevents Artest from returning to his home or contacting the woman until she can obtain a restraining order. Scott said this was normal procedure.

Sheriff's officials said the woman had injuries but would not describe them. She declined medical treatment.

Artest, who joined the Kings from the Indiana Pacers in January 2006, has had previous run-ins with police.

He was at the center of the Nov. 19, 2004 brawl between Pacers players and Pistons fans at The Palace in Detroit. Just when a confrontation between players seemed to be over, Artest, lying on the scorer's table, was hit with a cup filled with an icy beverage. He bolted into the stands in a rage, followed by fist-swinging teammate Stephen Jackson. Artest and teammate Jermaine O'Neal later slugged fans on the court.

Two days later, Artest was suspended for the rest of the season — 73 games, plus the playoffs — in a move that cost him almost \$5 million.

Artest and Jackson were sentenced to one year of probation and 60 hours of community service after pleading no contest to misdemeanor assault charges. In January, Artest was released from that probation.

Artest has spent nearly 14 months with Sacramento since the Kings acquired him in a blockbuster trade for fan favorite Peja Stojakovic. His short tenure is following a familiar script for the volatile former St. John's star: Initial excitement and outstanding play, followed by disinterest, distractions — and now, more legal trouble.

Last month, county animal control officers seized Artest's Great Dane, Socks, from his home in a gated community about 25 miles northeast of Sacramento. They said the animal wasn't being fed.

Last season, Artest guaranteed the then-struggling Kings would make the playoffs shortly after he arrived, and they surged to the No. 8 seed and an impressive performance in a first-round loss to San Antonio.

Artest's dogged defense and passion fit in well with Sacramento's devoted fans, who adopted him as a community

favorite.

This season hasn't been as easy for Artest, who's averaging 18.7 points and 6.6 rebounds while the Kings struggle at 27-32. Sacramento, which hosts Artest's former Indiana teammates on Tuesday night, has battled poor team chemistry and inconsistent play under new coach Eric Musselman.

Though Artest had been a model teammate in his abbreviated first season, he sparked controversy two months ago by indirectly criticizing Mike Bibby's defense. Artest also missed a handful of games with a knee injury that came as news to the Kings — and last month, he sat out of the Kings' visit to Indiana for undisclosed personal reasons.

The Kings were rumored to be exploring trades for Artest but didn't make a deal at last month's trade deadline.

Now they are stuck with a bigger problem.

Sacramento has won its last three games, with Artest playing well in road victories over Portland and the Los Angeles Lakers — after shaving the word "Kings" into the back of his head.

SPURS

Continued from 1B

nents' shooting percentage down. And that's been the difference. We're getting some good play from our bench. Guys understand their roles, and defensively we're staying solid no matter who's on the floor."

Ginobili, who scored 16 points, noted the Spurs can't get complacent.

"We don't want to get so cocky or so happy about the way we're playing. We really struggled a month ago, so we don't

want to go back there," he said. "We know we're in a good stretch, but we've just got to be humble and keep working, knowing that we're still far away from Dallas and Phoenix and other teams that we want to catch."

The Spurs are 24 games over .500 (42-18), yet still trail the Southwest Division-leading Mavericks by 8 1/2 games. They would be in first place in four of the other five divisions.

"We know Dallas is having an unbelievable season," Ginobili said. "We've just got to give

them credit and try to get better in these next 20 games to have an opportunity to beat them in the playoffs."

The Spurs won handily for the third time in as many games against the Clippers this season, and they did it without Tony Parker, their second-leading scorer with an 18.7 average.

San Antonio's victory was its 12th in the last 13 games against the Clippers, including winning the first two meetings this season by 29 and 22 points.

CAVS

Continued from 1B

1:34 left. But Zydrunas Ilgauskas put back James' missed jumper on the next possession to protect the lead.

Ilgauskas then stole ball from Yao, who fell to the floor in a heap. Hughes tossed an alley-oop to James on the other end and he slammed in it for a 88-82 lead.

Yao, who said he fell on his elbow to avoid landing on his right knee, got up with help from a trainer, hobbled off, but

returned to the game. McGrady responded with a 3-pointer to pull within 88-85 after the Cavaliers twice couldn't grab a rebound.

Hughes hit 3-of-4 free throws in the final 10 sec-

onds, the last two after McGrady missed a tough 3-pointer.

McGrady led Houston with 25 points but struggled, going 10-for-32 and setting a season-high for attempts.

1999 Cadillac Seville STS
Gold/Leather, Automatic, Fully Loaded, MUST SEE!
\$7,950
Free CARFAX In House Financing



700 Auto Sales
2900 E. FM 700 • 267-AUTO (2886)
In House - Bank Financing Available

Voted "Best Roofing Co." in Reader's Choice 2006



WOOD



COMPOSITION

FULLMOON, INC.
Roofing

Between You
And The
Elements

*We Apologize For
Any Inconvenience
Due To Our
Phone Number.*

Better Service
Better Quality
Better Price

PLEASE USE THIS TEMPORARY PHONE NUMBER
263-5478



METAL



TAR

Thank You
INSURED - BONDED
FREE ESTIMATES
Henry Backes

BIG SPRING LITTLE LEAGUE
LAST CHANCE!!!
Late Signups For Baseball



Saturday, March 3rd
9:00 AM To 12:00 PM
Amerikick in Big Spring Mall
264-6180
bsllbaseball.com


CHILDREN 5-16 Who live within Big Spring Little League Boundaries are eligible to enroll. Registration required even if child played previously, at least one parent or legal guardian must be present and an original or state-certified copy of child's birth certificate is required.




Has anyone ever told you about a special event that is **supposed** to be happening, only to find out that the person who told you didn't have all the facts? Call **263-7331** to start you subscription to the **Big Spring Herald** today, and get the scoop on local news and events.

For those people who want to win the battle over Acid Reflux Disease, we'd like to say

"Bravo."



The area's only Bravo pill system is now available at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for the treatment and diagnosis of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (also called GERD). The new Bravo pill procedure allows you to monitor your acid levels without the insertion of tubes or cameras, and without drinking unpleasant barium solution. It's as simple as wearing a pager and as easy as using a TV remote. Talk to your doctor or call 432-263-6018 for more information.



SCENIC MOUNTAIN
MEDICAL CENTER
Caring People, Caring for People

432-263-6018
www.smmccares.com

BIG SPRING
Tuesday, M

Announ

SURPLUS SA
cycling Center
noon until 3 p.
at least 10
vehicles—most
age. Minimum
vehicles. Othe
in the sale: C
chairs, addition
appliances as
other items.

REMEN

B

AIR CO

WARREN I
AIR-
Servicing all
RESIDI
COM
Lori
NATE Certif
Licen
TAX
CALL (4

CO

Chicc
C
(432
(432
Fred Rubio

FR

B & M
COMME
GET OU
FR
BBB
100

HOME

Gibbs
New hor
Roc
Dry Wall F
Ceramic

All Remo
Room
Call

PEST

SOUT
A
C
S
432
2008 |
Ma
www
mmc

Min
1
Fi
3301 E.

CLASSIFIED

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Announcements

SURPLUS SALE @ BSSH Recycling Center on 3-7-07, from noon until 3 p.m. MUST SEE--- at least 10 used state vehicles--most with LOW mileage. Minimum bid required on vehicles. Other items included in the sale: Computers, tables, chairs, additional furniture and appliances as well as many other items.

Business Opportunity

GARDEN CITY AREA ROUTE OPEN VERY GOOD EARNINGS!
Afternoon delivery
6 days a week!
Reliable transportation & insurance a must.

For more info call **Duane McCollum** or come by **710 Scurry BIG SPRING HERALD (432)263-7331**

Cemetery Lots

CEMETERY LOTS. Payment plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$50.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

DIRECT CREMATION \$695.00. Monarch Cremation Society. Pre-need or at need. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-714-4808.

SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$ on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

Educational

SOUTHEASTERN CAREER INSTITUTE Midland Campus
Act now for career training from Southeastern Career Institute - Midland.

Train in:
• Computer Business Systems
• Dental Assistant
• Medical Assistant
• Medical Office Specialist
1-800-497-1557
www.scinow6.com
4320 W. Illinois Avenue, Suite A, Midland, TX 79703

Help Wanted

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

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

Help Wanted

A PROGRESSIVE growth oriented company is seeking applicants for a turn around job in Big Spring, TX. Applicants needed: Filter/welders Skilled hands (Must be able to climb heights and do rigging) Forklift operator Helpers Supervisors Day and Night shift Please send resumes to: Fax 337-836-0899 or Email: Berthad@smicompanies.com

REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

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

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



AIR CONDITIONING

WARREN REFRIGERATION
AIR-HEAT-ICE
Servicing all Makes and Models
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
Loran Warren
NATE Certified Service Technician
Licensed and Insured
TACLA263537C
CALL (432) 263-5144

AUTO CARE

G & M Auto Care
Locally Owned & Operated
Service 1972
263-1091
George & Mary
906 E. 3rd St. Big Spring

AUTO PARTS

A Modern Auto Dismantler
WESTEX
Since 1947
• 14 Acres of dismantled vehicles
• 20,000 sq ft of Warehouse storage
• Specialize in late model quality auto parts
• Foreign and domestic parts for cars, trucks, mini-vans, 4x4 and sports utility vehicles
Hrs. 8 a.m.-5:30 Wk/day 8 a.m.-12 p.m. SAT
1511 Hwy 350 • (432) 263-5000

BED LINERS

C & D Truck Accessories
2706 N. HWY 87
432-263-3600
Rhino Linings
THE SPRAYED-ON LINER

CARPET

Teal Carpets
• Ceramic Tile
• Laminated
• Wood
• Vinyl
• Carpet
We carry all your carpet supplies
2810 E. FM 700 • 268-0008

CONCRETE

MARQUEZ FENCE CO.
All types of fences, tile fence & repairs.
Concrete work, carports, stucco work
All work guaranteed.
Free Estimates
Benny Marquez-Owner
267-5714

CONCRETE

STUCCO DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS BLOCK FENCES
Chico and Sons Concrete
(432) 466-0573
(432) 816-6561
621 Sgt. Paredez
Big Spring, TX 79720

CONCRETE

All Types Concrete Work
Block & Brick Repair
Trenching & Tractor Service
Campbell Concrete Contractors
Call-Tommy Campbell
Concrete Contractor
(432) 466-0623
(432) 935-3644
2006 Runnels
Big Spring, TX 79720

GARAGE SALE

HAVING A GARAGE SALE
CALL 263-7331
Herald Classifieds
BIG SPRING HERALD

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

ESTATE SALES

VICTORIA'S ESTATE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Vicki Dahmer
Anna Briscoe
30 Years Experience Honored
206 S. Main St
Big Spring, Texas
(432) 264-8048 (432) 816-5988
vdahmer@suddenlinkmail.com

FENCES

Quality Fence Co.
Jimmy Marquez-Owner
Finest In Fencing
Wood & Chainlink
Free Estimates
432-267-3349

FENCES

CHARLINK METAL • CEDAR DOG KENNELS ORNAMENTAL IRON
B & M Fence Co.
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE
FREE ESTIMATES
ROBERT MARQUEZ
263-1613 •
1-800-525-1389
1006 Lomaso Hwy • Big Spring

HEATING & AC

Crossroad Refrigeration
Air Conditioning, Heating & Ice Machines
We service all makes and models!
Call: (432) 270-0501
24 Hour Service
TACLA26711R

HEATING & AC

JOHNSON AC, HEATING & SHEET METAL
• Servicing all heaters central & wall
• Duct work - all sheet metal work
• Registers & Grills
We Carry All Heating Parts & Filters, Belts
1408 E. 4th 263-2980

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/ GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS
Home Repair • Carpentry
Sheet Work
Repaired/Replaced
Kitchen & Bath
BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK
409 E. 3RD 267-5811

HOME IMPROVEMENT

RS HOME REPAIR
Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical
FREE ESTIMATES
Garage door repair, Appliances in place
267-3030

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Day & Day Builders
Custom Building • Remodeling • Roofing
Tile • Garage Doors • Cabinets
Vinyl Siding
D. W. Day (432) 457-2289
Cell (432) 270-8783
Dennis Day (432) 816-5080
Box 266
108 West 7th
Forsan, TX 79733

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Gibbs Remodeling
New home Construction • Room Additions
Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing
Ceramic Tile • Installation & Repair
All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home.
Call 263-8285

SUBSCRIPTION

SUBSCRIBE TO THE PAPER
CALL 263-7331
Herald Classifieds
BIG SPRING HERALD

JANITORIAL

BREATHE-EZ CLEANING SERVICE
Chimneys, Carpets, Air Ducts, Maids, Make Ready's And More.
Now Offering Security Products, Stun Guns, Mace, Alarms & Much More.
432-353-4849

LAWN SERVICE

Tree Trimming Roto-Tilling Hydro-Seeding
Call Gary Lee
432-264-0299

LAWN SERVICE

MOWING, ALLEYS TILLING, TREE TRIMMING LIGHT HAULING
CALL **267-5460**
CELL **816-6150**
Scoggin Lawn Service

NAIL SALON

Pro Spa Nail Salon
Pedicure: \$21.99
Manicure: \$11.99
Full Set: \$20.00 & up
Refill: \$13.99 & up
SPECIAL Solar Nails: \$29.00
111 E. Marcy Dr. Ste 110 (432) 263-6745

PEST CONTROL

SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL
Since 1954
432-263-6514
2008 Birdwell Lane
Max F. Moore
www.swa1pc.com
mm@swa1pc.com

PLUMBING

ADVANCE PLUMBING
All your plumbing needs Commercial & Residential
• Licensed
• Bonded
• Insured
M-37359
263-4973 or 517-0751

RENTALS

VENTURA COMPANY
432-267-2655
Houses • Storages Commercial Buildings For rent/sale
610 E. 12th
1003, 1011 E. 11th

REPAIRS

Sewing Machine Guy Steve
REPAIR AND SERVICE
ALL MAKES & MODELS
(432) 935-6380
All Work Guaranteed

RESALE SHOP

TRADING POST
• BUY-SELL-TRADE •
• Appliances • Jewelry
• Clothing • Collectibles
• Toys • Furniture
• Kitchenware • Electronics
611 E. 3rd 432-264-1692

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel.
All type of repairs!
Work Guaranteed.
Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs!
Free Estimates!!
Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.
267-1110

STORAGE

AAA Mini-Storage
1/2 Off First Month
No Deposit
Now Accepting Visa & Mastercard
3301 E. FM 700 263-0732

TAX SERVICES

FAST CASH
On Income Tax Refund Refund Loan Within 24 Hrs.
TAX ASSOCIATES
406 Runnels
Marsa From Big Spring Mart
CALL **(432) 264-6134**
"So Habla Espanol"
With RAL Approval

TREE TRIMMING

LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING
More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal.
Call **Lupe Villalpando 432-268-6406**

VIDEO PRODUCTION

BAKER VIDEO PRODUCTIONS
MAKING MEMORIES LAST
Commercials Informercials & Court Depositions
VCR, Pictures, Slides & Film Transfers
Photo Montage & Tribute DVDs
206 S. Main St.
Big Spring, Texas
(432) 263-5500

WINDOW TINT

C & D Truck Accessories
2706 N. HWY 87
432-263-3600
Solar Gaurd Window Tint
5 year limited warranty

YOUR AD

PUT YOUR AD HERE
CALL 263-7331
Herald Classifieds
BIG SPRING HERALD

su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom
ANSWERS

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

Legals
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
To: UNKNOWN FATHER, Respondent
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 118th District Court, Howard County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Big Spring, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 14TH DAY OF JUNE, 2004, against UNKNOWN FATHER, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 44856 on the docket of said Court and entitled "In the Interest, of Q BEN LEWIS, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request for protection of a child, for conservatorship, and for termination in suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Maybe you didn't quite make a deadline. Maybe someone ate your homework or paperwork and this is preventing you from moving forward. Or maybe your hair just isn't acting right. It's the final day of Mercury's current retrograde, so if you have something you'd like to blame on the stars, here is your last chance for a while.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Anyone can love you when you're in a good mood. But you want someone to love you when you're moody, complex and reactive. Declare it "support system appreciation day."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As different as you feel from that person standing in line behind you, sitting in the cubical in front of you or driving next to you in traffic, there is much that we all share. Remembering this brings small miracles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Less information is more. You're extremely powerful when you say about half of what you want to say, keep your written correspondence brief and, in most endeavors, stay cordial and professional.

CANCER (June 22-July

22). You're susceptible to persuasion — good for you. It's so much more interesting to entertain different points of view. Also, tonight you're enticed by that which seems simultaneously strange and familiar.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You want to become more powerful, but you mistrust those who are in the position you'd like to inhabit. You won't grow into what you criticize. Figure out what others are doing right, and focus on that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're brilliantly unique, and others can't figure you out. It's as if, of all the billions and billions of life forms on the earth, you're the very strangest. Don't bother trying to explain yourself. A wink will do just fine.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The key to a stress-free, pleasant day is in the preparation. Take the time to plan, and you're a hit everywhere you go. A Pisces person is a fabulous addition to your team.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An unexpected encounter causes an emotional jolt. You're able to remain detached, though — and amused at your own response to this surprise. It'll take time to process.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Keep your loved ones guessing. Leave funny, cryptic or mysterious and strategically placed notes. Fix an

inspired and never-before-attempted meal. Your spontaneity is irresistible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Wanting more money is different from not wanting to be broke. Even though this difference may seem subtle, it's actually profound. Keep thinking about what you do want and ignoring what you don't.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're in a shopping mood, and what you're shopping for is a pleasing future. Once you lock your gaze on a juicy slice of your destiny, you're going to have it no matter what — even if you have to make it yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It feels as though everything hangs on someone who can either say "yes" or "no." Of course, everything really hangs on your reaction to their answer. For this reason, be slow to respond.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "How does astrology relate to dreams? I had a dream last night that I was trying to cut a funny man down from a tree from which he was hanging upside down. I'm a Pisces. What does it mean to my sign to dream this?"

Astrology and dreams both draw from what Carl Jung termed "the collective unconscious." Let's call it the "C.U." Jung said it was part of the unconscious mind that we as a society share — a collection of ancestral knowledge containing ideas

relating to science, religion, morality and higher aspects of the mind. I like to think of it as a cosmic river streaming just above our heads. I imagine it swirling with psychedelic colors, characters and concepts, gods and monsters, solutions and questions. It relates to astrology because the story of the signs and the planets are also floating in this river. The planetary ruler of the C.U. is Neptune, and he is also the planetary ruler of Pisces. So you may be especially drawn to studying and experiencing the C.U. It may interest you to know that your dream of a "hanged man" relates to the number 12 in Tarot cards, which is also the number of Pisces. Perhaps you are feeling suspended between heaven and earth in your quest for your spiritual destiny.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jeff "Ja Rule" Atkins is a chart-topping force in hip-hop. Though he's a Pisces water sign, Atkins has a hefty amount of air-sign influence in his birth chart, with all three air signs represented. This quick, bright energy shows he's extremely sharp-witted and would probably speak well about his beliefs in other forums outside the world of rap. He could even be a college lecturer in his senior years.

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. To find out more about Holiday Mathis, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Legals
Advertisement for Sealed Proposals
The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting proposals for the following:
RFB# 07-002 Roping Calves
RFB# 07-003 WTTT Internet Upgrades
Documents may be obtained from Chris Olson, Purchaser, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2007, in the Practical Arts Building, room 105 A, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the proposals submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting. All questions should be directed to Chris Olson, Purchaser, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail olson@howardcollege.edu, (432)264-5167. Howard College Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #5265 February 27 & March 6, 2007

GARAGE SALES

Hidden treasures? Junk?
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7331 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

Corner of Birdwell a & FM 700 **Jimmy Hopper Auto Sales** **Financing Available 267-5588**
All Cars Come with A 3 Month/4,500 Mile Warranty

 2002 Dodge Intrepid Se \$6,950	 1997 Cadillac Seville SLS \$7,950	 2003 Ford Explorer Sports \$12,900	 2003 Ford Windstar LX 4-DR \$9,950
--	---	---	--



There Is A Reason We Have Had The Best-Selling Truck For Over 30 Years

Dependability, Comfort, Style, Durability

0% APR For 5 Years

 <p>2006 Ford F150 4X4 Supercrew XLT Pkg. Trailer Tow - 6 CD - Chrome Pkg.</p> <p>MSRP.....\$38,960 Customer Cash.....\$4,500 Brock Discount.....\$4,465</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">Now \$29,995</p>	 <p>2007 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR Comfort Group - Appearance Pkg. Third Row Power Fold</p> <p>MSRP.....\$29,985 Customer Cash.....\$1,000 Brock Discount.....\$1,390</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">Now \$27,595</p>	 <p>2007 Ford Ranger XLT Supercab Power Equipment - CD - Chrome Pkg. Cruise</p> <p>MSRP.....\$22,150 Customer Cash.....\$1,000 Brock Discount.....\$1,155</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">Now \$19,995</p>
--	---	---

(1) Ask Us About \$1,000 Matching Cash Thru Ford Credit



Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan

500 W. 4th 267-7424

10 el- tor di- 50. call or if. ed- ge No 00. 1 se atio ner 83. ick ent. edit ath, ool, four tem, ced. Call rive, om, ched q. ft. Call rome. 1804 loyd, yerry, rt of (432) avail- Three one nthly. room, icious Call WHO JANS EDIT, EM- L.D. IORT- RTY- loth 2 l 2 car ncome Please 5:00 \$4000 from. Tough from %. Call o a list id. ed home. ld like nytime. Call of Re- x it. 17 e mes- answer 001 Buy Listings Runner th gray 67,000 ion. Call via Lim- \$21,950. Models m mts! Ford 7-7-121 NTS Y DEP. 4-104

TUESDAY

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLN, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 24 rows representing different time slots (6:30 AM to 12:30 AM) with program listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'LL BET THE TOOTH FAIRY WOULD GO BROKE WITH THIS GUY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! There's a bird knocking at the door. Shall I let him in?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 6, the 65th day of 2007. There are 300 days left in the year Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred and fifty years ago, on March 6, 1857, the United States Supreme Court ruled in Dred Scott v. Sandford that Scott, a slave, was not a U.S. citizen and could not sue for his freedom in federal court. In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto. In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio fell to Mexican forces after a 13-day siege. In 1853, Verdi's opera "La Traviata" premiered in Venice, Italy. In 1933, a nationwide bank holiday declared by President Roosevelt went into effect. In 1935, retired Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. died in

Washington. In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II. In 1957, the former British African colonies of the Gold Coast and Togoland became the independent state of Ghana. In 1967, the daughter of Josef Stalin, Svetlana Alliluyeva, appeared at the U.S. Embassy in India and announced her intention to defect to the West. In 1987, 193 people died when the British ferry Herald of Free Enterprise capsized off the Belgian port of Zeebrugge.

Birthdays: Orchestra conductor Julius Rudel is 86. TV personality Ed McMahon is 84. Former FBI and CIA director William Webster is 83. Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is 81. Author Gabriel Garcia Marquez is 79. Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova is 70. Country singer Doug Dillard is 70. Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., is 68. Actress-writer Joanna Miles is 67. Actor Ben

Murphy is 65. Opera singer Dame Kiri Te Kanawa is 63. Singer Mary Wilson (The Supremes) is 63. Rock musician Hugh Grundy (The Zombies) is 62. Rock singer-musician David Gilmour (Pink Floyd) is 61. Actor-director Rob Reiner is 60. Singer Kiki Dee is 60. Rock singer-musician Phil Alvin (The Blasters) is 54. Actor Tom Arnold is 48. Actor D.L. Hughley is 43. Country songwriter Skip Ewing is 43. Actress Yvette Wilson is 43. Actor Shuler Hensley is 40. Actress Connie Britton is 39. Actress Moira Kelly is 39. Actress Amy Pietz is 38. Basketball player Shaquille O'Neal is 35.

© 2007 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid for crossword puzzle answers with words like GIFTY, DATED, SHAY, ORIO, ELEGY, FILL, ALES, FINGERMAIL, LEAS, EAT, EASEL, GOING, STAT, AROUND, AIRPORT, PELTS, ASTO, HARE, ELL, ONSET, TIM, DIAL, ADES, PATTY, CRICKET, ROLLER, KISS, MAPLE, CRUET, SITT, ETAL, PENNY, PINCH, ARLO, AIDE, ADORE, RAMS, SNOW, LABOR, SPALS.

Newsday Crossword

IT'S MAGIC by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 West-coast sch. 5 Chatters 9 Something extra 14 Fly high 15 Skeptic's remark 16 Run amok 17 Actress Thompson 18 Greek cheese 19 White marsh bird 20 TV antenna, slangily 23 Army leaders: Abbr. 24 ___ and outs 25 Your, to a Quaker 27 Inhalations and exhalations 31 Outfielder's catch 35 "Eureka!" 36 Beetle Bailey dog 38 Opera diva Callas 39 Secret-message liquid 43 Foe 44 Peach centers 45 Take a look at 46 Vends again 48 Increases one's speed 51 Coffee alternative 52 Sheep sound 53 Till contents 56 Work effectively 63 Follows instructions 65 Become well 66 French author Emile

DOWN

- 1 Software buyer 2 Deep sleep 3 Ram's child 4 Saudi ___ (Mideast nation) 5 Museum emporium 6 Busy as ___ 7 Alpha follower 8 Lead performer 9 Mature, as cheese

- 10 Restaurant take-home holder 11 Take a chance 12 Unwrap 13 Butterfly catchers 21 Savings-acct. posting 22 City in Mo. 26 Religious song 27 Justice Ruth ___ Ginsburg 28 German river 29 Makes simpler 30 Dance moves 31 Back and ___ 32 Come to pass 33 Tablecloth material 34 Canoeing spots 37 Skater Babilonia

- 40 Violet gem 41 Jim Nabors TV role 42 Columbus' queen 47 Young fellow 49 Matinee day: Abbr. 50 Fictional ape-man 53 Price 54 Well qualified 55 Caribbean and Bering 57 Cry of dread 58 Furniture wood 59 Barber's concern 60 Dubuque locale 61 Horse-hoof sound 62 Type of cabbage 64 Timid

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-72 indicating starting points for clues.