

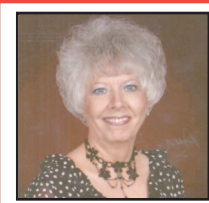
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VOLUME 102, NUMBER 296

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City reels from shootings

Police investigating a series of shootings that have left four people injured

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Crossroads area may begin looking more like the famous OK Corral, as the Big Spring Police Department is investigating a slew of recent shootings in the city that have left at least four people injured.



Everett

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the BSPD, the most recent attacks came late Saturday night with residences in the areas of Main Street and Cherokee coming

under fire.

"The first call came in at approximately 1:52 a.m., early Sunday morning, at a residence at 1907 Main Street," said Everett. "There were four people in the home when shots began ringing out, coming from outside the home, to the rear of the residence. A number of

shots were fired at the home, and in the process a Big Spring man was shot."

Joe Viera, 34, was shot in the foot, according to Everett, who said the injury was not life threatening and Viera was treated and released at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

"Before the officers could

even clear the scene on Main Street, a second report of a shooting came in," said Everett. "This one was reported at a residence in the 1500 block of Cherokee less than an hour after the first call.

"According to witnesses, sev- See SHOOTINGS, Page 3A

Not guilty

Kidnapping charge dismissed when witness fails to show

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

After having the aggravated kidnapping charges against him dismissed, a Big Spring man was found not guilty on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon Wednesday in 118th District Court.

Tuterence Demaskinni Davis, 28, of 1406 E. Sixth St., was acquitted on the aggravated assault charge by a jury, and thanks to the absence of a key witness in the case, didn't stand trial for the alleged kidnapping of a 4-year-old child in April.

"The aggravated kidnapping case against him was dismissed because of the absence of a crucial witness," said Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr. "In the aggravated assault case, the state presented testimony from the victim, a girlfriend and Big Spring Police Department Det. Jim

See TRIAL, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Lancelot (Eric Valle) and King Arthur (Jason Worthington) cross swords during a scene from "Camelot," a joint production of the Big Spring High School and Howard College theater departments. The first performance will be at 7 p.m. tonight in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students.

Veterans to be honored in special program Friday

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area residents will get a chance to offer thanks to the country's fighting men and women Friday, as the Big Spring VA Medical Center — joined by other local veteran groups — pre-

pare for a Community-wide Veterans Day Program.

The event will begin at 11 a.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

"Veterans Day offers America an opportunity to honor veterans for

See VETERANS, Page 3A

Dear Santa

Museum Christmas display opens Saturday with reception

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While many area residents have the Thanksgiving holiday on their minds right now, folks at the Big Spring Heritage Museum will be kicking the Christmas holiday into high-gear Saturday with a special reception and exhibit unveiling Saturday.

According to Nancy Raney, museum director, the staff has been working on the new Dear Santa exhibit almost non-stop since Halloween, and the end result is something guaranteed to get even the most hard-core humbugger in the holiday spirit.



Raney

"It seems kind of strange to be working on Christmas stuff during Halloween," said Raney with a laugh. "However, things look wonderful and we're ready for the reception Saturday. It's going to be a lot of fun, especially for the children."

Raney said the exhibit features various pieces of art — from watercolor paintings by the local Caboose Watercolor Society to several private collections — but the real

See MUSEUM, Page 3A

Adventure Club students set camp out fund-raiser

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

It's not a tent city. No sit-in or protest.

No, the group of tents passersby will see Friday on the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf campus are for a

good cause. It's a fund-raiser for SWCID's Adventure Club.

Club members are trying to raise \$500 to help pay expenses for an upcoming adventure —

See CAMP, Page 6A

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VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Jack Hancock has been named Veteran of the Month for November by the Hangar 25 Air Museum.

Hancock served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Following Pearl Harbor, he served on the USS Barnett and fought in the Pacific Front.

A reception in his honor will be held at 6 p.m. Monday in the air museum's Briefing Room.

The public is encouraged to attend this reception in his honor.

For more information about the event, Hangar 25 Air Museum or any of its activities, call 264-1999.

KAY SMITH RECEPTION

Works by local artist Kay Smith will be on display in the foyer of Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus beginning today through Dec. 8 for public viewing.

Smith is visiting with Howard College art classes today and will be the guest of honor at 5 p.m. reception at the Hall Center.

"I am very excited to have an artist of kay Smith's caliber come to our art class and offer professional input for our students," said Stacy Slaton, Howard College art instructor.

Refreshments will be served at the reception. The public is invited.

DINE OUT DAY AT SONIC

The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County is asking for the public to participate in Dine Out Day for United Way. Each Friday, a different restaurant agrees to donate a portion of their sales to United Way.

This Friday, Sonic Drive-In on Gregg Street., is participating.

Last year, the program was a successful fun-raiser for both the restaurants and the United Way, according to Ken McIntosh, chairman of the Dine Out Day event.

The United Way allocates funds to 14 local agencies. To learn more about United Way, call 267-5201 or go by the office at 808 Scurry.

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Sports

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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
Thursday, November 8, 2007

IN BRIEF

Youth B-ball league sign-ups have started at YMCA

Registration for the Big Spring Youth Basketball League for boys and girls are taking place at the YMCA through Nov. 17. Divisions of play include separate boys and girls teams in grades 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6.

Outlying communities may form their own teams, but must have a mix of players from each grade in each division.

Games are played on Saturdays beginning Dec. 8. Practices start the week of Nov. 26. A coaches meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. Nov. 18 at the YMCA. Teams will be formed at this meeting. Players are not required to attend.

Registration fee is \$45 with an \$8 credit for those who will use the same game jersey as last season.

Call the YMCA at 267-8234 for more details.

Individuals needed to referee area basketball games

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

Anyone interested should call Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300.

Quarterback Club selling Steer playoff T-shirts until Sunday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is selling Big Spring Steers 2007 playoff T-shirts through Sunday.

Short sleeve shirts cost \$15 and long sleeve shirts are \$19.

Call Denise Carillo at 816-1685 to make a purchase.

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.

Bulldogs' playoff hunt goes through Haskell

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

COAHOMA — For some area football teams, the playoffs began a week ago.

The Coahoma Bulldogs (4-2, 4-5) was one of those teams. A loss to Stanton Friday would have eliminated the Bulldogs from the playoffs.

However, thanks to P.J. Daylong, Coahoma survived with a 15-14 victory. With quarterback Donnie Garcia sidelined with injury, Daylong was responsible for all 15 of Coahoma's points.

He scored on a 54-yard touchdown pass from Josh Paniagua just before halftime then kicked the ensuing extra point. Paniagua and Daylong later hooked up on a 27-yard touchdown to pull Coahoma within one point of Stanton with a little more than four minutes left to play.

Daylong played hero again when he picked up a bad snap on

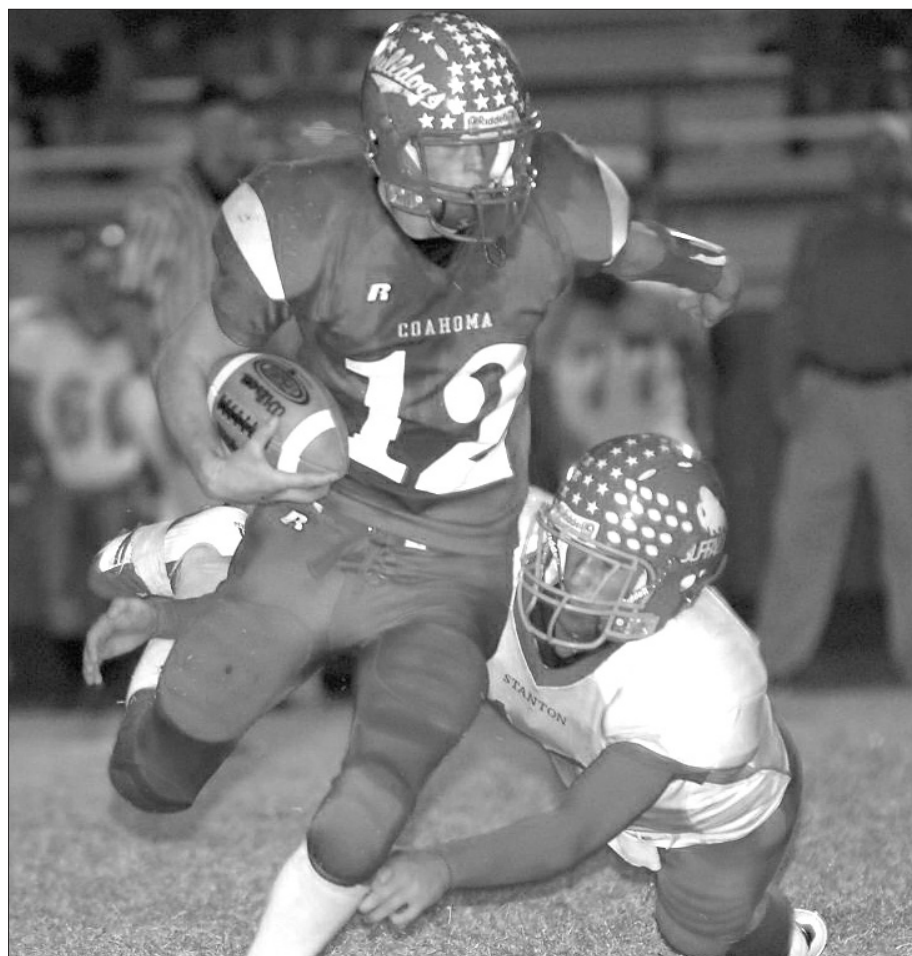
the point after attempt and ran it into the endzone for a 2-point conversion, giving the Bulldogs the 15-14 lead that held up through the rest of the game.

"P.J. had a huge game. He did everything we asked of him," Kennedy said. "He started the game at quarterback then played some running back and slot receiver."

The Bulldogs will count heavily on Daylong again Friday night when Coahoma visits Haskell's Indians (5-1, 7-2). Garcia's status is considered day-to-day with an injury to his throwing shoulder. The Bulldogs will put quarterback Josh Paniagua at quarterback if Garcia can't go.

Whether it's Paniagua or an injured Garcia taking the snaps, Daylong figures to be a main focus of the offensive gameplan in order to take pressure off of either player.

See **BULLDOGS**, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Coahoma Bulldogs fullback Corey Roberts runs through the arms of a Stanton defender in the Bulldogs' 15-14 victory over the Buffs Friday. Coahoma plays Haskell Friday night with several playoff implications on the line.



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Big Spring Steers running back Monte Anderson avoids being tripped up by a Lubbock Estacado defender in the Steers' 33-27 OT victory over Estacado Friday at Memorial Stadium. Big Spring wraps up its regular season with a trip to San Angelo to take on the Lake View Chiefs at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Steers look to sustain momentum

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

It's rare to play a game where the outcome of it doesn't matter too much.

On paper, The Big Spring Steers (2-1, 2-7) football team is in that situation. Win or lose, they're in the playoffs. However, a win over San Angelo Lake View's Chiefs (0-3, 2-7) secures the No. 1 seed in the Division II, or small school, playoffs.

At the same time, the only way

Big Spring could end up not being the No. 1 seed is for Lubbock Estacado to upset District 4-4A front runner Frenship. Even the most loyal of Estacado fans have to admit the unlikelihood of Frenship losing Friday night.

With an apparent No.1 seed in the Division II playoffs clinched, the Steers head into San Angelo for a game scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Friday, hoping to keep the momentum they

built in the overtime win over Estacado last week soaring to new heights.

"The key to this week is to keep improving so we'll be good enough to play more than one week into the playoffs," Big Spring Head Coach Mike Ritchey said. "We feel like we've gotten better over the last several weeks and if we can keep coming together with our hard

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Area roundup: Stanton must beat Merkel to keep playoff hopes alive

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

STANTON — Oh how things can change in a short period of time.

Two weeks ago, the Stanton Buffaloes (4-2, 6-3) had it all going their way, riding a 6-game winning streak and sitting atop the District 5-2A standings.

Going into the final week of the district race in a contest against Merkel's Badgers (5-1, 5-4), there are a multitude of situations that can play out.

- If Merkel beats Stanton and Haskell (5-1, 7-2) defeats Coahoma (4-2, 4-5), then Haskell will be district champs based on its 48-14 win over Merkel earlier this season.

- If Stanton beats Merkel and Haskell takes care of Coahoma, then Haskell will be district champion. Stanton would be the No. 2 seed and Merkel enters as the third seed.

- If Coahoma wins and Stanton loses, Merkel picks up the dis-

trict title, Coahoma claims the No. 2 seed and Haskell emerges as the third seed.

• However, if Stanton and Coahoma both win, then things really get complicated. In that situation, there will be a four way tie atop the district standings, forcing the use of a point system to sort out the playoff teams from District 5-2A.

It's actually not that complicated for the Buffs. Just win and let everything else take care of itself.

Stanton is in this situation after last week's 15-14 loss to their heated rival Coahoma.

"We just couldn't get anything going," Stanton Head Coach Lee McCown said after the Coahoma game. "We had the opportunities to win. We just couldn't take advantage of them."

In that game the Buffs were unable to cash in on five Coahoma turnovers. Even then,

See **AREA**, Page 3B

Forsan must win

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

Don't let a postseason berth get away.

Once thought to be the favorites to win the District 16-1A title, the Forsan Buffaloes now hope to merely make the playoffs.

To do so, they will need something that has eluded them the past two weeks — a win.

The Buffs (4-5, 4-2) travel to take on the Menard Yellow Jackets (3-6, 3-3) at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the regular season finale for both teams.

The Yellow Jackets, a playoff team just two years ago, have won two straight and will be looking to avenge a 35-15 drumming by the Buffs last season.

Menard has yet to win at home this year with all three of their wins coming on the road and Buffs' Head Coach Tommy Thompson will take any advantage he can get.

"Menard has a great football team that has basically hurt themselves with penalties and turnovers," said Thompson. "Our guys will have to get over the disappointment of the last two weeks and dig deep as we are fighting for our playoff lives."

Even with a win at Menard, the

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Stanton Buffaloes quarterback Garrett Fulton (center) carries the ball for positive yardage in the Buffs' 15-14 loss to Coahoma Friday. Stanton now must defeat Merkel to have any shot at the playoffs.

HOOTINGS

Continued from Page 1A

eral people were gathered in the front yard of the home when a male subject walked up and began firing. Two people were hit. Chris Ledesma, 24, and Ruben Gonzales, 20, were shot."

Everett said Gonzales met a similar fate as Viera, taking a bullet in the foot, and was treated and released shortly after the shooting. Ledesma, however, wasn't as lucky, with a bullet traveling through both legs, sending the young man to a hospital in Lubbock, where it is believed he is still receiving treatment.

Despite the timing, Everett said the two shootings are not believed to be related.

However, according to witnesses, a third shooting was related to the attack on the Viera home, with unidentified suspects attacking a home at 1513 Sunset during the early morning hours Tuesday.

According to witnesses, Viera and members of his family were staying at the residence following the Sunday shooting. Police officials said the unknown assailants fired two shots into the home, as well as five bullets into vehicles parked in front of the home. No injuries were reported as a result of the shooting.

On top of these three incidents, Everett said the BSPD is also investi-

gating a shooting that took place Oct. 27 in the 700 block of Lorilla that sent a Big Spring woman to a Lubbock hospital by way of a life-flight.

Jovita Rodriguez, 28, was airlifted to Lubbock after being shot near her hip, which is believed to have been shattered as a result.

"Rodriguez, along with several other subjects, were gathered in the front yard of the home," said Everett. "A male subject drove by the home, leaned out of the vehicle and fired at least two shots. Rodriguez was the only person hit."

And while at least three of the shootings are believed to be unrelated, Everett said they all have one thing in common.

"We have persons of interest in all of them, but no arrests have been made at this time," said Everett. "We're having some trouble gathering information from witnesses. When the bullets start flying, people have a tendency to scatter, and then it's hard to round them back up."

"In all four cases, no one has been able to identify the shooters, even when they walked up in the yard firing. I believe there will be some arrests forthcoming, but a lot of that will hinge on the witnesses."

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



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Emergency personnel spent part of Thursday morning cleaning up this mess after a sedan collided with a full-size pickup at the intersection of FM 700 and Martin Luther King Blvd. shortly after 7 a.m. According to witnesses at the scene, the driver of the sedan was traveling east on FM 700 while the truck was attempting to turn onto the same roadway. Police officials said the sun, which was rising directly in the eye-line of the drivers, most likely played a role in the accident. No life-threatening injuries were reported as a result of the accident.

VETERANS

Continued from Page 1A

their service and sacrifice," said Iva Jo Hanslik, Big Spring VAMC community relations coordinator. "All veterans are invited and encouraged to attend the program, which is in their honor. Citizens in the community are also invited to join us as we share a moment of celebration, recognition and dedication to all veterans — past, present and future."

Several area school districts, along with local veterans groups and VA officials, will show their support of America's fighting men and women during the program, according to Hanslik.

"The students from Goliad, as well as Coahoma and Forsan school districts, will participate in the program," said Hanslik. "Michael Bell, director of the Big Spring VA Medical Center, will serve as the keynote speaker, while Randy McKinney, a member of the local Vietnam Memorial Committee, will serve as master of ceremonies."

The Goodfellow AFB Honor Guard will be a part of the program, posting the colors, providing the 21-gun salute and playing Taps. Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen will present a proclamation honoring all veterans.

Immediately following the program, which Hanslik said would be brief, veterans and their families are invited to break bread together during a special lunch in the coliseum's east Room.

"As a gesture of appreciation to all veterans, lunch is being provided by Fiberod of Big

Spring," said Hanslik.

Veterans Day — formerly known as Armistice Day — officially became a holiday in the United States in 1926, and a national holiday 12 years later. On June 1, 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans of all wars and conflicts.

In 1968, new legislation changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

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

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

Rider. The defense presented testimony from Nicole Garcia, who was there when everything went down."

Davis was indicted on charges of aggravated kidnapping and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in June. The abduction, according to BSPD officials, was related to narcotic activity.

Also indicted on kidnapping charges were Christene Michelle Beam,

26, and Tiffnie Monique Vanderbilt, 23, for their alleged part in the April 9 kidnapping of 4-year-old John Ray Lee from the 2500 block of Dow.

Orr said Vanderbilt is currently serving time for different charges, but declined to reveal the name of the state's witness who failed to appear for the trial.

He did, however, say Beam had taken a plea agreement with the District Attorney's office, pleading guilty on the aggravated kidnapping charge and accepting a seven-year sentence.

Despite the guilty plea, however, Orr said Beam's whereabouts are currently unknown. Officials with the Howard County Jail also confirmed Beam was not in custody at the time of the trial, and is currently wanted on the kidnapping conviction, among other warrants.

"We were in a situation where our star witness couldn't be located and we had to proceed with the trial," said Orr. "We had to move forward with what we had, and that was the aggravated assault charge. Can we come back later and try

Davis on the kidnapping charge? Theoretically, it's possible. However, that's not my decision to make."

Davis faced five to 99 years to life in prison if convicted on the charge of aggravated kidnapping, a first-degree felony. Trey Keith, an attorney out of Sweetwater, represented Davis, while the state's case was presented by Orr.

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

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1A

centerpiece, especially for the younger museum-goers, will be the man himself, stopping by for a pre-December visit.

"The exhibit is really amazing," said Raney. "You walk in and you can just feel the Christmas spirit. Saturday will also be our first visit from Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, who will be here from 10 a.m. until noon. So people should be sure to bring their children and their holiday wish lists. Local photographer Bruce Schooler will also be on hand for those who want to take a photo with Santa, starting at \$15."

Raney said the Santa exhibit is joined by a Christmas Tree Forest, an idea from the early 1990s the museum staff is hoping to revive.

"Different groups and organizations have set up Christmas trees throughout the museum," said Raney. "It's just amazing. Everywhere you look there's a Christmas tree. Cheryl Click did a special

Caribbean-style tree, and I think Moss Elementary has seven trees, one for each grade."

Raney said despite his busy holiday schedule, the jolly old elf will be making several more stops by the museum between now and Christmas.

"Every Saturday in December, Santa will be here from 10 a.m. until 12

p.m. to see the kids," said Raney. "It's something we're all very excited about."

For more information on Saturday's reception, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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Alexander Valencia, 49, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

Television programs introduce, develop and solve crises in a matter of minutes. While such an approach can be helpful for entertainment and relaxation, real life is far different. Relationship building takes time. Problem solving takes time. Fulfillment results from years of determination rather than a few moments between commercials.

Unfortunately, some people try to box God into their understanding of time. They see the time needed for trees to grow, erosion to occur, babies to be born, and the like. They then project onto scripture a belief that a long time was needed for creation.

However, twenty-four hours after Adam was created, he did not look like a day-old baby. God created Adam as an adult and placed in a young but mature world. We are blessed to know that while this world is "young and restless", God continues to be our "guiding light" even "as the world turns."

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

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Weekend Forecast

This week's games



Big Spring at Lake View Rankin at Grady Forsan at Menard Coahoma at Haskell Merkel at Stanton Fort Davis at Garden City Texas A&M at Missouri Texas Tech at Texas Baylor at Oklahoma Kansas at Oklahoma St. Auburn at Georgia Florida at South Carolina Florida St. at Va. Tech USC at Cal Michigan at Wisconsin Cowboys at Giants Colts at Chargers Eagles at Redskins Bengals at Ravens Jaguars at Titans	Jonathan Hull Big Spring Grady Forsan Coahoma Stanton Garden City Missouri Texas Oklahoma Oklahoma St. Auburn Florida Va. Tech Cal Michigan Cowboys Colts Redskins Bengals Titans	Thomas Jenkins Big Spring Rankin Forsan Haskell Merkel Garden City Missouri Texas Oklahoma Kansas Georgia Florida Va. Tech USC Michigan Cowboys Colts Redskins Ravens Titans	Bill McClellan Big Spring Rankin Forsan Haskell Merkel Garden City Missouri Texas Oklahoma Kansas Georgia Florida Va. Tech USC Michigan Cowboys Colts Redskins Ravens Titans	Steve Reagan Big Spring Grady Forsan Coahoma Stanton Garden City Missouri Texas Tech Oklahoma Kansas Auburn Florida Va. Tech Cal Michigan Cowboys Colts Redskins Ravens Titans	Robert Smith Big Spring Rankin Forsan Coahoma Stanton Garden City Missouri Texas Tech Oklahoma Kansas Georgia South Carolina Va. Tech Cal Michigan Cowboys Colts Redskins Ravens Titans	Jeff Lane Big Spring Rankin Forsan Haskell Stanton Garden City Missouri Texas Tech Oklahoma Kansas Auburn South Carolina Va. Tech Cal Wisconsin Cowboys Colts Redskins Ravens Titans
Last Week	15-5	14-6	14-6	13-7	13-7	13-7
Overall	130-70	136-64	140-60	139-61	126-74	135-65

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Nissan Rogue

In less than a month since its North American rollout, Nissan's newest entry is making a major impact.

The Rogue, a small crossover utility vehicle available in either front- or all-wheel drive configurations, is not only turning heads, it's driving a lot of traffic into Nissan showrooms as sales of more than 850 units were reported in just the first three weeks of availability.

Stylishly designed and absolutely loaded with interior passenger and cargo room — keep in mind this is considered a small vehicle platform — the Rogue is not only functional and fun to drive, it is impressively affordable.

After spending a week behind the wheel, I am very impressed with the Rogue's performance and versatility.

I'm even more impressed with the price. Nissan is delivering an exceptional vehicle for a base price starting at \$19,250.

Available in two trim lines, S and SL, the all-wheel drive SL model has an MSRP list price of \$21,870.

And this isn't a scaled down, bare-bones vehicle by any stretch of the imagination.

Standard features for the five-passenger, four-door crossover include

adjustable driver's seat and adjustable head restraints, four-speaker audio system with auxiliary input, 12 volt power outlets, an extremely large glove box, an under floor cargo tray for storage, double map lights, power windows, power door locks, cruise control with steering wheel-mounted controls and

remote keyless entry, among others.

Standard safety features include Nissan's advance airbag system — driver and front passenger airbags,

front side-impact airbags and curtain side-impact rollover airbags — 3-point safety belts for all seating positions, active front seat head restraints, child seat LATCH system, child safety rear door locks, tire pressure monitoring system, anti-theft alarm system and vehicle dynamic control with traction control system.

The Rogue is powered by a 2.5-liter I-4 engine (170 horsepower/175 lbs.-ft. torque) and mated to Nissan's Xtronic CVT transmission with adaptive logic control (steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters are available).

Hats off to Nissan engineers for engineering a peppy, spirited powertrain that provides an abundance of torque on demand.

During my weeklong

ON THE ROAD



BY NEAL WHITE



The 2008 Nissan Rogue crossover utility.

test drive, I had the opportunity to drive in both highway and city conditions and I never once found the Rogue lacking in the power department.

That's quite an accomplishment when you factor in the Rogue's EPA fuel economy rating of 22 mpg city, 27 mpg highway (for front-wheel drive models, 21/26 for AWD).

By providing SUV versatility (there's nearly 58 cubic feet of available

cargo room), command seating with excellent visibility, sedan-like handling and the economy of a small car, it's no wonder the Rogue is making such a big splash so quickly after rollout.

For those who enjoy the attributes of an SUV but are growing weary of the SUV expense, the Rogue is well worth adding to the test drive list when considering a new vehicle.

It's also an absolute blast to drive.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL:
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ENGINE:
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Xtronic CVT
EPA: 22/21 mpg city, 27/26 mpg highway (FWD/AWD)
FUEL: Regular unleaded
SUSPENSION: Independent strut with coil springs (front); independent multi-link (rear);
TRACTION CONTROL:
Vehicle dynamic control with traction control system.
BRAKES: ABS with electronic brake force distribution and brake assist.
LENGTH: 182.9 inches
WHEELBASE: 105.9 inches

In This Season Of Hope

22nd annual

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

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. **No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.**
2. Floats should not exceed 65 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
3. Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
5. 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.
6. 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: _____

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



- Individual/Family
- Civic/church/school
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mounted

QUESTIONS? CALL (432) 263-7331, Ask for Elizabeth Flores or Rick Nunez

32089

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Big Spring man dies in rollover

Herald Staff Report

A Big Spring man was killed early this morning near Midland when the vehicle he was driving veered off Interstate Highway 20 and rolled over.

Alexander Valencia, 49, was pronounced dead at 3:02 a.m. by a physician at Midland Memorial Hospital.

Information from the Department of Public Safety indicated the one-vehicle accident took place about 2 a.m. at mile marker 144. Valencia was driving east in a 2001 Chevrolet pickup when the vehicle crossed the center median into the west bound lane. The pickup rolled on its top and side and came to rest in the median between

the west lane and the north service road, according to the DPS report.

Valencia was not wearing a seat belt and was ejected from the vehicle.

Trooper Elena Viramontes investigated the accident.

Services for Valencia are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

State briefs

Border agents say smuggler put man in suitcase

EL PASO (AP) — A man hiding in a suitcase and a driver have been detained by Customs and Border Protection officers after a failed smuggling attempt.

Authorities believe both men were headed for Denver.

The discovery came during a stop at the Paso del Norte port of entry on Tuesday.

The large suitcase was in the back seat of a car.

The driver, 42-year-old Martin Enriquez Hernandez of Denver, has been charged with alien smuggling.

The man in the suitcase, 26-year-old Jesus Ivan Payan Estrada of Chihuahua, Mexico, was taken into custody on re-entry after deportation charges.

Customs officials said the man in the bag was 5-foot-7, and weighs about 160 pounds.

7 indicted in death recorded on cell phone camera

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Seven people have been indicted in the slaying of a man whose torture and shooting death were recorded on a cell phone camera.

Police say Corey William Baxter, 28, was burned with a propane torch and beaten with a bat before being shot last March. He had been lured into an ambush, police said.

Those indicted in the slaying were Justin Berban Alvarado, 20; Robert

Cruz, 25; Brian Cyr, 34; Rudy Hettler, 26; Clifford Vansyckle, 30; Guadalupe Villarreal, 30; and Michael Yaus, 33.

Yaus posted a \$75,000 bond in July. The others remained jailed Wednesday.

A trial is set for January.

Parole denied for convict in gay-bashing death

HOUSTON (AP) — A man convicted in the 1991 slaying of a gay banker has been denied parole.

The parole board said Wednesday that it rejected 33-year-old Jon Buice's bid for release. He has served about one-third of a 45-year sentence he was given after pleading guilty to murder.

Buice was one of 10 teens from The Woodlands convicted in a gay-bashing attack on Paul Broussard, 27. Broussard was beaten and stabbed to death outside of a Montrose nightclub.

"We're thankful the parole board saw fit to deny parole to someone who has not served half of his sentence," said Andy Kahan, director of the Mayor's Crime Victims Office. "We'll be back in 2009 to continue the battle."

Kahan said Broussard's mother, Nancy Rodriguez, would consider Buice's release after he has served at least one year for each of the 27 years in Broussard's life.

Most of the others convicted in the attack have been released on parole or were sentenced to probation.

Buice's parole bid has been championed by Houston gay-rights advocate Ray Hill, who also is active in prisoners' rights.

CAMP

Continued from Page 1A

camping out on North Padre Island.

It's a trip the group is looking forward to, said Michael Lopez, recreation director for the institute.

"This will be a first-time experience for most of the students participating," said Lopez. "It will consist of a lot of learning outside of the classroom in which students will be shown how to start a campfire without matches, how to survive in less than ideal conditions and culinary dishes you can make with everyday plants, like pancakes

made from the cattail plant."

The Adventure Club has held other fund-raisers such as a car wash and a sucker sale to help raise funds for the Padre Island trip.

"Now we're going to pop our tents in hopes of collecting the remaining funds," said Lopez.

Friday's tent camp out will begin at 8 a.m. and club members have pledged to camp out "day and night" until they collect the money they need.

"We would like to invite anyone to stop by the SWCID campus to drop off a donation of either money or camping equipment," Lopez said.

THURSDAY

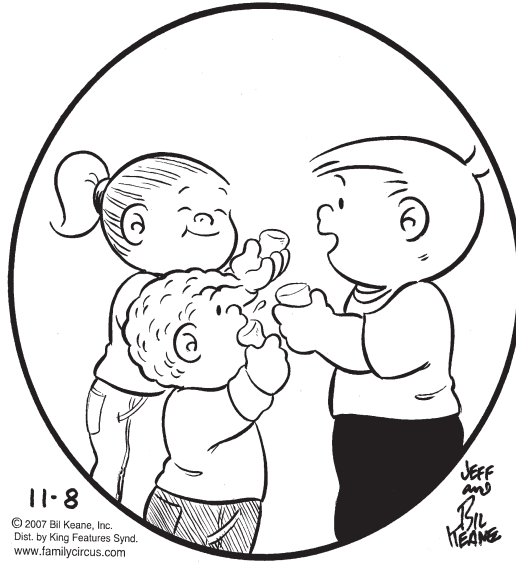
Table with 20 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 7 rows (6:30 PM to 12:30 AM) listing TV programs and channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



MR. WILSON SAYS THE FOUR SEASONS SHOULD BE RAKIN', SHOVELIN', SEEDIN' AN' MOWIN'.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Marshmallows would be good in your back pocket if you were ever spanked."

HAGAR



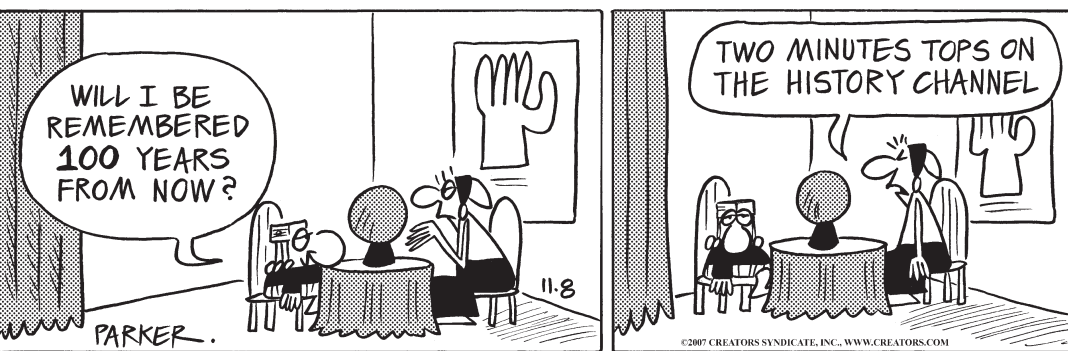
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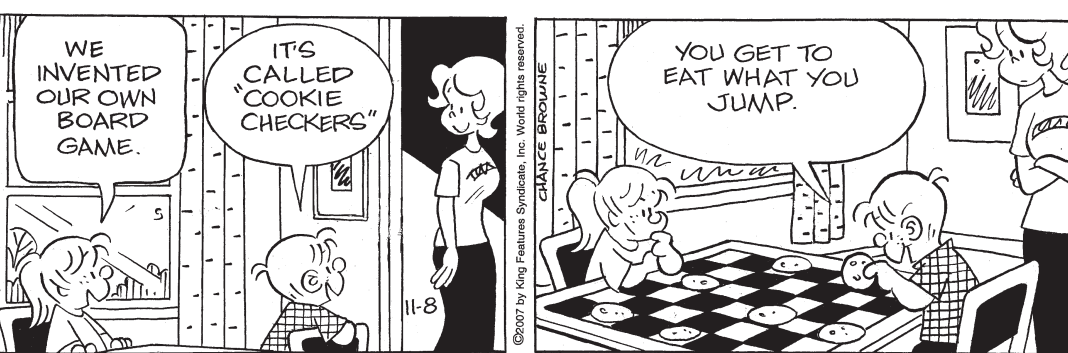
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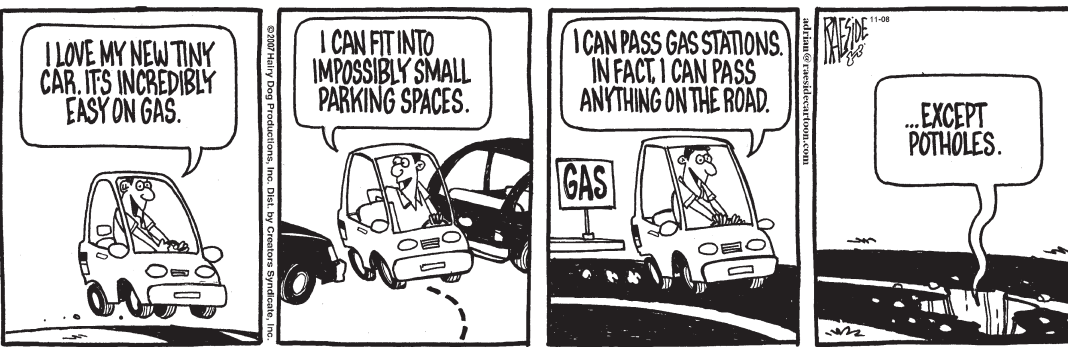
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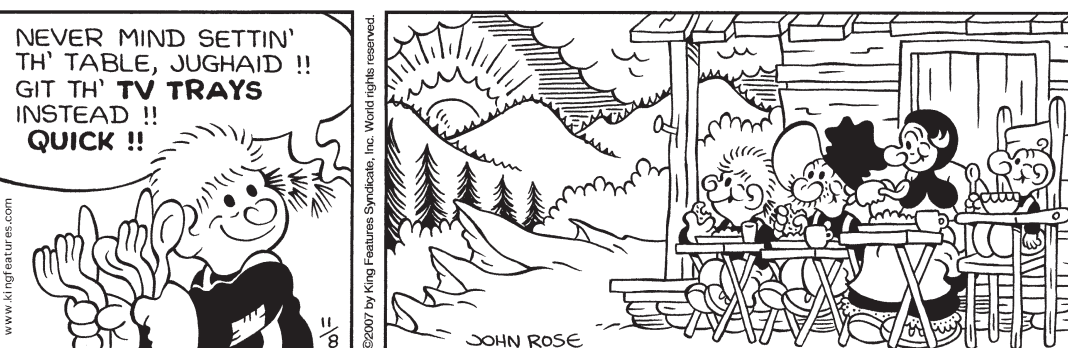
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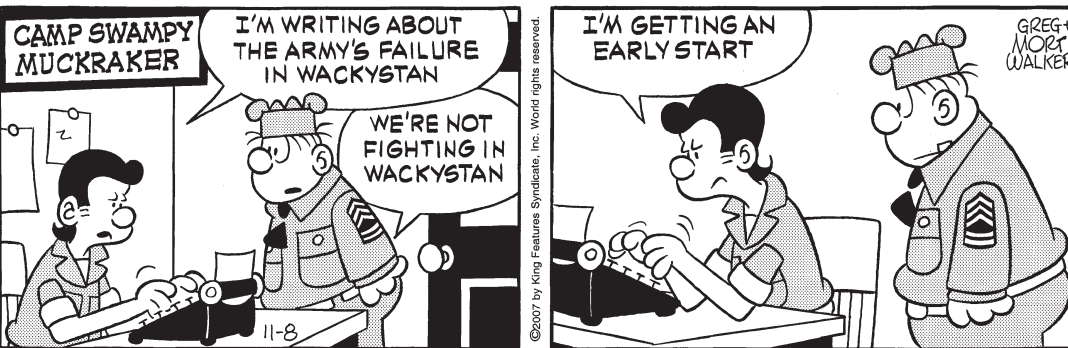
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 8, the 312th day of 2007. There are 53 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 8, 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power with a failed coup in Munich, Germany, that came to be known as the "Beer-Hall Putsch." On this date: In 1837, Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, a college exclusively for women, opened in South Hadley, Mass. In 1889, Montana became the 41st state. In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated incumbent Herbert Hoover for the presidency. In 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt created the Civil Works Administration, designed to create jobs for more than 4 million unemployed.

In 1942, Operation Torch, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War II as U.S. and British forces landed in French North Africa. In 1960, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency. In 1966, Republican candidate Ronald Reagan was elected governor of California, defeating Democratic incumbent Pat Brown. In 1966, Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., became the first black candidate to be elected to the U.S. Senate by popular vote. In 1987, 11 people were killed when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded as crowds gathered in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, for a ceremony honoring Britain's war dead. In 1988, Vice President George Bush won the presidential election, defeating Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis. Today's Birthdays: Actress June Havoc is 95. Actor Norman Lloyd is 93. Jazz

singer Chris Connor is 80. Singer Patti Page is 80. CBS newsman Morley Safer is 76. Singer-actress Bonnie Bramlett is 63. Singer Bonnie Raitt is 58. TV personality Mary Hart is 57. Playboy Enterprises chairman and chief executive Christie Hefner is 55. Actress Alfre Woodard is 54. Singer-songwriter Rickie Lee Jones is 53. Rock musician Porl Thompson (The Cure) is 50. Singer-actor Leif Garrett is 46. Actress Courtney Thorne-Smith is 40. Actress Parker Posey is 39. Rock musician Jimmy Chaney is 38. Actress Roxana Zal is 38.

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Answer to previous puzzle: ROTC CEDAR GLIB IDOL ADOBE ROLE MINIATURE POODLE SEEPS ALERTEST APIE ACT SEAR SMALLHOURS TAFT LILO ISSUE EGO RELIVED HIT ELOPE IBIS DENT PETITPOINT ERGO LOA GAUL ASSOONAS SINAI LITTLENECK CLAMS ELIE LARVA ATTN CORD STAIN HOST

Newsday Crossword

LET US ILLUSTRATE by Hy Hickman Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Monetary value 6 Grills, maybe 10 Breathe hard 14 Parting word 15 Hernando's hand 16 Footnote abbr. 17 Flavor of a place 19 Put the finger on 20 Soprano parts 21 Sent to the sidelines 23 Oxygen source 24 Japanese immigrant 25 Compass needles 28 Silent's successor 32 Max ___ Sydow 33 Highlanders 35 Stannic 36 Declare solemnly 38 Vaults 40 Winged goddess 41 Greedy king of myth 43 Purse closers 45 Provided dinner for 46 Examiner 48 Needed a new washer 50 Garbage holders 52 Caviar 53 Fencing cry 56 Mariachi wear 60 Graceful wrap 61 Leave it to luck 63 Stretch across 64 ___ Linda, CA 65 Novelist Glasgow 66 Toward sunrise 67 Painter Jan van ___ 68 Textile workers DOWN 1 Cartoonist Kelly 2 Fragrance 3 Beans partner 4 Something to dunk as corn 6 Cookie man 7 "Gal" of song 8 Rounded handles 9 Most peeved 10 List tentatively 11 Four Corners state 12 Starlet's aspiration 13 Bolted 18 Breakfast fare 22 Well-groomed 24 Gas-pump platforms 25 62 Down offering 26 Battery terminal 27 Kickoff stands 29 Tarzan's weapon 30 Signed, as a contract 31 Watched carefully 32 Siren 34 Ship pole 37 Makeup, so to speak 39 Bell towers 42 Seal in the juices of 44 Had on 47 Puzzling question 49 Lustrous 51 Film director Mervyn 53 To be, to Brutus 54 Wine valley 55 Mardi ___ 56 Envelope acronym 57 Bleached-out 58 Decorative pitcher 59 FICA IDs 62 HBO alternative

Crossword grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting positions for words.