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HERALD

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 30, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 288

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Preparing for disaster

Alon Refinery response drill goes well, Foster says

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

If there were a major emergency at the Big Spring Refinery, would officials and staff with the Alon USA-owned facility be ready to take action? That's the question officials with the local refinery attempted to answer Monday, as employees — from those working the facility's front gate to the refinery manager — went through a day-long emergency drill.

"Today's drill was a vapor cloud, and ultimately, the ignition of a propylene vapor cloud at what's called a salt well," said Refinery Manager David Foster. "The salt well is similar to an oil and gas well — it contains a material — but in this case, we've actually injected the material into the well. It's a good, safe underground storage tank that's pressurized."

Foster said every effort



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
David Foster, manager of the Big Spring Refinery, discusses the success of Monday's emergency drill at the Alon USA-owned facility. Foster said he was pleased with the drill and the way his employees handled it.

is made to simulate the measures taken in such an emergency, right down to making phone calls to homes nearby the refinery.

"We make actual phone calls to the local emergency agencies," said

Foster. "We also make phone calls (during the drill) to TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality). I even make a phone call to the chief executive officer of Alon. We make all the actual calls we'd make in

an actual emergency, and the reason we do this is because we want to make sure we have the right numbers.

"We actually called our neighbors (to the refinery) to make sure we have good numbers for them too. You don't want to have an emergency and then find out someone's changed their phone line or number. You want to find these things out during your drill."

Foster said he was kept in the dark regarding the details of the drill, right along with the rest of the refinery employees.

"Alon has an actual organizational chart for an incident like this," said Foster. "Of course, we have organizational charts for operating our normal business, but then we have charts for how the response is to be dealt out in an emergency. I serve as the incident commander, we have local commanders in the field that are manned by safety and operations people, those in charge of logistics ... Everyone has a role, and it's much different than they would normally have in their day-to-day job."

See **DRILL**, Page 3A

Fire chief: Have fun, but put safety first on Halloween

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Every kid wants to go trick-or-treating on Halloween.

Every parent wants their children to be safe from potential dangers.

How to balance the two? Big Spring Fire Department Chief Brian Jensen said

there are a few common-sense tips both children and parents can follow to be sure Halloween doesn't get too spooky. When trick-or-treating, Jensen advises the following:

- Children should wear bright-colored or reflective clothing, or even carry a light with them.

Jensen said area motorists typically do a very good job watching out for youngsters crossing the street on Halloween night, but making your children easier to see ups the odds for their safety even further.



jensen

Halloween activities

Scenic Mountain Medical Center Relay For Life Haunted House will be held tonight and Wednesday from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Malone & Hogan Clinic. Admission is \$5.

The Yellow Dogs Relay For Life team is sponsoring a spook house at College Heights School, 1801 S. Goliad. Hours will be 7:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. tonight and Wednesday.

Big Spring High School Class of 2009 will be holding a haunted house at John Wesley's Pick Pocket Billiards, 102 E. Third St., Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person. All money received will go towards the BSHS prom.

See **ACTIVITIES**, Page 3A

- Motorists need to be extra-careful driving

See **SAFETY**, Page 3A

Growing health problems among nation's youth

By **LINDA A. JOHNSON**
AP Business Writer

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Use of cholesterol and blood pressure medicines by young adults appears to be rising rapidly — at a faster pace than among senior citizens, according to an industry report being released Tuesday.

Experts point to higher rates of obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol problems among young people. Also, doctors are getting more aggressive with preventive treat-

See **HEALTH**, Page 3A

SHOOTIN' THROUGH BARS



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Lisa Simer gives encouragement to a boy participating in one of the games at Saturday evening's annual Fall Festival at Kentwood Elementary School.

Rotarians plan tailgate dinner Friday evening

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club will be hosting its 7th Annual Tailgate Cook-out Friday at the west side, north-end of Memorial Stadium.

Rotarians will be serving beef fajita burritos, dessert and drink for \$6. To purchase a ticket, contact any Rotarian or call or go by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and talk to Debbye ValVerde.

In previous years, the Rotarians have contributed to the After-Prom Party, purchased books for the libraries of area schools, equipment for the Big Spring Independent School District special needs department and more. This year, the club will be focusing on several school projects.

"This is what being a Rotarian is all about Service Above Self, so we invite everyone to come out on Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.," said Gwen Dunson, Greater Big Spring Rotary Club president.

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B
Tuesday, October 30, 2007

IN BRIEF

Forsan Boosters holding tailgate supper before game

The Forsan Booster Club is holding a tailgate supper at 6 p.m. Friday before the Buffaloes final home football game against Eldorado.

Cost is \$5 and includes a hamburger, drink, chips and candy.

All seniors will be recognized before the game as well.

Call Layne Mims at 816-3210 for more information.

Individuals needed to referee area basketball games

Individuals are needed to referee area subvarsity basketball games for the 2007-08 season.

Anyone interested should call Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300.

Quarterback Club meeting Monday at 7 p.m. in ATC

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is meeting today 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.

Howard College announces Hawk Buddies Program

The Howard College Women's Basketball team is tipping off its season with the Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

It starts Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum with a basketball clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Each Hawk Buddy will receive an opportunity to learn how to play the game from Howard players and coaches for a fee of \$20. A T-shirt will be given to each participant that will also serve as a free family season pass when worn to Howard College home games.

A second clinic is scheduled for Jan. 12 to be followed by a pizza-party with the women's basketball team.

Each Hawk Buddy will be recognized at halftime of the Hawks home game Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Assistant Coach Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

Area high school varsity sports weekly calendar

THURSDAY

Garden City football at Grady, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Big Spring football vs. Lubbock Estacado, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan football vs. Eldorado, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football vs. Stanton, 7:30 p.m.

Sands football vs. Fort Davis, 7:30 p.m.

Mavs ready to prove they're contenders

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — This time last year, the big question surrounding the Dallas Mavericks was how they would bounce back after choking away a 2-0 lead in the NBA finals.

Their response was impressive: Three double-digit winning streaks, a first in league history. Sixty-seven wins, fifth-best in league history. Dirk Nowitzki putting up the numbers and leadership that would make him the team's first MVP winner.

Then, poof! The Mavs threw it all away again, finding an even more humiliating way to lose —

in the first round to a Golden State team that needed a huge push just to scrape its way into the playoffs. By many measures, it ranks as one of the most colossal upsets in all pro sports, making Nowitzki's honor feel a bit hollow and leaving them with a long summer to stew over their twin failures.

Now what?

How does a team overcome such demoralizing oustings in consecutive postseasons?

And how do they tolerate the 82-game precursor known as the regular season before they can get back to their proving ground?

The answers will come not

from their billionaire owner or their German superstar, but in the Cajun twang of their coach, Avery Johnson, aka "The Little General."

For starters, he's already gotten everyone to believe the Warriors series was just something that happened.

Players are almost unanimous in their dismissal of it as being trapped in a perfect storm — a streaking team against one that had been cruising into the playoffs, a bad matchup on top of that and whatever inside knowledge former coach Don Nelson shared with the Warriors. Jerry Stackhouse went so far as to say

the Mavs were lucky to have stretched the series to six games. To Johnson, the disheartening part wasn't losing that series, it was failing to get back to the finals.

"I wouldn't have been any happier had we won the first round and lost to Utah," Johnson said, referring to what the Warriors did in the second round.

Nowitzki believes the best approach is to "keep it fresh in your mind, but try to focus on the future."

"You don't want to harp on what you've done wrong, you've

See **MAVS**, Page 2B

Big 12 feeling a shift of power

Don't believe parity is sweeping through college football? Look no further than the Big 12 for proof.

For the past three seasons, there has been little doubt as to which division held the power within the Big 12.

Anchored by perennial powers Texas and Oklahoma, the South Division has made mince meat out of the North Division. The argument could be made that the top five teams within the conference for the past three years are from the South — Texas, Oklahoma, Texas Tech, Texas A&M and Oklahoma State.

The lack of competition provided by the North is evident in the results of the last three Big 12 championship games. The South champion has outscored the North champion, 133-13, in the last three championship games.

This hasn't always been the case, though. In the first eight years of the conference, the two divisions split the championship games, winning four each. However, the recent lopsided results have led many officials to call for a realignment to balance out the talent level.

In the words of former coach and television personality Lee Corso, "Not so fast, my friend!"

The tides are changing. Look at the results of this past weekend. The North and South



MCT photo/Khampha Bouaphanh/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Kansas' Russell Brosen (81) catches up to Texas A&M quarterback Stephen McGee in Kansas' 19-11 win over Texas A&M at College Station Saturday. The Jayhawks are one of the many evidences of the parity sweeping across the Big 12.

played four interdivisional games Saturday. The supposed lesser division came away with a 3-1 record. One of those wins was with Kansas State blowing out Baylor, but the other games featured situations where the

South should have been able to manage a victory as the hosting team.

Colorado was a heavy underdog heading into Lubbock to face the Red Raiders. However, the Buffs proved Vegas and

many other doubters wrong, showing that their upset over Oklahoma earlier this season wasn't a fluke.

See **BIG 12**, Page 2B

Romo signs six-year deal with Cowboys



MCT photo/Ron T. Ennis/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo rolls out of the pocket against the Minnesota Vikings. Romo will be the face of the Cowboys for several more seasons as he and Dallas have come to terms on a 6-year deal.

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Tony Romo won't have to wait until the offseason to get his big payday from the Dallas Cowboys after all.

Romo has agreed to a six-year, \$67 million deal that includes \$30 million in guaranteed money, according to a person familiar with the deal who requested anonymity because the contract has not been signed. A formal announcement is expected Tuesday.

"Right now, we're just talking, but it's closer than it was before," Romo said late Monday. "I feel like I'm going to be with the Cowboys the rest of my career, definitely. I love it."

Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple said the team would have no announcements Monday night. Other club officials did not immediately return calls.

Ken Kramer, who negotiated the contract for Romo, also was not available for comment.

Recently, quarterbacks Matt Schaub of Houston (\$48 million) and Marc Bulger of St. Louis (\$65 million) received six-year contracts. Bulger got \$27 million guaranteed. Schaub's Texans are 3-5, while Bulger's Rams are 0-8. Both have also been injured this season.

The Cowboys, meanwhile, are

6-1 and lead the NFC East.

Romo has been under a contract signed before he'd ever thrown a pass in the NFL. That deal ran only through this season.

After leading Dallas into the playoffs last season, Romo hoped to be re-signed over the summer. But team owner Jerry Jones opted to let the relatively unproven quarterback go into his first year in charge to make sure he was worth being paid as much as Schaub or Bulger.

Romo ended up showing he's worth more than either.

How? By being named the NFC's offensive player of the month in September, then coming out of October with Dallas holding the No. 1 offense in the conference.

Convinced Romo is the reliable leader the Cowboys have been looking for since Troy Aikman's career ended in 2000, Jones got the deal done in time for some of the dollars to apply to this season's salary cap.

It also is done in plenty of time to ensure that Romo will be the face of the franchise in 2009, when the Cowboys move into a \$1 billion stadium that can seat up to 100,000 fans.

"It's a great feeling you have when the organization and the

See **ROMO**, Page 2B

Obituaries

Richard Chamness



Richard B. Chamness, 81, died Sunday, Oct. 28, 2007 at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. A private interment will be held at the Dallas/Fort Worth National Cemetery in Dallas at a later date.

He was born May 13, 1926 in Carthage, Mo. He was raised by his grandparents, Charles and Lucille Allen. He married Lola Phipps in 1946 in Missouri; she preceded him in death in August 1993.

He had been a resident of Big Spring since 1995 and was a member of the Church of Christ.

He was very active in the VFW, American Legion and the Purple Heart Club. He was a U.S. Army Veteran, having served in the Rhineland Campaign during World War II. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star during his military service.

He was self-employed as a mechanical contractor retiring in 1989.

He is survived by a daughter and her husband, Cheri and Ken Holmes, of Lee's Summit, Mo.; one son and his wife, Terry and Debbie Chamness of Big Spring; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, a son, Phillip Chamness, and a brother, Archie Chamness.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, c/o Men's Clothing, 1809 N. Highway 87, Big Spring 79720 and to the Truman Medical Center, Kansas City, Mo. c/o 12223 Alley Jackson Road, Lees' Summit, Mo. 64086.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Adelino 'Rocky' Vieira



Adelino "Rocky" Vieira, 78, of Weatherford, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Oct. 27, 2007, at Plaza Medical Center in Fort Worth. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, officiating. Burial with military honors will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born May 14, 1929, in Fall Rivers, Mass. to Sophia and Joseph Vieira. At age 17, he went into the Merchant Marine, later the Army, and then the Air Force, serving 25 years, including tours in Korea and Vietnam.

He came to Big Spring in 1969 and was stationed at Webb Air Force Base. He lived in Big Spring until 1998, when he moved to Weatherford.

He was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, was very active in all veterans organizations, including American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. After retiring from the Air Force, he was an agent for Metropolitan Life and was later with Myers & Smith Funeral Home, until retiring again in 1996 due to ill health.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Vieira of Weatherford; seven children, Kathy Robertson and her husband, George, Theresa Russell and her husband Kelly, and Tony Vieira, all of Weatherford, Mark Vieira of Atlanta, Ga., Michelle Griffith and her husband Don of Greenfield, Ind., Monalisa Ake and her husband Donny of Portales, N.M., and Todd Gardner Vieira of Morristown, Ill.; two sisters, Odella Flukes of Middlesex, N.J., and Mary Howance of Fall River, Mass.; a sister-in-law, Bertha Vieira of Fall River, Mass.; 14 grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Alfred and Henry Vieira; a sister, Ailene Vieira; and two grandchildren, Cherish Roxanne Walter and Matthew Vaughn Robertson.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Joaquin Duenes

Joaquin Duenes, 68, of Sand Springs died Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2007, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- **MAXIMO HERNANDEZ**, 45, of 906 N.W. First Street, was arrested Monday on four local warrants and a charge of failure to comply.

- **RICARDO CASTILLO**, 29, transient, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct - gestures.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 400 block of Dallas.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1900 block of Nolan.

- **ASSAULT BY THREATS** was reported in the 1400 block of Sixth Street.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 55 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JAMES EVERETTE ROBERTS**, 38, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

- **JIMMY FRANKLIN MASSINGILL**, 40, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation and criminal mischief.

- **SHAWN ACEY ANDERSON**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

- **MICHAEL SHANE HARBOUR**, 29, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of assault - family violence and assault with intent to cause bodily injury.

- **LEIGH ANN LEAL**, 25, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft of service by check.

- **MAXIMO HERNANDEZ**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to comply with registration requirements.

- **BEVERLY RYNEL ARMSTRONG**, 45, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for failure to identify - giving false information and charges of failure to appear for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, failure to identify - giving false information and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of Angela Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2800 block of Macausian. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2100 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1000 block of Stadium. Service refused.

Take Note

- Home Hospice Halos Junior Volunteers will have a Relay For Life garage sale from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 3. The sale will be at 111 E. Seveth, behind Home Hospice in the Runnels Street parking lot. Antiques, clothes, what-nots and more will be available.

- Beginning Monday, Nov. 5, West Texas Opportunities will have a new number to set up transportation for local and out-of-town trips. The number to call will be (800) 245-9028. Dispatchers will be Elena and Rebecca. Please call 24 hours in advance. Same day service cannot be guaranteed.

- 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.

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Bulletin Board

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

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

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.

- 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.

- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-22-33-34. Bonus Ball: 7. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-22-23-28-34.

Number matching five of five: 0.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-4-5-3. Sum It Up: 16

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-1-7.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Southeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the northeast in the afternoon.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Northeast winds around 10 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Northeast winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

Sunday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s.

Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

- Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at (432) 816-3033. Leave a message if you get voice mail.

- Life Recovery, a non-denominational Christian group of recovering alcoholics and addicts, meets at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

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BIG 12

Continued from Page 1B

Cornerback Terrance Wheatley picked off Graham Harrell three times and made it tough for Michael Crabtree to catch the ball when he had the opportunity to cover him. Wheatley put up the best performance of the weekend in my estimation. Some will look at the stats and say that Crabtree still had 12 receptions. Almost none of them came against Wheatley,

though, who only covered the nation's leading receiver if he lined up wide on the right side of the offensive formation.

Crabtree should've had two touchdowns Saturday. Only an athletic play by Wheatley kept that from happening late in the game.

Colorado's win over Tech showed the least evidence as to the parity sweeping the conference, though.

How about No. 9 Kansas traveling into College Station and toppling the Aggies? I'm having a tough time buying into the Jayhawks, but they keep

picking up impressive, narrow victories. I still don't believe they'll finish the season undefeated, but who would've guessed that Kansas would be 8-0? Who would've guessed that they would be ranked in the top 25, let alone the top 10?

However, it was the one loss that the North division suffered this weekend that served as the most evident precursor to the changing of the tides.

Texas narrowly defeated a bad Nebraska team that the Longhorns should have demolished.

Nebraska hadn't been com-

petitive in a Big 12 match up before Saturday. The Cornhuskers were outscored by at combined score of 122-34 in their games against Missouri, Oklahoma St. and Texas A&M.

Yet a team largely considered to be the second best in the South had difficulty with a team that will likely finish fifth out of the six teams in the North.

Still need more evidence of a changing of the guard? The two divisions have played 16 interdivisional games so far this season. The results are

evenly split with each team winning eight. That's a significant change from the 13-5 advantage held by the South in 2006.

Chances are Oklahoma will still win the conference. However, the gears are shifting and the Big 12 North will have a champion of its own within the next two years.

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

ROMO

Continued from Page 1B

people stand behind you, and you can be the quarterback for a long, long time," Romo said. "It's a neat feeling that, 'You're our guy, we like you.' ... It makes you feel good as a person and a player."

Teammates feel good about it, too.

"It's a sense of relief that he's got it out of the way," center Andre Gurode said. "Now he can move on with the season. I'm happy he's going to be here for a long time."

Linebacker Akin Ayodele considers Romo's

payday a message that the Cowboys are serious about returning to glory.

"He's the future of the team," Ayodele said. "To have him signed, that's important because you want to establish your quarterback."

Romo is in his fourth year in the NFL, but has started only 17 games — seven of those this season. Yet he's 12-5 and has won in such dazzling fashion that Roger Staubach's grandson likes wearing Romo's No. 9 jersey, not his grandpa's No. 12.

Teammates agree. They often say that for all the great plays he's pulled off in games — like running

back 33 yards to recover an errant snap and turning it into a 4-yard gain — he's done even more in practices. That's why they rallied behind him so well when he took over last season and why he was voted a team captain this year.

It's also why Dallas was able to pull off a comeback win in Buffalo a few weeks ago, with Romo leading the charge even after it was his five interceptions and a lost fumble that got the team in trouble.

"We definitely feed off him," Ayodele said. "You know you are always in a game to win it."

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

got to find ways to move on," he said. "But, still, the frustration — I won't forget."

Neither have league GMs.

In their annual survey, only 15 percent picked the Mavs to win it all. That's a lot better than the chances they gave Nowitzki to repeat as MVP.

His tally: zilch. Or, as they say in Germany, null.

Such low expectations actually are helping the Mavericks' mind-set. With the division rival

Spurs once again the reigning champs and teams like the Suns, Celtics and Cavaliers drawing more attention this preseason, Nowitzki described Dallas as being in "the underdog role."

Over two-plus years running the Mavericks, Johnson's 143-39 and already collected a Coach of the Year award. Yet NBA success is defined by the postseason, and he's only 22-20, with losses in eight of his last 10 games.

"Some champion teams have to experience the agony of defeat to move forward," Johnson said.

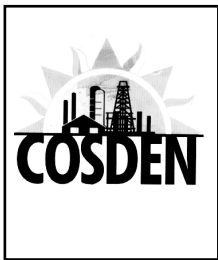
In hopes of joining the list of teams that had to

pay their dues before savoring a title, Mavs brass decided to keep the core of the team intact. That meant re-signing Stackhouse and giving Devin Harris a contract extension rather than asking him to prove himself during the final year of his rookie deal.

"When you have a team that's right there it's about being able to handle prosperity — winning 15 games in a row or getting to the finals — but it's also about handling adversity," Johnson said.

They have until April to figure it out.

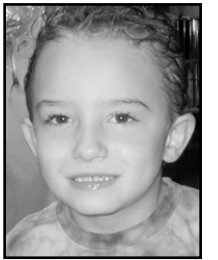
Pigskin Pics Football Contest



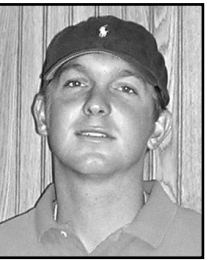
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Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____ Name: _____

2. _____ Address: _____

3. _____ Phone Number: _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____ Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored

7. _____

8. _____ **Navy at Notre Dame**

9. _____ Total Points _____

10. _____

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Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of *The Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Tuesday following the games.

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2007 E 350 Superduty - 12 Passenger, Advance Trac, 27K Factory Warranty. **\$18,950**

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210 Gregg 263-2382

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Saturday: Drive-Thru Only 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

7. LSU at Alabama

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TRINITY MEMORIAL Gardens, Garden of Lebanon two very choice lots. Have moved away, will no longer need. \$1,500. each lot. Call (817)561-0880.

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AMERICAN STATE Bank is currently accepting applications for part time teller positions. Cash handling and sales experience is a plus. Must pass credit check and criminal check. Apply in person at 1411 Gregg Street.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

CARING HEARTS Home Health is seeking a full-time RN Position. Great hours, friendly atmosphere and benefits. Call for appointment (432)714-4512, 1900 Scurry.

COME JOIN our friendly team at Kate's Fina Mart. Good benefits. Now hiring full & part time. Must be 18 yrs. old. Apply at 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy.

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS needed for concrete, curb and foundation work. Good pay, lots of hours. Please call L.J. Sidney 712-899-3118.

EXPERIENCED PRESCHOOL teacher needed for private Christian School. Salary congruent with experience. Apply at 118 Cedar Road.

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Coastal Transport is now seeking individuals to deliver petroleum product in and around surrounding areas of Big Spring. Must be 23 years of age, have a Class A license with Tanker and Haz-Mat endorsements with 1 year tractor/trailer experience. Please contact Russell @ 1-888-527-7221 for more information.

DRIVERS WANTED. Find out why our average length of driver employment is 9 years. Reagent Chemical, a family owned company is dedicated to providing great service to our customers and taking care of our employees, is currently hiring professional drivers in Stanton, Texas. There is \$1000.00 Sign On Bonus for Qualified Drivers. Requirements include Class A CDL with Tank and Hazmat endorsements. Minimum of 2 years driving or 1 year tanker experience. Paid weekly by check or direct deposit. Benefits include family health & dental insurance with no premium contribution by the employee. 401K with company match plus profit sharing. Company paid life insurance, short and long term disability, additional life and disability is available thru group coverage. Up to 10 days vacation starting first year plus 10 paid holidays. Uniforms provided. Call 432-458-3446 or 432-661-4079.

Employment Announcement/ USDA Howard County Farm Service Agency

Opening date: October 25, 2007
Closing date: October 30, 2007
The USDA-Farm Service Agency is taking applications for a temporary Program Technician (PT) CO-1101. The position will be fulltime or part time temporary position. Grade level CO-3 through CO-7 level, depending on qualifications of the applicant. Location of the position will be in the Big Spring Service Center (Farm Service Agency). All candidates must be U.S. citizens. Requirements for this position are high school diploma or equivalent, must have ability to organize and file documents/ folders, may require typing and computer skills, may be required to navigate to specified farm locations in Howard County, reliable personal vehicle suitable for travel to various farm locations may be required. Farm or ranch knowledge will be beneficial. Applications (Form FSA-675) may be obtained at the FSA Service Centers located at 302 W IH 20 Suite 106, Big Spring, Texas, (432)267-2557 or visit the following website: <http://intranet.fda.usda.gov/fsa>. Final date to submit applications is 4:30 p.m. on October 30, 2007. Candidates will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reason such as race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status or membership or non-membership in any employee organization. FSA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

FARM HAND needed, housing available, Knott Texas. Call (432)270-0093.

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

GREAT PAY & BENEFITS!
Hiring class CDL Drivers. Clean MVR. Call 432-756-2875 or apply at Key Energy, West I-20 South Service Road, Stanton, TX.

NEED Transport Driver for fuel deliveries. Excellent starting pay with benefits. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/ Chevron, Big Spring.

Help Wanted

GREATER OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PERMIAN BASIN INC.: Project Head Start has the following position available: **Teacher:** Must have a degree AA or BA in Early Childhood Education, Child Development or related field or a CDA Credential.

GOOD JOB FOR RETIREE WITH CDL

Bus Driver/ Custodian: Must be 21 years or older, have a CDL and a good driving record and a High School Diploma or GED. This position is 6 hrs per day M-F and includes a full benefit package. All applicants must; Be 18 or older.

Pass a pre-employment drug screen.

Post-employment Criminal History check must be clear of felony convictions to continue employment with the agency.

Agency offers OJT, benefit package for all full and part-time employees. Applicants may apply at Lakeview Head Start 1107 NW 7th St. Big Spring, Tx. Positions will be opened until filled. Applications available on line www.gopb.org. All interviews will be held at the Administration Office at 206 W. 5th in Odessa, Tx..

HUBBARD MEAT Company, 500 North Birdwell Lane. Come by for application. Starting at \$8.00 per hour. No phone calls.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for Roustabout Helpers, Pushers & Backhoe Operators with CDL License. Apply at Rusty's Oil-field Service in Stanton. 1 Mile West of Stanton on North Service Road of 1-20 Monday thru Friday 8-5. (432)756-2821.

Help Wanted

INTERESTED in A Nursing Career? Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation Now Hiring For Certified Nurse Aides. Great Working Environment and Competitive Pay. We Will Put You Through A Nurse Aide Certification Class IF you have received your Hepatitis B series of shot. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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Help Wanted

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District benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. The District is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by calling (432)267-6341.

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PART-TIME JANITORIAL

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Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 18 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person. Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

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2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

BUSINESS SPACE for lease inside the Big Spring Mall. Contact Danielle Ramirez at 432-267-3853 or Erik Johnson at 325-698-5661.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY @ 207 N. Gregg. Metal building with offices. 40x100ft, \$500 month, \$650 deposit. 1 Year lease. Call (432)263-5000.

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OLDER GENTLEMAN looking for Roommate 2 share expenses and to do thing with. Nicely furnished 2 bedroom home. Call (432)264-7091.

Real Estate for Rent

THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/ Owner.

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1314 STADIUM, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living with wood burning fireplace. Large Building in back. Call (432)393-5924 leave message.

1409 ORIOLE. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath. New paint and carpet. \$27,500.00. Call (432)213-2531, 263-4922.

1819 S. Benton. 3 BR 2 B. 2 car garage, fenced yard, lots of storage. Asking \$72,000 OBO. For sale only!

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BEST BARGAIN in Big Spring area. 2 Houses on 4+ acres, 3 stall barn, turn out and field. \$85K. Call 325-895-4025

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OWNER FINANCE Low down payment, \$320.00 monthly. 1610 Benton, 3 Bdrm, 1bath. Call 325-277-4923.

OWNER FINANCED Houses for Sale. 1304 Johnson, 1413 Sycamore and 508 State. Easy Terms. Call Reagan at 432-634-6818.

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06 HYUNDAI Elantra. 34,000 miles, fully loaded, extra clean. \$12,000 or \$15,000 for including two lots as a package deal. Call (432)816-9421, 816-6560.

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1998 4X4 GMC YUKON SLT. Leather seats, rear AC, running boards, Great Condition. 155K miles. All service records available. \$8,000.00. Call (432)935-2183.

FOR SALE, 2000 F-250 Supercrew, longbed, XLT, extra nice. automatic, 7.3 diesel. 131K miles. \$17,200. Call (432)935-1381.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Neptune's passage through Aquarius is affording the collective experiential glimpses into the illusion, and promise, of progress. As Neptune links arms with Jupiter, our prosperity in consciousness can be facilitated by spiritual awareness or misguided dependency. Choose consciously where, and in whom, you place your faith.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). All the good answers come during "you time." You take charge of your own tranquility by guarding your personal space, warding off intrusion and communicating your intention to hold your private time sacred.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're calling in various debts and favors. You have a grateful heart, even when your mind is thinking, "Are you sure you can't do better, buddy?" There's no harm in wanting more.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you're not sure what to believe, you're in a fine position indeed. You're mind is opened by wonder, and an open mind receives more of everything it seeks.

Vehicles

2001 4X4 Ford Expedition, Eddie Bauer Addition. Power everything. Great shape. 84k miles, rear seat entertainment system., 3 row seating, \$12,000.00. Call 432-935-2183.

Legals

NO. G-135
IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF HUGHEY C. WARNER, AND INCAPACITATED PERSON IN THE COUNTY COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of Hughey C. Warner, an incapacitated adult, were issued on the 18th day of October, 2007, in Docket No. G-135, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to:

Floyd Martin
Box 86
Tarzan, TX 79783

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All persons having claims should address them in care of the Guardian at the address stated above.

DATED the 29th of October, 2007.
Jackson Walker L.L.P.
301 Commerce Street,
Suite 2400
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-334-7219
817-870-5119 Fax

By: Colin L. Murchison
State Bar No. 24049780

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CANCER (June 22-July 22). People love to tell you about their lives now, even the secret parts. You're hearing a lot that doesn't make sense to you, too — nonetheless, you form an opinion through your feelings, not your intellect.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Stress may be uncomfortable, but it's the reason you come up with stellar results. Dr. Joyce Brothers suggests you rest for five minutes every hour no matter how pressured you are to turn in your work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You could get tricked into emergency mode by things that are not, by any stretch of the imagination, true emergencies. When you feel your blood pressure rising, turn around and take a walk.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Eliminate the non-essentials. Are you thinking, "But I just did that"? Well, it's a daily process. If you can lose something for everything you attain, you'll travel this world lightly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have a unique inner world of knowledge, which you have accumulated as a result of being your usual, inquisitive self. You'll ask the excellent questions now and learn something fascinating.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Call off your trip to that mountain top in the Himalayas — it turns out you don't have to go anywhere further than your own bathtub to find inner peace, so long as you really do take the time to chill out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Productivity ebbs and flows. You'll have your Mary Poppins moment, though, and "a spoon full of sugar" really will help the "medicine go down." Try to attack all work in the spirit of fun.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your comic mood undercuts what would normally be a run-of-the-mill scenario. No wonder people are drawn in by your wry humor. Keep it up and you'll wind up attracting a new admirer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your prospects are extra enticing now. Jumping in with a grandiose vision and high expectations is sometimes the best way, but not now. Study, focus, and be cool.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPICS: Astrology and the Shadow. Each sun sign has an integration principle of shadow and light. Through integrating the shadow, we become whole and powerful. During magical Scorpio sun times, we

can ask for sun-sign magic to aid our journeys with a magic spell. **LIBRA/BALANCE:** It's all too easy for Libra to compromise her wants for the harmony of a relationship. Eventually, we learn that without healthy self-assertion, we lose our balance. Libras can get caught in the trap of playing out a role, being who we think they want us to be instead of being ourselves. We activate positive Libran energy by knowing we're not one half of a whole — we are the whole. Magic spell: "When I'm authentic and true to myself, I stay in balance." **SCORPIO/TRANSFORMATION:**

In life's journey, the scorpion walks through fire and survives. She learns that although we shed identities like snakeskins, our true essence survives. When we're faced with difficult passages and our emotional limits are tested, only by facing the darkness within can our spirits soar. In letting go of the past and toxic emotions, we embrace transformation. Magic spell: "I transform myself by releasing past negativity and forgiving the people in my life." Return for Sagittarius and Capricorn!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: All the water signs are strongly emotional, but Scorpio is the most dramatic and intense by far. For scorpions like Winona Ryder, the world can feel like a stormy sea battle, with emotional, hurricane-force winds to push against and pirate-ship invaders to defeat.

The Pisces moon gives Winona an ability to contemplate her emotions objectively, though, as passing ships in the night. If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ANSWERS

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

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2005 Pontiac Grand Prix 3800 - V6, 20,000 One Owner Miles. **\$19,995**

1999 GMC Extended Cab Z71 - SLE Trim, 74K. **\$15,995**

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Pinkerton pleads guilty to KFC slayings

HENDERSON (AP) — A career criminal pleaded guilty Monday to the deaths of five people who were abducted from a fast-food restaurant in East Texas in what became one of Texas' most notorious and longest-unsolved mass murder cases.

Romeo Pinkerton, 49, admitted to the deaths as part of a plea bargain offered by the Texas Attorney General's Office. In exchange for the plea, Pinkerton received a life sentence for each of the five deaths.

Judge J. Clay Gossett said in a brief release that the families of the victims approved the plea bargain.

Pinkerton is the first of two men to face trial in the Sept. 23, 1983, slayings.

He and his cousin, Darnell Hartsfield, were accused of abducting the victims during a holdup of a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in Kilgore.

Youth Commission reviewing overtime payments for guards

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Youth Commission will temporarily halt overtime payments for correctional officers while it reviews how the agency spent more than half of its annual overtime budget in September, officials said.

The state's juvenile prison system spent about 55 percent of the \$1.3 million that it expected to spend in an entire year.

Dimitria Pope, acting executive director, said all overtime payments will be suspended starting Wednesday "until controls are verified at each facility for ensuring critical needs for the continuing high usage," according to an internal memo obtained by the Austin American-Statesman.



A Big Spring Fire Department paramedic prepares a child for a trip to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a two-vehicle accident near the intersection of Gregg and 22nd Street early Monday morning. According to police officials at the scene, damage from the accident was minimal, and the child was transported strictly as a precaution.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

DRILL

Continued from Page 1A

"The drill scenario unfolds during the day, and we don't know what the scenario will be or how it will unfold. We have a guy who works that entire drill scenario out and has it all planned. Where the leak is going to be, whether or not there is going to be a fire, whether or not there are going to be any injuries — he plans that out and it unfolds throughout the day of the drill. That helps create a realistic, true-to-life scenario that none of the participants, including myself, knows how it's going to play out."

Foster said drills like these are vital to keeping the refinery's employees on their toes when it comes to an emergency situation.

"These types of drills are very important. You just can't beat good training," said Foster. "Football teams train with actual plays and hitting, and it's not much different for us. We want to create some level of urgency, anxiety and uncertainty because drills actually play on some of those emotions

and force you to react. Everyone here sort of gets their game face on, and as the day goes on you're getting more and more serious about the event.

"It's really important for us to exercise those uncomfortable muscles, if you will, in the terms of urgency and uncertainty. When the real thing does happen — and it's never the exact scenario you planned — at least you've gone through the drill and know how your team functions, where the problems are for your team and how to fix them. That way, if you ever do have an emergency out here, you're prepared.

"I liked what I saw today a lot," he added. "The team is taking it very seriously, and I'm really impressed with the preparations people have made out here. This is my first drill of this sort in this refinery, but I've done them in other refineries before, and I think this one ranks right up there with the ones I've seen before. They have done a fine job of getting prepared and handling it realistically."

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

ACTIVITIES

Continued from Page 1A

Halloween at the Big Spring Mall will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today. Parents, bring your children in costumes for fun, safe trick or treating. For more information, call the mall at 267-3853.

First Baptist Church will hold its fall festival from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday. This festival is offered to the children of the Big Spring area as a place for them to come and have fun in a safe environment. There will be activities of all kinds and candy — lots of it. The cost of the festival? Please bring one can of vegetables, fruit, or meat for our food pantry.

St. Mary's Episcopal, 1001 S. Goliad, and First Christian Church, 10th and Goliad, will be holding a joint Trunk or Treat from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is invited.

Wednesday, the First Presbyterian Youth will be having "Trunk or Treat" in the church parking lot at 7 p.m. They are asking for volunteers to decorate car trunks and provide candy to give Trunk or Treaters.

Hillcrest Baptist Church, 1700 FM 700, will hold Trunk or Treat from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell, will hold a Tailgate Halloween from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

through neighborhoods.

"Kids tend to wear darker clothing on Halloween — it's hard to be spooky if you don't, I guess. So motorists need to take special care to watch out for kids crossing the street or exiting vehicles

Halloween night," Jensen said.

• If in doubt about candy, throw it away.

"There's always the threat of candy being tampered with, so parents should get rid of any unwrapped candy their children receive," Jensen said. "And even if it hasn't been tampered with, unwrapped candy will run the risk of bacteria,

and your children might end up sick, so just throw it away."

• Consider safe alternatives to trick-or-treating.

Jensen said he's noticed a decline in door-to-door trick-or-treating in recent years, mostly because parents are taking their children to alternative activities such as "truck or treat" events at area churches or school spon-

sored fall festivals.

"A lot of churches and schools are having events like that, so your kids could go to one spot on Halloween night and get all the candy they'd want," he said.

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

HEALTH

Continued from Page 1A

ments.

"This is good news, that more people in this age range are taking these medicines," said Dr. Daniel W. Jones, president of the American Heart Association.

Still, he said many more people should be on the drugs that lower cholesterol or blood pressure and which have been shown to reduce risks for heart attack and stroke.

The new data, from prescription benefit manager Medco Health Solutions Inc., indicate use of cholesterol-lowering drugs among people aged 20 to 44, while still low, jumped 68 percent over a six-year period.

The rate rose from 2.5 percent in 2001 to just over 4 percent in 2006 among Medco customers. That means roughly 4.2 million Americans in that age group are now taking cholesterol medicines.

Meanwhile, use of blood pressure medicines increased 21 percent, from about 7 percent of 20- to 44-year-olds in 2001 to over 8 percent in 2006. That translates into about 8.5 million Americans in that age group taking

drugs to lower their blood pressure.

"It was a surprise to us," said Dr. Robert Epstein, chief medical officer at Franklin Lakes, N.J.-based Medco. "Maybe the fact that we're seeing more young people with high cholesterol and blood pressure is indicative of the epidemic of obesity and overweight that we're seeing in this country."

Among people 65 and older, use of blood pressure drugs increased only 9.5 percent and use of cholesterol drugs by 52 percent. That's because half the seniors were already taking blood pressure drugs and more than one in four were taking cholesterol drugs in 2001.

Jones, dean of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, said he has seen some increase in young adults with blood pressure or cholesterol problems, but not of the magnitude suggested by Medco's data.

Dr. Howard Weintraub, the heart disease prevention expert at the American College of Cardiology, said he's "thrilled" by the dramatic increase, which he says is tied to requests from patients with "a brand new sense of urgency"

and referrals from other doctors to his private practice.

"If you wait until a heart attack or stroke, it's a little bit late," Weintraub said.

He and Epstein both said patients with problems should first work with their doctors on lifestyle changes — more exercise, a better diet and weight loss. But Weintraub said many people need medication to achieve and maintain the ever-lower levels of blood pressure and cholesterol that experts now recommend.

However, Dr. John LaRosa, president of SUNY Downstate Medical Center, said, "particularly for young people, lifestyle change is worth a try."

Once patients start taking these medicines, they usually stay with them and there are some side effects, LaRosa said.

"It's amazing what (losing) five or 10 pounds will do" to reduce blood pressure and cholesterol levels, he said.

Federal health statistics show that while the percentage of people with high cholesterol has dropped overall in recent

years, it has risen among younger people, especially those 20 to 34 years old.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Leona Wells, 92, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Adelino "Rocky" Vieira, 78, died Saturday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial with Military Honors will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 8:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Richard B. Chamness, 81, died Sunday. Private Interment will be at the Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery at a later date.

Joaquin Duenes, 68, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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.

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Managing Editor

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News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's make sure Halloween's safe time for children

While minor stomach aches from eating too much candy may be the most common hazard on Halloween, we should all remember that emergency physicians say they treat way too many children for serious injuries that could have been prevented.

The most common injuries on Halloween are eye injuries from sharp objects, burns from flammable costumes and injuries from collisions with motor vehicles, according to the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).

To ensure a safer Halloween, parents and caregivers should follow important safety measures.

The list of things parents and children should follow are mostly common sense measures, but bear reminding:

- Make sure you see all the candy before your child consumes it. Avoid candy not wrapped in its original wrapper, as well as all fruit.
 - Make sure your child stays on the sidewalks as much as possible (off the streets) and obeys all traffic signals.
 - Discuss the importance of staying together in a group. Require at least one adult to serve as chaperone during candy gathering and forbid children from accepting rides from strangers or visiting unfamiliar homes.
 - Avoid costumes that could cause children to trip, such as baggy pants, long hems, high heels and oversized shoes.
 - Avoid costume contact lenses.
 - Avoid masks, but if your child must wear one, make sure it is well ventilated and does not impair his or her vision.
 - Make sure that costume fabric, wigs and beards are made of flame-resistant materials, such as nylon or polyester.
 - Make sure that costumes are visible at night; avoid dark colors. Add reflective tape to the costume to help make your child more visible to motor vehicles.
 - Check that accessories such as swords, knives, wands and other pointed objects are made from flexible materials and have dulled edges.
- That's the list offered by the ACEP. But don't forget that children who "trick-or-treat" at houses of worship, shopping malls, schools, or other types of community sponsored events still need to do so with adult supervision.

And most importantly, if you happen to be out driving Wednesday night, take extra caution. Make sure any youngster wrapped up in the excitement of trick-or-treating that does venture into your path doesn't become a heart-breaking statistic.

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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 - Sign your letter.
 - Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
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 - We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
 - Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
 - Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we feel pulled between opposite choices, Lord, may we select the one You would want for us.

Amen

Food not enough for malnourished

Everything's green. It started raining in June and rained regularly through September. The millet fields are doing pretty well. Families are going about their daily business of fetching water and firewood and doing laundry and making things to eat. People are selling firewood by the roadside. The women will gather leaves for making sauces," recalls Susan Shepherd. And fewer children are going hungry, as often happens before the harvest is done.

You may have seen Shepherd, a Montana pediatrician, on "60 Minutes" Sunday. Shepherd has just returned from 18 months in Niger working on a project sponsored by Doctors Without Borders that fed 63,000 malnourished or starving children on a monthly basis. It was, as "60 Minutes" noted, the rare good-news story on hunger, as Doctors Without Borders has found a way to treat not only the worst cases, but also to help prevent children from the sort of malnourishment that leads to disease and even death.

The reason: Plumpy'Nut and Plumpy'Doz — two versions of a sweet-tasting paste made from peanuts, peanut oil, powdered milk and powdered sugar, and fortified with vitamins and minerals. A serving of Plumpy'Nut is the equivalent of a glass of milk and a Flintstones vitamin. Plumpy'Doz is a take-home supplement of Plumpy'Nut for the moderately malnourished.

Plumpy'Nut represents a revolution in the treatment of hunger and malnutrition. It is an RUF, or ready-to-use food. As the folks at Doctors Without Borders (which is the English name for the French humanitarian group MSF or Medecins Sans Frontieres) explain in a recent paper, "Food Is Not Enough: Without Essential Nutrients, Millions of Children Will Die," humanitarian workers pioneered the use of powdered-milk formula to treat severe malnutrition. But these formulas required clean water and often had to be prepared in hospitals.

In search of a better and more practical way, a French medical researcher and the French company Nutriset invented Plumpy'Nut in 1997. It has the nutritional value of the old powdered-milk formula but does not require water, does not have to be mixed, requires no refrigeration, can be stored in hot climates, has a long shelf life and is easy to transport. Because it's sweet and peanut-tasting, even children so deprived that they have lost their appetite will eat it.

With the development of Plumpy'Doz, Doctors Without Borders has been able to treat more children, and not just the worst cases. Shepherd explained, "Instead of waiting for kids to get gravely ill, we decided to act earlier."

The "Food Is Not Enough" report is highly critical of the corn-soy blend still used by major humanitarian organizations to feed the starving, as it requires water and with that there is a risk of contamination. At a Doctors Without Borders press conference this month, nutritionist Milton

Tectonidis called for a "paradigm shift" away from corn-soy blends and toward more RUFs, not only for acutely malnourished but also for the moderately malnourished children. Tectonidis also wants more companies to develop more RUFs.

USAID officials told me that they've funded Plumpy'Nut programs for about three years and consider it a successful tool in treating severely malnourished children. They also believe corn-soy blends have their place and want to see more data on Plumpy'Doz.

What about others taking the child's food? "We are under no illusion that the malnourished child is the only one who eats the ration," Shepherd told me. If a child does not gain weight, workers look for a medical reason or put the child in a secure setting, where he is sure to get the nutrition he needs.

For the most part, Shepherd noted, the Niger program relies on "a mother feeding her child nutritionally appropriate food." Precious few families dropped out, as mothers have seen their children gain weight quickly.

Only 3 percent of children with severe malnutrition have access to RUFs. In developing countries, 146 million children under the age of 5 are underweight. A daily dose costs about a dollar.

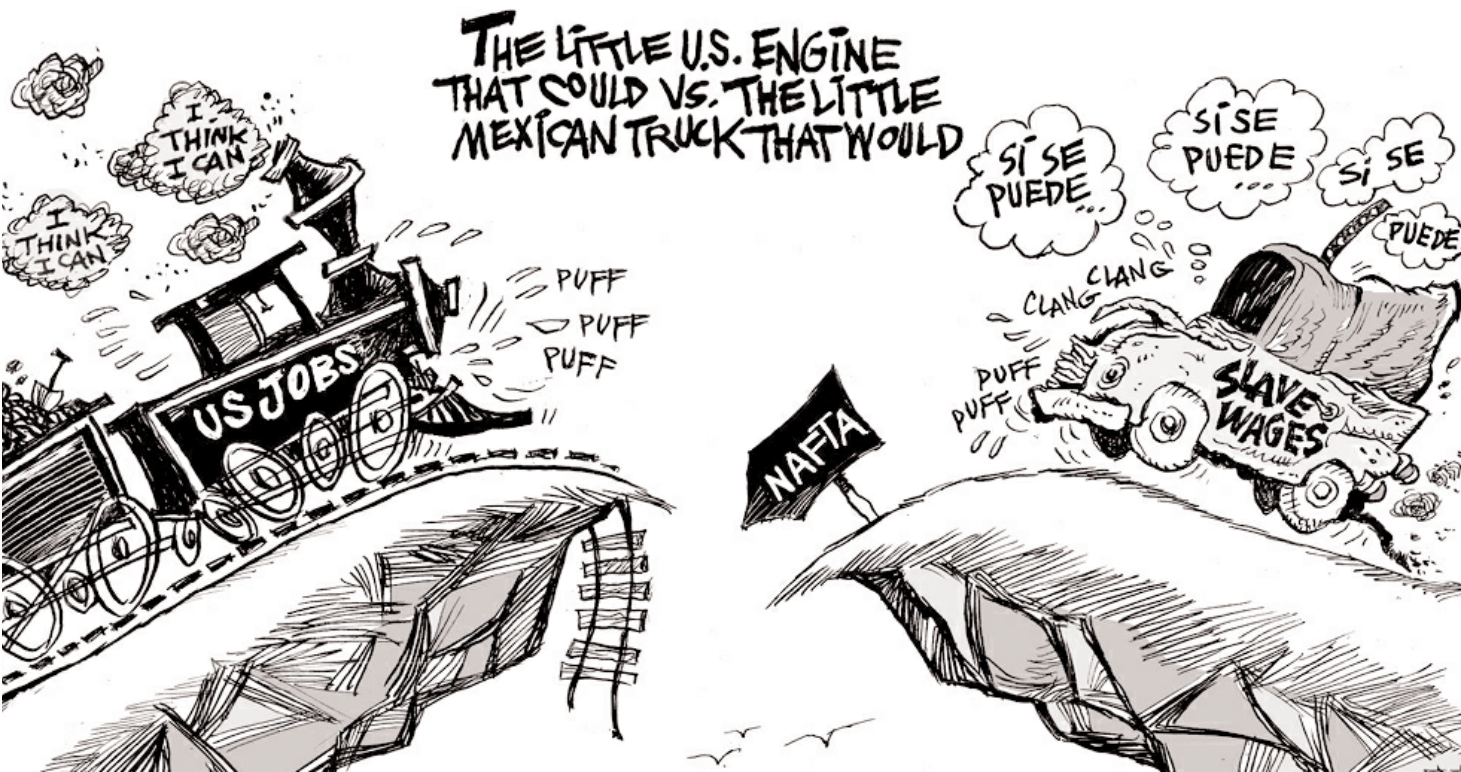
"If you feed them well until they're 2 or 3 years old," Tectonidis told "60 Minutes," "it's won. They're healthy; they can get a healthy life. If you miss that window, it's finished."

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com.
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DEBRA SAUNDERS

NEW U.S. TRUCKING LAW BRINGS IN COMPETITION FROM MEXICO



Free trade turned out to be costly

The 2006 congressional elections were a turning point for U.S. trade policy. One issue that helped Democrats retake the Congress was a renewed sense of distrust among the electorate of our government's trade policy, commonly mislabeled as "free trade."

President Bush has lost his "fast track" authority to negotiate new agreements without Congress being able to amend them. And a number of agreements that have already been negotiated are now less likely to pass Congress — including ones with South Korea and Colombia.

Plus the current round of negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO), after nearly six years, has stalled.

The conventional wisdom, which dominates the major media, is that this turn away from "free trade" and toward "protectionism" is tragic and dangerous for Americans. But is it? First, let us dispense with the marketing term "free trade," which is completely deceptive. The WTO, for example, has lowered some barriers to trade but increased others — such as protectionism for the patent monopolies held by pharmaceutical companies. It is not even clear, in a strictly economic calculation, that American consumers have gained more from the WTO's low-

ering of other trade barriers than they have lost from the higher price of goods due to its protectionism.

This is the proper way to look at changes in trade policy: who gains and who loses. This is also the prediction of standard economic theory: nations can gain from opening to trade, but within countries, some gain and others lose. But the "free-traders" always use averages, e.g. "the average household has gained \$10,000 from free trade . . ." Now if a hedge fund manager makes an extra billion dollars, it can raise the average income in his town or suburb quite a bit. But it doesn't do much for others in the area; and in fact, it is likely to be at the rest of the public's expense.

Real wages — adjusted for inflation — for the more than 100 million people that make up most of our labor force were just 10 percent higher in 2006 than they were in 1973. This marks a revolutionary upward redistribution of income from the workers to the rich, vastly different from the prior 25 years, when real worker wages increased by 74 percent. How much of this redistribution is due to trade, or more broadly, the "globalization" that includes the movement of production to countries with low wages, repressed labor, and weak environmental regulation?

It turns out that even if only a small part of this wage stagnation is due to globalization, it is more than enough to cancel the gains

that the vast majority of Americans have gotten from cheaper imports. In other words, the last three decades of foreign commercial policy have been a net loss for most Americans.

Of course, if your job is protected from international competition — CEOs, lawyers, doctors, journalists, economists — then lowering other people's wages gives you a bigger piece of the economic pie. No wonder the chattering classes denounce "protectionism" for everyone but themselves.

Looking forward, the World Bank estimates that the gains to the U.S. economy from a successful round of WTO negotiations at between \$2.7 billion and \$6.8 billion a year — about one to three weeks' spending on the Iraq war. And we are supposed to be worried if this round collapses?

The conventional wisdom is that there are huge gains from trade, but since benefits are not so visible and are dispersed among many consumers, "protectionists" who might lose jobs prevail against the public interest. The reality is the opposite: the losses are dispersed among the majority of workers through lower wages. The gains are concentrated among the big corporations who own our Congress and lobby for "free trade."

Mark Weisbrot is co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, in Washington, D.C.
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Bird Poop:

Owl rescue livens up a family's Halloween

Anticipating the "night of nights," her children quickly climbed inside the pick-up truck with their dad. Since he had promised that this year's Halloween would be held at their home on the outskirts of Stanton, a trip to the city for decorations the day before was essential. "Can we go ahead and decorate this evening?" asked the oldest. "Don't see why not," was his reply.



BEBE McCASLAND

The gravel in the driveway alerted his wife they had returned. With some daylight left, they had time before dinner was ready to set out their ghostly treasures. Since everyone was outside, she could get the table set and read the front page of the paper. When she looked at her watch, she realized they were taking longer than usual. "Might as well wash a few pans," she thought as she approached the sink. Glancing out the window at the back yard, she couldn't recall having a stump near the woodpile. After it blinked, she realized what it was.

As her son, daughter and husband entered the living room, she congratulated them on decorating the entire yard. Not knowing what she meant, their father looked puzzled. "What do you mean?" he asked. Motioning for them to follow her, she went to the kitchen window.

"Where'd you get that owl? It looks almost real," she questioned as

she looked over her glasses at her husband. He knew how she watched every penny. "Mom, honest, we didn't buy any owl," said her daughter as she tried to defend her father. Turning back to the window, they stared at the motionless stump. "Are you sure that's an owl?" asked her son. He made up his own mind when the bird suddenly opened its wings.

Determined to get to the bottom of their prank, the woman hurried out the backdoor and walked toward "another unnecessary expense." Hearing her approach before opening its eyes, the flat-faced owl sidled slowly to the end of the stacked wood. From the back porch, her children and husband could hear her gasp and cry, "Oh, my goodness!"

When the phone rang, the caller reminded me that she had brought us an owl several years ago. The bird in her backyard didn't look like anything they'd ever seen. Realizing that it had a problem, she and her husband managed to place a blanket over the owl. Carefully, they lowered it into a cardboard box. Willing to drive back to Big Spring, they delivered their Halloween extra.

Upon seeing the bird, we knew we had never handled a short-eared owl. No wonder the couple thought it was a stump. Nature had provided this bird of prairies, sand dunes and open country with mottled feathers that resembled tree bark covered with lichen. By day, its brownish orange wings would contrast with the warm buff of its breast. Hidden were its horns or



Courtesy photo

A bird of many personalities, the short-eared owl acts as if it is injured in order to lure intruders away from its nest. Playful by nature, the owl has been seen chasing herons, crows and smaller hawks with no meal-time intentions. Stretched out on the ground while resting, the bird quickly turns and is ready to fight when aroused from a daytime nap.

ear tufts. Even in flight, and rarely when perched were these special feathers in view.

Before they left, we mentioned that fall migration had brought their visitor. Known to hunt at dusk and dawn, the owls might also be seen sitting on fence posts watching for prey during late afternoon. The fact that the short-eared would hunt during daylight set it apart from other owls.

Since the species nested, and even slept on the ground, their bird was essentially a ground owl.

After examining the owl's wings, we planned a Halloween visit to South Plains in Lubbock. Between the elbow and wrist of the right wing was a telltale bump. Whether the broken bone was mendable was of concern.

For the bird not to be able to circle, then glide close to the ground

would be a loss, especially in the hunting of rodents and insects. Its skill at using the wind and gracefully sailing over grasslands was threatened.

At the wildlife center, the manager determined the radius was broken. After the bone was wired, the owl was expected to recover after a lengthy stay. In the future, it could use its silent wings to dive and drop upon its unsuspect-

ing prey. With the ability to clap its wings in flight, the short-eared owl once again would, on the downward stroke of its wings, strike them together rapidly beneath its body. Sounding like a flag fluttering in the breeze, perhaps it would also be applauding those who had helped in its doing so.

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

Parent's Corner:

Loss of best friend reminds one to make the most of every day

Each of us has had that one special person that we proudly call our "best friend." Mine was John Wayne McShan. I met Johnny when I was 6 years old. His family had moved next door to us and I was thrilled, especially when I found that I was exactly 1 month and 5 days older than he was. We became like glue and adopted the Indian term "blood brothers" to bond our friendship.



DARRELL RYAN

Johnny's family moved when we were in elementary school and I didn't get to see him very often, but we kept in touch thanks to the telephone and summer time visits.

When we graduated from high school our paths took separate directions. Not knowing what I wanted to do in life, I went to college to seek answers to my unknown future. Johnny had his life all planned out. He married his high school sweetheart and went to work in the oil patch to pursue his fortune.

Johnny and I didn't see much of each other in the next few years. He and his family moved to the Odessa oil fields and I started my teaching career in the Wichita Falls area. However, we stayed in touch in a periodic fashion but we

never forsook the "best friends" bond.

In the mid '90s Johnny developed some heart problems which finally took his life.

I don't know what Johnny would have done if he had known his time was gone.

I think he might have made contact with me. He would have told his family how much he loved them. I'd like to think he would have gone out for a final serving of catfish.

We never know when our time may come. We never know when there will be no more hugs, no more special moments to celebrate, no more phone calls just to chat.

So while we have this precious commodity, it is best we love it, care for it, fix it when it's broken and heal it when it's sick. This is true for

marriage, old cars, children with bad report cards, dogs with bad hips and aging parents and grandparents. We keep them in our lives because they are worth keeping.

They are worth it and we are worth it.

There are just some things that make us happy. We know that life is important, and so are the people we know who are special. So, we keep them close!

Someone once said, "Every day there is a special occasion in your life." Those words have meant a lot to me. I think they changed my life.

Now I look for those special events; I spend more time with my family; I understand that life should be enjoyed, not survived. I no longer set things back for a rainy

day. I'll wear new clothes to go shopping if I feel like it; I don't save my good after shave for special occasions, I use it whenever I want to.

The words "someday" and "one day" are fading away from my dictionary.

If it's worth seeing, listening or doing, I want to see, listen or do it now. I don't want to come to the end of my life and have regrets.

I don't want to regret not telling folks that I

love them and I appreciate them. I don't want to delay or postpone anything that could bring

laughter and joy. And, each morning, I

See **RYAN**, Page 6A

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Artists helping revive downtown Slaton

By HENRI BRICKEY

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

SLATON — An artists' enclave is forming in an unexpected place 15 miles southeast of Lubbock.

On any given weekend, hundreds of art enthusiasts pack into downtown Slaton's town center square.

They come to see the latest works from local artists in stylish art galleries, which are quickly filling many of Slaton's deserted buildings.

Over the past decade, at least half dozen artists have bought buildings in downtown Slaton and refurbished them into art galleries and studios.

Sara Waters, a fine arts professor at Texas Tech, started renting an abandoned candle factory for an art studio in downtown Slaton in the spring of 2003.

In 2005, she bought the 9,000-square-foot building she had been leasing and converted one side into an art gallery she named Waterspace South.

In the short time Waters has been in her Slaton loft, she has hosted more than 30 art shows.

She also has bought a second building, which is in the process of being converted into another art studio and gallery that will be called Waterspace North.

Waters isn't the first artist to relocate to Slaton.

Slaton Mayor Laura Lynn Wilson said the art movement in Slaton has been growing over time and recently exploded.

"It was very gradual, and then one day we looked up and realized it's here," said Wilson, who hopes the town's art scene expands and helps diversify Slaton's economy.

"All of these little towns on the South Plains are going to have to reinvent themselves," Wilson said. "We hope the arts are going to help us in that process."

So why are artists setting up shop in an agricultural town of just more than 6,000 people on the high plains of Texas?

"Slaton just feels different," Waters says.

There's a reason downtown Slaton just feels different.

It wasn't designed to feel like West Texas.

When the town was founded in 1911, planners designed the street pattern after the design of downtown Washington.

That unique, wagon wheel-shaped street design and the turn-of-the-century buildings that face each other are a big part of why artists find downtown Slaton so appealing. That, and the

price.

"I went to Slaton, and there were a lot of large, older buildings that were vacant and had the potential to be studios," said Robin Germany, a photography professor at Tech, who bought a building there and turned it into an art studio three years ago.

Germany initially had looked into getting a loft in Lubbock, but the prices were too high. Then she heard about the little town less than 30 minutes from Lubbock where she could find the building she needed at the price she wanted.

Germany and Waters are just the latest in a growing number of artists who have relocated to Slaton.

Art Locke, an artist who earned his Master's degree in fine arts from University of North Texas in Denton, has lived in Slaton for eight years.

"You can't find buildings like this in Lubbock," said Locke, who lives and works in the old Texas Avenue Opera House, a building he believes was built in the early 1900's.

Locke, who uses 800-pound tires, railroad ties, 55-gallon steel drums, old bowling balls and other recycled materials in his art, needed a space large



AP photo/Henri Brickey/Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

Art Locke is shown Monday, Oct. 8, 2007, in his art studio in Slaton where over the past decade, at least half a dozen artists have bought buildings in the downtown area of the small town and refurbished them into art galleries and studios.

enough for his art work, which he calls "installations."

With more than 6,000 square feet, Locke's loft on the north end of downtown gives him all the room he needs.

Besides the space inside his building, Locke was drawn to the architectural style of the area. Many of the buildings in Slaton's downtown are nearly 100 years old. Some may show signs of age, but they're authentic.

See ARTISTS, Page 7A

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

Speed boat queen gets Proud Mary back together

By JACQUE HILBURN

Tyler Morning Telegraph

TYLER — During the 1960s, women were struggling for rights, respect and a reverse on attitudes that a female's place was in the kitchen not the board room. Mary Rife-McCally, 66, was a young wife and mother in those days.

The Guinness World Record holder wasn't thinking about tossing a rock through the glass ceiling when she made history as the "fastest woman on water" after reaching 200 mph in a quarter-mile stretch — or winning the 1978 world nationals in the top fuel hydro category.

She just enjoyed going fast.

"I guess I have a need for speed," she said. "It's just in you."

The reigning world record holder made history again recently, displaying her vintage top fuel hydro racing boat "Proud Mary" alongside dragsters featured at the California Hot Rod Reunion, honoring the pioneers of racing.

What is a speed boat racer from California doing in East Texas?

"We chose this house because there was enough room to build a barn," said husband Scotty

McCally, 73. "We obviously need the space."

The story of Mary Rife-McCally's life is filled with twists, turns, tragedy and triumph.

Her love of all things fast seems rooted in childhood. When her children were young, she worked in her family's machine shop.

She developed an interest in auto racing and when the opportunity arose to buy a ski boat with late husband Dwight Rife, she was immediately on board.

"I'd pull people around the lake as they were skiing and think, 'This feels good,'" she said. "I began to wonder how fast it would go."

By 1968, she was enterly and winning races, acquiring pieces of what would eventually become the Proud Mary, named after the Creedence Clearwater Revival classic.

"It was just a hull," she said. "My late husband and I started rebuilding it."

At that time, her time to beat was 148 mph.

"I went 155," she said. "That did it. I was hooked. And each time I went to race, I went faster and faster. It was a challenge to go fast."

She eventually surpassed 200 mph, amassing a career high speed of 206.42 mph.

When her late husband

fell ill, the Proud Mary was sold and she hung up her fire suit.

It was 1985. He passed away five years later.

"I didn't think I would ever race again," she

See QUEEN, Page 7A

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Uncomfortable Finesses

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠KQ752
♥AK4
♦73
♣J95

WEST
♠4
♥J10873
♦K1092
♣A83

EAST
♠J9
♥65
♦J8654
♣K1072

SOUTH
♠A10863
♥Q92
♦AQ
♣Q64

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 3♣ Pass
4♣

Opening lead — jack of hearts.

The latter combination is normally best handled by first leading low toward the queen. Assuming the queen loses to the king or ace, declarer later leads toward the J-9; if the next player follows low, the nine is inserted in hopes of forcing the missing king or ace. If the ten is favorably placed, this play limits declarer's losses to two tricks in the suit.

However, it will be observed that if, in the given deal, declarer first tries the diamond finesse and subsequently plays the clubs in the prescribed fashion, he will finish down one. This could be attributed to bad luck, but since declarer is 100 percent certain to make the contract if he goes about his business in a more proper fashion, bad play would be a more accurate description.

The correct approach is to win the heart lead, draw trumps, cash two more hearts and then play the ace of diamonds followed by the queen! It does not matter to declarer whether East or West wins this trick. A red-suit return allows him to ruff in one hand and discard a club from the other, while a club return from either opponent assures that declarer will score a club trick.

In this case, the finesse turns out to be a temptation declarer must resist.

One of the first things the budding bridge player learns is how to take a finesse. But as he becomes familiar with the many different types of finesses, it is equally important for him to realize that overdependence on the play can often do more harm than good.

Consider today's deal, which contains one of the most common finessing positions — A-Q opposite x-x — and also a more advanced one — J-9-x opposite Q-x-x.

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RYAN

Continued from Page 5A

say to myself that this will be a special day. Each day, each hour, each minute is special. Live it and love it for today is the tomorrow you were wishing for yesterday.

And Johnny, thanks for the memories. I miss ya.

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

Never buy a cell phone from someone who thinks a tailgate is only for a pre-game party.

Instead, get superior coverage and hometown service from WESTEX Wireless.

Getting good wireless service is tough some times. Geography has an awful lot to do with good coverage and good cell phone signals. In fact, if a cell phone company doesn't know the terrain, or if they just don't have enough transmission towers in our region, your phone will drop calls frequently.

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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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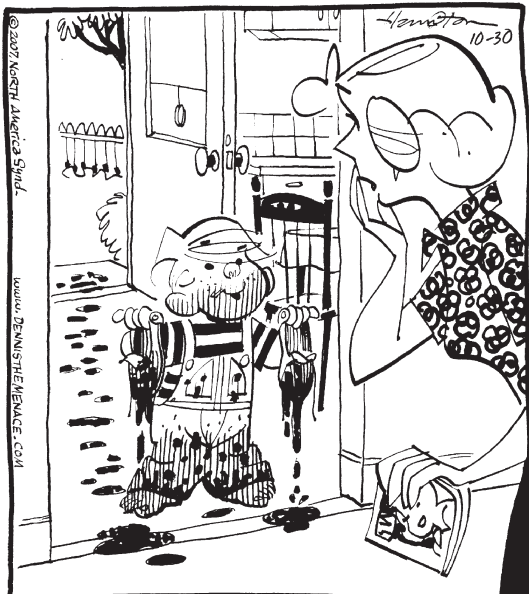
1500 W. Business 20
Stanton, Texas 79782
432-756-3826

711 Scurry
Big Spring, Texas 79720
432-263-0091

TUESDAY

Table with 20 columns (WFAA, KMBD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 12 rows (6:30 PM to 12:30 AM) listing TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



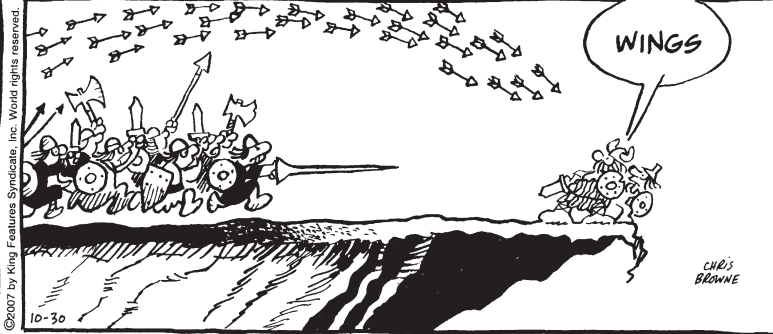
"I DID LIKE YOU SAID, MOM, AN' TOOK OFF MY SHOES BEFORE COMIN' INSIDE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

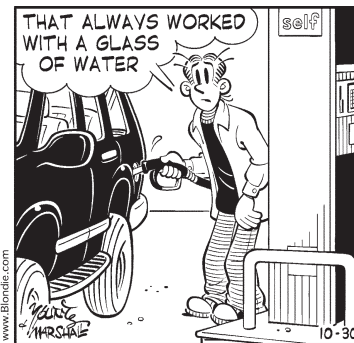
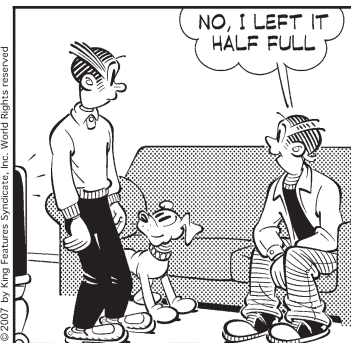


"Black cats aren't scary. The REAL scary cats are lions and tigers!"

HAGAR



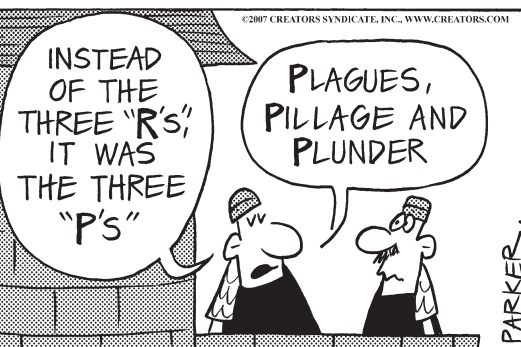
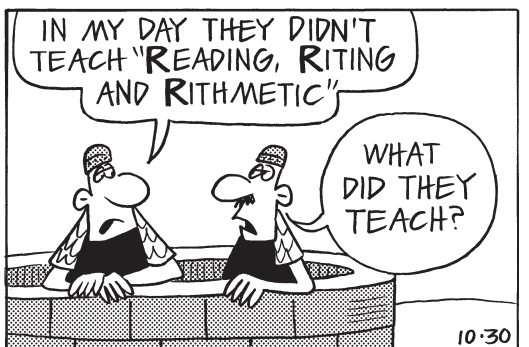
BLONDIE



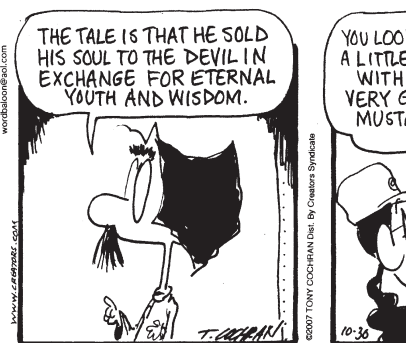
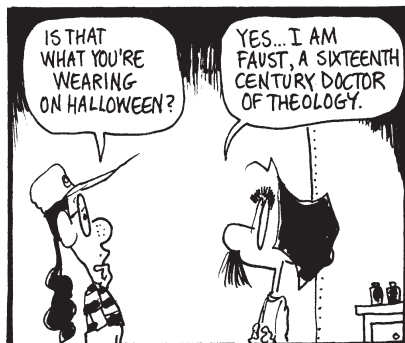
BC



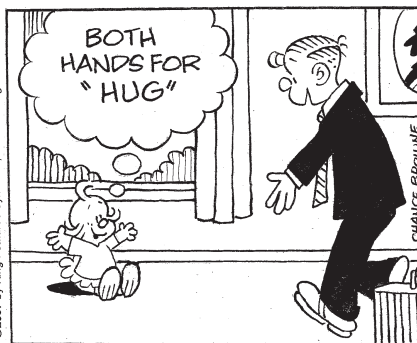
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



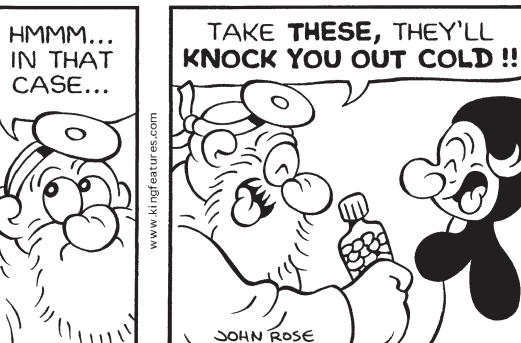
HI AND LOIS



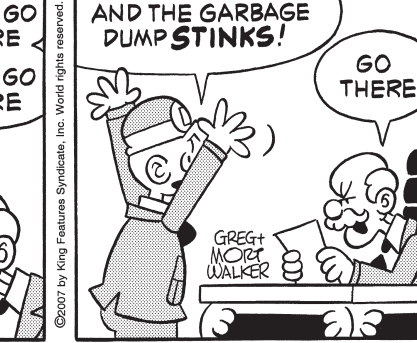
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 30, the 303rd day of 2007. There are 62 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 30, 1938, the radio play "The War of the Worlds," starring Orson Welles, aired on CBS.

On this date: In 1944, the Martha Graham ballet "Appalachian Spring," with music by Aaron Copland, premiered at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., with Graham in a leading role.

In 1945, the U.S. government announced the end of shoe rationing, effective at midnight.

In 1961, the Soviet Union tested a hydrogen bomb, the "Tsar Bomba," with a force estimated at about 50 mega-

tons. In 1961, the Soviet Party Congress unanimously approved a resolution ordering the removal of Josef Stalin's body from Lenin's tomb.

In 1975, the New York Daily News ran the headline "Ford to City: Drop Dead" a day after President Gerald Ford said he would veto any proposed federal bailout of New York City.

In 1979, President Carter announced his choice of federal appeals Judge Shirley Hufstедler to head the newly created Department of Education.

In 1995, by a razor-thin vote of 50.6 percent to 49.4 percent, federalists prevailed over separatists in a Quebec secession referendum.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Dick Gautier is 70. Movie director Claude Lelouch is 70. Rock singer Grace Slick is 68. Songwriter Eddie Holland is 68. Actor Ed Lauter is 67. Rhythm-and-blues singer Otis Williams (The Temptations) is 66. Actor Henry Winkler is 62. Rock musician Chris Slade

(Asia) is 61. Musician Timothy B. Schmit (The Eagles) is 60. Actor Harry Hamlin is 56. Actor Charles Martin Smith is 54. Country singer T. Graham Brown is 53. Actor Kevin Pollak is 50. Actor Michael Beach is 44. Rock singer-musician Gavin Rossdale (Bush) is 40. Actress Nia Long is 37. Country singer Kassidy Osborn (SheDaissy) is 31. Actor Gael Garcia Bernal is 29. Actor Tequan Richmond ("Everybody Hates Chris") is 15.

Thought for Today: "There are things that are known and things that are unknown; in between are doors." - Anonymous.

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Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like ALPS, OPALS, CHAT, NOAH, GENIE, HOBO, TAPEPLAYER, ANEW, SMALLER, VALETS, TAR, TRICKY, ASPENS, RANT, BUS, SMART, SINGS, UNO, HAS, APT, NIL, EST, IGLOO, CACTI, SHE, COED, BATHED, BLOOMS, ALL, AROUND, ISLANDS, FEAR, JAMSESSION, RARE, OBOES, ELLA, ODDS, BESET, SEEP.

Newsday Crossword

GEE-OGRAPHY by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Mama's mate 70 Maple or mahogany 12 "Scram!" 41 Applauding group 5 1650, in Roman numerals 71 Platter shape 13 Author Christian Andersen 42 Fence opening 9 Swamp land 18 Baba 47 Peruse 14 Imitative one 19 Banquet stage 49 Wanted to scratch 15 Cleveland's lake 24 Former Italian money 51 Praise highly 16 Maui greeting 26 Reject 53 Remind 17 Two "G" nations 3 scornfully 54 Curb Appeal 20 Praise highly 4 National Guard 27 Heroic tales cable network 21 Musical postscript 5 Guys 28 Pop singer 55 Neighborhood 22 Corp. bigwigs 6 Popular breakfast food 31 Pester 56 Pekee and oolong 23 Make angry 7 Farewell in Florence 33 Had leftovers, perhaps 58 Secluded habitat 25 Mona 30 Nest-egg letters 8 Tennis pro Ivan 34 Narrow parts of bottles 60 Cabbie's car 32 Leapt suddenly 9 Newsstand buy 35 Say hello to 61 Change for \$5 36 Road-service org. 10 Separately, on menus 37 Chilean mountains 62 Spice-bottle shelf 37 Sports stadium 11 After-shower wear 38 Sticking ability 64 Sounds of delight 39 Speak 40 Two "G" nations 65 Poor grade 43 So all can hear 44 Actress Lindsay 45 Eisenhower nickname 46 Carpentry machine 48 So far 49 Part of MIT: Abbr. 50 "That makes sense" 52 Apartment payment 54 Can't stand 57 Wheel bar 59 Stage performer 63 Two "G" nations 66 Instruct 67 Canine pests 68 Manager, for short 69 Flower holders

Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for words.

Surprise: State report says Texas has too many reports

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas State Library and Archives Commission is declaring there are too many state reports.

It says so in a 668-page report.

The project took 18 months and included the commission's small team canvassing more than 170 agencies, and public col-

leges and universities, checking on all the reports they are assigned to do.

In the past, the state regularly compiled a list of about 400 reports that agencies were required by the Legislature to produce. But the commission found more than 1,600, and state records admin-

istrator Michael Heskett is pretty sure his team hasn't found them all.

Heskett's initial findings indicate more than 400 report requirements are obsolete, duplicative or not needed as frequently as currently required.

"At first, we were overwhelmed by the sheer number of reporting

requirements," Heskett said. "We haven't begun our evaluation yet. But I think we can reach our goal of eliminating the deadwood without compromising the need for accountability in our state agencies."

Agencies stand to save thousands of staff hours and tons of paper,

although the commission hasn't estimated yet exactly how much of either, Heskett said.

In a typical legislative session, lawmakers call for about a dozen new reports to meet the requirements for a new law. Another 20 or so reports are attached to appropriations bills as a

way of making sure allocated money is properly spent.

Unless these reports are repealed by the Legislature, agencies are required to prepare them, even if the need for the report — or the agency — no longer exists.

See **REPORT**, Page 8A

QUEEN

Continued from Page 6A

said. After Rife's death, Scotty McCally, then a longtime family friend and fellow racing enthusiast, decided to reach out.

"I had been single 37 years," he said. "I told my friends I would never take another wife. After he (Rife) died, I waited about a half a year and called her up on the phone and asked her to marry me. That was it — 17 or 18 years later, we're still together."

Rife-McCally added, "We had been such good friends, for years, it was the perfect thing."

The newlyweds went about their lives, traveling, farming and spending time with family, but fond memories of those glory days in racing were never completely put to rest.

A phone call three years ago changed everything. Someone in California had listed the Proud Mary for sale.

"We couldn't even go to sleep that night," McCally said. "We phoned a friend who had a home not far from where the boat was and asked him to check it out."

It had been parking in someone's backyard for 18 years, said Rife-McCally.

And it was in pieces, her husband added.

The couple dragged the mess back to Texas and started restoring it. With the assistance of specialist mechanics and restoration experts, it took three years to reassemble and fine tune the craft.

When it came time to fire up the boat for a reunion run, there was a fleeting feeling of exhilaration.

"It was aggravating," Rife-McCally said.

"She went to put the boat in gear and it wouldn't go," her husband added.

After enlisting the assistance of her old mechanic, Paul Schaurien, it was time again for a very public test drive — a 400-foot exhibition run at a drag

racing meet.

Feeling the pressure of the wind, it was like time never passed, she said.

At the recent 16th annual California Hot Rod Reunion, she was again the belle of the ball.

"The feelings I used to have are still there," she said. "It feels great."

Back home in Flint, the walls of her office are lined with photos, mementos and awards capturing some of the high moments in her racing career.

There's a snapshot of Rife-McCally with tennis legend Billie Jean King during a program profiling "women in sports" and a blown-out piston from Proud Mary's original engine.

Another photo captur-

ing her first win in Top Fuel Hydro shows a beaming Rife-McCally holding her 3-week-old granddaughter in one hand and a trophy in the other.

One of her favorite moments, captured in photo, happened in 1975.

"I gave Mario Andretti a ride," she said. "We put a second seat in the boat for him. We did a 160-plus mile pass on the water. You should have seen his face. He said he'd never do that again."

In the garage, the anchor of their home place, there are stacks of old racing magazines, model airplanes and scads of career memorabilia, including commemorative T-shirts and a mannequin wearing her old

racing suit.

On the Proud Mary are names of the family and friends who helped pull it all together, including her mother, late husband, brother-in-law.

Details about the boat's long road back to glory are detailed on a special Web site, www.wedidit-forlove.com.

Her husband is grateful she's able to reflect on the

good times.

"There's so many of our friends who are six feet under because of these boats," he said. "I'm thankful she's above the water."

On that point, the queen of speed boat racing heartily agrees.

"I'm definitely glad to be above water," she teased. "I never learned to swim."

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ARTISTS

Continued from Page 6A

It's not a faux historical facade, like what's found in some other trendy art towns.

And there's something else about Slaton that draws artists and other creative types like Locke.

"Slaton seems to be accepting to a variety of things," Locke said. "That's something you don't find in a lot of other small towns."

"I love this town," Locke said.

Von Venhuizen, a ceramics professor at Tech, has the same feeling.

"It's the community aspect that I enjoy," said Venhuizen, who recently bought a rundown 2,000-square-foot duplex in Slaton and turned it into an art studio/gallery.

Since opening, V Studio and Gallery, Venhuizen has hosted artists from throughout Texas and the United States.

With a handful of active

galleries packed into Slaton's downtown, Venhuizen thinks the town's reputation as an arts community is about to take off.

"I think it's going to get even bigger," he said. "It has good energy."

And it's not just the artistic types that are excited.

Rod Klemke, owner of Klemke's Sausage House in downtown Slaton, is in full support of his town's emerging art scene.

"It helps as far as I'm concerned because it brings people into town," Klemke said. "When (Waters) has her art shows, it brings customers to us. That's a good thing."

And the artists are happy knowing they are helping the town prosper.


"It's cool because it's not like we decided to build a Wal-Mart in Slaton in order to get people here," Germany said. "We're letting culture guide development. It will be interesting to see where it goes from here."

Enter Your Favorite Family Recipe In Our 8th Annual

HOLIDAY COOKBOOK CONTEST

CATEGORIES:

- Breads
- Appetizers
- Desserts
- Vegetables
- Casseroles
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•

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Board Certified In Internal Medicine Gastroenterology

RECIPE ENTRY DEADLINE:
Friday, November 2, 2007
Limit 3 recipes per person.

Winners will be published in the cookbook on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2007.

HOW TO GET YOUR ENTRY TO US:
Mail to: PO Box 1431, BS, TX 79721
Bring to: 710 Scurry, Big Spring
Fax to: (432) 264-7205 or
Email to: advertising@bigspringherald.com

• Official Entry Form •

Yes! Enter my recipe(s) in the 8th Annual Holiday Cookbook Contest.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Pone: _____

Please type or print your recipe legibly and submit it with this form.

◆ We **WILL** have a taste testing this year ◆



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Mary Clanton does her best "Mini Pearl" impression at the Senior Fun Fest dance Saturday night at Canterbury. The dance wrapped up the two-day event which included games, informational booths and a chill supper.

REPORT

Continued from Page 7A

One of the obsolete reports is the Funds Received and Disbursed report. One of the oldest required reports, it is still dutifully done, though there's a report under the Uniform Statewide Accounting Act that requires much the same data, Heskett said.

Report 1473 calls upon the Department of Aging to prepare a report, although the Department of Aging no longer exists.

There are still report requirements for the Human Rights Commission, which the Legislature abolished in 2003, Heskett said.

The Texas Workforce Commission is required annually to report on creating equal opportunity guidelines for employees that have been in place for years and are in no

need of re-creating. Heskett's team found a huge backlog of reporting requirements, the volume of which has increased in the past 20 years with added emphasis on transparency and open records in state government.

The Library and Archives Commission has only just begun assessing the report requirements one by one, which Heskett expects will take at least another year.

The Library and Archives Commission runs the state's publications depository system, which warehouses untold tons of paper reports and keeps an electronic records and information locator to search and sort that data.

As for the commission's massive report on reports, Heskett predicts it won't go away.

"For the report to be effective, it must be ongoing," he said.

In This Season Of Hope

22nd annual BIG SPRING **HERALD**
Community Christmas Parade
5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1
Parade theme:
"Peace On Earth"
Entry deadline — Noon, Friday, Nov. 16

The parade will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and head north on Gregg Street toward downtown, arriving in time for the downtown Christmas celebration.

\$100 *Herald's Best of Show Award:* for best interpretation of theme.
\$75 *Mayor's Trophy:* for best use of lighting.
\$50 *Grand Marshall's Award:* for best costuming.

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories:
1. Individual or family 2. Civic group, school or church
3. Commercial 4. Industrial

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories.
Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

PARADE RULES

- The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. **No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.**
- Floats should not exceed 65 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
- Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
- Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
- Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be eligible for awards.
- For safety, do not throw candy from your float. Small children run up under the tires. Please have someone walking beside your float if you want to throw candy.

2007 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of organization: _____
Name of contact person: _____
Mailing address: _____
Telephone number: _____

Mail, fax or hand deliver to:
Parade Committee
Big Spring Herald
PO Box 1431
710 Scurry
Big Spring, TX 79721
Fax (432) 264-7205

You will receive by return mail, your float number and a map showing where to go to line up.

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Categories

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Dr. Ward salutes his valued and skilled hygenists Vicki Mathews and Traci Kendrick. Dental hygenists are valuable health care team members who serve their patients well and help facilitate an excellent dental practice.

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Your smile is one of the first things people notice about you. Regular checkups and professional cleanings are essential to a healthy mouth.

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306 E. 9th 267-2435

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Dr. Art Rosenquist, D.D.S.

307-D West 16th St. 267-3657

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