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Monday night win has Cowboys believing

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(In The Malone Hogan Clinic)
SEPTEMBER 1
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 10, 2007



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Council to review parking law

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Who knew it was so tough to keep city residents from parking on their front lawns? Members of the Big Spring City Council heard a report

from municipal officials Tuesday evening regarding the ordinance currently in place to keep area residents from parking vehicles in their front yards, and the loopholes that have been discovered in the law that make it hard to enforce.

“The city attorney has met with the code enforcement officers and the municipal judge on some of the things we’ve seen and some of the problems we’ve run into,” said City

See **PARKING**, Page 3A

“We certainly didn’t intend to have this sort of problem. I certainly thought we were clear that we didn’t want people on side yards.”

—Mayor Russ McEwen



Trustees to mull building estimates

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

For months, Big Spring Independent School District officials have been talking about renovating or replacing aging school buildings.

Thursday night, they’ll learn how much that work will cost. BSISD trustees will get preliminary cost estimates for renovation projects when they hold their monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

Architects with the Lubbock firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper will be on hand to discuss the results of their months-long facility study of BSISD buildings.

Big Spring Superintendent Michael Downes said the PSC report will likely reinforce an earlier study that indicated a great need for replacement of

See **BSISD**, Page 3A



Downes



Lou Ann Dean, a freelance writer for Texas Highways Magazine, inspects artwork on display at Heritage Museum Tuesday afternoon. Dean toured the museum while researching a book on the 50 best small art towns in Texas.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

2 more jailed in connection with break-ins

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Increased patrols in the city of Big Spring have yielded at least two more arrests among the criminals believed to be behind the recent rash of burglaries, according to local law enforcement officials.

Chris Clark, 21, and Steven Silletti, 17, both of 1106 W. Third Street, were arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia near what police officials described as a hot spot for the recent burglaries.

“Due to the recent surge in burglaries in the city, the street crimes unit and

See **BREAK-INS**, Page 3A

Area woman charged in assault here

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A Snyder woman was arrested Monday after allegedly attacking an 84-year-old man in his home before being nabbed by police in a nearby residence.

Kimberly Denise James, 18, whose address was originally reported as 802 Nolan but later

See **ASSAULT**, Page 3A

Reinvestment zones to get another look

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Back it up and start over. That’s the message Terry Wegman, executive director for Moore Development, delivered to Howard County commission-

ers Tuesday morning, as the court voted to table items tied to the creation of a new reinvestment zone for tax abatement purposes.

“Last week, as we were reviewing the reinvestment

zone, the chief appraiser and myself were actually plotting these zones on maps to see where they would all lay,” said Wegman. “And we found a discrepancy in the legal description the developers gave us. I don’t

know if it was just a typo or what. Subsequently, the public notice was put in the newspaper, and had an error in it. We want to skip these two items on the agenda until they can be

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www.bigspringherald.com

Tarpley: Force behind the Wall of Fallen Heroes



Michael Tarpley

By **LANE BOND**
Special to the Herald

The Wall of Fallen Heroes now complements the Big Spring Wall of Honor at the Big Spring Mall. The story of the Wall of Honor was featured in the Troop Salute last week, on Oct. 3. The Wall of Fallen Heroes may be seen a few feet to the right (east) of the Wall of Honor.

Michael Tarpley created the Wall of Fallen Heroes in July. By Sept. 11, 2007, Mike added a ribbon for Braden Long, and it was unveiled in a memorial ceremony held at the Mall on that historic and infamous

date (also pictured). The Marine doing the unveiling is Ben Bias (more about Ben in an upcoming article).

On the Wall of Fallen Heroes, the “ribbons” are replicas of the little cloth ribbons, which are usually seen as two-dimensional decals on cars and windows and schoolbooks and everywhere, with such mottoes as “Support the Troops.” They are actually plywood cutouts on which Mike has painted an appropriate message, in these cases the names of the fallen. He has made 67 ribbons to date, including these six, some for living troops and some for the fallen. Each of the Veterans of

Troop Salute

the Month honored by the Hangar 25 museum for the past 22 months now owns one of Mike’s ribbons with his own name on it. Mike has shipped them to several states and one is now displayed at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington.

Michael was born Dec. 4, 1947, in Merkel. His wife is Barbara (“my bride,” he calls her). Barbara was born in Corpus Christi, but grew up in San Marcos. She is a teacher

See **SALUTE**, Page 8A



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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

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Wednesday, October 10, 2007

IN BRIEF

Area high school sports calendar

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

FRIDAY

Big Spring football vs. Plainview, 7:30 p.m.
Forsan football at Miles, 7:30 p.m.
Garden City football vs. Sands, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.
Coahoma football at Hawley, 7:30 p.m.
Stanton football at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Big Spring cross country at Georgetown
Big Spring volleyball vs. Frenship, 2:30 p.m.
Big Spring tennis vs. Frenship, 10 a.m.

OCT. 16

Big Spring volleyball vs. San Angelo Lake View, 7 p.m.
Big Spring swimming vs. Andrews at the Big Spring YMCA

OCT. 19

Big Spring football vs. Plainview, 7:30 p.m.
Garden City football vs. Sands, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.
Forsan football at Miles, 7:30 p.m.
Coahoma football at Hawley, 7:30 p.m.
Stanton football at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.
Big Spring swimming at Abilene Invitational

Quarterback Club meeting Monday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is meeting Monday at 7 p.m. in the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of Big Spring football players from junior high to varsity are encouraged to attend and help support the Steers' football program.

MLB Championship Series schedules

ALCS
Game 1
Indians at Red Sox, 10/12, 6 p.m.
Game 2
Indians at Red Sox, 10/13, 7 p.m.
Game 3
Red Sox at Indians, 10/15, 6 p.m.
Game 4
Red Sox at Indians, 10/16, 7 p.m.
Game 5
Red Sox at Indians, 10/18, 7 p.m.
Game 6
Indians at Red Sox, 10/20, TBD
Game 7
Indians at Red Sox, 10/21, TBD
NLCS
Game 1
Rockies at D-Backs, 10/11, 7:37 p.m.
Game 2
Rockies at D-Backs, 10/12, 9:18 p.m.
Game 3
D-Backs at Rockies, 10/14, 7:30 p.m.
Game 4
D-Backs at Rockies, 10/15, 9 p.m.
Game 5
D-Backs at Rockies, 10/17, 7:30 p.m.
Game 6
Rockies at D-Backs, 10/19, 7:30 p.m.
Game 7
Rockies at D-Backs, 10/20, TBD

Tech bans 'Vick 'Em' T-shirts

By **BETSY BLANEY**

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech has banned the sale of a T-shirt bearing the likeness of Michael Vick hanging the dog mascot of rival Texas A&M.

The red and black shirts, with text that says "VICK 'EM" on the front in an apparent reference to the Aggies' slogan "Gig 'em," was created by a Tech student who was trying to sell them before Saturday's game in Lubbock.

The back of the shirt shows a football player wearing the No. 7 Vick jersey holding a rope with

an image of the mascot Reveille at the end of a noose. Vick, who faces up to five years in prison after pleading guilty to a federal dogfighting charge, is suspended indefinitely by the NFL.

Tech officials late Tuesday announced the fraternity that sold the shirts was suspended temporarily and will face judicial review for allegedly violating the solicitation section of the students' code of conduct.

The school said it wouldn't allow the sale on campus of items that are "derogatory, inflammatory, insensitive, or in such bad taste."

No more shirts are being pro-

duced, the school said in a release.

A&M officials, in a statement, thanked Tech administrators for "their response and action regarding this matter."

Geoffrey Candia, the creator of the shirts who is with the Theta Chi fraternity, told The Associated Press they were taking full responsibility. "We realize the shirts shouldn't have been printed," he said.

He told The Battalion, A&M's newspaper, for Tuesday's editions that the university prohibited sale of the shirts on campus through his fraternity. He said he originally had wanted to give

50 percent of the proceeds to an animal defense league in Lubbock "because we knew there would be a controversy about the shirts, you know, animal rights, stuff like that."

Candia told the newspaper about 300 had been sold. He had hoped 500 would be sold before Saturday's game.

In a posting on his Facebook site at about 4 a.m. Tuesday, Candia wrote: "a little t-shirt get aggies all worked up... its a t-shirt people!"

The controversy comes about 21/2 months after Gerald Myers,

See **TECH**, Page 2B

Win has Cowboys believing

By **JAIME ARON**

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Wade Phillips already thought the Dallas Cowboys had the kind of players that supported each other in bad times as well as the good ones they enjoyed the first month of the season.

Now he has proof.

His Cowboys didn't crack Monday night, despite plenty of forehead-slapping moments — from Tony Romo throwing five interceptions to Romo losing a fumble, from Terrell Owens dropping a tying 2-point conversion pass to Owens dropping a long pass that might've set up a short field goal for the win, from the special teams allowing a kickoff return for a touchdown to blazing-but-injured cornerback Terence Newman getting caught from behind on an interception return.

They hung close enough to make a last-minute push, then had to keep hanging on when Nick Folk's 53-yard field goal to win it was called off because the Buffalo Bills sneaked in a timeout just before the snap.

Forced to do it again, the rookie did, giving Dallas a stunning 25-24 victory and a 5-0 record for the first time since 1983.

Perhaps just as importantly, the whole experience proved to be a bonding moment, the kind of plucky comeback that makes players, coaches and fans think this team might have more magical moments in store.

"Our guys never gave up," Phillips said Tuesday afternoon, looking relaxed despite the team plane arriving at 4 a.m. and him being back at work around four



Dallas Cowboys Tony Romo talks with Terrell Owens during the Cowboys' game against the Buffalo Bills at Ralph Wilson Stadium Monday. The Cowboys pulled off a come-from-behind 25-24 win over the Bills.

hours later. "They believed they could win and went out and did it. Stats and all that mean certain things, but really it's the heart-of-a-champion kind of thing."

The Cowboys hardly were tested the first four games, winning each by at least 10 points. Against the Bills, they never led until the final second.

"We know every game's not going to be a 10-point or a 20-point win," Phillips said. "When those things come up, you play close games, you've got to win a good percentage of those. Then, just saying you believe in each other is important — but winning goes with it.

If you win, you believe more. I think that helps."

It sure can't hurt. "Obviously, a lot of luck there and a lot of things went our way," tight end Jason Witten said Monday night. "But this team never really gives up, and that shows a lot."

Next up for the Cowboys are the New England Patriots, also 5-0. Plenty will be said and done to hype this rare matchup of unbeaten so deep into the season, but Tuesday was all about reliving the glory of Monday night, in part because players had the day off, as usual. They'll return Wednesday, but won't practice in pads, a conces-

sion to being two days removed from a game.

Film review of the Bills game likely will help refocus. Especially Romo.

The NFC's offensive player of the month for September, his first two passes in October were intercepted, one of them returned for a touchdown. By halftime, he'd thrown two more interceptions, yielding another touchdown for Buffalo.

Phillips said Romo may have made the mistake of "trying to make big plays ... rather than just keep making plays." He added that coaches never considered turning to backup Brad Johnson.

"I just think he had a

bad day," Phillips said. "I will say this for him: At the end of the game he was still in there. That is what we preach. No matter what the stats are the most important thing is winning the game."

Bill Parcells liked to say you learn a lot by how a quarterback responds to a bad game. Romo hasn't had many and this time he's fortunate enough to have come away with a victory.

"My confidence doesn't waver. That's the one thing I learned from Bill and everybody else," Romo said. "Wade says it all the time, too — you've

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B

NFL rulemakers should 'decide if that's what they want'

NFL players dine on their knees. Not literally, of course, but every one of them understands a working set of wheels is essential to put food on the table.

That was the rationale Houston defensive tackle Travis Johnson offered for taunting Miami quarterback Trent Green shortly after the two collided and Green lay on the field unconscious.

"If you want to hit me, hit me in my head, hit me in my chest, don't hit me in my knee," Johnson said Sunday, still seething long after the game was over. "I'm trying to eat just like everybody else. So, to hit me like that, that showed

me what type of man he was."

We'll get to what type of man Green is in a moment, but first some background.

Green suffered a severe concussion 13 months ago while playing for Kansas City in the 2006 opener, lost half of last season and briefly considered retirement. Now 37, if Green knows what's good for him, he is considering retirement again very seriously.

In the first quarter Sunday at Houston, shortly after he gave the ball to Ted Ginn Jr., on an end-around, Green watched the rookie fumble, then recover and reverse field with the defense in pursuit. Instinctively, Green took off and tried to block Johnson, who outweighs him by 100 pounds, by diving at his legs.

It was a legal block and Green flipped Johnson head over heels. But the defender's right knee

slammed into Green's helmet and knocked the quarterback out. Though Johnson had reason to be furious, there is no defending what he did next, even if the only penalty beyond the 15-yard flag assessed for taunting during the game is likely to be a marginal fine the league won't announce until the end of the week.

That made Johnson look like the villain. But Houston coach Gary Kubiak, a former quarterback himself, wasn't certain that made him wrong. While calling Johnson's reaction "inexcusable" and telling his player that, Kubiak also acknowledged calling league officials Monday to discuss the play.

"First off, the league told me that the block's a legal block — his head's in position — it's a legal block. I understand that, but in my opinion it created a situation (where) ... two players

could have very easily been hurt very badly.

"I just hope they take a look at it," he added, "and decide if that's what they want."

The NFL has been looking at low blocks for a long time, making them illegal on most plays involving special teams and changes of possession.

"It's been regulated many, many times — and this in a league that only got around to outlawing clipping about five years ago," said Rich McKay, who is the president and general manager of the Atlanta Falcons and co-chairman of the league's competition committee.

"But we've been reluctant to do anything about that type of block on a standard running play, frankly, because it's the only way for an offensive player to seal the edge. If you watch

See **LITKE**, Page 2B



JIM LITKE

Obituaries

Mary Babette Belcher



Mary Babette Belcher, 56, died Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2007, at Midland Memorial Hospital after a brief illness. The family will hold a remembrance service at 2610 Larry Drive on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2007, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

She was born Jan. 23, 1951, in Little Rock, Ark., to Charles J. and Amber Hill Barber. She graduated from Hot Springs High School, Hot Springs, Ark., and moved to Big Spring in 1969. She married Donald L. Belcher on June 1, 1971, in Big Spring. She graduated from the Howard College School of Nursing. She had worked at Hall Bennett Hospital and the Big Spring State Hospital as a registered nurse, retiring in 2001 after 30 years. She was a member of College Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Donald L. Belcher, and a son, Matthew Belcher, both of Big Spring; and aunt, cousins and close family friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Howard College School of Nursing, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720, or a favorite charity. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paul Franklin Kinsey

Paul Franklin Kinsey, 71, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2007, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds around 10 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s. South winds around 10 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 80s.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-17-18-36.
Number matching five of five: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-5-4-8. Sum It Up: 26

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-0-7.

Take Note

• **FIELDS OF FAITH**, featuring Ornan's Floor in partnership with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, will be at Big Spring Memorial Stadium at 7 p.m. today. Everyone is invited.

• **ANGEL FOOD ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN** from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell. For more information, call 267-2203 or 267-3241.

• **BIG SPRING DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB IS HAVING A HAMBURGER SUPPER** at the Big Spring High School Cafeteria from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday at \$6 per plate. Includes beans, fries and dessert.

• **MARCY ELEMENTARY WILL HAVE A BOUNCE BACK TO SCHOOL** fund-raiser for the entire community from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20. There will be huge inflatables: bouncers, 24-foot slide, spider wall, bungee run, boxing and more. Tickets are \$10 each for the entire day. A concession stand will be available and there will be a shaded area and seating for parents. The location will be at Goliad Intermedite School, on the southeast field. Contact Marcy Elementary for early tickets at 264-4144 or Jennifer Gillespie at 466-3684. Tickets will be available at the event.

• **FLU CLINICS WILL BE HELD THROUGHOUT OCTOBER** at the Department of State Health Service, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28 B. Clinics will be held from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday and Oct. 24. Clinics will also be held at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Ave., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday and at the Big Spring Mall from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Oct. 19. There is no charge for those on Medicaid or Medicare.

• **THE SCA, AN INTERNATIONAL NON-PROFIT LIVING HISTORY ORGANIZATION** devoted to the study of all aspects of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, is holding arts and science classes and business meetings at the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main, beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday. Classes including sewing, beginning Middle-Eastern dance and drum repair, basic beats. For more information, contact Walter Ward at (432) 935-6455 or by e-mail at waltward@hotmail.com

Police blotter

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

- **RUBEN ALVAREZ**, 19, of 1308 Princeton, was arrested Tuesday on charges of forgery (three counts), burglary of a habitation and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- **CLIFFORD ANGLIN**, 23, of 2402 Williams, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- **LATOYA CUBIT**, 26, of 411 Scurry, was arrested Tuesday on a Lubbock warrant.
- **TRACY BLACKMON**, 44, of 1316 Sycamore, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of Class C assault - family violence.
- **MELISSA GAY YOUNG**, 38, of 800 Lancaster, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- **MONICA RAGLAND**, 41, of 3306 Bryant, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of theft.
- **MICHAEL RICARD**, 51, of 3838 Hillcrest, was arrested Wednesday on two local warrants.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 100 block of 17th Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
 - in the 1100 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1400 block of U.S. Highway 87.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 54 inmates at the time of this report.
- **MITCHELL RAY COVINGTON**, 44, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole.
- **CHRISTOPHER WADE CLARK**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of burglary of a building (seven counts), burglary of a habitation (two counts) and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- **STEVEN ANTHONY SILETTI**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of burglary of a building (five counts), burglary of a habitation (two counts) and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Fire/EMS

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

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of Scott. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Kinsey. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the area of Gail Highway. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the 188 exit of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **A BENEFIT DINNER, DANCE AND AUCTION** will be held Oct. 14 at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St. The benefit is to raise funds for B. Michael Brown, who has been diagnosed with cancer and has no insurance. Lunch will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the auction will be held at 1 p.m. and a dinner will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call 816-5988, 264-8048 or 270-4156.

• **THE PUBLIC IS BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A PHOTO** of blue-bonnets, 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 or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY
• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
• Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
• Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.
• American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.
• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Big Spring Country Club.
• Dance at the Senior Center to Monroe Casey and the Prowlers, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 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 Buffet.
• 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.

Support Groups

MONDAY
• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and



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COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

got to keep going. Not everything is going to go your way. Some of the picks were completely just dumb throws or dumb decisions, a couple of them just (bad throws). They all came on a day they all wanted to happen, I guess."

After the game, Phillips said he was trying to

think of a word to describe what happened. The one he came up with was "wonderment," which reminded him of "The Great Northfield Minnesota Raid," a 1972 movie featuring Robert Duvall as Jesse James and Cliff Robertson as fellow outlaw Cole Younger.

Younger was shot repeatedly in a scene, but didn't die. He ended up going to prison for 25 years, then once released

went touring in a wild West show.

"That's about how it went with us," Phillips said. "We felt like we got shot about 16 times and we lived through it, so it was a wonderment."

Extra points: There were no major injuries against Buffalo. Minor ones included bruises for Owens and LB Kevin Burnett. ... Phillips said CB Anthony Henry (high ankle sprain) is getting

out of a protective boot and "we'll see how he does this week." ... Overlooked in all the commotion: The defense allowed only a field goal, making it two straight games without allowing a touchdown. ... Phillips said the Cowboys dominated the stat sheet, except for being on the wrong end of 6-1 in turnovers. "I have never heard of a team going minus-5 in a game and

winning," he said. "I have now and I am glad it was us." ... QBs coach Wade Wilson is back at work as his five-game suspension is over. "I told Wade we couldn't win without him," Phillips said. ... Among those getting game balls: Sam Hurd for batting the onside kick forward, Tony Curtis for recovering it and nose tackle Jay Ratliff for recovering Newman's fumble on his intercept-

tion return about 70 yards downfield. ... Phillips talked to the league office about rules allowing coaches to call time just before a kick. "I don't think it's fair," he said. However, if the situation was reversed, he'd do the same thing. "I don't know why you wouldn't," he said. "It's unfair, but everybody is using an unfair rule against you. I mean, you know, until they change it."

TECH

Continued from Page 1B

Tech's athletic director, announced a campaign to promote good sportsmanship across the campus and at athletic events. The words used in the effort are honor, respect,

pride and tradition. Myers did not immediately return a call seeking comment Tuesday.

"You can't make light of a situation like that," Tech media relations spokesman Chris Cook said. "That is in poor taste and poor judgment." Robyn Katz, president of

Tech's chapter of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, said her organization "wouldn't take a dime" from Candia.

"If he really wanted to help promote anti-animal cruelty then he would donate time at a no-kill shelter," she said. "He's

really doing the Tech community a disservice. There's plenty of other ways to promote a rivalry."

Hostility between the two schools is nothing new. In 1999, after a Tech football victory, Red Raiders fans pelted Aggies players with bat-

teries and taunts. Tech fans tore down the goalposts and paraded them past the Aggies' bus.

In 2001, about 1,000 Tech celebrants tore down the goalposts, marched them the length of the field and pushed them into the A&M section of the stadium. Aggies threw ice and

a skirmish ensued. Then there were the tortillas. In 1992, Tech fans began tossing them like Frisbees onto the field during games. A year later, hundreds of tortillas — many carrying unprintable messages — were thrown during an A&M game.

LITKE

Continued from Page 1B

the lead blocker, say a fullback, going against a linebacker on a play designed to go outside," McKay added, "that low block is usually his only option."

Open-field hits make the highlight reels, but the really nasty, often-dirty ones take place along the line on almost every play. Defensive

linemen have been complaining about low blocks for years, arguing that those endanger their careers. But their supporters have so far failed to get the three-quarters majority necessary to get them outlawed, effectively leaving the linemen to fend for themselves.

"When a player can see it coming and has a chance to defend himself," McKay said, "that's something we're much less likely to legislate

against."

The problem is this case is that Johnson didn't see Green before the collision. He apologized later, saying, "Really, I let my anger get the best of me."

But in the seconds right after the play, Johnson lay on his back, wondering whether his career might be over.

"While I'm upside down, while my head is looking at the screen upside down, I'm kind of

looking at it like, 'Man, is this it?' ... all I could think about was my family."

Though Green's teammates said plenty, his only public comment was a statement indicating he would undergo evaluation and testing and thanking "everyone for their expression of concern." There was no mention of future plans, though like a handful of quarterbacks who walked away from the game after

several concussions — Steve Young, Troy Aikman, Roger Staubach, Chris Miller — Green could do so with his place in the game secured, his financial well-being assured and the likelihood of more healthy days ahead than behind. As far as work, he established the Trent Green Family Foundation in 1999 and is involved in more charitable endeavors than there is space here to list.

Cam Cameron, Green's coach and close friend, declined to discuss the possibility the injury would force Green from the game.

"I don't think we really know the full extent, because there are some ongoing tests," he said. "Right now I just think there are too many unknowns."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
All partnerships need "us" consciousness — the special way of thinking that



HOLIDAY MATHIS

accounts for our own needs, our partner's needs and the needs of our relationship, simultaneously. Today's new moon cheers for our wellbeing and happiness and creates the safety for more mutually minded partnering.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Profit, health and happiness spring from the work you do — as long as it has integrity. So don't worry about impressing your people, only about bringing them value.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). No matter how well you know someone, you'll learn and feel more about them today. You jostle the relationship about a bit, and new emotion pops out like the

Tomorrow's Horoscope

secret compartment of an old jewelry chest.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Sometimes there is a chasm between what people see in you and how you really are. Not now. Your authentic self is shining through strong, and everyone can see it clearly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You realize firsthand the fragility of the human spirit. Knowing how easy it is to shake a person's faith in himself, resolve to be tenderhearted. The safe haven of your love is needed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're so adept at making your own luck that you forget that sometimes you don't have to. Surprising, fortunate events can and will happen, even when you're relaxing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Are you the candle or the mirror that reflects it? Either way, you're

spreading light in the world. So if you're not feeling particularly inspired, find someone who is and be a cheerleader.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's no fun going up against someone you can easily beat — unless you're a bully, which you most definitely are not. So find a worthy, if not daunting, competitor. You do your best work when stiffly challenged.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You like being accepted as much as the next guy. But when everyone wants you at once, you may decide that the perfect company to keep is simply you and maybe one other (very privileged) person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're so accepting that you even accept those who aren't. Be wary of people with opinions that seem designed to put them on top of everyone else.

Sophistication is not the same as rudeness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sometimes you doubt your own competence, but you shouldn't. You've only been in charge of taking care of yourself for thousands of days, and you've done pretty darned well, all things considered.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Rally behind your man — or woman, or child — because loved ones crave your support. In fact, saying nothing will be taken as a slight. Return all e-mails. You have the power to hurt or uplift someone's delicate feelings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Some decisions you make now don't even make sense to you, but you feel you are being guided. Follow the intuition through. You'll look back later with a grateful heart.

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ANSWERS

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife, "Alice," and I are moving to Kentucky. Alice has invited "Dottie," a close female friend, to come along for company and share the driving. When I asked what the hotel arrangements would be, Alice said we could all share a room — two double beds, of course.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Here's the problem: A year ago, I entered a very costly rehab clinic to address longtime addictions to alcohol and pornography. During the month I was gone, Dottie told my wife I had made sexual advances toward her, which is completely untrue. That fact was

their house anyway. I suggested we rent our house for the summer and stay in the big house just to see how we like it. He flatly refuses. He doesn't want the relatives, or even our own kids, to "invade" us.

No one in the family can afford to buy this house from me. Selling means it would be lost forever, and I can't live with that. On the other hand, my husband says if I make him move, he'll resent me to his dying day. Can you help? — Tormented in the Suburbs

Dear Tormented: Instead of renting your current house, how about renting the family estate? Charge enough to cover the upkeep and a little more. Or, you can use the estate as collateral to borrow money to maintain it. You'll get to hang onto the house until you can make a firm decision about it, and in the meantime, you won't have relatives barging in and your husband won't have to move.

Dear Annie: As you are undoubtedly about to be bombarded with thousands of letters making the following observation, I thought I should be the first in line.

"Eydie in Louisville, Ky.," asked about the grammar of the phrase, "All men are created equal." In your response, you said the phrase was best known from the Constitution. No, it's not. It's from the Declaration of Independence. Good marks for grammar, but none for history. — Patrick in Kansas

Dear Patrick: We're planning to crawl into a hole. Of course it's from the Declaration of Independence, and we know this because we had to memorize it in school. We apologize to history teachers everywhere — especially ours.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2007 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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PARKING

Continued from Page 1A

Manager Gary Fuqua.

Fuqua went over some of the legal descriptions the ordinance is hinged on, including what designates a front yard versus a side yard, and how the ordinance does nothing to govern whether or not local residents park on their side yards.

Fuqua also showed the council diagrams of various properties, and what constituted a violation, ending with a number of pictures he deemed a "pop quiz."

"Think of it as a pop quiz. Just look at the pictures and determine if the vehicles are parked legally or illegally,"

Fuqua told the council.

The results were mixed, at best, with several disagreements between council members to the legality of several of the scenarios, which included cars parked sideways in yards and driveways, as well as vehicles parked on the property's side yard.

Mayor Russ McEwen, who was a member of the council when the ordinance was drafted and passed, said the law doesn't live up to what he and the rest of the council members intended.

"We certainly didn't intend to have this sort of problem," said McEwen. "I certainly thought we were clear that we didn't want people on side yards ... so the way the ordinance was crafted, at least as far as I'm concerned, doesn't meet the designation we had as a coun-

cil. My frustration is we said this is what we want to do, and went to the attorney and told them to craft an ordinance that takes care of this. And now we're finding out there are so many loopholes in it."

Fuqua made several suggestions to the council regarding a revamping of the city law, including annual inspections for residents who have made improvements — such as laying gravel — in order to receive a permit to park in an otherwise disallowed area, as well as language to make it illegal to park on the side yard of the property.

McEwen suggested the council hold a work session at a later date to go over the ordinance and any changes deemed necessary.

"That way we can sit down and iron it

all out," said McEwen.

A date for a work session has not yet been set.

Also during the meeting, the council approved:

- Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a consultant services agreement for training, analytical and auditing services related to the hotel occupancy tax with MuniServices.
- Final reading of a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division.
- Annual bids for fleet fueling services and radio tower maintenance.
- First reading of a resolution concerning the city's purchase of a utility easement along Douglas Street between N.W. 10th and Ninth streets.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

aging school buildings.

"The report finds agreement with an earlier facility study completed by Paul Trautmann (in 2006)," Downes said.

"Both studies rate Bauer and Washington (elementary campuses) as unacceptable ... It also targets significant structural and/or renovation issues at Marcy (elementary) and the high school."

The question is now how much will it cost to replace or repair the

buildings in question. Downes said the PSC report contains cost estimates, but declined to release those figures prior to Thursday's meeting.

In other business, trustees will hear an update on a potential loss of state funding relating to the dispute between the

county appraisal board and Alon USA's Big Spring Refinery.

Officials had feared the dispute over the refinery's tax appraisal would end up costing BSISD about \$1 million in state revenue over a two-year period.

However, Downes said

Texas Education Agency officials are working on a funding formula that would alleviate the local problem.

Also Thursday, trustees will consider:

- An appraisal of the Rannels building in an effort to establish its fair market value in the event

an interested buyer can be found for the property.

- Bids for student letter award jackets.
- Updated legal and local policies.
- Nominees for the county appraisal district board of directors.
- Personnel matters.

BREAK-INS

Continued from Page 1A

patrol division have been increasing their presence in the business areas that have been affected," said Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department. "Monday, just after midnight, these officers contacted two male subjects in an area where numerous burglaries had occurred."

"The two subjects were on foot, and, when detained, officers found them in possession of drug paraphernalia and evidence that they may have been involved in the burglaries. The subjects were then taken into custody."

Everett said the pair later confessed to taking part in the burglaries, helping investigators clear a number of recent break-ins.

"They were interviewed and both confessed their involvement," said Everett. "As of this time, these arrests have cleared two residential burglaries, a stolen vehicle and seven business burglaries. The investigation is still ongoing, and could point to more suspects and more charges."

Everett said the pair were not connected to the recent rash of church burglaries. Among the churches burglarized are Hillcrest Baptist Church, College Baptist, Birdwell Baptist, Eastside Baptist, 14th and Main Church of Christ and the Jesus Name United Pentecostal Church.

Local businesses that have been burglarized include Johansen Nursery, Learning Tree Academy, Stunning Wear and More, Southwest Tool, AKL Wind Energy, Dollar General and Dell's Cafe, according to law

enforcement officials.

Bond has been set at \$44,000 for Clark and \$41,000 for Silletti.

According to BSPD Lt. Terry Chamness, local law enforcement is also looking for another suspect wanted in connection with the burglaries.

An arrest warrant has been issued for Bobby Baker, 33, of Big Spring, for second-degree felony burglary of a habitation.

Baker is described as a white male; 6 feet, 2 inches tall; weighing approximately 200 pounds, with brown hair and hazel

eyes.

According to officials with the Big Spring Area Crimestoppers, information leading to Baker's arrest could net the tipster a cash reward of up

to \$1,000 if it leads to his arrest and indictment.

Crimestoppers can be reached at 263-TIPS (8477). The Big Spring Police Department can be contacted at 264-2550.

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Mary Babette Belcher, 56, died Tuesday in Midland. Remembrance Service will be held Thursday at 2610 Larry Drive from 4-6 p.m.

ASSAULT

Continued from Page 1A

identified as Snyder, was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and a warrant for failure to identify.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, James allegedly entered the residence of an 84-year-old Big Spring man, located in the 1500 block of Mesquite, demanding money.

"Officers found that a black female had entered the residence of 84-year-old Glen Forgas," said Everett. "She demanded money and told Forgas she would say he raped her if he didn't give her the money. The victim gave her \$20 and told her to leave, but she refused."

"The victim went into his bedroom and got a handgun and confronted the suspect, at which point she struck him in the head with a BB-gun that was displayed on the wall. The she took the victim's handgun and fled the scene."

Everett said James was taken into custody moments later while trying to hide in a nearby residence.

"She was arrested and officers searched the area

for the stolen weapon but were unable to locate it," said Everett. "The victim was treated by medics at the scene and was not transported to the hospital."

James' bond has been set at \$11,000 — \$10,000 for the aggravated assault charge and \$1,000 on the warrant for failure to identify — and she remains in the custody of the Big Spring Police Department, according to Everett.

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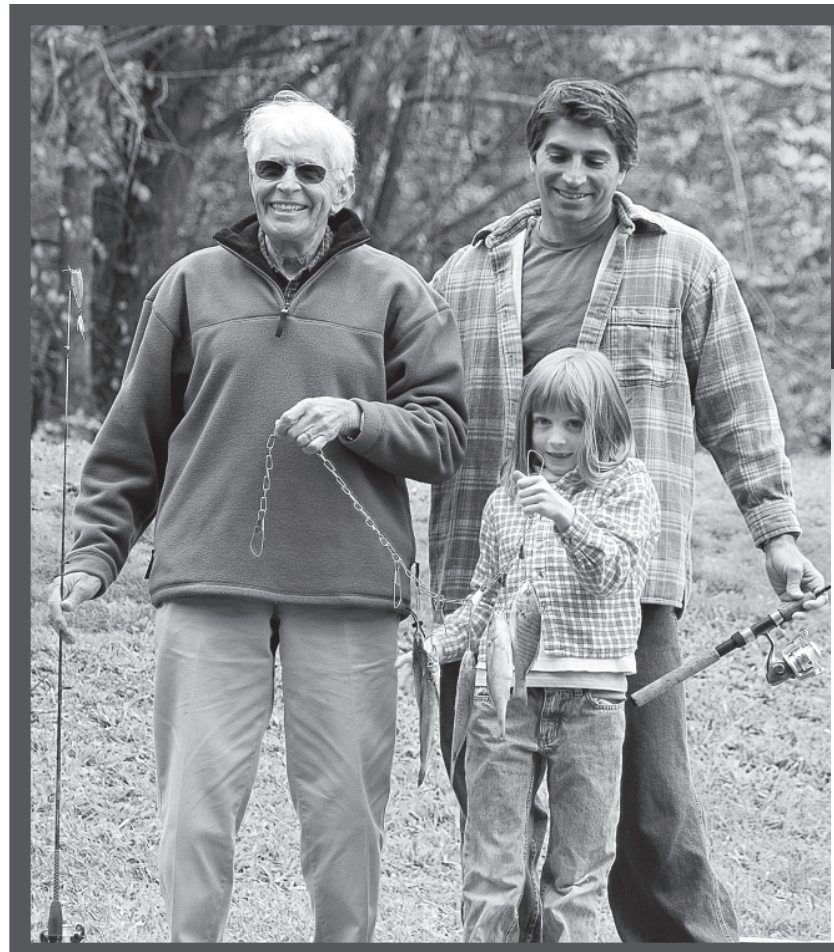
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EDITORIAL

"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

Don't forget we like your letters to us

In keeping with this week's celebration of National Newspaper Week, we here at the *Herald* want to take this opportunity to remind our readers that we welcome your letters to the editor and want to publish them in the paper.

On an almost daily basis, you can find our policies concerning letters to the editor located on our "Opinion" page, but here is a reminder:

While it is not an absolute requirement, we ask that letters be limited to no more than 300 words. Letters are printed on an "as space is available basis," and longer letters are more difficult to find space for publication.

Letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address, for verification purposes. Anonymous or unsigned letters, or those that do not include a telephone number or street address, will not be considered for publication.

Letters determined to be libelous or slanderous will also not be printed.

We do reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity and we also reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period for each author.

Unfortunately, the limited size of our staff makes it impossible for us to acknowledge the receipt of letters.

And, as one might expect, letters submitted from those living in our readership area will receive priority.

There are a number of ways to submit letters. They can be mailed to: Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721. Or they can be hand delivered to our offices at 710 Scurry St. during normal business hours Monday through Friday. In addition, you can go to our Website at www.bigspringherald.com and click on the Letters to the Editor icon and be provided with a form that will guarantee it arrives in the editor's office.

We also encourage readers to submit letters via e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.

The thing to remember is that the *Big Spring Herald* is your community newspaper and we want to provide you with a forum to express your views.

So, please let us hear from you.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Pete Valenzuela and I envision a direction that we would like to pursue, voluntarily helping the elderly who are anxious about their financial, social and medical futures.

There are so many elderly who are faced with complications about their "golden" years and they don't know whom to turn for help. Pete and I are willing to help.

There are many resources available to help our elderly, but they

are sadly unknown to the public, especially those who could be helped. Even worse, if the elderly and their families know the resources, the processes are too complicated for clients to pursue to get help.

Pete and I are available to help at no charge. We will gladly assist as we can. Just call on us. Pete's telephone number is 267-6926 and mine is 816-4149.

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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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Someday we'll have the complete story, Lord, thank You.
Amen

Xenophobes border on racism

For years, xenophobic immigrant bashers have used national security as an excuse to go after the Mexican border and Latino immigrants who cross it without proper documents.

They kept telling us that after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, we have to build fences to shut down a border that has no history of terrorist traffic. Illegal immigrants are a threat to national security, we were told, because some of the Sept. 11 terrorists were here illegally. Of course, they neglected to tell us that none came through Mexico and that they had come here legally, by airplane, and stayed after their visas expired.

You would think that this would rally them to go after the other millions of illegal immigrants who came here legally and overstayed. After all, visa violators represent almost half the illegal immigrant population.

But nah, their paranoia was misdirected toward the Mexican border because, in fact, they feel more threatened by the growth of the Latino population than by terrorists.

It's all about preventing Latinos from "taking over." You have to be very insecure to think that way, but unfortunately, many Americans do. And the number of people who think that way is growing, thanks to the fear-mongering tactics of conservative extremists in the media, in Congress and even among some Republican presidential candidates.

They tell you their only problem is with illegal immigration, but then, they show you they also are threatened by the Spanish language and Hispanic culture, which are the language and culture of millions of legal U.S. residents and citizens.

You don't hear them complain-

ing about people who overstay or about those who come into the country by crossing illegally through the Canadian border. You don't hear them calling for fences along the Canadian border, although there is ample evidence that terrorists have tried to enter this country through our northern boundary. Why? Because most of those illegal immigrants are not Latinos.

The media share some responsibility for the many distortions in the national debate about illegal immigration. From the lazy way we cover this issue, anyone could think all illegal immigrants — including terrorists — are coming from Mexico. It's a lot easier for the media to illustrate the illegal immigration problem by showing the same tired images of people crossing the Mexican border than it is for them to track down and interview people who have overstayed their visas.

But still, you don't hear many reporters explaining that we have nearly 12,000 Border Patrol agents along the 1,951-mile Mexican border and fewer than 1,000 agents along more than 5,500 miles of border with Canada. Perhaps that's why the outcry is only for more agents on the southern front.

The excuse used by the media, the fearmongers and the government is that there is a lot more traffic along the southern border, ignoring the fact that there is a lot more danger along the northern front.

And then the bigots tell you it's not about racism. It's all about national security, they say, demonstrating their unabashed gall and disrespect for human intelligence.

You would think they would have been throwing tantrums when a recent government report exposed an incredible lack of security on the Canadian border and a dramatic disparity between security at our southern and northern crossings.

The report, from the U.S. Government Accountability Office,

"The possibility that terrorists and criminals might exploit border vulnerabilities and enter the United States poses a serious security risk, especially if they were to bring radioactive material or other contraband with them." And then it goes on to explain that investigators were able to smuggle duffel bags carrying simulated radioactive materials through three unmanned spots from Canada to the U.S., including official ports of entry that were manned only during daylight hours.

"Our work clearly shows substantial vulnerabilities in the northern border to terrorists or criminals entering the United States undetected," the GAO's Greg Kutz testified last month at a Senate Finance Committee hearing on this issue. He said there are areas along the Mexican border that still appear to be vulnerable, "although the southern border appears to be substantially more secure."

Had this happened at the Mexican border, the anti-Latino bigots would have had a field day. But because this threat comes from Canada and because it's about the potential of real terrorism, they didn't make a big fuss.

After all, to them, real terrorists are not as dangerous as the decent and hardworking people who come here to pursue the American dream by washing our cars and our dishes, mowing our lawns and caring for our elderly and our children.

Their priorities are as straight as their warped, xenophobic mentality.

They can't tell the obvious difference between terrorists who come here to kill Americans and immigrants who come here to become Americans.

They say they are tired of being called racists, and yet Latinos are also tired of being the victims of racism.

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So where's the actual malice?

My brother Rush has nothing for which to apologize concerning the left's maliciously manufactured "phony soldier" scandal. He said nothing wrong and his accusers know it. There is no gray area here.

Rush is fraudulently accused of calling soldiers who oppose the Iraq war "phony soldiers." On his Sept. 26 show, he referred to men, like Jesse MacBeth, who lied about their service in Iraq and went on to impugn the service of those who actually have served there as "phony soldiers."

Two days before, on Sept. 24, Rush recorded his "Morning Update," which aired on Sept. 25 and mirrored an ABC "World News with Charles Gibson" piece that used the phrase "phony heroes" three times and "phonies" once to describe men like MacBeth who falsely claim to be veterans. Rush noted that the anti-war left makes celebrities of such frauds who falsely claim to have witnessed American soldiers committing atrocities in Iraq.

In his dialogue with the caller "Mike in Chicago" on the 26th, Rush used the phrase "phony soldiers," clearly referring to — in Mike's words — "soldiers that come up out of the blue." Rush never stated or remotely implied that any soldiers other than those who had been caught in such fabrications are phony. He did not say, would not say and never has said that soldiers who oppose the war are phony soldiers — because he doesn't believe it.

Rush honors all U.S. soldiers for their courage and sacrifice, and because they represent the primary institution — the United States

military — that safeguards the precious liberty that makes America the greatest nation in the world. The soldiers' beliefs are the soldiers' business, and Rush respects and appreciates their service irrespective of those beliefs — a fact I affirm based on 54 years of firsthand knowledge. He has a 20-year record on nationally syndicated radio demonstrating his unqualified devotion to America's fighting men and women.

Certain commentators, like Geraldo Rivera on "Hannity and Colmes," have said Rush could clear up this whole matter simply by acknowledging the ambiguity in his words and apologizing for any misunderstanding.

Let me be clear, unambiguous and unequivocal here. Rush should neither apologize for saying something he did not say nor acknowledge an ambiguity that does not exist. Few things are worse than being falsely accused, and an apology from Rush under these circumstances would be dishonest and destructive, and would legitimize the despicable actions of his accusers.

Both Geraldo and Alan Colmes also mouthed the liberal talking point that Rush has deliberately kept this issue alive to increase his ratings and make more money. To the contrary, Rush has continued this discussion only to defend his honor and expose the nefariousness of his accusers, who are determined to discredit Rush and talk radio as a predicate to resurrecting the Fairness Doctrine.

This is a trumped-up scandal orchestrated by people who want to defame Rush because he is the single most effective voice in America promoting policies and values they find abhorrent, opposing their agenda and exposing their fraud and hypocrisy.

Rush's defense in this matter does not depend on establishing

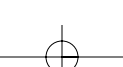
the insincerity and hypocrisy of his accusers. Note: I am not saying he misspoke and is seeking to excuse himself based on equal or worse infractions on their part. Indeed, had Rush impugned soldiers in the manner fraudulently alleged, it would be no excuse to interpose the Clintonian defense that his accusers had done the same. His defense is purely that he said nothing wrong and everything right. To expose truly "phony soldiers" is to uphold the honor of real soldiers.

Having said that, it is important separately to point out that many in the accusers' camp, like Senators Harry Reid and John Kerry and Congressman John Murtha, have unambiguously impugned, undermined or demoralized our soldiers. Many of them have propped up, celebrated and eagerly embraced those "phony soldiers," who, like Kerry and Murtha, have falsely accused our soldiers of atrocities. Many have refused to condemn the MoveOn.org ad characterizing our commanding officer in Iraq, Gen. David Petraeus, as a traitor. Now they willfully impute military-slandering words to a man who has no superior in championing our military. How much more obvious can they be in revealing their anti-military mindset?

If they were capable of exhibiting shame or contrition I'd demand an apology from all of them.

But they're not sorry. They have perpetrated this phony scandal against my brother with actual malice. The ones behind the slander know they are lying; those merely echoing their words without bothering to investigate the facts are acting in reckless disregard for the truth.

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For now, the great jeep wannabe scam continues

Never, in a million years, did I think I'd find myself sitting here, ready to write a sequel to my ever-popular Jeep-selling-scam column.

I guess a million years just isn't what it used to be.

For those who missed out on the first part of story, here's the run-down.

Last month I made the decision to sell my trusty old Jeep, which I've owned almost as long as I've lived in Texas. It has a ton of miles, the paint's partially gone and the driver's seat has a busted rod in it, but my four-wheel-drive companion is still a part of the family.

Without seeming cal-low, I've had my Jeep longer than I've had my daughter. So it was with



THOMAS JENKINS

great pain I decided it was time to let her — the Jeep, mind you — go in favor of my new Chevy sedan, which has air conditioning, cruise control and no busted rods in the seats. Well, not yet, anyway.

With that in mind, I placed pictures and information on my Jeep in several online classified Web sites, and waited.

Two days later, I received an e-mail from a woman identifying herself as Sandra Clein. She was very, very interested in my Jeep, and asked that I answer a few questions and send some pictures.

To make a long story short, I got two very distinct feelings from my correspondence with dear Ms. Clein. First, she didn't speak much English, and second, she couldn't care less what kind of condition my Jeep was in. She wanted it, and that was the end of it.

And with that, there's an express mail envelope from the guys in brown

waiting for me on my front porch when I get home from work. Inside is a cashier check, compliments of Chase Bank, for \$6,999.

I was only asking \$3,700 for the vehicle. And, with that discrepancy in mind, I began researching the whole thing online — didn't the Internet get me into this mess in the first place? — and discovered, quite easily, it was all a scam.

A fairly common scam, for that matter. They send you a cashier's check for whatever it is you're selling, and ask you to wire — usually by Western Union — the remaining funds to them or some fake shipping company. Long after their share of the money is wired, you get a call from your bank letting you know the check was a fraud, and you need to return the money — all of it, mind you — before the John Law comes knocking at your door.

And, with that in mind, I decided it was time to

have some fun with my would-be fleecers. I wrote them several e-mails, back and forth, claiming to be everything from an invalid to an idiot, asking them to send me cash for bus rides and postage.

I even went so far as to tell them I had amassed quite a collection of nickels, and was going to refund the remaining \$3,299 in nothing but nickels.

Needless to say, when I get a funny idea in my head, I have to see it through. I looked it up online and found out a nickel weighs just one gram, and after figuring out 65,980 nickels — that's \$3,299, mind you — weighs more than 700 pounds, I asked for cash to have them shipped.

Dear Sandra failed to see the humor in my last message, telling me to "cut it out and just send the money." And, in all honesty, that's where I expected the whole charade to end — until a few days ago.

"Dad! There's some guy

in brown clothes at the door," my 7-year-old daughter shouted from the living room. A man in brown can mean only two things, and the last time I checked chocolate-dipped people weren't very popular in this warm climate.

It was the UPS dude, express envelope in hand. The same kind of envelope my first cashier's check came in.

No way, right? Wrong. Not only are these scammers persistent, they're dumber than a box of rocks.

Inside was another cashier's check — also a fantastic forgery, same as the first — along with an e-mail to contact. And, as you can guess, the whole process of lie, lie, demand, lie began all over again.

And, in true Jenkins family fashion, me and my daughter sat down and crafted a new story, in the end giving the entire \$6,999 to charity in hopes of bettering mankind. We even added a little footnote to the

scammers, letting them know any other funding they would like to provide would be greatly appreciated.

And while, I must admit the game is certainly wearing thin for me, I say this in my ultimate defense. Every time these idiots spend the \$2 or \$3 to send me one of their counterfeit checks, that's one less defenseless, ill-informed person receiving it, and eventually cashing it.

I was talking to a friend at Howard College the other day, and she gave me a great idea. Once I've grown completely weary of this game — and the corresponding columns — I'll bundle up all of my publications on the matter and send them to my would-be scammers, along with a simple note, carrying only a single word. Gotcha.

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

Why not check this out? At the library

My column is a little short today; the new book arrivals are slowing down and so has my energy! There are a couple of "retread" reviews, see if you can figure out which ones.

Photography • "Windmill Tales" (621.45 MEI W). Wyman Meinzer's photographic essays on windmills is truly incredible. This is a collection of Meinzer's

photographs of what really tamed this country, the windmill. What is land good for if there is not water accessible for human and animal consumption? Edited by Coy F. Harris, Meinzer's paean to the lowly windmill is indescribable.



HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

Thrillers • "Sammy's House." In a review from Booklist, Kristine Hunt writes that Kristin Gore's follow-up to her sparkling debut, "Sammy's Hill" (2004), finds Sammy Joyce established in the White House as a health-care policy advisor to Vice President Robert Gary. Her party is in power, but the opposition is as fierce as ever, with a group called the

Exterminators working to undermine President Wye's every move and a White House insider writing a vicious blog that exposes every controversy going on behind the scenes. More serious in tone than her first novel, Gore's second delves more deeply into the political realm Sammy inhabits. But her heroine remains compelling and thoroughly lovable, and readers will

be thrilled to find Sammy back in the saddle again as she navigates the treacheries of Washington politics and her own love life.

Fiction • "The Gatecrasher" by Madeleine Wickham (who also writes as Sophie Kinsella) is witty mix of manner and English life. In a modern-day novel of manners, Wickham's lively prose

needles the British upper class with a mixture of suspense and wit. Armed with a closet full of designer black suits, the daily obituaries and a face that never betrays her 40 years, Fleur invades the funerals of the wealthy, enchantingly rich, grieving new widowers in need of a shoulder to cry on.

• "Daddy's Girls" by See LIBRARY, Page 6A

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ALBERTSONS	HIRSCHFELD STEEL	SONIC
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BORDER PATROL	MARY KAY	PUBLIC SAFETY
CARE PARTNERS	MAXIMUS/CHASESOURCE	TOMCAT
CAREER PATH, INC.	McCoy's	TOWN & COUNTRY
CINTAS	MIDLAND CERTIFIED REAGENT	TRANSIT MIX
CLEARWIRE	MIDLAND COLLEGE	TRANSPORTATION SAFETY
COLDWELL BANKER LANGSTON	MIDLAND INDEPENDENT	ADMINISTRATION
REALTORS	SCHOOL DISTRICT	TRUGREEN
CORNELL CORRECTIONS	MIDLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	UMC AUTOMATION
CUPID.COM	MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM	UNITED FUEL & ENERGY
D.A.R.S.	MURPHY USA	UTPB
DILLIARD'S	ODESSA REGIONAL MEDICAL	WAL-MART
ENERGI PERSONNEL	CENTER	WARREN CAT/CSI
ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR	OFFICE TEAM	WHATABURGER
FAMILY DOLLAR	PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA	WILSON ENERGY
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Guest Speakers: **Charles Spence** (Publisher Emeritus-Midland Reporter-Telegram) **Tommy Baker** (UTPB Small Business Development)

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Above, 2-year-old Michael Jensen peeks over for a closer look while the Rev. Kelly Conkling, interim priest at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, blesses Hazel, who is owned by Debbie Williams. The annual Blessing of the Animals was held Saturday evening in the church's Bennett Garden. About 15 people and many animals attended outdoor service which observes of St. Francis Day. Below, the Rev. Conkling blesses Jack, the snake, held by John Williams.

HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 5A

Tamina Perry is in the tradition of Jackie Collins with a contemporary twist. The Balcon sisters are a new breed of British nobility — rich but not idle. No, these four beauties have high ambitions. When their father drowns in the estate moat, fingers point at the sisters, who stand to benefit from his death. So they get to work clearing their names and unearthing some long-buried secrets. Too late for the beach read, maybe it will work when football season is in full swing.

True Life Suspense

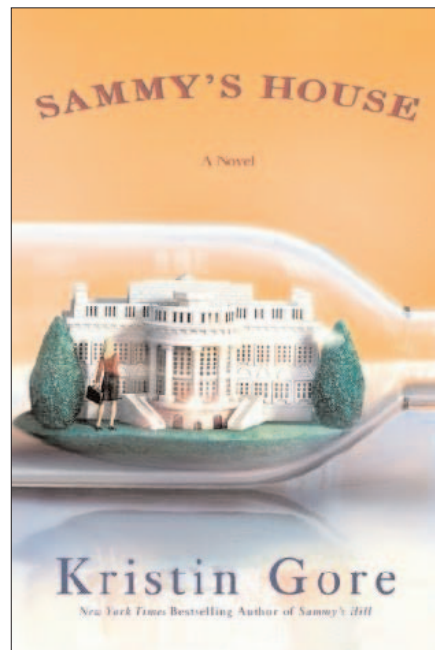
• **“Between a Rock and a Hard Place”** (927.965 RAL A) I could not do justice in reviewing this book, my writing skills were too minimal. From Booklist and Alan Moores, here is Aron Ralston's story.

The world knows the outlines of Ralston's extraordinary story: With precious little water or food, his right arm pinned for nearly five days by a boulder in a narrow canyon shaft in central-eastern Utah, Ralston amputated the arm with his pocketknife, then rappelled and hiked his way to his own rescue.

What makes his account of his ordeal extraordinary, too, is the detail and precision Ralston, a former mechanical engineer, brings to the telling, from the almost minute-by-minute chronology of his ordeal to topographical descriptions of the ground he's covered in his life as an outdoor adventurer.

It's also the extremes of

failure and achievement we see forged in this life-or-death crisis: carelessness at not telling friends where he was going, despair as he wrote his epitaph on the canyon wall, even a certain unthinking in taking five days to figure out his deliverance. But those



were all trumped by Ralston's amazing resourcefulness in prolonging his supplies and finding a way out, his boundless enthusiasm for life, and his dogged force of will at enduring far longer than anyone could have expected.

**BOOK SALE!
BOOK SALE!
BOOK SALE!**

Everything is priced to sell; no offer will be refused! The Book Sale will end Oct. 27. Come on down, as Bob Barker used to say, and see what you can find. The basement sale area is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day except Saturday, when it closes at 1:30 p.m.

Remember, our hours have changed: Monday to Friday, we are open 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. with the Internet/Video room closing during lunch (noon to 2 p.m.) and at 5:30 in the evening. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

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That's not true of our competitors. Most often, you have to work through voice-mail at an undisclosed faraway location to solve a billing or service problem. Some of those folks never saw the working end of a pickup or stock trailer. And most of them are indifferent to the unique challenges of getting good cell coverage in West Texas. Not WESTEX. We didn't just circle our region on a map and decide to sell something here. WESTEX Wireless: we live here, we work here, and we do both by choice.



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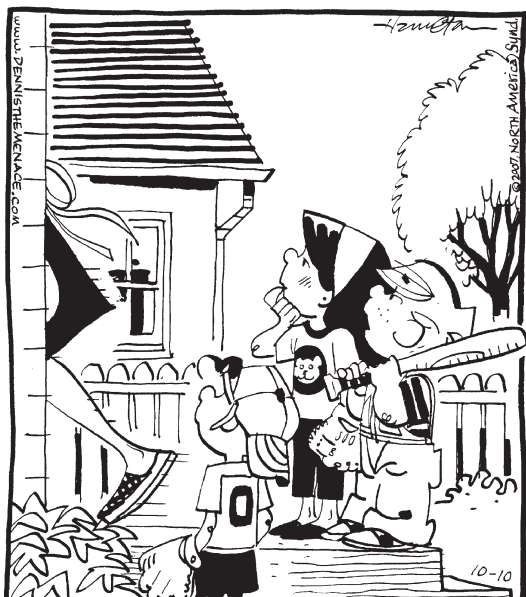
“Accepting New Patients”

Se Habla Espanol

WEDNESDAY

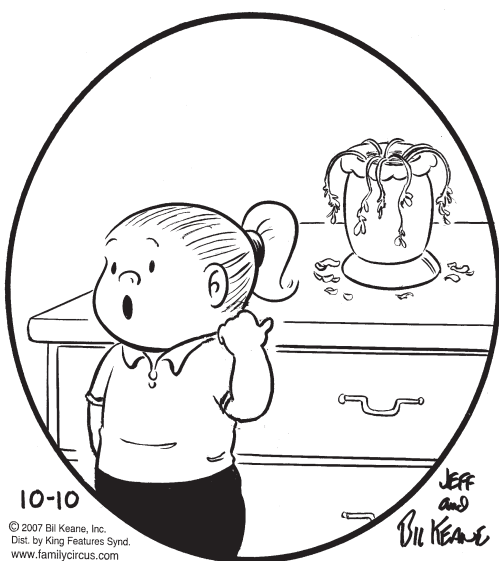
	WFDA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Swallow John Hagee	News-Lehrer	How It's Made How It's Made		CSI: Crime Scene Investg. Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Movie: Don	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	The Contender		Ghost Hunters (CC)
7:PM :30	Pushing Daisies (CC)	Pushing Daisies (CC)	Amar sin Limites	Back to You Til Death	Kid Nation (CC)	Madre Luna	Deal or No Deal (CC)	Family Guy	Update/Israel Rico Cortes	Wired Science (CC)	Build It Bigger	Movie: Lionheart	CSI: Crime Scene Investg. Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	King: Only in America	Movie: Return to	Billiards	College Football:	Ghost Hunters (CC)
8:PM :30	Private Practice	Private Practice	Destilando Amor	Kitchen Nightmares	Criminal Minds (CC)	La Esclava Isaura	Bionic Woman (CC)	House-Payne House-Payne	Light of the Southwest	The War (CC) (DVS)	MythBusters (CC)		UFC Unleashed	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	(CC)	Halloweentown	Billiards	Navy at Pittsburgh	Ghost Hunters (CC)
9:PM :30	Dirty Sexy Money (CC)	Dirty Sexy Money (CC)	Don Francisco Presenta	TMZ (CC) Raymond	CSI: NY (CC)	Pecados Ajenos	Life (CC)	The Office The Office			MythBusters: Marked for	:15 Movie: Death	The Ultimate Fighter	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	American Gangster 2	That's-Raven Life Derek	Billiards		Ghost Hunters (CC)
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noti-Telemndo Pecados	News Tonight Show	Raymond Raymond	Update/Israel Dr. Young	Charlie Rose (CC)	Cash Cab: After Dark	Death	MANswers MANswers	Without a Trace (CC)	Take the Cake	Zack & Cody Han. Montana	Billiards	SportsCenter (CC)	Ghost Hunters (CC)
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	Ajenos Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night- Conan O'Brien	Sex and-City Sex and-City	CCM Ministries Charles Scott	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Build It Bigger	Mad Men	CSI: Crime Scene Investg.	Without a Trace (CC)	Hill Date Comicview	Replacements Kim Possible	NASCAR Now Contender	Baseball NFL Live	Ghost Hunters (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Movie: Charlie's	Update/Israel Dei Sanchez	Sign Off	MythBusters (CC)	12:15 Movie: Brubaker	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace (CC)	Rap City	Emperor New American Drgn	Karate: ISKA Champ.	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR MOM SAID IN ITALIAN, BUT ANGRY SOUNDS THE SAME IN ANY LANGUAGE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

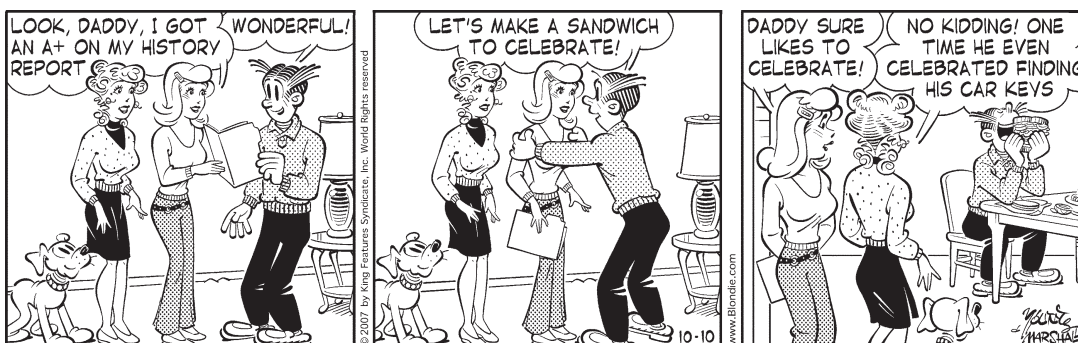


"These flowers are done being flowers."

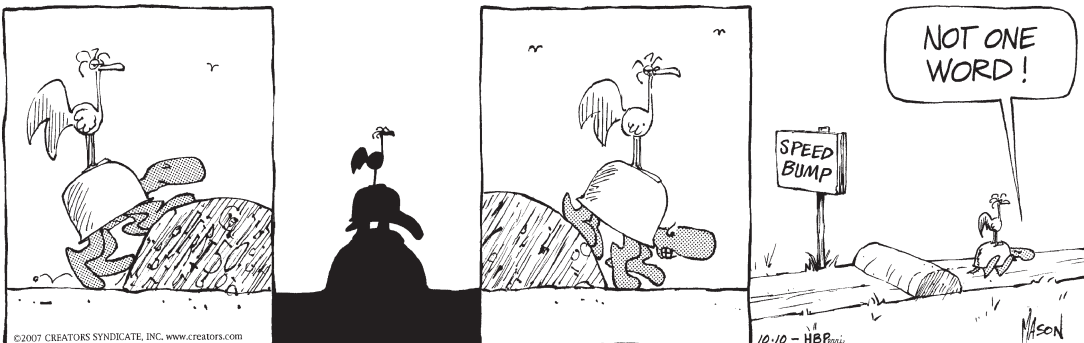
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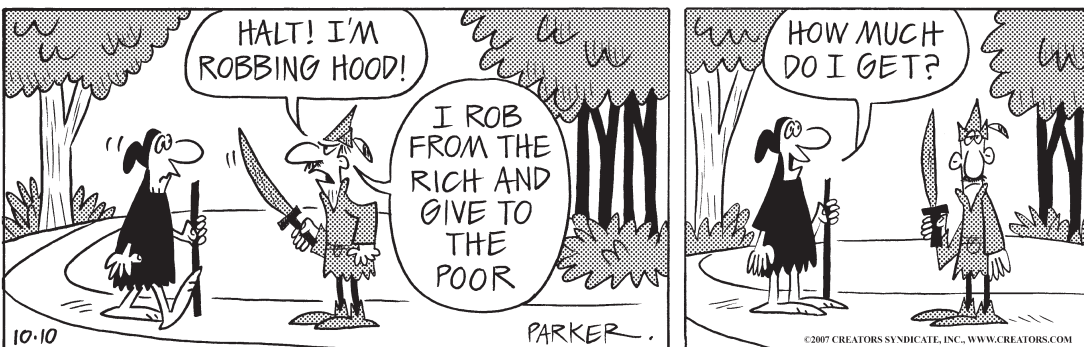
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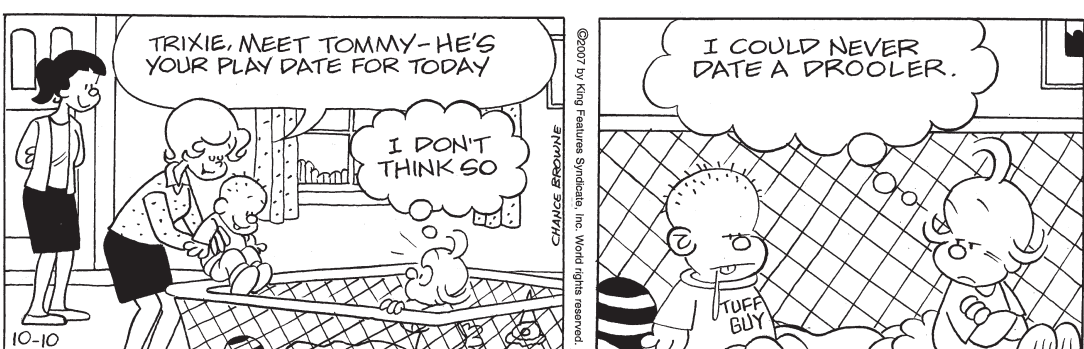
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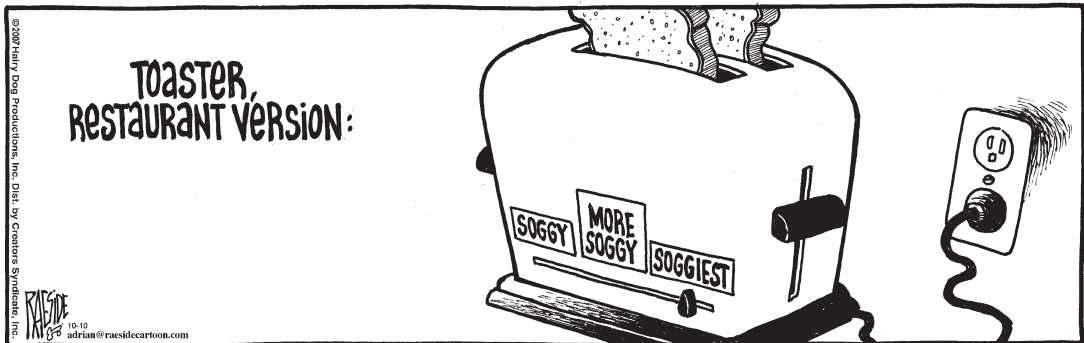
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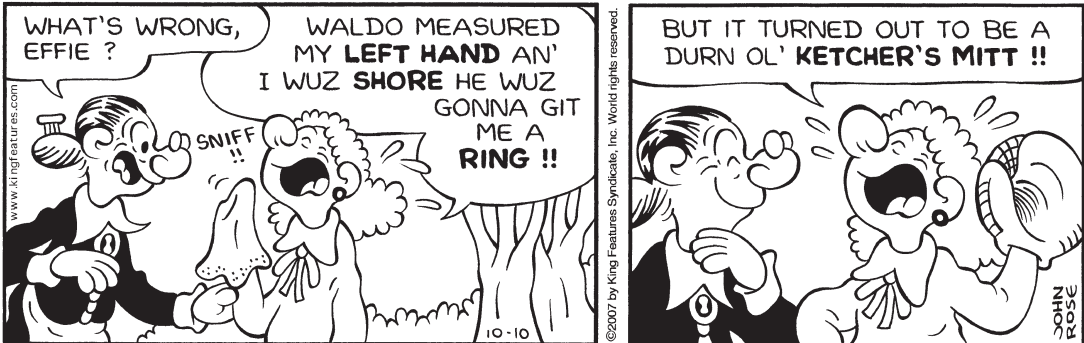
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2007. There are 82 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was established in Annapolis, Md.

On this date:

In 1813, composer Giuseppe Verdi was born in Le Roncole, Italy.

In 1911, revolutionaries under Sun Yat-sen launched their overthrow of China's Manchu dynasty.

In 1935, George Gershwin's opera "Porgy and Bess" opened on Broadway.

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1957, President Eisenhower apologized to the finance minister of Ghana, Komla Agbeli Gbedemah, after the official was refused service in a Dover, Del., restaurant.

In 1957, the Milwaukee Braves won the World Series, defeating the New York Yankees in Game 7, 5-0.

In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty, which prohibits the placing of weapons of mass destruction on the moon or elsewhere in space, entered into force.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income tax evasion, and resigned his office.

In 1982, Father Maximilian Kolbe, who died in the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp, was canonized by Pope John Paul II.

Today's Birthdays:

Playwright Harold Pinter is 77. Former Illinois Sen. Adlai Stevenson III is 77. Actor Peter Coyote is 65. Entertainer Ben Vereen is 61. Singer John Prine is 61. Actor Charles Dance is 61. Rock singer-musician Cyril Neville (The Neville Brothers) is 59. Actress Jessica Harper is 58. Singer-musician Midge Ure is 54. Country singer Tanya Tucker is 49. Actress Julia

Sweeney is 48. Actor Bradley Whitford is 48. Musician Martin Kemp is 46. Rock musician Jim Glennie (James) is 44. Actress Rebecca Pidgeon is 42. Rock musician Mike Malinin (Goo Goo Dolls) is 40. Actress Wendi McLendon-Covey is 38. Actor Mario Lopez is 34. Actress Jodi Lyn O'Keefe is 29. Singer Mya is 28. Singer Cherie is 23. Actress Aimee Teegarden is 18.

Thought for Today: "At every single moment of one's life one is what one is going to be no less than what one has been." — Oscar Wilde, Irish poet and dramatist (1856-1900).

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Answer to previous puzzle

C	A	R	E	S
M	A	I	L	S
O	L	I	V	E
L	O	V	E	L
A	H	A	D	A
A	L	L	O	T
T	A	D	A	
S	L	E	D	S
L	E	D	S	
P	L	A	I	T
A	N	N	O	Y
G	R	I	D	
C	A	L	L	E
A	R	E	A	L
K	I	N	D	
E	D	D		

Newsday Crossword

FASTEN-ATION by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Churns up item
- 6 Tourists' aids
- 10 Mil. unit
- 13 Reader's download
- 14 Not to mention
- 15 Beach, FL
- 16 Alley target
- 18 Optimist's words
- 19 Neptune's realm
- 20 Hecklers' chorus
- 21 Bring forward, as in evidence
- 23 Hugs, in a letter
- 24 Took the wheel
- 25 Nucleus component
- 29 Slacks fabric
- 30 Low-calorie
- 31 Any day now
- 32 Singer Amos
- 36 Neutral shade
- 37 One of a 1492 trio
- 38 The Bard's river
- 39 Consider
- 40 "Woe is me!"
- 41 Grab with a toothpick
- 42 Industry big shot
- 44 Tristram Shandy author
- 45 Kvetchers
- 48 Norma
- 49 Jockey great
- 50 Eddie
- 54 Sound of surprise
- 51 Bat wood
- 54 French comic actor
- 55 Medicine-chest
- 58 Airline to Ben-Gurion
- 59 Toledo's lake
- 60 Perrier rival
- 61 Draft org.
- 62 Puts on
- 63 Chars

- 9 Short piano piece
- 10 Come up again
- 11 Elegance
- 12 In great shape
- 15 TV watcher's cassette
- 17 Time for lunch, perhaps
- 22 Cozy room
- 24 Bar servings
- 25 Argued in court
- 26 Paella
- 27 Cruel dude
- 28 Concise, as a sketch
- 29 Schwarzenegger role
- 31 Cylindrical structures
- 33 All done
- 34 Horse's color
- 35 Concerning
- 37 Repeated without understanding
- 41 Treeless plains
- 43 Linguist
- 44 Miss America attire
- 45 Chess wins
- 46 Paperless exams
- 47 Perform the function of
- 48 Has status
- 50 Enter
- 51 Where Siberia is
- 52 Play the lead
- 53 Egg layers
- 56 Precious metal, in Mexico
- 57 St. crosser

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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49					50				51	52	53
54					55	56			57		
58					59				60		
61					62				63		

Depression can lead to suicide, studies show

Special to the Herald

Screening for depression or mood disorders can be an effective tool to detect people at risk for suicide, mental health professionals say.

"We have found that one of the problems in identifying risk factors for suicide is that friends and family members don't know the signs for suicide," West Texas Centers for MHMR CEO Shelley Smith said. "We spend a great deal of time educating the public."

West Texas Centers for MHMR, Big Spring State Hospital and Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Gero-Psych unit will offer free depression screenings Thursday from 10

a.m. until 2 p.m. in the first-floor classroom of SMMC. Screeners also will assess people who may be at risk for suicide.

Screening tools are available for teens and adults. A Spanish version also is available.

More than 60 percent of people who die by suicide suffer from major depression, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Signs that people may be at risk for suicide may say:

Expressing that "life isn't worth living" or my family would be "better off without me."

"You'll be sorry when I'm gone."

"I won't be in your way much longer."

"I just can't deal with everything."

They also may be giving away personal items or those of monetary value. Or they may be getting their affairs in order.

The foundation suggests specific guidelines to help people you suspect may be considering suicide:

Acknowledge the situation and take it seriously. Also be willing to listen even if professional help is needed.

Care and voice your concern. Take the initiative and ask what is troubling them. Let the person know that he or she is not alone, and ask if he or she has a specific plan. This does

not cause a person to think about or commit suicide.

Treatment must be provided and help your friend or loved one get professional help. West Texas Centers for MHMR staffs a 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Hotline. The crisis phone number is 800-375-4357.

As important as it is to know what to do, it is just as important to know "what not to do," Smith said.

Don't try to cheer the person up and tell them that he or she will snap out of it.

Don't assume that the situation will take care of itself.

Don't argue or debate moral issues.

Don't be sworn to secrecy. Don't risk your personal safe-

ty. If your friend or loved one acts in a threatening way, just leave and call police.

Thursday's screening can help people who may be at risk for suicide. Participants fill out a written questionnaire and review the answers with a licensed professional mental health worker. Participants are provided with additional information regarding depression.

Screeners emphasize that the appointment is not a substitute for a doctor's evaluation.

A list of physicians and service agencies are provided at the conclusion of the screening along with materials on depression and other mood disorders.

For more information, call (432) 816-9257.

City: Bond projects could be completed within year

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

City residents could see the completion of tax bond-funded projects as early as May 2008, according to a report delivered to the Big Spring City Council by City Manager Gary Fuqua during Tuesday night's council meeting.

With four bond financed projects currently in the works — rehabilitation of the Northside Elevated Reservoir, construction of a new annex for the animal shelter, street rehabilitation and construction of a new sports com-

plex — totaling more than \$15 million, Fuqua said plans are moving forward.

"On the water storage project, bids are expected to be opened Oct. 18, with the project expected to be completed by May of 2008," said Fuqua. "They will be going in and actually sandblasting and reconditioning the inside of the reservoir, and cleaning and painting the outside as well. The outside can't be stripped because of the lead-based paint, but the new coat of paint will encapsulate it."

Fuqua said work on the annex for the municipal

animal shelter hasn't gone quite as smoothly as he'd like, but he expects to see bids in December, with the project completed by September 2008.

"The first design we had drawn up simply wouldn't work with the \$460,000 budget," said Fuqua. "So we had them go back and make the facility fit within the dollar amount. They had to move some things around, but the design is complete. We've also found a problem with the soil at the animal shelter, and we're currently looking at ways to make sure the new annex won't sink or shift."

Fuqua said the sports complex — which will be located where the Roy Anderson complex currently resides — is expected to go out for bid in April 2008, with the project completed by December 2008.

"While we're expecting the construction to be complete by December 2008, it will most likely be May 2009 before the facility is ready for us," Fuqua told the council. "That's necessary to allow the turf to fully grow in."

The fourth project — street rehabilitation centered mainly around Scurry and Main Street,

as well as parts of downtown Big Spring — will actually take three phases to complete, beginning with street utility work.

"The utility work is expected to go out for bid April 2008," said Fuqua. "That should be completed by December 2008. The next part will be the street reconstruction, which is expected to be completed by July 2009. Street landscaping is expected to go out for bid May 2008, with work completed November 2008."

Voters approved the sports complex and street projects in a bond election held in November.

The water reservoir and animal shelter projects are being funded by certificates of obligation, which do not require voter approval.

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

To
subscribe,
call
263-7331

FIRE SAFETY

Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray introduces Allie, the hydrocarbon detection canine, to students at Kentwood Elementary Tuesday afternoon. Condray and other Big Spring Fire Department personnel are touring local schools this week as part of Fire Prevention and Safety Week.

Herald photo/Steve Reagan



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8:30AM TO 1:00PM
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A LOT OF GOOD
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BURRITOS - \$1.00
SODAS - .50
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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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Thinking Things Through

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ —
♥ K Q J
♦ A Q J 6 4 2
♣ J 8 6 5

WEST
♠ Q 9 7 6 3
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 5 3
♣ K 9 2

EAST
♠ —
♥ A 10 9 5
♦ K 9 7
♣ A Q 10 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K J 10 8 5 4 2
♥ 8 6 3
♦ 10 8
♣ —

The bidding:
East 1♣ South 4♠ West Dble North All Pass
Opening lead — two of clubs.

It's hard to estimate how many contracts are lost because players get overly upset after running into a bad suit break. A significant part of the skill in bridge consists of keeping your cool when the unexpected strikes, and then calmly doing the best you can under the circumstances.

Take the present case where South discovered early in the play that all five missing trumps were banked against him.

When dummy first appeared, it seemed his only possible losers were

a spade, a heart and a diamond. But when declarer ruffed the club lead and played the ace of trumps, East did not follow suit, and it now seemed South would have to lose two trump tricks.

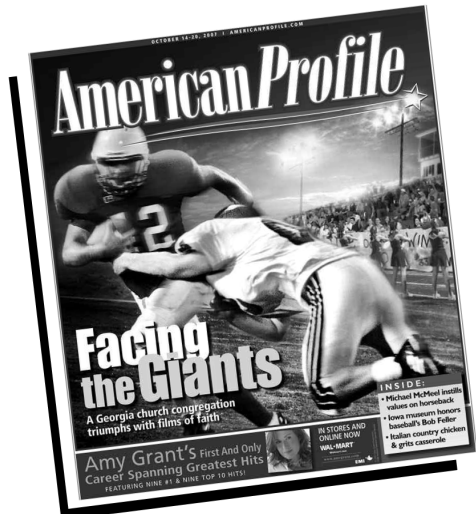
But faint heart ne'er won fair lady, and South did not promptly abandon all hope. Instead, he focused all his efforts on finding a solution to his predicament. He knew that his chances of winning a diamond finesse were very poor on the bidding, so he decided to try to eliminate one of his trump losers.

Accordingly, at trick three he led a heart to dummy's jack. East won with the ace and returned a heart to the queen. Declarer then ruffed a club, played a heart to the king and ruffed another club. Next came a diamond to the ace, deliberately rejecting the finesse, followed by another diamond to East's king.

At this point, South was down to only the K-J-10-8 of spades, while West's last four cards were Q-9-7-6. When East now led a club, declarer trumped with the ten. West realized he'd be finished if he overruffed, so he chose instead to undertruff with the six.

South countered by next leading the eight of spades. West won with the nine, but then had to lead from the Q-7 into declarer's K-J, and the contract was home.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



How David beat Goliath

Bothered by what they saw as a rising tide of negative messages in motion pictures, members of a Georgia church decided to make their own movies with positive messages and triumphed over Hollywood in the process. Plus, honoring Bob Feller and Italian country chicken.

American Profile

The Wall of Fallen Heroes honors those who have given their lives in the war against terror. It is located inside the Big Spring Mall.



COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

rescheduled.”
Wegman said he expects to have the matter straightened up and back in the commissioners’ hands by the first part of November, but the glitch may turn out to be a blessing in disguise.
“We’ve had two more developers that contacted me late last week,” said Wegman. “Their zones are going to overlap this one to a certain extent, so we may be looking at just creating one large zone to accommodate all three of those projects.”

Moore Development serves as a liaison between developers and local taxing entities when tax abatements are involved.
Wegman said tax abatements are a major concern for most wind energy investors, and thanks to legislation, there is a new boom for wind projects being seen in the Howard County area.
“It’s really very exciting right now,” said Wegman. “The current legislation — which offers a number of incentives for wind energy projects — ends in 2008, and a lot of developers are nervous about its renewal. There’s little

doubt that it will be renewed, but whether or not it will be in a timely manner is questionable. There was quite a lag a few years ago and that really hurt the industry.
“One of the things these developers look closely at are tax abatements. Most abatements are for 10 years, which gives the developer time to recoup the initial cost of the project. Once you get past that capital investment, the most costly thing these developers are looking at over the years is property tax, and they have to turn a profit for their investors, so abatements are a big deal.”

SALUTE

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at Marcy Elementary.
Mike’s high school class graduated in 1966 without him, for after a disagreement with his English teacher in his senior year, he failed that required course, and so he could not graduate. What is a young man to do in such a case, but join the Army? So on his 19th birthday, Dec. 4, 1966, he joined the Army, and after about a year of training, became a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division. Exactly one year after joining the Army, on his 20th birthday, he landed in Vietnam. He was scheduled to leave Vietnam on his 21st birthday, but a bullet put him in the hospital in April, and he came back to the U.S. before that birthday. On his 22nd birthday he was discharged. The date “Dec. 4” has become pretty important in his life.
Mike was awarded two purple hearts for wounds received in Vietnam. The

second of the two was a bullet through his ankle, which kept him in the hospital for two days short of a year. This left him with pain and a limp for the 40 years since. The first was minor in comparison, a hand grenade having cost him his front teeth.
After his active service, Mike was on partial disability. He began work as an oilfield roughneck and ended as an independent consultant to the industry. The bad ankle caused a bad leg that caused a bad back, and eventually he was classified unemployable and put on 100 percent disability.
For his service and courage shown in battle, Mike was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor not once, but twice. These plus the Purple Hearts are accompanied by an Air Medal (meritorious service while airborne, accomplished with distinction beyond that normally expected), an Army Commendation Medal, a Combat Infantry Badge, Parachute Wings, and Air Assault Wings.
Oh, by the way, remem-

ber the credit missing for English? In the spring of this year, Mike graduated from Snyder High School at age 59. They call guys like this “non-traditional students.”
Do you have a story about your own family members in the military? For submissions or more information, e-mail Lane Bond at lane@bondwebs.com, call him at 263-4033, or visit his Web site, www.bondwebs.com, to learn more about Big Spring. Leave your phone number or include it in your e-mail or letter.



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