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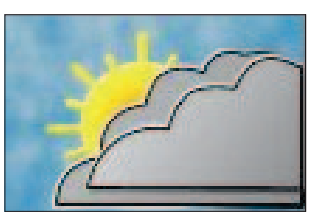


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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 15, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 301

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Operation Christmas Child gifts accepted

Drop off boxes at Allan's Furniture

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

For children in impoverished and war-ravaged countries, Christmas can be a bleak, hopeless time of the year, but one Big Spring business is doing its part to help spread some holiday cheer beyond the borders of the United States.



Johnson

For the 11th year in a row, Allan's Furniture will serve as the local headquarters for Operation Christmas Child, a project offered annually by the Samaritan's Purse charity, that provides gifts for children all over the world.

"These boxes will be the only thing many of these children will have to open Christmas morning," said Allan Johnson, owner of the local furniture store. "Many donors will put scriptures and words of encouragement in the gift, as well, so I feel like we're helping to deliver a really good message."

Johnson said participating in the program is simple.

"All they need to do is get a shoe box and fill it with different items," said Johnson. "Things like toys and hygiene items are always a good idea. Please don't include anything that's a liquid, like lotion or shampoo, or

See **BOXES**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan  
Erin Bartlett, youth minister at First Christian Church, examines some of the more than 150 bowls which could be purchased during today's fund-raiser luncheon at the church. All proceeds went to benefit the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

## Celebrating community

Chamber banquet will focus on Howard County

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

The local Chamber of Commerce banquet is still two months away, but directors are getting in the mood to celebrate.

The chamber's board of directors were briefed on plans for the annual banquet during their monthly meeting at noon Thursday.

Terri Johansen, chamber vice president for business development, told her fellow directors "Celebrate Howard County" will be the theme of the banquet, scheduled for Jan. 24 in Garrett Coliseum.

"We're going to do things a bit differently this year," Johansen told the group. "We really need to think positively about our town, and one way to do that will be at the banquet."

Gone will be the traditional keynote speaker. In its place, Johansen said, will be a PowerPoint pre-

*"It's my hope that this will be the start of an entire year of celebrating Big Spring and Howard County."*



Johansen

sentation highlighting the positive aspects of living and working in Howard County. In addition, musical entertainment will come from a variety of county sources, including the Forsan High School and Big Spring High School bands and a youth choral group from Coahoma.

"We just want to celebrate our wonderful community," she said. "It's going to be very upbeat, something everyone

See **BANQUET**, Page 3A

## Grady ISD officials waste no time following bond approval

See architect's drawing, Page 3A.

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

LENORAH — Grady School officials are wasting little time reaping the benefits of voters' largesse.

A little more than a week after district residents approved a \$10 million bond for construction and renovation projects, the school board has already taken

the first steps toward turning plans into action.

GISD Superintendent Johnny Tubb said trustees have already let out the first round of bids related to the project.

"We didn't want to jump the gun, but we did want to move as quickly as possible," Tubb said. "This is a real exciting time for everyone at Grady ISD."



Tubb

The bond, approved last Tuesday by district voters, will finance a variety of projects, including:

- \$3.4 million for a new 500-seat, air-conditioned gymnasium to replace the current 34-year-old structure.
- \$1 million for four new classrooms and corridor.
- \$740,000 for renovation, expansion and equipment purchases for additions to kitchen and dining areas.
- \$720,000 for construction of a

commons area in the elementary classrooms to improve security.

- \$830,000 for new tennis courts and upgrades to the south end bleachers at Tunnell Field.
- \$500,000 for a new lobby, entryway and administrative offices.

The multiple projects, Tubb said, will help better position the school district to handle

See **GRADY**, Page 3A

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Find us online at:  
www.bigspringherald.com

## Williamson a distinguished copter pilot

By LANE BOND  
Special to the Herald

Army Chief Warrant Officer James R. Williamson lives in Enterprise, Ala., just a few miles from Fort Rucker, where he works.

He would consider his present life and occupation only slightly more dangerous than most Americans. But danger was in the air he breathed for many months — James has cheated death several times during two deployments in

Iraq, and distinguished himself in combat there as a helicopter pilot.

### Troop Salute

A Big Spring native, James was born May 10, 1971, to Melvin and Ella Williamson. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1989 and joined the Air Force three months later. He had wanted to fly from a very early age. But he didn't fly for 12 years, and when he did, he wasn't in the Air Force.

James was around airplanes for most of his Air Force career as a loadmaster for C-130 cargo planes. He was invited to enter pilot training for C-130s, but what he wanted was to fly lightweight fighters, like F-16s. He was too tall to fold into the cockpits of such airplanes, so he and the Air Force came to a stalemate.

He applied for helicopter training with the Army, so it turned out that one day

See **SALUTE**, Page 7A



Courtesy photo/Lane Bond  
CWO James Williamson is pictured with his fiancée, Jennifer. They are now married.

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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  
Thursday, November 15, 2007

## IN BRIEF

### Crossroads region high school football playoff pairings

**FRIDAY**  
Coahoma vs. Ballinger, 7:30 p.m., Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.  
**SATURDAY**  
Big Spring vs. Hereford, 2 p.m., Lowrey Field in Lubbock.  
Forsan vs. Winters, 7:30 p.m., Bobcat Stadium in San Angelo.

### Steer Street Rally to be held on Steer Pride Drive Friday

Big Spring High School will be having a Steer Street Rally starting at 3 p.m. Friday. 11th Place from Owens to Goliad, named Steer Pride Drive earlier this season, will be closed from 2:55 to 3:35 p.m.

The community is invited to attend and support the Steer football team as it prepares for its first playoff game against Hereford.

Parents picked up students from the high school need to park on Owens, Benton, Austin or 12th street Friday afternoon.

### Steers playoff tickets on sell at ATC until Friday

Early ticket sales for the Big Spring Steers' first playoff game Saturday are being held at the high school's Athletic Training Center until Friday.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. All tickets will be \$7 if purchased at the gate.

Big Spring is playing the Hereford Whitefaces at 2 p.m. Saturday at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.

The ATC's ticket window is open today and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

Call Kay Cook at 264-3662 with any questions.

### 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 Saturday. 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. Sunday 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.

See BRIEFS, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler  
**Big Spring Steers sophomore quarterback Tyler Tannehill finds a crease to run through in the Steers 33-27 overtime win over Lubbock Estacado Nov. 2. The Steers get a rematch with the Hereford Whitefaces at 2 p.m. Saturday at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.**

## Forsan gets playoff rematch with Winters

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

The 2007 Texas high school football playoff season is upon us and with it comes a Class A Division I rematch of last year's bi-district championship between the Forsan Buffaloes (5-2, 5-5) and the Winters Blizzards (4-2, 6-4).

The budding rivalry took place in Abilene last year at McMurray, with the Blizzards claiming the win, 49-28.

Only the venue has changed this year with the two teams set to square off at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at San Angelo Stadium.

Valley Mills, who knocked off Winters, 34-7, last year, will once again sit this week out with a bye and await the winner.

Both coaches agree that there won't be many surprises when they take the field and neither expects to have a real advantage.

"Our only real advantage is just the fact that we gained some valuable experience last year," said Buffs' Head Coach Tommy Thompson. "The nerves will still be there of course, but we know what to expect in this atmosphere now and I think that will serve us well once we take the field."

"It does not necessarily give us an edge over Winters," he continued. "They are a formidable team and they know they beat us last year, but this time we won't be simply happy to have made it. We want to win and move on."

Blizzards' Head Coach Craig Bales agrees with Thompson that winning last year won't have much impact on this week's game.

"I don't think it gives us an edge because there were many different players out there for both teams last year", said Bales. "This game will stand on its own."

Both teams match up well, boasting big running games and hard-nosed defenses that like to bring the pressure, but the similarities don't stop there.

Each team finished third in its district and share common opponents this year in Christoval, Menard and Bronte sharing a 2-1 record against those teams.

Both teams beat Menard, while the Buffs beat Christoval and lost to Bronte. The Blizzards beat Bronte, but dropped the opener this year to Christoval.

See FORSAN, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler  
**Coahoma Bulldogs running back P.J. Daylong runs away from Stanton's Jonathan Pastrana in Coahoma's 15-14 victory Nov. 2. That win essentially put the Bulldogs in the playoffs where they'll face Ballinger at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Sweetwater's Mustang Bowl.**

## Steers get second chance at Hereford

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

High school football rivalries usually aren't shared by two teams separated by 206 miles.

However, it's hard not to call what the Big Spring Steers (3-1, 3-7) and Hereford Whitefaces (3-2, 6-4) share a rivalry when the two teams have met five times in the past three seasons.

The two teams cross paths for a sixth time in a 3-year span at 2 p.m. Saturday at Lowrey Field in Lubbock in a Class 4A bi-district playoff game. Last season, Hereford defeated the Steers in the bi-district round, 31-24, in overtime.

The Whitefaces have beaten Big Spring five straight times with four of the five games being decided by seven points or less. The one exception to the average deficit occurred in week three of this season. An opportunistic Hereford took advantage of several Big Spring turnovers and penalties and turned them into

points, running away with a 35-13 win.

Big Spring Head Coach Mike Ritchey notes that the Steers are more than ready for another shot at Hereford.

"It's a playoff game, first off. It's also Hereford, though," Ritchey said. "The team was very excited when they found out we were going to play Hereford. They don't need any help getting excited for this game at all. If anything, we might want to tone them down some and make sure their emotions aren't too high. There's a fine line between being too excited and emotional and being hyped up to play the game. We just want to make sure we not too tense and make some bad mistakes early."

A lot has changed since the Steers lost to the Whitefaces and started the season 0-6. Five of the Steers' six predistrict opponents are now in the postseason.

See STEERS, Page 3B



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback  
**Forsan Buffaloes running back Jeremy Freitag (20) attempts to run past a Menard defender in the Buffs' 19-14 win Friday. The Buffs play Winters in the first round of the playoffs at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at San Angelo Stadium.**

## Coahoma hopes for different outcome against Ballinger

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — To say that the road that the Coahoma Bulldogs have followed to get to their bi-district contest this Friday night in Sweetwater's Mustang Bowl against the Ballinger Bearcats has been rough is a bit of an understatement.

After going 0-3 during its pre-district schedule, things looked bleak, but the Bulldogs went on a 3-game tear to find themselves in the thick of the District 5-2A race at 3-1. Then the Stamford Bulldogs threw Coahoma for a loss 28-20, setting up a showdown with rival Stanton's Buffaloes with the playoffs on the line.

Coahoma claimed a 15-14 win for the all important tie breaker over Stanton.

Thanks to Stanton's heart-breaking 7-0 overtime loss to Merkel in the final week of the season, Coahoma's 40-7 loss to co-district champion Haskell a mute point giving the Bulldogs the second seed in the Class 2A Division II playoffs.

The Ballinger Bearcats are a familiar foe for Coahoma as the Bearcats invaded Bulldog

Stadium in week three, handing the Bulldogs a 37-13 loss.

In all fairness to the Bulldogs, however, they were without starting quarterback Donnie Garcia which allowed the Bearcats to hold the Bulldogs to just 158 yards total offense in that game. P.J. Daylong carried the ball for 87 rushing yards, supplying more than half of Coahoma's offensive output for the evening.

Conversely, the Bearcats moved the ball at will against Coahoma's secondary, racking up nearly 300 yards via the air attack.

The Bearcats have proven to be a balanced team on offense averaging 106 yards per game in both the passing and running attacks.

Leading the Bearcats' offense is quarterback Tucker Travis. Travis has thrown for 748 yards this season completing 82 of 139 passes while also leading the team in rushing carrying the ball 66 times for 261 yards. It is a good bet, however, that if Travis doesn't have the ball, then his running mate Jaison Strambler does. Strambler is averaging 5.4

See BULLDOGS, Page 3B

## Take Note

• Angel Food delivery is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at North Birdwell United Methodist Church. Orders for December delivery will also be taken at this time.

• A bake sale to raise funds for the Howard County Bible Class program will be held from 8 a.m. until noon Saturday at the St. Paul Lutheran Church parish hall, 811 Gregg. The event is sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

• Pediatric flu vaccinations for children ages 6 months to 35 months are now available at the Texas Department of State Health Services clinic in College Park Shopping Center. Cost is \$10, although no one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information, call 263-9775.

• Vendors are needed for the Christmas Bazaar at Canterbury South for Saturday, Dec. 1. Hours for the bazaar are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Prissy Stanley at 263-1238 or leave a message.

• 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.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming an Odyssey Healthcare volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

## Police blotter

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

- **JABENIA S. SUMMERS**, 31, of 608 Lancaster, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of theft.
- **ERNEST W. CLARK**, 67, of 4000 N.W. Highway 80, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THEFT** was reported:
  - in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
  - in the 2000 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 900 block of Willia.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A COIN OPERATED MACHINE** was reported in the 1300 block of Fourth Street.
- **ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 800 block of FM 700.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

## Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.
- **TONY CASTELLANO**, 34, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence (charge not provided).
- **MATT CASEY EDWARDS**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- **STEVEN PENA**, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft of service and a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **ALESHA PACE**, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole - burglary of a habitation.
- **JULIE ANN MINCE**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- **MATTHEW MENDOZA**, 28, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **DANIEL V. FLORES**, 39, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping - failure to appear.

## Fire/EMS

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

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of E. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of E. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Support Groups

### THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

### FRIDAY

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

### SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

### SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

### MONDAY

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

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and fellowship in attaining and maintaining their physician-prescribed weight goals. For more information, call Alex at 264-6921 or 1-800 392-8677.

### TUESDAY

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

• Dual Recovery Anonymous meetings have been canceled. They will no longer take place at the Howard County Library. If you have questions, call Deidra F. at (432) 816-3033.

## Bulletin Board

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

### TODAY

- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Rannels.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.
- American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

### FRIDAY

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

### SATURDAY

- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

## Lottery

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

Winning numbers drawn: 11-15-21-22-23  
Number matching five of five: none.  
Matching four of five: 75. Prize: \$467.  
Matching three of five: 2,903. Prize: \$9.  
Matching two of five: 27,669. Prize: \$2.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-7-20-21-23-40  
Number matching six of six: none.  
Matching five of six: 20. Prize: \$2,174.  
Matching four of six: 1,480. Prize: \$43.  
Matching three of six: 30,393. Prize: \$3.  
Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$22 million.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

8-4-7-4. Sum It Up: 23.  
(eight, four, seven, four. Sum It Up: twenty-three)

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

2-8-5. Sum It Up: 15.  
(two, eight, five. Sum It Up: fifteen)

## Weather

Today...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. Light and variable winds.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. South winds around 10 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the lower 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night...Increasing clouds. Lows in the mid 40s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Light and variable winds.

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

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

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

Monday night...Mostly clear. Lows around 50.

Tuesday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the mid 60s.

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# Bryant scores 30, McGrady injured as Lakers beat Rockets

By CHRIS DUNCAN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Tracy McGrady is injured again, but the Houston Rockets star says it's not that serious this time.

The seven-time All-Star strained his right elbow late in the first half of the Rockets' 93-90 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday night. He was taken to a hospital for tests and a doctor said McGrady should be healed in a week.

"It's definitely good news," McGrady said. "I actually thought it could have been a lot worse than what it was."

Kobe Bryant scored 30 points and the Lakers took advantage of McGrady's absence to snap a three-game losing streak to Houston.

The Rockets struggled with their shooting all night, finishing 30-of-85 (35 percent). Yao Ming had 26 points, 13 rebounds and five assists for Houston, but the stats were deceptive.

Harassed all night by Lamar Odom and Kwame Brown, Yao shot only 6-of-18.

He also went 14-for-20 from the free throw line after coming into the game shooting over 90 percent.

"We wanted to put Yao in a lot of screen and rolls and make him work," Brown said. "We wanted to get him tired."

Still, Houston had a chance to tie at the end. Yao missed a free throw on purpose, grabbed the rebound and passed to Rafer Alston, who missed a last-second 3-pointer.

"He almost surprised Alston

with the ball, he made such an incredibly good pass to him," said Lakers coach Phil Jackson. "If he (Alston) had time to settle into his rhythm on that shot, it might've gone in."

Derek Fisher had 13 points and Odom added 10 points and seven rebounds for the Lakers.

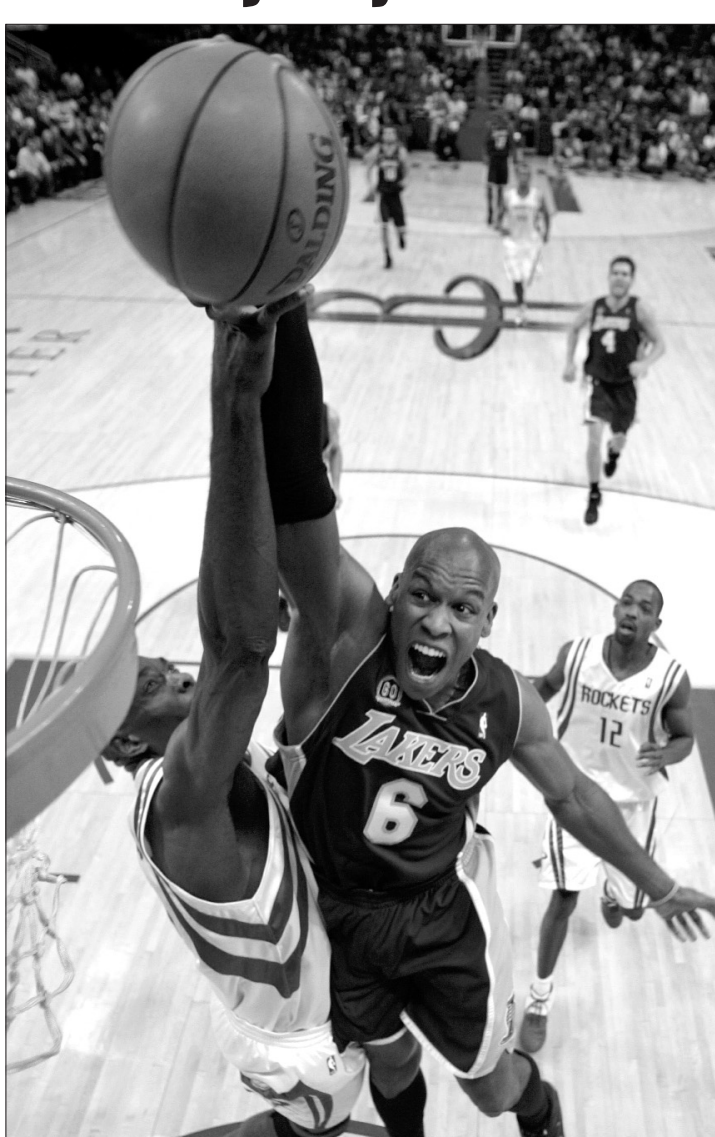
Los Angeles built an 18-point lead in the first half without much help from Bryant, the league's second-leading scorer.

Bryant missed six of his first seven shots, but Houston missed nine of its first 10 shots in the second quarter, five of them layups. The Rockets trailed 41-29 after Jordan Farmar's bank shot with 6:58 left before halftime.

Later in the second quarter, Bryant hit three consecutive shots from the perimeter and found Fisher open for a 3-pointer that put Los Angeles up 52-35. McGrady sank a 3-pointer, but Bryant answered with a smooth fadeaway.

Out of a time out, Fisher lobbed to Brown for an alley-oop dunk for a 56-38 lead.

"We wanted to kick it up a little bit and start taking advan-



AP photo/David J. Phillip  
Los Angeles Lakers' Maurice Evans (6) goes up for a shot as Houston Rockets' Dikembe Mutombo, left, defends during the fourth quarter of the Lakers 93-90 win Wednesday in Houston.

tage of some opportunities that we kind of saw developing," Bryant said. "We were able to do that and that helped us gain a little bit of confidence."

And that's when Houston's night really took a turn for the worse.

With 50 seconds left in the half, McGrady reached to swat the ball away from Walton. He hit Walton's arm instead and McGrady's arm snapped backward.

Brown fouled McGrady on the play and McGrady shot two free throws left-handed, making the first and badly missing the second. He went to the locker room before the half ended and was on his way to the hospital by the time the third quarter began.

He momentarily lost sensation in his fingers.

Team doctor Thomas Clanton said McGrady stretched a ligament and a nerve in his arm.

"That's why he was bent over and clutching his hand," Clanton said, "because he had that zinger feeling down in his hand."

The Rockets trailed 61-49 at the break, then opened the second half with a 19-8

burst. The suddenly sloppy Lakers coughed up five turnovers in the first eight minutes out of halftime and Alston's floater in the lane cut

the Rockets' deficit to 69-68.

"We didn't execute well," Bryant said. "We started running on top of one another. Our spacing wasn't good."

Bryant started the fourth quarter on the bench and the Lakers maintained a slim lead.

With McGrady out and Yao struggling, Bonzi Wells carried the Rockets' offense. He had eight points in the first five minutes of the final quarter and his driving layup tied the game at 79-all. Wells finished with 21 points and 10 rebounds.

Bryant returned with 7:58 remaining and sank a turnaround over Mike James. Alston answered with a drive at the other end.

Yao scored over the 6-foot-11 Brown with 5:44 left to put Houston up 83-81, the Rockets' first lead of the second half. Bryant hit a leaning jumper with 4:52 remaining to tie the game again.

Fisher and Bryant each hit a pair of free throws to push the Lakers' lead to 87-83.

The Rockets got within three, but Wells, Alston and Battier all missed 3-point tries in the final minute.

"We got back in it," Wells said. "We fought tough and it took a lot of energy for us to come back. We didn't have it down the stretch, but we still gave ourselves a chance."

Notes: Wells recorded his second double-double of the season. ... Farmar grabbed a career-high nine rebounds. ... Yao missed a free throw with 5:56 left in the first half, snapping a streak of 35 consecutive makes.

# A-Rod flip-flops, shows Yankees interest

By RONALD BLUM

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Turns out A-Rod might not be leaving the Bronx.

In a startling turn of events, Alex Rodriguez and his wife met with New York Yankees executives Hal and Hank Steinbrenner on Wednesday in Tampa, Fla., and the star third baseman told the team he wants to stay in pin-stripes.

His longtime agent, Scott Boras, wasn't involved in the meeting Wednesday, but said he's trying to work out a deal with the Yankees. New York officials sounded confident the negotiations could lead to an agreement.

"The past is the past. I don't know what brought about him approaching us," Yankees senior vice president Hank Steinbrenner said in a telephone interview. "I guess you could say things didn't go the way before that he intended on and weren't handled properly or whatever."

"But the bottom line, the only thing that really matters, is he wants to stay a Yankee. And it could be very well that he's always wanted to stay a Yankee and we just didn't know it."

Rodriguez, likely to win his third AL MVP award next week, had not made any public statements since becoming a free agent following the Yankees' first-round loss to Cleveland in the playoffs. After consulting with his wife and family, Rodriguez reached out to Hank and his brother, Hal, through a third party.

"It became clear to me that I needed to make an attempt to engage the Yankees regarding my future with the organization," Rodriguez said in a statement. "Prior to entering into serious negotiations with other clubs, I wanted the opportunity to share my thoughts directly with Yankees' ownership. We know there are other opportunities for us, but Cynthia and I have a foundation with the club that has brought us comfort, stability and happiness."

When first contacted, the Yankees wondered whether the message was serious. Before Rodriguez terminated his record \$252 million, 10-year contract on Oct. 28 — forfeiting \$72 million over the final three seasons — Boras told the Yankees they would have to make a \$350 million offer just to get a meeting with the third baseman.

Boras spent time in Miami meeting with Rodriguez in recent days.

"Alex and Cynthia have visited with the Steinbrenners and Yankee officials, and following that meeting Alex has instructed me to discuss contract terms with Brian Cashman and Randy Levine," Boras said, referring to the general manager and the team president.

After the opt out decision, Hank Steinbrenner and Cashman said talks were over because the Yankees lost the \$21.3 million subsidy the Texas Rangers agreed to at the time of the 2004 trade that sent A-Rod to New York.

New York let A-Rod know that giving up the \$21 million was pretty much a precondition for



AP photo/Tony Gutierrez  
New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, left, places his hands on the shoulders of third baseman Alex Rodriguez (13) as they talk following batting practice at spring training Feb. 26, 2005, in Tampa, Fla. Rodriguez spoke with the Yankees Wednesday, telling them he wanted to explore whether he could work out a deal to return to New York.

any talks.

"I also understand that I had to respond to certain Yankees concerns, and I was receptive and understanding of that situation," Rodriguez said. "Cynthia and I have since spoken directly with the Steinbrenner family. During these healthy discussions, both sides were able to share honest feelings and hopes with one another, and we expect to continue this dialogue with the Yankees over the next few days."

Said Steinbrenner: "He's willing to make certain sacrifices. It certainly

appears that way."

"The biggest thing with me, and it's no secret with all of us, is the money we would have had from Texas that we don't now," he went on. "But he's willing to do something about that, which shows his dedication. And also, the other thing was, me being convinced he really wanted to be a Yankee, and it kind of looks to me like he does."

One other team that might have been an option for Rodriguez was the Los Angeles Dodgers, owned by Frank and

Jamie McCourt.

"I think definitely we would have been involved," new manager Joe Torre said Wednesday evening at a charity event in New York after learning about A-Rod's chat with the Yankees. "The McCourts are committed to helping this ballclub in any way they can to get them to where they want to be, win championships."

Torre, who managed Rodriguez in New York the past four seasons, said the two haven't spoken since the end of the season.

Before Rodriguez opted out, the Yankees were prepared to make an initial extension offer of four or five years with an average yearly salary of \$25 million to \$30 million. A logical endpoint for a deal could be to take the \$72 million the Yankees owed, subtract the \$21 million New York lost from Texas, add \$10 million in escalators A-Rod would have earned in 2009 and 2010, and then add seven seasons at \$30 million annually.

That would total \$271 million for the next 10 years.



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# VETERAN OF THE MONTH



Courtesy photo  
World War II veteran Jack Hancock, pictured with his wife, Keva, has been honored as the Hangar 25 Air Museum's Veteran of the Month for November. Hancock, who turned 93 earlier this month, served in the Navy on the USS Barnett and fought in the Pacific Front.



Courtesy photo  
Shown is an artist's rendering of the Grady Independent School District campus as it will appear after renovations authorized by voters in the Nov. 6 election. The centerpiece of the renovations will be construction of a new 500-seat gymnasium, shown at top left.

## UW DINE 'IN' DAY

The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County is asking for the public to participate in Dine "In" Day this week for United Way.  
Friday, Domino's Pizza will donate a portion of its sales to the United Way.  
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. Organizers say the \$1,250 goal for the fund-raiser will be met this year.  
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.

## GRADY

Continued from Page 1A

future needs.  
"Currently, we have a 34-year-old gym, which we still call 'the new gym' ... and we are using portable classrooms that are 20 years old," Tubb said. "What we really want to do is position Grady School for the next 30 years with these updates."

Security also is a driving force behind the projects, he noted.  
"When the school was built (in the 1950s), security was not the issue it is today, unfortunately," Tubb said. "Our elementary wing has all open-door classrooms, which means the students exit to outside the building. These projects will make Grady a much more secure campus."

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

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Miguel A. Brito, 47, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

## BANQUET

Continued from Page 1A

needs to plan on attending. It's my hope that this will be the start of an entire year of celebrating Big Spring and Howard County."  
After the meeting, Johansen said directors

just wanted to put some more spice into their annual banquet.  
"We just wanted to do something different," she said. "We've felt for a long time that we need to do something positive, and what better place to kick off a positive campaign than the Chamber of Commerce?"  
"So, we sat down and

started making a list of things to celebrate — and there's a ton of them," Johansen added. "It's going to be interesting, it's going to be fun and upbeat and I believe it will be very motivating."  
Debbie ValVerde, executive director of the chamber, said businesses interested in decorating tables at the 2008 banquet

need to contact the chamber at 263-7641.  
"This will be a great way for people to promote their businesses," ValVerde said.  
Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

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Decorative and Collectible: Hall, Fiesta, Carnival Glass, Lucite Purse, Vaseline Drawer pulls, Chlorophyl Gum Machine, Coca Cola, Mineral Collection, Occupied Japan China, Dazey Churn, Crocks, Records, Books, Roosters, Canes and more  
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## BOXES

Continued from Page 1A

anything that comes in an aerosol can. No breakables, such as snow globes and things like that. When picking out toys, don't include anything that might be considered war related, such as guns or knives. Perishables, like choco-

late and other food items, should also be left out.  
"Once they have their box filled they can drop it off here at Allan's Furniture, located at 202 Scurry in downtown Big Spring. We'll then pack up all the boxes into a crate and ship them out."  
Johnson said donors should mark their box for either a boy or girl in age groups of two-to-four years, five-to-nine or 10-

to-14.  
The boxes can be decorated with Christmas paper but the lid must be able to be separated from the box. Johnson said pre-wrapped boxes can be picked up at Allan's Furniture.  
A \$7 donation is requested — but not required — to help with the shipping costs and can be left inside the box, according to Johnson.

Collection of the boxes will wrap up Monday. Resources for packing and preparing boxes can be found online at www.samaritanpurse.org.  
For more information on the local effort, call 267-6278.  
Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

**ESTATE AUCTION**  
Of Living MRS. EVELYN STANLEY  
**SATURDAY 10:00 AM NOVEMBER 17, 2007**  
**1010 EAST 17TH SWEETWATER, TEXAS**  
HOUSE LISTED WITH BENNETT AND ASSOCIATES 325-236-6321  
DIRECTIONS: ON THE NORTH SIDE OF SWEETWATER ON HAILEY ST. (HWY 70 ROBY HWY) TURN NORTH ON WOODRUFF TO STOP SIGN. SALE IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF 17TH AND WOODRUFF ST. ACROSS FROM THE COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE. I HAVE BEEN COMMISSIONED TO SALE TO HIGHEST BIDDER THE FOLLOWING AND MORE.  
VIEW TIME WILL BE DAY OF SALE. PLEASE BRING A CHAIR.  
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# Weekend Forecast

## This week's games



<p>Big Spring vs. Hereford Coahoma vs. Ballinger Forsan vs. Winters Andrews vs. Levelland Ira vs. New Home Oklahoma at Texas Tech Missouri at Kansas St. Oklahoma St. at Baylor Ohio St. at Michigan Kentucky at Georgia Boston College at Clemson West Virginia at Cincinnati Louisville at South Florida Redskins at Cowboys Saints at Texans Giants at Lions Browns at Ravens Chargers at Jaguars Bears at Seahawks Titans at Broncos</p> <p>Last Week Overall</p>	<p>Jonathan Hull</p> <p>Big Spring Coahoma Forsan Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Ohio St. Georgia Boston College West Virginia Louisville Cowboys Saints Lions Ravens Jaguars Bears Titans</p> <p>11-9 141-79</p>	<p>Thomas Jenkins</p> <p>Big Spring Ballinger Winters Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Ohio St. Georgia Clemson West Virginia South Florida Cowboys Saints Giants Browns Jaguars Seahawks Broncos</p> <p>14-6 150-70</p>	<p>Bill McClellan</p> <p>Big Spring Ballinger Winters Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Ohio St. Georgia Clemson West Virginia South Florida Cowboys Texans Giants Browns Jaguars Seahawks Broncos</p> <p>14-6 154-66</p>	<p>Steve Reagan</p> <p>Big Spring Ballinger Winters Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Ohio St. Georgia Clemson Boston College West Virginia South Florida Cowboys Saints Giant Browns Chargers Seahawks Broncos</p> <p>10-10 149-61</p>	<p>Robert Smith</p> <p>Big Spring Ballinger Forsan Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Michigan Kentucky Boston College West Virginia South Florida Cowboys Texans Lions Browns Chargers Seahawks Titans</p> <p>9-11 135-85</p>	<p>Jeff Lane</p> <p>Hereford Ballinger Forsan Andrews Ira Oklahoma Missouri Oklahoma St. Ohio St. Kentucky Boston College West Virginia South Florida Cowboys Saints Lions Browns Chargers Seahawks Titans</p> <p>10-10 145-75</p>
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## STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

Big Spring went 3-1 in district play and has shown more consistency on the offensive side of the ball in the past month. Ritchey feels the Steers are playing the best they have all season.

"Our performance in district made our season," Ritchey said. "We got off to a slow start because we were learning a new system on offense. We had to come together as a team. We faced some adversity, but adversity builds character. It

all paid off when we got to district play.

"Our predistrict schedule let the players know they could count on each other when things were hard. We had to learn to battle through some difficult times when it didn't seem like much was going right," he continued. "Anybody would've wanted a better record in predistrict, but we really formed some important team chemistry. Momentum wasn't on our side, but we learned to battle. To win the type of games we won down the stretch is proof of that. We knew that if we kept playing hard then the game would turn

for us."

The ability to battle back after getting down is one of the most important aspects of the game the Steers have learned this season, according to Ritchey.

"We had to realize the season's not over just because we're 0-6," Ritchey said. "It helped us realize nothing's ever over just because we're down. We trailed at some point in every one of our three wins. Our tough predistrict schedule taught us to battle back from those deficits."

Ritchey isn't denying that Hereford will still be a tough challenge, but his confidence in the Steers is hard not to notice.

"We're a different team. I'm sure Hereford is, too. There's been a lot of growth with us since then," Ritchey said. "Hereford's probably a better team than when we faced them earlier, but so are we. We've got a stronger team chemistry. We're much more consistent offensively. Intangibles like that can make all the difference in a ball game."

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at [sports@bigspringherald.com](mailto:sports@bigspringherald.com).

**Follow the Texas high school football playoffs daily in the Big Spring Herald.**

## FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Offensively, both squads love to get out and run the ball early and often.

Defensively, the Buffs will be showing different fronts, attempting to keep the Blizzards guessing. Thompson said they will make sure to fill running lanes and keep constant pressure on the quarterback.

Winters possesses the size advantage on defense and will use that to their advantage to slow down the Forsan run game and pressure quarterback Alex Huckabee, according

to Bales. Thompson said Winters has no obvious holes, but will look for man coverage situations where they can utilize their big tight end Adam Bailey.

In the last three meetings between these teams, dating back to when they shared the same district, Winters holds a 3-0 record.

"I know my guys want to win this game," said Thompson. "They would like nothing more than to win this one over Winters. They have had a lot of success over us in the past and we would like to end that streak on Saturday."

"Again, there is no clear advantage for either

team," he continued. "It is definitely a bonus for us to have as many as we do returning to the playoffs from last year. These guys know the atmosphere and the stakes and it should give us a little something extra when we hit the field. Our job will be to stay under control and be focused on the task at hand. We must be effective with ball control and win the time possession battle, eliminate turnovers while at the same time creating them, and we must eliminate big plays from their offense. If we can do this we will be where we want to be in the end, and that is moving on to play Valley Mills."

## BULLDOGS

Continued from Page 1B

yards per run on his way to 257 yards this season.

Ballinger is here thanks to their ability to pull off two dramatic comeback victories over the Wall Hawks and the once state-

ranked Coleman Bluecats. Last week, the magic ran out for the Bearcats as they lost 27-24 over the Early Longhorns.

If the Bulldogs are to be successful, then it is essential that running back PJ Daylong have a good night. So far this season Daylong has provided most of the offense

for the Dogs. Josh Paniagua has done a good job replacing Donnie Garcia who has missed most of the season due to injury. It was Paniagua who came in and connected on two long TD passes to Daylong in the victory over Stanton that helped the Bulldogs get to the postseason.

## BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

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.

### 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 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.

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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.

**1999 TRACKER** Great Shape. Must Sacrifice \$4,850.00. Can see at 500 Oak Glen or call 432-267-8169 leave message.

**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.

**2005 HYUNDAI XG350L** Black with cream leather interior, power everything, heated seats, sun roof, sport wheels. 24000 Miles, 100,000 Mile Warranty. \$14,500.00. Call (432)816-9241.

## Legals

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the District's office, P.O. Box 869, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 3:00 P.M. for the construction of the following:

Office Renovations for Colorado River Municipal Water District

At this time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender unopened.

Contract Documents may be examined at the District's office and at the offices of the Architect during normal business hours. Documents may also be examined or purchased at the following locations:

Bidders may secure a maximum of two (2) sets of Bid Documents from Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Engineers \* Architects \* Planners, 5214 Thomason Dr., Midland, Texas, upon deposit of \$125.00 for each set. Deposits shall be company check or cashiers check made payable to Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. Deposit is refundable as stipulated in the Instructions to Bidders. No partial sets will be issued.

Contract Documents will also be on file at the following plan rooms: Associated General Contractors: Midland, Lubbock and Abilene, Texas; McGraw-Hill Dodge Reports: Lubbock and Dallas, Texas; and Odessa Plan Room.

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE:** A pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 2:00 P.M., Local Time, in the Board Room at the District's Office in Big Spring, Texas. All General Contractors and major subcontractors are encouraged to attend.

A bid security bond shall be provided as set forth in the Instructions to Bidders. Performance and Payment Bonds are required for this contract.

Attention is called to fact that not less than the prevailing wage rates, as established by the District and contained within the Contract Documents, must be paid on this project.

In case of ambiguity or lack of clarity in stating bid prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous construction thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities. No bid may be withdrawn within sixty (60) days from the bid opening date.

**COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
John W. Grant  
General Manager  
#5585 November 8, 15 & 22, 2007

Advertisement for Sealed Bids  
The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting bids for the following:

**RFB# 08-007****Dental Lab Equipment**

Documents may be obtained from Jason Mims, Director of Business Services, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2007, in the Practical Arts Building, room 105A, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the bids submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting.

All questions should be directed to Jason Mims, Director of Business Services, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail [jmims@howardcollege.edu](mailto:jmims@howardcollege.edu), (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #5592 November 8 & 15, 2007

## BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Does it feel like there's water in your gas tank? As Mars in Cancer retrogrades, our emotional energy either fuels or dampens physical energy.

Mars is protective in Cancer and prone to outbursts of insecurity.

Buried resentments and unacknowledged needs tap away at our vitality but ultimately bring emotional healing to many.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Impossible problems are solved simply when you reach out to friends or make new ones. Asking for or giving help calls on the spirit of unity, which has magical capabilities.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are times to give your heart over in faith, but right now, you'd rather have the proof. Love tip: Romantic triangles ultimately are trouble. Put your energy where it is reciprocated.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Is love from above or

from inside? Is it something to be made or received? You're feeling the emotion differently now, which causes you to question its origin and role in your life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Considering the bedlam around you lately, you're in a pretty clear frame of mind. Others would be wise to add you to their teams, invite you to their parties or, even better, propose to you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Loved ones really miss you when you're away. But in a weird way, you can be in two places at once by loving so consistently that others can feel your presence from a distance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Enjoy a surge in feelings of freedom. The ability to choose and the circumstance that is rich with options makes you feel powerful indeed! A playful decision is called for.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Hold on to your hope. If you let others know that you're comfortable with less-than-stellar results, that's what you'll get. Keep the standards high, and let everyone know what they are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). Surround yourself with the kind of people you want to be more like. Create social opportunities so you can revel in the sweet exclamations of lighthearted friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Run toward opportunity, ready to make a decision. When you do, you avoid the ultimate laziness, which is to let circumstances or others decide life for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in the mood to reason radically, change unexpectedly and desire unreasonably. When it's something you really want, there's no point in putting it off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Do you feel stuck? It's not that things aren't changing, it's just that they are changing to the same thing over and over again. Think different thoughts, and everything changes to something different.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You can't resist someone with that devilish look in his or her eye — but maybe you should! You're easily led down the windy path of mystery and thrills, but the real thrill comes from honoring prior

commitments.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a 50-year-old Aquarian, born on Feb 11. I live my life by treating others like I would want to be treated. I'm an honest and easygoing gal and always try to do what's right. I moved away from family and friends to the big city. I can't go back now that I'm established in my career. Yes, I've made a few friends here, but true love has always escaped me. I have dated many, many men but can't find the one for me. Why is that? What type of zodiac sign would best go with Aquarius?"

You attract and are attracted to all walks of life because they satisfy your intense need for unconventional love explorations, yet some are clearly not right for a long-term relationship with you — if that's what you want. You can get in a relationship as fast as all get out. And you're lured away by another's promise just as quickly. There's a love contradiction here. Look deeply at the mixed messages you send yourself. To recognize Mr. Right, get honest about the ways you set

yourself up for purely platonic, and thus comfortable, relationships. Once you clear up the contradictions, love no longer eludes.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Only the magnetic Scorpio Chris Noth could hold Carrie Bradshaw's interest, and ours, for years. With smoking hot Venus in Scorpio on his sun, maybe he was destined to become a larger-than-life sex symbol. Mars juices up Chris's sun, too, giving the star's stubborn personality an ambitious, competitive edge. This year, he'll get even more glamorous — perhaps in the "Sex and the City" movie.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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](http://www.creators.com).*

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## Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Recently, our daughter and her boyfriend set up housekeeping. Both are in their early 20s. Yes, I understand they are free to make their own decisions at this point in their lives. On the other hand, I feel obligated to express my strong disagreement. Simply saying I don't believe in cohabitation is not good enough in my book. I think our values deserve a better defense than that.

So, I am putting off visiting my daughter's new home until their wedding, which is about 18 months away. I'll visit them anywhere else and they can visit me. My family and friends think I'm being inflexible and hardhearted. How can I keep them off my back? — Old-Fashioned in Kentucky

Dear Old-Fashioned: You are not obligated to justify your moral stance to these people. It's between you and your daughter. You are not asking or expecting her to change her current living arrangement. You simply don't approve and are uncomfortable giving the impression that you do. This is your choice, old-fashioned or not. The proper response when someone offers unsolicited (and unappreciated) advice is, "Thanks for your opinion."

Dear Annie: A friend of mine had a baby three months ago. The baby was born with multiple problems and, sadly, passed away last weekend. There will be a memorial service and a funeral.

I am not sure whether I should attend. We have been friends for nearly 20 years and I love her like a sister, but I have four beautiful, healthy children and I don't want



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

it to appear as though I'm throwing it in her face. She deserves so much better.

What do I do? Should I go and offer my sympathy, or do I wait and see if she wants it? I don't want her to resent me later. Please help. — Heartfelt Sadness in Ohio

Dear Ohio: Please go to the funeral and memorial service. If your friend

resents others with healthy children, this cannot be helped, but if you don't support her during this time, she may not forgive you. Also, consider making a donation in her child's name to a charity of her choice or one that is appropriate to the circumstances. Please express your sincere condolences and be as much of a friend as she will permit. You also can suggest that she contact

SHARE Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support ([nationalshareoffice.com](http://nationalshareoffice.com)) at 1-800-821-6819.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Doing My Best," who said he did all kinds of wonderful things in order to get his wife to have sex with him. I wouldn't be at all surprised if my husband wrote it.

You are right that he is pressuring his wife. During our 30 years of marriage, my husband has planned romantic moments and intimate getaways and has always, and I mean always, missed the mark. Why? This man has no interest in me other than for sex. Every conversation includes a mention of sex. If I ask him to do something, his response is, "What are you going to do for me?" He has told me he has no interest in my day or what I think. He regularly makes demeaning comments

about my roles as wife, mother and teacher.

My advice to "Doing My Best" would be to back off. Continue to plan those activities with only a hope of reciprocation. Remember it's about what you are giving, not getting. Maybe your wife will see that you are sincere and want to improve your relationship. Sit with her, talk with her, listen to her. Limit the physical contact to a hug or hand holding. You definitely aren't getting any sex now, so what do you have to lose? (I've tried to explain this to my husband, but he thinks he's entitled and I am just being stubborn and controlling.) — Pressured Wife

Dear Pressured Wife: Your husband sounds particularly self-centered, but your suggestions are good ones. Everyone needs to feel valued beyond the bedroom.

Dear Annie: I am an upstanding, hardworking, outgoing 30-year-old gay man. I am out to my friends and co-workers in the large city where I live. The trouble is, I'm from a farming town of 40 people. I am fairly close to my family, but they do not know about my homosexuality.

I took my roommate and his friends (all of whom are straight) to visit my parents, and they had explicit instructions not to mention that I am gay. One of the guys told my sister he is trying to hook me up with "Robyn." I was horrified that I allowed this person to get close to my family and open up my weakest spot. His response was, "Well, I figured your sister would have known."

In his defense, the name "Robyn" is often associated with women. When this guy saw how upset I was, he insisted he didn't say anything more, but I'm not sure I believe him. In any other situation, he'd go on and on about how Robyn is a fun, awesome gay man.

I think the decision to tell people about my sexual orientation should come from me, not anyone else. I come from a very good family, but they are backward in many ways. I have cousins who are not

allowed to speak to us because they are gay.

I have since visited home and my sister did not even talk to me. I've spent my life keeping this a secret, not only for myself, but for my family's sake. I feel violated by my friends. Am I wrong for being upset? — Outed in the Bible Belt

Dear Outed: Freud would have a field day with you, inviting friends with big mouths to visit Mom and Dad. He'd say you subconsciously wanted your folks to find out. Of course your friends should have respected your privacy, but you can't put the genie back in the bottle. Ask your sister what's wrong and see if that opens a dialogue so you can confide in her. You also can contact PFLAG ([pflag.org](http://pflag.org)), 1726 M Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036, for help breaking the news.

Dear Annie: My sister and I just found out that our 50-year-old baby sister, "Nora," has been married for five years to a registered sex offender (he's on the Megan's Law web page). He is charged with sexually abusing a child under 14.

Nora works in an office that handles sex offenders after their release from jail, and this is no doubt how she met the guy. But when she married him, she kept this information from our family. Now that we know, do we keep quiet or do we tell Nora what we found out? — Offended

Dear Offended: Tell Nora what you know and give her the opportunity to address your concerns. If there are any children in the family, be sure they are closely supervised when Nora's husband is around, but otherwise, it is Nora's choice to be with this man and we hope you can

deal with that.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Wigged One," who was miffed that people asked about her wig. I have alopecia areata and have worn a wig for the past 35 years. It is unbelievable what people will ask: "Do your children know you wear a wig?" or "Do you sleep in your wig?" and most often, "Is that your hair?" To that, I usually respond "yes." I bought it with my money, so it is my hair.

One day in a large staff meeting, a man who had just got new dentures asked, "Is that your real hair?" I smiled sweetly and said, "Why, yes. Are those your real teeth?" We both laughed. People do not mean to be unkind. They simply don't think. I never try to hide the fact that I wear a wig, but I also don't need it called to my attention. A sense of humor is the best way to deal with it. — Yes, It's My Hair in Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Jacksonville: Laughter is often the best way to deal with such situations, and we're glad you figured it out.

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

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## ATTENTION

## THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Discover Another  
World,  
Read!  
You never know  
what you  
might find.

**su | do | ku**  
© Puzzles by Pappocom

**ANSWERS**

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

# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Friday is final day to register parade entries

One more warning. There's just one more day remaining for those interested in having an entry in the 22nd annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade to register their entries.

That's right. The event that officially kicks off the Yuletide in Howard County is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 1, but the deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Friday ... tomorrow, in other words.

Registration forms have come in from individuals, businesses and church, civic and school groups who are planning their entries in keeping with this year's theme — "Peace on Earth."

The parade, which first wound its way down Gregg Street in 1986, will again be a lighted parade. But entries will be judged in slightly different categories this year. First-place plaques will be awarded to winners in four categories — Individual or family entries; those from churches, civic groups or schools; commercial entries; and those from industries. Second- and third-place finishers will receive certificates.

And don't forget, the entry judged "Best of Show" will receive a \$100 cash prize. The Mayor's Trophy for best use of lighting will earn one entrant \$75 and the Grand Marshall's Award for best costuming will receive \$50. The Herald will also be presenting a trophy to the best mounted entry from a sheriff's posse or riding club.

But you have to get your entries registered by tomorrow's deadline.

The parade is again set to begin at 5:30 p.m. that Saturday and we here at the Herald want to encourage everyone to come out and help us in getting the Christmas season off to a rousing start.

As we noted earlier this week, a parade this size takes time to plan and coordinate, and that's why we need those entries turned in no later than Friday afternoon.

And that's why we are again reminding our readers about the need to get those entries submitted.

An entry form is published in today's paper, and forms are also available at the Herald's offices located at 710 Scurry, and can be download from our Web site at [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com).

So, if you are involved in any of the many organizations or businesses that annually take part in the Christmas Parade, and you haven't yet registered, get your entries filled in and turn them in no later than 5 p.m. tomorrow.

Entry forms should be mailed to the Herald at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721-1431, but at this late date, it might be a better idea to drop them by our offices at 710 Scurry St. For additional information concerning the parade, contact Rick Nunez or Elizabeth Flores at 263-7331.

As always, we're asking the community to help us make this the best Christmas parade Big Spring has ever had. So come on, get those entries turned in, and join us in kicking off what we all know will be another magical holiday season.

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.

- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.

- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.

- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*May we do an about-face when we're going in the wrong direction, Lord.*

Amen

# Mark Levin, blessed by an angel

A good friend of mine, who died several years ago from diabetes-related complications, once said to me, "Show me a dog lover, and I'll show you a good person." I'm sure there are many exceptions to this adage, but the principle it expresses couldn't be more applicable to my close friend Mark Levin, whose new book, "Rescuing Sprite," makes poignantly clear.

Mark was about to write a completely different book when the death of his dog, Sprite, turned his world upside down. Mark was devastated by Sprite's death and was forced to switch gears.

He said, "You'll probably think I'm crazy, but I feel compelled to write a book about Sprite now and need to put the other book on hold."

At first, I was stunned because I believed his other book needed to be written. I also couldn't imagine how he could fill a book's worth of pages with stories about a dog — no matter how much I shared his love for canines.

It didn't take more than a few conversations with Mark to realize how important it was that he write this book, and I became immediately enthusiastic about the project. Given the depth and range of Mark's feelings and his immense popularity with his radio audience, I knew the book would be a huge success. Little did I know at the time just how powerful it would be.

The book is deeply moving on a number of levels and will enrich the lives of all who read it. Every dog lover in the world should have

a copy of it. That said, I must tell you that the book is about so much more than one man's loving relationship with his dogs. Don't get me wrong. It's the best pet book I've ever read. But its themes are transcendent.

It is a primarily a love story between man and dog, but also between husband and wife, parents and children, family and neighbors, dog owners and caregivers, people and their communities, and dogs and other dogs in the family. It contains more life lessons in each chapter than any handful of similar books.



DAVID  
LIMBAUGH

As you prepare to read it, understand that it will tap into your deepest emotions, stir your soul and provoke thoughtful reflection about the things — and beings — that matter most.

It is a story about joy and suffering, enrichment and loss, bewilderment and thanksgiving and selfless love. It is about affection, loyalty, empathy, companionship, intense reflection, self-doubt, tormenting guilt and finding peace with life's most difficult and agonizing experiences and decisions.

I am convinced that one of the main things that drew Mark so close to Sprite was their parallel paths: Mark had recently experienced and was still plagued by a life-threatening heart condition when Sprite entered his and his family's life. Unbeknownst to the Levins, Sprite was much older than they had thought and began manifesting major health problems almost from day one.

The Levins' heart wrenching realization that Sprite wouldn't have much more time on Earth, I believe, quickened their feelings for him and made them appreciate him and their other dog, Pepsi, that much more. This, coupled with Mark's own problems, caused

Mark to deal more with his own mortality and to rearrange his own priorities, placing his family and friends above all other things. "No time on Earth is long enough to share with those we love or to prepare our hearts for good-bye." And, "Career and financial goals are important, material acquisitions are necessary, but taking stock in life's little pleasures is the most satisfying experience of all."

Sprite touched Mark in a way he'd never been touched before, and taught him more about life they he could adequately express. "Sprite touched my heart and opened my soul. I would swear he was an angel."

Mark describes how Sprite's handling of his own suffering — his buoyant and unflagging spirit — was inspirational and instructive to him. "He had such grace and dignity, despite all he had been through. I learned so much from him: about myself, about life, and about class." As much heart-break as Mark and his family endured over Sprite for such a short 26 months, they wouldn't trade it for the world.

Mark emphasizes throughout the book his conviction that as much as human beings do for their dogs they get much more in return.

"There is nothing like the loyalty and love dogs have for their families. Nothing."

Brushing aside the suggestion that we are God's gift to dogs, he says, "In the end, we humans are the lucky ones."

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com).*

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• **Bill Crooker** — Home:  
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• **Gary Simer** — Home:  
263-0260.

# Look out Iran, here we come

David Brooks, the New York Times' token conservative, says we're not going to attack Iran. He says he attends meetings the President periodically holds with conservative columnists and that the President's "body language" at these meetings has persuaded him that no attack is on its way.

I haven't been so reassured since President Bush looked into Vladimir Putin's eyes and "was able to get a sense of his soul." A nice soul, presumably; nicer than your average KGB agent's anyway.



DONALD  
KAUL

This reading of body language, eyes, is so much quicker than actually paying attention to what people do or say. I fully expect Robert Novak to return soon from a trip to the White House and announce that he's read the bumps on Dick Cheney's head and they predict peace in our time.

I wish I were good at that sort of thing (apparently you have to be a conservative) but I'm the type who pays attention to what people do and say and, on that basis, I'm worried.

I'm worried by the economic sanctions on Iran we announced last week. Not so much by the sanctions themselves—they won't amount to much — as by their context.

Dick Cheney keeps going around mumbling about "dire consequences" for Iran if it keeps trying

to build an atomic bomb.

And the President himself last month said: "I've told people that if you're interested in avoiding World War III, it seems like you ought to be interested in preventing them from having knowledge to make nuclear weapons."

World War III. Wow, that's heavy. No wonder all the other nations of the world are with us on the sanctions — all except China, Russia, India, Europe and, oh yes, Canada. (They've all increased their trade with Iran during the past year.)

As Putin, he of the soulful eyes, said of the new sanctions: "Why make the situation worse, bring it to a dead end, threaten sanctions or even military action?"

Why indeed, unless you're ginning the American public up for an attack.

The administration denies it. "This decision...supports the diplomacy and in no way, shape or form does it anticipate the use of force," said Undersecretary of State R. Nicholas Burns. Right.

But maybe you think that knocking out Iran's nuclear capability before it is developed is a good idea. That's certainly Cheney's thought. He recently said:

"You get various estimates of where the point of no return is. Is it when they possess weapons or does it come sooner when they have mastered the technology but perhaps not yet produced fissionable material for weapons?"

See there? He's saying maybe we should attack Iran just in case they might be thinking of attacking us. (Which, come to think of

it, is pretty much why we attacked Iraq.)

That sort of analysis is bleeding into the Presidential campaign. After the sanctions were announced Republican candidates fell all over themselves trying to out-Bush Bush.

Mitt Romney, asked what he would do with Iran, said: "I really can't lay out exactly what would be done, but we have a number of options, from blockade to bombardment of some kind." (Don't you love that "of some kind"? What a dunce.)

The views of Rudy Giuliani were even more bellicose. He said that the prospect of a military strike was a promise, rather than a threat. (It should be noted that Mr. Giuliani's chief foreign policy adviser is none other than Norman Podhoretz, the Neo-conservative Darth Vader who has helped shape Mr. Bush's Middle East policy. He's in favor of bombing Iran right now, by the way.)

John McCain is merely in full support of the President's policy, feeling that Iran is "inexorably on the road to attaining nuclear weapons."

I fear that the Democrats will be pulled along by this war talk. They fear nothing so much as being thought weak.

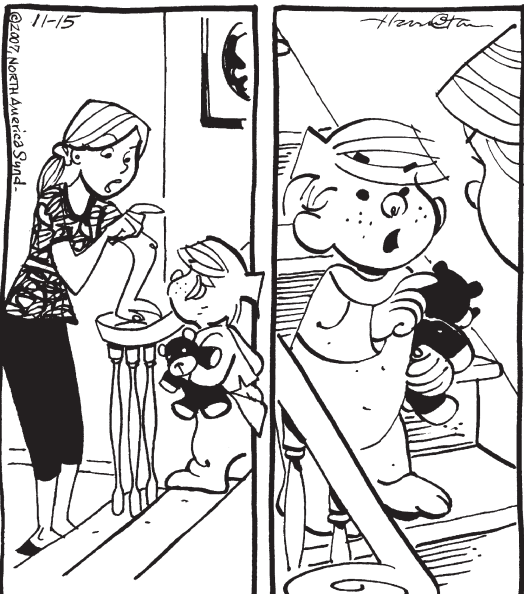
So I'm worried. I'm glad David Brooks is keeping an eye on Mr. Bush's body for us, but I'm worried.

E-mail Donald Kaul at [dkaul1@verizon.net](mailto:dkaul1@verizon.net).  
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THURSDAY

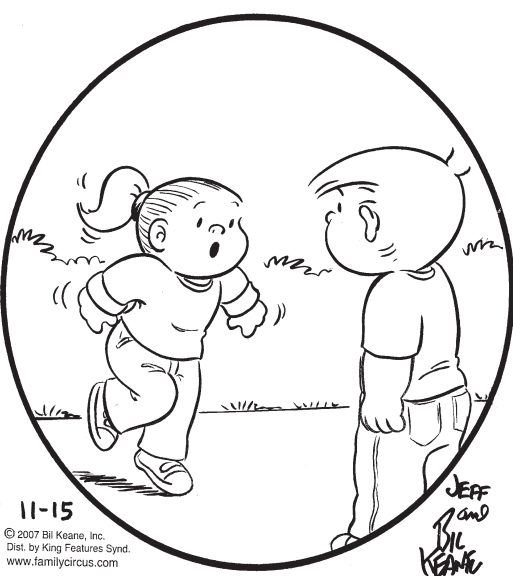
Table with 24 columns representing different TV stations and their respective programming schedules for Thursday, Nov 15, 2007.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF!" "IF I BEHAVE, YOU'LL BE OUT OF A JOB!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

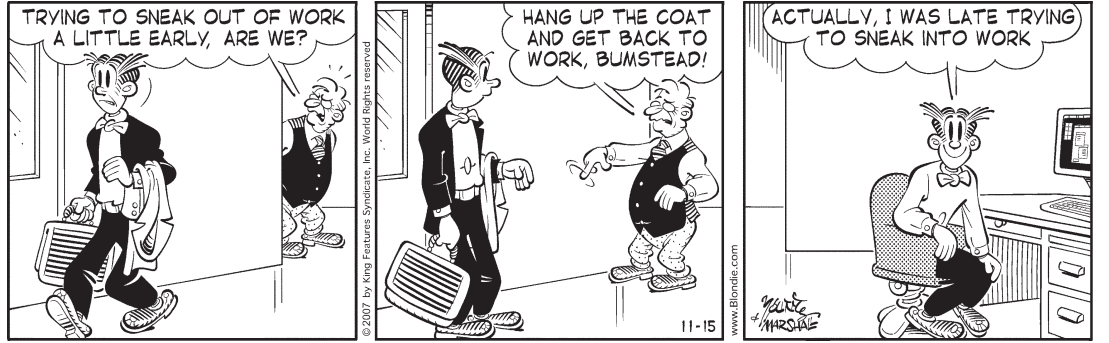


"I didn't hurt my foot. I'm practicing for hopscotch."

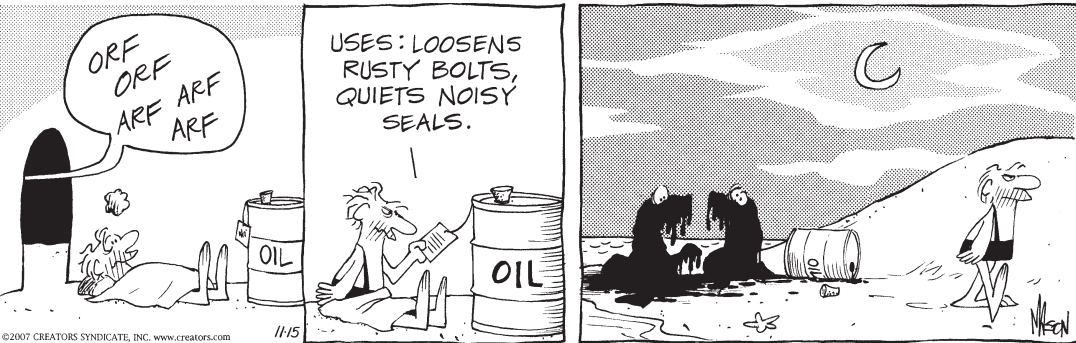
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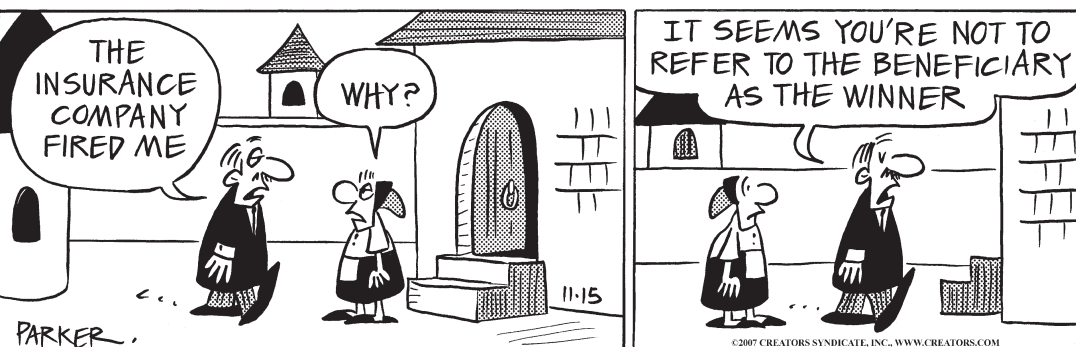
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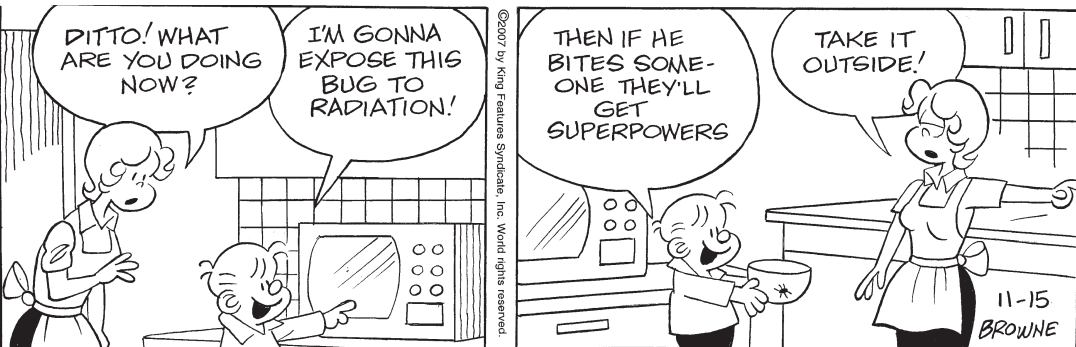
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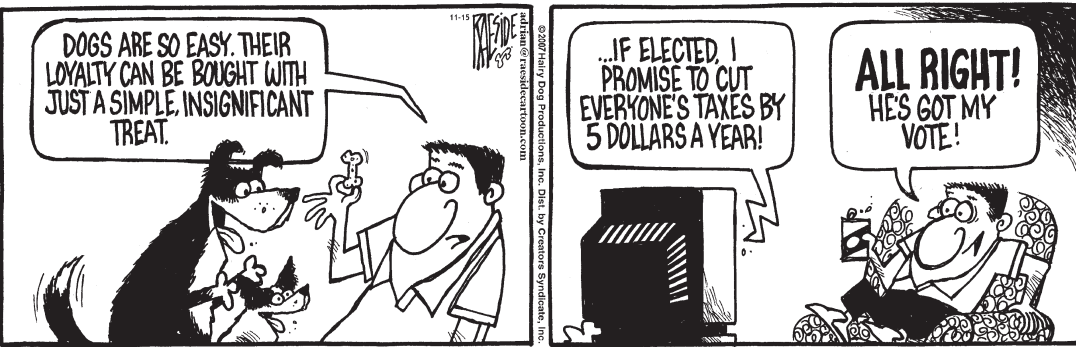
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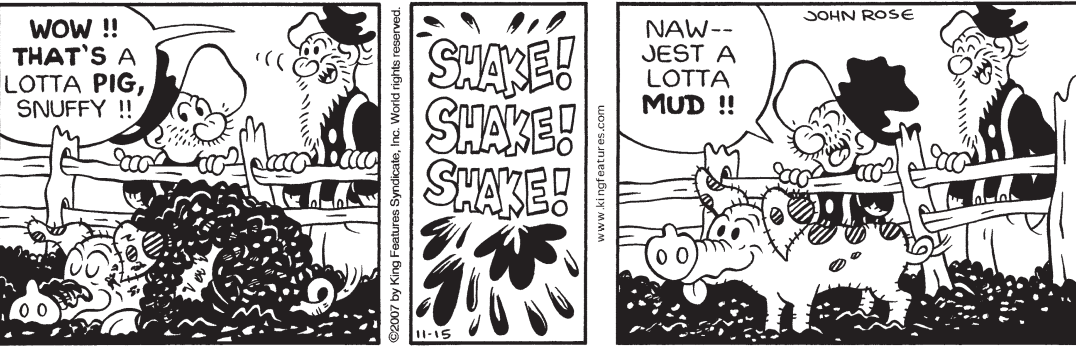
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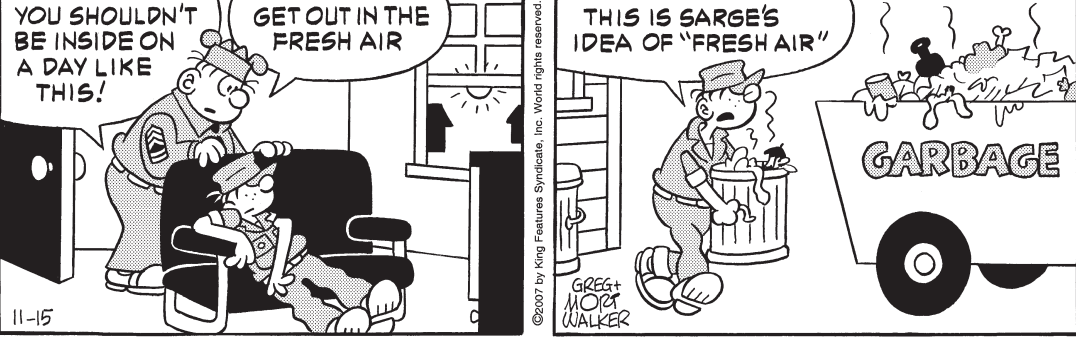
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 15, the 319th day of 2007. There are 46 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 15, 1806, explorer Zebulon Pike sighted the mountaintop now known as Pikes Peak in present-day Colorado.

On this date: In 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation, a precursor to the Constitution of the United States.

In 1889, Brazil was proclaimed a republic as its emperor, Dom Pedro II, was overthrown.

In 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. debuted as a radio network.

In 1939, President Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1948, William Lyon

Mackenzie King retired as prime minister of Canada after 21 years; he was succeeded by Louis St. Laurent.

In 1966, the flight of Gemini 12 ended successfully as astronauts James A. Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Junior splashed down safely in the Atlantic.

In 1969, a quarter of a million protesters staged a peaceful demonstration in Washington against the Vietnam War.

In 1979, the British government publicly identified Sir Anthony Blunt as the "Fourth Man" of a Soviet spy ring that included Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean and Kim Philby.

In 1982, funeral services were held in Moscow's Red Square for the late Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev.

In 1987, 28 of 82 people aboard a Continental Airlines DC-9, including the pilot and co-pilot, were killed when the jetliner crashed seconds after taking off from Denver's Stapleton International Airport.

Today's Birthdays: Judge Joseph Wapner is 88.

Statesman Howard H. Baker Junior is 82. Actor Ed Asner is 78. Actor John Kerr is 76. Singer Petula Clark is 75. Comedian Jack Burns is 74. Actress Joanna Barnes is 73. Actor Sam Waterston is 67. Pop singer Frida (ABBA) is 62. Actor Bob Gunton is 62. Director-actor James Widdoes is 54. Rock singer-producer Mitch Easter is 53. Actress Beverly D'Angelo is 53. CNN anchor-reporter John Roberts is 51. "Tonight Show" bandleader Kevin Eubanks is 50. Comedian Judy Gold is 45. Rapper E-40 is 40. Actress Rachel True is 38. Country singer Jack Ingram is 37. Actor Jonny Lee Miller is 35.

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Answer to previous puzzle

Word search grid with answers: SPEED, STROP, CAP, EAGLE, KOALA, ONE, ATOMSMASHER, DIS, SPATS, RHETT, TNT, ICE, AMOEBA, HARASS, SLATER, EDUC, SPIN, LEOS, RISE, GORGE, TAPA, MATT, AGIN, CAKES, BADEGG, PAPERS, ACUTELY, BAS, RAY, LASER, SUITS, OPT, MEATGRINDER, ORE, ARIAS, LOUSE, FIR, LARRY, EBBED

Newsday Crossword

CONDUCT YOURSELF by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Sounds of delight, 5 Obliterate, 10 Loose-limbed, 14 Reputation spoiler, 15 Becker or Badenov, 16 Ballet bend, 17 The Alienist author, 18 Dress ornamentation, 20 Mideast region, 22 Bolt holder, 23 Breadth, 24 Rendered unreadable, 26 Keats creations, 27 Barbed remark, 29 Wait, 30 Barely defeat, 31 Silent screen star?, 34 When Operation Overlord began, 38 Ring great, 39 Ring-shaped reef, 40 Wish undone, 41 Optometric object, 43 Lasso feature, 44 Knitting stitch, 45 Ceramic flaw, 47 Nominal, at NASA, 49 Schieffer successor, 52 King of Queens, e.g., 54 Really get to, 55 Publicity, so to speak, 56 Pipsqueak, 59 Transparent plastic, 62 Singer Adams, 63 Greet with acclaim, 64 Element #5, 65 Eats in the evening, 66 Some amb. drivers, 67 Casts forth, 68 Small scrap, 9 Compass reading, 10 Caught with a fork, 11 Preparations, 12 High-pressure system, 13 Assents, 19 Raised, 21 Water cooler, 25 Branch of chemistry, 26 Tempestuous, 27 Enthusiastic emotion, 28 Taking it easy, 29 OPEC amts., 32 Surmounting, 33 Milne marsupial, 35 Got by hard work, 36 Mystic glow, 37 Cheerleading routine, 42 Moves through a computer file, 44 Great skill, 46 Lone Ranger exclamation, 48 Start of the fourth qtr., 49 Storehouse, 50 Very early in the day, 51 Darkened, 52 Entangle, 53 "No need to remind me", 55 Waffle House alternative, 57 Morning TV host, 58 Irritant, 60 American Masters network, 61 Recent USNA grad

13x13 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting positions for clues.

# News in brief

## Burn ban may halt Aggies' bonfire

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A burn ban may stop Texas A&M University students from lighting an off-campus bonfire on Saturday.

The bonfire has been banned from campus since 12 Aggies were killed when a 59-foot-high wedding cake-like stack of more than 5,000 logs collapsed as students were building it on Nov. 18, 1999. But since then students have continued the tradition off-campus and a bonfire is nearing completion at a ranch near Hearne.

This week though, Robertson County commissioners voted to impose a burn ban.

"It is not really about the student bonfire, it is about the drought conditions that necessitated issuing a burn ban," Robertson County Judge Jan Anderson Roe said.

Roe said county officials will meet Friday to discuss whether conditions have changed enough to remove the ban so the bonfire can be lit Saturday evening.

## Judge says government can seek Lay's estate

HOUSTON (AP) — The federal government can proceed with efforts to seize nearly \$13 million from the estate of former Enron founder Kenneth Lay, a judge ruled Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Ewing Werlein rejected a request from Lay's wife, Linda, to halt the government's bid for the money, which it claims were "proceeds of the fraud proven in the criminal case against Lay."

Kenneth Lay had been convicted in May 2006 of 10 counts of fraud, conspiracy and lying to banks in two separate cases.

U.S. District Judge Sim Lake said last fall that Lay's death of heart disease in July 2006 vacated his convictions because Lay couldn't challenge them.

Werlein wrote in his ruling Wednesday that prosecutors had "ample allegations" of criminal activity tied to the cash and property to pursue the civil forfeiture case.

## Labor Department wants to ease rules for recruiting ag workers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Agriculture employers won't have to cast a wide net in recruiting temporary workers under a rules change proposed by the Labor Department.

The agency has proposed that employers no longer be required to place ads for available agricultural jobs with print and broadcast media outside of where they plan to use the workers.

Advocates for farm workers say the change violates a 1986 federal law that requires employers to look for U.S. workers in designated multistate regions before they resort to hiring foreign workers.

Such a move could hurt farm workers who are U.S. citizens or legal residents, said Bruce Goldstein, executive director of Farmworker Justice Fund Inc.

## Father of soldier killed in Iraq spared deportation

HOUSTON (AP) — An illegal immigrant whose U.S.-born son died as a soldier in Iraq will be allowed to remain in the country for one year while Congress considers a private bill that would give him a green card.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services notified Enrique Soriano on Wednesday that he had been granted "deferred action," allowing him to live and work legally in the United States for one year.

Soriano, 47, now awaits congressional action on a private bill introduced by U.S. Rep. Gene Green, D-Houston, that would grant him and his daughter legal permanent resident status.

Soriano's son, Pfc. Armando Soriano, was killed in Iraq in 2004 when a military vehicle he was riding in rolled off a road, the Army said. The 20-year-old was

buried with military honors and awarded the Bronze Star posthumously.

## Most school districts opt out of state's merit pay plan

AUSTIN (AP) — Less than half of Texas school districts agreed to participate in the state's new merit pay plan for teachers, according to a final count released by the Texas Education Agency.

The agency said 442 of the state's 1,033 districts, or 43 percent, opted to take part in the \$148 million District Awards for Teacher Excellence program.

The participating school districts, which include most of the state's largest, will share the merit pay money beginning in the 2008-09 school year.

The state plan recommends a \$3,000 bonus per teacher for achievement in improving test scores and other signs of student progress.

State officials said they were surprised that so many districts opted out.

"Some districts may have opted not to apply because they have another merit pay plan already in place, or they may have decided they are unable to put up the local matching funds required to participate," said Debbie Ratcliffe.

Participating districts must put up a 15 percent match in either local funds or in-kind contributions. The match is scheduled to increase in future years.

Some local educators criticized the matching requirement, partly because it was not part of the original 2006 law creating the program.

Cindy Clegg of the Texas Association of School Boards said many local school officials were not expecting the matching funds requirement. Districts are also concerned about state rules calling for them to eventually find a way to fund the program on their own, she said.

www.bigspringherald.com

# 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

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

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## Win or Lose, You Win

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

<b>NORTH</b>			
♠	K Q 10 6		
♥	7 3		
♦	Q J 9 8		
♣	A Q 5		
<b>WEST</b>			
♠	J 9 8 4		
♥	A 8 6 5 4		
♦	4		
♣	J 9 7		
<b>EAST</b>			
♠	7 2		
♥	K Q J 10 9 2		
♦	5		
♣	K 10 4 3		
<b>SOUTH</b>			
♠	A 5 3		
♥	—		
♦	A K 10 7 6 3 2		
♣	8 6 2		

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♦ Pass 1♠ 2♥  
3♦ 3♥ 5♦ Pass  
6♦

Opening lead — ace of hearts.

When you start to play bridge, one of the first things you're taught is how to finesse. But as you progress, you gradually learn to rely less and less on this valuable gadget — and by the time you've reached your peak, you tend to view the finesse strictly as an instrument of last resort, using it only after first considering other options.

Nevertheless, there are times when there is no alternative to a finesse, and occasionally it's even possible to arrange the play so that an

otherwise doubtful finesse is sure to bring the contract home whether it wins or loses. In such cases, the finesse is obviously the play of choice.

Take this case where West leads a heart, ruffed by declarer. It is only trick one, but South can already feel absolutely certain of making the slam!

At trick two, he leads a trump to the jack, then ruffs the heart seven and cashes the K-A of spades. A third spade is led, and after West follows with the nine, declarer finesses the ten, knowing that this play will make the slam whether the finesse wins or loses.

As it happens, the ten holds, and South has 12 ironclad tricks. But even if the ten loses to the jack, the final outcome is exactly the same! East would then be forced to return a club into dummy's A-Q-x, or a heart, allowing South to discard a club as he ruffed in dummy. Dummy's queen of spades would then provide the slam-going trick.

Note also that even if East had held the J-9-8-4 of spades, South still would make the slam. In that case, West would show out on the third spade lead. Declarer would then play the queen and exit with the ten, allowing East to score his jack as South discarded a club. That would likewise spell finis for the defense.

# BEALLS

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Holiday Gift  
WITH ANY \$50 PURCHASE  
NOW THRU NOVEMBER 19!

## Pre-Thanksgiving Savings Spree!

# SAVE Up To 55%

## When You Use Your Coupons thru Monday

<b>50% OFF</b> VAN HEUSEN <sup>®</sup> SPORT SHIRTS Men's knit and woven long-sleeved styles. Reg. 36.00-42.00, <b>Sale 18.00-21.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> ALL CHILDREN'S OUTERWEAR By Graphite <sup>®</sup> , Amy Byer <sup>®</sup> , Big Chill <sup>®</sup> , more. Orig. 20.00-70.00, <b>Sale 12.00-42.00</b>	<b>25% OFF</b> SOCIAL DRESSES, SEPARATES For misses. By Connected Apparel <sup>®</sup> , more. Reg. 60.00-120.00, <b>Sale 45.00-90.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> MISSES, PETITES ACTIVEWEAR By Rebecca Malone <sup>®</sup> . Sets and separates. Reg. 30.00-56.00, <b>Sale 18.00-33.60</b>
<b>40% OFF</b> MEN'S OUTERWEAR Leather, cloth and nylon; assorted styles. Orig. 60.00-360.00, <b>Sale 36.00-216.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> ALL GIRLS DRESSES By Amy Byer <sup>®</sup> , Thomas <sup>®</sup> , My Michelle <sup>®</sup> , more. Reg. 30.00-60.00, <b>Sale 18.00-36.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> JUNIORS COATS Corduroy and puffy styles by BB Dakota <sup>®</sup> , more. Reg. 60.00-80.00, <b>Sale 36.00-48.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> PLUS-SIZES SPORTSWEAR By Jason Maxwell <sup>®</sup> , Gloria Lance <sup>®</sup> and more. Reg. 20.00-68.00, <b>Sale 12.00-40.80</b>
<b>SALE 29.99</b> GUYS LEVI'S <sup>®</sup> JEANS Levi's <sup>®</sup> 514 <sup>®</sup> slim straight, 527 <sup>®</sup> low-rise bootcut and 569 <sup>®</sup> loose straight. Reg. 40.00-44.00.	<b>50% OFF</b> U.S. POLO ASSN. <sup>®</sup> SWEATERS Juniors hoodies and tunics. Reg. 36.00-44.00, <b>Sale 18.00-22.00</b>	<b>40% OFF</b> WARM SLEEPWEAR FOR HER By Whispers <sup>®</sup> , Rebecca Malone <sup>®</sup> Intimates, more. Reg. 18.00-48.00, <b>Sale 10.80-28.80</b>	<b>SALE 24.99</b> SWEATERS FOR HER By Crystal Kobe <sup>®</sup> , Designers Originals <sup>®</sup> and Hannah <sup>®</sup> . Assorted colors. Reg. 36.00.
<b>BUY 1 GET 1 50% OFF</b> SHOES FOR THE FAMILY Ladies, men's and kids. Reg. 26.00-120.00. Second pair must be of equal or lesser value.	<b>SALE 26.99</b> JUNIORS DENIM By Vanilla Star <sup>®</sup> , Bongo <sup>®</sup> and YMI <sup>®</sup> . Belted and metallic styles. Reg. 38.00.	<b>60% OFF</b> ENTIRE STOCK FINE JEWELRY Diamond, gold and sterling silver earrings, pendants, rings, bracelets and more.	<b>50% OFF</b> ALL HOLIDAY HOME DÉCOR Decorative Santas, nutcrackers and more. Reg. 4.00-100.00, <b>Sale 2.00-50.00</b>

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## Extra 15% Off

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Not valid on Clinique, Estée Lauder, Lancôme, formalwear rental, gift cards or previous purchases. Must relinquish coupon at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with other coupons or private savings offers.

**BEALLS**

Prices effective thru November 19, 2007. Selection varies by store. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Entire stocks only where indicated.

COUPON VALID THRU MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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## BEALLS HOURS

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# XJ8 Super 8

*Jaguar XJ8 Super V8 combines both luxury and performance*

**G**oing to lunch with Gaylord Hanes is one of the highlights of my week.

Not only is he a very dear friend, he's also one of the smartest people I've ever met — although he never flaunts his education.

In fact, he's so down to earth that few people even know

he has a doctorate's degree in physics or the fact that during the Cold War the U.S. government tapped him as one of the scientists to figure out a way to produce a safe food supply in the event of a nuclear war with the Soviets.

Amazingly, that's not even on his "Top 10" list of accomplishments.

He's a really fascinating man, and while he's constantly expanding my intellectual horizons, I get to return the favor by taking him for a ride in a new vehicle every week and demonstrate the latest in automotive technology.

I know, it's not really a

fair trade, but Gaylord does enjoy letting me "school him" on what's new in the car world.

This week I had the chance to impress him with the 2008 Jaguar XJ8 Super V8.

If it were possible to impress someone with a car, the XJ8 would rank among the top picks to accomplish the task.

"Tell me about Jaguars, Neal," Gaylord said as I picked him up for our weekly lunch date. "I know they're fancy cars and I know they are expensive

and I know they are built in England, but that's about the extent of my Jaguar knowledge. I will say that this is certainly a beautiful car."

As we drove, I talked about Jaguar's heritage in building performance cars and its reputation for high-end luxury.

"Jaguar has always built highly sought after performance cars," I told him. "While the brand has never lost its performance heritage, over the



The 2008 Jaguar XJ8 sedan.

## ON THE ROAD



By Neal White

years Jaguar has also evolved into the premium luxury performance division. The XJ8 — with a lineup that includes the XJ8 L (long wheelbase), Vanden Plas, XJR and XJ8 Super V8 — certainly lives up to that heritage.

"Did you know that Jaguar is a division of Ford?" I asked. "No, I had no idea," he said. "I think it was one of the best things that ever happened to Jaguar," I said. "While Ford has given Jaguar the freedom to continue building aspirational vehicles that are truly amazing, the quality has improved dramatically under Ford's guidance."

I hit the accelerator to merge onto the busy freeway, forcing Gaylord back into the seat.

"Goodness! This sure has a lot of power," he said.

I told him about the XJ8 Super V8, which is powered by a supercharged 4.2-liter V-8

engine that delivers 400 horsepower and 413 lb.-ft. of torque giving the rear-wheel drive, five-passenger sedan the ability to go from 0-60 mph in 5 seconds with an electronically limited top speed of 155 mph.

It also comes with computer active technology suspension, advanced restraint technology system and the latest Bluetooth connectivity that allows up to five approved phones to be paired to the in-car telephone system.

"You know, Neal, if I had this I wouldn't need an airplane," he quipped.

"Yeah," I said. "But if you bought it you would have to hire me to chauffeur you around. Have you checked out the back seat? It's like a limo back there with all the electronics and comfort features you'd ever need. Plus, I'd get to drive it every day."

I'm not sure, but I think Gaylord was impressed.

Neal White has been

## THE NUTS AND BOLTS



**MODEL:** 2008 Jaguar XJ8 Super V8 5-seat luxury sedan  
**PRICE RANGE:** \$94,085-\$97,000  
**ENGINE:** 4.2-L supercharged V-8 (400 horsepower/413 torque)  
**TRANSMISSION:** 6-speed automatic  
**EPA:** 15 mpg city, 22 mpg highway  
**FUEL:** Premium unleaded  
**SUSPENSION:** Independent double wishbone design with 16 mm anti-roll bar, self-leveling air springs, touring tuned enhanced computer active technology damp-

ing, independent front/rear two stage damping and dynamic stability control.  
**BRAKES:** ABS with yaw control, active brake booster  
**LENGTH:** 205.3 inches  
**WHEELBASE:** 124.4 inches  
**WIDTH:** 83 inches  
**HEIGHT:** 57.3 inches  
**WEIGHT:** 4,001 lbs.  
**TRACK:** 61.3/60.9 (front/rear)  
**FUEL TANK:** 22.3 gallons  
**TIRES:** 20-inch  
**0-60 mph:** 5 seconds  
**WARRANTY:** 4-year/50,000-mile new vehicle warranty with Jaguar Assistance benefits

covering the automotive industry for more than 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and

the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at [neal.white@waxahachiedailylight.com](mailto:neal.white@waxahachiedailylight.com).

## SALUTE

Continued from Page 1A

he was wearing an Air Force uniform in New Mexico and the next day he headed to Fort Rucker in Alabama for flight training. He was made chief warrant officer 1 upon finishing his training, but instead of going to combat, he was transferred to North Carolina for training as a pilot trainer instructor.

After a couple of years training pilots stateside, he was sent to Iraq, where he soon learned what it means to "bite the dust." In literature and the movies, this means to fall down dead, which James did not.

James was pilot in command on a mission, but his partner was flying. James asked for RadAlt to be on, which means an automatic control system using radar, because the night was very dark, the area was unlighted and the sky and ground looked the same. The student pilot did not activate the RadAlt, and the helicopter simply flew into the sand, flipping end-over-end several times. When it came to rest, it was upside down, and the two pilots were hanging from their harness, their bodies bent into pretzel shapes.

Both lived to fight another day, with no permanent injuries.

James continued instructing, although they were flying combat missions. On a mission to qualify another pilot on instrument flying, rifle fire from the ground stuck the craft, and James took a bullet in his leg. The other pilot froze up from fear, and James took

the controls and flew them to a safe landing. He refused a Purple Heart at the time (although he accepted it later), but came back home for about six months in 2004 to recover from the leg wound.

During this stay in Big Spring he made some public appearances, including a Rotary meeting and talking with students at Kentwood Elementary.

During the medical leave, James was eager to get back to finish his job. The second deployment in Iraq lasted a year, during which time James distinguished himself in combat and which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The main requirement for receiving the DFC is "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial action against an enemy."

In the action that occasioned his receiving the DFC, James was pilot in command of the second of two helicopters on a mission, when radio traffic notified them that a group of Iraqi government forces were under vicious and sustained attack and needed help. The two helicopters turned to go to the site, and found the friendly in a very serious situation.

The platoon commander

of a group of 12 American soldiers with the 80 Iraqis who were pinned down, wrote this account:

"Two separate flights of 2 AH-64s came on station. They loitered around the area until I was 100 percent sure that the MOI (Iraqi Ministry of the Interior) commander had accountability of all his soldiers and then told the AH-64s to destroy the camp and its surroundings. We watched them make several runs and then headed back north to escort the wounded and recover the damaged U.S. vehicles."

The ground commander could not have known that two of the helicopters would land with only enough fuel for two more minutes of flying time, and that this was not to have been their primary assignment. While both gunships were hit many times, no one was wounded in either of them. Their behavior in this skirmish earned a DFC for each of the four pilots in these two aircraft.

After this, in another near-death experience, an enemy bullet hit James' helmet shield and went through his left eyebrow. James passed out at the controls. Student pilot Michael Chachere landed the copter safely. James was grounded for six weeks due to head trauma and the possibility of his

going blind.

The helmet, kept now as a keepsake by the family, still has both entry and exit holes for the bullet.

James now is stationed at Fort Rucker, where he is again an instructor pilot, this time with the unit overseeing the design and completion of the new ARH-70A Arapaho helicopter that is to replace the OH-58 Kiowas used for reconnaissance and attack missions.

James and wife Jennifer have a son, Chachere Williamson, named after the student pilot who saved his life by flying him to a safe landing when he was last wounded.

James, the proud Texan, drove to Austin with Jennifer and presented a flag to Gov. Perry that had flown over their unit

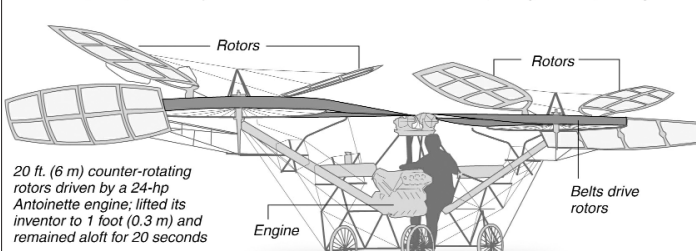
in Iraq.

Do you have a story about your family members in the military? For

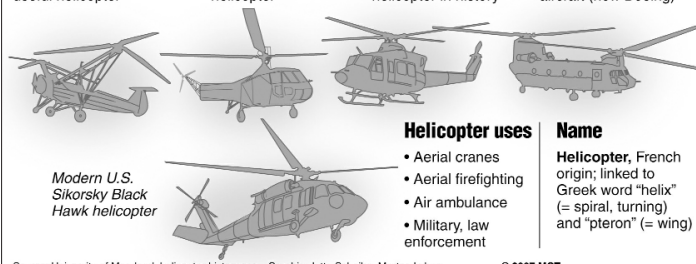
submissions or more information, e-mail Lane Bond ([lane@bondwebs.com](mailto:lane@bondwebs.com)), call (432) 263-4033, or visit [www.bondwebs.com](http://www.bondwebs.com)

## 100 years of vertical flight

On Nov. 13, 1907, French bicycle maker Paul Cornu made the first helicopter flight with a passenger.



20 ft. (6 m) counter-rotating rotors driven by a 24-hp Antoinette engine; lifted its inventor to 1 foot (0.3 m) and remained aloft for 20 seconds



Source: University of Maryland, helicopter-history.org Graphic: Julia Scheib, Morton Lythe © 2007 MCT

## Corrected Hours For St. Thomas/Sacred Heart Church

**St. Thomas The Apostle Parish**  
605 N. Main, Big Spring, TX. 79720  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00  
Rev. James Plagens, Pastor  
Isabel Escovedo, Secretary  
(432) 263-2864

**Sacred Heart Parish**  
508 N. Aylford, Big Spring, TX 79720  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00  
Rev. James Plagens, Pastor  
Teresa Rocha, Secretary  
(432) 263-7884

## Masses

**St. Thomas**  
Tues.: 7:00 AM  
Wed.: 7:00 AM  
Fri.: 7:00 AM  
Sun.: 11:15 AM

**Sacred Heart**  
Thurs.: 6:15 PM  
Sat.: 5:00 PM  
Sun.: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Baptisms, Weddings & Sacraments Call Parish Office

**QUICK CASH REBATES**  
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Requirements For Service: 1) Valid Picture ID  
2) Verification Of Income  
3) Most Recent Checking Account Statement  
612 S. Gregg Big Spring, Texas 432-263-4400

# News in brief

## Pakistan readies caretaker government

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — President Gen. Pervez Musharraf and his aides worked to finalize a caretaker government Thursday, while his two opposition rivals opened talks on forming an alliance against him.

A U.S. diplomat was allowed to cross the barricades and heavy police cordon surrounding the house in the eastern city of Lahore where opposition leader Benazir Bhutto has been confined since Tuesday.

Bryan Hunt, the U.S. consul general in Lahore, emerged an hour later and said he had told Bhutto of Washington's wish for Musharraf to lift the state of emergency, quit as army chief and free opposition politicians and the media.

"We need to move as rapidly as possible to have free and fair elections held on time," Hunt said.

A White House spokeswoman said Wednesday that Musharraf should relent "immediately." Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte is due in Islamabad on Friday.

## House passes \$50 billion bill for Iraq war

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats pushed through a \$50 billion bill for the Iraq war Wednesday night that would require President Bush to start bringing troops home in coming weeks with a goal of ending combat by December 2008.

The legislation, passed 218-203, was largely a symbolic jab at Bush, who already has begun reducing force levels but opposes a congressionally mandated timetable on the war. And while the

measure was unlikely to pass in the Senate — let alone overcome a presidential veto — Democrats said they wanted voters to know they weren't giving up.

"The fact is, we can no longer sustain the military deployment in Iraq," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. "Staying there in the manner that we are there is no longer an option."

The White House pledged to veto the bill, and Republicans said they would back the president.

"These votes, like the dozens of previous failed votes, put the interests of radical interest groups ahead of the needs of our military and their mission," an administration statement said.

## Suicide car bomb in northern Iraq kills 6, wounds 21 in Kirkuk

BAGHDAD (AP) — A suicide bomber rammed his car into a police patrol Thursday in northern Iraq, killing six people and wounding more than 20 — many of them children walking to school, police said.

The explosion happened around 8 a.m. in Kirkuk, an ethnically mixed city 180 miles north of Baghdad, said police Brig. Sarhad Qadir.

The city has seen a rise in violence in recent months, ahead of a planned census and referendum to determine the future of the city — whether it will join the semi-autonomous Kurdish region on its border, or remain under Baghdad's control.

The bomber's apparent target was the six-car convoy of a senior Kurdish police officer, Brig. Gen. Khattab Omar, who heads the city police department's quick response force, Qadir said.

Three of Omar's officers were killed,

along with three civilians, but the commander survived with serious injuries to his chest and head, Qadir said. Omar was being evacuated to a larger hospital, he said.

## O.J. Simpson to face criminal trial on charges of kidnapping, robbery

LAS VEGAS (AP) — More than a decade after his acquittal on murder charges, O.J. Simpson will again stand trial in a case certain to capture the

national spotlight.

The former football star said he wasn't surprised when a justice of the peace ordered him on Wednesday to defend himself against charges including kidnapping and armed robbery in a suspected sports memorabilia heist. He also said he trusted jurors to do what's right.

"If I have any disappointment it's that I wish a jury was here," Simpson told The Associated Press before he left the courtroom.

# Open House

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2007

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



## Jazzy's

1712 Gregg www.jazzysboutique.com 714-4626

## House takes 2nd pass at eavesdropping bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats are hoping changes they made to a bill to expand court oversight of government surveillance inside the United States will find enough support to win passage on a second try.

A vote was expected Thursday on the second attempt in a month to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which dictates when

the government must obtain court permission to carry out electronic eavesdropping. Last month House

Republicans used a procedural maneuver to force the withdrawal of a similar bill just before a vote.

Democratic aides think the small changes they made in the bill since then will garner majority approval and protect the bill from a similar fate.

## Notice

**Howard College Internet will be down Nov. 16 for up to 72 hours for a change over.**

**This means our web site will not be visible to anyone. We can not send or receive email to/from outside addresses.**



**HOWARD COLLEGE**

1001 Birdwell Lane

## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



## Tom Arnold unmasked

Comedian Tom Arnold is best known for his Hollywood roles and his cable TV show hosting. But, while he is big-city famous, Arnold is still very much a product of his small-town roots in Iowa. Plus, L.A.R.K. Toys and pumpkin bread and sweet cinnamon chips.



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

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