

Our Town
Little Theatre
stages popular
production

Page F1



Dirt roads
They all had
their own
personalities

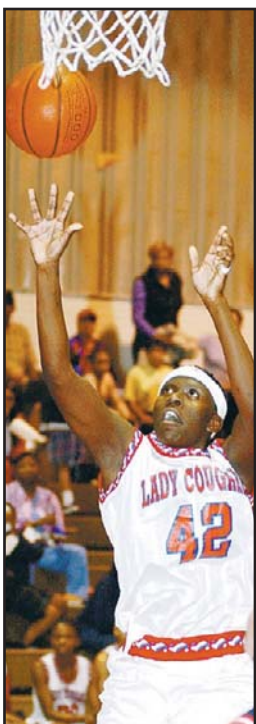
Page E1



Sweet
wins

LC-Boston,
LaGrange,
St. Louis
advance
in girls
playoffs

Page C1



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2003

American Press

ALLEN ■ BEAUREGARD ■ CALCASIEU ■ CAMERON ■ JEFF DAVIS ■ VERNON

★★★ No. 39,790 6 Sections www.americanpress.com Lake Charles, Louisiana 50 Cents

Two Alexandria policeman killed in shootout

ALEXANDRIA (AP) — A gunman ambushed a police SWAT team as they approached a house with a search warrant Thursday, killing two officers and wounding three others. In the ensuing two-hour gun battle, the gunman was also killed.

Capt. Thomas Cardwell said the victims were the first police officers killed by gunfire in the city in 40 years.

Names of the victims were not made public. The three officers were reported in stable condition.

Assistant Chief Gary Moore did not release the gunman's name, but said he was wanted by probation and parole officers. He said the SWAT team was searching for a man wanted for ambushing another officer after a false robbery report earlier in the week.

That officer escaped injury, although 20 shots were fired into his police cruiser. It happened about five blocks from this shooting.

Cardwell estimated 500 shots were exchanged.

"With gunfire like that in the city, it's just unbelievable, unbelievable," Moore said. "I've been here 33 years and I've never heard that volume of gunfire."

The shooting took place in a neighborhood called the Sonya Quarters, south of downtown. It is an area of modest one-story frame houses where Cardwell said gunfire and drug dealing are common.

"He was lying in wait and he opened up," Cardwell said. "An untold number of rounds were fired."

He said officers used tear

See **KILLED**, Page A3

Americans
frying
French

Miffed by France's position on Iraq, Americans bash, boycott U.S. ally

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Mon dieu, how some Americans are bashing the French these days.

Americans galled by France's reluctance to endorse an invasion of Iraq are boycotting French wine and french fries and trading jokes and insults about all things Gallic.

A Las Vegas radio station Tuesday used an armored vehicle to crush photographs of French President Jacques Chirac, photocopies of the French flag, a Paris travel guide, bottles of wine and a loaf of French bread.

In Beaufort, N.C., one restaurant owner took french fries off his menu and replaced them with "freedom fries."

In West Palm Beach, Fla., bar owner Ken Wagner dumped his entire stock of French wine and champagne into the street, vowing to serve vintages only from nations that support U.S. policy.

And Palm Beach County Commissioner Burt Aaronson said he would try to block a subsidiary of the French conglomerate Vivendi from getting a \$25 million government contract to build a sludge treatment plant.

"France's attitude toward the United States is deplorable. I don't want to have any French companies earning dollars from American interests," the 75-year-old Aaronson said. "We've left thousands of our men and women over in France, underground. It's quite possible that if we didn't send our troops there, the French people would all be speaking German."

France is far from alone in pushing for a delay in mili-

prices have increased just 14 cents over the same period of time, some consumers suspect oil companies are trying to cash in on market uncertainties.

"I think it's just an excuse to raise prices," said Corina Alba, 22, of Anaheim, Calif.

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., called on the Federal Trade Commission this week to investigate industry practices. In a letter to FTC chairman Timothy Muris, the senator said: "It appears as if price gouging is taking place across the country."

The American Automobile Association supports Schumer's request, but stopped short of using the

See **GAS**, Page A3

DISHING OUT LEARNING

BRIAN OLANDER / AMERICAN PRESS

Recipes and lessons

Ralph Clifton Reynaud Community Learning Center's Boys of the After School Program served up a soul food meal Thursday to teachers, parents and students. The project, initiated by Activities Coordinator Chester Lee Moses featured a menu of gumbo, fried chicken, mustard greens and corn bread, among other items. Moses said the goals of the project included incorporating life skills such as reading, math and teamwork into a fun after-school activity.

Bush administration plans to present new resolution to U.N. Security Council

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration and its closest ally, Britain, are planning to present a new resolution to the U.N. Security Council on Monday in a bid for support to use force to disarm Iraq.

Finishing touches were being put on the resolution on Thursday. Adoption is by no means assured. A majority of the 15 council members are opposed to war at least until U.N. weapons inspectors report in mid-March.

Secretary of State Colin Powell said a headcount was "academic" because the resolution demanding Iraqi disarmament had not been put forward.

Powell, who is due to fly to Japan on Friday for the start of a five-day Asia trip, juggled resolution diplomacy with stressful negotiations with Turkey, a potential key ally in any war.

Turkey is balking at U.S. terms for an economic aid package. Powell, who interceded on Wednesday with Prime Minister Abdullah Gul, said he had told the Turkish leader "our position was firm with respect to the kind of assistance we could provide."

However, Powell said, "there may be some other creative things we can do."

As for the expected U.N. resolution, the Bush administration sees little value in extending inspections and much to worry about in Iraq's connection to al-Qaida and other terror groups.

One U.S. official said the projected day for presenting the resolution was Monday but that it could slip a day or two.

Meanwhile, Iraq allowed another flight by an American U-2 surveillance plane Thursday as President Saddam Hussein's government sought to convince the world that it is cooperating with the weapons inspectors.

It was the second flight this week by a U-2 in support of the U.N. inspection program. The Iraqi Foreign Ministry said the plane spent six hours and 20 minutes over Iraq's territory.

In New York, a U.N. spokesman said Iraq had submitted a list of 83 people involved in the destruction of banned weapons in response to a demand by chief weapons inspector Hans Blix.

Meanwhile, four U.S. military transport planes carrying troops and equipment landed near Romania's Black Sea coast Thursday night, airport officials said, in what appeared to be the start of a new stage of the buildup of forces against Iraq.

The planes carried some 250 troops, as well as equipment and food.

Local residents should brace themselves for severe weather today, Feb. 21, according to the National Weather Service in Lake Charles.

The weather service believes there's a possibility for tornados and wind gusts up to 75 mph during the afternoon and evening hours.

Forecasters say widespread showers and thunderstorms will occur early Friday morning, but severe weather will threaten the area later in the day. Chances of tornados will extend through the evening hours.

Southwest Louisiana should feel the brunt of the storm during the afternoon hours, according to local forecasters.

The National Weather Service of Lake Charles warns people to be prepared for tornados.

Here's a few tips:

- Find a safer location than a mobile home, even if it is tied down. The high winds of a tornado can get under the mobile home and lift it into the air.
- In a strong sturdy building, stay away from windows. The best location is somewhere in the interior section of the building, like a hall closet or bathroom with no windows.
- Cover your head. You can survive a broken arm, or leg. Severe head injuries are the No. 1 cause of death in tornados.

Gas prices
up like it's
summer

Increases have motorists grumbling about gouging

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The middle of winter looks more like the heart of summer at gas stations nationwide, as fuel prices surge past \$2 a gallon in some places and motorists grumble about being gouged.

Political instability in Venezuela and the prospect of war in Iraq are triggering price hikes that normally don't kick in until the peak driving season. And experts warn prices could shoot up even more as the political situations and the weather heat up.

The average retail price for a gallon of regular unleaded, \$1.66, has risen 22 cents since the beginning of the year.

But because wholesale gas

Weather service: 75 mph wind gusts possible in Southwest La. today

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<p>Accepting SULFUR-DIOXIDE CLAIMS Call For Papers & To Schedule A Doctor's Appt. HARDY PARKERSON Attorney At Law 3309 Common 478-6126</p>	<p>FRIDAY NIGHT \$500 Cash Giveaway LUCKY STAR CASINO Located At Hwy 171 & Joe Miller Road LA Problem Gamblers Hotline 1-877-770-7867</p>	<p>CRAWFISH CRAWFISH Live Or Boiled Best In Town JT'S SEAFOOD 2908 Lake 478-1964</p>	<p>CRAWFISH Live- \$1.19/Lb. Boiled- \$1.99/Lb. While Supplies Last MARKET BASKET 2120 Country Club Rd. 477-4868</p>	<p>THE STORE Propane Sale \$1.00 Off Each Bottle Offer Good Fri-Sun With This Coupon 3558 Hwy 27 North 527-3940 1 Mile North Of Houston River Road</p>	<p>MARY MARGARET Buy 1 Sale Item, Get 2nd Item 1/2 Off Sale Price! (Excludes Mardi Gras Gowns) 50% - 75% Off Mardi Gras 3101 Ernest 310-1555</p>	<p>INSIDE Classified D1-D7 Comics E5 Crossword E6 Deaths A2 Entertainment E2 50 Years Ago E6</p>	<p>Financial E3-E4 Life E2 Metro/State B1-B5 Opinion A4 Sports C1-C5 Television E6</p>
<p>6 56343 00050 6</p>	<p>Bridal Seminar Sunday, Feb. 23, 1-5 pm Treasures of Marilyn's Great Prizes Call For Reservations 477-3553</p>	<p>SOILEAU ANIMAL CLINIC Closed As Of Feb. 14th Call (318)335-3814 With Questions About Your Records</p>	<p>Gillis Archery & Outdoors Going Out Of Business Last Chance Everything At Or Below Cost Friday & Saturday 9 AM-Til 217-BOWS</p>	<p>GAMBLING PROBLEMS? We Offer Effective, Confidential Treatment FREE Of Charge Please Call The McNeese Psychology Dept. At 475-5462 or 475-5457 By Friday, Feb. 21, 2003</p>	<p>PAIN MANAGEMENT For Back, Neck, Headaches & Car Accidents STEPHEN C. AYERS, M.D. Open Saturdays 477-8130</p>	<p>Now Serving Boiled Crawfish Thur., Fri., Sat., 4 PM-Til \$2.59 Lb. Gillis Grocery 4199 Hwy 171 855-4805</p>	<p>KREWE DE LA FAMILLE'S "Hooray For USA" Annual Mardi Gras Ball Saturday, Feb. 22, 7PM-9PM Civic Center Coliseum \$5.00 Per Balcony Seat Tickets Available At Mam'selle, Joseph's Electric, Party Time Store Benefit US Naval Sea Cadets</p>

OBITUARIES

Geovonnie C. Allen
Joan M. Coleman
Ray J. Davidson
Harry K. Drake
Thomas L. Hackett
Linda Ray Hughes
Brawner F. “Rocky” Lain
Mary Belle Lampkin
Satisfiel Landry
Willie Ray “Hog” Leveige
Rev. John C. Littleton
Norton O’Brien
Esther Agen Quinn
H.B. Sartor
Ricky E. Sinegal
Ezolia Thomas
Willie L. Williams

Geovonnie C. Allen
KINDER — Geovonnie Chenovie Allen, 22, died at 8 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, 2003, in Fenton.
She was born in Lake Charles. She was a member of Progressive Church of God in Christ of Oberlin. She was a graduate of Oberlin High School; Delta School of Business and Technology — as a medical assistant; and Louisiana Technical College/ Sowela Campus. She was a medical assistant and aide for Preferred Living in Oberlin, and she was a substitute teacher for Head Start.
Survivors include one son, Antoine Allen of Oberlin; three brothers, Kelvin and Jeremy Mouton of Gueydan and Dorell Mouton of Welsh; five sisters, Kayla Mouton of Gueydan, Jerlyn Robinson of Crowley, Taymra Lee of Kinder, and Ashley Lee and Ivy Lee, both of Oberlin; her mother, Deborah Ann Lee of Oberlin; stepfather Albert Lee of Oberlin; maternal grandparents Estella and Mose Allen of Oberlin; and paternal grandmother Credell Manuel of Jennings.
Her funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Progressive Church of God in Christ. The Rev. Dallas Thomas will officiate. Burial will be in St. John Cemetery under the direction of Thompson Funeral Home of Oakdale. Visitation is from 9 a.m. Saturday in the church.

Joan M. Coleman
FAIR OAKS, Calif. — Joan M. Herrington Coleman, 70, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, in a Roseville hospital.
She was a native of Lake Charles and graduate of LaGrange High School. She lived most of her life in Fair Oaks.
Survivors include four children, David Carruthers III, Linda Jackson, Carolyn Carpenter and James Cruthers; two sisters, Juanita Poe of Westlake and Joyce Hall of Upland, Calif.; and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey Coleman.
A memorial service was held Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Shakewood Park Recreation Center.

Ray J. Davidson
NEW IBERIA — Ray Joseph Davidson, 71, died at 2:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, in New Iberia Manor Nursing Home.
He was a native of Abbeville. He was a retired Entex division chief clerk. He served in the Air Force in the Korean War. He was a member of American Legion Post 401 and was a life member of VFW Post 1982.
He is survived by one brother, Daniel Davidson and wife Vanessa of Cameron; one sister, Doris Eldridge and husband Aubrey of Lake Charles; one aunt, Lucy Featherston of Jeanerette; one uncle, William Garber of La Mesa, Calif.; several nieces and nephews; and a host of really good friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Marie Garber Davidson III, and by one sister, Ruby Dell.
His funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, from Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church. The Rev. Mike Arnaud will officiate. Burial will be in Beau Pre Cemetery, with a military service by the VFW Post 1982 honor guard. Arrangements are by Evangeline Funeral Home.

Harry K. Drake
DERIDDER — Harry K. Drake, 78, died at 11:52 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, in an Alexandria hospital.
His funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, from St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial will be in Lewis Cemetery under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral Home of DeRidder.

Thomas L. Hackett
WELLS, Maine — Thomas L. Hackett, 82, of Mildram Road, died of cancer Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, in his home.
Mr. Hackett was born in Bell City, and he spent his early years as a cowboy, rancher and farmer. He served as a navigator on the European and Pacific fronts in World War II. He went on to spend 25 years in the Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1966. In 1967, he and his wife, Jeannette, founded The Farm Antiques and built it into a thriving business, specializing in 18th- and 19th-century English furniture and accessories. He loved studying, restoring and selling fine antiques in an elegant setting. His passion for gardening was exhibited in the beautifully landscaped grounds of his home and antiques shop, and he could often be found with hoe in hand edging flower beds and talking with passers-by about the fine points of horticulture or antiques. He recently completed three volumes of tales and reminiscences, including a history of The Farm and its founding, stories of his boyhood years on the Gulf coast of Louisiana, and stories from his Air Force career.
He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jeannette; two sons, Michael Hackett of Marysville, Calif., and Sam Hackett of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a daughter, Hannah Crouthamel of Wells; two brothers and a sister, Robert, Charles and Wanda Hackett, all of Louisiana; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.
In lieu of flowers, send contributions to Southern Maine Health and Homecare Services, P.O. Box 739, Kennebunk, ME 04043. Arrangements are by Bibber Memorial Chapel, 111 Chapel Road, Wells, ME.

Linda Ray Hughes
Linda Ray “Midge” Hughes, 53, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, in a local hospital.
She was a lifelong resident of Lake Charles. She was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. She worked for Lake Charles Memorial Hospital, Vanchiere’s Catering, LeBlanc Cafe and Louis Drive Inn. She also worked for Muller’s for many years, and she worked as an insurance agent and as a sports writer for the *Lake Charles American Press*.
Survivors include one daughter, Martha Hughes of Lake Charles; one brother, Al (Veronica) Hughes of Lake Charles; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alex and Martha Fairfax Hughes.
Her funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, from Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. The Rev. Alphonse Volpe will officiate. Burial will be in Combre Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of King’s Funeral Home. Visitation is 8-10:30 a.m. Saturday in the funeral home, with a rosary at 9:30 a.m.

LOTTERY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Here are the winning numbers selected Thursday in the Louisiana Lottery:

Pick 3

2-5-5

Maximum prize \$500

Pick 4

2-7-1-1

Maximum prizap2003-02-21-a02-obit.corre

Brawner F. “Rocky” Lain
Brawner Frank “Rocky” Lain, 80, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, in his residence.
Born in Herbine, Ark., he lived most of his life in Lake Charles. A World War II veteran, he served in the Navy and the Air Force. He retired from the transportation service industry after more than 25 years.
Survivors include his life partner, Lelia “Tutsie” Richard Stansbury; her two sons, Robert Stansbury and Richard Long; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Bobbye Ruth Snell of Winter Park, Fla., and Shirley Newman of North Carolina.
He wished his body donated to the LSU Medical Center in New Orleans. His family and friends will miss him, and they ask that he be remembered in your prayers.

Mary Belle Lampkin
Mary Belle Lampkin, 76, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2003.
She was a native of Longville, and she had lived in Lake Charles for 64 years. She was a member of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, where she was a member of Mission 2 and Sunday school.
Survivors include three sons, Theodore Lampkin Jr. of Inglewood, Calif., Jesse W. Mayo of Colorado Springs, Colo., and James C. Mayo Sr. of Lake Charles; three daughters, Jackie Thurston, Nelda Broussard and Joslyn August, all of Lake Charles; one brother, retired Col. Anthony J. Polk of Manassas, Va.; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Theodore Lampkin Sr.; three brothers, Richard C. Mayo, Eddie Lee Mayo and Bobbie Neal Mayo Sr.; and her parents, Edolia and Sam Mayo.
Her funeral will be at noon Saturday, Feb. 22, in Mount Calvary Baptist Church. The Rev. Elmore Garner will officiate. Burial will be in Combre Memorial Park under the direction of Combre Funeral Home. Visitation is from 10 a.m. Saturday in the church.

Satisfiel Landry
Satisfiel Landry, 96, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, in a local hospital.
He was a native of New Iberia, and he was a longtime resident of Lake Charles. He was a deputy with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff’s Office under the late Ham Reid and under Wayne McElveen. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and he was a member of Masonic Temple Golden Chain Lodge 103.
Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Beanna Landry of Lake Charles; one daughter, Joyce Easton of Lake Charles; two stepdaughters, Brenda Mouton of Alexandria and Linda Ann Smith of Baytown, Texas; one son, Michael Thomas of Eunice; one stepson, Cleven Miller of Westlake; 29 grandchildren; 58 great-grandchildren; 34 great-great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-great-grandchildren.
His funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, from Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The Rev. Henry Mancuso will officiate. Entombment will be in Sacred Heart Mausoleum under the direction of Combre Funeral Home. Visitation is 5-9 p.m. today in the funeral home, with a rosary at 6 p.m.

FOR THE RECORD
Ernest C. Cezair, 24, convicted of drug charges in 14th Judicial District Court, does not live at 1209 Giovanni St. — the address he gave police — according to the property owner.

Willie Ray “Hog” Leveige
Willie Ray “Hog” Leveige, 54, died Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, in his residence.
He was a lifelong resident of Lake Charles. He was a member of Mount Calvary Baptist Church. He was a longtime employee of Atlas Moving and Storage.
Survivors include three brothers, Eddie Lee Leveige Sr. and Hamilton Leveige Jr., both of Lake Charles, and Bobby Lewis Leveige of Houston; two sisters, Bobbie Jean Leveige Haley of Lake Charles and Rose Yvonne Leveige of Antioch, Calif.
His funeral will be at 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Mount Calvary Baptist Church. The Rev. Elmore Garner will officiate. Burial will be in Huff and Thomas Cemetery under the direction of Fondel Memorial Chapel. Viewing will be noon-2 p.m. Saturday in the funeral home, with visitation 2-4 p.m. in the church.

Rev. John C. Littleton
PICKERING — The Rev. John Carol Littleton, 77, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, in St. Francis Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria.
He was a lifelong resident of the Pickering-Vernon Parish area. He was a graduate of Pickering High School and McNeese State University. He was a retired Vernon Parish School Board teacher and bus driver. He served as pastor at several area churches. He was a member of Pickering Lodge 477, Leesville Lodge 240, the Scottish Rites lodge of Lake Charles and Canaan Baptist Church.
John is survived by his wife of 50 years, Faye Haymon Littleton of Pickering; three sons and daughters-in-law, Larry and Tammy Littleton of Leesville, Rickie and Zena Littleton of Sulphur, and Jeff and Tina Littleton of Pickering; daughter-in-law Cathy Littleton of Pickering; eight grandchildren, Stacy Watson, Jody Littleton, Jason Littleton, Kim Thornton, Larryn Littleton, Kelly Littleton, Lyssa Littleton and John Leighton Littleton; five great-grandchildren, Michael Watson, Alexes Watson, Taylor Littleton, Jacob Littleton and Gunner Thornton; two sisters, Mabel Rothwell of Winnie, Texas, and Annie Mae Bridges of Many; and a host of loving relatives, special friends and fishing buddies. He was preceded in death by his son, John Gary Littleton, and by grandson John Eric Littleton.
His funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Cooper Baptist Church of Pickering. The Revs. Dennis Hackler, Melvin Smith, E.J. Bradshaw and Ed Chaney will officiate. Burial, with Masonic rites, will be in Canaan Cemetery under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home of Leesville. Visitation is 2-10 p.m. today in the funeral home and from 9 a.m. Saturday in the church.

Norton O’Brien
Norton O’Brien, 77, died at 12:01 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, in a local hospital.
A prayer service will be at 8:30 a.m. today, Feb. 21, in Fondel Memorial Chapel.

Department defends rescue
CHICAGO (AP) — The nightclub owner under criticism for a stampede that killed 21 people alleges firefighters failed to rescue trapped patrons quickly enough, but department officials say they did everything they could.
In an interview in Thursday’s Chicago Sun-Times, E2 nightclub owner Dwain Kyles said firefighters should have worked from the ground floor to clear a pileup of people on the main stairway leading to the nightclub, instead of working from the second floor.
Fire Chief Dennis Gault said Thursday that rescuers had no choice but to work from the second floor, getting in through exits that had been blocked off when the stampede occurred.
Police spokesman Pat Camden said taking people out from the bottom of the mass of entangled bodies would have created an avalanche of people.

Esther Agen Quinn
CREOLE — Esther Agen Quinn, 88, died Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, in the Cameron hospital.
She was a lifelong resident of Creole. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and was a member of the Catholic Daughters and the Altar Society. She was a member of the Farm Bureau.
Survivors include two sons, Edwin Quinn of Ragley and G.C. Quinn of Cameron; one daughter, Glynn Portie of Cameron; 13 grandchildren; and 29 great-grandchildren.
Her funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, from Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The Rev. Joseph McGrath will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home of Creole. Visitation is 1-9 p.m. today, with a rosary at 7 p.m., and from 8 a.m. Saturday. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to one’s favorite charity.

H.B. Sartor
LEESVILLE — H.B. “Boots” Sartor, 88, passed away Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, in Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria.
He was a native of Oberlin and a longtime resident of Vernon Parish. He was a charter member and the oldest living member of the Leesville Lions Club. He was a member of the board of directors at Vernon Bank. He served as mayor of Leesville from 1970 to 1978. He graduated from DeRidder High School and Louisiana State University with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He owned and operated Sartor Motor Co. for more than 50 years. He served his country in World War II, and he was a charter member of VFW Post 3106.
Survivors include his wife, Winifred Ware Sartor of Leesville; three daughters, Ann Sartor and husband Dennis Phillips of Houston, and Martha Sartor and Trudy Evelyn Sartor, both of Leesville; four grandchildren, Gayle Rowzee and husband Steven D. Kidd and Daniel Sartor and wife Elizabeth B. Rowzee, all of Rockwall, Texas, and Anna Kathryn “Kate” Phillips and Brent Christopher Phillips, both of Houston; one great-granddaughter, Mary Martha Kidd of Rockwall; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn Self Sartor, and one son-in-law, William J. Rankin.
His funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in First United Methodist Church of Leesville. The Rev. Chris Blanchard will officiate. Burial will be in Leesville Cemetery under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home of Leesville. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Leesville First United Methodist Church or the Lions Crippled Children’s Camp.

Ricky E. Sinegal
Ricky E. “Rick” Sinegal, 38, died at 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, in a local hospital.
He was a lifelong resident of Lake Charles. He graduated from Marion High School in 1983. He worked for TDS, and he was formerly employed by American Polymer for 10 years. He was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.
Survivors include his wife, Rhonda Hasty Sinegal of Lake Charles; one stepson, Antonio Hasty of Lake Charles; his mother, Roselie Charles Sinegal of Lake Charles; his godchild, Atavia Sinegal of Lake Charles; four brothers, Lester Ray Sinegal, Charles D. (Panda) Sinegal, Leslie (Kay) Sinegal Jr. and Mark A. (Faye) Sinegal, all of Lake Charles; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.
His funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in King’s Funeral Home. The Rev. Kenneth P. Hasty will officiate. Burial will be in Combre Memorial Park. Visitation is from 11 a.m. Saturday.

Ezolia Thomas
E z o l i a Thomas, 62, died at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, in Jennings American Legion Hospital.
She was a missionary and faithful teacher at St. Mary Baptist Church of Starks.
Survivors include her husband, the Rev. Linton Thomas of Elton; three sons, Herman John Richard of Rayne and Linton Earl Thomas and the Rev. Jacob Thomas, both of Elton; four daughters, Flossie Marie Barker, Angela Thomas, Tiffany Michelle Matthews and Dana Renee Thomas, all of Elton; one brother, Christopher Hillstock Jr. of Port Arthur, Texas; two sisters, Lorinda Thomas of Elton and Elizabeth Taylor of Port Arthur; seven grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Christopher and Flossie Hillstock, and by one brother, Joseph Hillstock.
Her funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Holiness Unto the Lord Church of Elton. Elder Joseph Thomas will officiate. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery in Chataignier under the direction of Williams Funeral Home of Opelousas. Visitation is from 9 a.m. Saturday in the church.

Willie L. Williams
DEQUINCY — Willie Lee Williams, 78, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2003, in a local hospital.
He was a native of Carson, and he lived most of his life in DeQuincy. He was a member of Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church, where he was a deacon, trustee, church treasurer and a Mason. He was a member of the Isaac & Rebecca Lodge and the Civil Defense. He retired from Union Pacific after 32 years.
Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Verline Woodard Williams of DeQuincy; two daughters, Margaret Williams (Joseph) Clement and Diana Lynn Williams, both of DeQuincy; one son, Norris L. Williams of Milwaukee; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends.
His funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church. The Rev. James Harris will officiate. Burial will be in Community Cemetery under the direction of Combre Funeral Home. Visitation is 6-9 p.m. today in the church.

Well-known performers in DeRidder

BY SHAWN MARTIN
AMERICAN PRESS
DERIDDER — Marlena Smalls and the Hallelujah Singers will perform today, Feb. 22, at DeRidder Junior High School and at DeRidder High School on Saturday.
Smalls and the Hallelujah Singers are internationally known. They appeared in the Academy Award-winning film “Forest Gump” and have performed for U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and the queen of England.
At 2:15 p.m. today, the singers will treat DeRidder Junior High students to a mini-concert. The main concert will be at 6 p.m. in the DeRidder High School Auditorium.
The school’s jazz band will open the concert.
Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$15 for reserve seating and are available at several DeRidder and Lake Charles merchants.
The proceeds raised from the concert will go toward the high school’s band trip to Winter Park, Colo.
For more information, call Maysia Coker at (337) 463-8185.

FROM PAGE A1

KILLED: Three wounded FRYING: Comedians having field day with French

from PAGE A1

gas because police thought there might be a second gunman, but there was none. During the shooting, students at a nearby school were locked inside their building. Janice Kane, a retired receptionist who lives about two blocks from scene, said a large crowd gathered on the corner outside her house, shouting at the police to save the children. "They were expressing what they felt, that the police should get the kids out," she said. "The people were shouting, 'Why can't you get the kids out?'" "It sounded like a war zone," she said. "To be honest, it was just shocking for something like that to happen

in this neighborhood. You try to clean up a neighborhood and then this." Her husband, Joe Kane, a veteran who works at the Veterans Administration Hospital, said, "Only in Vietnam. That's the only time I heard that many shots." He said there was a lot of smoke or tear gas so it was hard to see what was going on. One of the wounded officers is being taken to Baton Rouge for surgery for glass behind his eye, Cardwell said. Cardwell said a crowd lined up to donate blood at hospitals when they heard police had been shot. "We're not accustomed to this," he said. "We've had an outpouring of support from the community."

GAS: Demand will rise

from PAGE A1

word gouging. "We feel that most of the increase has been due to fear and speculation, rather than any change in the supply or demand for crude oil or gasoline," AAA spokesman Jeff Sunstrom said. Regardless of the reasons, Sunstrom said today's high prices could be a harbinger of even costlier fuel by the end of April. Tom Kloza, director of Oil Price Information Service, a Lakewood, N.J., publisher of industry data, said the imports lost after Venezuela's oil workers went on strike in December have not been adequately replaced, and that could be a problem when the weather heats up and demand rises. Gas prices typically rise during spring, when refiners shift from winter- to summer-grade fuel. The switch to cleaner-burning gas requires shutting down equipment, scrubbing it clean and starting it up all over again — a process that causes supplies to contract and prices to move higher even under the best conditions. The impact of this switch already has been magnified by the possibility of a U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, analysts said. The petroleum industry contends gasoline prices are higher mainly because of traders' fears of supply disruptions in the event of a war in Iraq and the impact of the Venezuelan oil strike. "The fundamental thing is that crude prices have gone up dramatically," said John Felmy, chief economist at the American Petroleum Institute. About 40 percent of the retail cost of gasoline is attributed to the price of crude oil, which has risen 19 percent since the start of the year to \$36.79 per barrel. Gas station owners say they are frustrated by accusations of profiteering and insist they are not to blame. They say suppliers have been raising their "rack" prices for weeks and that station owners are merely passing along those increases to customers. "I realize that the price of

a barrel of oil has gone up tremendously, but the way that rack prices have gone up for the last two weeks is just not right," said Richard Loeber, owner of a gas station in Union Beach, N.J. Loeber said his supplier has raised the rack price by 16 cents a gallon in less than three weeks and that he has maintained his 8-cent-per-gallon margin all along. "People know they're getting gouged, but believe me, it's not from the dealers," Loeber said.

from PAGE A1

tary action. Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Greece, Ireland and Luxembourg have all said they would prefer to give U.N. weapons inspections more time. But it is the French who have borne the brunt of U.S. scorn and become the butt of jokes about their beret-wearing, wine-drinking, cheese-eating, Jerry Lewis-loving, literature-deconstructing, surrendering-to-the-Germans ways. "France wants more evidence," David Letterman wisecracked. "The last time France wanted more evidence, it rolled right through France with a German flag." Comedian Dennis Miller quipped: "The only way the French are going in is if we tell them we found truffles in Iraq." Rep. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., warmed up a crowd of GOP leaders in Missouri last week by saying, "Do you know how many Frenchmen it takes to defend Paris? It's not known, it's never been tried." And this: "Somebody was telling me about the French Army rifle that was being advertised on eBay the other day — the description was, 'Never shot. Dropped once.'" And this, too: "Going to war without the French is like going deer hunting without your accordion."

The New York Post branded France and Germany "the axis of weasel," then ran a doctored page-one photo that put giant weasel heads on the shoulders of the French and German ambassadors to the United Nations. Natalie Loiseau, spokesman for the French Embassy in Washington, said the barbs go beyond the dispute over Iraq. "There is kind of a tradition of French-bashing here," she said Wednesday. "There is a kind of rivalry. It has lasted for years, and for centuries, really." It's not something the French take too seriously. Even this week, Loiseau said the embassy had not received any complaints from French citizens living in the United States about harassment. For their part, the French have long lambasted American cultural influence in Europe, decrying American fast food and pushy American tourists. "There is also a tradition of American-bashing in France, yes," Loiseau said. "If you read the press on either side of the Atlantic, you would think we were ready to go to war with each other. Obviously, that is not the case. We are still good friends." A Gallup poll in early February found a nearly 20-point drop in the percentage

of Americans who think France favorably, while 33 percent have an unfavorable view.

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Chavez foes protest arrest

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Thousands of angry government opponents chanting "This is a dictatorship!" rallied in the capital's streets Thursday, protesting the arrest of a strike leader. But President Hugo Chavez triumphantly proclaimed that he authorized the arrest of Carlos Fernandez even though it threatened to re-ignite massive demonstrations and again paralyze the country. Chavez said judges should not "be afraid to issue arrest warrants against coup-plotters." Fernandez faces charges of treason and instigating violence for leading the two-month strike that began Dec. 2 seeking to oust Chavez and force early elections.

OPINION

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AMERICAN PRESS EDITORIAL

Should schools teach personal finances?

Should schools start teaching what parents at home aren't — personal responsibility?

That's the nagging question behind efforts in the upcoming legislative session for the state to require public schools to teach students how to manage their credit cards.

A coalition of banks, credit unions, retailers and others will lobby for passage of such a bill which will be co-sponsored by House Education Committee Chairman Carl Crane, R-Baton Rouge.

Members of the group say that credit-card abuse is so prevalent among students that they need a 10-hour course on personal finances.

According to the Morning Advocate of Baton Rouge, surveys show that:

■ Only about one in five students between 16 and 22 say they have ever taken a course in personal finance.

■ One in three teen-agers carry credit cards.

■ College undergraduate students carry an average of three credit cards and have average credit card debts of \$2,347.

■ Bankruptcies for those under 25 are skyrocketed.

"We are seeing lives destroyed," said Ken E. Uffman, former president and chief executive officer of the Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge and one of the leaders of the lobbying effort.

The state requires that high school student pass a one-

semester course in free enterprise. Uffman and others suggest inserting about 10 hours of training on personal finance into the free-enterprise.

Topics would include spending and credit, income, money management and savings and investment. If passed, the course would go into effect for the 2004-2005 school year.

The state education department and Gov. Mike Foster endorse the idea.

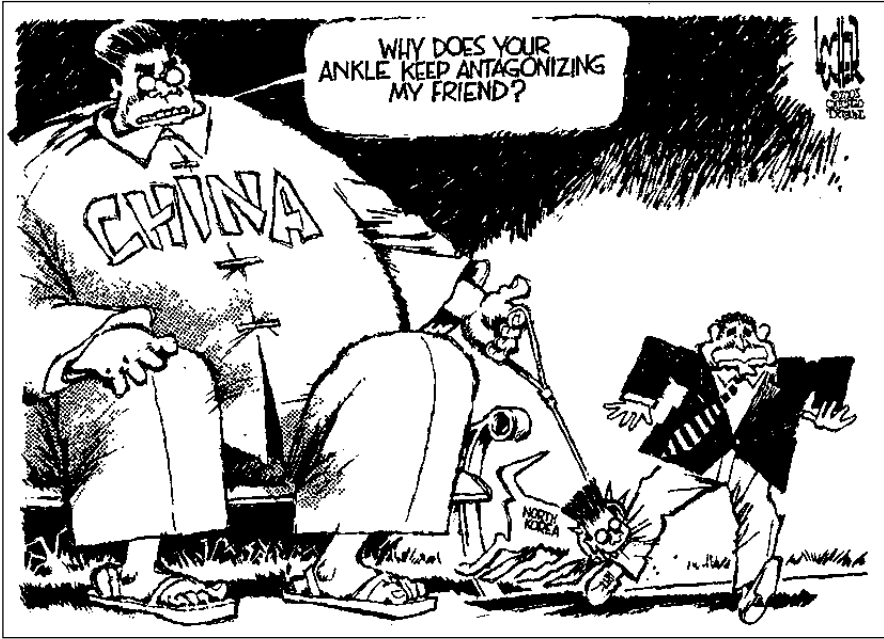
Last year, students in 40 Louisiana high schools were tested in financial literacy. The 32 questions included finance charges, how long it would take to save certain amounts based on monthly expenses and income, and automatic teller machine cards.

Louisiana students answered an average of 47 percent of the questions correctly, 3 percent less than the national passage rate.

Uffman said no other state requires a class in personal finance.

Proponents concede that some lawmakers may balk at dictating curriculum and that they will point out that some personal finance is already taught in some high schools.

The subject is sure to fuel a lively debate, but assuming that students aren't getting much personal financial guidance at home, we see no harm in adding 10 hours of personal financial training to free-enterprise classes.



The Opinion page is a daily forum for opinions on local, state, national and world issues. The *American Press* Editorial represents the majority view of the *American Press* Editorial Board, which is composed of executives, editors and staff members. Columns and letters represent the views of the writers and not necessarily those of the newspaper.



To wage war when necessary is to be grown up

Watching war protests around the world punctuated by vandalism and '60s rhetoric that sounded off-key and out of context, I was grateful for grown-ups in higher places.

It is a tough time to be grown-up. To have moral courage, to swim against a tide of tantrum-throwing dissidents who can't quite put a finger on what's bothering them, but it's bad, whatever it is. Real bad. American stuff. Big bad meanies. Where are the weapons? Where's bin Laden? What's Saddam got to do with it?

Saddam Hussein, meanwhile, is delighted. He's just a guy running a country, minding his own business, and Imperial America and her poolie allies are nutso!

So go the headlines where newspapers are run by the government:

"The world said with one voice: 'No to aggression on Iraq,' " read a headline in Iraq's daily government-run newspaper. "The world rises against American aggression and the arrogance of naked force," said the front-page headline in the army daily.

When one's actions provide solace and self-justification to a brutal, murdering, lying despot, one might consider the possibility that one is wrong. Instead, protesters have played right into Saddam's hand, embracing the anti-Americanism that failed Arab states have cultivated and proffered as a distraction for their own embattled people.

Besides, protesting war and singing and face-painting and punching police horses and making posters and spraying graffiti is so much more fun (and virtuous!) than pursuing an unpopular and potentially deadly military action.

Hear this: No one wants war. No sane person wants the horrible consequences of war. But there are also terrible consequences to "stop the war," as British Prime Minister Tony Blair made clear in his recent speech at the Labour Party's local

Kathleen Parker



government, women's and youth conferences. (Read text here: <http://www.labour.org.uk/tbglasgow>.)

"If I took that advice, and did not insist on disarmament, yes, there would be no war," said Blair. "But there would still be Saddam. ... This isn't a regime with Weapons of Mass Destruction that is otherwise benign. This is a regime that contravenes every single principle or value anyone of our politics believes in. ...

"I do not seek unpopularity as a badge of honor. But sometimes it is the price of leadership. And the cost of conviction."

Reading those words against the backdrop of protesters reminds parents like me of the teenager who stomps and yells "I hate you!" when things don't go his way. The parent thinks to himself, fine. Hate me if that's the price I must pay for doing what's best for you regardless of the cost to my own happiness at the moment.

Such is the lot of the adult, of committing to what's right and acting on it. The case against Saddam, meanwhile, doesn't need to be made anew. He is the case against himself. A cruel, butchering tyrant who starves and kills own people, who harbors weapons of mass destruction in defiance of the United Nations. Who, given the means and opportunity, would unleash his nasty might on the West while holding the rest of the world hostage.

To leave him in place poses risks far graver and consequences far bloodier — a guaranteed environ-

ment of chaos down the road — than what controlled military action might bring in the near future. Again, Blair:

"At every stage, we should seek to avoid war. But if the threat cannot be removed peacefully, please let us not fall for the delusion that it can be safely ignored. If we do not confront these twin menaces of rogue states with (weapons of mass destruction) and terrorism, they will not disappear. They will just feed and grow on our weaknesses."

The truth, unpalatable as it is to anyone of conscience, is that we may no longer have a choice. The Rubicon has been crossed, as Fouad Ajami, professor and director of Middle East studies at Johns Hopkins University, wrote in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs* magazine. The article is long but well worth the read for those interested in what our future is likely to be rather than what we might wish it to have been had we been steeled sooner. (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20030101faessay10218/fouad-ajami/iraq-and-the-arab-future.html>.)

"Any fallout of war is certain to be dwarfed by the terrible consequences of America's walking right up to the edge of war and then stepping back, letting the Iraqi dictator work out the terms of another reprieve," wrote Ajami. "It is the fate of great powers that provide order to do so against the background of a world that takes the protection while it bemoans the heavy hand of the protector."

Likewise, it is the fate of grown-ups to do what's necessary against the background of adolescents who take for granted the freedoms that inevitably would be lost were weaker souls in charge.

Kathleen Parker, a syndicated columnist for the Orlando Sentinel, welcomes comments via e-mail at kparker@kparker.com, although she cannot respond to all mail individually.
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The hard part will come if and when Saddam is forced out

BY GEORGE GEDDA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANALYSIS

WASHINGTON — The United States is an old hand at supervising unscheduled government transitions in overseas trouble spots. Some examples are Afghanistan, the Philippines and Panama — all relative cakewalks compared with what could lie ahead in Iraq if the U.S. military forces out Saddam Hussein.

Take for example the question of disarmament. Andrew Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies offers the somewhat chilling prediction that a successful post-Saddam disarmament effort in Iraq would be short-lived.

"The intellectual capital and skills to make weapons of mass destruction will remain," he said last week. "Iraq will have the dual-use facilities to rapidly return to the

production of chemical and biological weapons.

"You cannot disarm a sophisticated state. It is an oxymoron." People who think otherwise, he said, "really do not understand this region."

Cordesman is no placard-carrying, anti-war militant. Indeed, he has staked out a pro-war stance, admitting he has done so with "reluctance and considerable uncertainty."

Uncertainty seems to be a dominant sentiment about the aftermath of a war with Iraq. "The American people have no notion what we are about to undertake," said Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., speaking at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing last week.

The war's cost? "Unknowable," Defense Undersecretary Douglas

Feith told the committee, citing uncertainty about the severity of war-related damage. Two budget experts cited by The New York Times predict the cost could range between \$127 billion and \$682 billion. The latter figure is more than half the gross national product of Russia.

How long would it take to dispose of Saddam's arsenal?

"We can't, now, even venture a sensible guess as to the amount of time," Feith said. Left unanswered were Cordesman's concerns about a post-Saddam Iraq, freed of U.N. Security Council sanctions, rearming.

Such an outcome might be acceptable to Washington if the transition produced a pro-Western government. But what if Iraq fell back into the hands of people more attuned to the Libyas and the Syrias of the region?

For now, the administration's

focus is on the short term. Marc Grossman, an undersecretary of state, told last week's committee hearing that the administration's Iraq roadmap, aside from disarmament, includes the "liberation" of Iraq — not a long-term U.S. military occupation; elimination of the "terrorist infrastructure"; and maintenance of the country's territorial integrity. Humanitarian and reconstruction assistance also will be provided.

Iraqi oil "belongs to the Iraqi people," and will be treated as such, Grossman said, adding that a final goal will be "free and fair elections based on a democratic constitution." He predicted that Americans would be in charge of Iraq for two years before turning authority over to the Iraqis.

James Phillips of the Heritage Foundation foresees an outpouring of Iraqi joy if Saddam is deposed, seriously undercutting anti-war

protesters who have been on the march lately, especially in Europe.

More worrisome to Phillips is the specter of bloody score-settling by Iraqi Kurds and Shiites, who have suffered horrific abuses under Saddam's Sunni-led regime for years.

"One of the biggest tasks of the U.S. military will be to prevent acts of vengeance," Phillips says.

Danielle Pletka of the American Enterprise Institute said she was concerned that the administration is moving far too slowly in lining up opposition leaders for the postwar succession.

The longer the administration waits, she said, the longer Iraq will be under American tutelage, giving the country the status of a U.S. colony — and giving anti-U.S. forces in the region a can't-miss issue. **George Gedda** has covered foreign affairs for The Associated Press since 1968.

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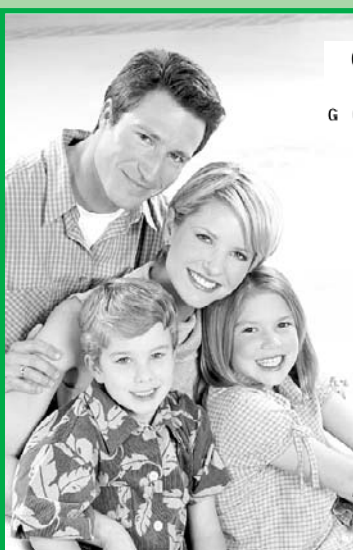
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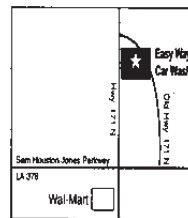
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Sex should be saved for marriage

Dr. Wallace: My fiancée and I are planning on a June wedding. We have been dating for over two years and love each other very much. So far we have abstained from having sex. I feel that now is the time to become sexually intimate. We can both use protection and, if by chance she got pregnant, all we would have to do is move the wedding day up. We plan to have children anyway.

The problem is that my fiancée doesn't want to have sex until after we're married. Since we are in love, I'd like you to tell her it's perfectly all right for us to have sex. I need your help. — Bernie, Miami, Fla.

Bernie: I see that you haven't been reading my column very long. I'm from the old school and firmly believe that sex should be saved for marriage — not engagement. Today we live in a world where supposedly "anything goes." Sorry, I don't buy it. As far as I'm concerned, morality and truth are never out of fashion.

I agree with your fiancée. Since you've waited over two years, another few months shouldn't be so difficult. You'll be glad you waited.

Dr. Wallace: Three weeks ago, my mother went through my purse and found a marijuana cigarette. I tried to convince her I was just holding it for my friend (that's the truth), but she wouldn't believe me, so I was put on restriction for a month. I know I was stupid for hiding a marijuana cigarette for a friend, and I'm serving my restriction without complaining.

What I do get upset about is that now my mother searches my room and my purse every day to make sure I'm not hiding "things I shouldn't have." This lack of trust really hurts me. What can I do to regain the trust my mother once had in me? — Nameless, Michigan City, Ind.

Nameless: Most parents who find drugs in the possession of their children are traumatized and don't know how to handle it. Your mother checks you every day because she feels this is the best way to keep you drug-free.

Your actions will speak louder than words. Be positive, keep your grades up and make sure that you and drugs are strangers from now on. Eventually, Mom's trust in you will be restored.

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Baby, think it over!

Students experience realities of parenthood

BY ERIN KELLY
AMERICAN PRESS

The first two weeks of February were rough for high-school junior Jamine Walker.

Her baby, Yasmine, kept her up for seven nights. Walker was late for school. She didn't sleep.

"She's horrible!" Walker said, eyeing little Yasmine in her carrier. "She's got her days and nights mixed up. She only slept for one night."

When Yasmine whines, Walker has to figure out what she needs. Is it a bottle? A diaper change? Someone to hold her?

"I spoil her because I hold her all the time, trying to calm her down," Walker said.

The last week of the month should be better for Walker because Yasmine will return home. For Yasmine, "home" is a rectangular white box in teacher Nancy Taylor's office.

Yasmine is one of 10 plastic infant simulators used in Taylor's parenting class.

"When baby cries, it is the teen's responsibility to determine and provide the type of care baby needs, whether it be feeding, rocking, burping or diapering," Taylor said. "Sometimes baby is just fussy."

The babies are controlled by monitors in their backs, which report the number of times care was provided by its "mommy" or "daddy." Rough-handling, shaking and wrong-positioning are also recorded by the monitor.

The babies, which weigh about seven pounds and cost \$500 each, are randomly programmed on various



BRAD PUCKETT / AMERICAN PRESS

Kimberly Lewis, a senior at Lake Charles-Boston, takes care of her baby. The infant simulators in the Baby Think it Over program are 21 inches long and weigh about seven pounds.

schedules, based on the habits of actual infants.

The teens have to place a bottle in the baby's mouth, change its diaper or rock it back to sleep — whatever the baby needs to calm down.

If the baby is ignored, the crying gets louder.

It's all part of the Baby Think it Over program, the

brainchild of Rick and Mary Jurmain, a Wisconsin couple who felt that parenting simulations used in the 1990s — having teens take care of eggs or sacks of flours, for example — didn't represent the reality of parenthood.

After taking care of Mekaelah after only a few days, Jasmine Penn, a senior at LC-B, is having second thoughts about motherhood.

"I don't want to have kids any time soon. Maybe never," she said.

The hardest part, Penn said, is waking up in the middle of the night.

After two days of simulated fatherhood, Nolan Zackery knows he's not ready to have any kids.

"Nope. That's it. No kids," he said.

Kimberly Lewis, a senior, is mommy to a simulated baby, which she hasn't named, and a real baby — a 4-month-old girl.

"If I would've taken this class before, I probably wouldn't have had my baby," she said.

She said the baby simulator is very similar to true parenthood.

"It helps you realize what you need to raise a child. At first, when I had my little girl, I thought I didn't want any help. I realized quick that you can't do it without help," Lewis said.

It didn't take Walker long to realize that, either.

She was only a mommy for less than a month.

"I learned that girls shouldn't have any kids until they get married," she said. "This ain't a one-woman job."

■

Erin Kelly's email address is ekelly@americanpress.com.

REFRIGERATOR DOOR

Here is artwork submitted by area elementary school students:



KHRISTINA RICHARDSON
Henning Elementary



ALLISON MUELLER
Prien Lake Elementary



IVY WALKER
LeBleu Settlement Elementary

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THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT SAID...

Yes!

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THEIR SALES AND OFFICE STAFF SAID...

Yes!

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THEIR DELIVERY DEPARTMENT SAID...

Yes!

THEY WOULD ADD EXTRA STAFF TO INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY DURING THIS GREAT SALE!

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LAKE CHARLES AND IOTA

A SAVINGS TRADITION JUST GOT BETTER IN 2003!

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Reg. \$49 **LAMPS! LAMPS! LAMPS! LAMPS!** We made a special purchase on these lamps and we're passing the savings on to you!

\$9

Reg. \$999 **LEATHER RECLINER!** Wow is the only way to describe this super buy. Must see!

\$399

Reg. \$599 **ODD LOVESEATS!** Left over from elegant sets, these beautiful loveseats are an absolute dream at this low Foret price!!! What can we say? Our loss is your gain ... two are available at this fantastic price ... hurry!!!

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Reg. \$1599 **FIBER SOFA!** Feels like leather and wears like iron. Great for heavy use.

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Reg. \$229 **DAY BED!** Wow! What a value! Beautiful antique white day bed with stunning accents. Perfect for your little girl or spare room!

\$95

Reg. \$1389 **FLORAL PRINT SOFA!** Get a head start on spring with a super sofa from Foret's.

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Reg. \$1269 **QUEEN SIZE SLEEP SOFA!** A great way to fix up the kid's room or for those occasional guests.

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Reg. \$359 **SOLID WOOD BUNK BEDS!** Foret's is the place to buy if you're looking for a quality bunk bed at a super price. Perfect for the kids or camp!

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Reg. \$1,179 **"SUPER FIRM" SEALY POSTUREPEDIC QUEEN SET!** If only the firmest will do Foret's has what you're looking for. Sealy gives you world-renowned quality and the correct support your back needs.

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Reg. \$479 **PLUSH QUEEN MATTRESS SET!** If you've been waiting for a good deal on a mattress set, then hurry into Foret's. This set is great for the back and your pocket book.

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Reg. \$2,159 **STYLISH ALL WOOD BEDROOM!** Must see this one! Rustic styling, good looking sleigh bed and lots of room for storage. Queen bed, dresser, mirror, night stand.

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Reg. \$1,449 **OAK BEDROOM!** Great style and super finish. Includes queen headboard, chest and night stand.

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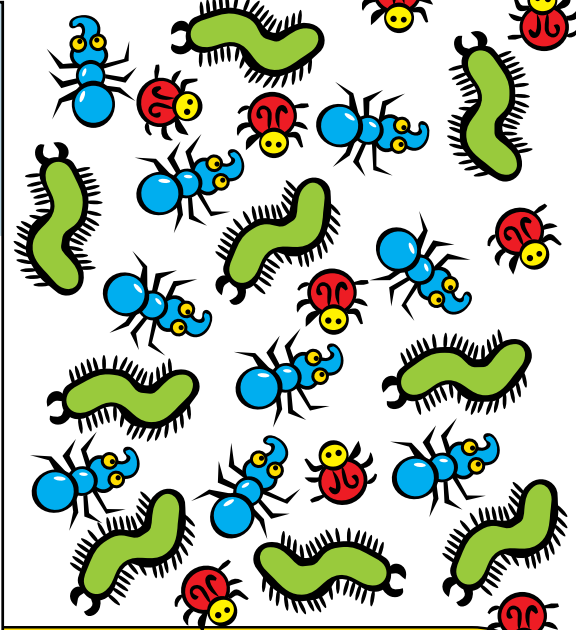
Newspaper reading adventures for little learners!



Vol. 2 No. 20 © 2003 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Designer/Illustrator

Inside or Outside?

Color the insects **inside** the igloo red.
Color the insects **outside** the igloo blue.



My Rhyme Time

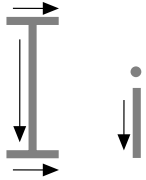
Knock at the door (forehead tap),
Ring the bell (a little tug at each ear),
Lift the latch (eyelids raised),
Walk in (open mouth and pop a finger inside).

My name:

Learning Buddies: Spell your child's first name, using the lines to write large letters. Use an uppercase letter for the first letter in the name and lowercase letters to spell the rest. Have your child trace the letters with a finger, crayon or pencil.

My Letters

I is for Insect
i is for insect



Learning Buddies: Read the two phrases aloud. Have your child read with you. Trace the uppercase and lowercase letter I. Say the letter as you trace it.

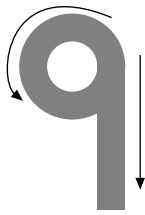
How many words or pictures can you find on this page that have the sound that the letter **I** makes in the word **insect**?

My Numbers

How many ?

How many ?

How many ?



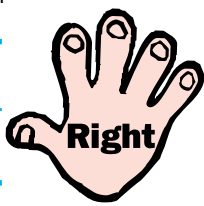
Learning Buddies: Trace and say the number. Read the questions. Touch and count to find the answers.

My Sentence

Learning Buddies: Read the first part of the sentence aloud. Ask your child to think of a way to finish the sentence. Write your child's words in the lines. Read the entire sentence to your child while pointing out that reading is done from left to right. Older children may want to trace all or some of the letters in the sentence.



Insects are



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Letter Identification With your child, look through the newspaper to find pictures of things that start with the same sound as the letter I in insect .	Math Play Point to the number 9 in the newspaper. Have your child say the number and, if it's large enough, have your child trace the number.	Inside Outside Look through the newspaper and find pictures of things you would normally find inside . Color these red . Then find pictures of things you would normally find outside . Color these blue .	Invitation Game Look through the newspaper for pictures of three animals your child would like to invite to a party. Then look through the newspaper for things to have, eat and do at the party.	Pig, Dig, Fig, Wig Cut out the letters i and g from the headlines. Then cut out the letters p, d, f and w . Show your child how you can spell the words pig, dig, fig, wig simply by changing the first letter in front of the letters ig .	What Time of Year? Look through the newspaper for signs of the season in your community. Talk about how we know it is winter, spring, summer or fall.	Igloo Home Draw a large circle on a piece of paper. Pretend this is the inside of your igloo home. Look through the newspaper and cut out pictures of things your child would like to have in an igloo home. Glue these into the igloo "floor plan."

Learning Buddies!

My Kid Scoop comes out once a week, but you can use the newspaper every day to prepare your child for success in school. Each daily activity focuses on a specific learning readiness skill.
Step by Step Success 1. Read the activity instruction aloud. 2. Show how to do the activity by doing it yourself first. 3. Ask your child to copy what you do.

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■ **E-mail:** informer@americanpress.com.

Council must first OK hotel proposal

Why does the mayor of Lake Charles have authority to build a motel on the lakefront?

He doesn't, Mayor Randy Roach said.

He has proposed that a hotel be built adjacent to the Civic Center. The project — commercial use of the lakefront — requires voters' approval.

But before a ballot referendum can be scheduled, the project must first be approved by the City Council. Only it can schedule a public vote on the proposal.

Roach said he expects that a formal hotel proposal will be submitted to the council for approval within the next several months.

Commissioners Who are the remaining members of the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District board?

They are Hillery J. Langley Jr., president; Larry R. DeRouen, vice president; James C. Watts, secretary; Ozie Rideaux, treasurer; and George E. Williams.

Members Chad Theilen and Charles R. Donaldson Jr. recently resigned.

The harbor and terminal district — a political subdivision of the state — is governed by a seven-member board. The commissioners set policies and appoint an executive director to oversee the daily operations.

The governor appoints five members; the Lake Charles City Council nominates two; the legislative delegation nominates three; and the Calcasieu and Cameron police juries each appoint one.

The district's address is P.O. Box 3753, Lake Charles, LA 70602; the phone number is 439-3661; its Web site is www.portlc.com.

Hotel bookings for Mardi Gras season down

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Faced with a slump in reservations for Mardi Gras, hotel operators are cutting mandatory minimum-stay requirements and aiming advertising at potential tourists who are within an easy drive of the city.

The industry reports that overall hotel occupancy stands at about 85 percent, compared with the usual 95 percent or so.

Hotel operators say the rate

is down because of the slow economy, the threat of war with Iraq and more hotel rooms in New Orleans. In addition, many travelers are booking trips much later through the Internet, which allows them to find last-minute bargains.

"We're seeing it's definitely softer than it's been in the last few years," said Patrick Quinn, who owns and operates 17 hotels downtown. "It's taken

longer to fill them up than it ever has in the past."

The New Orleans area's hotel room inventory sat at 25,000 rooms from 1985 until 1993. Then, a construction wave added 10,000 rooms. That fact alone calls for a new definition of a successful Mardi Gras, some in the industry say.

"The fact is, we have a fair amount of hotel rooms to sell out," said Alfred Groos, vice president and general manag-

er of the Chateau Sonesta Hotel and president of the Greater New Orleans Hotel-Motel Association. "With so many hotel rooms, the way we measure the success of Mardi Gras, I think, has to change."

By the time Fat Tuesday arrives, hotel occupancy is expected to be in the low 90 percent range, said Bill Langkopp, executive director of the New Orleans Hotel-Motel Association.

Jeff Davis school superintendent to retire

BY DORIS MARICLE
AMERICAN PRESS

JENNINGS — After more than 30 years in education, the Jeff Davis Parish school superintendent will retire next year.

Cliff Friedman announced plans to retire July 1, 2004, during Thursday's School Board meeting and asked the board to name his replacement by this June.

Friedman's contract with the board expires August 2004.

"The request I am making of



FRIEDMAN

With his military service credit and accrued sick leave, Friedman will have 38 years of service for retirement purposes as of July 1, 2004.

Friedman has served four

years as superintendent and five years as assistant superintendent in Jeff Davis Parish.

He previously worked as a teacher, coach and principal before being named superintendent with the retirement of former Superintendent Cleve Beard in June 1999. Friedman was the only applicant for the position.

During his tenure, district test scores have improved, school facilities have been renovated, technology has improved, and plans for a new

Jennings high school have become a reality.

After making his announcement Thursday, Friedman asked the board to begin advertising for a new superintendent in accordance with School Board policy.

"I would request that the superintendent-elect be named by this School Board in June of this year," he said.

"With the complexities inherent in the Minimum Foundation Program, it is imperative that the superin-

tendent-elect have the opportunity to participate in the planning and structure of the fiscal year 2004 budget and develop an understanding and appreciation for the various aspects of the MFP."

He said the superintendent-elect would need to be in place before budget preparations begin for the next year.

"In addition, this will allow the superintendent-elect to work with me for one full year before assuming the duties of

See **RETIRE**, Page **B5**

EDS PARENTS NIGHT



ABOVE: Episcopal Day School kindergartner David Tickner and his mom, Rachel, dissect owl pellets Wednesday at Parents Night. Pre-K through fifth-grade classes selected a biome for study and enjoyed hands-on experiments and activities with their parents.

RIGHT: Episcopal Day School student Corrine Grubb and Sally Fruge examine a turtle Wednesday in Nicole Duplechins' pre-K class at Parents Night. Mrs. Duplechins' class chose the wetlands as their biome for study.

BRIAN OLANDER
AMERICAN PRESS



LEFT: Episcopal Day School third-grader Lauren Grubb and assistant David Ambros finish an Australian didgeridoo Wednesday at Parents Night. A didgeridoo is a musical instrument made from the Australian mallee tree. Mrs. Ambros' third-grade class selected the Australian dessert as their focus.



City in no hurry to hire

Officials waiting for audit results before seeking two replacements

BY HECTOR SAN MIGUEL
AMERICAN PRESS

DOCK BOARD

Top Lake Charles officials said Thursday they will not move quickly to find a replacement for a dock board member who resigned in protest over port financial practices.

Port Commissioner Charles Donaldson Jr., who had been on the board since September 1998, resigned abruptly Wednesday in protest over financial mismanagement and micro-managing at the port.

He is the second port commissioner to resign within 10 days. Former commissioner Chad Thielen resigned earlier, citing problems with port finances and operations.

Donaldson represents the city on the board. The city also has a minority appointment, Ozie Rideaux, on the board.

Mayor Randy Roach and City Council president Sam

Tolbert said Thursday they will take action to find a replacement for Donaldson, but that they are still waiting for findings of an audit and a review by the state legislative auditor.

"Because of the importance of the port and the impact the port has on all Southwest Louisiana, I think we need to wait until we have facts in hand before we make any pronouncements or any statements about what we will do or won't do," Roach said.

"We owe that to the port, and we owe that to the community — that is, to look at the facts and make decisions made on facts."

As for selecting a replacement for Donaldson, Roach said, "The (legislative) delegation has an appointment that they need to fill as well.

"I'm basically going to sug-

See **HIRE**, Page **B5**

Blossman: Auditor may need assistance understanding utilities

BATON ROUGE (AP) — The legislative auditor's office may need a little help understanding the complexities of utility regulation, Public Service Commission Chairman Jay Blossman said.

At the end of the PSC's meeting Wednesday, Blossman said he wanted commission staff to draw up a request for proposals from consultants to help guide auditors in their ongoing examination of

the commission.

Blossman said auditors need help because analyzing rates is a "very complicated and technical business." The auditors investigating the PSC are not expert enough to "second-guess" what the PSC's experts have done, he said.

"It's only fair to the commission to have experts analyzing what we're doing," Blossman said.

See **AUDITOR**, Page **B5**

Ramblers to appear on 'Today' show

The Hackberry Ramblers will be featured on NBC's "Today" show this morning. The segment will air between 9:30 and 10 a.m., a network representative said.

The segment was supposed to air in mid-March, then on Feb. 26. Ramblers drummer and manager Ben Sandmel heard yesterday that it would air today.

The band was taped two

weeks ago at the Liberty Theater in Eunice and McGee's Landing in Henderson. Fiddler Luderin Darbone and accordionist Edwin Duhon were interviewed in their hometowns of Sulphur and Westlake.

Darbone and Duhon founded the band in 1933. The Hackberry Ramblers are considered the oldest band in America.

BULLET-PROOF VEST DONATION



JAMIE GATES / AMERICAN PRESS
St. Margaret Catholic School third-grade teacher Kate Valentine helps LCPD Sgt. Brian Mattison put the newly donated bullet-proof vest on Nero.

Little hearts make a huge difference

The students in Mrs. Pam Williamson and Mrs. Kate Valentine’s third-grade classes read about a project that stirred their interest. The project was about the hazards that police dogs undergo in their service and the need for bulletproof vests. The students decided that they wanted to help the local police department by purchasing a bullet-proof vest for the K-9 dogs.

As part of the theme “Making a World of Difference,” the third-grade classes at St. Margaret Catholic School sold cookies, accepted donations and raised enough money for the project.

As of now, it’s the only K-9 vest that the Lake Charles Police Department owns.

Terrorist preparedness funds on the way

BY DONNA EMERSON AMERICAN PRESS

IN DERIDDER

DERIDDER — The promised funding for local terrorist preparedness is much closer to reaching first responders here, according to Beauregard Parish Director of Office of Emergency Preparedness Deputy Glen Mears Sr.

Mears told the Beauregard Parish Emergency Response Council that after an almost two-year delay, the promised funds should be on the way.

“We already know what we need to spend the money on and have selected the equipment,” said Mears.

According to Mears, he received a certified letter this week indicating that the funds should reach the parish “shortly.”

The total amount allocated for Beauregard Parish to prepare for a terrorist emergency is \$109,212.

Some of the items to be purchased with the funds include gas masks; a back-up SCBA mask; hooded chemical suits that include shoe covers; chemical gloves; hazardous materials/terrorism training; thermal imaging search cameras; portable mutual aid 800 MHZ repeaters; an equipment and command trailer; a large mobile generator for the command trailer; and 800 MHZ portable radios and chargers.

With the expected upgrades in communication, including updates on communication towers, Mears told the council that the total tower coverage for the parish will be 90-95 percent.

Under the OEP grant, money has also been allocated for first responder basic response training, including training in “blood-borne pathogens.”

According to Mears the specific training dealing with blood-borne pathogens is now a requirement of the federal Homeland Security Office.

In Beauregard Parish, first responders include law enforcement personnel, fire

department personnel, EMS, and OEP.

The Public Works Department has also been added to the list of first responders by the Homeland Security Office.

Mears said that OEP had made the decision to not purchase “Type A” chemical suits because they cost \$5,000 each, and that the purchase of testing equipment is also required with the purchase.

“They also have a limited shelf life,” said BPERC Chairman Ken Harlow.

“The one purchase we did not suggest is the purchase of body bags,” said Mears.

According to Mears, Allen Parish has ordered 200 body bags as part of their terrorist preparedness plan.

Mears is also in the process of organizing Community Response Teams.

“We are meeting this week with key citizens from the community such as ministers and local leaders to set up a group of citizen first responders,” said Mears.

The citizen first responders will receive basic training in fire control and first aid in order to provide immediate help to the community until professional first responders can arrive on the scene.

“We do have some grant money for this, although we have not yet put a price tag on it,” said Mears.

Mears also said that the money for these type of programs will most likely come through the Homeland Security Office in the future and then be distributed through the state OEP office in Baton Rouge.

The question of how to notify area first responders was also addressed during the meeting.

During the recent “Code Orange” high risk terrorist alert, local fire districts were faxed the information while other first responders received telephone calls.

“I have to be honest with you,” said Mears. “We are catching the information on CNN just as fast as you are. It isn’t coming down from the top very fast.”

PSC wants pay information on Lake Charles pilots

BATON ROUGE (AP) — The Public Service Commission has ordered river pilots who serve the Port of Lake Charles to turn over five years’ worth of personal income information so that a judge can determine their actual pay.

The PSC determines pilot pay by setting tariffs on large oceangoing ships sailing on the Calcasieu and Mississippi rivers. The commission passed a motion Wednesday designed to break a logjam in a lingering dispute over how much the Lake Charles pilots should be paid.

Shipping interests say the financial disclosures will be significant because they could set a precedent leading to similar personal income reports from the Mississippi River

pilots.

The commissioners placed the dispute before an administrative law judge to make a recommendation.

The Lake Charles pilots, who handle about 970 vessels per year, currently get a tariff that generates an estimated \$8.4 million per year, of which \$3.8 million pays for expenses and \$4.5 million goes for salaries.

That translates into an average annual target salary of \$347,192. The Lake Charles pilots have asked for a salary target of \$368,368.

But the commissioners adopted a different formula that will be used until the judge renders her decision. The PSC staff decided that the pilots should not count certain items among their list of expenses, including legal fees, advertising, food and beverages. Those items would have to come out of the pilots’ salaries.

The proposal also lowers the target pay to \$335,000, on parity with Mississippi River pilots.

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02.10

LOCAL ■ STATE

BRIEFLY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dupre: La. may want to ignore mandate

BATON ROUGE — Louisiana has heard for years the federal government uses the threat of withholding dollars as a club to keep states in line, but one lawmaker said the state might be better off to defy some demands.

State Sen. Reggie Dupre, D-Houma, raised the idea Wednesday in the case of some drunken-driving laws.

“It’s kind of weird. You may come off better violating the federal mandate,” Dupre said.

Two federal mandates — one calling for applying open-container laws to passengers in motor vehicles and the other for total suspension of driving privileges for a year after a second-offense DWI — came up at a meeting of the Governor’s Task Force on DWI-Vehicular Homicide.

Dupre presented to the task force a list of laws that could be proposed in the upcoming legislative session on DWI-related issues.

State lawmakers would have to pass the two drinking laws to comply with federal mandates. That would free up \$16 million to \$20 million of federal money now dedicated to safety issues and eliminating road hazards, he said.

The money would instead go to construction and maintenance, he said. That money would have to be matched at a rate of 20 percent state tax dollars to 80 percent federal tax money, while the safety money does not require a match.

Man posing as agent arrested in Lafayette

LAFAYETTE — A Lafayette man who allegedly told people he was an undercover narcotics agent and confiscated a bag of marijuana was arrested after real law enforcement agents interrupted a bogus drug bust, said Lafayette police Cpl. Mark Francis.

Richard Buswell, 39, was arrested Sunday for impersonating a police officer during a Feb. 3 incident in the parking lot of a gas station, where he tried confiscating a bag of marijuana. Buswell also was charged with possession of Schedule III and IV narcotics.

Impersonating a police officer is dangerous, Francis cautioned.

“When you’re messing with people who are dealing and buying drugs, and you’re out there untrained, he could

have potentially gotten killed as a result of his actions,” Francis said.

Because it was an unlawful seizure, the real officers were unable to arrest the suspects originally in possession of the drugs, Francis said.

Panel suggests DEQ step up inspections

BATON ROUGE — Environmental inspectors should be allowed to write citations while making their rounds, and the Department of Environmental Quality should step up its annual inspection program, a state panel recommended Wednesday.

The proposal addresses criticism that the cumbersome review process for complaints now takes too long, up to 180 days.

“This sends the wrong message to the violator, especially when we allow a serious situation to continue for a long period of time,” a representative of the state Wildlife Federation, Kathy Wascom, wrote in the report.

But industry representatives said they have some reservations about the recommendations.

“There could be some problems with it if the inspectors are not well-trained,” said panel chairman George Guidry, who works for Georgia Pacific.

The panel’s report also recommends revamping DEQ’s inspection program to more effectively target problem industries.

Feds: Criminal probe of retiring sheriff over

LAFAYETTE — Two days after St. Martin Parish Sheriff Charles Fuselier announced his retirement, federal prosecutors told a judge that a criminal investigation involving Fuselier and 10 deputies had been completed, according to court records.

There has been no announcement of whether criminal charges will be filed against Fuselier.

The investigation was tied to a lawsuit filed by Davison Oloson, a Nigerian native, who claimed he was abused while in custody. Oloson was involved in a 1996 riot on the roof of the St. Martin Parish Correctional Center.

The suit claims Oloson was the victim of excessive force and that deputies denied him medical treatment, food, water and a toilet. The Justice Department had the suit stopped last May because of the criminal investigation.

JDSB gives green light to new school

BY DORIS MARICLE
AMERICAN PRESS

JENNINGS — The Jeff Davis Parish School Board gave the green light Thursday to proceed with the construction of a new \$24 million Jennings High School.

The board named Bessette Development Corporation of Lake Charles as the general contractor for the project which is expected to begin this spring.

The company had a base bid of \$19,049 for the project.

The board also accepted alternate bids for the project to include an all-weather track and work on the baseball and softball fields. A third alternate for additional

asphalt parking may be considered at a later date

The total bid for the project, including the two alternates, is \$21,213,000.

The company was one of six local contractors to bid for the project when bids were opened and taken under advisement on Jan. 31.

Construction of the 255,000-square-foot facility should be completed by December 2004.

The project is being funded by a \$17 million bond issue and a half-cent sales tax approved by Ward 2 (Jennings) voters in November 2001.

The facility will be located on 40 acres of Harris estate property at the southeast corner of North Cutting Avenue and Interstate 10. The family

donated 35 acres for the project and sold an additional 10 acres for roads and other infrastructure work.

Superintendent Cliff Friedman said the school will be built for 1,200-1,250 students, but will have an anticipated initial enrollment of about 1,000. However, he expects a significant enrollment growth within the first five years.

Current enrollment is about 625 at Jennings High School and 435 at Northside Junior High School.

As approved by voters, the tax package will fund the construction of a grades 7-12 high school with a grades 7-8 wing, gyms, an outdoor covered lunch area and an all-weather track. Other amenities will

include four tennis courts and separate softball and baseball fields.

A 750-seat cafeatorium will double as a cafeteria and auditorium for community and school events.

Portions of the bond issue will also be used for renovations of the current high school for grades 3-6, including expansion of the cafeteria.

Grades k-2 will be housed at one of three remaining facilities in Ward 2 — Northside, West End or Ward.

Officials have said a decision about where the K-2 grades will be placed won’t be made until the new school is built.

ANTIQUES SHOW

An Antiques and Collectibles Evening will be 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 14, in the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church gym.

Appraisers will be David Lackey, Beth Szescilla and

Virginia Pierson.

Tickets are \$50 per person, and they include dinner buffet and one verbal appraisal.

Only 120 tickets will be sold for the event.



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WHAT'S AHEAD

Charity motorcycle ride offered Saturday

The Acadian Society for Autistic Citizens and Full Moon Cycles is sponsoring a charity motorcycle ride at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. The event is being held to increase public awareness about autism and to raise funds to improve the lives of those with autism. The all-day event will include a poker run (departing and returning to Full Moon Cycles), door prizes, a swap meet, classic car display, live music and free food and soft drinks. The first 50 people to register will receive a door prize. The entry fee is a \$15 per rider. A pre-ride party will be held today. For more information, call 983-0058.

School zero-tolerance policy to be reviewed

The Calcasieu Parish School Board's zero-tolerance policy against fighting in schools will be reviewed by the board's Administration and Personnel Committee at 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 1732 Kirkman St. Meetings of the board and committees are open. The committee will also review bus driver pay for field trips and extra curricular activities, the evaluation process for employees and policy revisions.

Sulphur to continue assistance program

SULPHUR — Mayor Ron Leleux has announced that the city is continuing the assistance program to low-income households for payment of water, sewer and trash fees charged by the city. Eligibility is in accordance with poverty guidelines established by the federal government and the state. Recertification of eligibility will be necessary annually. All changes in status affecting eligibility must be reported. Applications will be taken March 3-7 at Sulphur City Hall. Those applying must bring a copy of their monthly allotment check.

Panel finds cure for property headache

BY SCOTT ROGERS
AMERICAN PRESS

CALCASIEU POLICE JURY

Acres of Calcasieu Parish land abandoned by the owners have been nothing but a headache for the Police Jury's planning department. The parish takes over the property when the tax debtor or user can't be contacted and the property can't be sold at the sheriff's adjudicated property sale. The Police Jury obtains all adjudicated property that doesn't sell at auction exactly three years after the sale. The tax debtor can reclaim the property during this time. But until then, the parish is responsible for its upkeep. Maintenance crews must cut the grass and demolish any unsafe buildings on all adjudicated property — currently 800-900 pieces. But the parish now has a new way of handling the property: a sale of its own in hopes of getting the property off its hands and back into commerce. Parish planner Jimmy Vickers said adjudicated property isn't bought during the sheriff's sale for a number of

reasons, such as demolition-related liens or outstanding mortgages. Sometimes demolition costs more than the property is worth. "The amount of property that comes into our possession has grown at a rapid rate, and we're spending more money than we want on upkeep and demolition," Vickers said. "So we started to explore ways we can get rid of the property and get it back into commerce." Adjudicated property problems are a common occurrence in Louisiana, he said. Caddo Parish has about 7,000 pieces of property to deal with. New Orleans and Baton Rouge both have much more. Calcasieu Parish planning and development officials talked with all taxing entities in the parish to see if they wanted to get involved in the adjudicated property project. The School Board, Chenault Airport Authority, port and city of Lake Charles were all contacted. A joint service agreement

was developed between the Police Jury and the cities of DeQuincy, Lake Charles and Sulphur. Vickers said the other taxing entities have little or no adjudicated property in their jurisdictions. The parish's program was patterned after East Baton Rouge's. Anyone who is interested in acquiring additional property is given a map detailing where all the adjudicated property within the parish is located. People can then go out on their own and see the property and decide if they want to buy any of the pieces available. Those who want to buy property must pay \$75 to defray the parish's cost in researching and evaluating the property. "The first thing we do is notify all taxing entities that someone wants to buy a piece of property, and if they need the property for a public purpose, we wouldn't offer that piece for public sale," Vickers said. "Most of the time it is not needed."

Once a broker's opinion has been performed, the parish gets the value of the property and what is owed by the user. The parish contacts the tax debtor to see if he wants to make an offer for the property. If he can't be contacted, or doesn't want the property, the parish publishes a notice in the *American Press* detailing the property and the offers made on it. Anyone who has an objection to the sale can come forward then. Also, anyone who wants to make a counter offer can do so at the sale. The parish usually holds a sale each month. Any person who wants to make a counter offer must first pay \$75 and the cost of the broker's fee, which varies. Unsuccessful bidders get all their money back. The highest bidder at the auction is eligible to get the property. A recommendation is then made to the Police Jury to sell the property to the highest bidder. But a last notice is published in an attempt to contact the tax debtor. The user has 60 days from the notice's publication to reclaim the property. So far, the parish has sold 54 pieces of adjudicated prop-

erty since August 2002, the month of the first auction. Only three pieces of property have been reclaimed by the tax debtors. All money is given back to the interested parties if the property is reclaimed. The law requires the Police Jury to sell all adjudicated property as a non-warranty deed, which means all the Police Jury has to cover is the mortgage and liens. If there is more curative work that needs to be done, it will have to be done by a private contractor, Vickers said. "Our goal is to get the property back into commerce so we don't have to tear down buildings and cut grass, plus it goes back into a taxpayer's hands and becomes productive again," he said. It normally takes about six months to complete a transaction. Vickers said the process is designed to be slow because the Police Jury makes every attempt to contact the tax debtors to come reclaim their property. Sales are advertised on the parish's Web site at www.cpj.net, and they are also publicized on the government access channel.



KEN SHEARMAN / AMERICAN PRESS

Rainy day

Traffic moves along a wet Interstate 10 on Thursday afternoon. The Lake Area received .39 inches of rain on Thursday and more is expected today.

Ambulance service proposals sought

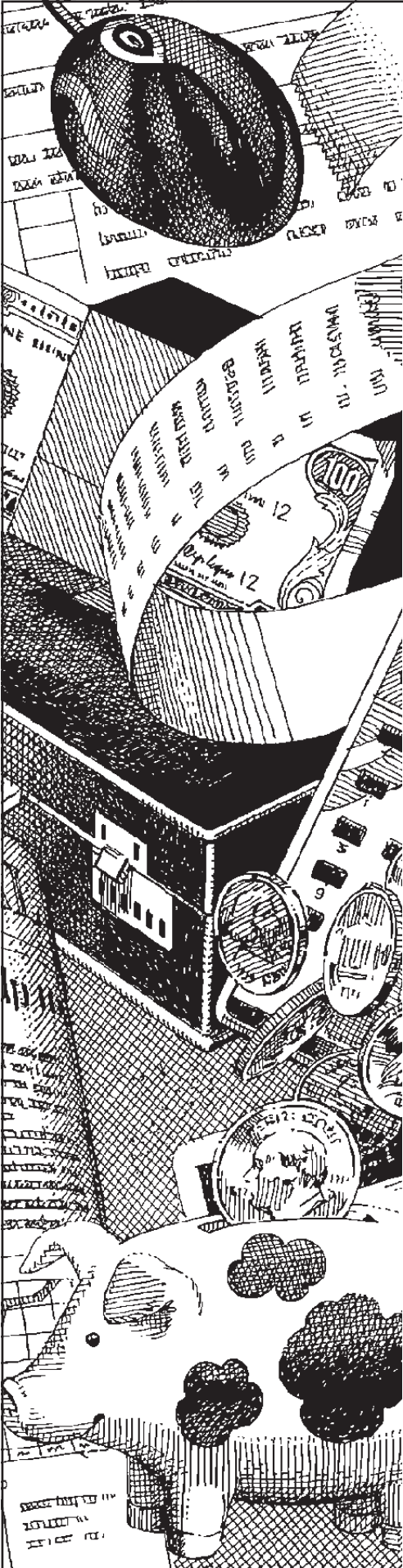
Calcasieu Police Jury will accept proposals until 5 p.m. Thursday, April 10.

BY SCOTT ROGERS
AMERICAN PRESS

The Calcasieu Parish Police Jury has agreed to seek proposals from companies to provide emergency and non-emergency ambulance service inside the parish. Action was taken Thursday during the Police Jury's regular meeting. Requests for proposals should be sent out by Monday. Parish authorities will accept proposals until 5 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at the second floor of the parish government building. The service area for ambulance provision includes all the unincorporated areas as well as the city of Lake Charles, which has given the Police Jury authority to enforce the parish's ambulance ordinance within the city. However, the parish's ordinance recognizes West

Calcasieu-Cameron EMS as the designated emergency ambulance provider for a portion of the parish. The provider selected will be required to execute a contract with the Police Jury for emergency and non-emergency ambulance service for an initial five years with an option to renew for one additional five-year term. Once all proposals have been submitted, the Police Jury will appoint a review committee to evaluate all qualifying proposals and recommend an exclusive provider for the parish. The review committee will be made up of the chairman and one other member of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Ambulance Regulatory Committee; one member of the Calcasieu E-911 Communications District Board; one representative of the Calcasieu Parish Medical Society; one public safety representative; one emergency room nurse; and one board certified emergency room physician. The review committee will

evaluate proposals exactly 30 days from the time they were submitted. Thirty days from the review committee's recommendation, the Police Jury will take action. After another 30 days following the Police Jury's decision, an exclusive franchise agreement will be approved, and anywhere from one to 60 days from the execution of the agreement, the provider will begin service within the parish. The criteria for selection include: ■ Experience of the company in rendering ambulance service in the parish to the public. ■ Commitment to clinical performance. ■ Qualifications of personnel. ■ Commitment to qualify in operational areas such as fleet maintenance, communications and dispatch and disaster response. ■ Financial strength, including accounts receivable management. ■ Community involvement.



MONEY SMART

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FROM PAGE B1

E-911 recorder ready

BY SHAWN MARTIN
AMERICAN PRESS

DERIDDER — After being delayed by a dock strike in the Northeast, a new digital recording system for the Beauregard Parish E-911 Center has been installed and is now online.

And commissioners of the Beauregard communications district on Thursday voted to renew an annual service contract with Motorola for its communications system.

In September, commissioners voted to buy the new recording system for \$24,995 from Electronic Business Systems of Baton Rouge. The purchase was delayed for several months because of problems with the bid specifications.

The Baton Rouge dealer's bid was the lowest of three received by the district.

Executive director Colleen Simmons reported to commissioners Thursday that the system has been installed and is in service.

"This may be the best piece of equipment I have ever seen," she said. "I can monitor recordings from my desk for training and evaluation purposes, and there is also a report manager that prints out reports for fire departments, and it can locate problems that need to be corrected."

The highlights of the Higher Ground recorder include 24 channels, a spoken time stamp and an external 120 gigabyte FireWire hard drive. Also, it captures callers' telephone numbers and addresses. Simmons said the technical support for the system has been "outstanding."

In a related matter, commissioners directed Simmons to pay an outstanding \$769 invoice from Kay Communications of Sulphur, but only after she negotiates for a lower price.

Kay was called in to assist in the installation of the recorder, Simmons said. She said Kay's technician had to

interface the existing E-911 system with the recorder for data purposes. She said she received a \$250 "verbal quote," but that once the work was done, the district was billed \$769.

Commissioners questioned the cost of the work, including an extra hour of billing at \$75 that's not accounted for. They directed Simmons to get the invoice corrected and then pay it.

"I'm concerned about them giving a \$250 quote and then doing the working and making up new costs," said commissioner Hardy Myers. "I don't like that."

Commissioner Marvin Simmons said the invoice is for "a lot more" than the \$250 quote. He said it appears that Kay is trying to make up not being given the recorder contract.

Kay was one of the three bidders.

In other business, commissioners: Voted to resubmit a \$5,541 invoice for a new database and its technical support to the Beauregard Parish Police Jury. Commissioners voted last month to buy the system, but the Police Jury failed to act on the request. In December, the district's budget was frozen by the Police Jury after problems came to light. Voted to renew its annual maintenance contract with Motorola for \$7,704. The district has had a contract with Motorola since 1997.

Declined to renew a \$3,243 maintenance contract with Dictaphone for the old recording system. Simmons said the new recorder has a one-year warranty and that there was no need to renew the contract for the old system.

Heard a report from Simmons that Felicia Wisby has been hired as one of the district's four full-time dispatchers. She also reported that Lenay Meadows has been hired as a part-time employee for both the dispatch center and the administrative office.

Heard a request from Myers to consider looking at changing from 12-hour shifts in the dispatch center to eight-hour shifts. He said the change could likely mean a cost savings to the district in the long run and more time off for employees.

RETIRE: Board may advertise opening soon

from **PAGE B1**

the office," he said.

"In the event that someone from the current staff is appointed to the position, this procedure will afford you the opportunity to fill other positions that may become open in

a timely manner."

Under the plan, the board could advertise for the position in April, screen applicants in May and interview and name the superintendent-elect in June.

The board will discuss its timelines at its March meeting

AUDITOR: Blossman, Kyle vie for governor

from **PAGE B1**

In April, the legislative auditor's office began a study of how the commission regulates utility rates. That audit spun off a second investigation into other PSC practices.

The auditors and the PSC are in the middle of a court battle about commission e-mails that auditors want to examine. Last week, the Legislative Audit Advisory Council voted to serve 31 subpoenas on a raft of utilities across the state for records on rate-setting.

Both Blossman and former Legislative Auditor Dan Kyle, who initiated the PSC audit, have said they will run for governor.

The audit has been painstaking, and the commission and its staff have bent over backward to accommodate auditors, Blossman said.

Blossman's comments came at the end of a long meeting that saw the commission vote to hire a consultant to help examine a rate-increase request from DEMCO. It took no action on setting a timetable for DEMCO's request.

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HIRE: City is accepting resumes for dock board

from **PAGE B1**

gest to the council that we work with the delegation on the process. They have indicated, at least informally, they are going to take a 'wait and see' (approach) before they do anything with their appointment.

"I think that's what we probably ought to do — follow their lead and work with them."

Roach said anyone interested in serving on the board can submit their resume to the mayor's office but that no action is will be taken right now.

Tolbert said he has talked with Roach about seeking a new port commissioner.

"If the seat is vacant, it certainly needs to be filled. If Mr. Donaldson is not there, someone is going to have to be there," he said.


"We are going to act as soon as we find out what we need to do. I think the mayor is checking into that for me right now."

Tolbert said he still wants to wait for the completion of the audit. He plans to meet with Rideaux about the ongoing controversy at the port.

The city submits a list of six nominees to Gov. Mike Foster. The governor chooses two from the list of city nominees. One of the appointments is a minority.

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CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

A page devoted to local Catholic interests

February 21, 2003

Vol. 29, No. 4

Lake Charles, La.

Internet Address: <http://lcdiocese.org>



The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them. They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?" Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, "Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth"— he said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home." He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."

Mark 2:1-12

High Flight



Rick D. Husband
Commander

Oh! I have slipped the
surlly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on
laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and
joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds - and
done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of -
wheeled and soared and
swung



Ilan Ramon
Payload Specialist 1

High in the sunlit
silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the
shouting wind along, and
flung



William C. McCool
Pilot

My eager craft through
footless halls of air.
Up, up the long
delirious, burning blue,
I've topped the windswept
heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even
eagle flew -
And, while with silent lift-
ing mind I've trod
The high unsurpassed
sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and
touched the face of God.



**Laurel Blair Salton
Clark**
Mission Specialist 4



Michael P. Anderson
Payload
Commander



David M. Brown
Mission Specialist 1



Kalpana Chawla
Mission Specialist 2

*Pilot Officer
Gillespie Magee
No 412 squadron, RCAF
Killed 11 December 1941*

*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine
upon them.
May they rest in peace!
Amen*

The Campaign for St. Louis Catholic High School

In Super Bowl XXXVII the Tampa Bay Buccaneers triumphed over the Oakland Raiders 48-21. But perhaps the real victory was won by the television broadcast network that charged \$2,500,000 for every thirty seconds of advertising time during the game. Why would a car company, a soft drink company or a hamburger company spend so much money to air commercials that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to make? The answer is obvious. They want to get our attention. And they know very well that there are few television events that get the attention of the money-spending American public than the gladiatorial combat known as football.

As I write this reflection Catholic schools in Southwest Louisiana and around the country are celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The Catholic Church is committed to Catholic elementary and secondary schools because we know that Jesus Christ wants to get our attention! And in a very special way he wants to get the attention of young people. In the gospels he says. "Allow the children to come unto me for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." "Father, you have revealed to children what you have concealed from the clever and the wise." One of the most important ways that the Diocese of Lake Charles helps the children and teenagers to realize that Jesus wants to get their attention is through our seven elementary schools and our only Catholic secondary school, St. Louis Catholic High School. During these past two years I have taken a personal interest in all of our schools and our students and staff. I look forward to visiting the classrooms of each of our schools during Lent.

Since I have no doubt that St. Louis Catholic High School is one of our most powerful ways of urging our young people to pay attention to Jesus Christ, I have supported the idea of a renovation and expansion of the campus ever since the idea was first shared with me by Ms. Julie Miller, who was then the school's Development Director and is now the overall coordinator of "Opening Windows: The St. Louis Catholic High School Capital Campaign," which has the goal of raising \$3,375,000.

I fully support this Capital Campaign. I invite the entire community of Southwest Louisiana to become

involved in the work of raising the funds needed to renovate and expand St. Louis so as to almost create a new school on an old campus. I am confident that not only the thirteen parishes that own the high school but also all of our parishes will support this mission of transforming St. Louis into a Catholic high school prepared to welcome generations of students in the 21st century and offer them the best possible intellectual,



**Bishop
Edward
K.
Braxton**

spiritual, moral, physical, social, and religious education. I am also hopeful that Christians of other Traditions, who know firsthand that our high school is focused on assisting our students to integrate the ethical teachings of Jesus Christ into their daily lives, will be generous in their support. I have already heard individuals who are not Christians and have no particular religious affiliation remark that they are eager to support this community-wide effort. This is because they have seen the caliber of the young men and women who have graduated from St. Louis over the years and they have seen their extraordinary contributions locally and nationally. A strong secondary school that strives for excellence is a great resource for all who live in our area.

The goal of "Opening Windows" is to develop the resources needed to build a new Learning Resource Center and Library with six urgently needed new classrooms, including a physical science laboratory. There will also be a new Health and Physical Education Center as well as the completion of the renovations of the Landry Memorial and Kimberly K. Krajicek Memorial gymnasiums. The schools current classrooms will be renovated and soundproofed and the Priest's Residence will become a Continuing Education Center. Knowing that many potential donors appreciate the opportunity to honor their loved ones when they make significant contributions, Memorial Named Giving Opportunities have been established ranging from \$10,000 to \$890,000. These memorial contributions can be

arranged over a three-year period.

Long-time residents of Southwest Louisiana are aware that St. Louis Catholic High School traces its roots back to the hundred year-old tradition of excellence in education and Christian formation begun by St. Charles Academy, Landry Memorial and Sacred Heart High School. Now we are at the dawn of another century in a country and a world that is changing and developing at a speed that is almost impossible to comprehend.

There is no doubt that the future will need leaders who have the knowledge, courage, creativity and moral responsibility to make momentous decisions concerning science and technology, war and peace, poverty and wealth, education and employment, housing and health care, family life and the welfare of children among many others. The future will certainly need leaders in business and commerce whose values and principles call them to be concerned not only about their personal well being but also about the well being of others, particularly those whose opportunities for self-improvement have been limited. The future will also need, perhaps with a special urgency, gifted teachers, philosophers, theologians, artists, poets, musicians and spiritually committed guides who will help illuminate the uncertain road ahead.

I am convinced that St. Louis Catholic High School, renewed and expanded by a successful Capital Campaign, will be in an even better position than it is today to help prepare those much needed leaders. Our student body of young women and young men of diverse religious, ethnic, racial, cultural, economic and social backgrounds, all striving to be the best they can be in an atmosphere of faith, hope, love and service, is a true "wisdom community," giving all of us reasons to be confident about the shape of the world to come!

Please help us make "Opening Windows: The St. Louis Catholic High School Capital Campaign" a great success. Help us help Jesus Christ get the attention of young people for generations to come. If you are not able to help us financially at this time, please help us with your prayers. It is my great hope that prayers for so worthy a cause will not go unanswered.

Peace on Earth

**Fr. Frank Pavone,
Priests for Life**

The other day there was an anti-war demonstration just a few blocks from our Priests for Life headquarters. I decided to stop by and to meet the organizers and participants. They were, as you might imagine, peace-loving people.

Except for one.

As I was about to leave, a big man started yelling at me. "I know who you are! You support anti-abortion terrorists!"

I waited for him to ask something like, "Isn't that true?", but he didn't ask anything. He just told, in convinced, absolute, and dogmatic terms. After all, he had read "a study" about me and Priests for Life that had even been "posted on the Internet." (Well, of course, that settles it!)

I began telling this man in calm terms that for many years I have issued statements on non-violence, and that while I am absolutely opposed to abortion, I have never condoned the use of violence as a means to end

abortion. The same "internet" that carries the study he read carries my statements about violence.

"You're a liar," was his response.

Not only did he not ask for dialogue, but when I volunteered it, he claimed that I was lying.

So I finally pointed out the contradiction. "Sir," I said, "you are here with this group that opposes war. Do you know what the alternative to war is? It's dialogue. On the other hand, when people reject dialogue, and when they stop listening to their opponent and, without evidence, call the opponent a liar, then the groundwork for war is being laid. You do not have an attitude of peace."

Some others in the group apologized for the man's behavior, and he just stood there in an angry silence.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. When we hear the words of this familiar song, we may ask ourselves how peace can begin with us, personally and individually. It begins by

listening. It begins by giving the other person — especially the adversary — the benefit of the doubt. It begins when we stop coming to conclusions so quickly about each other. It begins when we refuse to talk about a person without first talking to that person and giving that person an opportunity to let us know and understand him or her.

As the leader of a prominent organization, I have learned the single greatest obstacle to collaboration and unity between organizations and within the Church: careless, rash judgment. I also call it "snapshot" judgment. We hear or read something about a group or person — and then think we know it all. That "snapshot" of that group or person is emblazoned on our mind forever.

We don't let it change, and we don't let ourselves learn more. We don't let the person or group introduce themselves, nor do we explain our concerns to them and ask them for clarification. All that is work, and we find it too inconvenient. Yet that is the burden of peace.

(This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles.)

SPORTS

AMERICAN PRESS

Brian Guilbeau

Staff
Writer



High school playoffs need major overhaul

It's playoff time in high school basketball and soccer.

And once again, it's time for the Louisiana High School Athletic Association's bracket system to screw things up.

This ain't football, which seeds every team in the bracket.

No, these playoff brackets are pre-determined. Drawn up before the season starts, pitting certain district winners against certain district runners-up and wild cards.

The flaws in these brackets are endless.

In girls' soccer there are three divisions with eight districts each. In Division III, the top two teams from each district make up the 16-team playoff field. The best teams don't always finish first or second in district, though.

Take St. Louis' opponent this past Tuesday, Academy Sacred Heart of New Orleans. The Lady Cardinals are ranked second in the state, but have the misfortune of playing in the same district with top-ranked Newman. Sacred Heart should have been at home hosting a game.

But playing on the road was better than the draw they got last year when they were ranked third in the state and didn't even get into the playoffs because they were third in district behind top-ranked Newman and second-ranked Country Day. Meanwhile, other teams that went winless before district and managed to finish second in a three- or four-team district made the playoffs.

It's not just soccer and basketball brackets that need fixing. It's all the brackets, except for football.

Baseball and softball also use those dreaded brackets that pit the same two districts against each other year after year.

Imagine the look on the District 2-B girls basketball coaches at the beginning of the season when they looked at the brackets and saw that their district champion would have to play 983-time defending state champion Anacoco in the second round — again.

Sulphur Lady Tors basketball coach Helen LeFevre said it best: "It defeats the purpose of the playoffs."

And LeFevre should know. For the last umpteen years the District 3-5A girls basketball champion has had to face Southwood (winners of state titles in 1995, '96, '97, '98 and 2000) in the quarterfinals of the playoffs. Why even bother when you are getting knocked out of the playoffs by the same team every year? It would have been to Sulphur's benefit to purposely lose some games and finish second in district the past five years.

This year the LHSA shuffled the first-round pairings, so top-ranked Southwood could beat someone else in the quarterfinals.

The brackets also tend to match up some of the best teams in the earlier rounds. Too many times ranked teams are knocking each other out of the playoffs before the Sweet 16 or the Top 28 state basketball tournaments, which relies on those matchups to help draw crowds and fund the event.

The Sulphur boys soccer team, ranked fifth in the state, lost its first-round game against 10th-ranked Brother Martin on Tuesday. That's plain silly. Those teams should have met in a quarterfinal or better game, not a first-round game in a field of 32 teams.

The problem is there are no power points and strength of schedule factors for other sports, so the football method of seeding the brackets is out.

There are, however, state polls, which are voted on by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association. And therein lies the answer.

You don't have to seed all the spots in each sport's bracket, just the top 10. Make sure they all have first-round games at home and fill in their opponents with wild cards.

See **GUILBEAU, Page C5**

Covington covers Lady Tors with defensive pressure

BY BRIAN GUILBEAU
AMERICAN PRESS

SULPHUR — Covington threw just about every defense in the book at the Sulphur Lady Tors Thursday night.

But it was the Lady Lions full-court pressure defense that stymied Sulphur and knocked the Lady Tors out of the Class 5A girls state basketball playoffs 50-42 in the bi-district

round.

"We knew they were going to come at us with different looks," said Sulphur coach Helen LeFevre. "We did a good job and were in the game, but we would have a couple of turnovers and the next thing you know we are behind again."

Holding a slim two-point lead after three quarters, Covington (20-8) unleashed its pressure defense, which resulted in turnovers and

some easy baskets that sparked a 13-4 run to put the game away.

"We really mixed it up on defense," said Covington coach Christine Beauvais. "We used our half-court and full-court presses, some man-to-man and a couple of zones."

"We knew we would have to mix it up like that against a team like Sulphur," added Beauvais. "We couldn't just sit in one defense

because Helen is too good a coach. She would have eaten that up."

Covington's Danielle Richardson scored a game high 15 points, including eight consecutive points on open looks under the basket for the Lady Lions in the fourth quarter as Sulphur (21-11) tried a press of its own.

"We tried trapping them and we couldn't," LeFevre said. "They are

See **TORS, Page C5**

First-round excitement

Lady Gators edge Airline, 49-48

BY ADAM BURNS
AMERICAN PRESS

Lake Charles-Boston routs
Notre Dame in playoff opener

PAGE C5

After spending most of the second half on the bench with four fouls Thursday, Keshonda Carrier made the most of her time on the floor.

Carrier dropped in two point-blank shots on overmatched defenders in the final minute, including the go-ahead basket with nine seconds remaining to lead LaGrange to a 49-48 Class 5A bi-district win over Airline.

LaGrange (23-7) will play at West Monroe Monday in the regional round. West Monroe beat McDonogh 35, 71-50 Thursday.

LaGrange coach Mark Young was happy with the end, but disappointed in the means.

"It's better to play bad and win than lose and not have another game to try to play better," Young said. "They played with more intensity than we did. We would come out of a timeout and do the exact opposite of what we just talked about in the huddle. We did a lot of things that were typical of an inexperienced team, but maybe we just had playoff jitters."

A trapping, pressing Airline (17-17) team forced 19 LaGrange turnovers, but gave the Lady Gators

several easy layups or trips to the free throw line when they broke the press.

"We're not usually a trapping team," Airline coach David Duhon said. "We couldn't stop them in the half court. But we fouled too much and put them at the free throw line to keep them in the game."

The Lady Gators hit 9-of-13 free throws in the 10 minutes Carrier was on the bench with foul trouble.

Airline's leading scorer Emily Carter hit a pair of 3-pointers when Carrier was in the game, but scored 15 points, most of it in the paint, when Carrier was out with foul trouble.

"We tried to go into (Carter) more," Duhon said. "It was a major difference when (Carrier) was out of the game. But we didn't take advantage enough of her going out."

Carrier had 18 points and eight rebounds, nearly all of it coming in the first half.

Cassidy Chretien had 14 points for LaGrange, 10 of them in the first half.

See **GATORS, Page C5**



BRAD PUCKETT / AMERICAN PRESS

LaGrange's Cassidy Chretien is fouled by Airline's Emily Carter. Chretien scored 14 points as the Lady Gators won their Class 5A first-round playoff game 49-48 Friday night at LaGrange High School.

Watts energizes Cowboys to second straight victory

The freshman scores 10 points and grabs 11 rebounds off the bench to help lift McNeese over Texas-San Antonio.



McNeese... 72
UTSA..... 66

BY GARY LANEY
AMERICAN PRESS

Increased playing time has led to a serious jump in production for McNeese State freshman forward Marcus Watts.

Watts, playing extensively for the third straight game, came off the bench to score 10 points, pull down a career-high 11 rebounds and dish three assists Thursday, leading the Cowboys to a 72-66 Southland Conference win over Texas-San Antonio at Burton Coliseum.

Adrian Johnson scored a career-high 17 points to lead McNeese (12-

10, 8-7), which won its second straight game and stayed in sixth place despite some anxious moments in the final minute.

The Cowboys led 69-64 after Eldridge Lewis hit two free throws with 1:26 left, but four straight missed free throws by McNeese gave UTSA new life.

But after a LeRoy Hurd running jumper pulled UTSA within 69-66, Hurd, who had 18 points and eight rebounds, missed a front end of a one-and-one with 22 seconds left. Then Keary Brownlee missed a difficult driving shot in the lane with 10 seconds left.

Both times, Watts secured the rebound, helping McNeese put the

See **COYBOYS, Page C4**



RICKY HICKMAN / AMERICAN PRESS

McNeese State guard Damond Williams studies Texas-San Antonio's Ike Akataobi as he looks for a way around.

Rain keeps McNeese from getting into full swing

BY GARY LANEY
AMERICAN PRESS



Arkansas State at McNeese
7 p.m.

So far this baseball season, the big winner has been the rain.

It's expected to dominate again today when McNeese State opens a three-game non-conference series against Arkansas State at Cowboy Diamond.

Thundershowers are in the forecast today in Lake Charles, jeopardizing today's 7 p.m. opener of the series. If it does rain out, McNeese coach Todd Butler already has a contingency plan with a 2 p.m. double-header Saturday.

If the rains do prevail, it will be

the third straight weekend where rain affects a Cowboys series. Two weeks ago, McNeese (6-3) and Grambling State lost one of two scheduled games to rain. Last weekend, rains suspended a Saturday game at Southern Mississippi and forced a Sunday doubleheader.

"The good thing is we have a new tarp now and it works," McNeese coach Todd Butler said. "Plus, we have a new drainage system in the outfield. That should help us get the games in."

Arkansas State (1-3) went 0-3 at

Texas-Arlington's tournament last weekend.

"I don't know much about them," Butler said. "I know they beat us two out of three last year at their yard with a veteran team so we are going to have to play well."

For the first time since its opening weekend sweep of Delaware State, the Cowboys will go with their pre-season weekend rotation. Right-hander Craig Martel (1-1) will go today while Rusty Begnaud (2-0) and John Doerfler (1-0) will get the Saturday and Sunday nods respectively.

Against Grambling, some of the pitchers were suspended for missing curfew. Last week, the same trio

pitched, but Begnaud got the Friday start so he could attend a family wedding on Saturday.

Out of the bullpen, Butler said the Cowboys will go to right-hander Walt Nolen in the middle innings if Martel can't get McNeese to its closers.

"We want to go with our better relievers right now, because offensively, we aren't scoring enough runs," Butler said. "We want to be able to keep a lead."

On the mound for the Indians will be John Anderson (Sr. RHP, 0-0, 5.56), Karnie Vertz (Jr., RHP, 0-1, 6.23) and Josy Petty (Sr., LHP, 0-1, 10.80).

SOUND OFF

DIAL 494-4098

then press 7 to voice your opinion
or
e-mail to soundoff@americanpress.com

Around in circles

■ Those who think NASCAR fans lead a boring life have never been to a track where cars are flying by you at close to 200 mph. Talk about excitement. I watch NASCAR every weekend. If I'm not home, I record it. I look forward to the NASCAR page every Wednesday. NASCAR is the fastest growing sport in the nation, and I am proud to be a big fan.

■ I'd just like to say that NASCAR is a sport. It requires stamina, skill, great hand-eye coordination, and teamwork. I don't think many of us could maintain 190 mph for four hours straight, with maybe one inch of personal space. Those who compare it to the interstate don't have a clue as to how the sport really works. It's a lot more than driving around in circles. The teamwork required is incredible. It's also a great family sport. I'd rather my children have these drivers as role models than most other athletes. Thanks, American Press, for including NASCAR in your sports section. Those of us who are true fans enjoy it very much. It's only fair that our sport be covered as well. People should realize that you only have so many pages, their sport is not going to be in the paper every day.

■ I'd like to say that I'm an athlete who loves football, baseball, tennis, golf, cycling, fishing, and hunting, as well as numerous other sports when time allows. I also happen to be an avid fan of auto racing in general. Auto racing entails much physical strength, awareness, as well as nerves of steel, and those who don't agree simply are misinformed. Sit back and enjoy a race one Sunday afternoon and see what these guys go through for three or four non stop hours.

Tattoo you

■ I'm glad to see that Clifford Etienne is getting a little attention in your paper. His fight with (Mike) Tyson could potentially give him a (heavyweight) title fight. I'm not sure of the last time a person from Louisiana has held the heavyweight title.

EDITOR'S NOTE: No Louisiana native has ever held a major heavyweight belt (WBA, WBC, IBF).

■ I wonder if someone would just tell me what the great big deal is about Mike Tyson having a tattoo on his face. Big deal.

Sign here

■ Is McNeese through with their recruiting for football?

EDITOR'S NOTE: The national signing period ends April 1. While it is possible for McNeese to sign more players, it is unlikely.

Tag, you're it

■ What does it mean when a professional sports team places a "franchise tag" on a player?

EDITOR'S NOTE: The term is used only by the NFL. Thursday was the deadline for "tagging"—declaring potential unrestricted free agents franchise or transition players to make it harder for them to sign elsewhere when free agency begins Feb. 28.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Thursday's Scores	
SOUTH	
Berry 6-5, Montevallo 2-2, 1st game, 14 innings	
Cumberland, Tenn. 12, Indiana-Southeast 1, 7 innings	
MIDWEST	
Nebraska-Keamey 4-6, Nebraska-Omaha 3-11	

DELTA DOWNS

Thursday's Results	
FIRST RACE: 1. Herosloveofthesea, \$5.80, 4.40, 3.40; 2. Buzz Around, \$36.80, 2.60; 3. Coolandlucky, \$7.20. Exacta: 6-2; 17:00. Quinella: 2-6; 17:27.00. Trifecta: 6-2-8; \$1,857.60.	
SECOND RACE: 1. Goldman, \$6.00, 3.60, 3.20; 2. Sidepokeplayer, \$6.40, 4.80; 3. Surrogate's Irish, \$4.40. Exacta: 1-4; \$39.40. Quinella: 1-4; \$28.60. Trifecta: 6-2-8; \$276.60. Daily Double: 6-1; \$21.80.	
THIRD RACE: 1. Seminoe Squaw, \$3.20, 2.80, 2.60; 2. Darkus, \$5.80, 4.40; 3. Hot Red Ham, \$4.40. Exacta: 1-10; \$23.00. Quinella: 1-7-9; \$332.40. Superfecta: 1-7-9-4; \$7,838.20.	
FOURTH RACE: 1. Marvelous Mover, \$16.80, 7.00, 4.80; 2. Hoo Knows, \$39.20, 12.00, 6.20; 3. King Kevin, \$8.60, 4.20, 3.90. Exacta: 1-10; \$23.00. Quinella: 1-10; \$23.00. Trifecta: 1-10-8; \$13.00.	
FIFTH RACE: 1. Zina Cause, \$3.40, 2.60, 2.60; 2. Community Honors, \$3.80, 2.60; 3. Sparkle N Classic, \$6.20. Exacta: 1-5; \$19.00. Quinella: 1-5; \$14.40. Trifecta: 1-5-4; \$16.80.	
SIXTH RACE: 1. Southern Spur, \$39.20, 17.00, 8.20; 2. King Kevin, \$8.60, 4.20, 3.90. Exacta: 4-3; \$423.40. Quinella: 3-4; \$109.40. Trifecta: 4-3-5; \$2,899.20. Superfecta: 4-3-5-1; \$5,332.10.	
SEVENTH RACE: 1. Jinks Gold, \$18.60, 7.00, 3.80; 2. Toppa The Hill, \$14.20, 6.40; 3. Teli A Caim, \$4.80. Exacta: 2-8; \$183.00. Quinella: 2-8; \$40.60. Trifecta: 2-8-7; \$963.00. Pick-4: 0-9-4; \$146.80.	
EIGHTH RACE: 1. In The Sea, \$3.20, 3.00, 2.60; 2. Stroll Fast, \$5.00, 3.60; 3. Shelby Bue, \$6.40. Exacta: 8-3; \$13.60. Quinella: 3-8; \$10.60. Trifecta: 8-3-5; \$155.80. Superfecta: 8-3-5-2; \$448.20.	
Friday's Entries	
FIRST RACE: Purse \$11,000, claiming price \$3,500, seven furlongs.	
1. Stinky Secret (L Cormier)116	
2. Cloee Irene (G Smith)119	
3. Perfect Paradise (Melancon)115	
4. Ida's Girl (R Stokes)116	
5. Crowning Step (P Watson)116	
6. Dreamland Express (Crme Jr)119	
7. Rosie Beau (C Woodley)119	
8. Poison Letters (J Tevorty)116	
9. Our Steffi (S Bourque)119	
10. Grandcentral (C Fullier)111	
SECOND RACE: Purse \$10,000, claiming price \$5,000, five furlongs.	
1. Plate Tectonics (J Calais)120	
2. Katie's Bag (K McIntosh)117	
3. Dueling Roses (Jerri Nichols)117	
4. Unreal Tune (Larry Melancon)120	
5. Tighten Up Todd (T Fontenot)117	
6. Air Janesha (M Ray)120	
7. Sako Ok'kwa (S Bourque)117	
8. Laserblast (Jeff Faut)120	
9. Never Cool (P Ellis)120	
10. Magwire (R Stokes)117	
THIRD RACE: Purse \$32,000, five furlongs.	
1. Tofu For Scotty (K Clark)119	
2. Gib's Bag (Larry Melancon)119	
3. Caljuns Crown (J Tevorty)119	
4. Downwomastluck (Woodley)119	
5. Pixies Moon (J Calais)120	
6. Bye Wom (Jerri Nichols)119	
7. Im Nelson Black (Carmche Jr)119	
8. Katlin's Boy (K McIntosh)119	
9. No Surgeon (Jeff Faut)119	

FINER POINTS

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE												
Atlantic Division												
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf			
New Jersey	37	18	.673		6-4	W-2	25-3	12-15	25-9			
Boston	31	23	.574	5½	5-5	W-1	17-9	14-14	20-16			
Philadelphia	29	24	.547	7	7-3	W-4	17-11	12-13	22-14			
Orlando	26	29	.473	11	3-7	W-1	16-11	10-18	18-17			
Washington	25	28	.472	11	4-6	L-2	17-10	8-18	18-17			
New York	23	30	.434	13	4-6	L-2	15-14	8-16	13-21			
Miami	18	36	.333	18½	3-7	L-3	11-15	7-21	12-21			
Central Division												
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf			
Detroit	37	16	.698		9-1	W-3	20-5	17-11	27-11			
Indiana	37	18	.673	1	4-6	L-3	24-3	13-15	27-10			
New Orleans	29	27	.518	9½	5-5	W-1	20-9	9-18	18-16			
Milwaukee	27	26	.509	10	5-5	L-3	16-12	11-14	21-16			
Atlanta	24	30	.470	17½	4-6	L-1	16-12	4-22	13-22			
Chicago	19	36	.345	19	2-8	L-1	16-9	3-27	14-23			
Toronto	16	36	.308	20½	6-4	L-1	10-17	6-19	11-22			
Cleveland	10	44	.185	27½	2-8	L-4	7-19	3-25	4-28			
WESTERN CONFERENCE												
Midwest Division												
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf			
Dallas	42	12	.778		7-3	W-4	24-4	18-8	22-9			
San Antonio	37	17	.685	5	9-1	L-1	20-4	17-13	24-12			
Minnesota	34	21	.618	8½	7-3	W-1	22-5	12-16	22-11			
Utah	32	22	.593	10	6-4	L-1	20-9	12-13	20-13			
Houston	28	25	.528	13½	4-6	W-1	19-9	9-16	17-17			
Memphis	16	36	.308	25	3-7	W-2	12-15	4-21	8-29			
Denver	12	43	.218	30½	2-8	L-7	9-18	3-25	8-27			
Pacific Division												
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf			
Sacramento	37	18	.673		5-5	W-1	21-5	16-13	25-12			
Portland	35	18	.660	1	7-3	W-3	17-8	18-10	19-13			
Phoenix	30	24	.556	6½	4-6	L-1	21-7	9-17	16-16			
L.A. Lakers	28	25	.528	8	8-2	W-2	17-10	11-15	18-14			
Golden State	24	30	.444	12½	4-6	L-3	15-12	9-18	12-24			
Seattle	22	30	.423	13½	3-7	W-1	11-12	11-18	12-16			
L.A. Clippers	19	34	.358	17	3-7	W-1	11-17	8-17	11-21			

SCORES & SCHEDULES

Wednesday's Games	
Detroit 89, Toronto 84	
New Orleans 87, Washington 75	
L.A. Lakers 83, Utah 87	
Houston 107, Phoenix 89	
Minnesota 85, Denver 77	
Philadelphia 110, Chicago 82	
Seattle 103, New York 94	
Portland 125, Golden State 98	
L.A. Clippers 110, Milwaukee 104	
Thursday's Games	
New Jersey 98, Indiana 91	
Dallas 95, San Antonio 87	
Boston at Sacramento, late	
Friday's Games	
Phoenix at Toronto, 6 p.m.	
Chicago at Orlando, 6 p.m.	
New Jersey at Washington, 6 p.m.	
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.	
Detroit at Minnesota, 7 p.m.	
Dallas at Houston, 7:30 p.m.	

BOXSCORES

Thursday's Games	
Nets 98, Pacers 91	
INDIANA (91)	
Artis 3-9 6-10 13, O'Neal 8-16 1-2 18, B.Miller 8-16 2-2 18, R.Miller 4-4 6-14, Tinsley 2-8 0-0 5, Harrington 9-20 4-5 22, Bender 0-2 1-2, Mercer 0-2 0-0 0, Foster 0-1 0-0 0, Crossover 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 34-83 18-27 91.	
NEW JERSEY (98)	
Jefferson 1-11 3-5 5, Martin 9-13 1-4 19, Collins 3-5 0-0 13, O'Neal 8-16 1-2 21, Kidd 10-16 9-10 31, Rogers 2-4 0-0 4, Harris 4-6 4-6 12, Williams 2-5 6-6 10, Totals 35-71 25-34 98.	
Indiana 23 32 14 22 — 91	
New Jersey 20 25 28 — 98	
3-Point goals—Indiana 5-15 (R.Miller)	

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's Top 25 Fared	
Thursday	
1. Arizona (20-2) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Saturday.	
2. Kentucky (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19 Mississippi State, Sunday.	
3. Texas (18-4) did not play. Next: at No. 16 Oklahoma State, Saturday.	
4. Louisville (19-3) did not play. Next: at Cincinnati, Saturday.	
5. Oklahoma (18-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6 Kansas, Sunday.	
6. Kansas (20-5) did not play. Next: at No. 5 Oklahoma, Sunday.	
7. Florida (21-4) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Saturday.	
8. Duke (18-4) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina, Saturday.	
9. Pittsburgh (18-4) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Saturday.	
10. Wake Forest (18-4) beat Georgia Tech 75-67. Next: vs. Virginia, Sunday.	
11. Marquette (19-4) beat Charlotte 75-67. Next: at Texas Christian, Saturday.	
12. Notre Dame (20-5) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.	
13. Maryland (16-7) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina, Saturday.	
14. Xavier (19-4) did not play. Next: at No. 25 Dayton, Saturday.	
15. Syracuse (18-4) did not play. Next: at Michigan State, Saturday.	
16. Oklahoma State (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3 Texas, Saturday.	
17. Creighton (23-3) did not play.	

TENNIS

Kroger St. Jude

Thursday

At The Racquet Club of Memphis
Memphis, Tenn.

Purse: Men, \$690,000 (Int'l. Gold);

Women, \$170,000 (Tier III)

Surface: Hard-Indoor

Men

Singles

Second Round

Vladimir Voltchkov, Belarus, def. Jeff Morrison, United States, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.

David Sanguinetti, Italy, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

David Sanguinetti, Italy, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Irai Labadze, Georgia, def. James Blake (3), United States, 7-6 (2), 7-5.

Brian Vahaly, United States, def. Eric Taino, United States, 6-2, 6-4.

Taylor Dent, United States, def. Jan-Michael Gambill (5), United States, 7-6 (8), 7-6 (4).

Vince Spadea, United States, def. Magnus Norman, Sweden, 6-4, 6-4.

Paradorn Srichaphan (2), Thailand, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (5), 6-1.

Doubles

Quarterfinals

David Sanguinetti, Italy, and Sargis Sargsian, Armenia, def. Chris Haggard, South Africa, and Brian MacPhie (4), United States, 7-5, 7-6 (4).

James Blake and Justin Gimelstob, United States, def. Mahesh Bhupathi, India, and Joshua Eagle (3), Australia, 7-6 (2), 6-2.

Mardy Fish and Jeff Morrison, United States, vs. Bob and Mike Bryan (2),

United States.

Women

Singles

Quarterfinals

Cho Yoon-Jeong, South Korea, def. Sorai Obata, Japan, 6-0, 6-2.

Amanda Coetzer (3), South Africa, def. Stephanie Foretz, France, 7-5, 6-4.

Laura Granville, United States, def. Silvia Farina Elia (1), 2-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Lisa Raymond (2), U.S. States, def. Carly Gullickson, United States, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Copa AT&T

At Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Purse: \$380,000 (Int'l. Series)

Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles

Second Round

Gaston Gaudio (4), Argentina, def. Fernando Meligeni, Brazil, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-0.

Felix Mantilla, Spain, def. Fernando Gonzalez (3), Chile, walkover.

Gustavo Kuerten, Brazil, def. Flavio Saretta, Brazil, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 7-5.

Juan Ignacio Chela (5), Argentina, def. Agustín Calleri, Argentina, 7-5, 7-5.

Copa Colisantis

At La Academia Colombiana de Tennis

Bogota, Colombia

Purse: \$170,000 (Tier III)

Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles

Second Round

DEALS

BASEBALL

American League

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Agreed to terms with RHP Francisco Rodriguez, RHP Mickey Callaway, RHP Rich Fischer, RHP Bobby Jenks and OF Rob Quinlan.

BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with 1B-ED Kevin Millar on a two-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Doug Davis, INF Michael Young, INF Marcell McDougall, LHP John Lannan and OF Ryan Ludwick to one-year contracts.

National League

COLORADO ROCKIES—Named Dave Snow scouting consultant.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Luis Martinez and RHP Ben Diggins to one-year contracts.

NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with 1B Tony Clark on a minor league contract.

Central League

ALEXANDRIA ACES—Named R.C. Lichtenstein manager and Robert Hewes third base coach. Signed RHP Mike Pederson.

CINCINNATI BENGALS—Signed RHP RHP Mike Smith.

EDINBURGH ROADRUNNERS—Sold the contract of 1B Juan Querecuto to Coastal Bend. Traded RHP Jonathan Coys to Kansas City for Northwest League for future considerations.

Northeast League

ALLENTOWN AMBASSADORS—Signed C Gerald Curi.

BROCKTON ROX—Signed RHP Kevin Lynn.

JOLIET JACKHAMMERS—Signed RHP Dan Saken.

NORTH SHORE SPIRITS—Signed RHP Jeremy Sowers.

WINNIPEG GOLDFEYS—Signed LHP George Sherrill and LHP Dan D'Amato.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

BOSTON CELTICS—Placed C Bruno Sundov on the injured list.

DALLAS MAVERICKS—Placed Greg Ardin Griffin on the injured list.

Activated G Avery Johnson from the injured list.

DENVER NUGGETS—Traded C Mark Blount and F Mark Bryant to the Boston Celtics for G Shammond Williams, a 2003 second-round draft pick and cash.

INDIANA PACERS—Activated F-G Jonathan Bender from the injured list.

Placed G Fred Jones on the injured list.

NEW ORLEANS HORNETS—Traded C Elden Campbell to the Seattle SuperSonics for G Kenny Anderson.

SEATTLE SUPERSONICS—Traded G Gary Payton and G Desmond Mason to the Milwaukee Bucks for G Ray Allen, G Kevin Ollie, G Ronald Murray and a conditional first-round draft pick.

National Basketball Development League

GREENVILLE GROOVE—Signed C Jonathan Bernier. Waived F Calvin Bowman.

Atlanta Kerket Basketball Association

DAKOTA WIZARDS—Signed F Kevin Beard. Waived F John Thomas.

ROCKFORD LIGHTNING—Waived F Brian Wardle.

Women's National Basketball

MINNESOTA LYNX—Named Nancy Darsch assistant coach.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

ATLANTA FAHLCONS—Signed LB Keith Brooking.

CINCINNATI BENGALS—Terminated the contract of OT Richmond Webb.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Released CB Dwayne Goodrich, FB Robert Thomas, and OG Jeremiah.

GREEN BAY PACKERS—Designated DT Cleidius Hunt as their transition

SPORTS

Bryant joins Wilt, MJ in NBA record book

LOS ANGELES (AP) — One minute, Kobe Bryant dragged his aching right knee behind him. The next, he dunked over 7-foot-6 Yao Ming.

All in a night's work for Bryant, whose seven-game streak of scoring at least 40 points is the NBA's longest since Michael Jordan did it in nine consecutive games in the 1986-87 season.

"I'm just going from game-to-game," Bryant said. "I'm just trying to stay healthy and help us win."

Despite battling a bad knee, he's on the kind of roll that comes along once in a generation. Before Jordan's streak, Wilt Chamberlain scored 40 or more in 14 straight games in 1961-62.

It all began three weeks ago for Bryant. That's when coach Phil Jackson told him the slumping Los Angeles Lakers needed him to score more.

Bryant began shooting more — and the points just keep coming.

"I don't really know what it is," Bryant said after getting exactly 40 in a 93-87 victory over the Utah Jazz on Wednesday night. "All this has done is help us win games.

Maybe when I retire I can look back and see what an accomplishment it was."

Bryant has at least 35 points in his last 11 games, a span in which the Lakers have improved from 19-23 to 28-25 and climbed into a tie with the Houston Rockets for the Western Conference's final playoff berth. His average of 42.8 points in that span raised Bryant's season average to 30.4, second in the NBA to Orlando's Tracy McGrady (30.6 ppg).

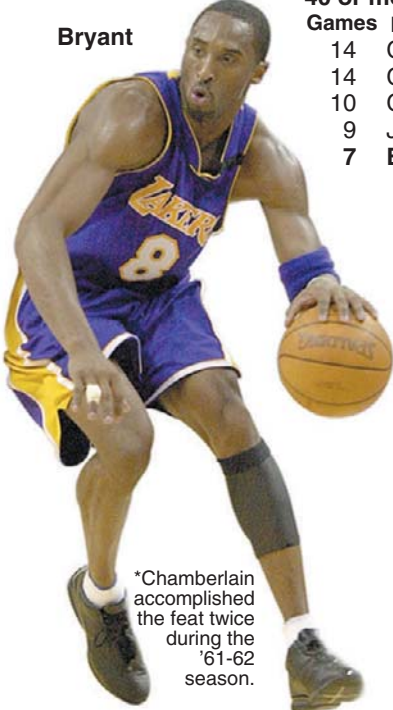
Bryant's 35- and 40-point streaks are both franchise records, eclipsing marks set by Hall of Famer Elgin Baylor. And Bryant's runs both rank fourth in league history entering Friday night's game against Portland.

Chamberlain scored 35 or more points in 33 straight games in 1961-62, and also had streaks of 23 and 20. Jordan's best streak of 35 or more was 10 for Chicago in 1986-87 (the Bulls went just 3-7).

After Bryant dropped 52 points on Yao's Rockets in a double overtime victory Tuesday night, Jackson said: "There's nothing more to say. It was a great effort. It was

Kobe's scoring binge

Kobe Bryant continued his remarkable scoring run, reaching the 40-point plateau for the seventh straight game to join Michael Jordan and Wilt Chamberlain in the NBA record book.



*Chamberlain accomplished the feat twice during the '61-62 season.

Consecutive games played scoring 40 or more points		
Games	Player	Season
14	Chamberlain, Phi.	1961-62
14	Chamberlain, Phi.*	1961-62
10	Chamberlain, S.F	1962-63
9	Jordan, Chi.	1986-87
7	Bryant, LAL	2002-03

Bryant during the 11-game streak	
PPG	42.7
FG%	50.0
35+ point games	11
40+ point games	9
50+ point games	2
Team W-L	9-2

Points scored

Win	Loss
40	38
42	35
46	42
51	44
40	52
40	40

Games: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

SOURCE: Elias Sports Bureau

AP

Nets beat Indiana behind 31 from Kidd

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Jason Kidd scored 18 of his 31 points in the fourth quarter while being defended by Ron Artest and the New Jersey Nets rallied to a 98-91 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Thursday night.

Kidd added 12 assists and nine rebounds in almost single-handedly rallying the Nets from a 15-point third-quarter deficit in yet another chippy game between the two young, emotional Eastern Conference foes.

Tempers flared repeatedly and the officiating crew called six technicals and one flagrant foul. Artest, the Pacers' bad boy, got the flagrant and a technical, and generally seemed a little out of control.

Reserve Al Harrington had 22 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Pacers, who dropped their third straight game.

Mavericks95

Spurs87

DALLAS — Steve Nash had 29 points and 10 assists, and Dallas held on to beat San Antonio, ending the Spurs' nine-game winning streak.

San Antonio set an NBA record with eight straight road wins on the same trip, including victories at

NBA

Sacramento and the Los Angeles Lakers, before returning home for a 101-76 victory Tuesday night against Denver.

The Mavericks were able to hold Tim Duncan to 11 points. But it wasn't until the league's MVP left the court with 8:13 remaining after being hit in the eye that the Spurs went on a 16-2 run.

Duncan was fouled hard by Michael Finley, and walked unaided to the locker room after staying down for a couple of minutes.

While Duncan's eye was swollen and remained sore after the game, Spurs officials said there were no scratches or other damage to the eye. He will be checked Friday.

Once play resumed, Tony Parker hit a 3-pointer. Malik Rose scored eight of his 25 points in the run, including two free throws with 3:08 left to pull the Spurs within 84-82 — the closest they would get.

Robinson wanted man

CHICAGO — Atlanta Hawks forward Glenn Robinson failed to appear in court on misdemeanor charges Thursday and a judge issued a warrant for his arrest.

The warrant does not extend beyond Illinois state lines.

"When and if he comes back into the state, he can be picked up on this warrant. There won't be any pursuit of this outside of the state," said Tom Stanton, a spokesman in the Cook County state's attorney's office.

NBA TRADE DEADLINE

Bucks swap Allen for Payton

IN A blockbuster five-player deal Thursday at the NBA trading deadline, Ray Allen was sent from the Milwaukee Bucks to the Seattle SuperSonics for Gary Payton and Desmond Mason.

The Sonics also received guards Kevin Ollie and a conditional first-round draft pick.

The trade ended Payton's career in Seattle after 12½ seasons and reunited him with coach George Karl.

Milwaukee plays at Seattle on Friday night, but Sonics general manager Rick Sund said that neither Payton nor the four others in the trade would play.

Payton's contract expires after this season, and the Sonics risked losing the nine-time All-Star guard over the summer on the free agent market with nothing in return.

Instead, they acquired one of the purest shooters in the game.

Allen, a six-year veteran and three-time All-Star, has spent his entire career with the Bucks. A gold medalist for the United States at the Sydney Olympics, he also will be a member of the 2004 Olympic men's basketball team.

"We hate trading a player of Ray's caliber and character. He's done a lot for the city of Milwaukee, but everybody gets traded at some point in this league," Bucks general manager Ernie Grunfeld said. "We got two outstanding players for him."

The trade creates a logjam at point guard for the Bucks while causing the opposite problem for the SuperSonics.

Seattle also made a trade with the New Orleans Hornets, exchanging point

guard Kenny Anderson for center Elden Campbell.

In the day's only other deal, Boston sent guard Shammond Williams, a second-round draft pick and cash to Denver for center Mark Blount and forward Mark Bryant.

"Quite frankly, I'm surprised any deals were made," Atlanta Hawks general manager Pete Babcock said.

The Hawks were expected to be one of the most active teams before the deadline, but 2 p.m. passed without any of their best players — Shareef Abdur-Rahim, Jason Terry, Theo Ratliff and Glenn Robinson — being traded.

"The tax had added another layer of issues you have to work through," Babcock said. "You rarely see a trade just talent-for-talent."

Funk fires way to first-round lead

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fred Funk knows he doesn't have the same skills as Tiger Woods, although he wasn't about to trade scores Thursday in the Nissan Open.

Funk, one of the shortest hitters on the PGA Tour, proved that the shortest club in the bag can make all the difference. He had 11 one-putts and holed another from off the green for a 6-under 65 and a three-stroke lead.

Woods, coming off a strong victory last week in San Diego, hit the ball decently in the tough, blustery conditions at Riviera Country Club.

Toward the end, he was ready to either break his putter or wrap it around the neck of a fan whose cell phone went off.

"Turn off the (expletive) phone," Woods shouted after a three-putt bogey from 6 feet on the No. 17. He wound up at 1-over 72, the first time he has failed to shoot par or better in the opening round at the Nissan Open.

"It was a long, tough day," Woods said later.

Indeed it was. The firm, fast conditions were made

GOLF

even more difficult by strong gusts that swirled through the tree-lined fairways. Play was so slow that it took more than five hours to complete 18 holes, and 15 players failed to finish before it got dark.

Jeff Sluman had the best round among the later starters at 3-under 68.

That tied him with Steve Elkington, who won the '95 PGA Championship at Riviera, three-time major winner Nick Price and Cameron Beckman.

David Duval played with Woods and turned in a 69, and clearly the most entertaining round of the day. On one hole, officials had to push a cart and a popcorn stand out of his way. At the end, his approach bounced off a tree and onto the green.

"It was fun for the whole family," Duval said.

It was anything but that for Woods.

Unlike Duval, he didn't overcome some of his adventures.

Woods' tee shot on No. 9 sailed to the right and under the television booth. He scrambled out of trouble, only to miss a 2½-foot par putt — making a 5-footer coming back.

But the real damage came on the par-5 17th. Woods was on the front apron of the green in two and chipped 6 feet past the hole. A birdie would have put him under par. Instead, he pushed it right and cursed loud enough for everyone to hear.

Just as he made contact on the 4-footer for par, a cell phone rang.

Woods glared, and when the phone kept ringing, he cursed the fan. Making it worse, the phone kept ringing even as marshals escorted the man off the course.

Woods had no regrets for cursing him.

"He shouldn't have had the cell phone. Period," Woods said.

At least caddie Steve Williams didn't get his hands on it. At the Skins Game, Williams deposited a man's digital camera into a pond after he clicked on Woods' back swing.

Snowden leads in wet Toledo Bend tournament

MANY — Under leaden skies and near constant drizzle punctuated by intermittent downpours, anglers found plenty of fish in the first day of the Citgo Bassmasters Tour tournament on Toledo Bend Thursday.

With water temperatures ranging from the low to mid 50s, many bass moved into about four to eight feet of water along creek channels and ditches to stage before moving shallow to spawn. That's where Brian Snowden of Springfield, Mo., found his fish.

Snowden landed more than 20 bass exceeding the minimum 14 inches in length. He brought five keepers to the scales, including one weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces. His total stringer weighed 21 pounds, 10 ounces.

"I was fishing in a cove just north of the Pendleton Bridge," Snowden said.

"The area had a lot of grass, ditches and wood structure. My first fish of the day was the big one. It hit a Texas red Cotton Cordell Super Spot. I also caught fish on a white and chartreuse 1/2-ounce War Eagle spinnerbait with double willow-leaf blades."

The anglers landed at least three bass exceeding 8 pounds and quite a few in the 6 to 8-pound range. The 176 profes-

sionals landed 128 five-fish limits with most fish ranging from 2 to 4 pounds. The 174 amateurs landed 32 limits.

Kotaro Kiriyaama of New Milford, N.J., landed the lunker of the day, an 8-pound 12-ounce largemouth. He caught it in about a foot of water. For the catch, Kiriyaama earned \$1,000.

Mike Wurm of Hot Springs, Ark., landed a five-bass limit weighing 21 pounds, 2 ounces for second. Jeff Kriet of Ardmore, Okla., also broke the 20-pound barrier with five bass weighing 20 pounds, 1 ounce. Kriet also used a lipless crankbait. Three of his fish exceeded 6 pounds.

Sam Swett led the Louisiana pro delegation. The Covington angler landed five bass weighing 10 pounds. He currently holds 108th place.

Joel Etheredge of Springfield, Ala., led the amateurs with five bass weighing 17 pounds, 9 ounces. Jason Reyes of Humble, Texas, holds second with five bass weighing 17 pounds, 8 ounces. One of his fish weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces, the top fish landed by an amateur.

Many Louisiana amateur anglers did very well. Seven Louisiana amateurs landed in the top 25. Ned Goodeaux of Westlake led the pack with five bass weighing 15 pounds, 7 ounces for third place.

John Lombard of Slaughter tied with Teddy Cloide of

Vidor, Texas, for 10th among amateurs with five bass weighing 12 pounds, 5 ounces. Phillip Grooms Jr. of Leesville holds 12th with five keepers weighing 12 pounds, 4 ounces.

Dale Logan, of Iowa, holds 14th place in the amateur ranks with five bass weighing 11 pounds, 12 ounces. Willard Booty of DeQuincy holds 20th place with five bass weighing 10 pounds, 10 ounces.

On Thursday, the pros caught and released 778 bass totaling 1,873 pounds, 6 ounces. The amateurs caught and released 435 bass weighing 923 pounds, 2 ounces.

The competition continues through Sunday. The anglers will launch at 6:30 a.m. each day at the Cypress Bend Marina. The weigh-in today begins at 2:30 p.m. at Cypress Bend Marina.

On Saturday, only the top 12 pros and top 12 amateurs compete in the semifinal round. They must fish a six-hole course in Lanana Creek. On Sunday, the top six professionals return to Lanana Creek for the final round with the winner taking home \$100,000. The weigh-ins begin at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

A SEASON TO REMEMBER



McNEESE COWBOY BASEBALL

COWBOYS ~vs~ ARKANSAS STATE

Friday, February 21st • 7 p.m.
Saturday, February 22nd • 2 p.m.
Sunday, February 23rd • 1 p.m.

All games played at Cowboy Diamond

For more information call: 475-5482

MSU BASEBALL 2003

RESULTS

Citgo Bassmasters
MANY — Results Thursday from the first day of the Citgo Bassmasters Tour Tournament at Toledo Bend. For complete results, visit bassmaster.com on the Internet (Weights in pounds and ounces).

Professional Anglers
1. Brian Snowden, Springfield, Mo., 5 bass, 21 pounds, 10 ounces; 2. Mike Wurm, Hot Springs, Ark., 5 bass, 21-2; 3. Jeff Kriet, Ardmore, Okla., 5 bass, 20-1; 4. Tom Mann Jr., Buford, Ga., 5 bass, 19-3; 5. David Fritts, Lexington, N.C., 5 bass, 18-9; 6. Tim Horton, Muscle Shoals, Ala., 5 bass, 17-13; 7. Rick Morris, Virginia Beach, Va., 5 bass, 16-14; 8. Takahiro Omori, Emory, Texas, 5 bass, 16-12; 9. Danny Kirk, Bartow, Ga., 5 bass, 16-7; 10. J. Todd Tucker, Moultrie, Ga., 5 bass, 16-5; 11. Robert McCardle, Marietta, Ga., 4 bass, 16-4; 12. Kyle Mabrey, McCalla, Ala., 5 bass, 15-14; 13. David Mansur, Robbinsville, N.J., 5 bass, 15-12; 14. Guy Eaker, Cherryville, N.C., 5 bass, 15-11; 15. Bud Pruitt, Spring, Texas, 5 bass, 15-10; 16. Darren Wolf, Longview, Texas, 5 bass, 15-2; 17. Shaw Grigsby, Gainesville, Fla., 5 bass, 15-1; 18. Alton Jones, Waco, Texas, 5 bass, 15-0; 19. Curt Lytle, Suffolk, Va., 5 bass, 14-14; 20. Harold Allen, Shelbyville, Texas, 5 bass, 14-13.

Amateur Anglers
1. Joel Etheredge, Springville, Ala., 5 bass, 17-9; 2. Jason Reyes, Humble, Texas, 5 bass, 17-8; 3. Ned Goodeaux, Westlake, 5 bass, 15-7; 4. Keith Loveday, Pembroke, Ga., 5 bass, 15-5; 5. John Windham, Lake Worth, Fla., 5 bass, 15-3; 6. Rodney O'Dell, Elkhart, Ind., 5 bass, 14-12; 7. Ricky Guy, Houston, 5 bass, 14-7; 8. Ernie Hillebrandt, Sam Rayburn, Texas, 5 bass 14-1; 9. Christopher Oeser, Egg Harbor Town, N.J., 5 bass, 12-11; 10T. Teddy Cloide, Vidor, Texas, 5 bass 12-5; 10T. John Lombard, Slaughter, 5 bass, 12-5; 12. Phillip Grooms Jr., Leesville, 5 bass, 12-4; 13. Antonio Modino, Hialeah, Fla., 5 bass, 12-3; 14. Dale Logan, Iowa, 5 bass, 11-12; 15T. Scott Pomykal, Bedford, Texas, 5 bass, 11-8; 15T. Kenny Price, Columbia, Miss., 5 bass, 11-8; 17. Scotty W. Pennington, Crossett, Ark., 4 bass, 11-7; 18. Paul Ferguson, Arp, Texas, 5 bass, 11-3; 19. Pete Robbins, Potomac, Md., 5 bass, 10-15; 20. Willard Booty, DeQuincy, 5 bass, 10-10.



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COLLEGES

UTSA survives scare from Cowgirls

BY GARY LANEY
AMERICAN PRESS

Texas-San Antonio is winning the Southland Conference with defense. On Thursday, the Roadrunners put the clamps on McNeese State.



UTSA.....45
Cowgirls.....41

The Cowgirls were held to 37 percent shooting and UTSA's Nikki Hendrix scored 18 points and 12 rebounds in a 45-41 Roadrunners win.

Julie Rampley added nine points, seven rebounds and three assists for UTSA (13-9, 13-2), which won its 12th straight. Not once in those 12 wins has a Roadrunner opponent scored 60 points.

McNeese (6-15, 5-10) had the ball down 42-39 after UTSA's Tiwana Collins missed two free throws with 32 seconds left. But Dewalla Holliday stole a Clarissa Clark pass, leading to a pair of free throws by Rampley that iced the game.

McNeese played the closing minutes without leading scorer Kellie Burbridge, who rolled her ankle.

"She rolled it and I asked her if she could go and she said yes," McNeese coach

BOXSCORE	
UT-San Antonio (13-9, 13-2) Jackson 3-11 2-2 8, Hendrix 7-16 4-9 18, Holliday 0-9 0-0 0, Collins 2-4 0-2 5, Rampley 3-12 2-2 9,, Greer 0-0 2-2 2, Reed 0-2 0-0 0, Mingee 0-0 0-0 0, Layton 0-1 0-0 0, Sandefur 1-2 1-2 3. Totals 16-57 11-21 45.	
McNeese State (6-15, 5-10) Bender 0-4 2-2 2, Williams 3-7 0-2 6, Burbridge 6-12 2-4 15, Moraels 1-1 0-0 2, LeBlanc 0-1 0-0 0, Spivey 2-6 1-2 6, Clark 0-6 0-0 0, Scott 4-6 0-0 8, Morrell 0-2 0-0 0, Stewart 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 17-46 5-10 41.	
Halftime —UTSA 21, McNeese 17. 3-Point goals —UTSA 2-17 (Jackson 0-2, Hendrix 0-2, Holliday 0-2, Collins 1-3, Rampley 1-7, Layton 0-1), McNeese 2-5 (Burbridge 1-1, Spivey 1-2, Clark 0-2). Fouled out —none. Rebounds —UTSA 43 (Hendrix 12), McNeese 33 (Williams 6). Assists —UTSA 8 (Rampley 3), McNeese 9 (Bender, Stewart 3). Total fouls —UTSA 11, McNeese 21. A —NA.	

Carol Sensley said. "We needed her tonight, but we also need her the rest of the season. It was my decision."

Burbridge scored 15 points to lead McNeese, which trailed 41-33 with 2:32 left, but pulled within 42-39 on Regina Spivey's jumper with 59 seconds left.

But the Cowgirls did not score again until Marquita Williams' meaningless jumper at the buzzer.

"There was a lack of offensive execution," Sensley said. "We did not execute down the stretch."



RICKY HICKMAN / AMERICAN PRESS

McNeese State's Kellie Burbridge drives into the lane against Texas-San Antonio's Beth Layton during the first half of their game Thursday at Burton Coliseum.

That's been the case later for most teams playing against UTSA, which came into the game allowing just 52.3 points a game in conference play.

"They play good help-side defense, they seemed to know every cut we were going to make," Burbridge said. "We needed to be smarter. We needed to make moves to counteract that."

Burbridge scored seven quick points and McNeese

jumped to a 9-4 lead at the 14:34 mark of the first half on a Burbridge 3-pointer. But after Regina Spivey's 3-pointer at the 12:22 mark gave McNeese a 12-8 lead, the Cowgirls scored just two field goals the rest of the half.

McNeese had a 13-7 lead, but the Roadrunners went on an 11-2 run by take a 19-15 lead on Jackson's driving layup with 5:54 left in the first half. UTSA led 21-17 at halftime.

MCNEESE BRIEFS

Track team competes in SLC indoor meet

McNeese State's track and field team begins competition in the annual Southland Conference indoor championship meet in Houston today.

The two-day event will end Saturday.

Today's competition will consist of mainly prelims with finals being run in the men's pentathlon, 5,000 meters, pole vault, long jump and high jump and in the women's 5,000 meters and shot put.

McNeese head coach Steve Baker said he's looking for an improved showing from both of his teams. Last year the men placed seventh and the women finished eighth.

"I expect the field events to carry the men while the women should do better in the running events," he said.

Among the key performers for the men will be Edwin Billot, Lucas Mireles, Cameron Nott, Kris Gilmore and Reggie Brown.

Billot will take part in the five event (shot put, hurdles,



BROWN



WALLER



BURBRIDGE

the mile leg on the distance medley. He was the conference 1,600-meter outdoor champion last year.

Brown enters as one of the top competitors in the long jump (24-0").

Also on today, the men's 5,000 meters will be run and it will have an interesting subplot as twins Ryan and Bryan Williams will participate. Both ran for McNeese last year but Bryan is now running for Stephen F. Austin.

The running events should pace the Cowgirls in the meet with Ruth Waller, Renine Leheron and Latrece Roberts the top competitors. Waller owns the school-best this year in the 800 meters at 2 minutes, 13.48 seconds and the (5:00.93) while Leheron has been tops in the 3,000 meters at 10:08.37.

Roberts leads the Cowgirls in the 60-meter dash with a school-record 7.72 clocking and is tops in the 200 meters at 27.54.

Burbridge named to all-academic team

McNeese State senior Kellie Burbridge of the women's basketball team was named to the Academic All-District VI academic team as a second-team selection.

Ten athletes were chosen by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America. District VI represents all NCAA Division I schools in the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

To be eligible, student-athletes must be at least a sophomore with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.20 on a 4.0 scale. First-team member from each district advance to the national ballot.

Burbridge, from Melbourne, Australia, is pursuing a double major in finance and business management with a 3.716 GPA.

The 6-foot Burbridge leads the Cowgirls in scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage and free throw percentage.

Arkansas St. catches Ragin' Cajuns off guard

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JONESBORO, Ark. — Tony Brown scored 25 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead Arkansas State to an 84-72 Sun Belt Conference victory Thursday night over Louisiana-Lafayette.

Brown hit all four of the 3-pointers he attempted, and teammate Paris London was

STATE

2-for-2 from outside the arc, helping ASU (12-13, 5-7 SBC) shoot 48 percent from long distance. Louisiana-Lafayette (18-7, 10-2) was led by Laurie Bridgeswith 26 points, While Michael Southall had 11 points and Brad Boyd scored 10.

Rice Louisiana Tech New Orleans North Texas Denton

RUSTON — Yamar Diene's driving layup in the final minute completed a 14-point second-half comeback for Rice.

Jason McKeith led Rice (16-7, 8-5 Western Athletic Conference) with 17 points, while Mance and Diene each scored 11. Diene also grabbed nine rebounds.

Antonio Meeking led Tech (12-10, 9-6) with 18 points and 10 rebounds, while Felton scored 17

and Wilder 15. Zach Johnson grabbed 12 rebounds for Tech.

New Orleans North Texas Denton

DENTON, Texas — Johnell Smith had 19 points and four steals to lead New Orleans (14-11, 7-6 Sun Belt).

Hector Romero had a double-double for New Orleans with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Nerijus Lissauskas had 10 points and seven rebounds, and Kyle Buggs added 11 points.

Pettit makes return to mound against Houston

SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

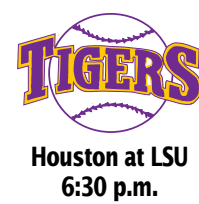
BATON ROUGE — Conference powers collide for a three-game weekend series when LSU of the Southeastern Conference hosts Conference USA-favorite Houston, beginning today at Alex Box Stadium.

The Tigers (5-3) take on their first ranked opponent of the season at 6:30 p.m. today. The series continues at 2 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.

The Tigers' pitching rotation will be bolstered by the return of fifth-year senior right-hander Bo Pettit, a Houston native, missed his scheduled starts against Northwestern State and Kansas because of the flu.

LSU VS. HOUSTON

- **WHAT:** Houston at LSU.
- **WHEN:** 6:30 p.m. today, 2 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday.
- **WHERE:** Alex Box Stadium (7,760); 330 feet foul lines, 365 ft. power alleys, 405 ft. center.
- **RECORDS:** Houston 2-5, LSU 5-3.
- **COACHES:** Rayner Noble, Houston (9th year, 296-109). Smoke Laval, LSU (2nd year at LSU, 48-25; 9th year overall, 289-184).
- **RANKINGS:** Collegiate Baseball — LSU, No. 12; Houston, No. 21. Baseball America — LSU, No. 14; Houston, No. 20. ESPN/USA Today — LSU, No. 17; Houston, No. 21.
- **SERIES:** Houston leads 17-



Houston at LSU 6:30 p.m.

series 2-1. Houston won the first game of the series 11-3 and LSU won the second game 8-4.

■ **NOTES:** LSU does not play any mid-week games next week as the Tigers embark on a three-game series at Long Beach State, the Tigers' first trip to California in the program's 110-year history. ... The series is tied 7-7 all-time at Alex Box Stadium, and LSU swept Houston in the last series in

12. ■ **LAST MEETING:** Houston won 12-11 on Feb. 24, 2002, in Houston, winning the

2001. LSU has won five of the last seven games vs. Houston at the Box. ... The Tigers enter the series with a .311 team batting average. ... This is the first of six consecutive contests against a ranked team. ... The Cougars have lost three of their last four.... Houston fell one win short of the College World Series in 2002, losing in three games at Texas in its super regional. ... The Cougars have won three of the last four Conference USA championships and have been to the regionals five out of the last six years. ... Houston was 10-3 in the series prior to Skip Bertman's arrival in 1984, but the Tigers hold a 9-7 lead since 1985.

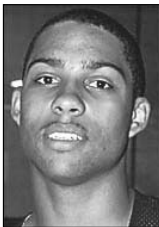
MCNEESE REPORT



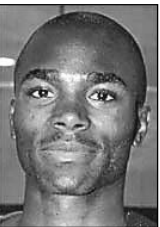
McNeese 72
UTSA 66



BOXSCORE



WATTS



JOHNSON

TEXAS-SAN ANTONIO (7-15)			
Player	FGs	FTs	Pts.
Hurd	7-11	2-3	18
Akotaobi	10-13	4-4	30
Havens	0-3	0-0	0
Briggs	3-7	3-6	9
Willis	0-1	2-2	2
Brownlee	0-2	0-0	0
Cole	2-5	1-2	6
Ivy	0-0	1-2	1
Salinas	0-0	0-0	0
Williams	0-0	0-0	0
Powell	0-0	0-0	0
Watkins	0-1	0-0	0
Totals	22-43	13-19	66

MCNEESE ST. (12-10)			
Player	FGs	FTs	Pts.
Oliver	2-5	2-2	6
Johnson	8-13	1-2	17
Miley	2-2	0-0	4
Tucker	4-5	0-1	10
Williams	2-7	1-4	5
Lewis	1-2	2-3	4
Coleman	4-19	0-0	9
Guilbeaux	0-0	0-0	0
Watts	5-7	0-2	10
Garriet	0-0	0-0	0
Farmer	3-6	1-1	7
Totals	31-66	7-15	72

Halftime—Texas-San Antonio 39, McNeese 38. **3-Point goals**—Texas-San Antonio 9-19 (Akotaobi 6-8, Hurd 2-3, Cole 1-4, Briggs 0-1, Havens 0-3), McNeese St. 3-14 (Tucker 2-2, Coleman 1-11, Oliver 0-1). **Fouled out**—None. **Rebounds**—Texas-San Antonio 30 (Hurd 8), McNeese St. 34 (Watts 11). **Assists**—Texas-San Antonio 12 (Hurd, Havens, Willis 3), McNeese St. 20 (Lewis, Coleman 4). **Total fouls**—Texas-San Antonio 19, McNeese St. 19. **A**—1,000 (est).

NOTES

McNeese guard Edward Garriet missed his second consecutive game with back problems. He joined Larry Jackson on the injured list. Jackson missed his third straight game from a season-ending knee injury. ... UTSA was without center Juan Valdez, who has been suspended from the team. Also out was point guard David President,

who suffered a season-ending ankle injury at practice earlier this week. ... McNeese won the first meeting this season, 66-51, Jan. 18 at San Antonio. ... The Roadrunners lead the series 17-13, but the Cowboys have won four of the last five meetings. ... McNeese is 8-2 at home. UTSA is 4-9 on the road.

GARY LANEY

Upcoming McNeese Schedule

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
	At					Home
	SE LA 7 p.m.					NICHOLLS STATE 7:45 p.m.

COWBOYS: Defeat UTSA

from PAGE C1

finishing touches on its season sweep.

"Marcus Watts keeps just getting better and better," McNeese coach Tic Price said. "He has the desire and the determination to help us win. He has a great future as a Cowboy."

UTSA (7-15, 4-11) led by as much as eight points several times in the first half, but after getting off to the a hot start, the Roadrunner scored just 29 points in the last 23 minutes.

"It was about defense," said Watts. "We were allowing too much penetration and the help was not good early. But we came around and played better defense as the game went on."

McNeese survived a hot night from UTSA's Ike Atataobi, who had 30 points on 10-for-13 shooting.

"Akaotobi was outstanding tonight," Price said. "He was in one of those zones."

The Cowboys also won without a good night from leading scorer Jason Coleman, who managed nine points on 4-for-19 shooting. But McNeese had 13 steals and forced 18 turnovers and committed eight turnovers against a UTSA team that was playing without injured point guard David President.

"That's a huge stat," Price said. "That, and we had 20 assists to their 12. Those are telling stats."

The points came from the inside. Johnson got his 17 points, one point better than his previous career high achieved several times, on a combination of mid-range jumpers and driving dunks in the lane.

"I've always known I can score," Johnson said, "my mindset was to play defense, which I got off to a slow start in tonight. But I always knew I could score. Tonight was just my night."

Watts was 5-for-7 from the floor, showing that he is more than just a finisher inside.

"He has developed some post moves as the season has gone on," Price said.

Watts also had five of McNeese's 14 offensive rebounds. The Cowboys outboarded UTSA 34-30, allowing just four offensive rebounds for the visitor.

"They beat us on the offensive boards," Roadrunners coach Tim Carter said. "We don't have anybody to go to the offensive boards hard. That's what I'm going to have to go get."

Four early Akotaobi 3-pointers helped the Roadrunners to a quick 18-13 lead. McNeese had trouble stopping UTSA's dribble penetration, as the Roadrunners were easily driving, then dishing to open jump shooters.

"Poor communication," Johnson said. "We weren't communicating; we were allowing penetration and the help side was not there."

The lead got up to 25-17 on a layup by Raymond Briggs. UTSA built the lead to eight points seven times in the first half before the Cowboys went on a 9-1 run to tie it at 38-38 on Greg Tucker's layup off a Jerick Oliver steal with 1:01 left in the first half.

"I thought the press we went to at the end of the half bothered them," Price said. "That helped us get back into the game."

HIGH SCHOOLS

Barbe bucking for undefeated district season

BY BRIAN GUILBEAU
AMERICAN PRESS

Barbe has already won the District 3-5A boys basketball championship and secured a spot in the playoffs.

There's just one thing left for the Bucs to do, something they have never done.

A win over Sulphur at 7 p.m. today would end the Bucs' season with a perfect district record of 14-0, a feat that has never accomplished since the Lake Charles-Lafayette league was recreated in 1993.

The Bucs, though, must play Sulphur, which is 5-0 against Barbe when Martin Zeno steps on the court.

The Bucs picked up a win over Sulphur earlier this year, but the Tors were minus their leading scorer — a junior who has started since he was a freshman — with a broken arm.

Zeno returned to the lineup

against Lafayette on Tuesday, a 69-39 Tors win, and scored 14 points in his first action since Jan. 14.

"We were struggling a little without him," said Sulphur coach Clint LeBato. "We didn't play well in a loss last Friday before he came back and we beat Lafayette. With our without Zeno, we have got to do a good job of handling the ball. We didn't do a good job of that against them the first time this year and we gave them some easy baskets."

Aside from trying to go unbeaten in district, No. 6 Barbe (28-4, 13-0) is trying to tie the school record for wins in a season.

"We're not going into this game trying to beat Martin Zeno," Bucs coach Shannon LaFargue said. "We're trying to accomplish the goals we set at the start of the season. We would like to finish the season on a strong note. But regard-

less of whether we win or lose, we have the same playoff seeding and we're still district champion."

Beating Barbe is always a plus for long-time rival Sulphur, but the rivalry takes a back seat today as the Tors are battling for a spot in the playoffs.

Sulphur and Carencro enter the final night of league play tied for third in district. Carencro plays at LaGrange tonight.

"We're in a tough situation," LeBato said. "We need to win because we can't count on getting help from LaGrange."

Should they both win or both lose, Sulphur and Carencro would need a playoff to decide who receives the automatic bid to the playoffs as the district's third seed. Fourth-place district finishers throughout the state must wait and hope for one of five wild cards in Class 5A.

Lady Cougars cruise past Notre Dame

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Lake Charles-Boston girls dominated inside and cruised to a 69-49 victory over Notre Dame of Crowley in the opening round of the Class 3A girls state basketball playoffs Thursday night.

Angelica Jack and Sonya Porter combined for 49 of LC-B's points. Jack had 25 points while Porter had 24, along 16 rebounds and five blocked shots.

Amanda Romero led Notre Dame with 16 points.

At Redemptorist, St. Louis used a steady offensive attack to pull out a 51-44 road win over Redemptorist.

Anna Thompson led the Lady Saints with 18 points and Chavonda Doucet added 12 as St. Louis used a strong third quarter to extend a three-point halftime lead.

Arielle Williams led all scorers with 24 points for the Lady Wolves. At Kaplan, Casey Broussard and Raven Roy each put up 15 points as the Lady Pirates knocked off Jennings 46-27.

Kaplan outscored Jennings 37-18 over the final three quarters after being tied 9-9 after the first quarter.

Class 4A

In Lafayette, Elyse Joseph scored 17 points and Sally Padgett had 15 to lead St. Thomas More to a 48-44 win over Leesville.

Shonte Kennedy had 10 points for Leesville before fouling out.

In Meraux, the Washington-Marion Lady Indians battled back from a 13-point halftime deficit but fell short, losing to Archbishop Hannan 49-43.

Jayniya Bellard led W-M with 23 points and 10 rebounds.

The Lady Indians tied the game at 33 at the beginning of the fourth quarter but couldn't hold on.

At DeRidder, Whitney Charles nailed six 3-point shots to lead the Lady Dragons past Opelousas 77-64. Charles finished with 26 points, while Courtney Carter had 21 along with 10 rebounds.

Class 2A

At Iota, the Lady Bulldogs got 13 points from Megan Cart and 11 from Meghann Lejeune before emptying the bench in a 76-33 rout of Westminster Christian Academy.

At North Central, South Beauregard put four players in double-digits scoring as the Lady K's held off North Central 63-56.

Ashley Witherspoon scored 18 points and pulled down 13 rebounds to South Beauregard

while Tamy Jo Shockley added 13 and Jennifer Bruce and Alexa Hall each scored 11.

Atthia Doucet and Donesha Durisseau each scored 20 to lead North Central.

Iota will travel to South Beauregard Monday in the region-als.

At Loyola, Caroline Irwin, Nesi Vallow and Chassity Brown combined for 45 points to lead Loyola past Oakdale 63-49. LaKeisha Nelson led Oakdale with 17 points.

Kristy Jones had 32 points and Ronanda Edwards added 18 as No. 5 Ville Platte was too much for visiting Kinder in a 81-61 win. Somer Richard led Kinder with 28 points.

At Lakeview, Sierra and Cierra Bush combined for 29 points as unbeaten and top ranked Lakeview rolled over Pickering 61-24.

Class 1A

Lake Arthur's balanced scoring attack was too much for Bernice as the Lady Tigers led throughout in a 47-40 home victory. Allison Chapman had 14 points and 13 rebounds for Lake Arthur, which jumped ahead 23-16 at halftime.

At East Beauregard, Sam Gill turned in an 18-point, 10-rebound performance to lead the Lady Trojans to a 56-49 win over Gueydan.

Gill was one of two East Beauregard players to finish with a double-double as Kayla Delome added 13 points and 10 rebounds in the win.

At Arcadia, six players scored exactly 10 points for Arcadia in a 60-37 win over Elton, which had no players in double figures. Jessica Barmore hit the winning shot with two seconds remaining as Rosepine beat visiting Merryville 47-45.

Elizabeth Dardar led Rosepine with 16 points. LaTasha Jones and Callie Schiro had 12 points each for Merryville.

Class B

At Florien, Teresa Garner had 26 points and Lela Richardson had 27 to lead a Florien romp over Pitkin 92-37. Jessica Mendoza led Pitkin with 14 points.

At Hathaway, Heather Broussard posted up for a basket with 44 seconds remaining and Hathaway held on for a 57-56 victory over Vidrine.

Vidrine had three shot attempts after Broussard's basket and another chance after Hathaway missed

GUILBEAU: Fix brackets

from PAGE C1

The rest of the bracket can be filled out with district champions and wild cards by pulling names out of a hat.

Higher seeded teams get home games and in games without a seeded team, the current method of making the top or bottom team in each bracket the home team can be used. At the very least, this way you don't have to play the whole season knowing you are going to get killed in the second round by a perennial powerhouse and ranked teams will meet in the later rounds.

If it is a 16-team field like some of the soccer brackets, the top eight get home games.

Travel concerns — long a major consideration — can't be cited as a flaw in this system either. Sulphur and LaGrange open the girls basketball playoffs at home this year against teams from Shreveport and New Orleans.

Both the Sulphur boys and St. Louis girls soccer teams started the playoffs at home against New Orleans teams, so travel is already common in the playoffs.

Of course, this system makes too much sense.

For now you will have to suffer through second-rate state championships because of boys matchups like top-ranked Woodlawn against second-ranked Ouachita in the quarterfinals.

Or better yet, fourth-ranked Denham Springs against ninth-ranked Thibodaux in the first round, the winner of which would probably get third-ranked Southwood in the quarterfinals.

Before the playoffs even start we already know that two of the top four teams in the state are guaranteed to not make the Top 28.

And that's just Class 5A.

TONIGHT

Contact schools for game times.

Boys Only

District 3-5A: Sulphur at Barbe, Carencro at LaGrange, Comeaux at Acadiana, New Iberia at Lafayette.

District 4-4A: Sam Houston at DeRidder, Eunice at Washington-Marion.

District 4-3A: Third-place tiebreaker: Westlake vs. Jennings at Iowa, 6:30 p.m.

District 5-1A: East Beauregard at Elton, St. Edmund at Merryville, South Cameron at Basile, Mamou vs. Oberlin.

Saturday Cardinal Shootout (at Lacassine High School) 11 a.m. — Bell City vs. Bayou Chicot

12:30 p.m. — Singer vs. Vermilion Catholic
2 p.m. — Hamilton vs. Northwood-Lena
3:30 p.m. — Lacassine vs. Lake Arthur



BRAD PUCKETT / AMERICAN PRESS

Lake Charles-Boston's Sonya Porter goes up for a shot against Notre Dame's Amy Simon.

two free throws with 14 seconds remaining but Vidrine lost the ball out of bounds before getting a shot off.

Broussard led Hathaway with 20 points.

At Bell City, Glenmora got a game-high 24 points from Samantha Gillespie as the fourth-ranked Lady Wildcats rolled to a 58-27 victory over Bell City. Glenmora will face the winner of the Chatham-Epps game in the regional round.

Katy Hoffpauir led the Lady Bruins with seven points.

At Anacoco, Katie Antony poured in 45 points to lead the Lady Indians to a 77-65 win over Zwolle. Antony and teammate Kimber McCauley combined to outscore the Lady Hawks as McCauley added 26 points. Both Antony and McCauley also contributed 15 rebounds.

At Lacassine, the Lacassine Lady Cardinals used a stifling press to hold off Weston in a 48-41 bi-district win. Lacassine will play the winner of the Reserve Christian-Maurepas game.

Barbara Hall led the Lady Cardinals with 13 points and Kayla LaFranc added 11 as Lacassine recovered from a 33-32 third-quarter deficit.

Class C

At Starks, Kim Joyce scored a game-high 28 points as the Hyatt Lady Bulldogs ravaged Grand Isle 60-13. Hyatt was up 29-0 at the half and led by as much as 50-0 at one point.

Crystal Suchanek added 11 points for the Lady Bulldogs, who will host Singer at 6 p.m. Monday at Starks.

At South Beauregard, the 10th-ranked Singer Lady Hornets jumped out to a 17-point first quarter lead and never looked back as they beat Johnson Bayou 50-32.

Kimberly Mitchell, Jamie Massey, and Kayla Jones each scored nine points to lead the Lady Hornets. Singer will travel to face Hyatt.

Shai Greer and Megan Roberts led the Lady Rebels with eight points each.

At Barbe, Meagan Broussard scored a game-high 22 points and added 12 rebounds as top-ranked defending champions Hackberry blew past ninth-ranked Reeves 54-34.

Edie Leonards added 12 points for the Lady Mustangs, who will face the winner of Friday's Starks-Family Christian game.

Hailey Henagan led the Lady Raiders with 16 points.

PREP SOFTBALL

Non-District
LaGrange 7
Kinder 1
Kinder 010 0—1-0-0
LaGrange 301 3—7-0-0
PITCHING: Kinder — Jill Andrews (L, 1-1).

LaGrange — Michelle Lavoie (W, 2-0).
TOP HITTERS: Kinder — Megan Johnson 1-2; Sarah Arabia 1-2 (RBI). **LaGrange** — Brooke Reed 1-3 (triple); Carrie Griffin 2-2 (RBI); Terra Connor 1-2 (2 RBIs); Kaylee Kohler 1-2 (RBI).
RECORDS: Kinder — 1-1. **LaGrange** — 2-0.

GIRLS BI-DISTRICT BOXSCORES

Class 5A
Covington **.50**
Sulphur **.42**

Covington 9 15 8 18—50
Sulphur 15 8 7 12—42

Covington (overall): Krystal Brown 13, Danielle Richardson 15, Christin Bradford 9, Claudette Richardson 7, Whitney Bruswell 2, Lacy Bertucci 4. Totals: 12 (3) 7-14
Sulphur (overall): Kourtini Fontenot 11, Dalaina Darby 4, Christy Baggett 14, Laura Duhon 7, Carol Elder 6. Totals: 18 (2) 4-6 42.

NEXT GAME: Covington plays McMain/Chapelle winner.

LaGrange **.49**

Airline 13 6 20 7—48
LaGrange 12 16 11 10—49

Airline (17-17): Emily Carter 21, Chessa Lytle 6, Peaches Williams 2, Leeda Hicks 9, Krystal Green 2, Ashley Carness 6, Wendi Shelton 2. Totals: 15 (5) 13-17 48.

LaGrange (23-7): Keshonda Carrier 18, Cassidy Chretien 14, Iesha Moultrie 4, Ashley Moss 6, Joy Davis 3, Addie Smith 3, Wakesha Francis 1. Totals: 20 (0) 9-15 49.

NEXT GAME: LaGrange plays McDonogh #35/West Monroe winner.

Class 4A

St. Thomas More **.48**

Leesville **.44**

Leesville 5 13 8 18—44
STM 18 12 10 8—48

Leesville (12-16): Ashley Tapia 5, Tellia Robinson 2, Sarah Armstrong 9, Shonte Kennedy 10, Jennifer Blake 2, Brett Funberburke 7, Rashena Martin 6, Michelle Ficklin 3. Totals: 17 (2) 8-13 44.
St. Thomas More (25-9): Elyse Joseph 17, Sally Padgett 15, Sarah Allen 5, Tayl'r Hollis 4, Lauren Young 2, Sarah Allen 5, Erin Hawkins 4, Annie Saab 1. Team Totals: 16 (2) 12-22 48.

NEXT GAME: St. Thomas More plays Bolton/B.T. Washington-SH winner.

Hannan **.49**

Washington-Marion 43
W-M 3 5 24 11—43

Washington-Marion (20-15): Jayniya Bellard 23, Keisha Lampkin 9, Brandy Bradley 8, Veronica Easton 3. Totals: 16 (3) 8-21 43.

Hannan (17-15): E. Cazempe 20, S. Battaglia 12, K. Chatelain 8, N. Sanchez 4, M. Lafrance 4, C. Daggens 2. Totals: 19 (5) 7-12 49.

NOTES: Bellard had 10 rebounds. The game was tied 33-33 at the beginning of the fourth.

NEXT GAME: Hannan plays Capitol/Glen Oaks winner.

DeRidder **.67**

Opelousas **.44**

Opelousas 13 19 16 18—64
DeRidder 25 13 20 19—77

Opelousas (19-13): Martina Thomas 20, Johanna Hayes 10, Mecca Ford 13, Ebony Vidito 2, Trio Senegal 10, Victoria Handy 9. Totals: 20 (9) 5-13 64.
DeRidder (20-11): Whitney Charles 26, Kiana Tellis 18, Danielle Foster 3, Courtney Carter 21, Alison Holmes 2, Natasha Robertson 7. Totals: 26 (6) 19-35 77.

NOTES: Carter had 10 rebounds for DeRidder, Tellis had nine assists.

NEXT GAME: DeRidder plays Peabody/Dutchtown winner.

Class 3A

Kaplan **.46**

Jennings **.27**

Jennings 9 4 6 8—27
Kaplan 9 14 10 13—46

Jennings (19-12): Jessica Lyons 8, Ashley Mouton 8, Cherise Johnson 4, Courtney Thibodeaux 3, Kiandra Kate 2, Erin Smith 2.
Kaplan (20-10): Casey Broussard 15, Raven Roy 15, Renee Abshire 11, Mya Touchet 2, Jenna Stelly 1, Jill Broussard 1, Sara Granger 1.

NEXT GAME: Winner plays Scottlandville/Catholic-NI winner.

LC-Boston **.69**

Notre Dame **.49**

Notre Dame 6 9 18 16—49
LC-B 14 20 19 16—69

Notre Dame (10-18): Amy Simon 11, Amanda Romero 16, Amy Helo 9, Philana Thackston 3, Felicia Caffey 10. Totals: 15 (4) 15-29 49.

LC-Boston (15-8): Melissa Stevens 11, LaDonna Williams 2, Lacy Harrison 4, Sonya Porter 24, Angelica Jack 25, Dominique Thompson 3. Totals: 27 (6) 7-16 69.

NOTES: Porter had 16 rebounds and five blocked shots for LCB.

NEXT GAME: LC-Boston plays Northwest/Patterson winner.

St. Louis **.51**

Redemptorist **.44**

St. Louis 11 14 15 11—51
Redemp. 8 14 8 14—44

St. Louis (18-12): Ariel Caraway 2, Anna Thompson 18, Elizabeth Castille 8, Chavonda Doucet 12, Katherine Andrus 3, Ashley Collins 7, Amanda Foret 1. Totals: 17 (2) 15-18 51.

Redemptorist (20-12): Holly Whitehead 7, Tracy Murray 4, Laurie Spey 7, Anielle Williams 24, Dee Allen 2. Totals: 19 (1) 5-10 44.

NEXT GAME: Winner plays Franklin/Teurlings winner.

Class 2A

Loyola **.63**

Oakdale **.49**

Oakdale 6 12 20 11—49
Loyola 10 24 11 18—63

Oakdale (17-8): Jennifer Green 4, Nicole Arterberry 1, Twila Jauch 14, Prescious Jones 13, LaKeisha Nelson 17.
Loyola (19-16): Caroline Irwin

16, Nesi Vallow 14, J. Fleniken 2, R. Hunt 2, Chassity Brown 15, S. Rose 7, C. Vallow 7.

NEXT GAME: Loyola plays St. Frederick/Springhill winner.

Iota **.76**

Westminster **.33**

WCA 5 4 13 11—33
Iota 18 20 23 15—76

Westminster (11-18): Nicole Holland 23, Michelle Dupre 2, Katie Bottier 2, Stephanie Smith 4, Ashley Fontenot 2. Totals: 10 (0) 13-21 33.

Iota (29-5): Megan Cart 13, Meghann Lejeune 11, Samantha Lejeune 11, Moosha Wilridge 9, Brittany Jones 14, Audrey Hebert 2, Jordan LeJeune 2, Lindsey LaCombe 6, Jamie Thevis 7, Susan Hebert 2, Khasi Richard 3, Maggie Sattler 2. Totals: 33 (0) 10-16 76.

NEXT GAME: Iota at South Beauregard.

Ville Platte **.81**

Kinder **.61**

Kinder 10 14 18 17—61
Ville Platte 17 23 17 22—81

Kinder (12-20): Somer Richard 28, Kayla Williams 8, Gretchen Pruitt 7, Romana May 6, Jessie Unkle 1, Shanna Miller 9, Rachel Boket 2. Totals: 23 (3) 10-20 61.

Ville Platte (23-10): Kristy Jones 32, Ronanda Edwards 18, LaShona Rous 8, Annette Doucet 12, Erica Roberts 3, Regina Wilson 5, Javonda Bush 3. Totals: 26 (6) 23-33 81.

NEXT GAME: Ville Platte plays Riverside/Ascension Catholic winner.

Lakeview **.24**

Pickering **.61**

Pickering 10 6 4 4—24
Lakeview 9 20 20 12—61

Pickering (12-15): Tiffany Decker 2, Mia Hannah 4, Reba Clemons 8, Amada Treon 4, Shahara Godfree 2, Heather Foley 2, Lacon Eaves 2.
Lakeview (34-0): Andrea Austin 7, Donetta Williams 14, Cierra Bush 19, Sierra Bush 12, Serena Edwards 5, LaNita Collins 2, Kerri Messick 2.

NEXT GAME: Pickering plays Jonesboro Hodge/Pine winner.

South Beauregard **.63**

North Central **.56**

S. Beau. 11 18 16 18—63
N. Central 11 10 22 13—56

South Beauregard (23-10): Tamy Jo Shockley 13, Ashley Witherspoon 18, Jennifer Bruce 11, Alexa Hall 11, Ashley Pilley 4, Lyndzee Greene 6. Totals: 24 (2) 13-17 63.

North Central (23-9): Atthia Doucet 20, Brittany Butler 10, Donesha Durisseau 20, Deseria Orlford 6. Totals: 18 (5) 15-27 56.

NOTES: Witherspoon had 13 rebounds. Hall had five steals. Bruce had six assists.

NEXT GAME: Iota at South Beauregard.

Many **.66**

</

Teen-ager dying from botched surgery gets second transplant

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — With perhaps only hours left to live, the 17-year-old girl mistakenly given a heart and lungs with the wrong blood type was miraculously handed a second chance Thursday after doctors — against all odds — located another set of organs.

Surgeons rushed to transplant the new heart and lungs into Jessica Santillan, whose relatives had feared she would be dead by the weekend. She was in critical condition after the four-hour operation, and doctors warned it was too early to say whether she would pull through.

“She’s as critical as a person could be,” Dr. Duane Davis said at Duke University Hospital.

The Mexican teenager with O-positive blood had waited nearly three years for a trans-

plant. But in a mistake that still has not been fully explained, Duke surgeons gave her organs from a donor with type A blood on Feb. 7.

Her body rejected the new organs, and she suffered a stroke and had to be put on life support. Her doctors had held out little hope of finding a new heart and lungs in time to save her life, in part because of her blood types, and because she is so small at 5-foot-2 and 85 pounds that any organs would probably have to come from a child — and child donors are rare.

But new organs were found late Wednesday.

The organs removed Thursday could not be salvaged.

Jesica and her family moved from a small town near Guadalajara, Mexico, to the United States to get a transplant because a heart deformity kept her lungs from getting oxygen into her blood.

Celebrated ration system to be tested in event of war

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — In a country where little works, it is showcased as an example of efficiency and social justice — a \$3 billion-a-year food ration system that may have saved millions of Iraqis from starvation over the past decade.

The system has also strengthened the government’s hold over a population dependent on rations for survival. Now it faces its biggest test as the specter of another war looms, with nearly 200,000 American and British troops massed in the region, poised to invade Iraq.

Under the fully computerized ration system, introduced when U.N. sanctions were imposed on Iraq to punish it for its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, Iraqis pay 12 cents to collect a monthly ration of sugar, flour, rice, cooking fat, soap, washing detergent, milk, lentils and beans.

The rations are distributed through a network of 45,000 retailers and, at least in theory, benefit every one of Iraq’s estimated 26 million people, who are listed in the government database by name, address and identity number.

When the system was inaugurated in 1990, the govern-

ment handed out amounts that barely staved off starvation. The rations dramatically increased at the end of 1996, when Iraq was allowed to resume oil exports and use the returns to buy food and medicine under U.N. supervision.

“It works perfectly,” said Carel de Rooy, UNICEF’s representative in Iraq. “If it were not for the rations, it would be unimaginable.”

The rate of chronic malnutrition among Iraqi children, he said, stands at 23 percent, down from 33 percent in 1996.

But experts say the ration system has also strengthened Saddam Hussein’s grip on Iraq just when it was most vulnerable: after Iraq’s defeat in the 1991 Gulf War and when U.N. sanctions plunged millions of middle-class Iraqis into poverty and drove millions more from the working class to destitution. With the collapse of the Iraqi currency, the dinar, a monthly salary equivalent to \$5 or \$10 is not uncommon in today’s Iraq.

“The food ration card is the backbone on which the stability of the society has been built at this difficult time,” reads a quotation from Saddam, printed on every ration card.

BRIEFLY

Eight charged for supporting terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Florida computer engineering professor and seven other men were charged Thursday with overseeing and financing the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist group, which has been blamed for killing more than 100 people in Israel and adjacent territories.

The University of South Florida professor, 45-year-old Sami Amin Al-Arian, and three other U.S. residents were arrested after the 50-count indictment was returned by a federal grand jury in Tampa, Fla. The indictment describes Al-Arian as the Islamic Jihad’s U.S. leader, head of a terrorist cell in Tampa and secretary of the group’s worldwide council.

Al-Arian and two others were arrested in Tampa, and a fourth man was arrested in Chicago. The other four are leaders of the group who live abroad and are being sought, Ashcroft said.

Columbia probe looks at insulation

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Just how the foam insulation was applied to the fuel tanks of NASA’s space shuttles is getting special attention by the board investigating the Columbia accident, officials said Thursday.

One leading theory is that the insulation or the heavier material beneath may have damaged Columbia during liftoff, enough to trigger a deadly breach as the spaceship

hurtled toward a Florida landing nearly three weeks ago.

The foam insulation is applied by at a Lockheed Martin plant in New Orleans. More of the foam is applied about a month before liftoff at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Research: Long-term care lessens relapse

LONDON (AP) — Most patients treated for depression should remain on medication after their gloom has lifted, new research suggests.

Over the last decade, scientists have discovered that depression, which plagues millions, recurs repeatedly in four out of five patients. However, it is still mostly tackled as an episode, and drugs are usually prescribed for no more than two or three months.

A comprehensive review of 30 years of evidence, published this week in the Lancet medical journal, suggests that is the wrong approach. In the analysis, those who stayed on antidepressants were half as likely to have another bout of depression as those who stopped taking medication.

The World Health Organization has identified depression as the disease with the fourth heaviest burden to society and predicts that it will become the second leading cause of disability worldwide by 2020 — after heart disease — unless strides are made in prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY STOREWIDE SALE

SALE HOURS: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9AM ‘TIL 6PM!

Pay No More till 2004!

NO
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PLUS! Save 23% to 54%
LIVING ROOM, BEDROOM, DINING ROOM, RECLINERS, SLEEPERS, MATTRESSES AND MORE!

One of our most popular groups at big 2 day savings!

“Free Rocker Recliner “For ole dad”!
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2 Piece Den Groups!
Covered in long wearing man-made ultra-hyde! Easy to clean - long wearing! In rich mushroom color!

You Get: Sofa + Loveseat
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\$ 888!

“The Sundance Bedroom”
All wood and veneers in distressed pine finish!

Complete 4Pc Groups!
You get:
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Complete Bed
+ Free Nightstand

“Free” Nightstand included!

\$ 998!

“The Destin Dining Group”

5Pc Groups!
You get:
Table
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On Sale

\$ 288!

100s of items in every category at incredible savings this weekend!

Queen-Size Complete Sets!

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Pillow top style

Nothings held back! Every single item in Home Furniture’s huge selection will be plainly sale priced for your shopping ease! Find over 10,000 items on the selling block this Friday & Saturday!

Big Rocker Recliners!

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Get your credit pre-approved by sending us your application on our secure website at www.homefurn.com

Shop Friday and Saturday!

Home Baton Rouge - 8440 Airline - Across from Cortana Mall - 225.927.0663
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Home New Iberia - 406 Jefferson Terrace - 337.365.6782
Home Lake Charles - 1314 Ryan St. - Near Downtown - 337.436.2526
Home Beaumont 2525 S. 12th St. - Next to Sam’s - 409.842.1545
Shop the location most convenient to you!

OPEN FRIDAY & SATURDAY - IT’S ALL ON SALE!
VISIT US ON-LINE AT OUR WEBSITE...homefurn.com
...FROM THE FOLKS WHO BRING YOU THE NEW WAY TO BUY NEW FURNITURE...

HomeFURNITURE

12 Months No Payment, No Interest Option. Special terms of 12 months no payment, no interest option will apply to your Home Furniture card issued by Wells Fargo Financial National Bank, Las Vegas, NV. No payments are required for the 12 months. The no interest option means there is no interest if your purchase is paid in full within 12 months after the date of purchase. Otherwise, interest occurs from date of purchase at a variable APR of 21.0% as of January 1, 2003. The minimum APR for program purchase and other transactions is 21.0%.

Bankcards welcome!

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American Press

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 Mobile Homes 1401
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 Space Rental 1403

DEADLINES

To place a line ad in Classified, please call before 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday for an ad to start in the next day's edition. To place an ad in Saturday or Sunday editions please call us before noon on Friday.

GUIDELINES

Please check your ad on the first day it runs. *The American Press* cannot be responsible for any error other than the first day's insertion, and then only to the extent of the space occupied.

WRITING AN AD THAT SELLS

- Start your ad with the item or service being advertised.
- Be descriptive and feature appealing details to get the reader interested.
- Always state the price of a sale item and, if you're flexible on price, include "negotiable."
- Be sure to include your phone number and times to call. Including the word "please" in your ad will increase responses.

**IT'S OUR
 Super
 Saver**

For just \$1 a day:

- 3 lines + 7 days = \$7
- A single item priced \$200 or less.
- One item per ad - price listed.
- All ads pre-paid.
- No commercial advertisers, please.

**Call 494-4000
 for details.**



"MY MOM WAS RIGHT. THE DICTIONARY DOES COME IN HANDY ONCE IN A WHILE."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Ads 101

COUNTRY CLUB Hair Salon welcomes you for the greatest haircut you never had- where a haircut still comes with a lollipop and a smile! 2118 Country Club Road, (337) 474-4722.

Personal Notices 102

A SUMMER Charters: Cancun/Cozumel/Punta Jamaica and Las Vegas. Econo Travel, 433-4880.

BAYOU CAJUN Tours Laredo 3/8, Progreso 3/22; shop, RX, Canton 3/1; 725-3943, 515-0566.

DON'T GET a court appointed lawyer! You can afford me. Call me; let's talk. Hardy M. Parkerson, Attorney at Law, 3309 Common Street. Phone 478-6126.

I AM handling cases involving that recent chemical release (Sulfur Dioxide). **HARDY M. PARKERSON**, Attorney At Law, 3309 Common Street, Lake Charles, (337) 478-6126

Announcements 103

ATTENTION! MISSING February 18th white '90 Oldsmobile Cutlass, LA License# CXT 725. Any information call Crimes-toppers at 439-2222. Case# 03-1717. Reward!

COUNTRY CLUB Storage Now, 4949 Jensen Lane, Lake Charles, LA 70607, 337-478-9999. Alexis St. Germain, Unit F-5. Will be disposed of if not paid by March 3, 2003.

Lake Charles Clinical Trials seeks volunteers to participate in clinical drug studies; Adults or adolescents with Bipolar Disorder (Manic Depressive illness) or Schizophrenia can call 337-494-3266 for more information. Participants meeting criteria for the study will receive treatment at no cost and in addition will be compensated for their inconvenience.

TEN DAYS from date of this ad, Southgate Mini Storage will sell or dispose of the contents of the following units, #198 Doris Cummings, #96 Laura Solleau.

Lost & Found 104

FOUND RED Dachs-hund female in Clarence Street area, 474-4047 leave message.

FOUND SMALL Puppy, Sulphur, Claiborne/Grace Street area. Call to identify, 527-5229.

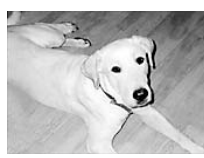
FOUND YELLOW Labrador female, Southeast Lake Charles, 480-6745.

LOST BILLFOLD belonging to H. Sarver. Please call 583-2321

LOST BLACK Labrador retriever puppy, 5 months old, in downtown area. Reward offered. Call 436-2018

Lost & Found 104

LOST YORKSHIRE Terrier, male, black/brown/silver, Illinois/LA Avenue area. Reward! 558-5916 or 263-0350



REWARD \$1,000! NO collar, 90 pound Yellow Labrador brown eyes, named "Mac", missing since 1/24, last seen near Cooper Road (Calcasieu/Beauregard parish line). Call Tammy or Percy, 786-5563/786-6069

Cemetery Lots 105

NEW TODAY

PRIN MEMORIAL- 2 Plots. Appraisal \$1,750 each. Will sell \$1,500 each. (318) 240-0931.

TWO PLOTS at Holy Cross section in Highland Memory Gardens, value \$1,250 each, asking \$775 each or \$1,500 both, please call 433-7284

NEED CASH? Sell It Fast With American Press Classified Ads 494-4000

Act 962

Under Act 962 of the 1992 Louisiana Legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is, Bryan Joseph Richard, and I have been convicted of Molestation Of A Juvenile. My address is 127 Decker Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

Under Act 962 of the 1992 Louisiana Legislature I am required to advise you that my name is Boyce E. Patterson, and I have been convicted of Molestation of a Juvenile. My address is 1102 West Burton, Sulphur, LA 70663

AUTOMOTIVE

Domestic Cars 201

'02 BUICK CENTURY- Several to choose from! Lots of factory warranties! \$12,988. Ask for Dale Menard, Goldstar, Oldsmobile - Cadillac- Isuzu, 436-2141 for details.

'93 CADILLAC SEVILLE, asking \$8,500. Please call 497-1077.

Domestic Cars 201

'02 BUICK CENTURY - 5 to choose from, \$12,988. Call Jimmy Derouen for details, 436-2141

'02 BUICK CENTURY Custom, factory warranty, power windows, locks, mirrors and seats, cd player, keyless entry. Call Dustin Cash, 433-1066

'98 BUICK LESABRE Limited, leather, cd, dual air and heat, controls on steering wheel, 56,000 miles, excellent condition, \$8700. Call 433-6671 or 302-4160

Radford Ready Credit

IN-HOUSE FINANCING! EASY TERMS! INSTANT APPROVAL!

Great selection of nearly 60 cars. Hurry in while prices are good and payments are affordable.

2110 BROAD ST. (337) 436-7080

Domestic Cars 201

'97 CADILLAC SEDAN ALIER, 4 door, red, low miles, note around \$175. 625-7253 or 515-4433

'96 CADILLAC SEVILLE SLS, loaded, 110,000 miles, \$7500 negotiable. Call 439-4141 ask for Calvin.

3 CHEVROLET MALIBUS! The perfect car to start or rebuild your credit! These beauties are clean, and ready for a new home! Call Ryan Auto Plex 2000, 479-1021

'02 CHEVROLET CAVALLIER- 2 to choose from. Was \$10,488 - Now \$9,988! Ask for Dale Menard, Goldstar, Oldsmobile - Cadillac- Isuzu, 436-2141 for details.

'01 CHEVROLET CAVALLIER, automatic, cd player, cruise, tilt, 35,000 miles, \$7588. Call Dustin Cash, 433-1066

'00 CADILLAC EL DORADO, white diamond low mileage, \$24,988. Ask for Dale Menard, Goldstar, Oldsmobile - Cadillac- Isuzu, 436-2141 for details.

'99 CADILLAC SEVILLE STS, polo green, \$15,988. Call Jimmy Derouen for details, 436-2141

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'97 CHEVROLET CAMARO, V6, automatic, black, \$5995. 433-1531

'96 CHEVROLET LUMINA, white, excellent condition, only 32,800 in town miles, \$6300. Call 474-8877 or see at 1601 West Prien Lake Road

'95 CHEVROLET IMPALA SS, 59,000 miles, black, loaded, \$12,500. 433-2914, pager 882-3619.

'99 CHEVROLET CORVETTE, Bose system, V8, 12 disc cd changer, Z06 emblems, removable hardtop new back tires mint condition must sell retail \$29,075 trade in \$25,525. make offer. 794-0022 or 436-5559

'02 CHEVROLET CAVALLIER, 2 to choose from. Was \$10,488 - Now \$9,988! Ask for Dale Menard, Goldstar, Oldsmobile - Cadillac- Isuzu, 436-2141 for details.

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2000 NISSAN FRONTIER XE EXT CAB

Auto, a/c, cassette player, bedliner
\$8,995 or \$0 Dwn \$155 per mo.

2000 DODGE CARAVAN

7 pass., 4 dr., auto, a/c, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, cruise
\$10,495 or \$0 Dwn \$181 per mo.

2001 FORD EXPEDITION XLT

3rd seat, auto, 4.6, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, rack, step ups.
\$19,495 or \$0 Dwn \$336 per mo.

2002 CHEVY 1500 LS EXT.

Auto, 5.3 Vortec, all pwr., CD player, tonneau cover, 4 dr.
\$20,995 or \$0 Dwn \$362 per mo.

2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT EXT.

Auto, 4.2 liter, loaded w/equip., CD player.
\$24,995 or \$0 Dwn \$430 per mo.

1998 GMC JIMMY

\$8,495 Cash Special

2001 KIA SPORTAGE

Silver with gray fabric, auto, a/c, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, rack, cassette.
\$9,495 or \$0 Dwn \$164 per mo.

2000 NISSAN FRONTIER XE CREW CAB

6 cyl., a/c, sunroof, step ups, music.
\$12,400 or \$0 Dwn \$214 per mo.

2000 MITSU MONTERO SPORT LS

White, grey fabric, auto, a/c, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, CD player
\$13,995 or \$0 Dwn \$241 per mo.

2000 MITSU MONTERO SPORT LS

White, grey fabric, auto, a/c, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, CD player
\$13,995 or \$0 Dwn \$241 per mo.

2000 CHEVROLET 1500 EXT. CAB SILVERADO

4 dr., auto, 8 cyl., a/c, cass. player, black, w/grey.
\$15,995 or \$0 Dwn \$276 per mo.

2000 FORD F150 LARIAT EXT. CAB

4 dr., auto, a/c, green w/tan leather, all pwr.
\$16,995 or \$0 Dwn \$293 per mo.

1997 FORD MUSTANG

\$4,995 Cash Special

2000 FORD WINDSTAR

7 pass., LX, 4 dr., auto, A/C, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, cassette player.
\$12,495 or \$0 Dwn \$215 per mo.

2000 MITSU MONTERO SPORT 4x4 LS

Auto, a/c, pwr. wind., pwr. locks, CD player.
\$13,995 or \$0 Dwn \$241 per mo.

2000 GMC 1500 SLT

4 dr., auto, 5.3 liter, leather, loaded with options.
\$16,495 or \$0 Dwn \$284 per mo.

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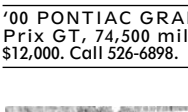
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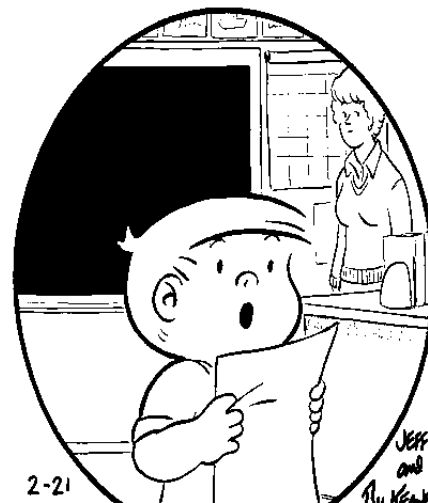
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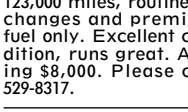
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Trucks 203

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PRIVATE VOICE lessons from a professionally trained opera singer. I have a Bachelor's degree, Masters degree and an Artist Diploma from the Cincinnati Conservatory. Both children and adults. Call to inquire about your singing-337-626-2158

VOICE, GUITAR, Art, Piano, all ages. Ellender Studios, 479-2787

EMPLOYMENT**Help Wanted 502**

RN's
• Full-time, Part-time, PRN
• Flex Scheduling
• New Salary Scale
• Outstanding Shift Differentials
• Exceptional Benefits Package

In addition, we offer a friendly supportive work atmosphere with all the benefits of a small community environment.

BEAUREGARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Human Resources
P.O. BOX 730
DeRidder, LA 70634
email: l.reyes@beauregard.org
fax: 337-462-7440

A 2 P.M. - 10 P.M. Monday-Friday Full time LPN needed. Apply in person at Grand Cove Nursing Center, 1525 West McNeese Street.

A AVON - A career you will love! \$100 or more a week. Call Connie 855-3007 or page 421-8877, cell 794-3901, Helen cell 515-4825. Mary 528-0494. No investment.

A AVON - A good way to help pay holiday bills. No investment. Call Rose 436-4526, Lynette 474-6658, Cheryl 479-0041.

A LOCAL PEST control firm is taking applications for a Pest control Technician. Must be neat, have a good driving record and have a good personality. Send resume to P.O. Box 5602, Lake Charles, LA 70606.

A SMALL local law firm seeking a Legal Assistant/Paralegal for busy civil defense practice. Pay commensurate with experience and skill level. Please send resume to PO Drawer 1607, Lake Charles, LA 70602.

Accepting Applications for **Experienced Cook** Must be able to work 40 hours a week Days and Evenings Must apply in person: **NO PHONE CALLS** Pat's of Henderson 1500 Seaboard Drive Legion Street Exit-Off Off 210 Loop

ACCOUNTANT NEEDED
With experience in job costing in a custom manufacturing shop environment. Capable of generating financial statements, tax reports, payroll, cash flow projections. We offer benefits including 401k. Fax resume to 337-882-1611 Attention: Human Resources or email accounting@ieinc.net

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT Executive needed. Experience helpful, but not required. Salary plus commission. Established company. Apply in person at 2150 East College.

ALL WORK guaranteed. Interior/exterior, pressure washing, dry wall and all needed repairs. Licensed, bonded, insured. References. Free estimates. R&R Painting Services, 515-0025.

BOB'S PAINTING/Paper-sheet rock finishing, ceramic tile. 477-0303.

Analyst/Programmer

Full-time Analyst/Programmer with service-oriented attitude and aptitude to lead programming staff needed. Must have a college degree in Computer Science or equivalent of 10 years of programming/application development experience in RPG on an IBM AS/400 system, as well as good working knowledge of TCP/IP. Great benefits package offered.

Lake Charles Memorial Hospital Human Resources Department 3050 Aster Street Lake Charles, LA 70601 (337) 494-3255 1-800-843-2954 www.lcmh.com EOE

Preschool and Daycare. All meals provided. Moss Bluff. Call 217-2167.

Income Tax/Acc. 305

TAX PREPARATION E-File, notary, bookkeeping, Fontenot Business Service 582-6291.

TAX PREPARATION, E-filing and bookkeeping. Call 436-9791

TAX PREPARING AC-COUNT Executive needed. Experience helpful, but not required. Salary plus commission. Established company. Apply in person at 2150 East College.

Insurance 306

CALL DON for Insurance covering heart attack, stroke, cancer, heart bypass surgery, 2nd day, major medical, male 29, \$21.82 monthly. Call 794-1099.

Janitorial/Maids 307

HOUSEKEEPER one time jobs accepted. Call for a free estimate, 478-3863 or 302-6976.

Painting/Papering 310

A PAINTERS interior/exterior, pressure washing. Please call 439-5635.

ALL WORK guaranteed. Interior/exterior, pressure washing, dry wall and all needed repairs. Licensed, bonded, insured. References. Free estimates. R&R Painting Services, 515-0025.

BOB'S PAINTING/Paper-sheet rock finishing, ceramic tile. 477-0303.

BOUCHERS PAINTING licensed, bonded and insured, references, carpentry work, interior/exterior painting, 474-2844.

DRYWALL HANGING, 431-7370, drywall finishing/painting, 855-4915

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR painting also house pressure washing, guaranteed work, best price. Please call 802-4101

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Help Wanted 502

APARTMENT MANAGERS
Whitton Management seeking Apartment Managers for Lake Charles properties. Three years management experience preferred. Salary negotiable. Employment benefits provided. Mail resume to: Whitton Management Group, 6629 Texas Street, Lake Charles, LA 70607.

APPLIANCE TECHNICIAN. Part time. Flexible hours, Type 1 certified. Send resume to Appliance Technician, PO Box 12055, Lake Charles, LA 70612



Applications now being accepted for **FOOD PREPARERS** Please apply in person, 335 East Prien Lake Road. Ask for Sterling.

ARE YOU BRIGHT AND ENERGETIC? 28-year company needs full time Retail Sales Person. Must be friendly, neat, enthusiastic, and willing to work Monday-Friday, 9-6 and Saturday 9-3.

We Offer:
• Paid Training
• Paid Health
• Paid Holidays and Vacation
• Competitive Wages

Please apply in person: Sabine Pools & Spas 3213 Common Street

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY PRN/ICU NURSES
• 12-hour Shifts
• Excellent Working Conditions

For More Information, call **BAYNE-JONES ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL** Department of Nursing **531-3148** between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

ASCO WESTLAKE Terminal hiring Class A CDL X Endorsement, 2 years flatbed experience. Must be at least 25. Call 497-1834

ASSISTANT ACTIVITIES Coordinator needed at High Hope Care Center in Sulphur. Apply in person. Call 527-8140

Assistant Dietary Manager Needed at 250-bed Long Term Care Facility. Will train for CDM position and must possess Certification as Dietary Manager. Send resume to: Administration Martin de Porres 200 Teal Street Lake Charles, LA 70615.

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN needed for one of Lake Charles' oldest computer stores. Net working ability a plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 4586, Lake Charles, LA 70606.

CONSIDER THIS: * New Wage * Structure For LPN'S
• \$2500 Sign On Bonus
• Full Time/Part Time Shifts Available
• Benefits Package
• Weekend Program

Now offering new shift differential Contact Kimberly for an immediate interview 625-5843 or 882-2514

Holly Hill Nursing & Rehab Center

COOKS
Experienced short order grill cooks. Apply in person at 601 East Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles.

COOKS NEEDED, good wages and working conditions, vacations, Sundays off. Apply 501 West College. No phone calls please.

COUNTER SALES/Customer Service Representative, full time position for well established glass company. String communication skills a must. Must be able to handle multiple phone lines and general computer skills. Looking for dependable and punctual personnel. Fax resume to: 439-3851.

DELIVERY DRIVER/Installer needed. Appliance and audio installation experience helpful. Clean driving record. Apply at 2335 East McNeese Street, 477-2736

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DIALYSIS PROFESSIONALS WANTED REGISTERED NURSES

Full time and part time positions available. For those wishing to deliver high quality care, you can expect a Competitive Wage, Challenging work environment, Generous Paid Time Off Program, Company Matching 401k, Health, Dental, Life and Disability Insurance. Tuition Reimbursement. Apply in person or send resume to: Ms. Tina Montcaux 1906 Johnson Drive Jennings, LA 70546 (337) 824-5353

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CNA'S NEEDED
All Shifts
New Pay Scale
High Hope Care Center 475 High Hope Road or call 527-8140

Help Wanted 502

CERTIFIED LIFE-GUARD positions for private club. Must be mature, responsible and have own transportation. Apply at 870 West Bayou Pines Drive, Lake Charles.

CHILD CARE workers needed. Mail resumes to 3801 Yale Street, Lake Charles, LA 70607

CHILDCARE CENTER growing fast. New positions available. Apply at Lil Rascals, 4506 Ihles Road.

CLASS A CDL Flatbed Driver. Must be at least 25 years old and 2 years over the road experience. 1-800-467-9346.

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NEED IMMEDIATELY: Licensed Pharmacist to provide pharmacy services for the Office of Mental Health, Region 5. Must possess a valid Louisiana pharmacy license plus three years of experience as a licensed pharmacist or a master's degree in pharmacy plus one year of experience as a licensed pharmacist. Civil Service benefits.

Send resume to: Lake Charles Mental Health Center Attention: Laura Lyles 4105 Kirkman Street Lake Charles, LA 70607

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CNA'S

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• Full Time Positions Available
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POOL CONSTRUCTION Help needed. Only experienced need to apply. Top pay and benefits for right applicants. We drug test all new hires. Send resume to: Pro Pools, 623 Romero Street, Lake Charles, LA 70607. No phone calls!

PRN/POOL RN positions available for the Acute Unit at Allen Parish Hospital. Please send resume to: D.O.N. (acute unit), P.O. Box 1670, Kinder, LA 70648

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

Light Secretarial

Must have good:
•Phone Voice
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•Transportation for errands
•Light typing and spreadsheet work
Starting from \$6.00-\$7.50/hour depending on experience

Apply by February 20th

Send resumes to:
American Press
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Department 992
Lake Charles, LA 70602

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Tutera Health Care Services, LLC, a nationally recognized health care management company, is seeking an enthusiastic professional to assume this key position in the Lake Charles, LA area. The selected candidate will develop and implement aggressive marketing programs for nursing personnel, conduct preliminary interviews, and assist in the new hire process. Candidates should have a college degree. Previous recruiting or sales experience a plus. Excellent verbal and written communication skills a must. Send resume to: Administrator, Martin de Porres 200 Teal Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615

WEEKEND RN Supervisor, 7 am-3 pm. Apply in person: Grand Cove Nursing Center, 1325 West McNeese Street.

Work Wanted 503

A AARON Bert's Handi-works-You name it we do it! 478-9595, 421-7435.

A BUILD house repair, painting, floor covering, carpet, vinyl and tile and house washing. 478-9550.

A BULTS HANDYMAN Services. Free estimates. 855-7268/496-5227

A CHRISTIAN lady will drive for you or run your errands. Call 478-4976 or 526-2470.

A DEPENDABLE HANDYMAN

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ABBIE'S HOUSE- CLEANING: Dependable, honest, references. Call 582-6198 please leave message.

AFFORDABLE CONSTRUCTION, cabinets, vinyl siding, remodeling, driveways, new construction, etc. 302-1094, 756-2514, 217-3758.

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CONCRETE WORK. All types. Licensed. Bonded. 304-5993 or 477-0196

EXPERIENCED SITTER to work with stroke and Alzheimer patients. Call 370-6432 or 370-6466.

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HOUSE CLEANING done right! Honest, dependable lady would love to clean your home. Sulphur area. 626-7156.

HOUSE PLANS by Jerry. Courteous professional service. 598-4091

I DO demolition, tear down, driveways, trash hauling, 494-1914.

I WILL type resumes, reports, etc. in my home on Word or typewriter. Call 558-5442. please leave a message.

LEBLEU'S SITTING and Nursing Referral Service. Call 527-0229 / 515-0482 or 496-7578.

JOHN BAILEY INC. specializes in clearing, demolition, driveways, housepads, all types of dirt work. 625-8404 or 540-7749, email us for a free quote: johnbaileyinc@bellsouth.net

K&B, 7 YARD truck, 7 tons limestone, delivered and spread, \$225; 3 tons, \$125; Sand, mason sand, gravel, and dirt, 327-3779, fax 691-2743.

PONDS, PADS, track and field, Russell, 682-6896, ronrusel.com

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TRACTOR WORK and bush hogging done. Call 302-8044

WILL TAKE care of elderly in home, do live ins. Call (337)328-7263.

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Vendor City Branch location for large industrial manufacturer is seeking a **Manufacturing Production** person with experience in the following:

Cutting, welding, burring, grinding, metal fabrication experience-Fractions-decimals-math aptitude required. On-Call for customers on nights and weekends. This is a one person-Jack of all trades position. Use your fab experience to become a customized Production expert. If you enjoy working independently and the personal satisfaction of creating things this job is for you! Send your resume to: recruiter1955@yahoo.com or fax to: 832-201-8880

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WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE DIFFERENT!

Assertive, confident leader needed to head the management team overseeing large employee base of approximately 400. Proven Medical background a plus but not necessary. Sound professional judgment a must! Send resume reflecting appropriate experience and qualifications to: Administrator, Martin de Porres 200 Teal Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615

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MOSS BLUFF 60/40 fill sand, foundations, clearing and topsoil. We deliver. 439-6608/494-9399.

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Dirt service and construction. Site preparation, foundations, ponds dug, sand, topsoil, fill dirt, clay and limestone delivered. 7' and 14' yards. Call 474-5264.

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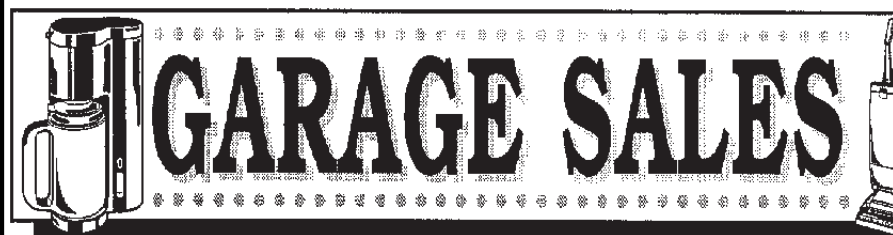
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**Call 494-4000****IOWA**

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1317 Waverly Street
Saturday only, 7 am. No early birds, please! Books, clothes, golf, clubs, bed frames and more!

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Lots of nice goodies, too much to list, don't miss this one! No junk, Saturday, 7 am-2 pm.

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Waterbed, furniture, clothes, baby items, toys, kitchenware, glassware, home decor. Knee board, skateboard, Tupperware now in stock! Shop 16 booths in stock! Open Monday - Saturday, 9-6:30. Old Towne General Store.

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Alley behind house, Saturday, 8-noon, appliances, furniture, baby items, and much more.

LAKE CHARLES

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730 Rampart
Gulfgate subdivision. Moving sale. Saturday, 7-12. Lots of baby items.

LAKE CHARLES

1045 Tomahawk Drive
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AAA YARD Works-lawn care, bush hogging. Reasonable rates. Call 855-1536, 370-5108.

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Free Service 820

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tree removal, tree trimming and stump grinding, state licensed and insured. Call 304-4443 or 480-0994.

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BOOTH SPACE for rent \$50 per square'. Open 7 days, 7-5. Please call Abeab's, 582-7758

Legals 1800**SHERIFF'S SALE**

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas F/K/A Bankers Trust Company, As Trustee vs. No. 026078, Marcus Blayne Kyle Laughlin & Janet Sull Bushnell Laughlin.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., February 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

Lot Six (6) of Suburban Woods, Part 2, a subdivision of a portion of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW 1/4 of NE 1/4) of Section 4, Township 9 South, Range 8 West, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 25, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights or record affecting the property.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., January 25, 2003.

John C. Morris, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Jan. 25, Feb. 21 21 18512704**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Bankers Trust Company of California, N.A., As Trustee Under The Pooling And Servicing Agreement Dated As Of 11/17/99 Among Paine Webber Attlee Acceptance Corp IV As Depositor, New South Federal Savings Bk As Transferor & As Servicer & The Bank Of New York As Trustee vs. No. 0229, Jeffrey Wade Stricklin & Molly Beth Simpson Stricklin.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

A certain piece, parcel or tract of land, together with all buildings and improvements thereon and all rights, ways and privileges and servitudes thereunto appertaining or in any way appertaining or in any way belonging, being, living and situated in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Lot Seventy-two (72) of Stillwood Subdivision No. 2, a subdivision as per plat recorded in Plat Book 25, Page 51, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

Improvements thereon bear the municipal number 1507 N. Greenfield Circle, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70605.

:seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Charles Watts, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512788**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Standard Federal Bank vs. No. 992940, Layne Nicholas Acuff and Nancy Sue Cheaney Acuff.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

Lot 22 of the Wing Subdivision, of the North 10 acres of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 13, Township 9 South, Range 9 West, Louisiana Meridian, as per plat recorded in Book 9, Page 121 of the Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, together with all buildings and improvements thereon situated; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights of record affecting the property.

Property address: 391 Ann Terrace Dr., Westlake, La. :seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

John Morris, III, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512790**

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Legals 1800**SHERIFF'S SALE**

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, First National Mortgage Corporation vs. No. 026078, Linda Faye Smith.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

Lot Eight (8); Less the South Thirty (30) feet sold, of Block One (1), of Eastside Addition Plat No. 1, a subdivision as per plat recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 25, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements situated thereon; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights of record affecting the property.

Property address: 1904 7th Street, Lake Charles, La. :seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Charles H. Heck, Jr., Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512791**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Bankers Trust Company of California, N.A., As Trustee Under The Pooling And Servicing Agreement Dated As Of September 1, 1999, Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities, Inc. Asset Backed Securities 1999-02 vs. No. 026222, Donald Ray Tousand, Jr.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

One certain lot of ground, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, and all the rights, ways and privileges and servitudes thereunto appertaining or in any way appertaining, situated in the Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit: Lot Twenty-three (23) and the West Half of Lot Twenty-four (24) of Block Sixteen (16) of High School Park Addition, to the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 169, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

Improvements thereon bear the municipal address: 1823 4th Street, Lake Charles, La. 70601. :seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Louis Arceneaux, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512792**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Public Notice is hereby given that the following described property will be opened and read for the following:

Rental of five (5) vehicles for 2003 Summer Feeding Program; Food for the Summer Feeding Program; Milk for the Summer Feeding Program; Food containers and other non-food items for Summer Feeding Program; Three (3) 26-yard automated side-loading refuse trucks; Two (2) dump trucks; Three (3) one ton 4-door crew cab pickup trucks; Four (4) 25-HP commercial riding lawnmowers; One (1) two ton flat dump truck; One (1) extended boom boomer; One (1) 1/2 ton extended cab fleetside pickup truck; One (1) mid-size utility type vehicle; 1,450 chairs for Rosa Hart Theatre.

The above according to specifications on file in the Office of Central Purchasing, City Hall, P.O. Box 1178, Lake Charles, La. 70602. All bids must be plainly marked on the outside of the envelope. No bids will be accepted after the above time and date. All bids will be publicly opened and read, and canvassed in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, Lake Charles, Louisiana, on March 4, 2003 at 3:00 p.m.

The City of Lake Charles reserves the right to accept or reject any and all of the bids and to waive formalities and technicalities. In the event any two or more of the bids submitted are equal, the City in its discretion may select the party to whom the contract shall be granted.

(s) Randy Roach, Mayor.

Attest: (s) Elizabeth Eastman, Elizabeth Eastman, Clerk of the Council. **Feb. 14, 21, 28 31 18512865**

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Legals 1800**Notice Inviting Bids**

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of a motion adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Gravity Drainage District No. 4 of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, said Board of Commissioners does hereby advertise for sealed bids and will open same on:

Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 2003.

At 4:00 p.m., C.S.T., at the Gravity Drainage Board Office at 1204 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601.

For the following work:

Project No. DR-2002-20 - Prien Lake Road at Henderson Bayou Drainage Improvements, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

All as per plans and specifications prepared by D.W. Jessen & Associates, which plans and specifications and proposal forms are on file and available for examination at the office of the Board of Commissioners, 440 Kirby Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601. Copies may be obtained by above address upon the deposit of \$40.00 for each set of documents so obtained. Deposits on the first set of documents furnished bona fide bidders will be fully refunded upon return of the documents no later than ten days after receipt of bids. On any other sets of documents furnished to bidders, one-half (50%) of such deposit will be refunded if the Contract Documents are returned in good condition within ten (10) days after Bid opening.

A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of Gravity Drainage District No. 4, negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value), or a satisfactory bond executed by the Bidder and accepted by the Board, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid.

Performance and Payment Bonds are required for execution of the contract equal to one hundred percent (100%) of said contract.

Bids may be held by the Drainage District for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding the contract.

Bidders who submit bids on this project shall be properly licensed under Chapter 24 of Title 37 of Louisiana Revised Statutes (R.S. 37:2150-2164 as amended).

The Contractor will be paid on monthly estimates in cash in accordance with the specifications.

The Gravity Drainage District No. 4 reserves the right to accept or reject all bids and waive technicalities; to accept or reject any or all alternates.

Lake Charles, Louisiana, this 4th day of February, 2003.

Gravity Drainage District No. 4 Of Ward 3, Calcasieu Parish, La. (s) Denise Foster, Denise Foster, President, Board of Commissioners.

Feb. 14, 21, 28 31 18512866

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Succession of No. 41,132, Div. E, Maria Georgina Salter, Born Fruge, Filed: 2-14-03. (s) Joan Vidrine, Deputy Clerk of Court. Notice of Application for Summary Judgment on all Immovable Property.

Notice Is Given that Lisa Salter Robinson, as Administratrix of the Succession of Maria Georgina Salter, born Fruge, has applied for an order authorizing her to sell the following described property, situated in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, to-wit:

The following property situated in Parish of Louisiana, Succession of No. 41,132, Div. E, Maria Georgina Salter, born Fruge, has applied for an order authorizing her to sell the following described property, situated in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, to-wit:

Lot Three (3) of Block One (1) of Morgan Creek Subdivision, Revised Plat, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 22, Page 432, bearing File No. 2065843, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements situated thereon.

Property address: 4115 E. Jevon Ln., Lake Charles, La. 70605. :seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Stacy Wheat, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512889**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Succession of No. 41,132, Div. E, Maria Georgina Salter, Born Fruge, Filed: 2-14-03. (s) Joan Vidrine, Deputy Clerk of Court. **Feb. 21, March 14 21 18512928**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Whitney National Bank vs. No. 025306, Edward Wade Nelson and Kathleen Roubien Nelson.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following de-

Legals 1800**scribed property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:**

1. Commencing at the Northeast corner of North Half of Northwest Quarter (NW/2 of NW 1/4) of Section Thirty-Five (35), Township Nine (9) South, Range Ten (10) West, Louisiana Meridian, thence West a distance of 245 feet, thence South a distance of 230 feet, thence East a distance of 245 feet, thence North a distance of 230 feet to point of commencement;

Less And Except the following, to-wit:

A. Commencing at a point of intersection of the South right-of-way line of Burton Street and the West right-of-way line of Arizona Street in the Northeast Quarter of Section 35, Township Nine (9) South, Range 10 West, thence West along the South right-of-way line of Burton Street 150 feet, thence South a distance of 150 feet to the intersection of right-of-way line of Arizona Street, thence North along said West right-of-way line of Arizona Street 150 feet to point of commencement;

B. That portion of this property conveyed to the Department of Transportation and Development of the State of Louisiana, for use by the Office of Highways as described in that certain sale to the said Department, recorded bearing file #2012783 in Conveyance Book 63, Page 643, records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, being for State Project No. 31-06-38 being Parcel #2-11 as described therein;

C. That portion of this property conveyed to the Department of Transportation and Development of the State of Louisiana, for use by the Office of Highways as described in that certain sale to the said Department, recorded bearing file #2029779, in Conveyance Book 2142, Page 319, records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, being for State Project No. 31-06-38 bearing Parcel #12-1 and 2-12-C-1 as described therein.

2. Commencing at a point located 245 feet West of the Northeast corner of the North Half of Section Thirty-Five (35), Township Nine (9) South, Range Ten (10) West, Louisiana Meridian, thence West a distance of 245 feet, thence South a distance of 230 feet, thence East a distance of 92.4 feet, thence North a distance of 230 feet to the point of commencement, subject to rights of way for public use, as described in North side and 35 feet on the West side thereof.

:seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

John A. Mouton, III, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512888**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation vs. No. 026268, Sheldon Harold Rosenthal.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

Lot Three (3) of Block One (1) of Morgan Creek Subdivision, Revised Plat, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 22, Page 432, bearing File No. 2065843, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements situated thereon.

Property address: 4115 E. Jevon Ln., Lake Charles, La. 70605. :seized under said writ.

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Stacy Wheat, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512889**

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, CitiFinancial Mortgage Company Inc. vs. No. 0349, Joseph Gordon Langham and Shirley Jean Wood Langham.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder without the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

Lots 3 and 4 of Dudley Stutes Partition a subdivision as per plat recorded in Plat Book 21, Page 10, Records of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, together with all buildings and other improvements, appurtenances and attachments, rights, ways, privileges, servitudes and advantages thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, including all immovables by nature and destination, now or hereafter forming part of or attached to or connected with the property or used in connection therewith.

Property address: 1059 Dunn Ferry Rd., Sulphur, La. 70663. :seized under said

Legals 1800**writ.**

Terms: Cash Moment of Sale.

Beth O. Lundy, Sheriff, Calcasieu Parish, La. Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles, La., February 21, 2003.

Charles K. Watts, Attorney For Plaintiff. **Feb. 21, March 21 21 18512890**

**CALCASIEU PARISH POLICE JURY****ADVERTISEMENT**

The Police Jury of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, does hereby advertise for sealed bids and will open same on:

1. Thursday, the 27th day of March, 2003.

2. At the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Meeting Room on the first floor of the Parish Government Building at the corner of Pittham and Gill Streets in the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, Post Office Drawer 3287, Lake Charles, Louisiana, 70602, at the hour of 3:00 p.m.

3. For the hardsurfacing and overlaying of various roads in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as Calcasieu Sheriff's Project No. 2003-02.

4. Plans and specifications are on file and available at the Division of Engineering, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, 1032 Ryan Street, at the corner of Ryan and Gill Streets in the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana. A security deposit of \$50.00 will be required prior to receiving a bid package. Deposit is fully refundable for the first set of documents to all bonafide prime bidders upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. The deposit will be returned to the bidder if other sets of documents will be refunded fifty percent (50%) upon receipt of documents as stated above.

* Prime bidder is defined as licensed General Contractor bidding this job as such.

5. Preference is given to materials, supplies and provisions that are produced, manufactured, or grown in Louisiana. The bidder shall be equal to articles offered by competitors outside of the State.

6. All bids must be accompanied by bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the sum of the bid and all alternates, and must be in the form of certified check or cashiers check drawn on a bank insured by the FDIC, or Calcasieu Parish Police Jury. The bid must be on a Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Bid Bond Form contained in contract documents, written by a surety company licensed to do business in Louisiana with a A.M. Best Rating of "A" or better, countersigned by a person who is under contract with the surety company or bond issuer as a licensed agent in this state and who is residing in this state, and that it is listed thereon as approved for an amount equal to or greater than the amount for which it obligates itself in this instrument.

7. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond and Liability Insurance written by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana with a A.M. Best's Rating of "A" or better or elect to have 5% retainage withheld from all payments.

8. All bids must be accompanied by an executed Non-Collusion Affidavit of Prime Bidder contained in the contract documents.

9. Bids shall be accepted from contractors who are licensed under LA-R.S. 37:2150-2163 for the classification of Road Construction. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after receipt of bids, except under the provisions of LA-R.S. 38:2214.

10. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause. In accordance with LA-R.S. 38:2212(A) (1) (b), the provisions and requirements of this Section, those stated in the advertisement for bids, and those required on the Bid Form shall not be considered as informalities and shall not be waived by any public entity.

11. The public shall incur no obligation to the Contractor under the contract between the Parish and Contractor is fully executed.

12. Official action on this bid will be taken by the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury within forty five (45) days.

13. All bids must be plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: **BID FOR CALCASIEU PARISH PROJECT NO. 2003-02.**

CHUCK K. ECKLEY, President, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury. **Feb. 21, 28, March 7 31 18512905**

Friends Advisors are standing by to help you with your Classified ad. Dial **494-4000** for fast, friendly service.

AN AMERICAN PRESS Classified Ad works! Fast - Friendly Economical Service. Call us at **494-4000** today.

Legals 1800**SHERIFF'S SALE**

Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, The Provident Bank vs. No. 025862, Lenwood Leon Leon.

By virtue of a writ of Seizure and Sale issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on **Wed., March 26, 2003** between legal hours, and starting at 10:00 a.m., the following described property situated in Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, to-wit:

The East 35 feet of Lot Thirteen (13), all of Lots Fourteen (14), Fifteen (15), and Sixteen (16) and the West 17.5 feet of Lot Seventeen (17) of the Benjamin M. Foster Subdivision, a subdivision as per plat recorded in Conveyance Book 63, Page 141, less the East 7.5 feet of the West 17.5 feet of Lot Seventeen (17) of the Benjamin M. Foster Subdivision, as required upon execution of the contract equal to one hundred percent (100%) of said contract.

10. Attention is called to the fact that no less than the minimum salary and wages set forth in the contract documents must be paid on this project, and that the contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability.

11. Contractor must be an equal opportunity employer.

12. The work to be performed under this contract is on a project assisted under a program providing direct federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The parties of this contract will comply with the provisions of training and employment of residents of the program area and business opportunities under section 3 of the Housing Act of 1968 and 24 CFR 135(2); Anti-Kickback prohibition; prevailing wages under Davis-Bacon and Related Acts; the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act; access to books and records; compliance under the Clean Air and Water Acts; Equal Opportunity under Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375; and the Federal Labor Standards Provisions.

13. Bidders who submit bids on this project will comply with Chapter 24 of Title 37 of Louisiana Revised Statutes (R.S. 37:2150-2164 as amended).

14. All of the above will be made part of the contract documents.

15. The contractor shall be paid in cash on estimates, all in accordance with the specifications.






City of Lake Charles, Louisiana (s) Randy Roach, Randy Roach, Mayor. **Feb. 21, 28, March 7 31 18512913**

SHERIFF'S SALE Fourteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana, Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation vs. No. 022594, Leona Mary DeJean Chretien A/K/a Leona D. Chretien.

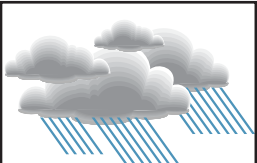
By virtue of a writ of Fieri Facias issued and to me directed by the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder with the benefit of appraisement, at the court house door of this parish in the city of Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, on <

WEATHER

ACCUWEATHER® 5-DAY FORECAST FOR LAKE CHARLES

Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
				
70° Windy with heavy, gusty thunderstorms	68° 47° Partly sunny	68° 46° Times of clouds and sun	56° 35° Intervals of clouds and sun	51° 35° Mostly cloudy
WINDS SE 12-22 mph	WINDS W 12-22 mph	WINDS SW 8-16 mph	WINDS N 12-22 mph	WINDS E 8-16 mph

UV INDEX  2 Minimal

Tonight

51° Evening rain; mostly cloudy.
WINDS SW 12-22 mph

ALMANAC

Temperature
Statistics for Lake Charles through 4 p.m. yesterday.
High/low 65°/55°
Normal high/low 66°/45°
Record high 85° in 1917
Record low 27° in 1910
Last year's high/low 74°/47°

Precipitation
Statistics for 24 hours ending 4 p.m. yesterday.
Yesterday 0.02"
Month to date 2.63"
Normal month to date 2.44"
Year to date 4.49"
Normal year to date 7.96"

Humidity
Yesterday at 3 p.m. 93%
Today at 3 p.m. 100%

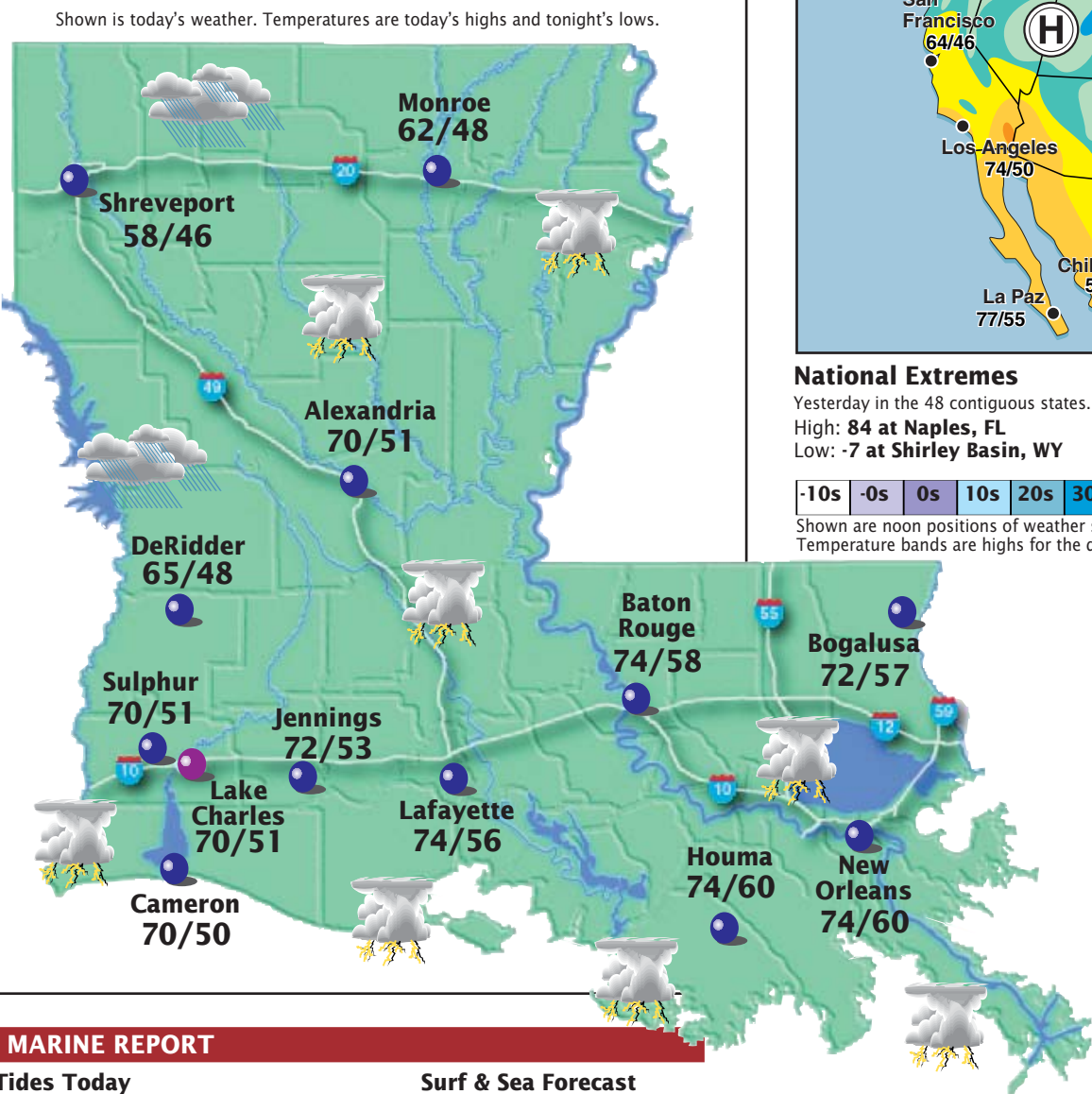
SUN & MOON

Today
Sunrise today 6:48 a.m.
Sunset today 6:06 p.m.
Moonrise today 11:30 p.m.
Moonset today 9:59 a.m.

Moon Phases

Last Feb. 23
New March 2
First March 11
Full March 18

LOUISIANA TODAY



MARINE REPORT

Tides Today

	High	Ht.(ft)	Low	Ht.(ft)
Eugene Island	7:45 am	1.3	11:10 am	0.7
	6:30 pm	1.3		
Shell Island	9:04 am	1.0	12:25 am	-0.1
	7:49 pm	1.0	12:34 pm	0.5
Rabbit Island	7:57 am	1.3	11:13 am	0.7
	6:42 pm	1.3		
Lighthouse Point	6:54 am	1.3	10:56 am	0.7
	5:39 pm	1.3	11:47 pm	-0.4
Cote Blanche Is.	10:29 am	0.9	3:20 am	-0.1
	9:14 pm	0.9	3:29 pm	0.5
Southwest Pass	7:38 am	1.0	12:31 am	-0.1
	6:23 pm	1.0	12:40 pm	0.6
Weeks Bay	9:54 am	1.0	3:36 am	-0.1
	8:39 pm	1.0	3:45 pm	0.5
Mermentau R. Ent.	6:16 am	1.6	12:05 am	-0.2
	5:01 pm	1.6	12:14 pm	0.9
Calcasieu Pass	5:56 am	1.3	11:49 am	0.7
	4:41 pm	1.3		
Sabine Pass	7:10 am	1.2	11:58 am	0.7
	5:55 pm	1.2		

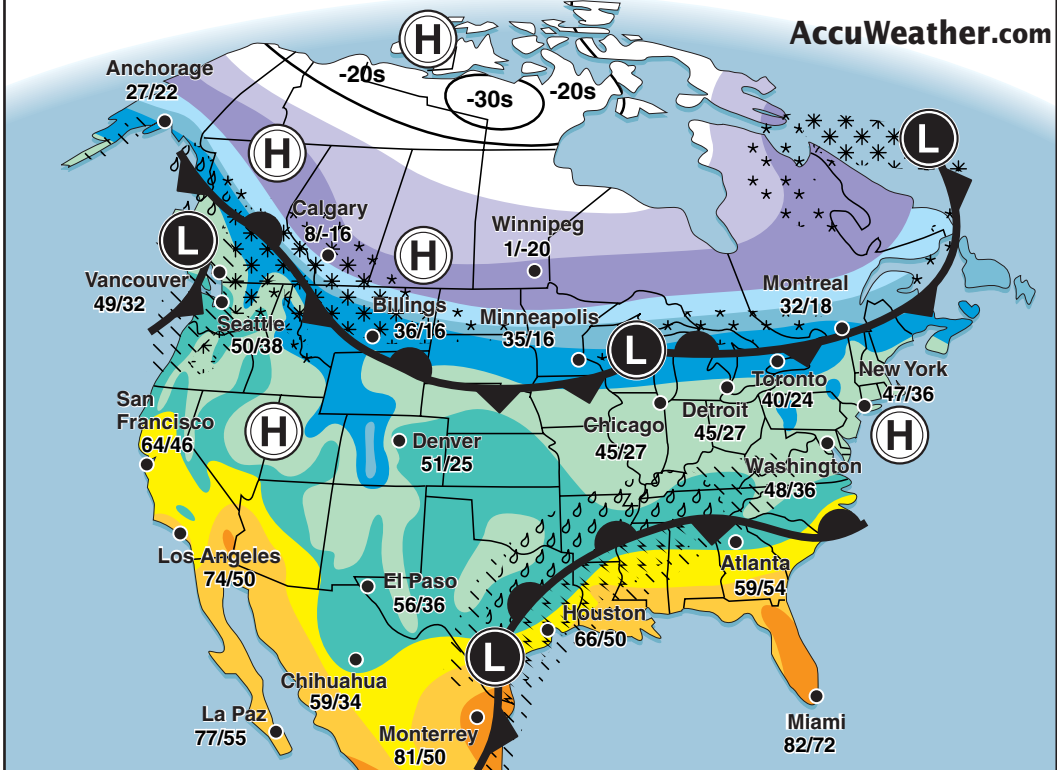
Surf & Sea Forecast

Lake Charles
Winds southeast at 15-25 knots today. A rough chop. Visibility less than 2 miles in showers, thunderstorms.
Water temperature: 54°

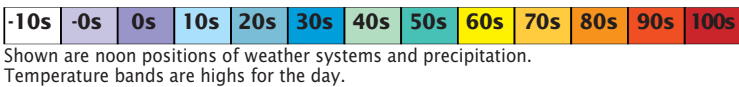
Calcasieu River
Winds southeast at 15-25 knots today. A rough chop. Visibility less than 2 miles in showers, thunderstorms.
Water temperature: 54°

Gulf of Mexico at Cameron
Winds southeast at 15-25 knots today. Waves 3-5 feet; visibility less than 2 miles in showers, thunderstorms.
Water temperature: 56°

THE NATION TODAY



National Extremes
Yesterday in the 48 contiguous states.
High: 84 at Naples, FL
Low: -7 at Shirley Basin, WY



Legend for weather symbols:
Showers
T-storms
Rain
Flurries
Snow
Ice
Cold Front
Warm Front
Stationary

NATIONAL CITIES

Today				Tomorrow			
City	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W	City	Hi/Lo	W
Albuquerque	55/28	pc	54/28	s	Jackson, MS	66/53	t
Amarillo	52/28	c	57/29	s	Jacksonville	79/64	sh
Anchorage	27/22	c	32/22	pc	Kansas City	49/34	pc
Asheville	50/45	sh	66/38	t	Las Vegas	67/43	s
Atlanta	59/54	sh	62/39	t	Little Rock	51/43	r
Baltimore	48/35	c	50/38	r	Los Angeles	69/50	s
Beaumont, TX	70/49	t	69/49	pc	Louisville	47/42	sh
Billings	36/16	sf	17/-3	sf	Lubbock	50/30	r
Biloxi	69/62	t	64/48	pc	Memphis	56/47	r
Boise	52/34	sh	48/26	sf	Miami	82/72	sh
Boston	48/32	s	40/34	r	Milwaukee	38/25	pc
Brownsville	80/52	t	77/55	s	Minneapolis	35/16	sf
Buffalo	40/32	pc	36/20	i	Nashville	54/50	sh
Burlington	42/24	pc	32/22	sn	New Orleans	74/60	t
Charleston, SC	67/59	sh	71/53	t	New York	47/36	s
Charleston, WV	46/41	r	57/36	r	Norfolk, VA	50/49	r
Charlotte	54/52	sh	64/43	t	Oklahoma City	51/35	c
Cheyenne	43/24	pc	36/10	sf	Omaha	46/25	pc
Chicago	45/27	pc	35/21	sf	Orlando	81/65	t
Cincinnati	44/38	sh	46/29	r	Philadelphia	48/34	pc
Cleveland	40/31	pc	38/27	r	Phoenix	74/48	s
Columbus, OH	41/35	pc	43/29	r	Portland, ME	44/26	pc
Dallas	54/42	r	61/46	s	Portland, OR	54/40	sh
Dayton	40/33	pc	39/27	r	St. Louis	45/33	c
Denver	51/25	pc	42/18	sf	San Diego	69/51	s
Des Moines	44/28	pc	30/14	c	San Francisco	64/46	s
Detroit	45/27	pc	34/25	sn	Santa Fe	49/20	pc
Duluth	25/5	sf	11/-10	sf	Seattle	50/38	sh
El Paso	56/36	pc	63/39	s	Tucson	68/42	s
Fairbanks	3/-19	pc	10/-8	c	Tulsa	53/39	c
Galveston	67/54	t	65/56	s	Wash., DC	48/36	c
Gulf Shores	70/62	sh	66/47	t			
Helena	39/18	sn	19/0	sf			
Honolulu	82/68	pc	82/69	s			
Houston	66/50	t	68/46	s			
Indianapolis	40/32	pc	38/27	r			

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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SHUTTERBUGS



First steps. Jason "Lil Duck" Galentine Jr., son of Jason "Big Duck" Galentine and Kerry "Sassy" Butler, takes his first step. He is the grandson of Francene Galentine and Johnny Thibodeaux and Rita and John "Spiderman" Butler.



Baby's best friend. Two-month-old Rivers Davis Vallier, gets ready for nap time with his dog Casper. He is the son of Brian and Brenda Vallier. Grandparents are Chuck and Edy Thibodeaux of Lake Charles.



Hanging out. Ashlynn Fontenot, daughter of Jason and Michelle Fontenot, spends time with her "Babe." Grandparents are Byron and Carolyn Fontenot and David and Pat Carlsen of Groves, Texas.



Oh, boy! Three-month-old Zachary LeDoux plays hide-and-seek under his blankets. He is the son of Steve and Michelle LeDoux of Moss Bluff. His grandparents are Ken and Brenda Guillory of Moss Bluff, Adrian and Flo Ward of Longville, Tessie LeDoux of Westlake and Charles LeDoux of LeBlau Settlement. Zachary also has a sister, Emberly LeDoux.

Shutterbugs appears on the Weather page every day in the American Press. Your snapshot is welcome. Send your amateur photo to:

Shutterbugs
American Press
P.O. Box 2893
Lake Charles, LA 70602

On the back of the photo, print your name and phone number, and list who's in the photo.

- In **1866**, Lucy B. Hobbs became the first American woman to graduate from dental school.
- In **1947**, Edwin H. Land publicly demonstrated his Polaroid Land camera, which could produce a black-and-white photograph in 60 seconds.
- In **1998**, the United States advised its citizens to leave Iraq, in expectations of new air strikes.

TIMELINE

Don Kingery
Columnist



‘Money cars’ at Kress store amazed shoppers

For a kid from the country right after World War II, going downtown to the Kress store in Lake Charles and watching the little “money cars” run along their tracks was an adventure, says Mary Lyles.

“I thought those little cars were a sight to behold,” Mary says. “We lived in were a tiny sawmill settlement before we moved to Lake Charles in 1950, and I had never seen anything like that.”

Each clerk at Kress had a sales register, but no money. The clerk would ring up a buyer’s items, put the sales slip and dollar bills into a metal box, set the box on its tracks, and press a button. The box, which resembled a tinker-toy car, would hurtle up to the ceiling on metal tracks, zip across the room and disappear into a square hole in the ceiling. Moments later, it would reappear, whiz across the ceiling and descend to the sales clerk, who would open it and hand the buyer change and receipt.

Kids and grown-ups alike enjoyed staring at the ceiling and watching the money cars whiz up and across the ceiling at Kress.

For kids, part of the fascination was wondering who was up there beyond that hole in the ceiling. Kress seemed to have no second floor, so kids assumed that whoever was up there — be it pixie or gnome or whatever — had a niche in the attic. Kids spent long minutes wondering what that unseen presence looked like.

For the buyer, as a hard-earned dollar disappeared into that hole in the ceiling, there was a faint premonition that the dollar would somehow fail to reach its destination and vanish forever.

It was ironic that Kress kept a stern eye on its clerks but allowed customers full freedom over endless counters of items that almost begged to be swiped.

Thousands of things — from buttons to bracelets, pins to pottery, baubles to bazookas and hoops to hats — were out in the open and unguarded.

Yet, shoplifting was a rarity.

Ironically, when a dollar was hardest to get and people could least afford to buy things, a dropped dollar was usually picked up and returned, doors were seldom locked, keys were often left in cars and milk remained unbothered on outside steps until someone in the house got up and brought it in. And, at the same time, five-and-dime stores could leave thousands of things out in the open without fear of thievery.

Apparently, in hard times, the vast family of the jobless or poorly paid somehow expanded to include not only people but places of business.

It may never happen again. But it did, once.

Write Don Kingery, c/o American Press, Box 2893, Lake Charles, LA 70602, or e-mail dkingery@americanpress.com.

THE WAY IT WAS



JAMIE GATES / AMERICAN PRESS

Today’s country roads stir up memories of a barefoot kid in faded overalls.

Down a dusty road Country roads each had own personality

BY DON KINGERY
AMERICAN PRESS

From the 1930s through the 1950s, riding along country roads in Southwest Louisiana was an adventure.

There were three kinds of country roads in those days — dirt, clamshell and gravel. Each had its own personality.

Dirt roads were the most adventurous. In the absence of stock laws, cattle wandered free and sought out dirt roads at night for the warmth the dust soaked up during the day. It wasn’t unusual for a motorist to have to stop a vehicle, climb down and shoo off a half-dozen contented cows that had chosen to bed down on a dirt road.

In dry weather, a dirt road might be covered with a blanket of dust 4 or 5 inches thick. Grown-ups walked a dusty road by lifting their feet in sort of a slow-motion prance that stirred as little dust as possible. Kids, on the other hand, loved dust between their toes. They scuffed along, pushing dust as they went. Sometimes you couldn’t see a kid for the dust he raised. You knew he was there only because the dust cloud moved.

When it rained, dirt roads turned to mud, and the first car or wagon to pass over a mud road created ruts. Other cars straddled the old ruts, creating new ruts. When the road dried out, the ruts hardened. Vehicles would have to struggle along over perilous shoulders until the parish grader scraped the road smooth.

During droughts, when the dust got bad enough, the parish sent the oil truck.



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

A truck is seen driving near the intersection of Guillory Street and Shady Lane in Westlake in this vintage photo from the 1950s.

The oil truck had a large tank on top of a flatbed. Hoses led from the tank to a metal pipe stretched across the back of the truck. The pipe had holes in it. The truck operator would open a faucet and oil would flow into the pipe, out the holes and onto the road. Some trucks had a small engine that powered an air compressor so the oil came out in a fine spray. The oil turned the road dark brown and settled the dust for a few days.

Clamshell roads had a different personality. They didn’t develop ruts, but after a few days of wear, clamshell roads resembled a washboard, thousands of ridges in succession that jolted vehicles and the people in them.

After World War II, new cars were available that could exceed 60 mph without falling apart, and drivers tried different speeds on washboard roads. It was reported that a car going 50 mph would “plane” over a washboard road. That strategy was beyond the reach of

old cars. The average motorist had to jolt along until a parish grader came out and smoothed the road.

Gravel used on country roads was called pea gravel because of its size. When cars passed in opposite directions, windshields of both cars were peppered with pea gravel thrown by the tires of the passing cars. Fisticuffs between drivers were common on newly pea-graveled roads.

Every country road had ditches on either side. There was always something going on during the summer in roadside ditches. In rice country, plants grew gigantic in ditches when fertilizer-rich water was drained from fields as rice began to head up. Blackberry vines flourished on ditch slopes. Cattails abounded. Creatures seemed everywhere. Kids could scoop up crawfish. Birds in roadside trees made good slingshot targets, but nobody ever hit any.

Most country roads are asphalt now. The ditches sometimes have so much trash that a self-respecting crawfish wouldn’t live there.

On today’s country roads, even the wildest imagination couldn’t dream up a barefoot kid in faded overalls pushing his own little dust cloud along, and leaving it now and then to wade the ditch and munch on a ripe blackberry or two.

Say farewell.
Neither the barefoot kid nor the dusty road will be back.

■
Got memories? Write Don Kingery, c/o American Press, Box 2893, Lake Charles, LA 70602, or e-mail dkingery@americanpress.com.

50 YEARS AGO

Landry ringmen defeat Vidrine

From the American Press of Feb. 21, 1953

VIDRINE — Landry Memorial’s ringmen ran their victory string for five straight by out-punching Vidrine high school’s leatherpushers, 10-4, here Friday night. Landry piled up its score on four TKO’s, four decisions and two forfeits. Vidrine’s four points were gained by three decisions and a forfeit.

Baldwin East, Landry’s 100-pounder, racked up his third straight TKO by stopping Roger Guillory in one minute of the second round.

In the 110-pound class Landry’s Wayne Bayard scored what was actually a knockout. As usual the Tigers’ leading candidate for the popular fistic nickname, “Rocky,” spotted his opponent big advantages in height and reach.

But after battling on even terms in the first round, Bayard chilled C.J. Begard with a hard left to the jaw with only 30 seconds elapsed in the second stanza.

State Champion Floyd East of Landry who has developed a lethal left this year used it to put the finishing touches on Darwin Bogard after one minute of the second round. This was East’s fourth straight victory without a defeat, all by TKO’s.

DAR contest

FENTON — Miss Jo Ann Vidrine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Vidrine, recently elected the DAR Good Citizen from Fenton high school, was in Baton Rouge today to compete for state honors.

Jo Ann was chosen for the award by the senior class and faculty.

Miss Vidrine has also maintained an honor student scholastic rating throughout high school.

Squires hear talk

Dr. Fritz LaCour, local physician addressed Columbian Squire Circle 638 on “Alcoholism” at the group’s meeting in St. Margaret’s parish hall Wednesday evening.

Dr. LaCour described the progress made by the organization Alcoholics Anonymous, in fighting alcoholism.

The meeting was opened by Chief Squire Morris Bayard, Jr., followed by a prayer led by Chief Councilor Howard Jaubert.

TIMELINE BOOK

The Timeline book including 96 features, columns and sketches by **Don Kingery**, covering a full year of Timeline pages, is on sale at the American Press, 4900 Highway 90 East, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday.

To order by mail, mail a check for \$12.50 made out to Timeline Book, c/o American Press, P.O. Box 2893, Lake Charles, LA 70602. The American Press will pay for handling and postage and assure safe delivery.

To send Timeline books as gifts, mail check for \$12.50 per book and include the full name and address of each person who will receive the gift books. The American Press will include with each book a gift card with your name.

TIMELINE MAILBAG

Showboat was berthed in canal along Old Spanish Trail

A Timeline reader wondered about the location of the Showboat of the 1930s, a club built on a barge and said to be owned by Bat Gormly of Lake Charles. We asked an old-timer familiar with west Calcasieu in pre-World War times for the answer.

The Showboat was berthed in a canal that ran along the north side of old U.S. 90 (the Old Spanish Trail) in Calcasieu Parish, just on this side of the Sabine River from Orange, Texas.

From where the Showboat was berthed, it could easily be moved out into the Sabine River, which the operators did after gambling was closed in Calcasieu Parish. It was in the center of the Sabine River when I visited it.

At one time, W.T. Burton had a contract with the state of Louisiana to operate a ferry across the canal. The ferry

was closed after a low bridge was built to cross the canal and marsh.

DALTON LYONS
Lake Charles

Poppuns were fun; other things aren’t

A Timeline feature talked about the extreme care kids put into making pop guns to shoot chinaberries, and a Timeline column spoke of things people do that can irritate you.

The article on pop guns and chinaberries sure brought back memories. My brothers and I used to play with pop guns all the time. And yes, most of the fun came in making them.

We were fortunate. We had our own chinaberry tree in our yard.

Now, about the irritating things people can do:

■ People who drive along slowly in the passing lane and

won’t move over even when the traffic is stacked behind them.

■ People who rush to pull out from a side street and get right in front of you, then drive 25 miles an hour when the speed limit is twice that much.

■ People who blow their noses at the dinner table.

■ People who receive gifts and don’t send thank-you notes, so you don’t know if they got the gift or not.

Thank you, Don. I’m glad I got this off my chest.

BARBARA ANDREPONT
Lake Charles

Another fan of Toot Smith’s Cafe

A Timeline column talked about Toot Smith’s cafe on Main Street in Lake Arthur, a regular pre-dawn meeting place for the town’s early risers.

FLORA CANIK
BROUSSARD
Jennings

■
Got memories? Write Don Kingery, c/o American Press, Box 2893, Lake Charles, LA 70602, or e-mail dkingery@americanpress.com

LIFE

Fiance comes clean about drug use one month before wedding

Dear Abby: My fiance, “Doug,” just revealed to me that for the past six months he’s been using drugs. We’ve been together almost four years, and our wedding is scheduled for next month. We are both in our early 20s.

Doug confessed that he has been using money we set aside for bills to buy drugs. He said he has also stolen money from our best friend for the same purpose.

He came to me on his own to tell me all this. Doug has always been a sweet, caring guy. I love him with all my heart, but I’ve lost my trust in him. Now I don’t know what to do. I can hardly believe this is happening. I still want to marry him, but don’t want to

Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren



marry someone I don’t trust. What should I do? I need an answer in a hurry. — Hurt and Confused in Florida

Dear Hurt and Confused: You have just had a peek at what life is like with an addict. Postpone the wedding indefinitely until your fiance has been through rehabilitation and is established in a 12-step program. You may love him — and vice versa — but there

is a side to your fiance that you’re just getting to know. I urge you to be sure he’s clean before you make a lifetime commitment.

Dear Abby: Friends of ours, “Cindy and Josh,” are moving a few states away and throwing a goodbye party for themselves. Are my husband and I required to take a gift to the party? They were married a few months ago, and we were very generous with their shower and wedding gifts.

Josh has been unemployed for more than a year. According to Cindy, he doesn’t like to job-hunt, so he’s waiting for something to “fall in his lap.” On the other hand, Cindy has a well-paying, full-time job. They

live rent-free in a house his parents own, and spend their money on sports memorabilia, stereo equipment, electronic gadgets, etc.

Neither one has a job waiting in the city where they’re relocating, but they were given money by Cindy’s parents to cover moving expenses and rent for the first few months. Cindy is hinting broadly that she expects cash as gifts.

I thought gifts were required only at house-warmings — not farewell parties. However, my husband doesn’t want us to appear cheap. Your thoughts, Abby? — Questioning Couple in Missouri

Dear Questioning

Keep portion sizes appropriate to your needs

Question: Can I keep a healthy weight and still eat all the vegetables and whole grains advised?

Answer: Absolutely. Maintaining a healthy weight can have a major effect in lowering our risk of cancer, high blood pressure, diabetes and other health problems. But that alone does not make someone healthy.

Good health comes from how you maintain that “healthy” weight. Regular physical activity and a mainly plant-based diet with a wide variety of grains, fruits and vegetables are very important. It’s the high-nutrient plant foods that provide many of the vitamins and minerals. They also contain natural plant chemicals that help prevent the cancer process from starting, for example, and keep blood vessels in good

Nutrition Wise

Karen Collins



shape. In keeping a healthy weight, remember that portion sizes appropriate to your needs are as important as the kinds of food you eat.

Question: I don’t understand how to use the information listed under “DV” on food labels.

Answer: In the Nutrition Facts panel on food labels, the far right column lists the percent of Daily Value (DV) for most of the nutrients listed. The Daily Value for a nutrient is the amount that could reasonably be found in a healthy diet of an average adult. For nutrients like fat

and carbohydrates, the Daily Value is based on an average of 2,000 calories. Daily Value for vitamins and minerals vary, depending on gender and age.

If you really want to know how the nutrients in a food compare to your daily needs, look at the actual amounts listed (in grams or milligrams) in a table of current Recommended Daily Intake. But most people don’t need to do this. They are better off simply eating a balanced, mostly plant-based diet, and perhaps quickly scanning the “DV” figures to identify those either very high or very low in various nutrients.

Question: Does adding milk block absorption of the healthful substances tea contains?

Answer: No. Studies have found that adding milk,

honey, lemon, or sugar does not interfere with the body’s ability to absorb the apparently health-promoting phytochemicals in tea. Certain flavonoids in tea seem to be able to interfere with a cancer’s development, and they also protect against cancer and heart disease by acting as antioxidants. But experts emphasize that, although tea could be a positive addition to a healthy diet, it cannot compare to the major health-promoting impact of a mostly plant-based diet with a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

“Nutrition Wise” is provided as a public service by the American Institute for Cancer Research. Questions for this column may be sent to “Nutrition Wise,” in care of the *American Press*, 1759 R St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Doctors poorly informed on nonprescription drugs

Question: When my doctor gives me a prescription for an expensive medication, is he assuming I already know about less expensive, generic or over-the-counter medication that might be effective? If he knew of an over-the-counter medication that might be effective and less expensive, shouldn’t he tell me about it?

There have been two instances where I was able to find an effective over-the-counter medication for a minor problem, and found them as effective as my prescription medication. This occurred with a physician I am no longer seeing. — B.M.

Answer: I would hope your doctor doesn’t simply assume you know something rather than asking you and-

Family Doctor

Dr. Allen Douma



or giving a full explanation.

It’s equally important for you not to assume you know what the doctor is thinking. You also need to ask. Whenever you have a question about anything your doctor might be thinking, ask him or her. Don’t do as so many patients do — ignore your own question until you get home, when it’s too late to ask.

Doctors would better serve their patients if they discussed the possible use of generic or nonprescription drugs when writing a prescription. This is more likely to happen if you specifically raise the issue when talking to your doctor about treatment.

Unfortunately, a doctor will often have less knowledge about nonprescription drugs than about prescription drugs. This is understandable, considering the

emphasis of their education and practice, as well as the amount of money manufacturers spend to inform them about prescription drugs.

It’s also more understandable when you realize that medical research efforts are rarely directed at comparing one drug with another regardless of whether the drug is prescription or non-prescription.

This is the direct result of the process required to get a drug approved, which compares a new drug to a placebo or sugar pill and not to drugs already used to treat a medical problem.

Fortunately, a concerted effort has begun in Oregon to evaluate how drugs compare with regard both to effectiveness and negative side effects. Some of these results have already been published, and many more will be over the coming months. You can access this information by going to the AARP Oregon Web site at aarp.org/

wiseuse/oregon-research.shtml.

You can take a lot more control over this situation by remembering that whenever a medication is recommended to ask your doctor or pharmacist three simple questions:

1. Are there other drugs that are used to treat my condition?
 2. If there are, how do other drugs compare to this one, for me?
 3. If two or more drugs are equally effective and safe, how do the prices compare?
- I suggest that everyone write down some of the most important things that they expect from a doctor and share it, preferably at the beginning of the relationship, but, if not then, as soon as possible.

This column is not intended to provide medical advice or take the place of consultation with a doctor or other health-care provider.

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65TH ANNIVERSARY



Mr. and Mrs. Precht

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight (Ruth Robertson) Precht of Jennings will celebrate 65 years of marriage with a reception Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, in the Conference Center, 210 N. State St. in Jennings. Hosts are their children and spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy (Linda) Precht, Mr. and Mrs. Tom (Kim) Precht and Carolyn Marks, all of Jennings; Mr. and Mrs. Bucky (Charleen) Precht of Iota; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy (Beth) Tilley of California; and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald (Kayla) Fournierat of Lake Charles. The couple was married Feb. 25, 1938, and has 19 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY



Mr. and Mrs. Matthews

Mr. and Mrs. Paul (Lilly Romero) Matthews of Westlake will celebrate 50 years of marriage Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003. Their children and spouses are Mr. and Mrs. Steven (Mollie) LeBleu, Mr. and Mrs. David (Donna) Meche, Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne (Becky) Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin (Charlotte) Abney, and Mr. and Mrs. Brian (Tanya) Roy. The couple has four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



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NORTH			
♠	A 3 2		
♥	A 7 4		
♦	9 7 3 2		
♣	9 7 2		
WEST			
♠	9 7		
♥	Q 10 8 5		
♦	K Q J 5		
♣	6 5 3		
EAST			
♠	8 6 5		
♥	J 9		
♦	10 8 6 4		
♣	J 10 8 4		
SOUTH			
♠	K Q J 10 4		
♥	K 6 3 2		
♦	A		
♣	A K Q		

The bidding:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
2♠ Pass 2♦ Pass
2♥ Pass 3♠ Pass
4NT Pass 5♥ Pass
6♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

Trumps are a valuable asset. Do not squander them unnecessarily. Here is a case in point.

The opening bid was an artificial game force and the response simply said that North was either weak or had no clear

cut positive action. (For those who believe a positive response of two no trump would have been more appropriate, why should the weaker hand ever attempt to declare the contract?) Thereafter the auction was natural. Although North held two aces, there were still losing hearts to take care of, so South was content with a small slam.

West led the king of diamonds, won in the closed hand. Declarer drew the outstanding trumps, then conceded a heart. After ruffing the diamond return, declarer ran the rest of the trumps and the clubs, but West had no difficulty hanging on to all the hearts. At the end South had to concede another heart — down one.

Relying on a 3-3 heart division or a mistake by a defender was rather naive, especially since the contract was virtually unbeatable. After winning the diamond lead, declarer should cash only one high trump from hand, then play ace, king and another heart. No matter what the defenders do, declarer can ruff the remaining heart with dummy’s ace of spades, draw trumps and claim the rest of the tricks to land the slam.

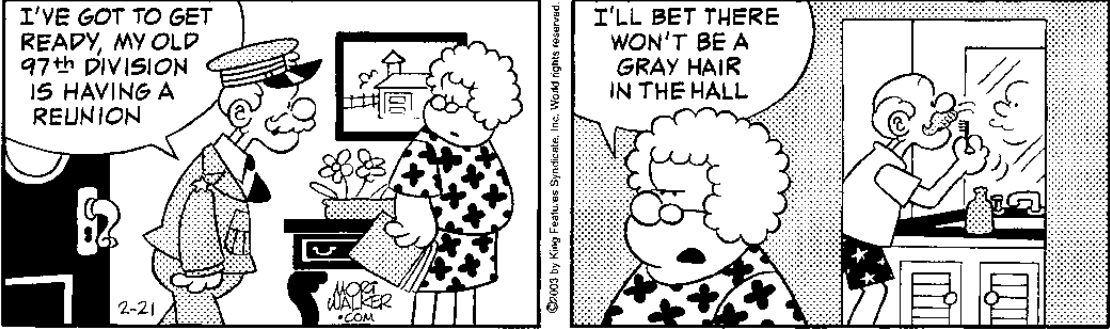
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COMICS

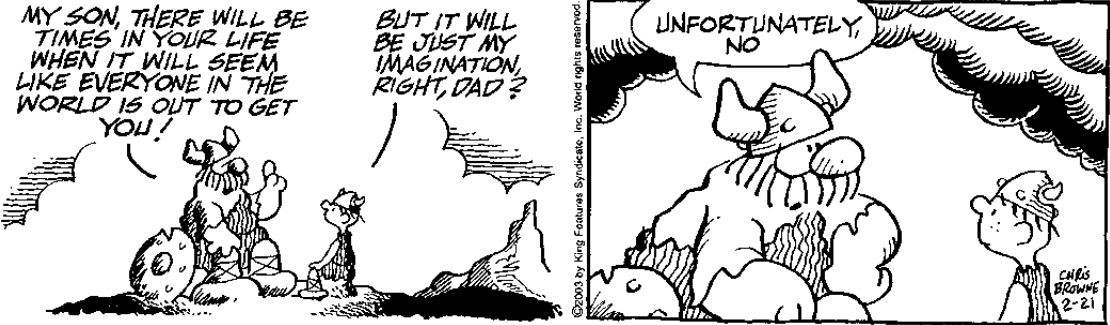
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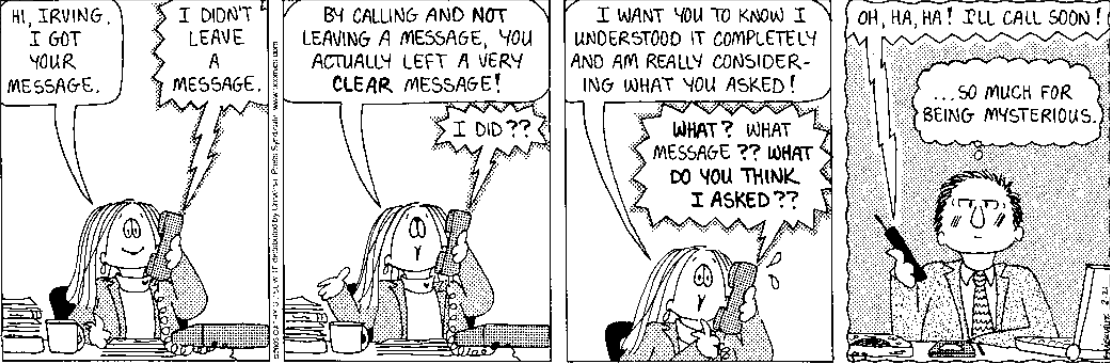
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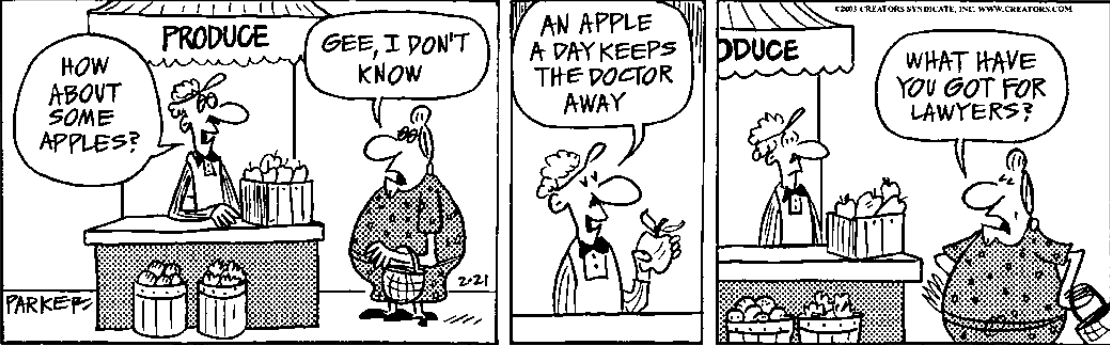
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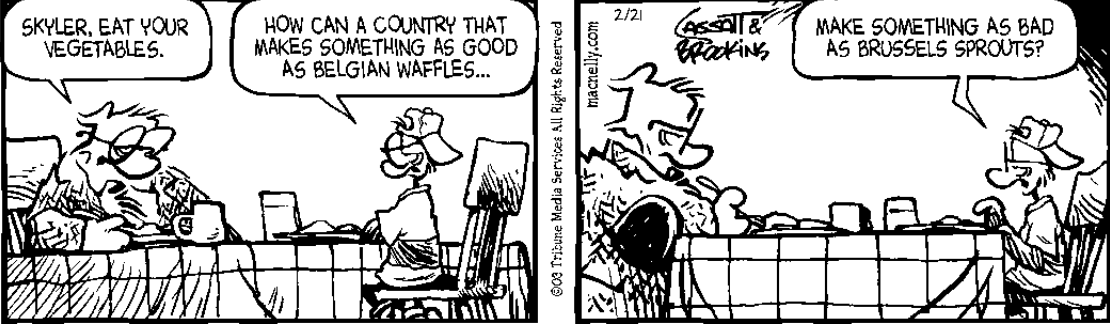
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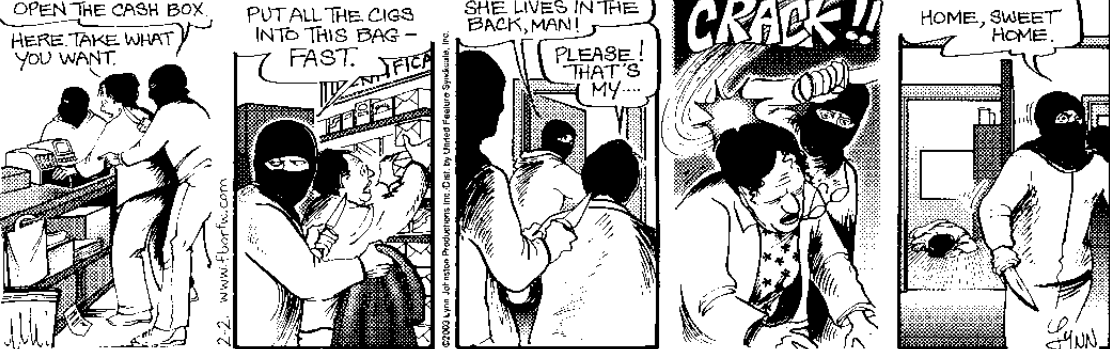
The Wizard of Id



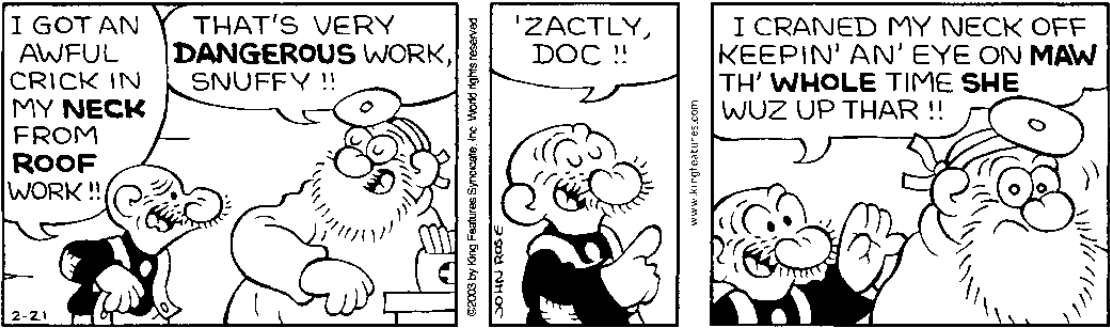
Shoe



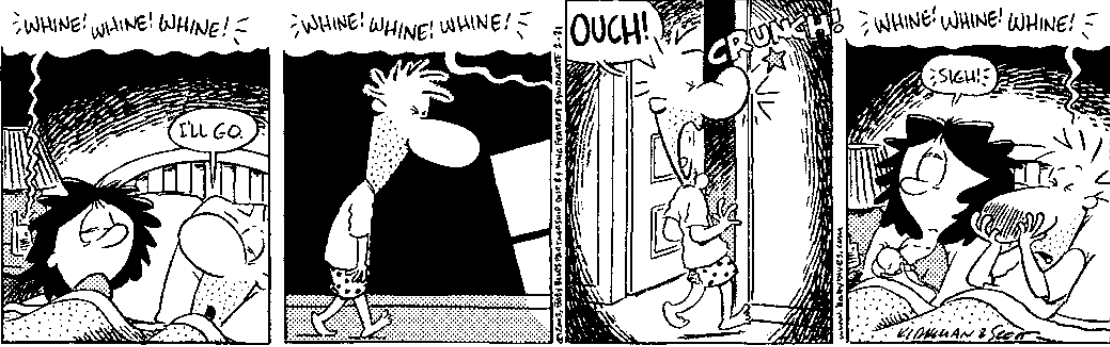
For Better or For Worse



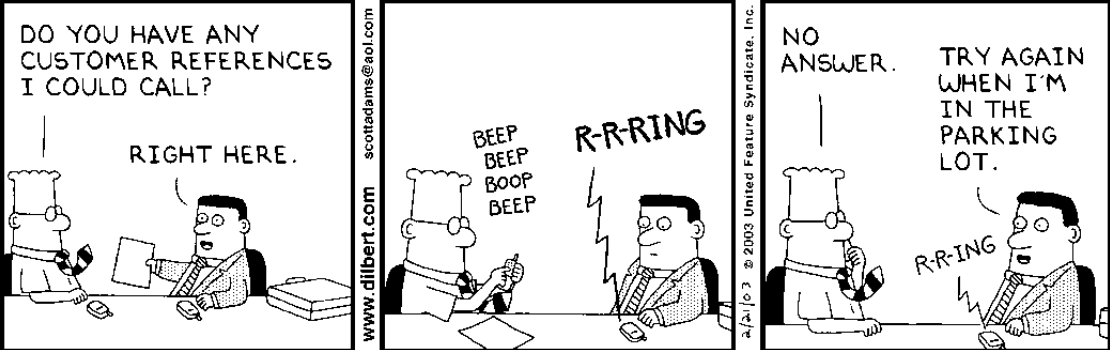
Snuffy Smith



Baby Blues



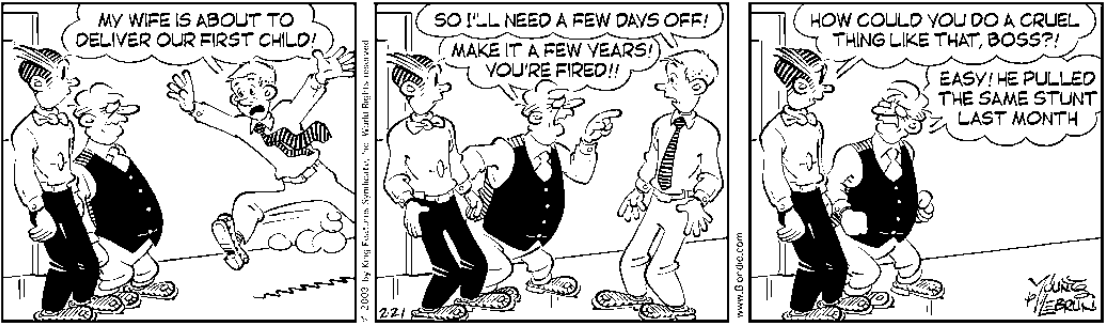
Dilbert



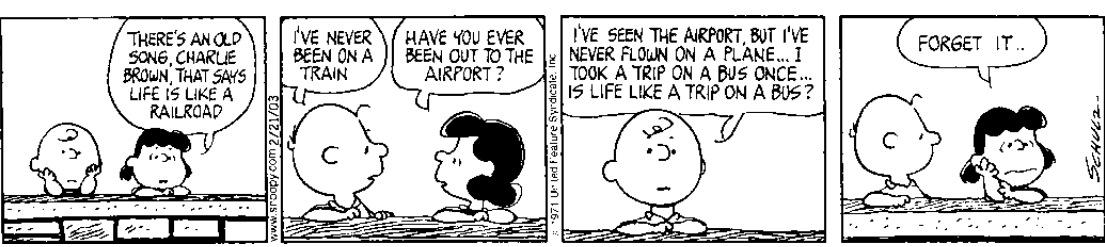
Garfield



Blondie



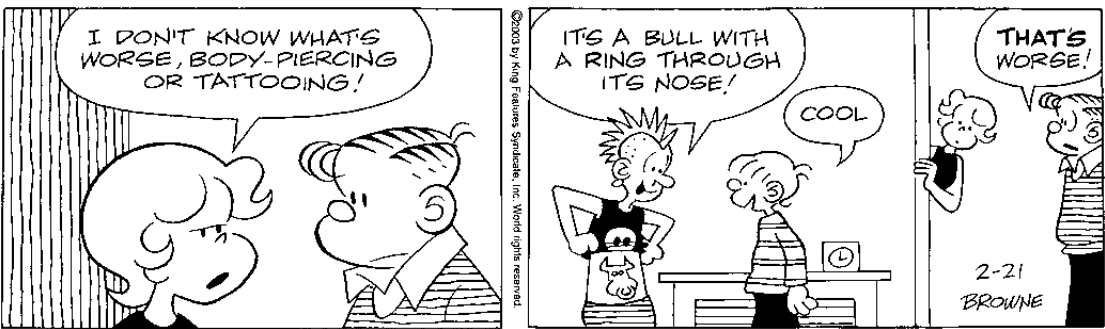
Peanuts



Rex Morgan, M.D.



Hi and Lois



Born Loser



Zits



Mary Worth



Marmaduke



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DARAW
BRILLO
FEETOF
RAGIST

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans: HIS

Yesterday's Jumbles: PAUSE DOWDY MODIFY RELISH
Answer: Where the ne'er-do-well ended up in the family tree — ON THE SHADY SIDE

ENTERTAINMENT

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Forest clearing
 - 6 Way to Rome
 - 10 How soon?
 - 14 Copland or Burr
 - 15 "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" writer Angelou
 - 16 Abhor
 - 17 Helsinki populace
 - 18 Parroted
 - 19 Skin-cream ingredient
 - 20 Culinary gem?
 - 23 Wonder
 - 24 Capp and Gore
 - 25 Get there
 - 29 Merit
 - 31 Fluffy scarf
 - 34 "The Power of Positive Thinking" author
 - 35 Tex-Mex choice
 - 36 Arias, often
 - 37 Not-so-tough golf clubs?
 - 40 French friends
 - 41 Scraped (by)
 - 42 Stand in a studio
 - 43 Leary's acid
 - 44 Sere
 - 45 Author of "Nausea"
 - 46 Edge
 - 47 Vent
 - 48 Dad-gum bug?
 - 57 Tilt
 - 58 Pour profusely
 - 59 Muse of poetry
 - 60 Singer Redding
 - 61 ___ Stanley Gardner
 - 62 ___ Monica
 - 63 Digestive fluid
 - 64 Bribes
 - 65 Twill weave
- DOWN**
- 1 Barbed spear
 - 2 Den
 - 3 River of Florence
 - 4 Bell sound
 - 5 Simon Legree, e.g.
 - 6 Likeness
 - 7 Light knocks
 - 8 Looked over
 - 9 Car cooler
 - 10 Thuds
 - 11 Circle of light
 - 12 George Orwell's alma mater
 - 13 Require
 - 21 Lamb's mom
 - 22 Public house pint
 - 25 Dismay: var.
 - 26 Paper units
 - 27 Quick
 - 28 Islands in the Seine
 - 29 Spoke angrily
 - 30 Passed with flying colors
 - 31 Push upward
 - 32 Like a big brother
 - 33 Bridal path
 - 35 Polynesian amulet
 - 36 Fly high
 - 38 Wood-eating pests
 - 39 Superlatively fatigued
 - 44 Intention
 - 45 Military address
 - 46 Hose off
 - 47 Top points
 - 48 Daub
 - 49 Himalayan legend
 - 50 Hoosegow
 - 51 Notorious fiddler
 - 52 Kennel sound
 - 53 Crop of a bird
 - 54 "Citizen ___"
 - 55 Diminutive ending
 - 56 Warty critter

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
				23					24					
25	26	27	28				29	30			31	32	33	
34						35				36				
37						38				39				
40					41					42				
43					44					45				
				46					47					
48	49	50				51	52				53	54	55	56
57						58				59				
60						61				62				
63						64				65				

By Jack Hammond Savannah, GA 2/21/03

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

A	M	A	S	S		S	E	G	O		G	E	N	E		
C	A	B	A	L		A	V	I	D		I	D	O	L		
M	U	L	H	O	L	L	A	N	D	D	R	I	V	E		
E	D	E	L	W	E	I	S	S		I	D	T	A	G		
						A	V	I		K	E	L	S	E	Y	
W	A	B	A	S	H	A	V	E	N	U	E					
A	D	O	R	E			E	L	I		M	O	B			
N	E	S	T	E	G	G			S	T	E	P	O	N	E	
E	N	S			U	A	W			S	A	U	C	E		
					H	E	S	T	E	R	S	T	R	E	E	T
B	A	S	A	L	T		D	E	E							
A	M	E	N	S			A	L	F	A	R	O	M	E	O	
S	U	N	S	E	T	B	O	U	L	E	V	A	R	D		
E	S	S	O		A	B	C	S		P	A	U	L	O		
D	E	E	M		T	Y	K	E		S	L	I	E	R		

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TV TONIGHT

2/21/03	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
(3) KATC	News (CC)	Wheel of Fortune Nashville.	America's Funniest Home Videos (N) (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (N) (CC)	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here! (iTV) (CC)	News (CC)	Frasier (10:35) (CC)	Nightline (11:05) (CC)	Spin City (11:36) (CC)			
(4) KBTv	News (CC)	Hollywood Sq.	Mister Sterling: Nothing Personal.	Dateline (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N)	News (CC)	Tonight Show (10:35) (N) (CC)	Late Night (N)				
(6) KFDm	News (CC)	Wheel of Fortune	Star Search (iTV) (CC)	Hack: Third Strike. (N) (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	News (CC)	Late Show (10:35) Steven Wright. (N)	Late Late Show (N)				
(7) KLPC	News (CC)	Ent. Tonight	Mister Sterling: Nothing Personal.	Dateline (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N)	News (CC)	Tonight Show (10:35) (N) (CC)	Late Night (N)				
(10) KLFY	News	Ent. Tonight	Star Search (iTV) (CC)	Hack: Third Strike. (N) (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	News	Late Show (10:35) Steven Wright. (N)	Extra (11:37) (N)				
(12) KBMT	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (N)	America's Funniest Home Videos (N)	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	News (CC)	Every- Raymond	Frasier (11:05)	Nightline (11:35)			
(18) PBS	News-Lehrer	Louisiana	Wall	Now-Moyers	Group	Wash Wk	Contrary	Egg	Mountain Stage (CC)			
(29) KVHP	Dharma & Greg (CC)	Simpsons (CC)	"Nuttty Professor II: The Klumps" (PG-13) (CC)	Eddie Murphy (PG-13) (CC)	News	Seinfeld (CC)	News	Star Trek: Voyager: Equinox, Part Two.	Frasier (CC)			
A/E	American Justice	Expedition Egypt (N)	Hauntings (N) (CC)	Other World (N) (CC)	Third Watch (CC)	Expedition Egypt						
AMC	M "True Grit" (4:35)	M "The Sand Pebbles" (66) *** Steve McQueen (PG-13)						Crypt	"Revenge-Frank."			
BET	106 Park Special	M "Malcolm X" (92) *** (PG-13)			Comicview	News	Maad	Midnight Love				
CNBC	Brian Williams	Kudlow	Rukeyser	Capital Report	Brian Williams	Kudlow	Rukeyser	Capital Report				
CNN	Crossfire (CC)	Connie Chung	Larry King Live (CC)		Newsnight-Br.	Chung	Moneyline	Larry King Live				
DISC	Navy SEALs	Wild Discovery	Martial Arts		Martial Arts: Warrior	Wild Discovery	Martial Arts					
E!	E! News	George Michael	Tommy Lee: THS	Saturday Night Live	Stern	Stern	Wild On...					
ESPN	Sportsctr.	NBA	NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Rockets		NBA Basketball Milwaukee Bucks at Seattle Sonics.							
ESPN2	Yachting America's Cup Finals -- Race 5. (Live)	Boxing: Friday -- Braithwaite vs. Springs										
FAM	7th Heaven (CC)	M "Little Giants" (94) ** (PG)			Sitcom	Resort	700 Club (CC)	Caroline Rhea Show				
FOXSPORTS	FOX One 54321	Best Damn Sports Show Period (CC)			S Sports	54321	Best Damn Sports Show Period (CC)					
FOX NEWS	Fox Report	O'Reilly Factor (CC)	Hannity & Colmes		On the Record		O'Reilly Factor	Special Report				
fx	Buffy Vampire	M "Executive Decision" (96) *** Kurt Russell (R)					M "Executive Decision" (96) *** (R)					
HGTV	ExtrmHm	House	Flea Mkt Collector	Design	Design	Design	Flea Mkt Collector	Design	Design			
HIST	Modern Marvels	Save Our History (N)	Snipers: Law		Modern Marvels	Lawbreakers (CC)	Save Our History					
LEARN	Case Reopened	While You Were Out	While You Were Out		Dearly Departed (N)	While You Were Out	While You Were Out					
LIFE	Unsolved Mysteries	Final Justice (N)	M "The Many Trials of One Jane Doe"			Golden	Golden	"When Andrew"				
MSNBC	Countdown: Iraq	Donahue	Hardball (CC)		MSNBC Live	Donahue	Hardball (CC)					
MTV	Direct Effect	Prime Time Players			Urbn	Clone	Clone	School	Doggy	Method	Live	
NICK	Arnold	Rugrats	Sponge	J Neutron	Oddpar	Oddpar	Cosby	Cosby	Cheers	Cheers	Cosby	Cosby
PTL/INSP	Copeland	Cerullo	Brkthgrh	Manna	Your Day	Life To	Zola Lev	Prophecy	Robb T.	Jewels	Skip	Inspiratr
SCIFI	Dead Zone: Scars.	Farscape: Prayer.	Stargate SG-1 (N)	Tracker (CC)			Stargate SG-1 (CC)	Farscape: Prayer.				
TBN	Heroes of the Bible	Behind	News	Church	Price	Praise the Lord (CC)			LarryHuch	Clement		
TCM	"I Was-Bride"	M "The Great Escape" (63) *** Steve McQueen					M "Dunkirk" (58) *** John Mills (CC)					
TNN	Taboo (N) Blind	Star Trek Gen.	Star Trek Gen.		Star Trek Gen.	Real TV	Real TV	Oblivious	Taboo			
TNT	Law & Order (CC)	M "Out for Justice" (91) ** (PA) (R)			M "Out for Justice" (91) ** (PA) (R)		M "Dirty Harry" (R)					
USA	JAG: Impact. (CC)	M "American Psycho" (00) *** (R)			Monk (CC)	Law & Order	Monk (CC)					
VH1	M "The Jacksons: An American Dream" (4:00) (92) **				Behind the Music: Aerosmith. (CC)		Bachelor Party					
WB	Will	Will	What I	Sabrina	Reba (N)	Greetings	Elimdate	5th Wheel	Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	Justice	Road
WGN	M "Jaws" (75) **** Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw (PG) (CC)				News (CC)	Rockford Files	Heat of Night					
WTBS	Friends	Seinfeld	M "Sister Act" (92) ** (PA) (PG)		M "Outbreak" (95) ** Dustin Hoffman (R)		"Why Do"					
CINE	"Trapped-Para."	M "The Substitute" ** (96) (R) (CC)			M "The Fifth Element" *** (97) (CC)		Thrills	"Babes				
DIS	So Raven	Lizzie	M "The Luck of the Irish" (01)		Sister	Lizzie	So Raven	Kim	Boy	Sister		
ENCORE	"Teenage Mutnt"	M "Predator" ** (87) (R) (CC)			M "Sudden Death" ** (95) (R) (CC)		M "Less Than Zero"					
HBO	"While-Sleeping"	M "Heist" *** (01) Gene Hackman (R)			Oz 'MA' (CC)	Arllss	Real Time (CC)	Da Ali G				
HBO2	M "The Apostle"	M "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" ****			Autopsy: Dead	M "Collateral Damage" * (02) (R) (CC)						
SHOW	"Another Stakeout"	M "Jeepers Creepers" ** (R)	Jay-Z	Odyssey 5 '14' (CC)	Penn	Bob	Red Shoe	"Re				
STARZ	"Joe vs. Volcano"	M "Max Keeble's Big Move"		M "American Pie 2" ** (01) (R) (CC)		M "The New Guy" (10:20) *						
TMC	M "Catfish in Black Bean Sauce" (6:05)		"Children of the Corn"		M "Hellraiser: Bloodline" *		M "RoboCop 3" *					

‘King of Pop’ answers earlier documentary on Fox special

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Jackson's ex-wife says she bore him two children as a present and "if he called me tonight and said let's have five more, I'd do it in a heartbeat."

Taking the risk that it would make him appear even stranger, Jackson — television's favorite "sweeps" character — opened up his life even more Thursday for a special to counter a damaging portrayal earlier this month on ABC.

Jackson made available tapes taken by his own employee of the interviews conducted by British journalist Martin Bashir. The singer also enticed former wife Debbie Rowe, his makeup artist, parents and brother Jermaine to give interviews to Fox.

Fox won a bidding war to air Thursday night's two-hour "The Michael Jackson Interview: The Footage You Were Never Meant to See."

"Bashirs will come and go," said makeup artist Karen Faye, "but Michael will live forever in everyone's hearts."

Rowe said she and Jackson "have a non-traditional family, and if it makes people feel uncomfortable, it's a shame they're not more open."

She has little relationship with the children, Prince and Paris.

"My kids don't call me Mom because I don't want them to," she said. "These are Michael's children."

Much of the special, narrated by Maury Povich, seemed designed to call into question Bashir's credibility by contrasting the journalist's damaging statements about

TELEVISION

Jackson's relationships with children to on-camera comments where he appeared to be buttering up his interview subject.

Bashir was not interviewed during the Fox special, and there was no mention of whether Fox offered him the opportunity.

'My kids don't call me Mom because I don't want them to. These are Michael's children.'

Debbie Rowe
Michael Jackson's ex-wife

The special briefly addressed Jackson's revelation that he sometimes lets children sleep in his bed. In 1993, Jackson was accused of molesting a boy who had stayed at his home. He denied the allegations, and no charges were filed.

Jackson's ex-wife said when she invites guests over, she sometimes has them lie on her bed and watch TV.

Rowe also said it was her, not Jackson, who was behind the decision not to let his children be seen in public without their faces covered by scarves. She and Jackson said they were scared about possible kidnapping.

"I don't want a Lindbergh baby," Jackson said.

Jermaine Jackson, seated next to his parents, complained about police insensitivity when

they investigated his brother for child abuse. "What they need to do is leave him alone," he said.

No chance of that with the TV networks, considering the ratings Jackson specials have achieved.

The Bashir interview drew 27 million viewers when aired by ABC earlier this month. The network repeated it Monday to counter a two-hour "Dateline NBC" special on Jackson's changing face. The NBC News special drew a healthy 14.6 million viewers, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Jackson, who says he's strapped for money, has been able to turn the spectacle of his life into cash. NBC reportedly bid \$5 million for the latest footage, but Fox was said to win the contest even though it offered less money.

Jackson turned over several hours of video.

"They have no editorial control over this," Fox spokesman Josh Governale said. "We are simply presenting all of the information, a fuller story than what Martin Bashir did. It's not sympathetic."

The wooing of Jackson by NBC included a promise that the footage would pre-empt the "Dateline NBC" footage, according to a memo sent by NBC and reported in The Washington Post.

While NBC might have delayed the "Dateline NBC" special if it won the Jackson footage, the news show would not have been canceled, a spokesman said.

dumped unceremoniously at a Starbucks near her New Jersey apartment.

Eksterowicz said **Aaron Buerge** broke up with her five weeks after the ABC reality show's Nov. 20 finale, telling her he was no longer "emotionally invested."

"It felt like a bomb dropped," the 28-year-old elementary school psychologist told People magazine for its March 3 issue. "I said, 'I feel very deceived by you. You've told me every single day that you love me, and now this is it?'"

HOROSCOPES

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jennifer Love Hewitt, Rue McClanahan, Kelsey Grammer, Tyne Daly

Happy Birthday: Don't lose sight of your goals because someone is upsetting you emotionally. Focus on what will bring you the biggest and best returns. This is a year to get ahead, not to hold yourself back due to someone else's problems. Your numbers are 6, 17, 22, 28, 33, 37

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Romantic encounters will be stressful, especially if you have more than one on the go. Mixing business with pleasure will be highly dangerous. Investments can be lucrative if you don't get greedy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may be a little anxious, but you will find that satisfaction will be yours. Don't let a negative friend cause you to question your goals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Start something new that will occupy your mind and challenge you. Money can be made. This is an excellent day for new beginnings.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Someone may not be completely honest with you.

Take a compassionate approach and you can form a closer bond with this person. Good things will develop.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Travel and romance will go hand in hand, but they won't necessarily lead to something solid or lasting. Your warm-heartedness will attract many new acquaintances, but be aware.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stay cool and take special note of what it is you are supposed to be doing today. If you aren't thinking clearly, mishaps can occur. You need to be alert and totally in the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can meet important people today, but let them find out for themselves how much you know and they will be far more impressed. You have a lot to offer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may feel a bit anxious today if you haven't done your fair share. An early evening should help rejuvenate you. Do whatever it takes to keep the peace at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love can be hot, but you'd best be sure the receiver of your affections is not already involved with

someone else. Use your intuitive instincts to guide you down the right path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Involve yourself in a worthwhile group. Focus on the underdog. Your dedication and drive will be most impressive to those watching from the sidelines.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Opportunities for financial gains are present, but you must be careful not to get involved with someone who may be trying to take advantage of you financially. Your insight into making the right choices will be advantageous, but you must go it alone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will pick up valuable information today. This is a great day to make decisions and to change your direction. There is a lot you can accomplish.

Birthday Baby: You will be caring and concerned for others. Your contributions will be the most important thing to you as you strive to help those less fortunate.

Need advice? Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, astromate.com.

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George Clinton, Dionne Warwick among honorees for R&B foundation

NEW YORK (AP) — When George Clinton started his band decades ago, he hadn't yet come up with the wild costumes or tripped-out funk grooves that define it today.

"It started out as a doo-wop group," Clinton said of the Parliaments, which would eventually become the bands Parliament and Funkadelic, among other off-shoots of his "P-Funk" family.

"Once we decided to change from that, we went as far as we could ... from diapers to any kind of costume that anyone might have on."

Clinton's funky contribution to music, and to R&B in particular, was noted Thursday night when the Rhythm & Blues Foundation honored him as one of its pioneers.

Other honorees are saxophonist Maceo Parker, best known as James Brown's sideman; blues singer Koko Taylor; New Orleans-based musician Clarence

"Frogman" Henry; Johnny Nash, who had the hit "I Can See Clearly Now"; doo-wop group The Del Vikings; the '60s girl group The Dixie Cups; and Motown legends The Supremes.

The late R&B crooner Jackie Wilson received the foundation's legacy tribute; Dionne Warwick its lifetime achievement award.

Among those paying tribute were Bonnie Raitt, Al Jarreau and Ashford & Simpson.

"Thanks so much for coming out for these legendary artists, who we know haven't gotten their due in a long time, sometimes never," Raitt said.

Mary Wilson was the only Supreme who showed up for the group's induction, but she was accompanied by daughters of Diana Ross and the late Florence Ballard.

Ross' daughter, Rhonda Ross, told the audience her mother was recovering well from substance abuse problems after her December

arrest on drunken driving charges in Arizona.

"We are all just one bad decision away from disaster," Rhonda Ross said.

Aretha Franklin was on hand to give Warwick her award.

"It's wonderful to be recognized, and for them

AMERICAN PRESS

MARQUEE

Marquee Section: 494-4080

Gail Norris, Marquee Editor

Fax: 494-4070

SOMETHING SPECIAL



BRIAN OLANDER / AMERICAN PRESS

Choir singers are, from left, Jo Ann Hanks as Mrs. Gibbs, Shelli Montgomery as Mrs. Soames, Karem Parm as Samantha Craig, Anne Drake as Mrs. Webb, Charlotte Gass as Lady in the Box and Monica Mere as Woman in the Balcony.

Life in ‘Our Town’

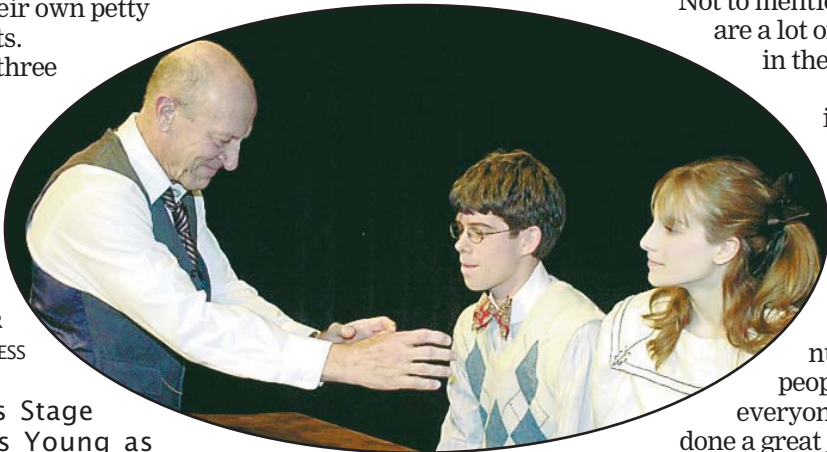
Cast rises to meet special demands of popular drama

BY WARREN ARCENEUX
AMERICAN PRESS

Jo Ann Rigney knows her people. That is why she is not too worried about the Lake Charles Little Theatre production of “Our Town,” which opens Saturday night.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning drama by Thornton Wilder walks the audience through a day of the people of Grover’s Corner, a small town in which the residents are preoccupied with their own petty thoughts.

The three acts go



BRIAN OLANDER
AMERICAN PRESS

David LaBleu as Stage Manager, Travis Young as George Gibbs and Lauren Martin as Emily Webb.

through a wedding and culminate at a cemetery.

“The show is so human, it has such a lesson about the importance of being aware of what’s going on, of taking the time to let people know that you love them before it’s too late, that it has remained a popular show over the years,” said Rigney, director of the show.

“There is a speech by the character Emily, who has died and come back to spend a day in the town, that is one of the most touching in all of theater.”

She remains confident the show will be a crowd-pleaser even though it is demanding on cast members and calls for more lighting and sound effects than usual.

Not to mention there are a lot of people in the show.

“The cast is very big. I would prefer to work with a smaller number of people, but everyone has done a great job of

cooperating and working to get better,” Rigney said.

“That is not surprising knowing the people we have here. I just know that they are going to be able to put on a good show for the audience, even though it is difficult to perform many of the roles and there are no props in the show.”

The lack of props means the actors will have to do more pantomiming on stage.

“Pantomime is almost like an art; it is not something that is easy to do,” Rigney said.

“But the cast has caught on well and is doing well now. Some are more proficient than others, particularly the five children that are in the show. They have been great. They are here every day and are always ready to go.”

The show has special meaning for Rigney. It was the first one she performed in.

“I didn’t even know what it was about; I was just a college student wanting to be in a show. But by the time I finished reading the script for the first time, I knew it was something special.”

And if Rigney knows her people, this production will be special as well.

Cast members are Richard Hogarth as Dr. Gibbs, Logan Wilson as Joe Crowell, Brandon Chapman as Howie Newsome, Jo

See **TOWN**, Page F3

TICKETS

Lake Charles Little Theatre presents Thornton Wilder’s “Our Town” Feb. 22-23, Feb. 27-March 2 and March 6-9 in the New Stable Playhouse, 813 Enterprise Blvd. The curtain goes up at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 3 p.m. Sundays.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for students with ID and seniors 65 and older. All tickets for Thursday shows are \$5. For reservation information, call 433-7988.



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

This New Orleans Mardi Gras float honors jazz legend Jelly Roll Martin.

Masked riders and chickens take over Lake Arthur



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

Captain Benton Scott prepares to toss the next catch of the day to eager celebrants.

This growing rural-style Mardi Gras celebration focuses on family fun.

BY DORIS MARICLE
AMERICAN PRESS

LAKE ARTHUR — Mardi Gras revelry is off to an early start Saturday, Feb. 22, as the back roads of Lake Arthur come to life with masked riders on horseback, followed by a parade of revelers on floats.

The festivities are part of Le Krewe du le Originals et Les Enfants’ fourth annual Lake Arthur Mardi Gras Run and Parade. Festivities begin at 7:30 a.m. with late registration. Horses can register at Tiger Mart on La. 26 South with floats registering at the new VFW post home (formerly The Shop), also on La. 26.

The krewe welcomes horses, wagons,

floats and pull trailers to join in the nearly 12-mile run. There is an entry fee.

The traditional chicken run and begging for gumbo ingredients begins at 9 a.m. with the group departing from the VFW parking lot.

Revived three years ago, the run is quickly becoming part of the Mardi Gras tradition in Southwest Louisiana.

“We have been growing every year,” organizer Jim Hebert said. “We started out with about 186 people, 80 horses and three floats. Last year’s run exceeded 500 people, and we had 17 floats.”

Hebert said an additional 7,000 people also turned out last year for the Mardi Gras Parade held at the conclusion of the run.

“It’s a tribute to Lake Arthur that keeps growing every year,” he said.

See **RIDERS**, Page F3

Mardi Gras parades through south Louisiana

BY WARREN ARCENEUX
AMERICAN PRESS

Mardi Gras season is well under way with a host of balls, parades and other activities to choose from through Fat Tuesday, March 4.

Celebrations in south Louisiana vary from the

See **PARADES**, Page F3

NOW SHOWING

ATTRACTIONS



DORIS MARICLE / AMERICAN PRESS

Doris, played by Georgie Lejeune, left, and Lucille, played by Glenetta Shuey, visit the graves of their late husbands in a scene from *A Block Off Broadway* Community Theatre's production of Ivan Menchell's comedy "The Cemetery Club." The play will be onstage at 7 p.m. today-Saturday, Feb. 21-22, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Strand Theater in Jennings. Reserved-seat tickets are \$10 at the Strand box office, (337) 821-5509.

Giles Sonnier & the bayou idols will play at 9:30 p.m. today, Feb. 21, at Rikenjaks Brew Pub, 329 Broad St. The swamp rock band from Lake Arthur has released a CD, "Napoleonic Code" (Monsoon Records, Abbeville) and plans soon to start recording another.



9264. Mardi Gras of Southwest Louisiana's **Royal Gala**, 7 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the Civic Center Coliseum. Doors open at 6 p.m. Dance 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. with City Heat. Dress casual or costume. Tickets \$5 in advance at the Civic Center Box Office, Party Time Store, Gordon's Drugs, Medearis Costume, Balloon Delights, Southern Celebrations, Joseph's Electric, Holiday Inn of Sulphur, Market Basket of Moss Bluff, Moss Bluff Flower Shop, Market Basket in DeQuincy, Uniformly Fit, Accent Annex, My Favorite Things and Synergy Salon; or \$6 at the door.

LAKE ARTHUR — The Le Krewe du le Originals et Les Enfants' fourth annual **Lake Arthur Mardi Gras Run and Parade** starts with registration at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. Runners line up at 9 a.m. at the VFW post on La. 26. The parade starts at 3:30 followed by a dance and costume contest. For more information on the run, call Jim Hebert, (337) 824-4575 or 824-4011, or Benton Scott, (337) 779-3073.

DERIDDER — The **Mystic Krewe de Growl** pet parade, 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in West Park on U.S. 171 north of DeRidder. For more information, call (337) 462-1710, 463-8598 or 463-9334.

RAYNE — **Cajun French Music Association Mardi Gras Dance**, 8 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Feb. 23, in the Rayne Civic Center. Admission \$10 per person, \$20 for couples. Gumbo included. Music by Don Fontenot et Les Amis de la Louisiane. Costume or mask optional.

Theater

Lake Charles Little Theatre will present **"Our Town"** Feb. 22-March 9 in the New Stable Playhouse, 813 Enterprise Blvd. Shows are at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for students with ID and seniors 65 and older. All tickets for Thursday shows are \$5. For reservation information, call 433-7988.

AUDITIONS for Lake Charles Little Theatre's production of "Barefoot in the Park" are at 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 24-25, in the New Stable Playhouse, 813 Enterprise Blvd. For details, call LCLT at 433-7988.

The McNeese Theatre and Department of Music production of **"Man of La Mancha"** will be onstage at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21-22 and 2 p.m. Feb. 23 in Ralph Squires Hall. Tickets are \$10 at the McNeese Theatre Box Office, open 6-8 p.m. weekdays. For reservations, call 475-5043.

Artists Civic Theatre & Studio stages **"The Solid Gold Cadillac"** at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21-22 and 3 p.m. Feb. 23. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for students at Lakeshore Medic Pharmacy on Enterprise, Moss Bluff Florist, Country at Heart in Sulphur and at actstheatre.com. Call 439-2788 or

436-5908 for more information. JENNINGS — A Block off Broadway Community Theatre will stage Ivan Menchell's comedy, **"The Cemetery Club,"** at 7 p.m. today-Saturday, Feb. 21-22, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in the Strand Theater. Tickets are \$10 at the Strand Box Office on Main Street, (337) 821-5509.

GALVESTON, Texas — Yasmina Reza's comedy **"Art"** runs through Feb. 23 at the Strand Theater, 2317 Ship's Mechanic Row. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors ages 55 and up and \$13 balcony. For reservation information, call the box office at 1-877-787-2639.

Dance

NEW ORLEANS — The Newcomb Dance Company will present **"An Evening of Dance"** at 8 p.m. Feb. 21-22 in Dixon Hall on the Newcomb College campus, Tulane University. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$6 students and seniors. For ticket information, call (504) 865-5106.

BEAUMONT, Texas — The Beaumont Civic Ballet presents **AEROS** at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in the Julie Rogers Theater. The Romanian Gymnastics Federation blends gymnastics, dance and theater in an imaginative, gravity-defying show. Tickets are \$10-\$35 at the Beaumont Civic Center Box Office, (409) 838-3435, Ext. 1.

Concerts

The 2002-2003 **District V Honor Jazz Band** will give a free concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the LaGrange High School auditorium.

EUNICE — Three generations of Castilles, featuring **Hadley J. Castille** with his son and granddaughter, will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, in the LSU at Eunice Health Technology auditorium. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students at the door or in advance at the LSUE Business Office, Room 113 of the Science Building and KEUN-KJJB radio. Children ages 10 and under are admitted free. For more information, phone (337) 457-1510. A reception will be at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium lobby.

EUNICE — The live radio show **"Rendezvous des Cajuns"** takes the stage of the Liberty Theater at 6 p.m. Saturdays. Feb. 23: Pat Thibodeaux & Cajun Stompers and Mitch Reed, Randy Vidrine & Cajun Stompers.

Special

DERIDDER — The third annual **Battle of Hickory Creek Civil War Re-enactment** will be Feb. 22-23 at Lakewood Farms outside DeRidder. Hours are 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. There's a \$2 parking fee and \$1 gate fee. Children under age 5 admitted free. Lawn chairs welcome.

OLLA — The **Centennial Cultural Center** will celebrate Black History Month with a program of music and talks at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25. For more information, call (318) 495-7988.

MARKSVILLE — Marksville State Historic Site will host a **basketry class** for adults 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. The class is free but participants must pay the park's \$2 admission fee. Pre-registration is required; call 1-888-253-8954.

LAFAYETTE — **USHRA Moster Jam** rolls into the Cajundome at 8 p.m. today-Saturday, Feb. 21-22. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 Gold Circle seats, \$16 advance adult and \$5 children ages 2-12 at Ticketmaster. Adult tickets \$18 day of show. For more information, visit www.ushra.com.

NEW ORLEANS — **"Journey of Man 3D," "Into the Deep 3D," "Space Station 3D" and "Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West"** alternate at the Entergy IMAX Theater on the riverfront. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens 65 and up, \$5 for children ages 2-12. Other packages available. For advance tickets, call 1-800-774-7394 or purchase online at www.auduboninstitute.org.

HOUSTON — **"Australia: Land Beyond Time," "Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West" and "Space Station 3D"** alternate at the Houston Museum of Natural Science's Wortham IMAX Theater in Hermann Park. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 2-12 and seniors. Packages are available. For more information or to order tickets in advance, call (713) 639-IMAX or go to www.hmns.org.

KENNER — **Cirque du Soleil** presents "Dralion" through Feb. 23 under its big tent in the parking lot of Zephyr Field. Shows are at 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 4 and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 1 and 5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$45-\$65 for adults and \$31.50-\$45.50 for children with some discounts and VIP packages available; call 1-800-678-5440 or visit cirquedusoileil.com. For group reservations for 40 or more, visit the Web site or call 1-800-450-1480.

Art Exhibits

Black Heritage Gallery, Central School Arts & Humanities Center, 809 Kirby St. — "Love to All," art by Alice Vincent of Moss Bluff, through Feb. 28. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and by appointment Saturday.

Children's Museum, 925 Enterprise Blvd. — "Law & Order" exhibit. Admission: \$3.50; infants 1 and under free; group rates available. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For group tours, call 433-9420.

Associated Louisiana Artists, Gallery By the Lake, 106 W. Lawrence St. 436-1008 — Temporarily closed for storm-damage repairs and renovations. Call 436-1008.

Art Associates Gallery, Central School Arts & Humanities Center, 809 Kirby St. — Sculpture exhibit by Steven Kline of New Orleans, through Feb. 28. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. Saturdays.

Imogene Dewey Fine Art Studio & Gallery, Central School Arts & Humanities Center, 809 Kirby St. — Paintings by Imogene Dewey and her students.

Artifacts, Suite 225, Central School Arts & Humanities Center, 809 Kirby St. — Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Call 439-ARTS.

Louviere Fine Arts, 222 U.S. 171, Shoppes at Bridgepointe, Moss Bluff — Prints, paintings, note cards and coffee-table books by Elton Louviere. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Call 855-9275.

Bridgepoint Custom Framing and Gifts, 222-C U.S. 171, Shoppes at Bridgepointe, Moss Bluff — Watercolors and prints by Bob Kleinschmidt; oil paintings by Elton Louviere; photographic art by Fonville Winans, Missy Stewart, Gloria Wegener; paintings by Madonna Fazio. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays.

Imperial Calcasieu Museum, 204 W. Sallier — "Jim Sharpe, Artist/Illustrator," through March 8. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission: \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Call 439-3797.

Artisan's Gallery, Imperial Calcasieu Museum — Works by member artists and artisans. Hours: noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

Mardi Gras Museum of Imperial Calcasieu, 809 Kirby St. — "Masquerade on Parade." Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission: \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and children in grades K-12.

Family Light Gallery, Prien Lake Mall — Artists include Thomas Kinkade, Jack Terry, James Coleman, S. Sam Park, Victor Shvaído, Stephen Charles Shortridge. Open: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Group tours are available.

Frame House Gallery, 1640 Ryan St. — Watercolors by Sue Zimmerman, handcrafted jewelry by Nancy Johnson of Austin, oils by Gustavo Trujillo. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

Brimstone Museum, Cypress and Ruth streets, Sulphur — Mardi Gras exhibit, from private collections and the Lake Charles Mardi Gras Museum. Hours: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 527-6100.

Abercrombie Gallery, Shearman Fine Arts Center, McNeese — 10th annual Student Juried Exhibition, through Feb. 27. "Ancient Provence," photographs by Jeffrey A. Wolin, Feb. 27-March 21. Reception: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 in gallery followed by lecture at 8

p.m. in the McNese Business Conference Center. It's the fourth annual Wade Wolfe Lecture Series. Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. Call 475-5060.

Frazier Memorial Library, McNeese — "Vanishing History," exhibit of photographs of endangered area sites by fourth- and fifth-grade SPARK students, through Feb. 28. Hours: 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays. Call 475-5734.

Greg David's Frameworks, 1425 W. Prien Lake Road — "Shades of the Past, The School Years," restored photography by Mike LeBlanc.

Annie's Artworks, 2223 W. Sale Road — Paintings by Anne Dentler. Call 478-9405 for appointment.

JENNINGS — **Zigler Museum**, 411 Clara St. — "The French Influence on Art and Artists," Feb. 22-March 30; with reception 1-3 p.m. Feb. 23. Mardi Gras costume exhibit, Krewe de la Noblesse 2002 court, through March 4. Admission: \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Call (337) 824-0114 or e-mail ziglermuseum@charter.net.

JENNINGS — **Louisiana Telephone Pioneer Museum**, inside the W.H. Tupper General Merchandise Museum, 311 Main St. — Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. weekdays. Admission \$3 for adults, \$1 for children includes both. Call (337) 821-5532.

ELTON — **Coushatta Tribal Museum**, Camp Coushatta — Artifacts of the Coushatta Indian Tribe. Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8-11 a.m. Fridays. Call (337) 584-1541.

DERIDDER — **Beauregard Museum**, 120 S. Washington Ave. — Historic artifacts from area pioneer families and the Lois Loftin Doll Collection with more than 3,000 dolls. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays, Saturdays by appointment. Call (337) 463-8148.

MERRYVILLE — **Merryville Historical Society's Burks Log Cabin and Museum**, La. 110 off U.S. 190 W — Hours: 2-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday; special tours on request. Call (337) 825-6246 or 463-2979.

LEESVILLE — **Diversity Gallery and Studios**, 108 S. Third St. — Local and regional artists. Hours: 2-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday. Call (337) 392-8540. Web: www.diversearts.com.

LAFAYETTE — **Lafayette Art Association Gallery**, 412 Travis St. — "Freeze Frame XVI," photographic competition and exhibit, through Feb. 23. Reception: 4-6 p.m. Feb. 23. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. Phone (337) 269-0363.

LAFAYETTE — **Lafayette Natural History Museum & Planetarium**, 637 Girard Park Drive. — "Planetary Landscapes: Sculpting the Solar System," through April 30. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. Free. Call (318) 291-5544.

MONROE — **Biedenharn Museum & Gardens**, 2006 Riverside Drive — "Masterpieces of Printing," through June 15; "Modern Bibles," through March 10; "American Dream: The Biedenharn Coke Story," through Oct. 15. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Call 1-800-362-0983. Web: www.bmusem.org.

BATON ROUGE — **Louisiana Art and Science Museum**, 100 S. River Road — "African American Works on Paper" and "Space Art, the Earth from Orbit," through Feb. 23. Hours: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$4 for adults; \$3 for children 2-12, senior citizens and university students with ID.

Admission free the first Sunday of each month. Call (225) 344-5272.

BATON ROUGE — **Old State Capitol**, 100 North Blvd. at River Road — The original Louisiana Purchase documents; Gov. William C.C. Claiborne family exhibit, Jeffersonian Drawing Room; uniforms and other displays from Jackson Barracks, through May 31. "We the People," permanent exhibit on second floor. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sundays. Admission: \$4 adults, \$3 seniors and veterans, \$2 children 6 and up. Call (225) 342-0500.

BATON ROUGE — **LSU Union Art Gallery**, third floor LSU Union — LSU Ceramics Student Art Show, through Feb. 23. Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays, noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Call (225) 578-5162.

NEW ORLEANS — **New Orleans Museum of Art, City Park** — "Visions From the Soul: The Woodcuts of Hans Friedrich Grohs," through March 16. Phone (504) 488-2631. Web site: www.noma.org.

NEW ORLEANS — **Louisiana State Museum**, Old U.S. Mint, 400 Esplanade Ave. — "Mardi Gras: It's Carnival Time in Louisiana," permanent exhibit, and "The Golden Age of Costume Design," Mardi Gras costumes and designers, 1870s-1930s, through Aug. 31, the Presbytere.

NEW ORLEANS — **National D-Day Museum**, 945 Magazine St. — Dedicated to World War II. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Admission: \$10 for adults; \$6 for seniors 65 and up; \$5 for ages 5-17. Call 1-800-273-4463. Web: www.ddaymuseum.org.

BEAUMONT, Texas — **Dishman Art Gallery**, Lamar University, corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway and East Lavaca — Dishman Competition Exhibition, through March 7 Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. Call (409) 880-8141.

BEAUMONT, Texas — **The Art Studio Inc.**, 720 Franklin St. — "Being" by Cecelia Johnson, through Feb. 24. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, Saturday by appointment. Call (409) 838-5393. Web site: www.artstudio.org. BEAUMONT, Texas — **Beaumont**

Art League, 2675 Gulf Street, Fairgrounds — 41st Tri-State Plus 2003 National Juried Art Exhibition, through Feb. 28. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Call (409) 833-4179.

ORANGE, Texas — **Stark Museum of Art**, 712 Green Ave. — "Fremont Ellis Landscapes and Gustave Baumann Woodblock Prints," through July. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission free. For group tours, call (409) 883-6661. Web site: www.starkmuseum.org.

HOUSTON — **Museum of Fine Arts**, 1001 Bissonnet — "Old Masters, Impressionists and Moderns: French Masterpieces from the State Pushkin Museum, Moscow," through March 9. "The Wilson Potters: An African-American Enterprise in 19th Century Texas," through March 3. Call (713) 639-7300.

HOUSTON — **Museum of Natural Science**, One Hermann Circle Drive — "Cultures of Creativity: The Centennial Exhibition of the Nobel Prize," through May 11. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 3-11 and seniors ages 62 and up. Call (713) 639-4629. Web site: www.hmns.org.

HOUSTON — **Museum of Health and Medical Science**, 1515 Hermann Drive — "Brain Teasers," through May 4. Amazing Body Pavilion and other displays. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$4 for ages 13-64; \$3 for children ages 4-12; \$2 for ages 65 and up. Call (713) 521-1515. Web site: www.mhms.org.

Box Office

The Lake Charles Symphony's **"Wild Beast Feast"** will be 5-8 p.m. April 5 at VFW Post 2130, 1900 Country Club Road, featuring dishes of game, poultry and seafood by local sportsmen. The Crawford Brothers will provide music. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$10 for ages 7-14 in advance by calling the Symphony Office, 433-1611, or at the door.

Flamenco Vivo! Carlota Santana will be onstage at 7:30 p.m. March 22 in the Rosa Hart Theater as part of McNeese's 2003 Banners Series. Tickets are \$11-\$41 at the Civic Center Box Office.

"Lewis & Clark: A New Musical" by Jamie Wax, commissioned to celebrate the Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial, will be onstage at 7:30 p.m. April 4-5 in the Rosa Hart Theater. Tickets are \$11-\$41 at the Civic Center Box Office and other Ticketmaster outlets. It's part of McNeese's Banners Series.

WELSH — The Friends of the Welsh Museum will host a music-comedy show Saturday, March 15, at the Welsh schools auditorium, featuring comedians **Dave Pettijean** and **A.J. Smith** and **Ellis Vanicor**, **Martin Vincent & the Lacassine Playboys**. Tickets are \$15 for reserved seats, \$10 general admission. Doors will open at 5:45 p.m.; music starts at 6 p.m.; main event, 7 p.m. For more information, Mary Sue Lyon at 734-3811, Gretchen Bonnin at 734-2163 or Oneita Daggett at 734-3890, or visit the museum at 117 S. Elms St. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

BEAUMONT, Texas — The Sabine Area Restaurant Association will have its 21st annual **Taste of the Triangle** 6:30-9 p.m. March 4 at the Beaumont Civic Center with more than 50 restaurants and beverage companies participating. Tickets are \$19 at the Beaumont Civic Center Box Office, (409) 838-3435, or at the door.

NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Ballet Association will present **Grupo Corpo Brazilian Dance Theatre** at 8 p.m. March 15 at the Mahalia Jackson Theater of the Performing Arts in Armstrong Park. Tickets are \$26-\$75 at Ticketmaster and www.noba.dance.com. For more information, call NOBA at (504) 522-0996.

NEW ORLEANS — Tickets are on sale for the New Orleans Museum of Art's **"Jefferson's America & Napoleon's France,"** set for April 12-Aug. 31 at the museum in City Park. It's the premier exhibit of the Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial celebration. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors ages 65 and up and students with ID, and \$6 for ages 3-17. Discounts available for groups of 20 or more; call 1-888-820-1803.

LAFAYETTE — **Cher** will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. March 6 in the Cajundome. Tickets are \$34.75-\$79.75 at the Cajundome Box Office and Ticketmaster.

NEW ORLEANS — Tickets are on sale at Ticketmaster for these productions at the Saenger Theater: **"Madea's Class Reunion,"** Feb. 21-23, \$28.75-\$30.75; **"Jesus Christ Superstar,"** March 11-16, \$25-\$55; **"Mamma Mia,"** April 2-13, \$20-\$55; **Gov't Mule**, May 3, \$31.50. Call (504) 524-2490.

MARKSVILLE — Tickets are on sale at Ticketmaster for concerts in the Mari Center at Paragon Casino Resort. Concerts start at 9 p.m.; doors open at 8 p.m. Scheduled: **Doobie Brothers**, March 21, \$35; **Charlie Daniels Band**, April 11, \$30; **Joe Cocker**, April 26, \$40; **K.C. & the Sunshine Band**, May 9, \$30. For more information, call 1-800-WIN-1-WIN or visit www.paragoncasinoresort.com.

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MARQUEE is the weekly entertainment guide published by the *American Press*. The deadline for news is the Monday preceding publication.

To have your entertainment news included, write:

MARQUEE
P.O. BOX 2893
LAKE CHARLES, LA 70602
Or call Gail Norris at 494-4080; or fax 494-4070; or e-mail gnorris@americanpress.com.

SCENE

Tim Touchet of Lake Arthur taunts children with a rubber chicken just moments before the youngsters chased a live chicken through the yard during last year's Lake Arthur Mardi Gras Run and Parade.

AMERICAN PRESS
ARCHIVES

**RIDERS:** Several chicken throws planned

from **PAGE F1**

Hebert said the event is good for local tourism because it brings in visitors, many of whom spend the weekend in town. He said participants are expected from all over the United States, including Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Arkansas.

"The word is getting out, and we are growing and having a good time," he said. "This is all about the family and having a good time."

Krewe Captain Benton Scott said that when the group first met with Mayor E.R. "Red" Giles four years ago, they needed a place to hold their run.

"Several towns had asked us to run, but we chose Lake Arthur because we felt welcome here," Scott said. "It's like coming home for Mardi Gras because of the people."

Scott said that while many local runs focus on adults, the Lake Arthur run centers on the children.

"The krewe and run is all about the children," he said.

"We want to promote and instill the pride of Mardi Gras in our children."

All participants are encouraged to wear costumes and to bring beads or candy to throw during the parade.

Runners will line up at 9 a.m. in the parking lot and will follow a route that will include opportunities for any and all to chase chickens and have a good time.

The first stop will be at the Red Rose for a chicken run. The route continues to Trailer Town Road near the high school for a second throw.

From there the group will go to La. 26 North, turning onto Andrus Cove Cemetery Road for a third chicken throw. The caravan will then travel to Fox Road for another throw.

The route continues to Third Street where the group will break for lunch 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the former VFW post home.

The public is invited to join the group for lunch. Hot food and cold drinks will be available.

Music will be provided by

the Dugas Brothers. Other activities include a dance, auction, raffle, and prizes for best costume and float.

After lunch, the riders will make their way back to town where they will join the Lake Arthur Mardi Gras Parade at 3:30 p.m.

There is no charge to enter the parade.

The parade will line up on Seventh Street and travel down Arthur Avenue where it will end at the Lake Arthur Park for an old-fashioned chicken throw for the children at 4:30 p.m.

There will be different age groups and prize money for each age category.

In addition to the Mardi Gras Run and Parade, there will be a French dance and costume contest on main street beginning at 5 p.m. The event is sponsored by area merchants.

Food vendors and Mardi Gras memorabilia vendors will also be available.

For more information on the run, call Hebert, (337) 824-4575 or 824-4011, or Scott, (337) 779-3073.

PARADES: Big Easy rolls this weekend

from **PAGE F1**

grandiose parades of New Orleans and surrounding areas and thousands of visitors partying in the French Quarter to smaller, more traditional events in towns such as Morgan City and Franklin.

People wishing to get away from home for unique celebrations have a host of events throughout the state to choose from.

Among the small celebrations:

■ Krewe of Adonis Parade, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28, Morgan City. The procession will begin at the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium (located at the corner of La. 182 and Myrtle Street). Call (985) 380-4651.

■ Krewe of Dionysus Parade, 2 p.m. Saturday, March 1, Bayou Vista. The parade begins on Delmar Street at its intersection with Jupiter Road, proceeds to Venus Road and concludes on Bellevue Street. Call (985) 385-1914.

■ Krewe of Galatea Parade, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 2, Morgan City. The parade begins on Second Street under the La. 182 bridge and proceeds north to Onstead Street and Sixth Street, and ends at the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium on Myrtle Street. Call (985) 384-0551.

■ Krewe of Amani-Hannibal Parade, 2 p.m. Monday, March 3, Patterson. Parade lines up and begins on Red Cypress Road at the park and ends at Place Norman Shopping Center. Call (985) 395-4387.

■ Krewe of Hephaestus Parade, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, Morgan City. Begins at the corner of Sixth and Sycamore streets and ends at the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium on Myrtle Street. Call (985) 384-2645

■ Franklin Mardi Gras Parade, 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 4. The parade begins at Franklin Senior High School on Main Street and ends at the end of Third Street. Call (985) 384-2645

For more information on these events, visit www.cajuncoast.com.



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

People reach for beads flying from a float filled with Elvises in New Orleans.

Of course there is no place that celebrates Mardi Gras on a grander scale than New Orleans, which will host parades beginning this weekend.

For more information on Big Easy celebrations, visit mardigras.com. The site offers detailed parade information, as well as a series of live feeds from Web cams throughout the city that allow Internet visitors to experience celebrations from the comfort of their homes.

Several parades have celebrity monarchs and grand marshals. Filmmaker Spike Lee will be the celebrity monarch of the Zulu parade, the first time since Louis Armstrong was so honored in 1949. Other celebrity parade monarchs include Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler and guitarist Joe Perry, Orpheus; comedian Joe Lovitz, Bacchus; and recording artist Edwin McCain, Pegasus.

Parades will be held in the New Orleans area according to the following schedule:

Today, Feb. 21
 ■ Cleopatra — West Bank, 6:30 p.m.
 ■ Oshun — Uptown, 6:30 p.m.
 ■ Pygmalion — Uptown, 7:30 p.m.
 ■ Atlas — Metairie, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 22
 ■ Aladdin — Westbank, noon.
 ■ Pontchartrain — Uptown, noon.
 ■ Shangri-La — Uptown, 1

p.m.
 ■ Sparta — Uptown, 6 p.m.
 ■ Pegasus — Uptown, 6:45 p.m.
 ■ Caesar — Metairie, 6 p.m.
 ■ Olympia — Covington, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 23
 ■ Carrollton — Uptown, noon.
 ■ Alla — West Bank, noon.
 ■ King Arthur & Merlin — Uptown, 1:15 p.m.
 ■ Barkus — French Quarter, 2 p.m.
 ■ Bards of Bohemia — Uptown, 2:30 p.m.
 ■ Rhea — Metairie, 2:30 p.m.
 ■ Mercury — Metairie, 4 p.m.
 ■ Centurions — Metairie, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 25
 ■ Ancient Druids — Uptown, 6 p.m.
 ■ Krewe of Morpheus — Uptown, 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 26
 ■ Saturn — Uptown, 6 p.m.
 ■ Muses — Uptown, 6:45 p.m.
 ■ Thor — Metairie, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 27
 ■ Babylon — Uptown, 5:45 p.m.

■ Chaos — Uptown, 6:30 p.m.
 ■ Excalibur — Metairie, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 28
 ■ Hermes — Uptown, 6 p.m.
 ■ Krewe d'Etat — Uptown, 6:30 p.m.
 ■ Aquila — Metairie, 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 1
 ■ NOMTOC — West Bank, 11:30 a.m.
 ■ Iris — Uptown, noon.
 ■ Tucks — Uptown, 1 p.m.
 ■ Ulysses — West Bank, 12:30 p.m.

■ Endymion — Uptown, 4:30 p.m.
 ■ Isis — Metairie, 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 2
 ■ Okeanos — Uptown, 11 a.m.
 ■ Thoth — Uptown, 11:30 a.m.

■ Mid-City — Uptown, 2 p.m.
 ■ Bacchus — Uptown, 5:15 p.m.

■ Adonis — West Bank, 1 p.m.
 ■ Napoleon — Metairie, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, March 3
 ■ Proteus — Uptown, 5:15 p.m.
 ■ Orpheus N.O. — Uptown, 5:45 p.m.

■ Zeus — Metairie, 6:30 p.m.
Mardi Gras, March 4
 ■ Zulu — Uptown, 8:30 a.m.
 ■ Rex — Uptown, 10 a.m.
 ■ Elks-Orl. — Uptown, 11:30 a.m.

■ Crescent City — Uptown, after Elks.
 ■ Argus — Metairie, 10 a.m.
 ■ Grela — West Bank, 11 a.m.
 ■ Elks-Gretna — West Bank, after Grela.
 ■ Elks-Jeff. — Metairie, 11 a.m.
 ■ Jefferson — Metairie, 11 a.m.

TOWN: Play appeals with lesson on living

from **PAGE F1**

Ann Hanks as Mrs. Gibbs, Anne Drake as Mrs. Webb, Travis Young as George Gibbs, Alex Lee as Rebecca Gibbs, Tory Abshire as Wally Webb, Lauren Martin as Emily Webb, Adley Cormier

as Professor Willard and Bryan Barrilleaux as Mr. Webb.

Also, Monica Mere as Woman in Balcony, Lee Wallace as Man in the Auditorium, Charlotte Gass as Lady in the Box, Chris Bello as Simon Stimson; Shelli Montgomery as Mrs.

Soames, Scott Holtzman as Constable Warren, Louis Barrilleaux as Si Crowell, Karen Parm as Samantha Craig, Stephen Cooper as Joe Stoddard, Pam Smith as a crowd member, Lauren Stutes as Miss Young and David LeBleu as Stage Manager.

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PEOPLE IN THE ARTS



ROY
Local poet and writer **Donald Roy** will present a series of dramatic narratives titled “Black Heritage Our Freedom” in conjunction with the NAACP summit “Evening of the Arts.”
The celebration will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Central School Arts and Humanities Center, 809 Kirby St.

Local author **Melissa Ann Ross** was voted the 2002 best multicultural new fiction author of the year in the recent Shades of Romance magazine’s Reader’s Choice competition.
She also tied with Darryl Diggs for best new fiction author.
Ross’ first novel, “Love Is Forever,” was published last

October with 1st Books Library. It is a story of love, determination and true grit set in Bristol in the late-1800s.
There are several other local connections. The models on the book’s cover are all Lake Charles residents, and their clothes and jewelry were purchased locally. Another Lake Charles native’s poetry can be found in the book.
For more information, visit www.sormag.com or www.MelissaAnnRoss.com.
Bill Iles, professor of art at McNeese State University, has had artwork accepted in the Slidell Cultural Center Mixed Media 2003 Juried Competition sponsored by the Department of Cultural Affairs of Slidell.
Iles’ artwork, titled “Quick Draw,” is a whimsical drawing based on the artist’s childhood addiction to Saturday matinee Western movies and cowboy heroes.

Local actor touring with ‘Buffalo Soldier’

Lance Nelson of Lake Charles is in the national touring cast of “Buffalo Soldier,” a play about the African American regiments after the Civil War.
A 2001 graduate of McNeese, Nelson plays Roy Moore Jr., a wheelchair-bound veteran and historian of the buffalo soldiers. Nelson began the tour in January and plans to continue through early May.
Theatre IV of Richmond, Va., is producing the historical drama. In 2001, “Buffalo Soldier” became the first play to be presented in the Pentagon.
Nelson performed in Lake Charles five years ago with

NELSON

comedy troupe Dysfunction Junction. After graduating from McNeese with a bachelor’s in theater arts, he studied drama at the University of New Orleans and did regional theater in New York and Vermont.
He auditioned for “Buffalo Soldier” several months ago at the Southeastern Theatre Conference Fall Professional Auditions in North Carolina. He didn’t hear anything immediately, so he returned to Lake Charles. He worked construction and as a substitute teacher at his high school, St. Louis Catholic.
Nelson got the call to join the tour Dec. 5. The tour is on the East Coast and in the Midwest. The closest show to Lake Charles will be in Florida.

SONNY MARKS

Lorrain Bridge Association plans car, truck show with food, band and games

The Lorrain Bridge Association will present Show Cars and Show Trucks on March 29 at Lorrain Park in Hayes.
The event is sponsored by the Idlers Club of Lake Charles. Older vehicles, including antiques and classics, are welcome. Prizes and trophies will be awarded. Entry fee is \$10 per person.
Entries will meet at 9 a.m. at Louviere’s Fine Art Gallery in the Shoppes at Bridgepoint in Moss Bluff for maps and refreshments.

Those who want to enter may register on the day of the show.
But all who plan to participate are asked to notify the association of intention of entry for planning purposes.
Gates will be open free to the public 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Other activities will include children’s games, food and a French band.
For more information, call Wesley Blanchard at 474-7241 or Pauline Poole at (337) 622-3480 or 802-7200.

Band releases debut CD with parties

They have let the “Possum” loose, and he’s forging ahead on his own musical path that’s a little bit Cajun, a little bit rock ‘n’ roll.
Garrett “Possum” Judice & the Couillons have released their first CD, which includes 14 songs — some traditional Cajun, some classic rock and some original.
Judice, an accomplished accordionist at age 16, said he wanted to make an album that everyone could enjoy. “The Possum’s Loose” bridges the gaps of age and musical taste with its variety and unique arrangements. He incorporates the accordion into songs usually not associated with a Cajun band, such as Lynyrd Skynyrd’s “Free Bird.”

The local band also features Shirmon Dupre, vocals; James Dupre, vocals and guitar; Andrew Moore, scrub board, spoons, shakers and triangle; Allen Chasey, bass; Bill Ney, drums and percussion; and Pat Judice, triangle.
The CD starts out with “Creole Stomp/Scott Playboys Special,” an instrumental two-step. It’s followed by “Les Cajun sont Special.” It’s “73 Special” with new French lyrics by James Dupre, who sings the Cajun songs on the CD.
Then the focus shifts to rock with a rendition of Eric Burden & the Animals’ “House of the Rising Sun,” sung plaintively by Shirmon Dupre with a sound that sweeps the listener away to New Orleans.
Other Cajun songs include “Cajun from Church Point,” a version of Merle Haggard’s “Okie from Muskogee,” “The Prison Two Step,” “The Bosco Stomp” with a little



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

Members of Garrett “Possum” Judice & the Couillons are, from left, Allen James Dupre, Shirmon Dupre, Judice, Bill Ney, Andrew Moore and Allen Chasey.

rock percussion; and “Ma Mere et mon Pere,” an original James Dupre wrote for his family.
The bongos dig in on a snappy “Colinda.” “Waltz of the Mulberry Limb” starts like a walk in the night where the listener approaches a house with a lone Cajun musician playing and singing his song. It’s like going from the sound of a 78 rpm to a modern CD.
Shirmon Dupre provides the vocals on the rock-pop songs, including a Janis Joplin-style rendition of “Me and Bobby McGee” and an inventive presentation of “Free Bird.”
Her originals on the CD are “Angel of the South,” which she wrote for her grandfather,

and “Squeeze Box Blues,” a catchy rock-blues number she penned for Judice.
The final song is “The Train,” a version of Clifton Chenier’s “Zydeco Est Pas Sale.” It captures the sound and feel of a train passing by.
The CD was recorded at Lake Charles Music, with Ed Fruge as producer and Ken Turner as engineer, who also provides percussion on “Colinda.”
The band’s first CD release party will be 7-11 p.m. today, Feb. 21, at Harris’ Cajun Restaurant in Hayes.
The second one will be 4-7 p.m. March 22 at Southern Spice Restaurant on Ryan Street. It will be the restaurant’s sixth anniversary celebration. The

son of Pat and Gerry Judice got his start playing at the restaurant’s first anniversary fete and has played every one since.
“The Possum’s Loose” is on sale at Lake Charles Music and will be available at the CD release parties.
The band is also scheduled to play 10:30 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. March 1 at the Mardi Gras Cajun Extravaganza in the Civic Center’s Exhibition Hall and 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fat Tuesday during the downtown celebration on the corner of Broad and Ryan streets.
For more on the band, visit www.angelfire.com/la3/theco uillons.

GAIL NORRIS

Wade Wolfe Series features photographer

McNeese Art will host the fourth annual Wade Wolfe Lecture Series on Thursday, Feb. 27, featuring Jeffrey A. Wolin, professor of photography and director of the School of Fine Arts at Indiana University.
There is an opening reception at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the McNeese Abercrombie Gallery for Wolin’s exhibition, “Ancient Provence,” an exhibition of 30 photographs, which will hang

through March 21. Visitors at the opening will have the opportunity to receive a poster signed by the artist.
Wolin will also present a lecture about his work at 8 p.m. in the McNeese Business Conference Center.
Wolin has received two Visual Artist Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for his photographs with text.

His photographs have been exhibited and acquired by numerous museums, including the Los Angeles Country Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago; Houston Museum of Fine Arts; Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, Ariz.; George Eastman House in Rochester, N.Y.; and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The Wade Wolfe Lecture Series is sponsored by an endowment established through the McNeese Foundation by Dr. Wade Wolfe. The series allows the MSU Department of Visual Arts to bring nationally recognized artists to meet with students and give public lectures.
The gallery is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays
For more information, call 475-5060.

BRIEFLY

‘Wild Beast Feast’ tickets on sale
The Lake Charles Symphony’s “Wild Beast Feast” will be 5-8 p.m. April 5 at VFW Post 2130, 1900 Country Club Road.
Sample dishes of game, poultry and seafood created by local sportsmen. There also will be side dishes and a cash bar.
Hal McMillin will be master of ceremonies, and the

Crawford Brothers will provide music.
Tickets are \$25 per person and \$10 for ages 7-14 in advance by calling the symphony office, 433-1611, or at the door.
LCLT sets auditions for ‘Barefoot in Park’
Lake Charles Little Theatre will hold auditions for “Barefoot in the Park” at 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Feb.

24-25, in the New Stable Playhouse, 813 Enterprise Blvd.
Roles are available for two women and four men. No experience is necessary, and scripts will be provided for auditions.
Neil Simon’s “Barefoot in the Park” is a sweet and uncomplicated romance written and set in the 1960s. A newlywed couple new to the big city finds romance and marriage aren’t necessarily the same. Together they discover what real love and commitment are all about.
It’s scheduled to open in late April.
For more information, call LCLT at 433-7988.

Council sponsors contest for kids
JENNINGS — The Jeff Davis Arts Council and the

Zigler Museum are sponsoring a poetry and poster contest.
The competition is open to all Jeff Davis Parish public, parochial, private and home-school students.
The poetry contest is an open theme, but the poster contest requires the entry to pertain to the Louisiana Purchase.
Categories include grades 1-12.
Winning entries will be displayed at the museum in conjunction with the Louisiana Purchase exhibit in April.
Entry forms are available at the Jeff Davis Arts Council Office, located next to Jennings City Hall at 324 N. Broadway, Suite 22.
Deadline to submit entries is April 8.
For more information, call the JDAC Office at 821-5500.

VANCE GILBERT

Sunday, March 9
4:00pm
Bulber Auditorium

His spellbinding live show. His deliriously virtuosic singing. His accomplished guitar style. His outrageous, edgy humor. And the songwriting. The Songwriting! The Songwriting!!

Opening act: singer/songwriter Wendy Colonna.

Tickets available at the McNeese Bookstore, the McNeese Connection or at the door.

For more information call the Banners Office 475-5123 or visit www.banners.org.

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At Hamilton Christian Academy Gym

Benefit for students Stephanie Roetzel, Taylor Jacobson & Lara Lignitz of HCA Choir, selected for the Organization of American Kodaly Educators National Youth Choir. They will perform in Minneapolis, MN in March of this year.

Benefit guests are:
The Singing Ministers, The Broussards, Finers Cryer, David Conrad, Darlene Creasman & HCA Choir, Kaye Watkins & Hope & Jerry Snider.

Tickets available at the door and Christian Book Center, Sonshine Shop & HCA Office.
For more information contact Darlene Creasman 439-1178

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0221

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Art entries wanted

NATCHITOCHES — Artists and fine-art crafters are invited to display their works and demonstrate their skills in the Natchitoches Art Guild's second annual "Art Along the Bricks," set for 9 a.m.-6 p.m. March 22.

Fine arts and crafts categories include painting, drawing, pottery, photography and other fine art crafts. There's a \$25 registration fee and a 10 percent commission on work sold to be paid to the

Natchitoches Art Guild. Artists must furnish their own stands and tables.

A new feature this year is a judged competition with cash awards in two categories, paintings and crafts. Entry deadline is March 7. Artists must send photos of their work to the Natchitoches Art Guild, 814 Washington Square, Suite 102, Natchitoches, LA 71457.

For more information, call (318) 352-1626 or e-mail artguildgallery@natchitoches.net.

MARDI GRAS HAPPENINGS

Legion dance

WESTLAKE — American Legion Post 407, 912 John Stine Road, will host a free Mardi Gras dance 8 p.m.-midnight Saturday, March 1. Red Saltzman & the Rambling Cajuns will play country-western, zydeco, oldies and Cajun music.

Gumbo will be available for \$2 a bowl.

For more information, call 433-4768 or 436-1125.

Lacassine Optimist

LACASSINE — The Lacassine Optimist Club will sponsor a Mardi Gras dance 6-10 p.m. Sunday, March 2, at the Lacassine Community Center.

Krewes scheduled to attend are LeKrew Du Le Originales and Et Les Enfant of Lake Charles.

Mac Manuel & the Lake

Charles Ramblers will provide music.

Gumbo at \$3 a bowl will be served from 5 p.m.

Admission to the dance is \$5. No ice chests will be allowed.

Ebonite Club

DERIDDER — The Ebonite Cultural Unlimited Club, a nonprofit organization, will host its Mardi Gras Gala 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, March 1, at the KC Hall on Blankenship Drive.

A social hour is set for 8-9 p.m. with the grand march at 10 p.m.

Music will be provided by Big Ike & the Lake City Band featuring Linda Toussaint.

Attire is formal or semiformal. Admission is \$10.

Proceeds will go toward scholarships and other community programs.

BRIEFLY

Writer's Guild to host conference

LAFAYETTE — The Writer's Guild of Acadiana will host "Getting It Write," a two-day conference for fiction authors and poets Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, at the Lafayette Hilton & Towers.

The conference will feature 16 workshops; a pitch session with agents, editors and peers; autograph teas; and several guest speakers.

Cost is \$145 for members and \$180 for nonmembers before Feb. 25 and \$155 for members and \$190 for nonmembers after Feb. 25.

For more information, contact Debbie Clardy, (337) 235-9236, or e-mail debiclardy@yahoo.com; Debbie Brown, (337) 896-2484

or e-mail dbrown1024@aol.com; or Marilyn Contine, (337) 981-5153.

Center celebrates Black History Month

OLLA — The Centennial Cultural Center will celebrate Black History Month with a program at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The Jena Community Choir will sing gospel music, and Barbara Elmore will talk about local black culture and history. Shante and Brandy Carter will perform songs in sign language, and LaKenya Jordan will have a storytelling presentation.

Refreshments will be provided after the program.

For more information, call (318) 495-7988.

OPENING

"DARK BLUE" — Lake Charles 10. A maverick L.A. detective (Kurt Russell), whose brutal and racist style puts him at odds with his boss (Ving Rhames), investigates a multiple homicide with a rookie partner during the tense days leading up to the Rodney King verdict. Based on a story by James Ellroy. Rated R.

"GODS AND GENERALS" — Lake Charles 10. This prequel to "Gettysburg" chronicles the life and battles of Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson (Stephen Lang). Also stars Robert Duvall, Jeff Daniels and Mira Sorvino. Rated PG-13.

"THE LIFE OF DAVID GALE" — Lake Charles 10. Professor David Gale (Kevin Spacey), a death penalty opponent, is falsely convicted of rape and murder of a fellow activist. Three days before his execution, he grants an interview to a reporter (Kate Winslet), who races to find the truth behind the crime. Rated PG-13.

"OLD SCHOOL" — Lake Charles 10. Three thirtysomething guys wanting to relive their glory days move into a house near their college. When the dean tries to get rid of them, they form an unofficial fraternity where "students" can party hearty in this comedy. Stars

Luke Wilson, Will Ferrell and Vince Vaughn. Rated R.

CONTINUING

"CHICAGO" — Lake Charles 10. In this film version of the Broadway hit musical, Chicago chorus girl Roxie Hart (Rene Zellweger) lands in jail after shooting a man. There she meets Vela Kelly (Catherine Zeta-Jones), another chorus girl and a murderer. They compete for the legal services of slick lawyer Billy Flynn (Richard Gere) and media attention. Rated PG-13.

"DAREDEVIL" — Lake Charles 10. Attorney Matt Murdock (Ben Affleck) is blind, but his other senses are superhuman. By day he represents the downtrodden; by night, he's Daredevil, the masked avenger of justice. Based on Marvel's comic hero. Also stars Michael Clarke Duncan, Colin Farrell and Jennifer Garner. Rated PG-13.

"DRUMLINE" — Charles Cinema. A New York teen (Nick Cannon) gets a music scholarship to a Southern university, where he hopes to be part of the marching band. As he struggles to adapt to the new environment, he soon learns it takes more than talent to lead the band to victory. Also stars Orlando Jones and Zoe Saldana. Rated PG-13.

"FINAL DESTINATION 2" —

Lake Charles 10. In this sequel, a young woman (A.J. cook) foresees a highway pileup on the way to meet her friends. After narrowly escaping death, she and the other motorists delayed by her vision realize death is out to get them, so they enlist the help of Clear Rivers (Ali Larter), the lone survivor of Flight 180. Rated R.

"HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS" — Charles Cinema. Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and pals (Rupert Grint, Emma Watson) return to Hogwarts for their sophomore year of wizard education. It includes a new professor (Kenneth Branagh), a talking diary, more Quidditch matches and creepy giant spiders. Also stars Richard Harris, Maggie Smith and Robbie Coltrane. Rated PG.

"HOW TO LOSE A GUY IN 10 DAYS" — Lake Charles 10. A ladies' man (Matthew McConaughey) betts his friends that he can stay in a relationship more than 10 days, but his latest date (Kate Hudson) is trying to dump him just as fast in this romantic comedy. Rated PG-13.

"THE JUNGLE BOOK 2" — Lake Charles 10. In Disney's animated sequel to the classic, Mowgli gets restless in his new village and goes back to the "bare

necessities" of the jungle where he reunites with his old friend Baloo and must face his past nemesis, tiger Shere Khan, who want to settle old scores. Voices include John Goodman, Haley Joel Osment and Tony Jay. Rated G.

"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS" — Charles Cinema. In the second part of the trilogy, Frodo (Elijah Wood) and Sam (Sean Astin) journey to Mordor to destroy the ring. Meanwhile, Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen) and companions search for their kidnapped hobbit friends as the Dark Lord Sauron's armies press closer. Also stars Ian McKellen, Christopher Lee and Liv Tyler. Rated PG-13.

"THE RECRUIT" — Lake Charles 10. A brilliant CIA rookie (Colin Farrell) is chosen by his boss (Al Pacino) to root out a double agent who may be spying for the Chinese in this spy thriller. Rated PG-13.

"SHANGHAI KNIGHTS" — Lake Charles 10. After taming the Wild West in "Shanghai Noon," Chon Wang (Jackie Chan) and Roy O'Bannon (Owen Wilson) travel to London to find the man who murdered Chon's father. While Chon seeks vengeance, Roy fall for his partner's sister in this action-comedy. Rated PG-13.

Castile concert covers history of Cajun fiddling



HADLEY J. CASTILLE

A reception for the Castilles will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium lobby.

Tickets will be available at the door or in advance at the LSUE Business Office, Room 113 of the Science Building and KEUN-KJJB radio.

The program will begin with Canadian fiddle tunes from the Maritime Provinces, the region where Cajuns once lived before being forcibly deported by the British in

1755. The group will then demonstrate the twin-fiddle Cajun style in which one fiddler plays the melody while the other provides the rhythm for dancing.

They will next show how solo fiddlers tried to mimic the twin fiddle sound by using drone strings, and then they will highlight the changes in fiddle styles over the years, from the influence of the Texas swing bands and the style of Harry Choates to more recent developments in Cajun

music.

Hadley J. Castille has long been recognized as one of the top Cajun fiddlers. A native of St. Landry Parish, he learned to play while still in his early teens from his uncle Cyprien Castille. He has been inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame and Northwestern State University's Hall of Master Folk Artists. He has appeared on three national television network morning programs, and his music is also featured in several motion pictures.

For more information, phone (337) 457-1510.

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02.21.03

Teacher learned a lot on ‘La Mancha’ stage

BY WARREN ARCENEUX
AMERICAN PRESS

Guilherme Rogano is starring in the McNeese State University production of the musical “Man of La Mancha.”

When he isn’t on stage, Rogano is a professor in the school’s music department. Susan Kelso of the theater department asked Rogano to star in “La Mancha.” She probably won’t have to ask next time a role becomes available.

“I’d like to be in another show, perhaps in a role where I could just act and would not have to sing,” Rogano said.

“I enjoy becoming a character, using that as a vehicle for letting other parts of my personality come out; it has really been a lot of fun.”

A lot of fun, maybe, but definitely not all play.

The cast and crew were only given a month to get ready for the show, a large production. That resulted in many long nights of preparation.

“It was a big-time commitment participating in the show. We were rehearsing four to five hours a night, so you pretty much had to give up all of your personal life,”



BRIAN OLANDER / AMERICAN PRESS

Don Quixote (Guilherme Rogano), left, and Pedro (Jonathan Harvey) cross swords in “Man of La Mancha.”

Rogano said.

“But from the reaction we have gotten after the first weekend of performances, it was worth it. The feedback has been great, people have been saying they loved it. That is a great feeling to know that you are entertaining people after

all of the hard work we put in getting ready for the show.”

Rogano said he particularly enjoyed working with cast members from outside the university.

“I’d have to say that was the most enjoyable part of the experience for me, getting the

opportunity to work with people from the community that I would have never met otherwise,” he said.

“We were able to develop some good relationships and have a good time with the show.”

A few of the cast members

TICKETS

The McNeese Theatre and Department of Music production of “Man of La Mancha” will be onstage at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21-22 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 23 in Ralph Squires Hall. Tickets are \$10 at the McNeese Theatre box office, open 6-8 p.m. today. For reservations, call 475-5043.

are students Rogano teaches.

“That was a bit odd. We were sort of peers since we were all actors in the show, when normally I am an authority figure in the classroom,” Rogano said.

“But I was a student at the University of Michigan two years ago, so there is not a great gap between me and them. I think it was a good experience. It was a thrill for me as a teacher to be able to see them develop as actors. Normally, I only get to see the musical aspect of their ability, but this time I was able to see them grow as dramatic performers.”

Director James Henderson credited Rogano for helping theater students handle the difficult music material in the

show.

Rogano prefers to return the favor.

“We have a great cast and director working on the show. They have all done wonderful jobs and have made everything fun,” Rogano said.

“I feel blessed to have this opportunity to be a part of this show. That is what I like most about being here at McNeese, there is a great atmosphere here. The people are very nice and great to work with; they have always made me feel welcome.”

And for the record, Rogano is not forcing his students to watch him on stage.

Although he highly recommends it.

“I think it is good for them to go see it to understand the process that performers must go through to put on a show,” he said.

“It is difficult, whether you are a student trying to learn or a teacher that has appeared in shows previously. I think it would help the students get a greater appreciation of what is required of performers if they are able to see the finished product of a show and understand what it took to get to that point.”

HIGH SCHOOL HONORS



SPECIAL TO THE AMERICAN PRESS

Students getting ready for the District V Honor Jazz Band concert are, front row from left, Andrew Fraser, Adam Duethman, James Lormand and Evan Jones, back row, Ashley Kent, David Smart, Samantha Ingalls, Adam Garner, Jacob Bertrand, Andrew Steiner and Jessica Martin.

District honor jazz band to present free concert

The 2002-2003 District V Honor Jazz Band will give a free concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the LaGrange High School auditorium.

The band is made up of area high school students who tried out by performing individually before three judges from area schools. About 40 students tried out this year. Eighteen were chosen, along with three alternates.

District V includes Calcasieu, Beauregard, Jeff Davis, Vernon, Allen and Cameron parishes.

Rehearsals were to begin Thursday, continue all day today and resume Saturday morning to prepare for the concert.

Director of the band is Mike Genevay, in his 28th year as the director of bands and an assistant principal at St. Clement of Rome School

in Metairie. The school has about 300 students in its band program, which features four performing concert bands and two jazz ensembles.

As a professional trombonist, Genevay has performed with the New Orleans Symphony & Opera Orchestras, the Louisiana Philharmonic and other jazz and big-band ensembles. He is in his 26th year with the Pete Fountain Band.

Students chosen for the band are Alex Miller of Sulphur High and Bryan Malbroux of LaGrange, alto sax; Stratton Doyle of Barbe and Brent Montville of Sam Houston, tenor sax; Joey Siciliano of DeRidder, baritone sax; David Smart, Samantha Ingalls, Ashley Kent and Adam Garner, all of Barbe, trumpet; Jacob Bertrand of Barbe, Taylor Moss of Sam Houston, Jarred Cole of La Grange

and Andrew Steiner of Barbe, trombone; David Pellerin of Westlake and Andrew Fraser, Adam Duethman and James Lormand, all of Barbe, rhythm section; and Jessica Martin of Barbe, vocalist.

Alternates are Tony Ecker of DeQuincy, trumpet; Evan Jones of Barbe, trombone; and Christian Blankenship of Westlake, drums.

The director will choose the concert selections from a list that includes “Do Nothin’ Till You Hear from Me” by Duke Ellington, “Estero Sunset” by Gregory Yasinitsky, “Loop 360” by Rick Lawn, “Teach Me Tonight” by Sammy Cahn, “Anything Goes” by Cole Porter, “Brass Machine” by Mark Taylor and “Critical Mass” by Jeff Jarvis.

Zigler Museum exhibit shows French influence on art, artists

STORY, PHOTOS
BY DORIS MARICLE
AMERICAN PRESS

JENNINGS — The Zigler Museum will host “The French Influence on Art and Artists” from Feb. 22 to March 30.

This exhibit features 50 selected paintings (1880-1960) from the collection of Robert and Jolie Shelton of Lafayette.

The Sheltons have more than 350 paintings in their elaborate art collection, which has been featured in numerous museums and exhibits across the United States. These paintings exemplify the French influence on art and artists from America, England and mainland Europe.

An opening reception for the exhibit will be 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in the museum.

Also, there will be a lecture 3-4 p.m. by the Sheltons and Jon W. Keefe, the RosaMary Foundation curator of decorative arts for the New Orleans Museum of Art. Keefe is the author of numerous publications and papers and the main curator of numerous exhibitions.

The Sheltons began collecting and acquiring oil paintings, antiques and silver in the 1960s.

An art appreciation course prompted Robert Shelton’s interest in the history of the artists, their lives and their work while an undergraduate at Louisiana State University studying geology.

“I spent the next 20 years buying art books, reading and teaching myself about art,” Robert Shelton said.

His enthusiasm and a love of art have remained with him to this day.

After receiving his degree from LSU, Robert Shelton studied and graduated in law at Tulane University, and in 1960 married Jolie Landry, also an art aficionado. They continued their education by reading and studying about art, antiques and silver, acquiring well over a thousand volumes in their library.

As collectors, the Sheltons



“Jeune Fille Lisant” by Georges d’Espagnat combines all elements that make a great painting: a genteel subject, excellent coloration and coordinated composition.



“Nina in Monet’s Garden” by Louis Ritman (1913), left, shows his wife in Monet’s garden in Giverny. “Effet du Matin” by Henri Barnoin is a prime example of his ability to paint early morning light.



are drawn to Impressionism, post-Impressionism, the School of Paris paintings and Gorham Martele silver.

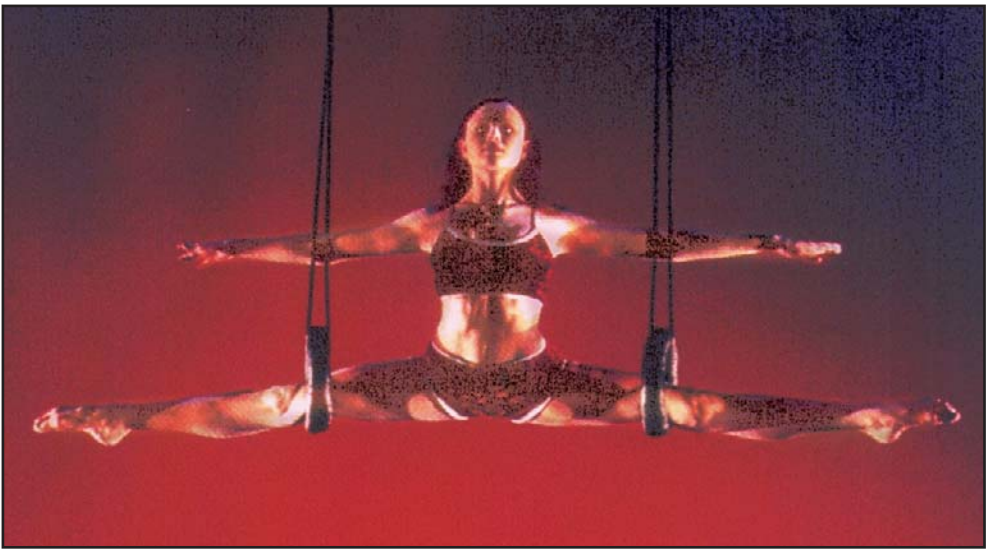
Jolie Shelton is recognized as the major collector of Gorham Martele Art Nouveau silver. The Sheltons’ Martele silver has been exhibited at NOMA and is scheduled to be shown in numerous museums over the next three years.

The Sheltons will feature pieces of their collection of art and antique furniture at the Zigler Museum.

Featured works include

artists such as Richard Bloos, Georges d’Espagant, Emile Grau-Sala, Jean Baptiste Armand Guillaumin, Adolphe-Rene Guillon, Marsden Hartley, Augustus Koopman, Gustave Loiseau, John William Mogan, Pierre-Eugene Montezin, Adolph J.T. Monticelli, Marcel Parturier, Edward Willis Redfield, Louis Ritman, Henri Le Sidaner, Gabriel Spat, Maurice Utrillo and Louis Valtat.

For more information or to schedule a tour of the museum, call (337) 824-0114.



AEROS stage show’s up in the air

BEAUMONT, Texas — AEROS, the genre-blending show of gymnastics, dance and theater, will be onstage at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in the Julie Rogers Theater.

AEROS bends and blends the line between art and sports. The marriage of these two worlds is a collaboration of the medal-winning Romanian Gymnastics Federation; American choreographer-directors Daniel Ezralow, David Parsons and

Moses Pendleton; and STOMP creators Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas.

The show features top artists from the Romanian Gymnastics Federation, one of the oldest and most successful sports federations in the world, performing back flips, split leaps, round-offs, hand springs and walkovers to an original musical score.

The federation’s Olympic medalists have included Nadia Comaneci, Daniela Silivas and

Ecaterina Szabo.

The athletes who comprise this performance troupe range in age from 19 to 26 and include European and world champions. Members of the cast remain active in world competitions.

The event is sponsored by the Beaumont Ballet Society.

Tickets are \$10-\$35 at the Beaumont Civic Center box office, (409) 838-3435, Ext. 1.

For more on the troupe, visit www.aeros.org.