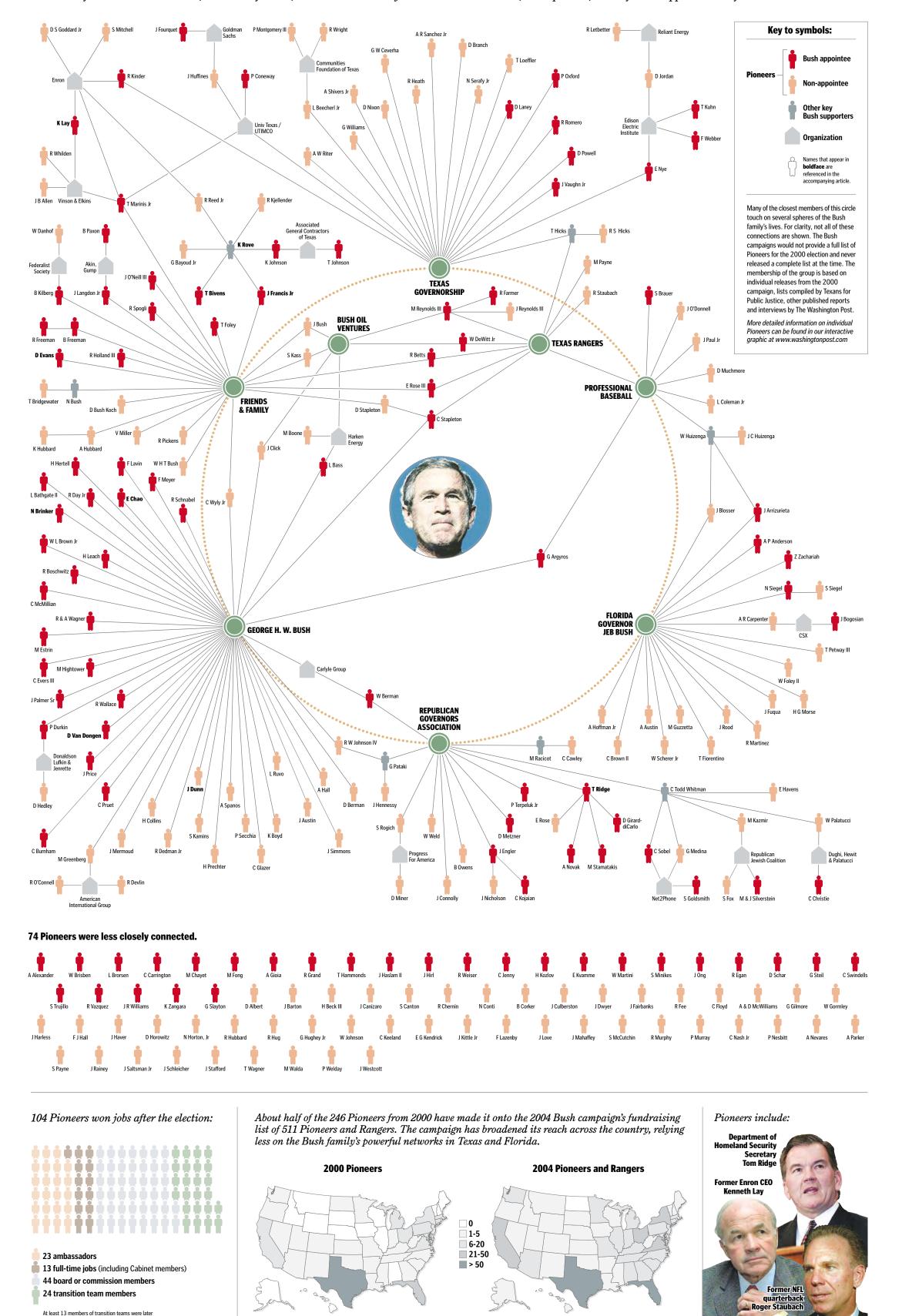
The Washington Post Sunday, May 16, 2004 A17

THE BUSH MONEY MACHINE | Fundraising's Rewards

Spheres of Influence

George W. Bush reached into each of the spheres surrounding his life to find fundraisers for his first presidential bid. These Pioneers, who raised a minimum of \$100,000 each in individual contributions of \$1,000 or less in 2000, have changed the face of national campaign finance. They helped him raise a record \$96.3 million and allowed him to turn down federal matching funds that would have limited his spending during the primary elections. For Bush, they include classmates from Yale and Harvard, childhood friends, investors in his early

business ventures and contacts made through the Republican Governors Association and his partial ownership of the Texas Rangers baseball team. He also drew from his family's storied political life, tapping appointees and fundraisers from his father's presidential bids, his brother's political supporters in Florida and supporters and appointees from his six years as Texas governor. The Post found that about 170 of the 246 Pioneers in 2000 fell into one of these realms. Of the Pioneers, more than 100, or 40 percent, won a federal appointment after the election.



GRAPHIC BY SARAH COHEN AND LOUIS SPIRITO, WITH RESEARCH BY ALICE CRITES—THE WASHINGTON POS