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Thurs.-Fri. Evening 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Sunday 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM

1903 Gregg 432-935-6767

Spotlight on Steers' defensive end

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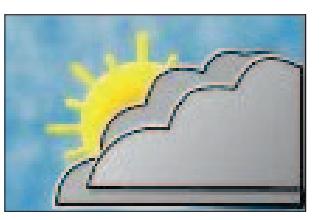
Pediatrician Dr. Kimberly Saenz
Board Certified In Pediatrics
Relocating To
1501 West 11th Suite 206
(In The Malone Hogan Clinic)
SEPTEMBER 1
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 14, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 249

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Foundation stress may get relief

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District officials hope foundation problems at the junior high school are close to resolution. Trustees heard a summary of an engineering report on the junior high building during their regular monthly meeting Thursday night in the high school board room.

The junior high building first exhibited foundation problems shortly after it opened for the 1998-1999 school year. Uneven settling of the foundation caused cracks to appear in the building masonry at several locations.

"The good news is that there's no new force or action — such as substructure moisture — causing the building to settle."

—Michael Downes, superintendent



The problem was blamed on inadequate construction fill compaction. In other words, the ground underneath

the foundation was not adequately compacted, which caused the foundation to settle unevenly, causing the masonry cracks. Site repairs to part of the building were later carried out, but more cracks appeared in the northeast portion of the junior high in August

2004 and have increased in size since then, indicating that the foundation is continuing to settle unevenly. BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said the district recently authorized the Carrollton engineering firm of Bryant See **BSJH**, Page 3A

BSISD aces report card

Receives superior rating in financial accountability

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

For the fifth year in a row, the Big Spring Independent School District has aces its financial report card. School trustees learned that the district received a superior rating in its annual Financial Accountability Management Report during their monthly meeting Thursday evening.



Waggoner

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Grand Tour makes Big Spring its home today and Saturday

Big Spring Region Antique Automobile Club of America is hosting The Grand Old Tour today and Saturday. Headquartered at Quality Inn, the group planned to have lunch at Big Spring Country Club today and will set up Saturday morning at College Park Shopping Center for viewing and other activities. The public is invited to meet the owners and view the automobiles. A spokesperson said 11 a.m. Saturday would be an ideal time to view the vehicles at College Park Shopping Center.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Rescue workers tend to the operator of a motorcycle who was involved in a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Highway 87 and the south service road of Interstate 20 Thursday afternoon. The man was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center with undisclosed injuries.

Caboose artists set for 10th anniversary

Public invited to weekend reception at the Heritage Museum

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Back when oil was king — not crude oil, mind you — a group of women got together to promote watercolor. The Caboose Watercolor Society was formed. "Our goal back then was to promote professional water-



Smith

color in the community," explained Kay Smith, a founding member of the Society. "Now we're looking forward to our 10th anniversary." Saturday, "Arting Around," a show

comprised of artwork by the six members of the Caboose Watercolor Society, will debut at the Heritage Museum. A reception is planned from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The show will remain on display through Oct. 27. "We invite everyone to come out Saturday. It's a chance to view the art and

meet some of the artists," said Nancy Raney, museum director. "These ladies have such incredible talent." Three artists — Smith, Carole Berry and Linda Rupard — formed the painting group in 1997. Rupard and Smith had studios in See **CABOOSE**, Page 3A

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

Cheerleaders, pep rally, 'Trash' on campus Saturday

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Musical group Vocal Trash will make its second appearance in Big Spring in less than a year Saturday evening, as the act teams up with a pair of local events at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Sponsored by the Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau, Vocal Trash is expected to take the stage


following a Howard College sponsored Battle of the Cheerleaders and community pep rally, all set to get under way at 5:30 p.m. Vocal Trash first appeared in Big Spring during the annual Texas Trash Off earlier in the year, and according to Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, left a lasting impression on him and other local citizens. "I want to encourage every-

one to attend," said McEwen. "I'm sure those that attended their first show will be there again. It was such a great show, and they have so much fun performing. For those that missed the show earlier in the year, this is an excellent chance to get in on the fun." Vocal Trash has been compared to such successful spe-


Event schedule

All activities are at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum and free to the public


- **Howard College Mini Cheer Camp** — Registration begins at 8 a.m. with camp from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- **Battle of the Cheerleaders** — 5:30 p.m.
- **Community Pep Rally** — 6:30 p.m.
- **Vocal Trash** — 7:30 p.m.



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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B
Friday, September 14, 2007

IN BRIEF

Howard College cheer camp set

Howard College is holding a mini-cheer camp Saturday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The camp is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with registration starting at 8 a.m. Cost is \$25.

Campers need to bring a lunch, water bottle and tennis shoes and will get a chance to meet the Howard College cheerleaders.

All registered participants will perform in the Battle of the Cheerleaders at 5:30 p.m.

HC schedules Battle of the Cheerleaders

Howard College is the place to be Saturday.

The Battle of the Cheerleaders will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

All area high schools have been invited to compete.

There will be both cheer and dance competitions.

Top cheer, dance and mascot awards will be presented.

Admission is free for the public, who is invited to stick around after the Battle for a community pep rally.

All area schools and communities are invited to participate. Each school will be given the opportunity to recognize their student athletes.

Disc golf tourney set for Sept. 30

The 15th Ever DiscOver Big Spring Disc Golf Tournament has been set for Sept. 30 at Birdwell Park.

Registration is from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. before the tournament. It is limited to the first 90 players and two rounds of 18 holes will be played.

Fees vary from \$15 to \$45 depending on division.

Contact Greg Brooks at (432) 528-5076 or e-mail him at gbrooks@apex2000.net for more information.

Area high school sports calendar

Here's a look at this week's area high school varsity sports calendar:

TODAY

Big Spring football vs. Hereford, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football vs. Forsan, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football vs. Ballinger, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Garden City football vs. Midland Trinity, 7:30 p.m.

Grady football at New Home, 7:30 p.m.

Sands football at Westbrook, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Big Spring volleyball vs. Lubbock High and Greenwood in Greenwood, 11 a.m.

Big Spring cross country at W.T. Micro-Graphics meet in Lubbock.

Big Spring tennis vs. Plainview, 10 a.m.

Big Spring tennis adapting to changes

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

In the game of tennis, a player must adapt to his or her surroundings and an opponent's style of play. However, when the game becomes team tennis, that player must also adapt to his or her teammates.

That's exactly what Big Spring's team tennis team has had to do this season.

"We have had to make various changes due to injuries and a few new additions to the team," said Head Coach Peter Lara. "I am very proud of the athletes

because they have worked very hard and are preparing themselves well for district."

The Steers play their first district match at 10 a.m. Saturday, hosting Plainview's Bulldogs at the Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

"Our motto for the season is 'Winners get up and losers give up,'" Lara said. "We've done well by overcoming injuries and adapting to the new faces on the team."

The Steers enter the match against Plainview with a 2-1 season record. However, they're coming off their first loss, falling

to Midland High 23 matches to one. Keely Parnell won Big Spring's lone match, defeating Emily Behrmann — 2-6, 6-4, 10-6.

However, several Steers put up strong performances in Midland, including Jeremy Langford, who lost to Colby Hinsley — 6-7, 6-1, 17-15. Ainhem Nghiem came within a set of giving Big Spring another match, falling short to Robert Gates — 4-6, 6-2, 10-4. Jonathan Womack took his opponent into three sets, but lost to Alex Matthey — 6-4, 4-6, 10-4.

The Steers did, however, win their first two matches of the season, defeating Snyder 10-9 on

Sept. 4 and Andrews 12-7 last Saturday.

Highlights from the Snyder match include a victory — 6-2, 6-3 — for Langford. Langford also won his doubles match with partner Jeremy Landin — 6-4, 3-6, 10-8. Nghiem contributed a win — 6-4, 3-6, 10-8 — over Snyder's Cody Lee. Ryan Gonzalez defeated David Strayhorn — 6-3, 6-4 — giving Big Spring a fourth match over Snyder.

The girls also performed well in Snyder with Parnell claiming a win — 3-6, 6-0, 10-8 — over the

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Steers Spotlight: Defensive end Matt Casteneda

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Facing a football team that relies heavily on the passing game is a great matchup for a defensive lineman. Generally, it means that the lineman can forget about their gap responsibilities and do whatever they can to get to the quarterback.

That's the situation that the Big Spring Steers' defensive front four get to experience at 7:30 p.m. tonight against Hereford's Whitefaces. Leading the Big Spring pass rush is senior defensive end Matt Casteneda.

Casteneda is a 3-year letterman and a 2-year starter at the end position. This season he's also seen a lot of time at offensive tackle and starts at that position tonight.

"I had been splitting time with Cade (Hollandsworth) at the tackle spot, but he's going to have other responsibilities in this game," said Casteneda.

However, as important as his role in the blocking game is tonight, it's on the defensive side of the ball that gives him his best chance to stand out, according to Head Coach Mike Ritchey.

"We feel like Matt can potentially have a big game against Hereford," Ritchey said. "We really need him to have a big game with the way we have game planned this week. We want him to look to meet that Hereford quarterback head to head every play."

Casteneda understands his defensive responsibilities.

"My job this week is to kill the backfield. I'm going to be giving 100 percent to get into their backfield on every play," he

explained. "I'm really looking forward to this game. I want to get back at these guys because of what happened last year in the playoffs."

Casteneda was one of three Steers elected team captain by their teammates. Ritchey claims it is Casteneda's poise, among other qualities, that makes him a great team leader.

"Matt was voted as a captain by the team. He brings a lot of leadership and experience," Ritchey said. "He brings great poise for the younger athletes and leads by example. He's a fine athlete, person and student and brings great qualities as a team leader."

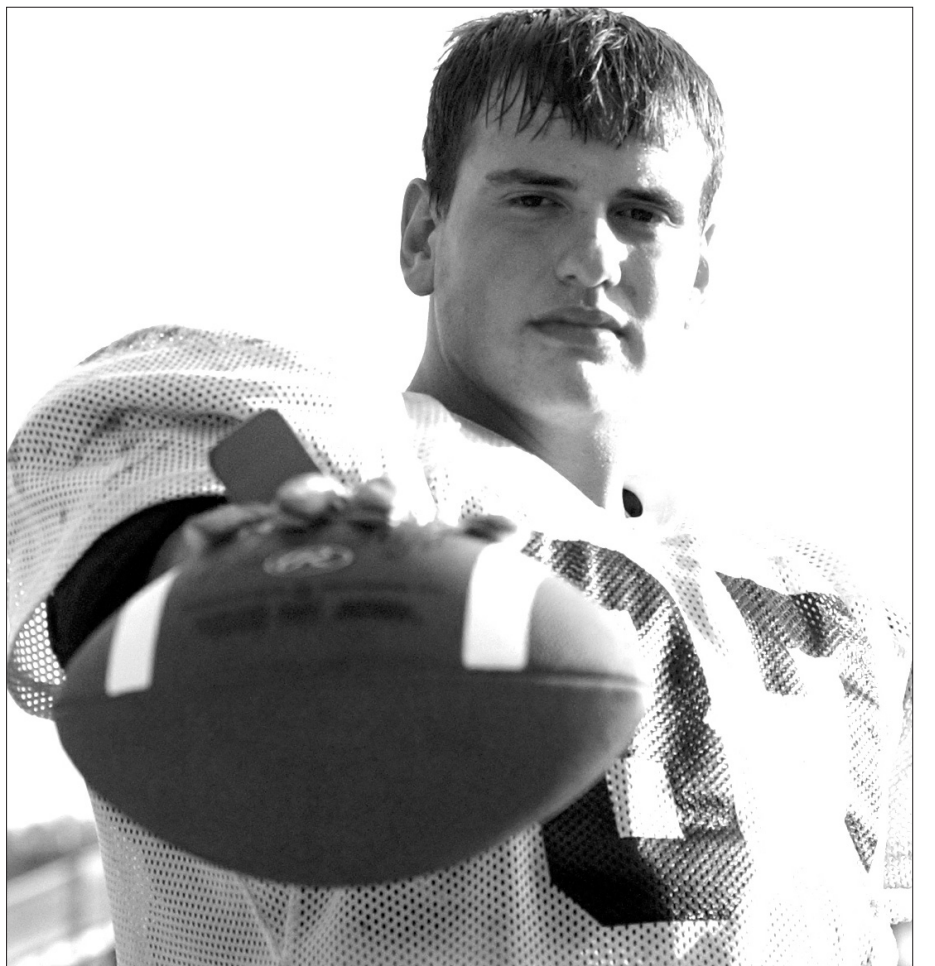
It's a responsibility that Casteneda doesn't take for granted. He notes that younger players will be looking to him for leadership.

"The team expects me to step up and be a leader," Casteneda said. "I have to set a good example about how things should be done. It's important that we stay focused on the game and if we aren't, then it's my job to help us refocus."

Casteneda also feels that the several scheme changes made this season takes better advantage of the team's strengths.

"Every couple of years we've had a new coach. I think that having the same guys on the coaching staff for some time will help this team," Casteneda said. "We're a very good team and have a lot of speed. Last year we were based off of power, but this season's scheme is better for us. We're pretty fast. We're a better speed team than anything."

He was a member of last season's playoff team that suffered the tough 31-24 overtime loss to the Whitefaces, ending the



Herald photo/Jonathan Hull
Big Spring Steers' defensive end Matt Casteneda figures to play a vital role in the Steers' game against Hereford's Whitefaces at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Memorial Stadium.

Steers' season. The game remains fresh in his mind and he says it definitely plays a factor in motivating him.

"It's in everybody's mind right now," Casteneda said. "We remember what happened. We should've gone on in the playoffs, not them. We're all pretty pumped for this game."

"That loss still boils my blood today," he continued. "The refs didn't call an obvious pass interference call in the end zone on

the last play of the game. We should've won. It dwells with me. I think that if we fly to the ball and use our quickness like we do in practice then we can beat Hereford this year. We've got more talent and we want the win."

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Romo, Witten share connection on and off the field

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Tony Romo and Jason Witten have taken different paths to being Pro Bowl players for the Dallas Cowboys.

Witten was an All-SEC tight end from Tennessee who became a rookie starter in 2003, when Romo was still the unknown rookie quarterback from a lower-division school.

Now Romo, the dimple-faced single guy, has the celebrity status as quarterback of America's Team and is also a fixture in gossip columns. Witten is the popular yet down-home player with a wife and a young son.

But together on the field, the fifth-year players are quite a tandem. Romo and Witten seem to always know what the other is doing and have already shown in the only game this season what a catalyst they can be for a potentially explosive offense.

"I doubt if I'll ever be as close to a teammate again in my career for sure," Romo said. "It's a special relationship where I feel like I know where he's going to be on the field. I feel like we've practiced and done it a million times, we've talked about it a million times."

Witten had five of his six catches in the first half of the season opener — all gains of at least 10 yards in third down situations,



MCT photo/Ron Jenkins/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
The New York Giants' Barry Cofield (96) chases the Dallas Cowboys' Tony Romo (9) out of the pocket as the Giants faced the Cowboys Sunday in Irving. Romo threw four touchdown passes and ran for another in the Cowboys' 45-35 win.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B

Obituaries

Emily Whetsel



Emily Whetsel, 90, of Forsan died on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2007, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Derrick Looney, pastor of First Baptist Church of Forsan, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born on July 16, 1917, in Grand Cane, La., and married Lee Doyle Whetsel Sr. on July 31, 1949 in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Jan. 5, 1993.

Mrs. Whetsel had been a registered nurse since 1938. She came to Big Spring in 1947 from Shreveport, La., and worked for Dr. Virgil Sanders. She later taught the nurses aide certification course at Howard College for a number of years.

She was a member of Forsan Baptist Church. Emily was active in singing at various churches, nursing homes and in prison ministry.

Survivors include one daughter, Jackie Whetsel of Forsan; two sons, Lee Doyle Whetsel Jr. of Allen and Marty Whetsel and wife, Donna, of Forsan; one daughter-in-law, Sharon Whetsel of Big Spring; five grandchildren, Terry Whetsel and wife, Twila, of Big Spring, Christie Sanders of Princeton, Daniel Whetsel and wife, Christina, of San Angelo, Nancy Davis and husband, Dusty, of Mason and Stephanie Pitchford and husband, Matt, of Big Spring; eight great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews, including Doylene (Little) Raney of Round Rock and Dutchess (Whetsel) Klien of Midland.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Sonny Whetsel; her parents; four brothers; and three sisters.

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

Paid obituary

Bobby Silva



Bobby Silva, 35, of Big Spring, formerly of Colorado City, died Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2007, in Big Spring. Vigil services will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, 2007, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Bobby was born Aug. 30, 1972, in Colorado City and lived most of his life in Mitchell County. He was a Catholic and a cattle rancher. Bobby was a loving brother and uncle. He loved making friends and family laugh and smile.

Bobby is survived by his mother, Manuela Rivas of Big Spring; four sisters, Rosemary Silva, Teresa Silva and Carol Nava and her husband, Ray, all of Big Spring, and Anna Silva and Julio Gomez of Stanton; three brothers, Roy Gomez and his wife, Raye Anne, Richard Gomez and his wife, Linda, and Gilbert Silva, all of Big Spring; and several nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Bobby was preceded in death by his father, Tommy Castillo, and grandparents, Celestino and Antonia Silva, who raised Bobby.

Pallbearers will be Brad Willis, Lucas Lopez, Artie Rivera, Kyle Highfield, David Escovedo and Cade Proctor. Honorary pallbearers will be Jeremiah Woods, Bo Proctor, Tom Cruz, Dane Powell, Jason Stone, Clay Atkinson, Bunky Atkinson and Gilbert Sanchez.

The family will be at 906 Baylor. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid obituary

Dorothy Griffice



Dorothy Griffice, 82, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2007, at Odessa Regional Hospital in Odessa. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, 2007, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Randy Cotton, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born May 10, 1925, in Comanche County. She had been a resident of Howard County since 1950 and had been an Avon distributor for more than 50 years. She was a Baptist and was active in the Senior Circle and the Senior Citizens Center.

She is survived by one daughter, Linda Summersell of Big Spring; one stepdaughter, Dewey Ann Marler and her husband, John, of Yuba City, Calif.; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Kathleen and Willis Sturdivant; her husband, Grover C. Griffice; and two brothers, Gerald and Bill Sturdivant. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Police blotter

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

- **SHARON ANN KOO**, 40, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JOSE MANUEL JIMENEZ**, 32, of 301 W. 10th Street, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving while license suspended and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **TONY DUARTE**, 38, address not provided, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct.
- **TERRY PARTLOW**, 39, of 1501 Lexington, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **JASON PAUL BOLT**, 25, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd., was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **DAVID DANIEL MURPHY**, 19, of 601 E. 16th Street, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JOSE MANUEL BUSTAMANTE**, 34, of 416 Westover Road, was arrested Friday on two local capias warrants and a local warrant.
- **CYNTHIA ANNE RANGEL**, 23, of 1309 Princeton, was arrested Friday on charges of driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana.
- **POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 500 block of Galveston.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 400 block of Fifth Street.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 4100 block of Muir.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 64 inmates at the time of this report.
- **LISA YBARRA**, 38, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for failure to identify as a fugitive from justice - giving false information.
 - **BRIANNA GRAHAM**, 27, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation.
 - **JOHNNY RAY JIMENEZ**, 34, was arrested Thursday by DPS on a charge of disobedience of a court order - contempt of court.
 - **JOEL FELIPE POLA RODRIQUEZ**, 31, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear.
 - **FELICIA ALDRIDGE**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance (two counts).
 - **AUGUSTINE OROZCO ESTRADA**, 29, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear.
 - **ROSENDO FRANCO**, 24, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence.
 - **RICHARD NORMAN RAMIREZ**, 42, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and possession of a controlled substance.
 - **RAY CALDERON**, 25, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of bondsman off bond for evading arrest or detention and bondsman off bond for driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1100 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of W. Eighth Street. Service refused.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Dance to the Prowlers at the Big Spring Senior Center. Music begins at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. East winds around 10 Mph.
 Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
 Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. South winds Around 10 mph.
 Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. South winds around 10 mph in the morning becoming light and variable.
 Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.
 Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.
 Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.
 Tuesday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 9-15-16-19-30.
 Number matching five of five: none.
 ...
 AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 6-11-21-28. Bonus Ball: 26.
 Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.
 ...
 AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-9-4.

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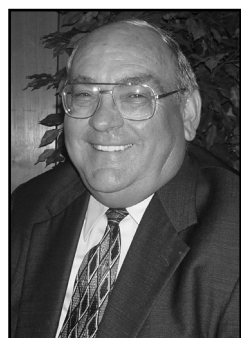
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Randy Cotton
 Pastor

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 Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
 over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service....6:00 p.m.
 on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Air Force upsets TCU in OT A's hold off Rangers' rally, win 6-5

By ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Sports Writer

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — TCU coach Gary Patterson knew the option was coming Thursday night, just not on fourth-and-1 from the Air Force 29.

Jim Ollis took Shaun Carney's pitch and rambled 71 yards down the Falcons' sideline to tie it in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter and Ryan Harrison's 33-yard field goal in overtime sent Air Force past the stunned Horned Frogs 20-17.

Harrison's game-winner on second down, which kept the Falcons unbeaten under new coach Troy Calhoun, followed a miss by TCU kicker Chris Manfredini, whose 36-yard attempt hit the left upright on the first possession of overtime.

The senior has missed just six times in his career and two of them were on this night.

The Falcons (3-0, 2-0 Mountain West), who overcame a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit, were swarmed on the field by thousands of cadets who hadn't had this much to celebrate in a long, long time.

The Frogs (1-2, 0-1), still smarting from their 34-13 loss at Texas on Saturday and their subsequent ejection from the Top 25, were well within Manfredini's range with the wind at his back going toward the south end zone in the final minute of regulation.

Instead of playing the percentages, they went for the touchdown on first-and-10 from the 22 only to see cornerback Carson Bird snare Andy Dalton's underthrown pass to Jimmy Young in the end zone with 49 seconds left.

"I was surprised he threw the ball," Bird said.

"I was surprised by the throws he made all game long and the decisions he made."

Although Calhoun said he liked the gutsy call and insisted "we would have done the exact same thing," Patterson blamed the curious call on his offensive coordinator, Mike Schultz.

"We shouldn't have went to the end zone," Patterson fumed after falling to 9-1 against the service academies. "We should have run the football. Why we threw the football, I don't know. I don't call that side of the ball. We made a mistake."

After saying all week that he expected the Falcons to run the option as much as they did during Fisher DeBerry's 23 years at the academy, Patterson had his defense pack the interior on fourth-and-1, never anticipating the option at that time.

"I got a little antsy looking at our play call," Ollis said. "Because I knew if we could get the play off, get it out and get the pitch, get them outflanked, that we'd have a chance."

Calhoun, the first Air Force coach to start 3-0 since Buck Shaw in 1956, figured the Horned Frogs wouldn't know what was coming because the Falcons had shown a tendency to run up the gut on third- or fourth-and-short, either with the tailback or fullback.

"Again, they're extraordinarily well-prepared and were packed down in there, so we had a chance to get the ball to the perimeter," Calhoun said. "And once we did, we're in pretty decent shape. We had it sealed off. Chad Hall got enough of the safety and Ryan Williams got just enough of the corner."

"And Jimmy showed a little bit of speed there,

too." Patterson, who wouldn't allow any of his players to speak with reporters after the game, said simply, "They had a good play called. We were in a defense to stop fourth-and-1 and they got to the edge and we couldn't catch them."

Despite two turnovers in the red zone, two missed field goals, six penalties, including three false starts by lineman Nic Richmond, the Frogs led 17-3 in the fourth quarter after Andy Dalton hit Walter Bryant for an 11-yard score with 13 minutes remaining.

Carney responded by hitting Travis Dekker for 50 yards, setting up a 9-yard touchdown strike to Keith Madsen and then came the 71-yard run by Ollis with 5:55 left.

Ollis finished with 138 yards on 16 carries, the second straight tailback to gain 100 yards on TCU, which had gone 19 games without allowing a 100-yard rusher until their trip to Austin last weekend.

"We finally showed up," Carney said. "I thought the offense played terrible. TCU's defense is outstanding. There's no secret about that. There's a reason they were No. 3 in the country last year. They have amazing players. Coach talks about a bunch of them going to the NFL. (But) we just weren't playing well."

"Finally we just said, hey we've got about 13 minutes left in the fourth quarter, we've got to do something and we started throwing the ball a little bit and starting making plays."

And TCU continued to make mistakes and at least one curious call.

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND — The Oakland Athletics wanted to do whatever they could to get Chad Gaudin back in the win column after a rough outing last time against Texas.

Nick Swisher hit a two-run homer, Jack Cust doubled in two runs and the A's withstood the Rangers' late rally for a 6-5 victory Thursday night.

Gaudin (11-11) struck out eight in six innings to end a three-start winless stretch in which he was 0-2, leaving the game with a 6-1 lead.

"That was big for Chad to go out there and have a great start," Swisher said.

Cust gave the A's a 2-0 lead in the first. Swisher hit his 20th home run, a shot to left-center in the third inning, after Daric Barton's leadoff double. Jack Hannahan added an RBI double and Marco Scutaro had a sacrifice fly in the fifth to give Oakland, which ended a three-game losing streak to the Rangers, a 6-0 lead.

Michael Young had three hits, including a two-run double in the Rangers' four-run seventh that pulled them within 6-5 in the opener of a four-game series between the bottom two clubs in the AL West.

"No one wants to finish last," Swisher said.

Young's two-out single in the third extended his career-best hitting streak to 13 games — the longest this year by a Ranger — but Texas saw the end of its three-game winning streak in the season series. The Rangers swept a series in Texas last weekend.

"We were close, real close," Texas outfielder Marlon Byrd said. "We kept fighting, kept battling and have a chance to win this series. We're going to. We're coming out and going to win this

series and finish up strong like we've been playing all year."

Gaudin, facing the Rangers for the second straight start, bounced back from allowing a season high-tying 10 hits Saturday in 3 2-3 innings — which matched his shortest outing of the year.

This time, he faced baserunners in every inning but was able to limit the damage after Jason Botts' leadoff single in the second.

"I felt positive toward the outing," he said. "I felt I was in control. I made some good pitches when I needed to and attacked the zone. I was not working under pressure, just laboring a little bit."

Frank Catalanotto hit a two-run single in the seventh off Santiago Casilla, who relieved Gaudin after he allowed two hits to start the inning.

Ruddy Lugo pitched two scoreless innings and Huston Street finished for his 15th save in 19 opportunities.

"Hey, if you want to be prime time, you want to be in the tight situations," Lugo said.

Kevin Millwood (9-12), still looking for his second straight 10-win season, allowed six runs and eight hits in 4 2-3 innings four days after he left Sunday's start against the A's having only allowed four hits because of a sec-

ond rain delay.

"I just didn't throw good pitches," he said.

Millwood is winless in his last three starts.

"They just jumped on him quick early," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "They got to him in the first, got to him in the third, got to him in the fifth. He got his pitch count up."

This series marks the final return of the season for Washington, the Rangers' first-year skipper who was beloved as a third-base coach in his 11 years with Oakland.

"Wash, we still love you!" one woman hollered from above the Rangers' dugout.

The A's improved to 72-76 and are determined to finish with a winning record for the ninth straight year. Only the New York Yankees (15) and Boston (10) have longer runs with above-.500 records.

The Rangers had scored 24 runs during their three-game winning streak over Oakland.

Notes: Gaudin has allowed 14 homers over his last 11 starts. ... Young is batting .556 (10-for-18) with a home run lifetime against Gaudin. ... Slugger Sammy Sosa was slated to start Friday night for Texas. ... Mark Ellis stole his ninth base in the third. ... David Murphy made the first of three scheduled starts in CF for the Rangers.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

one a 12-yard TD on third-and-11. The only catch that didn't get a first down set up Marion Barber's 18-yard TD on fourth-and-1.

Even with 1,000-yard receiver Terry Glenn sidelined by a knee injury, the Cowboys rolled up 478 yards in their season-opening 45-35 victory Sunday night over the New York Giants.

It was the most points in an opener for Dallas since 1971, which was a Super Bowl-winning team.

While Witten's only catch after halftime was a TD drive-starting 38-yard gain, the tight end had extra attention from defenders. That helped free Terrell Owens, who had two TDs in his three catches after being shut

out in the first half, Patrick Crayton and Sam Hurd (51-yard TD).

"Wit had a big first half. In the second half, I got involved, Patrick (Crayton) got involved, Sam got a deep ball," Owens said Wednesday. "Witten being wide open a couple of times ... he's going to work that middle like no other. He's a guy that knows how to run routes and get himself open."

It was Witten's first 100-yard receiving game (116) since 2004, the first of his three consecutive Pro Bowl appearances — and when Romo, the undrafted rookie from Division I-AA Eastern Illinois, was still relegated to throwing passes in practice and only got in games to hold on kicks.

Romo didn't throw a pass until last October, a week before he replaced Drew Bledsoe at halftime in a Monday night home

game against the Giants and threw for 227 yards with two touchdowns and three interceptions.

After that, Romo started the final 10 games, plus the playoff loss at Seattle, and was named to the NFC Pro Bowl team.

Established as the starter, Romo heard a lot of friendly chatter from teammates during the off-season.

"Jason, T.O., Terry, Marion (Barber), Julius (Jones), they all want the ball. You've got to get everybody their presents," Romo said. "That's part of being in the position."

Romo is doing his part to spread things around — four different receivers had at least 50 yards in the opener.

Still, those passes over the middle to Witten were big.

"He's phenomenal, I wouldn't trade him for any tight end in the

league, believe me," Romo said.

"One of the things that I've talked about during the offseason (with coaches) was really being involved on third down and keep the chains moving," Witten said. "That's something you take pride in as a tight end."

With Owens on the outside with Crayton or Hurd while waiting to see if Glenn will be able to return, the tight end knows it's his job to "work underneath." But there also plays in new coordinator Jason Garrett's offense when Witten is able to line up in a slot and get away from primary blocking.

"We knew there were some guys that had to step up when Terry Glenn went down," Witten said. "For us, it starts with Terrell and me making plays and being able to step up."

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• **COAHOMA LIONS CLUB WILL HOLD A PANCAKE SUPPER** from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. today in the elementary cafeteria. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 or in advance at Lil Sooper or from a club member for \$4. Children under 6 can eat free. Supper includes a drink, sausage, bacon and pancakes.

• **ANGEL FOOD ORDERS** will be taken from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. today and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at North Birdwell Lane United Methodist church, 2702 North Birdwell Lane. Call 267-2203 or 267-4082 for more information.

• **AMERICAN LEGION POST 506 WILL HOLD A FISH FRY** Saturday at 3203 W. Highway 80. Plates are \$8 each. Delivery is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Serving will be held from noon until 3 p.m.

• **A CHLIDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASS** will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, at the OB Classroom at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The instructor will be Laurie Burks, RN. Snacks and lunch will be provided. To register, call (432) 268-4550.

• **AN INFANT CPR PROGRAM, TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND EXPECTANT PARENTS,** will be held from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, Sept. 22, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place. The training will be held in Room 215 on the second floor. There will be no charge to

parents who deliver at SMMC. For all others, there is a \$10 fee. For more information or to register, call Doris Bergerson at 268-4820.

• **THE ACKERLY LUNCH BUNCH** will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the 14th and Main Church of Christ fellowship room in Big Spring. A barbecue lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$11 a plate and includes dessert and a drink. RSVP by calling (432) 213-4452.

• **A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED** for David English of Snyder, who was recently injured on the job in Big Spring and is in critical condition at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. Donations can be made at American State Bank, 1411, S. Gregg St., Big Spring.

• **THE PUBLIC IS BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A PHOTO** of bluebonnets, with proceeds going toward the Boyce Hale Scholarship — a \$500 scholarship presented to a Forsan High School senior. For more information, contact Jimmy Anderson at 264-2546 or go by Professional Pharmacy at 1000 Main St.

• **ST. MARY'S AND FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S ARE HOLDING A LAP BLANKET DRIVE** to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BSJH

Continued from Page 1A

Consultants to conduct further studies of the area and suggest solutions.

The results were encouraging, Downes added.

For starters, the survey reinforced earlier beliefs as to the cause of the problems.

"... it would therefore appear that the problems associated with these parts of the foundation could in large measure be attributed to settlement both of the upper construction fill used on site, as well as settlement of the deeper landfill material previously undetected in the original construction," the report concluded.

"The good news," Downes said, "is that there's no new force or action — such as substructure moisture — causing the building to settle."

The solution to the more recent settling will be much the same as original efforts — pumping concrete grouting under the building to "prop up" the foundation.

When that work begins depends in large part on the building itself, Downes said.

Officials hope to put off further work until after the current school year ends to avoid disruption of classwork.

"The settlement has been slow to date and poses no immediate concern to the foundation of the building," engineering consultant Steven Frase wrote to the district. "If the current pattern continues, it may be possible to postpone the grouting process until the summer of 2008."

Frase cautioned the district, however, to closely monitor the situation. Downes said that, if the situation warrants, the district will begin work as soon as necessary.

Downes said it is uncertain how much the project will cost at this time.

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

The report, which covered the 2005-2006 school year, showed the district receiving ratings of "superior" in 21 financial indicators, Business Manager Sandra Waggoner said. "Basically, this is saying that the district is

taking care of its financial business," Waggoner said.

The report covered all aspects of the district's financial health, ranging from audits to reserve funds to bond indebtedness to per-pupil expenditures.

Superintendent Michael Downes saluted Waggoner and her colleagues in the business

office. "This kind of thing doesn't happen by accident," he said. "It takes a lot of effort, and the business office personnel should be congratulated for their efforts."

In other business, trustees approved:

• The resignation of high school special education instructor Paula Hunt and the hiring of

Sandra Gainey as Hunt's replacement.

• Approved five early release days for the 2007-2008 school year. Those will occur on the last two days of each semester and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

• Named School Board President Allan Partee as the district's representative to the Howard County Teen Court Board

of Directors.

• Approved extending the lease agreement with Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin to use the Lakeview building to house the local Head Start program.

• Approved the Howard County Tax Collection budget for the current fiscal year.

Contact Staff Writer

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Wynelle Hale, 80, died Friday. Memorial Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church. The family will receive friends from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Bobby Silva, 35, died Wednesday. Vigil Services will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Dorothy Griffice, 82, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1A

cialty acts as legendary acapella group Nylons, and Stomp, a popular drum act of which the members are known to play everything from trash cans to kitchen sinks.

According to creator and group leader Steve Linder, the group set out to combine the two genres

into a show the whole family could enjoy.

"We wanted to come up with something completely different from the norm," said Linder, one half of the longtime musical production team of Linder and Brock. "Everyone has a band, but nobody's doing this."

While Vocal Trash will headline the evening's events, the other two events will certainly give area residents something to cheer about.

The Battle of the Cheerleaders is expected to get under way at 5:30 p.m., with the community pep rally set to take off at immediately following, approximately 6:30 p.m.

"All area schools are invited to take part in the Battle of the Cheerleaders and the community pep rally," said Debbie Wegman, director of the Big Spring CVB. "The cheer competition will feature cheer and dance, with awards presented to

the top competitors in cheer, dance and mascot.

"During the pep rally, each school will be given an opportunity to recognize its athletes, students and cheerleaders. A spirit stick award will be given, and we want everyone to be loud, proud and show their stuff. There will also be a chance to meet the Howard College Hawks athletes and cheerleaders for this school year."

Vocal Trash is expected to take the stage following

the pep rally, approximately 7:30 p.m.

Admission to the show is free. For more information, contact the CVB at 263-8235.

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

CABOOSE

Continued from Page 3A

Railroad Plaza area of downtown Big Spring, in the caboose and boxcar, respectively. Hence the name, the Caboose Watercolor Society. The women wanted to promote the watercolor medium and desired a change from a structured art organization that required dues, monthly meets and required shows.

"At that time, oil was still king," explained Smith. "Now, watercolor is the most popular medium in the world."

The original group included Betty Conley and Judy Gibbs, both now deceased, and Becky Smiley, who left Big Spring. Current members are Smith, Rupard and Berry, who now resides

in Atlanta, Texas, local residents Sue Bagwell and Estelle Howard, and Colorado City resident Leada Wood. They are all professional artists.

"We've always had an excellent turnout at our shows. Private sales remain strong, and we teach, too," said Smith. "We try to have a show

annually. They are not juried shows. We hold them to help make people aware of the medium. We meet whenever we get around to it."

The Caboose Watercolor Society has held shows in various West Texas communities.

The group will hold another show opening in

November called "Dear Santa," that will feature paintings of Santa Claus, said Smith.

Saturday's reception is free to the public.

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1506 KIOWA. Sat 9-4. No early birds please! Big, big multi-family garage sale! Wicker furniture, kitchen items, cool decor, books, plus much more.

1510 RUNNELS Sat 8-12. DVD's, exercise bike and weight machine, rugs, lots of knick knacks & miscellaneous.

2303 GRACE. Three Family Sale. Saturday. Couches, desk with glass top, deco., nice kid and adult clothes and more. House for Sale (FISD).

2411 MAIN, Saturday 8-? T.V.'s, baby items, tools, home interior, dishes, bass guitar, clothes, fishing reel, misc.

3 FAMILY Garage Sale! Sat only 8-?. 2404 Allendale clothing (all sizes), TV's, toys, housewares, deco., misc. & much more.

3 FAMILY/LARGE Yard Sale: 5509 Longshore, Friday & Saturday 7-? Too much to list.

4 FAMILY Backyard Sale: 3912 Hamilton, Saturday 8-? Kids school clothes, lots of misc. items. Come see.

5612 MIDWAY Rd. First time garage sale. Friday 8-2, Saturday 8-12. Couch & matching loveseat, waterbed, wedding dress size 10, toys, household items. Too much too list!

BENEFIT YARD/BAKE Sale: For Tony Saldivar. Kidney transplant surgery. Saturday 8am-5pm. 2204 Warren. Lots of everything. Tamales, Burritos and baked goods.

CARPORT SALE: 1802 Benton, Saturday 8-? Too much to list. Don't miss this One.

GARAGE SALE 2604 Apache. Large ladies clothes, purses, mens & boys clothes, dishes, crystal & silver serving dishes. Friday & Saturday 7 am to ?

GARAGE SALE, 601 Edwards Saturday 7:30am- 3:00pm & Sunday 12:30pm- 3:00pm. Custom made drapery, clothing, lots of miscellaneous.

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MULTI. FAMILY Garage Sale: 3237 Duke, Friday & Saturday 8-? Baby items, DVD player and lots more.

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Help Wanted

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- The Big Spring Model Airplane Association on another successful Float and Fly at Comanche Trail Park Lake.

- Hangar 25 Air Museum for sponsoring Memorial at the Mall, a ceremony honoring those who have lost their lives to the war on terror. Our hearts go out to the families of each of them.

- H-E-B, for its annual celebration of local heroes for feeding the firefighters on Tuesday, Sept. 11. We should never forget what happened on that date in 2001, or the day to day assurance these men and women give us.

- The Senior Center and those who have worked hard to "keep on dancin'." We hope their dance floor issues will soon be resolved. In the meantime, in case you didn't know, the Center is continuing to have dances at 7:30 p.m. Fridays in a different room.

- Rachael Wheeler, named homecoming queen at Forsan High School, and to Teryn Bibb, Chelsea Gonzales, Krista Kerby, Christie Rich and Reagan Rupard, homecoming queen nominees at Coahoma High School. Good luck, young ladies!

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

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*A strong sense of heavenly direction gives us the results we need, Lord.
Amen*

The high cost of vengeful war

As the sixth anniversary of 9/11 approaches, President George W. Bush's media picture of Iraq grows increasingly unreal. In truth, Iraq is devolving into a series of Potemkin villages, quiet now, with military-age men receiving training, arms, and money from the United States in a "marriage of temporary interests."

Every Iraqi knows that eventually U.S. and coalition troops will leave. That's why 100,000 Iraqis a month continue to flee. They expect that once U.S. forces and their monetary handouts are gone, the old tribal loyalties and sectarianisms will reassert themselves.

That's the present and future reality. It's the legacy from the 2001 destruction of the World Trade Center towers and one wing of the Pentagon when hijackers flew three civilian airliners into the structures and a fourth crashed in Pennsylvania when passengers tried to regain control.

The death toll that 9/11 — (minus the 19 hijackers) — was 2,973. Ironically, in the subsequent retributive "war on terror" in Afghanistan and Iraq, undertaken to punish those responsible and their supporters, the number of U.S. military personnel killed passed that total on September 3, 2006, just days short of the fifth anniversary of the attack: 329 in Afghanistan, 2,645 in Iraq.

One year later, U.S. losses in Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) are 438, including 81 in the first eight months of 2007. Projecting current trend lines, it

is likely that at year's end the count will easily surpass 100, making 2007 the bloodiest year of this war. As for the Afghan people, their losses over the last six years remain largely unrecorded. However, drawing on recent U.N. and confidential Afghan Interior Ministry reports, one source estimated 1,400 Afghan civilians were killed in war-related violence in the first 8 months of 2007.

The very real possibility looms that the burden of blood and treasure lost will increase disproportionately for the United States over the next year. Key NATO allies in the Afghan war are becoming disenchanted by the growing losses in a conflict that has no horizon or hint of "success" against a resilient Taliban insurgency. The disenchantment is reflected in public opinion polls such as the late July/early August on-line poll of 5,075 adults in Britain, Canada, France, Germany and Italy. Between 49 percent and 69 percent in each country thought the war effort in Afghanistan a failure.

In Iraq, the future is even grimmer. United States losses through August 31 stand at 3,741 while allied forces have suffered 297 fatalities. In August, at least 1,773 Iraqi civilians and 76 Iraqi security personnel were killed. Since January 2005, based on U.N. estimates and Iraqi government statistics where available, a minimum 76,180 Iraqis died in the warfare that has engulfed their country. (These fatalities are in addition to the estimated 655,000 "excess" (above expected mortality) deaths indirectly associated with the fighting — the "Lancet" studies.)

With so much carnage, the question arises — many have voiced it already — whether the Bush

administration has become so inured to war that it cannot envision functioning in the absence of armed conflict. Indeed, it seems as though the Bush White House is caught in a self-created, cosmic-level circular logic. No matter how much effort it exerts, the administration cannot break free of the political and military conditions it created in Iraq, nor regain enough sway over events to direct what transpires there. Like a spacecraft in a declining orbit, U.S. influence can only decay over the next 16 months as central authority continues to disintegrate — possibly even leading to de facto partition of the country into sectarian and ethnic enclaves. Even where neighborhoods or towns appear pacified today, it is more likely because they have been "cleansed" of minority populations.

Reported "body counts" in the Bush wars exceed 82,300 men, women and children — plus civilian and combatant deaths in Afghanistan before 2007 and in Iraq before 2005 when such information was not collected and recorded.

That amounts to 27 deaths in war for every person killed Sept. 11, 2001.

This certainly exceeds the "eye for an eye" prescription.

And therein is the highest cost of all. For long ago, retribution, always morally suspect, morphed into revenge — which is flat out immoral whether done by individual soldiers or by the nation-state.

Col. Daniel M. Smith (Ret.), a West Point graduate and Vietnam veteran, is the Senior Fellow for Military Affairs at the Friend Committee on National Legislation.

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ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

STATE GOVERNMENT

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

• **JOE HEFLIN**
State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (432) 213-2897 or (512) 463-0604

• **KEL SELIGER**
State Senator
Texas 31st District
401 Austin, Suite 101
Big Spring, 79720
Phone: (432) 268-9909

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

Russ McEwen, MAYOR —
Home: 263-0907; Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413.

GREG BIDDISON — Home: 267-6009; Work (Greg's Grill): 267-7121.

MANUEL RAMIREZ JR. — Home: 268-9692; Work (VAMC): 263-7361.

STEPHANIE HORTON — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-

7361..
JoAnn Staulcup — Home: 263-4980.

Gloria McDonald — Home: 263-4835. Work: 267-7121.

Troy Tompkins — Home: 267-8769. Work: 263-0180.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mark Barr, COUNTY JUDGE — Home and Office: (432) 517-0707.

Emma Brown — Home: 267-2649.

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

Bill Crooker — Home: 263-2566.

Gary Simer — Home: 263-0260.

Remembering the good old days

Cleveland got me thinking about campaigns past. Or perhaps it was just the music. The Coasters. The Drifters. The Four Seasons. The Four Tops.

The conference I was at had a reception at Cleveland's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Who could resist? Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis. The Big Bopper.

Toe tapping back through the '80s, '70s, '60s and beyond for some reason also reminded me of past campaigns I'd covered, more for their vintage than any hall of fame claim. I recalled linking up with Gary Hart's campaign in Cleveland in 1984, or was it '88? Surely I must have been through Cleveland with Ohioan John Glenn. Ronald Reagan. George Bush, the elder, of course. "W" is not yet eligible for hall of fame consideration.

After all, rock and rollers are not considered for induction into their hall until 25 years after the release of their first record. Chuck Berry, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Bessie Smith.

Some candidates or their surrogates turned out for last week's Labor Day parades in the small towns of South Carolina. In the good old days of politics, Labor Day was the campaign's opening act. Now it's deep into the elaborate orchestration.

Fred Thompson's formal

announcement this past week is either a throwback to more sensible times or a risky miscalculation. Too little, too late? Or as Walter Mondale asked of Gary Hart back in 1984, where's the beef?

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opened two years later. Ray Charles. Fats Domino. The Everly Brothers. Little Richard.

Twenty years later, rock and roll sounds a lot different. Trust me, I have a teenager. Twenty years later, politics looks a lot different. Mitt Romney. Rudy Giuliani. Barack Obama. Hillary Clinton.

The greatest differences may be the way the campaigns play out their protracted gigs.

Just as there are musicians who shine in recording studios and others who soar on tour, there are politicians who gleam in a well-cut campaign ad and others who stand out in a debate crowd. Retail politics is vanishing like old 45 rpm records.

The Internet is now a significant factor. Thompson announced his candidacy on Jay Leno's Tonight Show. Bill Clinton's campaign theme song was "Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow" by 1998 Hall of Fame inductee Fleetwood Mac.

Yet in some ways, it now becomes the same, a test of political skills and organization. If we're lucky with a hint of purpose. It's September and, by old standards at least, time to start sorting them out. We've already seen perhaps a dozen candidate debates. Joe Biden. Chris Dodd. Duncan Hunter. Mike Huckabee.

In less than four months, assuming the states come to terms with their bizarre "me first" jockeying for position on the calendar, we'll start primary voting. In 1984, Hart vaulted to the front with a strong showing in Iowa and a victory over Mondale in New Hampshire. The pair divided the Super Tuesday states, and Mondale eventually outspent and outlasted Hart. (Hart's self-destruction over a bit of monkey business came in 1988, but that's another story.)

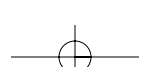
As lengthy as this campaign cycle has been, it promises to end in a frenzy. Iowa. New Hampshire. South Carolina. Super Duper Tuesday. The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Doors, The Grateful Dead all on one stage.

All reminiscence, however, has an element of delusion. It's not 1988. It's September of 2007, six years since 9/11, five years into a deadly and divisive war, nearly seven years into an increasingly unpopular administration. Iraq is not Vietnam. In fact, Iraq's long-term consequences could be more dramatic than Vietnam's.

Vietnam, despite all else, inspired some Hall of Fame performances. Jimi Hendrix' Star Spangled Banner at Woodstock.

The 2008 campaign is still waiting for a chart topper and a Hall of Fame candidate.

Charles Bierbauer followed the campaign beat for CNN through five presidential elections from 1984 to 2000. He is now dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies at the University of South Carolina.



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State briefs

Lawsuit targets youth commission's use of pepper spray

AUSTIN (AP) — Two advocacy groups on Thursday asked a court to stop the Texas Youth Commission from allowing the use of pepper spray to subdue unruly juvenile prisoners before other forms of restraint.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of three 15-year-old incarcerated youths with mental disabilities. One is a boy who has been sprayed three times and suffered skin burns for "self-injurious behavior," the lawsuit claims. The other two are a boy who has been sprayed and a girl who has been threatened with pepper spray.

TYC officials last month issued a directive allowing the use of pepper spray before other forceful restraints, arguing that it would reduce injuries to staff and inmates and lower workers' compensation claims.

U.S. sues Dallas County, sheriff over jail

DALLAS (AP) — Federal prosecutors allege in a lawsuit that inmates at the Dallas County Jail are at risk of harm because of unsafe jail conditions and a lack of proper health care.

The U.S. Attorney's Office asked the court to require Dallas County to take actions to correct deficiencies at the jail, among the largest complexes in the country. In a lawsuit filed Wednesday, the federal government contends Dallas County and Sheriff Lupe Valdez have known about problems at the jail for some time but have failed to address them adequately.

By failing to fix the inadequacies, the rights of the inmates were violated, the suit said.

A telephone message left Thursday afternoon for a sheriff's spokesman was not returned. A message left Thursday evening at the office of Dallas County Judge Jim Foster wasn't immediately returned.

Mexican truckers want to suspend pilot program in U.S., Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The private organization representing the majority of the country's freight haulers on Thursday demanded the government suspend a pilot cross-border trucking program because they said Mexican truckers are at a competitive disadvantage with their U.S. counterparts.

Tirso Martinez, president of the group known by its Spanish acronym Canacar, said the one-year pilot program is destined to fail because Mexico's Transportation Department hasn't resolved traffic bottlenecks for Mexican trucks trying to cross the U.S. border, and does not have the personnel to enforce a provision prohibiting U.S. truckers from carrying domestic Mexican cargo, among other issues.

Although Mexican cargo haulers have invested \$2.2 billion in their industry and created 54,000 new jobs in the past year, "the Mexican government has not negotiated the conditions that will permit freight haulers to compete on equal terms with its counterparts in the United States," Martinez told a news conference.

Humberto leaves thousands powerless in Texas, Louisiana

By JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press Writer

HIGH ISLAND — Some residents of Texas and Louisiana fired up generators to cut through the darkness after Hurricane Humberto sneaked up on the Gulf Coast, knocking out power to thousands and flooding streets before fizzling into a tropical depression.

Humberto, the first hurricane to hit the U.S. in two years, steadily lost its punch Thursday after sloshing ashore in Texas as a stronger storm than initially expected and then dragging across Louisiana. One death was blamed on the storm.

Early Friday, the remnants of Humberto took aim at Mississippi, where flood watches were in effect. Flood warnings were issued for portions of the Vermilion River in Louisiana.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry declared three southeastern counties disaster areas. At one point, about 118,000 customers lost electricity in Texas and Louisiana.

"We're pushing in generators, water and ice to affected areas, particularly those who have lost power," said Robert Black, Perry's spokesman.

"We're working with the private sector to get power restored as quickly as possible."

Forecasters didn't put out their first advisory on what became Humberto until almost midday Wednesday.

It strengthened from a tropical depression with



MCT Fort Worth Star-Telegram photo/Joyce Marshall

Firefighters try to pump water from a flooded underpass in Port Arthur Thursday, after Hurricane Humberto dumped rain on the area.

35-mph winds to a hurricane with 85-mph winds in just 18 hours, said senior hurricane specialist James Franklin at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Only three other storms have pulled off a similar feat, growing from depression to hurricane in 18 hours — Blanche in 1969, Harvey in 1981 and Alberto in 1982 — but all of them were out at sea at the time, not about to crash ashore like Humberto.

Humberto made landfall early Thursday less than 50 miles from where Hurricane Rita did in 2005, and areas of southwest Louisiana not fully recovered from Rita braced for flooding.

Along Port Arthur's refinery row, three crude

oil and liquid hydrocarbons plants were idled until power was restored. Some could be off-line for several days, even after power is restored, because they must undergo the full restart process.

Before it lost strength, Humberto hit the tiny Texas town of High Island, population 500, best known as a way station for exotic migratory birds each spring and fall at its bird sanctuary.

Jerry Green, 60, rode out the storm in a small trailer at an RV park. "I didn't think it was going to be that bad," Green said.

"Everybody else in the RV park left. I would have left also if I had known what was going to happen."

Roofs were torn from

stores and homes, power lines and telephone poles littered the street and the lights and scoreboard at the school's football stadium were in pieces.

"We never dreamed we were going to wake up to this," said Audie Tackett, principal of the K-12 school, where classes are to resume Monday.

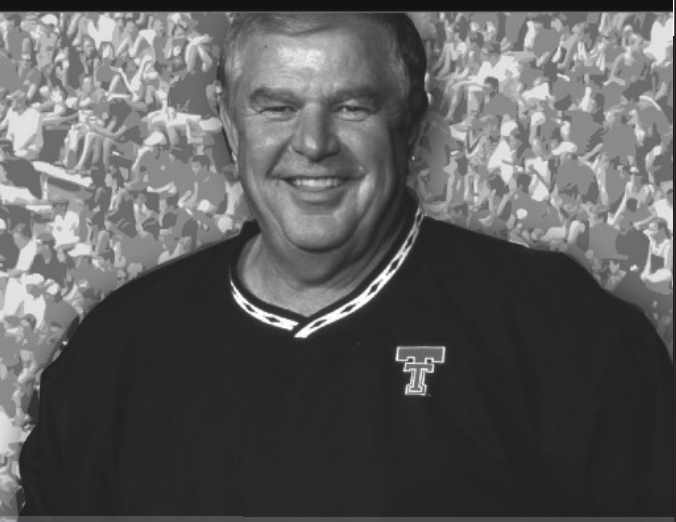
Galveston County Emergency Management officials told residents late Thursday it could be four days before the electricity would be restored. Land telephone lines also weren't working in some areas.

One man died when the carport at his home collapsed on him, Bridge City Police Chief Steve Faircloth said. The town is between Port Arthur and Orange.

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Living in balance with others is an art, one that requires just settling down rather than giving up ground. As the moon moves from Libra to Scorpio, by dropping into our deepest desires, we find our innate truths and locate resilience there. Inner peace is possible. And somehow, by feeling our limits, we grow stronger.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're making connections in odd, astounding ways. You are able to apply life skills to business, business skills to love and love skills to

sports. Everything is coming together. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Though you'll see plenty that others might disapprove of, you hold that it's not your place to judge good from bad. However, when it comes to judging what's interesting as opposed to tedious, it's hard to hold back an opinion. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You spend much of your day project-managing. Whether it's as small as picking up toys and doing laundry or as large as plotting a convention for thousands to attend, you do a fantastic job. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You'll be spending a bigger chunk of change than you would normally be tossing around, but your rewards are bigger, too. It's as though someone super-sized your life. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't avoid doing what you're good at just because you've done it before. You can make impressive gains even in proven areas of your life, going to previously unreached levels of mastery. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Here's how you know someone has completely stolen your heart: Others are put off by the very same actions that make you say, "Aw, but that's what I love!" **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct.

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#5499 September 14 & 21, 2007

23). You're completely invested in today's doings. You care about the minute-to-minute play and will not want to look away for even one second. By the end of the day you're exhausted — but with a big smile on your face. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're in the kind of charming and spontaneous mood that shines best in a stuffy, formal situation. Show up where you're expected to be serious — they're all counting on you to break the deadly boring spell. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be making something beautiful out of practically nothing at all. It's hot, dirty work. But if it weren't, you'd miss the feeling of pride you're going to get sometime next week when it's finished. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Personalities clash, and drama ensues. But you don't have to get involved. Try to take the high road. Without seeming overbearing, steer conversations in a happier direction. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The treasure hunt is on. You have the most clues, even if you don't have the best resources to take you to "X" that marks the spot. Team up with Aries and Gemini. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You make

imaginative use of limited resources. Some think you're being practical when in fact you're being anything but. You're an artist, creating in the name of beauty. **WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** **ARIES:** Love is mysteriously intriguing, with all those yummy elements of a suspense and drama. You can't wait to see what happens next. **TAURUS:** A partner's behavior appears uncooperative until you casually inquire into what he or she would rather be doing. **GEMINI:** Even cleaning under the bed has its charm when there's someone fun to play house with. **CANCER:** You find the freedom to do what you please. When befuddled by choices, trust your killer instinct. **LEO:** Relax your suspicions, and enjoy someone's attempts to chat you up. In a roundabout way he or she is trying to earn your admiration. **VIRGO:** Keep the love tempo upbeat, like a good dance tune, and you two keep moving. **LIBRA:** Relationships are investments with no guaranteed returns. Begin with self-love and you won't walk away empty-handed. **SCORPIO:** You'd never dismiss your partner's concerns, even if they were highly opinionated. Listen.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 20-something female living in a tiny Midwestern town, working as a receptionist at a place that has a constant stream of people coming in. I say "Hi, how are you?" to everyone and enjoy talking to the customers.

About a year ago, some nasty women started accusing me of sleeping with several married men in my town, because I was "seen talking" to them at my job. I was horrified when I was confronted by one woman whose husband was supposedly sleeping with me.

My boyfriend is the only person I have ever been with, and it makes me so mad that people believe this garbage. I go to work and come home. I never go out unless my boyfriend is with me. Fortunately, he doesn't believe any of these rumors.

I am so upset by the whole thing that it sometimes consumes my every thought. I've tried talking to the lady who confronted me, but she won't speak to me. I want her to know this is an absolute lie, but how can I get that across when other people believe the spiteful women who started these rumors? How do I get people to stop talking about me? — Horrified in the Midwest

Dear Horrified: You need to hold your head up and behave in a friendly but professional manner with everyone at work. Then let your friends and family know these vicious lies are undoubtedly being spread by women who are jealous or worried about their own marriages, and ask them to get the word out. Other than that, ignore what others may think and concentrate on your own relationships.

Dear Annie: My husband, who is almost 60, has been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. He says it's all poppycock. He doesn't believe in psychologists or psychiatrists. The

psychologist who made the diagnosis said it could be treated with behavioral changes. My husband refuses to "change." He says he's fine the way he is and if others don't like it, it's their problem. Annie, it's been my problem for 37 years. I just didn't have a name for it.

My husband won't go to a therapist, and I'm already seeing one. Is there an Asperger's support organization? It's usually diagnosed in childhood, but there have to be adults out there who are coping with it. I need help. I have Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, and simple daily activities are difficult for me. Dealing with someone who won't do anything about an illness takes what little energy I have. If there are any organizations that could offer some support, I'd appreciate knowing how to contact them. — Running on Empty in Vermont

Dear Vermont: Asperger's is one of the pervasive developmental disorders and generally manifests itself through impaired communication and social skills. There are organizations that can help you, even if your husband refuses to modify his behavior. Try Families of Adults Affected by Asperger's Syndrome (www.faaas.org), P.O. Box 514, Centerville, MA 02632 and the Autism Society of America (www.autism-society.org) at 1-800-3-AUTISM (1-800-328-8476).

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SAGITTARIUS: Uncertainty may be constant, yet love remains. **CAPRICORN:** If someone doesn't know how to support you, explain. Actions speak louder than words. **AQUARIUS:** Love alert! Someone's sweetness threatens to uproot all your fears. **PISCES:** Another's wise perspective lifts you to higher ground. **COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Taurus and Gemini are yogis in the temple of love. Enraptured by their own dual nature, the flexible twins assume pretzel postures of mind and body, while the bull patiently sits and waits for enlightenment amid the constant chatter of this bird-like creature. When Gemini longs for a sociable playmate, the solution is a gentle touch. With one stroke of Gemini's sensitive hands, Taurus' heart melts.

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

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He's Right Up There in the "Lousy Husband" Sweepstakes

Dear Margo: I have been married for 13 years. This is my second marriage. I have one son from my previous marriage and two daughters from this marriage. My first marriage dissolved because of mental and physical abuse. I feel that my second marriage is on the same track.

I don't know if it is all in my head. My husband tells me how immature I am and to grow up. Today, he informed me that he and my daughters are sick of me. He also said he is ready to ship me out, and the sooner the better.

Often I have to defend myself if one of my daughters (10 and 11) tells him something I said or did. My oldest daughter tells me, "Wait 'til Dad hears about this," when she is asked to do something simple like water the plants.



MARGO HOWARD

Seeking counseling would be one-sided, because I am the one with all of the problems. If you were me, what would you do? — Trying to Keep My Head Above Water

Dear Try: I am blinking in disbelief. How awful that your husband has convinced you that you're the one with the problems and to tell you he and the children are sick of you.

There is something radically wrong with a man who deliberately belittles and undermines his children's mother and works at diminishing her authority to the point where the kid is saying, "Wait 'til Dad gets home!"

He has made it his business to gain control of the girls, and I frankly don't know what would happen if you were to leave, relative to taking the children with you.

I do not mean to be pessimistic, but I think your husband is a lost cause, and the people who could really use therapy are your kids. Get a lawyer, my dear. I fear you're going to need one. — Margo, regretfully
Long on Advice, Short on Time

su | do | ku

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ANSWERS

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

If you are spending your time looking for people to help, that's what could be taking up too much of your time. Concentrating on your own life should in no way limit your helpfulness to friends. — Margo, advisedly
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Church News

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Communion is celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages starts at 9:30 a.m.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will have their meeting and breakfast this Saturday at 8 a.m. For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201 or visit www.stmaryssbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church will be accepting orders for Angel Food boxes today from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. You must have \$25 in cash to pay for your box plus money for any additional items you would like to purchase. The church is located at 2702 North Birdwell Lane. For more information, call 267-2203, 267-4082 or 263-2536.

The delivery time for Angel Food has changed. Please make note the time on Sept. 29 is from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. We would appreciate you bringing a large box, about the size of a large laundry basket, to pick up your food.

Plans are progressing for a booth sponsored by North Birdwell UMC at the Howard County Fair, Sept. 26-29. We will be giving away books, Bibles and prizes. The grand prize Saturday night will be a box of food from Angel Food Ministry. Be sure to stop by and register each night for the nightly prize and for the grand prize.

Although it is several weeks away, mark your calendars now for the Annual Stew and Cornbread Supper that will be Nov. 10 at the church. There will be a bake sale and craft sale in conjunction with the supper.

The North Birdwell UMC members would like

to invite you to attend any of the services or programs of the church. Sunday worship is at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school classes are at 10:30 a.m.

Friends of Unity

Friends would like to make it clear that the Unity Center is not about uniting in an organization but rather in keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace!

Their approach is that of the concept of One Source as taught by groups such as the Quakers, Unity School of Practical Christianity, Religious Science, Christian Science and others who recognize only one power and one presence actively working for the good of all.

Questions are always welcome at the Center and on two phone lines, 263-6311 and 267-8783.

First United Methodist Church

The Lord's Acre, "Mission Possible 2007" is just around the corner.

Your items for the live auction and silent auction are now being accepted. The big event will begin Saturday, Oct. 6, with Family Fest including activities for the entire family. A silent auction, Grannies Attic and the bake sale, Mission Delicious, will be going on at the same time. After lunch the big auction will take place in Garrett Hall. It's a great day of fun that's the Lord's work. We hope to see you there.

A new Beth Moore Bible Study is being held on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the Pathmakers class. This study, "A Woman's Heart, God's Dwelling Place," is being facilitated by Joyce Choate and Pam Steel. Contact the church office for addition information or to register.

There are many activities for children in which they have fun and are in ministry at First Methodist. There is



Courtesy photo
Coahoma United Methodist Church sponsored a Community Church Cook-Off last Saturday in a friendly competition preparing brisket and burgers. Theme for the day was "feed the hungry of Coahoma, both literally and spiritually." First Baptist Church won the brisket competition and First Presbyterian Church won the hamburger contest. Organizers said 250 people were fed and plans are in the works to make it an annual event. Above, community members sample food at one of the local church's burger tables.

Sunday school, Children's Choir, G.I.G. and Kid's Club. For more information look for someone with a button that says "Ask Me About Children's Ministries."

English as a second Language is being taught in Project Light classes sponsored on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays by the Hispanic Ministry.

The 2008 Mission Trip to Nicaragua needs your prayers and support. If you would like to make a donation to help with scholarships and buy building and medical supplies contact our financial secretary.

Thanks to all those who made possible the birthday celebration for our pastor, Shane Brue. All those attending the 10:50 service of worship got to take part in honoring this very special young man who means so much to our church and this community.

First United Methodist Church is located in the heart of downtown Big Spring with worship at

8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. each Sunday and Sunday school classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. We have a place for you.

College Baptist Church

Women of the community, as well as CBC members, are invited to Serendipity at 6 p.m. Monday. The theme for the program, which promises booth food and fellowship, is "A Servant's Heart." Call the church office to arrange for child care.

CBC members are urged to donate items for the Hospitality House yard sale scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 22. Proceeds from the sale will be used to assist in expansion of the Hospitality House. Let's all support this worthy cause by bringing items to 1202 W. Fourth St.

The Property and Space Committee has outlined a plan for replacing carpet and tile in some of the

Sunday school rooms and for making needed repairs at the parsonage. Donations may be made to the Cash for Carpet fund.

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday will be the Rev. Matt Miles' last worship service to officiate as pastor of this church. Members and friends are encouraged to attend the 11 a.m. service to wish him and his family farewell and good wishes for his new pastorate in Fort Davis.

Following worship, everyone is invited to the annual barbecue lunch, which is the result of the

cooking and fellowship held at the Allen Guthrie farm near Coahoma on Saturday. Allan and Ethel Guthrie ask anyone who wishes to help cook or to visit to come out, bring lawn chairs and anything to eat or drink, and enjoy old-fashioned fun and fellowship during the day Sunday.

Wednesday, the Presbyterian youth will meet from 6 to 8 p.m. in the youth room. Weekly Bible study will be at 5:17 p.m. in the church library, and choir practice will be at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Thursday at 6 p.m. in the parlor, the Working Women's Bible Study group will be studying "Above and Beyond, Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth," by Carol M. Bechtel.

During worship Sunday the choir will sing "Here I Am, Lord," words and music by Dan Schutte, arranged by Craig Courtney and a Paul Sjolund arrangement of the old favorite, "Kumbaya."

Lectionary: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; I Timothy 1:12-17; and Luke 15:1-10.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Blessings to you and your family. If you do not currently have a church home we invite you to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday worship is at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Children's Church is during Sunday morning worship. A nursery is provided. Midweek services are 7 p.m. Wednesday. If you need a ride to church, call

See CHURCH, Page 8A

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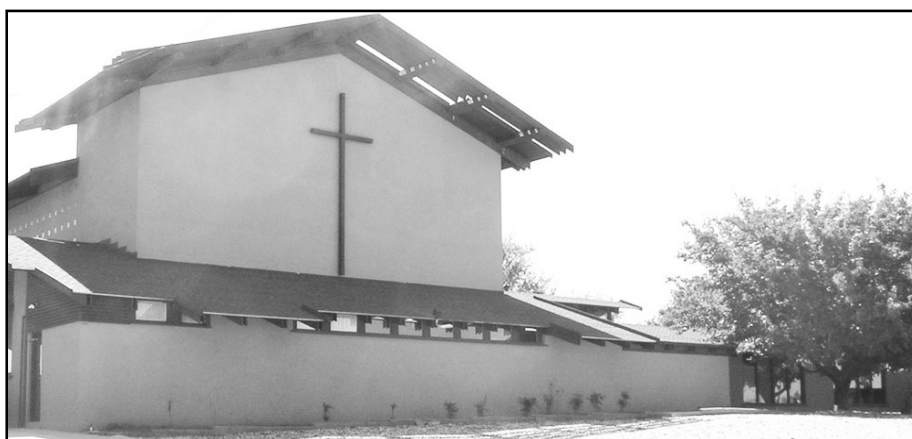
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► Club News

Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring/Howard County Retired Teachers Association will meet in Howard College's Cactus Room at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17. Any interested persons are welcome to attend. Anyone eligible for TRS retirement is invited to

join our organization and spouses may become associate members. We will share in a Dutch treat meal before the meeting.

Guest speaker will be Aubrey Cherry of El Paso, president of the Texas Retired Teachers Association. The TRTA Convention will be held in El

Paso in April 2008. Cherry will speak about legislative and retiree matters. We expect to learn more about the possibility of a 13th check and a future raise for retirees.

One of the RTA's main projects is the Book Project. Each year we provide a free book for every first grader at a selected

school. This year, due to a generous gift in memory of Jess Blair, who was a member of RTA, we hope to give a book to every first grader in Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan and Garden City. We gladly receive contributions and memorials from anyone who would like to be involved in this worthy

effort. To donate, call Judy Plumlee at 263-7824 or Jean Slate at 263-4080.

Members are reminded to bring the total of miles walked and number of volunteer hours served for the last month. This information is used to indicate what an impact volunteers have on our community.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 6A

264-9924 or 267-7157.

September 21-22, the ladies will be attending a retreat in Fort Worth. The retreat is in memory of Teresa Krieg. Iris Blue will be speaking, along with missionary wives and Angel Wills bringing special music.

For further information, call 267-8214 or 267-7157.

First Church of the Nazarene

The First Church of the Nazarene invites our Spanish speaking friends to worship together at their new Sunday evening time of 6 p.m. in a new Hispanic Ministry, Casa de Restauracion. This service currently meets in the Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Felix and Marta Torres are the pastors of Hispanic Ministries and you can also hear them each Sunday morning on KBYG from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. The Torres' would be happy to have you worship with them in Spanish speaking services and Bible Studies.

This Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Charles Johnson will begin revival services at the church through Wednesday. Dr. Johnson has been the senior pastor in Meridian for 47 years and is widely sought after as a conference and revival speaker. The community will be blessed to hear his stirring messages and uplifting music. The services will be at 7 p.m. weeknights. The Rev. Byron W. Brown, senior pastor of the church, invites everyone to attend. Randy Koonce, worship leader, will be leading the congregation in exciting praise and worship that will lift our hearts and exalt Christ. Sunday mornings at FCN begin with coffee and donuts in the commons of the main building at 9 a.m. It is a place where friends gather to become like family.

The Sunday night ministry hour begins at 6 p.m. and is devoted to our in-reaching and out-reaching ministry called Dare-To-Care. This is a special time for the members and regular attendees to pray for special requests that come before the congregation, write notes of encouragement to newcomers to the church as well as those who are shut-ins, to visit recent guests to the church and members of the church, to disciple new Christians, and to make telephone calls to the people who visit the church occasionally and gather prayer requests. For prayer requests, contact the church office at 267-7015.

Wednesdays are family ministry nights at FCN and there are great Bible study classes for all ages that begin at 6:30 p.m. A new video-based class led by Pastor Brown is starting called Under Cover. This class will help people to undertake a serious, Holy Spirit-led study of God's authority. The public is invited to attend.

FCN is a loving, inviting, welcoming congregation where the Spirit of the Lord is sensed in every service and where

you can belong.

First Church of the Nazarene is located at 1400 Lancaster in Big Spring. For more information, call 267-7015. First Church of the Nazarene exists to "Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World." Sunday morning worship begins at 10 a.m.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Thank God that He is the Lord of the second chance! Our pastor, Brother Dennis Teeters, has begun a series of sermons on the second chances God has given to the people in the Bible. This week's sermon will be "Zacchaeus' Second Chance," found in Luke 19.

Our worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday and is a time of uplifting music led by worship pastor Stan Hanes and prayer and an uplifting and challenging sermon by our pastor.

Our fall activities have begun Sunday evenings. We start at 5 p.m.

We have begun AWANA (Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed) with our children. The kids are learning Bible truths and memorizing God's Word and earning awards and patches along the way. We have a fun time that includes recreation and snacks that begins at 5 p.m. and lasts until 7 p.m.

The women are having a Bible study, "Discerning the Voice of God," by Priscilla Shirer. The men are doing a Bible study with our pastor. Our teenage students have youth choir and are always glad to welcome other teens.

Sunday evening worship begins at 6 p.m. This week's sermon is "Presumptuous Praying," found in Luke 18:9-14.

We have a place for you at Spring Creek Fellowship. Come join us for a free potluck meal Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. and a great time of bible study and prayer for the adults and worship and music for our teens.

Check our Web site at springcreekfellowship.org

Get to the church by going east on I-20 to the Salem exit. Turn left under the highway and left on the service road. SCF is on the right just before the on ramp. We will be looking for you.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Check out The Lutheran Hour at 7:30 a.m. on 1070 AM.

Our worship services with Holy Communion are at 9 a.m.; Sunday school and Adult Bible classes are at 10:15 a.m.

All child and adult classes will begin with a joint opening led by Bruce Schooler, Sunday school superintendent.

Individual classes will begin after the opening. Teachers will lead their classes to their classrooms.

Two adult classes will be held this year. Pastor Wayne Frost's class will meet in the parish hall. David Carlile's class will meet in the library.

Mr. Carlile's class will be learning the same study topics as the children's classes.

Evening prayer services have resumed at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

On Wednesday, Sept. 26, Voters Assembly will meet at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars.

Operation Ongoing Support continues with September care package

items as follows: Powdered Gator Aid, AA and AAA batteries and instant oatmeal in fun flavors. Donations to the AT&T phone card fund are appreciated.

On Sunday, Oct. 7, the

Lutheran Women's Missionary League will meet at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Midland. Election of officers, convention reports and Bible study are on the schedule.

Submit your Church News and Club News to the Herald at
newsdesk@bigspringherald.com
or life@bigspringherald.com

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

Your partner bids **One Spade**, and the next player passes. Both sides are vulnerable, and you have a partscore of 40. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠AJ83 ♥KJ95 ♦74 ♣KJ4
- ♠Q76 ♥AK984 ♦KJ ♣AJ2
- ♠K843 ♥10 ♦1087 ♣AKJ32
- ♠Q972 ♥AQJ74 ♦62 ♣85
- ♠J54 ♥AQ6 ♦KQ85 ♣AJ9

1. **Three spades.** With 40 on, a direct jump-raise indicates a hand of opening-bid proportions and a fit for partner's suit. The purpose of the jump-raise is to alert partner to the possibility of a slam. Partner does not have to bid again. He continues forward with values that justify exploring for slam opposite responder's announced strength.

2. **Three hearts.** The jump-shift guarantees 17 or more points and forces opener to bid again (with a 40 partscore, partner would not have to answer a two-heart response). Opener rebids naturally, depending both on distribution and high-card strength. A three-spade bid by opener would show a rebiddable suit, while three notrump would indicate a balanced hand and lack of interest in slam.

3. **Two clubs.** Since a contract that would yield game has not yet been reached, opener must bid again. It's best to show the club suit first, planning to show your good spade support next in case opener is interested in slam. If the partscore were 60, clubs would not be mentioned; a direct raise to three spades would be the better bid.

4. **Two spades.** You have good spade support and are in the range for a single raise, so that is the best action. Two hearts (not forcing) would be an inaccurate response, as that bid would normally show a good heart suit and lack of support for spades. If partner bids again over two spades, trying for slam, you can then mention your heart suit, at the same time indicating slam interest.

5. **Three notrump.** Since two notrump would be a game-going bid, three notrump is a slam try. However, the opening bidder is not required to bid again. If he has a minimum opening suitable for notrump play, he can pass.

The three-notrump response with a partscore of 40 has the same meaning as the same bid without a partscore. It indicates notrump distribution, 16 or 17 high-card points, and stoppers in the unbid suits.

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

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Left To Right: Front Row: Paula McCullar, Mgr., Gary Burt, Mike Rivera, Laura Martin. Middle Row: Joanna Dykes, James Wilson; Back Row: Terry Wooten, Gary Krager, Cecil Bynum, Ruben Holguin.

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Gunman slays officer

Fla. manhunt ends in suspect's death

By DAVID FISCHER

Associated Press Writer

CUTLER BAY, Fla. (AP) — A massive 12-hour manhunt across South Florida for a gunman who killed one police officer and injured three others ended with the suspect shot dead during a gun-battle 30 miles away.

Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez said suspect Shawn Sherwin Labeet, 25, was found shortly before midnight Thursday at a Pembroke Pines apartment complex, ending a search that led to traffic snarls, neighborhoods cordoned off and jangled nerves.

Labeet was armed when police closed in on him about 30 miles north of the original shooting scene, said Alvarez, who said the family of the dead officer was informed of Labeet's death.

"They asked us for one thing," Alvarez said. "They asked us to catch the subject. Well, I'm happy to report that shortly before midnight, we found the subject."

The officers had been conducting a burglary surveillance in southern Miami-Dade County when they stopped Labeet on Thursday morning because he was driving erratically, police spokeswoman Linda O'Brien said. Without warning, he opened fire. It was not immediately clear if the officers returned fire.

Labeet, who may have been wearing a bullet-proof vest, fled in his car, which was found abandoned 5 miles away, officials said. An AK-47 assault rifle was found inside, Alvarez said. It wasn't immediately known if it was the weapon used in the shooting.

Labeet's girlfriend was questioned, but she gave officers the name of another man, Alvarez said. That caused investigators to waste several hours looking for the other man before he came forward hundreds of miles away in Jacksonville after hearing that he was wanted. He was not involved in the case.

"I'm sure she'll be facing some charges," Alvarez said.

In the hours after the shootings, dozens of officers descended on suburban Miami, searching a wide swath of Miami-Dade and Broward counties. They could be seen drawing their guns as

Bush preserves large troop levels in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's claim that progress in Iraq justifies preserving a large U.S. military presence there for at least 10 more months was shadowed by developments on the security and political fronts.

Friday morning, 12 hours after Bush's address to the nation, the White House was to report that Iraqi leaders had gained almost no new ground in meeting U.S. benchmarks on bringing about reconciliation and stability. The report being sent to Congress by the White House underscored the difficulty of Bush's argument that American sacrifice was creating political progress by Iraqis.



MCT El Nuevo Herald photo/Gaston De Cardenas

Police officers search the area of 200 Street of SW 127 Avenue in South Miami Dade County for a gunman who shot four officers, killing one, Thursday.

they briefly surrounded a house and then moved on. They also searched through a garbage truck as others scoured a grassy area on foot. A federal government helicopter buzzed overhead.

Several schools in the area were locked down during the search. Parts of Florida's Turnpike were briefly closed. After the last, fatal exchange of gunfire, at least a dozen residents stood in the heat, waiting to get back into their blocked off

homes. "It is absolutely as a result of an all-out law-enforcement effort to apprehend this individual and some very good investigative work that we were able to locate him and attempt to place him in custody," Miami-Dade Police Director Robert Parker said. "Unfortunately, it led to his death."

Alvarez identified the dead officer as Jose Somohano, 37, a married father of two. Another

officer, Jody Wright, 31, underwent several hours of surgery to repair her severely injured leg. The other two officers were treated and released.

AP Poll shows GOP presidential race up for grabs as key GOP constituencies are divided

WASHINGTON (AP) — White men, conservatives, evangelicals and other pivotal building blocs of the Republican Party are divided among its leading contenders for president, leaving the race for the 2008 GOP nomination highly fluid, according to an Associated Press-Ipsos poll.

Rudy Giuliani and Fred Thompson are each attracting significant support from core GOP groups, based on the poll conducted this week. Even Sen. John McCain of Arizona, whose campaign has been staggered by money problems and staff shake-ups, is backed by solid shares of suburban, college-educated and Midwestern Republican voters.

The roughly one-third of Republicans in the poll who said they disapprove of the job President Bush is doing were gravitating around all three of those hopefuls. Overall, the survey underscores that no contender has yet to convincingly make the case that he is the candidate for change that so many voters want as the party searches for its identity and a successor to Bush.

"I like Rudy's stand on the war on terror, and I also like his leadership qualities and I don't just mean 9/11," said August Olivier, 61, a conservative Giuliani backer.

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September 26-29, 2007
4-10 pm weekdays, 10 am-10 pm Saturday

Entries for Creative Arts, Fine Arts, Baked Goods, Canned Goods, Antiques and other items for display will be accepted from 8 am - 6 pm, September 25.
Antique category: Cookbooks over 25 years old (published prior to 1982)

Entries will be judged the evening of September 25 and must remain on display throughout the fair. They may be picked up after 10 pm September 29 or between 1 pm and 4 pm September 30.

Information and entry forms for all Fair events: www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

QUEEN CONTEST
Date: September 15, 2007 Location: Dora Roberts Community Center
Preliminaries (classes, etc.) - 9 a.m.
Pageant begins at 1 pm. Public is invited to attend.
Entry forms available at: Posey Cotton, 601 Scurry - before noon
County Extension Office, Court House
At www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

NOTE: Entrants must have a sponsor. It costs \$35 to sponsor a girl.
Information: Nancy Howard 353-4448 (No answer, leave message)

QUILT
Theme: "Wildlife of Texas".
On Display: Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler • 7 am - 3 pm, Monday-Friday
Chances: \$ each or 6 for \$5. (Proceeds used defray expenses of the Fair.)
Drawing: Saturday, 9:45 p.m.

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Rules:
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Must have name, address and phone number on the back of page or inside protector sleeve.
Theme: Where, What, When, Who
Judged on creativity, originality, presentation and journaling

Fair Contests/Displays/Events

- Fine Art
Drawing, graphics, oils, acrylics, water color, mixed media, sculpture, pottery, computer, oil on wood
- Photography
- Grandparents' Corner, "Kids Do the Darndest Things" photo contest, "Favorite Family Pet, photo contest.
- Canned Goods
Fruits, vegetables, pickles and relishes, jams, jellies, preserves, dried food products, juice/syrup, peppers, salsa/hot sauce, miscellaneous
- Creative Arts
Hobbies and crafts, handwork and needlework, clothing
- Grandparents' Corner
Photographs
- Favorite Family Pet
Photographs
- Poetry
Three youth divisions
- "Kids Do the Darndest Things"
Funny photos of children, at least 3x5 inches in size
- Antique Cookbooks
Must be published prior to 1982
- Children's Fair
Pre-K through 4th grades - Theme: It's a Jungle Out There - Classroom or individual projects
- Antique Tractors
Call Gene Adams at 263-4853 if you'd like to display your antique tractor.
- Antique Tractor Pull
Pulling tractors must be 1960 or older
- Kountry Kids Contest
Kids 0-5 years old, dressed in denim at least 50% cotton. \$10 entry fee.
- Queen Contest
Contestants must have a sponsor. Sponsorship is \$35. All high school and college age girls from Howard County are eligible.

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P0262 LEATHER, T/C, CD, AUTO, HUGE DEAL OVER NEW

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'04 NISSAN SENTRA
PWR W&L, T/C, CD ALUM WHEELS P0267

'04 HONDA CIVIC
2 DOOR COUPE BLACK 75023A

'06 NISSAN QUEST
AUTO, PWR W&L, T/C, CD #P0245

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PWR W&L, T/C, CD ALUM WHEELS P0257A

'00 BUICK REGAL
PWR W&L, T/C, CD ALUM WHEELS 6X037A

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