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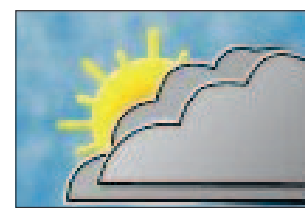


**Bulldogettes claim championship at Coahoma Invitational tournament.**  
Page 1B

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**HERALD**

**MONDAY**  
DECEMBER 3, 2007



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 2

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

# City's entry tops in parade

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Santa Claus came to town Saturday — and he had a lot of company.

Thousands of Howard County residents lined Gregg Street Saturday evening to welcome Santa and a few hundred escorts as the *Big Spring Herald* Community Christmas Parade was held for the 22nd time.

Even Mother Nature helped out during the proceedings. Unlike the past few years, moderate temperatures made for a pleasant evening of parade-watching.

*Herald* Publisher Ron Midkiff put his stamp of approval on the evening's proceedings.

"I was impressed with the way the community turned out for the parade, and I thought it was a great success," said Midkiff. "And I was very proud of the people at the *Big Spring Herald* who worked so hard to put this on."

More than 48 entries echoed this year's parade theme of "Peace on Earth," and three floats earned top honors from

the judges.

Winning \$100 for Best in Show, presented to the top entry in the parade, was the City of Big Spring float, while Western Container's entry was awarded the Mayor's Trophy (worth \$75) and West Texas Centers for MHMR earned \$50 for earning the Grand Marshal's Award.

Other category winners were:

- **Top mounted entry** — Howard County Sheriff's Posse.
- **Individual/family** — 1. Kayla Cervantes; 2. Naira family; 3. Chap Coker.
- **Civic/church/school** — 1. Blue Knights of Texas; 2. Pow-Wow Committee of Big Spring; 3. Birdwell Lane Baptist Church.
- **Commercial** — 1. Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home; 2. Dance Gallery; 3. Sonic Drive-In.
- **Industrial** — 1. ALON Refinery.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com).



From top, clockwise: The city of Big Spring's float in Saturday's Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade not only captured the theme of "Peace on Earth," it also captured the parade judges' hearts, garnering the Best of Show award; the jolly old elf from the North Pole makes an appearance, alongside Mrs. Claus; and Mother's Day Out shows off its green side with the group's "Peas on Earth" float during the parade.



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

## Shoppers key to Angel Tree project

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

With several last minute names added to the Salvation Army's Angel Trees, program directors say the effort is missing one last ingredient: Shoppers to pick up the angels and buy gifts for the area's needy children and seniors.

With nearly 400 children and 80 seniors already signed up for the annual program — which provides Christmas gifts for area low income children and seniors that might otherwise go without — there are plenty to choose from, according to Salvation Army Social Worker Paula Lafler.

"Right now the only thing we're missing for the program is for people to start picking up the angels," said Lafler. "It's been really slow so far, but it's still early in the season, so we're very hopeful."

Lafler said Angel Trees are set up at the Big Spring Mall — one in the mall itself, and a second inside Bealls Department Store — and Wal-Mart, with a fourth one added this week at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

"I really want to stress the Angel Tree for the seniors, as well," said Lafler.

See **TREES**, Page 3A

**22 Shopping Days Til Christmas**



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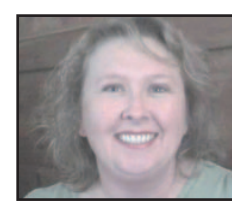
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# Sports

**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  
Monday, December 3, 2007

## IN BRIEF

### YMCA seeking referees for youth basketball league

The YMCA is seeking individuals interested in being a referee for boys and girls youth basketball league games.

Anyone interested can attend a refing clinic being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the YMCA.

Call Robert Smith at 816-8161 for more details.

### Big Spring High School schedules fall sports banquet

The Big Spring High School booster clubs have scheduled a fall sports banquet for Saturday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. in the high school's cafeteria.

Male and female athletes that participated in football, volleyball, cross country and cheerleading will be recognized.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from Kay Cook at the Athletic Training Center.

Call Denise Carillo at 816-1685 with any questions.

### 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.

### Crossroads region varsity sports weekly calendar

Here's a look at the upcoming Crossroads varsity sports schedule:

#### TUESDAY

Big Spring girls basketball at Midland High, 6:30 p.m.

Big Spring boys basketball at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m.

#### DEC. 6-8

Big Spring boys basketball at Midland Tall City Oilman's Tournament held at South Oak Cliff.

Big Spring girls basketball at Clyde Tournament.

Coahoma boys basketball at Stanton's Hooptown Classic.

Forsan boys and girls basketball at Borden County Tournament.

Grady boys and girls basketball at Water Valley Tournament.

#### DEC. 7

Coahoma girls basketball vs. Wellington at Idalou, 6:30 p.m.

#### DEC. 11

Big Spring boys basketball at Midland Lee, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring girls basketball at Pecos, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan boys and girls basketball vs. Grady, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma girls basketball at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma boys basketball vs. Reagan County, 7 p.m.

# Steers win Gym Bice Classic

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

ANDREWS — Midway through the second period, it appeared the Big Spring Steers basketball team were going to fall short of winning the Gym Bice Classic in Andrews Saturday.

The Steers' opponent was from Lovington, N.M., and featured the incredibly athletic forward Lance Smith. Smith fueled a 9-0 Lovington run in the second period, giving the New Mexico team a 29-15 lead with 5:12 left in the first half.

Fortunately for the Steers, they feature a fairly athletic forward

themselves. Jason Walker scored 16 points in the second period alone as Big Spring outscored Lovington 25-9 in the last five minutes of the first half for a 40-38 lead.

It was a lead the Steers never relinquished on their way to a 91-72 pounding of Lovington in the finals of Andrews' annual basketball tournament.

"Jason stepped is game up to another level. He's proving that he wants to be one of those special players," Big Spring Head Coach Marc Morris said. "He's not afraid to take the big shot or to say what needs to be said to

his teammates without fear of angering them. Good players make plays and that's what he's doing. This has been a fun group to coach. Jason's been a big help with that."

Walker wasn't done in the second period. The Steers came out of the locker room after the intermission on fire and Walker led the way with 15 points in the stanza on his way to a 42-point performance. Ultimately, the Steers pulled away with a 68-50 lead heading into the fourth period.

Big Spring kept its foot on the accelerator and Lovington never

got closer than 12 points in the fourth period. It was Big Spring's defensive adjustments at halftime that made the difference, according to Morris.

"We talked about setting better traps on defense at halftime and to cut off passing lanes. That helped us force a lot of turnovers," he said. "It wasn't as much as what I said as it was that the team just started playing like they're capable of."

Morris' confidence in the abilities of the Steers is abundant. He shows this in his comments

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

# Bulldogettes defend Coahoma Invitational

## Stanton clips Bulldogs for boys title

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — Coahoma's Bulldogs and Bulldogettes each earned the right to defend their home court and tournament Saturday night at the Coahoma Invitational. Unfortunately, the Bulldogs came up two points short against Stanton's Buffaloes. However, the Bulldogettes dominated their round robin bracket, cruising to an Invitational title.

In the girls' championship game, the Bulldogettes were led by Heather Sheppard and Laci Sterling, who combined for 41 points, as the Bulldogettes cruised to victory over Sweetwater's Lady Mustangs, 61-36.

Coahoma was easily the class of the tourney averaging a 37-point margin of victory.

"We were really consistent throughout the tournament," Bulldogettes Head Coach Chris Sumrall said. "The girls did just like I asked them to and it worked out. I thought our defensive play over the weekend was a big key. It allowed us to get up on people and let us keep the pressure on."

Sheppard hit for a game-high 25 while Sterling added 16. Janice Gonzales and Christie Rich poured in seven apiece with both Shelbi Paige and Hilary White contributing three each.

This is the second year in a row that the Bulldogettes have claimed the first-place spot in their tourney.

The Bulldogs held the hot hand going into the finals, averaging 81 points a contest.

However, in the finals it was Stanton, with a combination of hot outside shooting and a stifling defense, taking the championship trophy home for the second year in a row, 39-37.

Coahoma carried the momentum it had garnered with a 6-0

run to end the third into the fourth, chipping away slowly at the Buffs' lead. The Bulldogs cut it to three with 3:08 remaining in the game. However, Stanton went into keep away mode, burning off more than a minute before Adam Evans pulled up from 15 feet to put the Buffs up by five with just under two minutes remaining.

Tatum quickly answered for the Bulldogs, hitting a basket from underneath.

Stanton again took the air out of the ball finally, forcing Coahoma to foul to stop the clock.

Fulton made the Bulldogs pay, sinking both free throws and putting Stanton up by five with 30 seconds left to play.

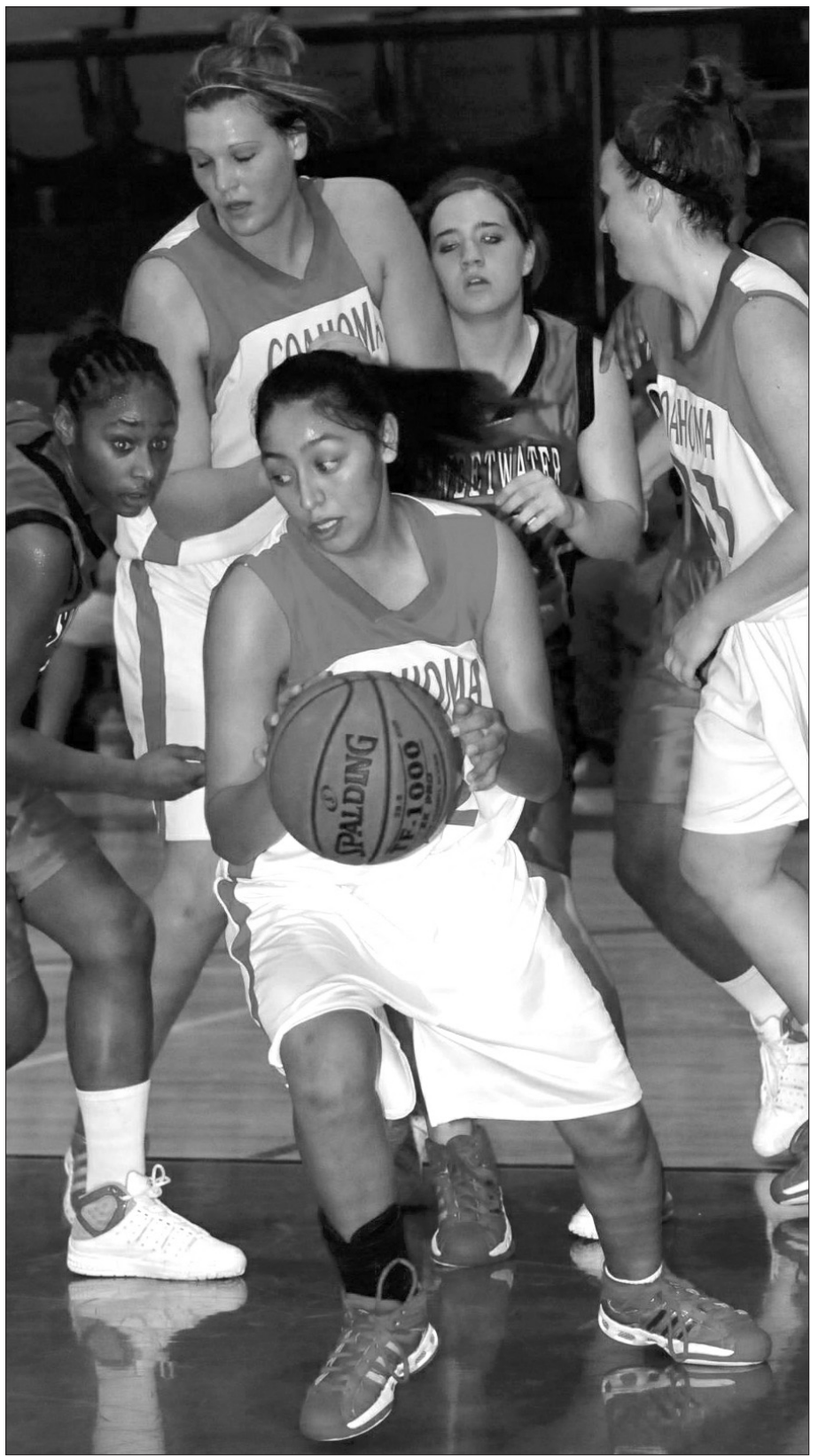
Josh Paniagua stroked in the trey with 23 seconds to go, pulling Coahoma to within two and after Fulton was unsuccessful on the front end of two consecutive one-and-one opportunities, the last which came with only three ticks left on the clock, the Bulldogs found themselves with a chance to pull out the win.

It was not to be, however, as Cody Sheppard heaved up a shot from just over the half-court line that banged off the backboard, giving Stanton both the win and the tournament championship for the second consecutive year and repeating the ending of last year's tournament that also saw the Buffaloes claim the win over the Bulldogs.

A big factor in the game was the fact that the Bulldogs were minus their 6-7 post Player Colter Morgan who had qualified for the state FFA contest held Saturday.

"We are not going to use the fact that Colter wasn't here as an excuse," Bulldogs Head Coach Kim Nichols said. "We had our chances. We just got a bit sloppy

See **COAHOMA**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler  
Coahoma's Janice Gonzales grabs a rebound and turns to dribble up the court in the Bulldogettes 61-36 victory over the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs Saturday in Coahoma. The win clinched the title in the Coahoma Invitational for the Bulldogettes.



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz  
Garden City's Jake Schwartz (4) goes up for a shot on Forsan's Adam Bailey in the Buffaloes' 66-40 win Saturday at the Bearkat Klassic in Garden City. The Buffs clinched the boys' bracket title with the win.

# Lady Bearkats, Buffs snag Garden City Klassic titles

Herald Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — Garden City's Bearkat Booster Club Klassic drew to a close Saturday with Forsan's Buffaloes claiming the boys' title and the host Lady Bearkats claiming the girls' title.

Forsan used a dominant first period to run away from the Garden City Bearkats, 66-40. The Buffs jumped out to a 17-3 advantage in the first stanza and led 34-14 at halftime.

Forsan's results are impressive after having completed just two full practices since football season ended.

"We have a ways to go and can definitely improve in a few areas," Forsan Head Coach Terry McDonald said, "but we

are real pleased with our progression with only being in the gym for two days.

"I am proud of all our players. It took a total team effort to win this tournament," McDonald continued. "We have some great seniors who have high expectations and goals."

The Buffs were led by Adam Bailey who scored a game-high 17 points and was later named the tournament's most valuable player.

"Adam showed good leadership and the players really look to him," McDonald raved. "He is already showing great maturity with his game."

The Bearkats were led with 13 points from Wade Jansa.

Garden City 3 11 7 19—40  
Forsan 17 17 21 11—66  
Garden City: Cole Schwartz 2, Jake Schwartz 8, Eric Hirt 10, Wade Jansa 13, Nick Sanchez 7.  
Forsan: Cody Freitag 5, Jeremy Robbins 8, Clay 3, Adam Bailey 17, Cameron Parker 11, Alex Huckabee 7, Nathan Atkerson 7, Blake Grantham 8.

### Girls' Championship Garden City 46, Grady 27

The Lady Bearkats dominated from start to finish, leaving no doubt they were the best girls' team at the Klassic.

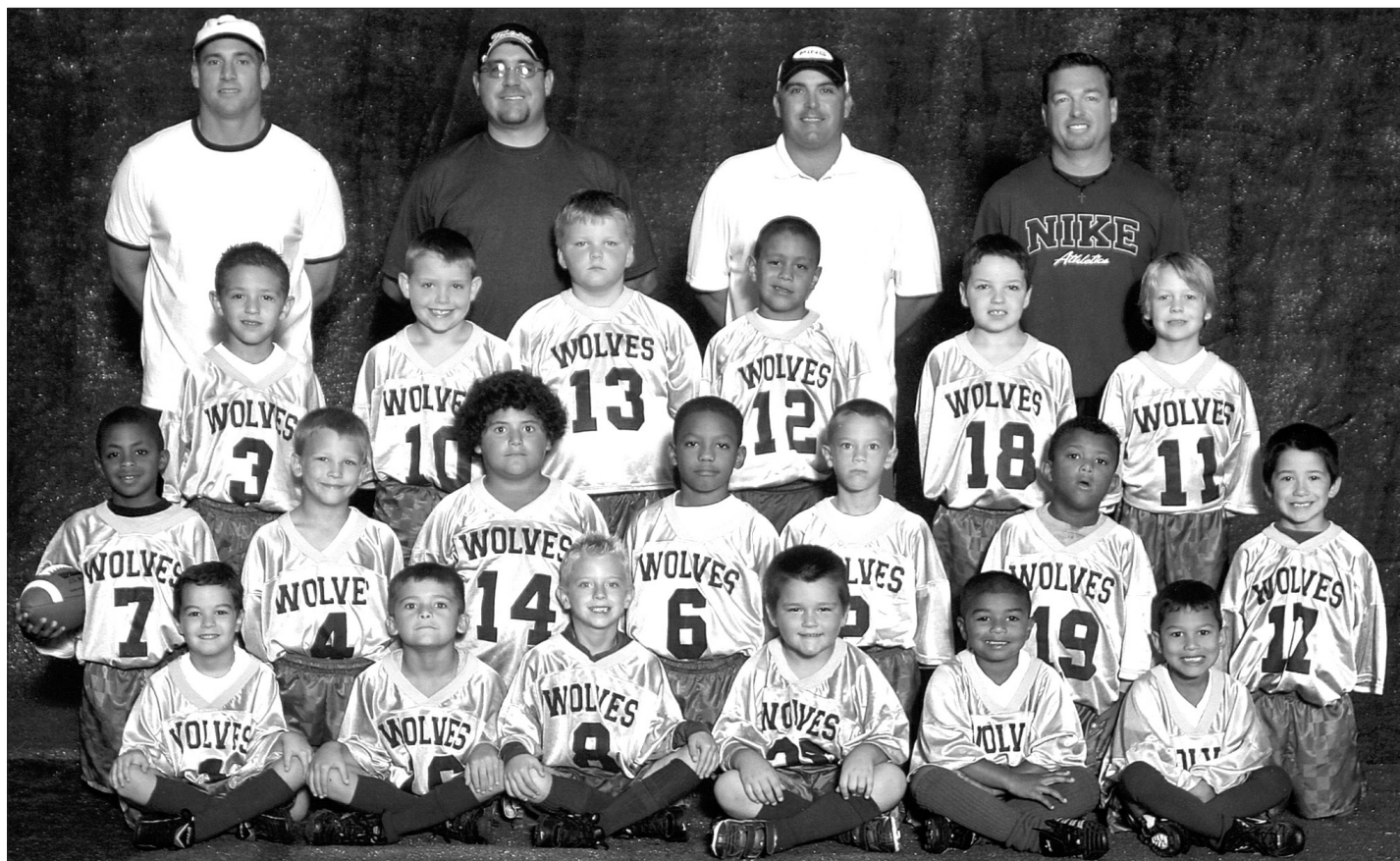
Whitney Kellermeier led all scorers with 14 points as Garden City held a 25-8 lead at the half and never trailed. Morgan Schwartz and Brittany Chudej each added 10 points.

Grady lost just their sec

See **KLASSIC**, Page 2B



# Wolves claim flag football championship



The Wolves claimed the Crossroads Youth Football League's flag football championship by defeating the Steers. Pictured above: Bottom row (left to right): Kevin Cadenhead, Jaden Wigington, Cade Wash, Donovan Flores, Isaac Murillo, Kaleb Vasquez and Christian Diaz. Second row: Javone Ford, Caleb Wigington, Noah Wigington, Deonte Perez, Jack Everett, Xavier Wilbert and Chris Viasana. Third row: Christopher Molina, Brett Berringer, Parker Wigington, Edward Aguilar, Scott Cantrell and Austin Madry. Back row: Coach Buddy Everett, Coach Paul Berringer, Coach Chad Wash and Coach Brad Madry.

# STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

about the start of the championship matchup when Lovington's pressure on defense was giving Big Spring fits. "It wasn't so much what Lovington was doing to us. It was more about what we weren't doing," Morris explained. "We can handle a full court press, but we weren't. We weren't playing up to our abilities early on. This team made my job a lot easier by picking up their game and doing what they know how to." Lovington was essentially a 2-man show with Smith scoring 34 and guard Courtney Mackey putting in 23 points. They combined for 57 of Lovington's 72 total points. Big Spring had three players other than Walker in double figures. Lance Gross and Terrance Clemons had 12 points apiece and Jerrell Williams chipped in 11. Tyrone Clemons finished with eight points and four rebounds. Walker led the Steers with nine boards. Defensively, Big Spring had 18 steals. Clemons led with six steals and Williams swiped five. The Steers (6-1) play Tuesday when they travel to take on Greenwood. Tip off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. "District will be here before we know it. There are some really good teams in our district and we still have a lot of things to work on before we're ready for them," Morris said. "I hope the players understand this. We've got a lot to accomplish still. We've still got to play more consistent defense and box out better for rebounds. "We've got a chance to do some great things this season," he continued. "We've just got to keep practicing at game speed and getting ready for the four tough teams we'll face in district."

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

# LSU, Ohio St. gets nod for BCS title game

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

Ohio State flopped as the favorite last season, so the Buckeyes plan to enjoy life as the slighted in this season's BCS championship game. A date with LSU at the Superdome awaits the Buckeyes, who are hoping to find redemption in New Orleans on Jan. 7 after struggling in last season's national title game against Florida. It can't get any worse than last season's championship game, when Florida blitzed Heisman Trophy winner Troy Smith and the Buckeyes 41-14 in Glendale, Ariz. It's been quite a ride for No. 1 Ohio State (11-1), LSU and all of college football in this crazy, unpredictable season. A month ago, the Buckeyes and Tigers appeared to be headed toward a showdown in the Big Easy. Then both lost as No. 1 and it seemed their national title hopes were gone. By the time the rest of the contenders fell by the wayside, Missouri and West Virginia were the final two to fall on

Saturday, Ohio State and LSU were back on top of the BCS standings again. Plenty of other teams could also make a case to play in the biggest BCS game, but the Tigers and Buckeyes got the nod. The Tigers (11-2), ranked second in the latest Associated Press poll, will be the first team to play in the BCS title game with two losses. November began with the Buckeyes ranked first, but they surrendered that with a 28-21 loss to Illinois that only added fuel to those who said they weren't deserving. But the Big Ten champions backed into the BCS title game without even playing after beating Michigan on Nov. 17. LSU seemed to be on the verge of losing its coach Saturday. Just a few hours before the Tigers played Tennessee for the SEC championship, Miles held an angry news conference and said reports he would be leaving the Bayou for Michigan were false. In fact, he said, he had agreed to a new contract to stay in Baton Rouge.

Then, the Tigers went out and won. Later, they sat calmly and watched chaos reign for the rest of the day. On Sunday, they learned they were in the championship game for the second time in five years. Why did LSU, which was seventh in the BCS standings heading into the final weekend, make the jump to No. 2, while Oklahoma, Southern California, Georgia and Virginia Tech were left behind? The 174 poll voters and handful of computer nerds whose calculations make up the BCS rankings probably all have their own reasons. Among the best is LSU was rewarded for winning the Southeastern Conference, which is traditionally viewed as one of the toughest leagues in the nation. There's also the argument coach Les Miles and athletic director Skip Bertman offered up Saturday night: The Tigers went undefeated in regulation — their two losses both coming in triple overtime. Paper-thin as that line of reasoning may sound, it's as good as any in this topsy-turvy sea-

son during which the top-ranked team lost four times, the second-ranked team lost seven times and Nos. 1 and 2 lost on the same week three times in the last two months. "The brass ring was there for a lot of different teams to grab it," SEC commissioner and BCS coordinator Mike Slive said during a conference call Sunday night. "Sometimes they did and sometimes they didn't, and when they didn't it allowed two teams that were seen as two of the better teams in the country early in the year to find their way back." The rest of the BCS games are filled with teams that had every bit as good an argument as LSU for a spot in the title game. In the Sugar Bowl, Georgia will play Hawaii. The Bulldogs (10-2) were fourth and idle coming into the final weekend but didn't automatically rise two spots the way coach Mark Richt thought they should. Hawaii (12-0) is the nation's only undefeated team, but is penalized for playing a weak schedule in the Western Athletic Conference. The Warriors won't complain. They

just wanted a chance to prove themselves against top competition. "It doesn't feel real right now," Hawaii quarterback Colt Brennan said. "It's been a great ride ..." The Fiesta Bowl will pit West Virginia (10-2) against Oklahoma (11-2). The Rose Bowl stuck with its traditional Big Ten-vs.-Pac-10 matchup, going with Southern California (10-2) against Illinois (9-3). Virginia Tech (11-2) landed in the Orange Bowl and will play Kansas (11-1), which leapfrogged Missouri for a BCS spot even though the Jayhawks lost to Mizzou 36-28 only a week ago. Need it be said this would have been a perfect year for a playoff? Or at least the plus-one format, which would look something like a four-team mini-playoff and set the championship game after the four major bowls are played? "I really feel like it's heading in that direction," Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer said. "How quickly? We'll see. ... it all makes sense."

# COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

and let it get away. We are going to be alright though. What mistakes we did make can be fixed. So I am not too

worried yet." Sheppard scored a game-high 18 while Tatum added another five. Pinkerton led the Buffaloes in scoring with 14 while both Fullton and Evans also hit double figures with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

These two teams will take part in the Hoopstown Classic this weekend in Stanton. ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM Boys Thomas Holsey - Sweetwater; Jesus Roberto Lujan - Pecos; Adrian Padilla - Miles; Logan

Dodds - Wall; Caleb Usry - City; Bennie Smith - Sweetwater; Nicky Ortiz - Stanton; Garrett Fullton - Stanton; Cody Sheppard - Coahoma; Matthew Tatum - Coahoma. Girls Morgan Ramirez - Presidio; Yvonne Rodriguez - Sterling

City; Bennie Smith - Sweetwater; Nicky Ortiz - Stanton; Rachel Fleckenstein - Stanton; Laci Sterling - Coahoma; Janice Gonzales - Coahoma; Christie Rich - Coahoma; Heather Sheppard - Coahoma.

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

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### KLASSIC

The Lady Wildcats struggled to get anything going offensively as their leading scorer for the season, Eva Dyck, was held to two points.

Continued from Page 1B

ond game of the season.

Garden City	12	13	12	9
46				
Grady	5	3	9	10
27				

Garden City	Whitney Kellmerier	14	Amy Multer	2	
	Brittany Chudej	10	Macy Schwartz	3	
	Lyza Lopez	6	Morgan Schwartz	10	
	Grady	Eva Dyck	2	Linsey Chavez	8
		Kaitlyn Blocker	2	Lauren Robinson	6
		Samantha Rodriguez	3	Kenzie Madison	8
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### Forsan 49, Rankin 39

The Lady Buffs won their second consecutive game Saturday after entering the Klassic winless.

Three Forsan players finished with double figures in scoring with Amanda Longorio leading with 15 points. Tori Gauer added 14 and Miranda Park finished with 10.

The Lady Buffs trailed at halftime, 24-19. However, they left the locker room on fire, outscoring Rankin 19-3 in the period.

Forsan	8	11	19	11-49		
Rankin	13	11	3	12-39		
	Forsan	Alyx Pappajohn	2	Tori Gauer	14	
		Miranda Park	10	Sandi Golleher	6	
		Charlene Stanley	2	Amanda Longorio	15	
		Rankin	Anderson	9	Gomez	5
		Davis	9	Lindsey	4	
		Akin	4	Avalos	8	



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**TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS**

**Protesters square off where neighbor shot two burglars**

HOUSTON (AP) — Protesters critical of a homeowner who fatally shot two suspected burglars were confronted by hundreds of the man's supporters during a rally on the street where the killings occurred.

Yard signs declaring support for Joe Horn, 61, lined nearby streets Sunday in the Pasadena neighborhood where Miguel Antonio DeJesus, 38, and Diego Ortiz, 30, were killed Nov. 14.

Horn's supporters parked motorcycles along the block Sunday and jeered protesters who called for Horn to be prosecuted.

Police officers in riot gear monitored the activities, but no arrests were made.

Horn's attorney has said his client believed the two men had broken into his neighbor's home and that he shot them only when they came into his yard and threatened him.

That was down from 100 positive tests in October, also with the Ad14 strain.

**Lawmakers to study TxDOT's advertising**

AUSTIN (AP) — House Speaker Tom Craddick has asked lawmakers to review the Texas Department of Transportation's multi-million-dollar ad campaign promoting toll roads and the Texas Corridor.

Craddick, R-Midland, included a review of the Keep Texas Moving campaign on a list of topics that the House State Affairs Committee will study leading up to the 2009 legislative session.

Craddick also asked the House Appropriations Committee to review transportation spending over the past five years and study alternatives for funding future needs.

Some lawmakers and anti-toll activists have condemned spending state highway funds — estimated to be from \$7 million to \$9 million — on a public relations campaign.

**Cases of 'boot camp flu' on the decline at Lackland AFB**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Recruits at Lackland Air Force Base continued to get sick from a mutated version of a common cold virus known as "boot camp flu" during the past three months, but occurrences have dropped since earlier this year.

Adenoviruses sickened hundreds of recruits at Lackland in the spring and summer with the most serious cases blamed on a new variant called Ad14. Five airmen ended up in an intensive care unit, and 19-year-old Paige Villers of Norton, Ohio, died from the sickness in early August.

The base said 39 airmen tested positive for adenoviruses in November, all with the Ad14 strain.

**Paul says he'll raise \$12 million in quarter**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Ron Paul said Sunday his upstart presidential campaign is on track to raise more than \$12 million this quarter, boldly predicting the Iowa polls "are going to continue to shift" once he's finished spending it all.

Speaking on CNN's "Late Edition," Paul said he had raised roughly \$10.4 million so far in the quarter beginning Oct. 1.

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James Woodall, 72, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Tuesday at Coahoma Cemetery.  
Ignacia "Nancy" Garcia Lopez, 85, died Friday. Funeral Mass will be at 4:00 PM Monday St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Coahoma with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.  
Ada Gresham, 83, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.



Always one of the highlights of the Christmas season, First United Methodist Church held its annual Living Christmas Tree program Saturday and Sunday. The event brings together people from throughout the Crossroads area, both to participate and to enjoy the "reason for the season."

**Salvation Army officers recall their first Angel Tree Christmas**

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

For many area residents the Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree program is just one amid a sea of worthy holiday causes.

For Capt. Russ Keeney, along with his wife, Linda, the program is a matter of something much more personal.

"One of our first Christmases here, right after distribution (of the Angel Tree gifts), one of my neighbors came and shared a story with Linda and I about Jane, a single mother raising three children on her own," said Keeney, who has been at the helm of the program for several years now. "She had nothing to give the children for

Christmas, and I mean absolutely nothing. So Linda and I took it upon ourselves to go to this lady's house with some food and toys."

The scene that greeted the pair was one of hopelessness and despair, according to Keeney.

"When we pulled up to her house, it was in ruins. It looked like an abandoned house," said Keeney. "It was run down and dilapidated. There were no signs of life. No toys in the front yard, there was nothing."

"We knocked on the door and talked to her for a few minutes and she let us in. It was cold, and the house was so big they were living in just one room to try to stay warm. That room was heated by

a hibachi grill. We visited with her and we looked in her kitchen and she had no food at all in her cupboards."

And while the small family had long since accepted the plight of a holiday without gifts, Keeney said the hope and love he saw in their eyes when he and his wife presented them with several Christmas presents was enough to bring tears to his eyes.

"There were no toys for the children. There were no sounds of happiness at all in this home," said Keeney. "We told her the reason for our visit and tears began to stream down her face. We unloaded the toys for the kids, and they were running around screaming

and hugging our legs. It was like we almost couldn't get away from them, they were so happy and thrilled."

"When we left, they were all sitting on the seats of their brand new bicycles just waving with joy on their faces. A look of joy they may not have ever felt in their lives."

Angel Trees are located at the Big Spring Mall, Bealls Department Store, Wal-Mart, the Big Spring Herald and Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The deadline to return gifts for the program is Dec. 15.

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

**TREES**

Continued from Page 1A

"That's located in the lobby of the Big Spring Herald. Because the Herald office isn't somewhere you'd traditionally think of doing Christmas shopping, I think a lot of people forget about it, and the seniors really need this. It's very, very special to them."

Adopting a holiday angel is simple, according to Lafler.

"They just take the Angel card from the tree and purchase Christmas gifts for that child or senior," said Lafler. "The card has a wish list, but the gifts don't necessarily have to be what's listed on the card. Once you buy the gifts, you simply attach the card to the gifts and bring them to our office, or drop them off where you got the card from."

Lafler said it's very important gift-buyers tape or tie the card to the gift to ensure the correct packages get to the right angel.

"It's not hard at all, and it only takes a few minutes of your time," said Lafler. "And the majority of the gift ideas aren't costly, so it's a chance to really make a difference in someone else's life. It's sometimes hard for us to understand what these gifts mean to children and families that are less fortunate. It can have such a powerful effect."

The deadline to return

gifts for the program is Dec. 15, according to Keeney, with distribution expected to take place Dec. 18 at the Big Spring Refinery Union Hall.

For more information on the Angel Tree program, call 267-8239 or stop

by the Salvation Army office, located at 811 W Fifth Street.

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

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### You all make our Christmas parade very special event

Once again, Big Spring, you pulled it off. It seems we write this every year, but Saturday's 22nd annual *Big Spring Herald* Community Christmas Parade was everything we had hoped it would be and more, and was, we believe, an excellent start to the Yuletide.

Downtown Big Spring was indeed aglow with holiday lights and festive cheer, and while we here at the *Herald* do work hard each year in sponsoring the parade, it is the community that makes this event the magical start to the Christmas season it always is.

Not only were there plenty of participants and brightly colored and lighted entries, but the thousands of local residents — especially the radiant-faced youngsters — who line the parade's route each year is heart warming.

The 48 registered entries in this year's parade made it difficult for judges, but there was little question in our minds that the panel had it right when issuing a perfect rating and the Herald Best of Show Award and \$100 prize to the float entered by the city of Big Spring. The same holds true, we think, for the \$75 prize given to the Western Container as the winner of the Mayor's Trophy for best lighted entry, and the \$50 prize that went to West Texas Centers for MH-MR entry that had the best costuming.

We were also proud to see entries from the Blue Knights of Texas, Pow-Wow Committee of Big Spring, Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home, Dance Gallery, Sonic Drive In, Alon and the Howard County Sheriff's Posse receive accolades from the judges.

But above all else, we want to take this opportunity to thank all those who took part in the procession and ask you to all take a bow.

Thanks to all your efforts, Big Spring's Christmas Parade for 2007 was certainly one of the best ever.

You all made it worth the effort and a very pleasant memory that will stay with us for quite some time to come.

## YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would just like to say how much I enjoyed John Moseley's column titled "Mr. President, spend more on us."

I could not agree more. I totally understand our nation is in debt up to its ears. The national deficit and the trade deficit should scare every American.

The president can, however, find plenty of money to fight his war and there is no telling how much we give to foreign aid and unnecessary political spending called "earmarks." He vetoes so many things that could help our own people and our infrastructure. I don't

think we can fight a war and give tax breaks to the rich.

One more thing, I have never met Mr. Moseley, but I know who he is because I read the paper. I passed by Wal-Mart today (Friday) and saw him collecting money for the Salvation Army. I don't have much money to give to charity but I do support the Salvation Army. It helps the poor in our community.

I would just like to say thank you to Mr. Moseley for helping the Salvation Army and our community.

CAROL SMITH  
BIG SPRING

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we bless our lives by giving to others through You, Lord.

Amen

# For us and media, size matters

The Federal Communications Commission is at it again, trying to let Big Media get even bigger. This time, the agency wants to let a single owner control both a television station and newspaper in the same media market, with certain caveats.

The FCC should be trying to restrict Big Media from growing, rather than the opposite. Today, about ten firms own most of the media outlets controlling news, film, books, movies, popular websites, and more, according to Ben Bagdikian's book, the *Media Monopoly*. You might not think this matters anymore, because the world is blessed with a million points of light on the Internet, allowing most anyone to have a voice.

That's true, but it's one thing to have a voice and another to have an audience.

Most popular news websites, for example, are owned by the same companies that own traditional media, like newspapers and TV stations.

So, while diverse sources of information proliferate, most citizens still tune to Big Media for our information needs.

Again, you may say, Big Media is not a monolith. Books by Ann Coulter and Stephen Colbert make the *New York Times* best seller list. True enough. But size (and

ownership) still matter. And they may matter more in the future.

Here's a case in point. Media News, which controls a chain of newspapers, is owned by William Dean Singleton. He recently mandated that The Denver Post run a front page editorial slamming Colorado's governor for giving state workers the right to unionize. As the owner, Singleton can mandate the content and placement of an editorial, without violating the professional ethics of journalism.

It would be an ethics violation if Singleton, in case of The Denver Post editorial, also directed news reporters to write biased news stories about the governor's union initiative. Judging from the Post's coverage, Singleton didn't do this. The paper was fair and accurate on the union issue.

But if the well-known economic slide at newspapers continues, it's more likely that journalism, as practiced today, could be upended, leading to an erosion of the journalistic tradition of separating a newspaper's opinion from its news coverage. We could then be subject to a steady flow of propaganda reflecting the bias of the owners of America's major media companies.

And the bias of the owners of most of America's giant media companies is conservative. As Peter Hart of Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting put it, "You're not going to find many examples where a multinational corporation will stray from any center-right corporate orthodoxy."

FAIR has documented repeatedly that the frame of mainstream journalism often reflects a conservative bias. This will only get worse if culture of professional journalism starts to fade with the shrinkage of the newshole and newsroom staff.

Then the need to have diverse media ownership grows, unless you'd want the same political propaganda, reflecting the views of the same owner, appearing on your TV screen and in your newspaper. The more media owners there are, the more likely it is that we'll hear a diversity of views.

That's why the Federal Communications Commission shouldn't allow giant media companies to grow even bigger. Instead, it should break up today's giant news conglomerates. And Congress should increase funding for public news media, with the mandate to operate according to the professional standards of journalism.

If we leave journalism to the free market, you might be hearing, for example, less and less about why unions are important. And no matter what you think of unions, you'd suffer from a lack of exposure to different opinions about them.

Jason Salzman is the author of "Making the News: A Guide for Nonprofits and Activists," and board chair of Rocky Mountain Media Watch, a Denver-based media watchdog organization.

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JASON SALZMAN



### Big money these days is in money

Jesus may have chased the money changers out of the temple, but they didn't go far. Throughout history, they've quietly hung around the seats of power, buttering up those who can help them and undermining those who won't.

The secret is in sweet-talking and lubricating government regulators. These must be persuaded to turn a blind eye until the latest killing has been made, or at least until the human damage can no longer be concealed. In the end, when the scam is finally revealed, there is usually only a token penalty to pay. Penance is surely a small price for not having sought permission. Yes, a couple of guys typically lose their jobs and cry all the way to the bank, though often they already work there.

Sub-prime mortgages are today's hot example of this banking excess. Even the occasionally heroic Senator Chris Dodd has been heavily financed by these Wall Street players. He's helped keep the Senate Finance Committee's hands off that sleazy market. Thanks to such inaction, several million struggling families are now losing their homes. Sorry guys, you should have read the fine print. Meanwhile Dodd runs for president and our current president just smirks.



WILLIAM A. COLLINS

School loans are much the same sort of case. Of course you'll trust your college. They'll steer you to the cheapest money, right? Well maybe, unless they're getting paid to steer you to the expensive money. Congress, legislatures, and bank regulators slept through that one too. Now we have millions of graduates with excessive school debts who have to defer entry into the American dream until they can catch up.

A hundred years ago, during another era of robber barons, the common solution to Wall Street's pressure was to form local depositor-owned banks (mutuals). These worked well until recently when public mindfulness waned. Now this inattention has allowed shifty-eyed disciples of J.P. Morgan to gain control of these hallowed local institutions and "take them public." A formerly revered bank in our state has just followed along that dark path, providing serious fortunes for corporate officers but zilch for depositor/owners. Who said America is no longer the Land of Opportunity? New fortunes are being stolen all the time. From our money.

Take also credit cards. My aunt's latest offer from Chase expired on Sept. 11. Which was OK since she expired in March. This, however, did not deter Chase from offering her a \$500,000 credit line, surely a generous sum to someone who was 103 and living on Medicaid. But that's the scheme. Get poor people to borrow from you. They soon fall behind on payments.

Then you can charge them outlandish penalties and usurious interest rates. Sure, you lose a few to bankruptcy, but not many. That's why the Republican Congress passed that tough new bankruptcy law last year, so banks would end up with more of Uncle Dan and Aunt Irma's grocery money.

Naturally, we are all sensitive to the evils of greed. We first learned of it in the Bible, then in history class, now in the news. Still we're slow on the uptake. Greed pours millions into the electoral treasuries of our public officials, but we still don't demand campaign finance reform to replace it. Our senators and representatives collect bundles from Wall Street while we blindly focus our political attention instead on the pork they bring home to local projects.

And now, if you watch carefully, Congress will inexorably bail out various banks, hedge funds, mortgage lenders and sundry corporate players who foolishly got in too deep.

They'll do it to protect "homeowners" and the "economy," but lenders will end up collecting most of the swag.

Generous public financing of elections is the only known antidote for this MRSA-like, cure-resistant infection.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

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# Try some comfort food for the holidays

By **DANA JACOBI**

A roast chicken dinner is one of life's true pleasures. Depending on how the bird is presented (and what accompanies it), the meal can take on many different characteristics — from romance to comfort to festiveness. For a romantic touch, try preceding the meal with fresh oysters and accompany the chicken with wild rice. Serve with roasted root vegetables for a down-home feel. And for celebrations, you might serve the bird on a bed of watercress, encircled by tiny lady apples that have been poached in spiced cider.

Traditionally, I have served a roasted capon (a rooster — in effect, a very large chicken) at holiday gatherings. These days, however, with fewer mouths to feed, I often opt for chicken instead. To highlight the special occasion, I try to splurge on the best-quality bird my budget can afford. It impresses my guests, but more importantly, it impresses their taste buds.

The price range for chickens can vary dramatically. The most expensive varieties are typically locally raised and can often be found at a farmers' market. Organic birds are available at most supermarkets but can be quite pricey too. Air-chilled chickens, also high-end, are gaining popularity as well. These birds are



processed using air-chilling chambers rather than conventional water chillers and are often more tender. If a chicken is air chilled, it will be marked prominently on the label.

This roast chicken recipe speaks of pure comfort food. Placing the chicken on a bed of root vegetable eliminates the need for a rack in the roasting pan and adds rich flavor to the pan juices that can be used to create home-made gravy. To flavor the chicken itself, place garlic cloves, lemon slices or fresh rosemary branches inside the bird. A small amount of butter rubbed on the skin helps it brown during cooking. Finally, for succulence, I firmly believe in rotating the bird. Starting with the breast down, I recommend turning it partway through roasting. Trussing (or tying) the chicken before cooking is optional. While

it gives the bird a nice shape and holds its legs in place, do note that it also adds to the cooking time.

### Roasted Chicken with Root Vegetables

- 1 fennel bulb
- 2 onions, halved
- 2 white turnips, peeled and halved
- 1 large carrot, cut in 2-inch pieces
- 1 parsnip, peeled and cut in 2-inch pieces
- One chicken (about 4 pounds)
- 1 lemon, quartered
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 tsp. unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup fat-free, reduced sodium chicken broth
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 8 fingerling or red-skinned new potatoes

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F.  
Cut off the stems and feathery leaves from the fennel bulb and discard.

Halve the bulb lengthwise then cut each half crosswise, making 4 quarters. If the core is very tough, trim away part of it, leaving enough so the wedges hold together. Place the fennel, onions, turnips, carrot, and parsnips in a roasting pan just large enough to hold them in one layer.

Rinse the chicken and pat dry inside and out with paper towels. Insert the lemon into the cavity. Using your fingertips, loosen the skin on the chicken's breast, being careful not to tear it. Rub with some salt and pepper over the breast. Smear 1 tsp. of the butter under the skin, smoothing it over the breast by massaging the skin over the breast from the outside.

Set the chicken, breast down, on top of the vegetables in the roasting pan. Pour in the broth. Roast the bird for 15 minutes. Remove from the oven, turn the chicken breast side up, and brush the it all over with the oil. Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees F. and roast for 30 minutes.

Add the potatoes to the roasting pan. Baste the chicken and vegetables with the pan juices until the potatoes are shiny. Continue to roast the chicken until it is cooked through, 45-55 minutes (on an instant-read thermometer, the breast should read 160 degrees and the thighs 170 degrees).

Remove the chicken to a cutting board and let sit

15 minutes to allow the juices to settle. If the vegetables are not tender when easily pierced with a knife, let them continue roasting until the chicken is carved.

When the vegetables are done, transfer them to a serving platter. Pour the pan juices into a measuring cup and let sit 5 minutes. Using a wide, shallow soup spoon, skim off as much of the fat as possible from the top. Carve the chicken and arrange the pieces and sliced breast meat over the roasted vegetables. Serve

immediately, passing the pan juices in a gravy pitcher.

Makes 5 servings

Per serving: 320 calories, 8 g total fat (3 g saturated fat), 23 g carbohydrate, 38 g protein, 5 g dietary fiber, 260 mg sodium.

*"Something Different" is written by Dana Jacobi, author of 12 Best Foods Cookbook and contributor to AICR's New American Plate Cookbook: Recipes for a Healthy Weight and a Healthy Life.*

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## NUTRITION WISE: Holiday calories, magnesium

**Q: How long would I have to walk to burn off the calories in holiday treats?**

**A:** The answer, of course, depends on how intensely you walk and exactly what you've indulged in. Most people find that it takes more time to burn off holiday goodies than they realize. Holiday cookies, for example, often contain from 60 to 120 calories each. Sweet desserts, like apple pie, may contain from 200 to 400 calories or more.



**KAREN COLLINS**  
MS, RD, CDN

At a moderate three miles per hour, someone weighing 180 pounds might walk about 20 minutes to burn the calories in just one cookie and at least 40 minutes to walk over an hour for other energy-dense desserts.

Because it takes less energy to move a lighter body than a heavier one, someone who weighs 150 pounds would need to walk longer to burn the same calories, about 23 minutes per cookie or 50 to 100 minutes for a typical dessert.

Picking up the pace and walking at a brisk four miles an hour could reduce the time needed to burn those calories by 25 percent. In most cases, adding extra exercise to offset overeating doesn't work as a long-term solution.

**Q: I've heard that many people don't get enough magnesium in their diets. What foods are the best sources?**

**A:** Magnesium is an essential mineral that plays a role in energy release, nerve and mus-

cle function, bone health, blood pressure control and, research now suggests, insulin function.

We don't need huge amounts of magnesium to lower our risk of diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis and possibly even colon cancer. Studies generally show the greatest benefit is gained simply by meeting the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) of 320 milligrams (mg) for most women and 420 mg for most men. Unfortunately, as our diets now include more refined, processed foods, we're filling up on foods low in magnesium and eating fewer of this mineral's major sources: dark green leafy vegetables, whole grains, nuts and dried beans.

In fact, the average American gets about 100 mg below recommended amounts — a problem that is easily remedied with a few dietary adjustments. To ensure you are getting adequate magnesium, aim for three servings of whole grains per day, include a dark green vegetable most, if not every day and add dried beans, seeds or nuts to your favorite salads, stews and snacks. You're also wise to include plenty of fruits and vegetables throughout the day.

**Q: I've heard that green tea and black tea are very healthy, but what about pekoe and orange pekoe tea?**

**A:** Tea varieties are differentiated by both their time of harvest (mature leaves vs. immature leaves) and by the level of oxidation or processing the leaves undergo.

Except for herbal teas (which are actually herbal infusions of flowers, leaves, roots or seeds), all tea comes from the same plant. Steaming tea leaves shortly after

harvest retains their green color and mild flavor. On the other hand, exposing tea leaves to air promotes a natural fermentation process and produces richly-flavored black tea (actually deep red-brown in color).

Oolong tea, often served in Chinese restaurants, is halfway between green and black tea in processing and flavor. Pekoe and orange pekoe tea are actually forms of black tea. Their names refer to variations in the grade and size of the tea leaves.

While green tea is highest in EGCG, the phytochemical that is frequently cited for its disease-fighting potential, all teas are rich in flavonoids with antioxidant properties. Researchers continue to explore the potential benefits of all tea varieties for cardiovascular health and cancer prevention.

*AICR's Nutrition Hotline is a free service that allows you to ask a registered dietitian questions about diet, nutrition and cancer. Access it online at [www.aicr.org/hotline](http://www.aicr.org/hotline) or*

*by phone (1-800-843-8114) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday-Friday.*

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Offer expires 01/31/08. BSA 4Q

\*Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

A special tour for a special event.

**BirthPlace Tour:**  
Monday, December 3 at 7:00pm

For over fifty years, little Midlanders and their families have called Midland Memorial Hospital home. Meet us at the first floor lobby to take part in our special BirthPlace Tour. Visit our Postpartum, Labor, Delivery, Nursery, and our unique Breast Feeding Shoppe, Beautiful Beginnings. Meet our outstanding staff and find out what to expect when your special time arrives.

The smallest details matter most to us. Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Beautiful Beginnings in The BirthPlace at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus.

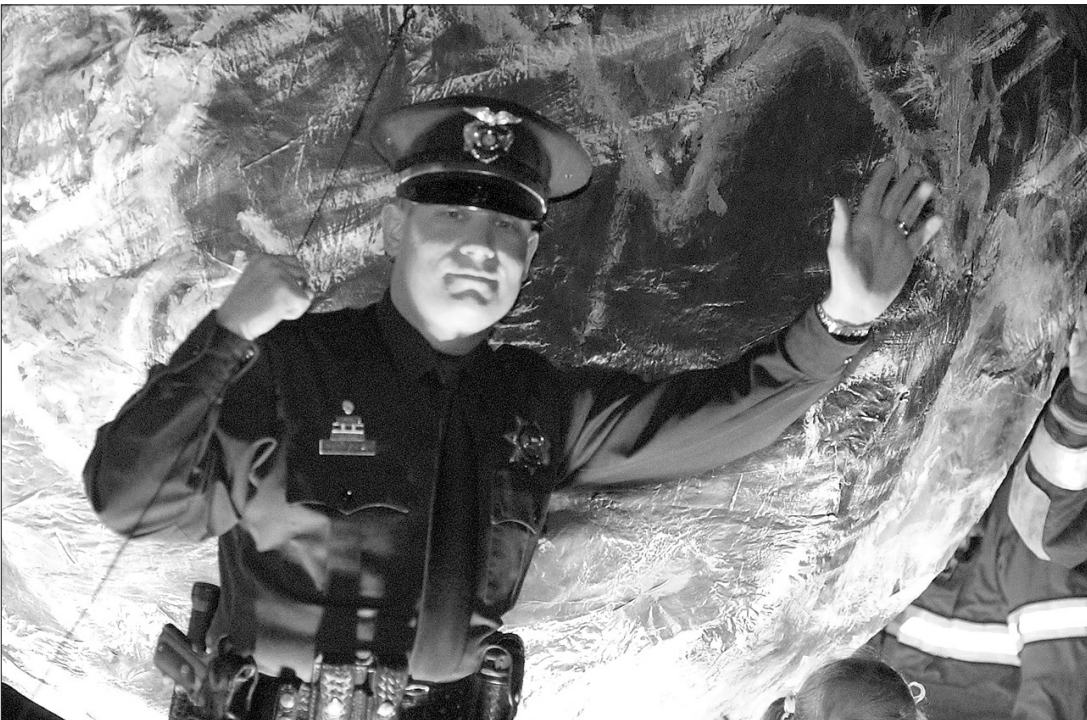
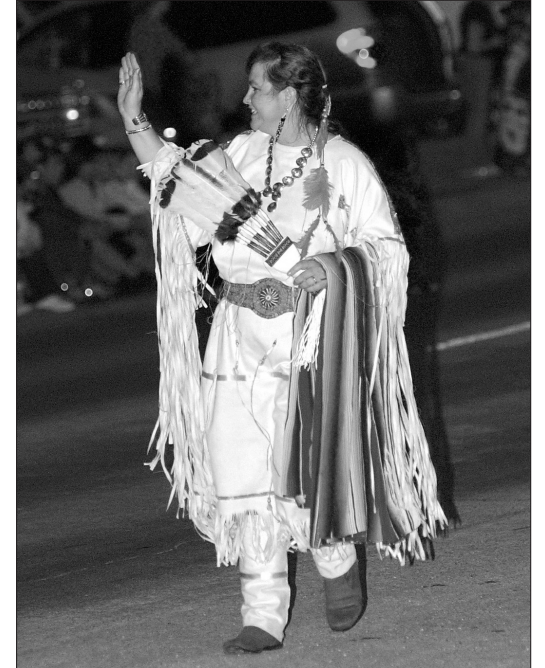
*Your home for healthcare*

**midland memorial hospital**  
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Clockwise, from top left: parade Grand Marshal Jan Hansen waves to the crowd; a child, one of many participating in Saturday's holiday event, strikes a faithful pose as his float passes the judges; a member of the local Pow-Wow Committee greets the crowd in her Native American clothing; parade judges, armed with hot chocolate and coffee, get ready for the festivities; and a police officer with the Big Spring Police Department waves to the crowd during the 22nd annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade.

Photos by Thomas Jenkins



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## LETTERS TO SANTA

Don't Miss This Section

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Area Schools Students, Submit Their Letters To Santa Claus

“DEADLINE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007”

Advertisers, Don't Be Left Out!

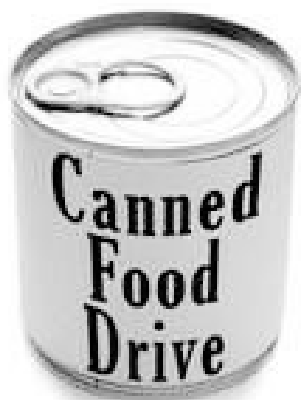
33506

# Salvation Army

## Can Food Drive

Help Stock the Pantry during the  
**Big Spring High School  
“Winter Concert”**

Monday, Dec. 10 • 7 p.m. • No Admission Fee



Can Food Accepted at the Concert to benefit the Salvation Army

Please help restock the shelves!

33371



Dear Santa,  
I have been very good most of this year. Will you wake me up when you come? I have a gift for you and something for the raindeer. Can you bring a football for me? I want a mine? I sent 2 letters to you Santa.

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the gifts that I got last year. I still have most of them. I'd like a puppy, a game and a new bike. If you want to bring more stuff it's ok with me. I know I sent a letter before but this new list is what I really want. Thank you Santa.

With Love,  
Sam

MONDAY

Table with 24 columns (WFAA, KMGD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 6 rows (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WE DISCOVERED A REAL GOOD NEW MEAL WHILE YOU WERE GONE... COLD PIZZA AN' PEANUT BUTTER!"

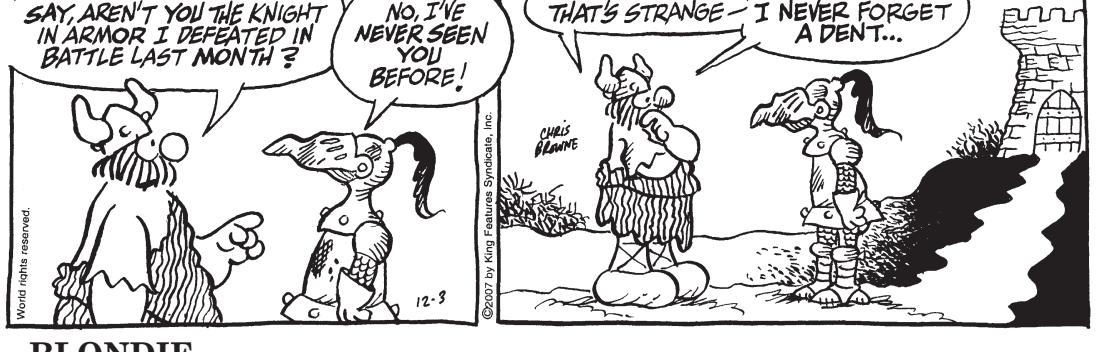
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Pea pods? I thought you said you were getting iPods!"

Advertisement for suddenlink west texas and i like it! Cable-Internet-Phone-HDTV-DVR. Includes phone number 2006 Birdwell 267.3821.

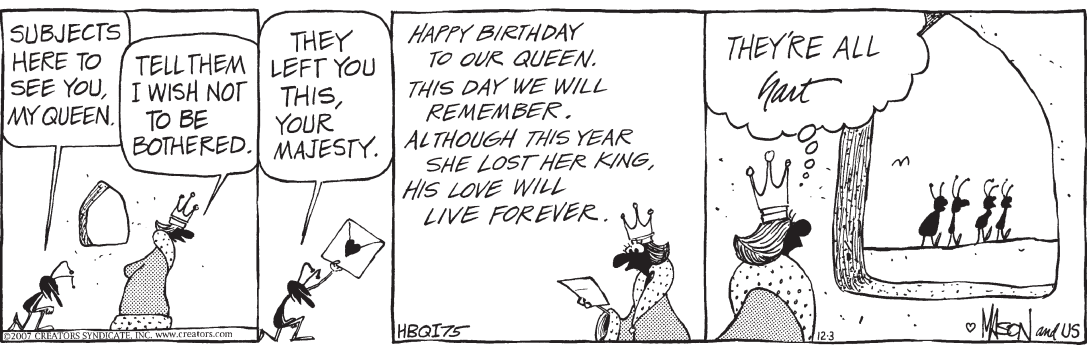
HAGAR



BLONDIE



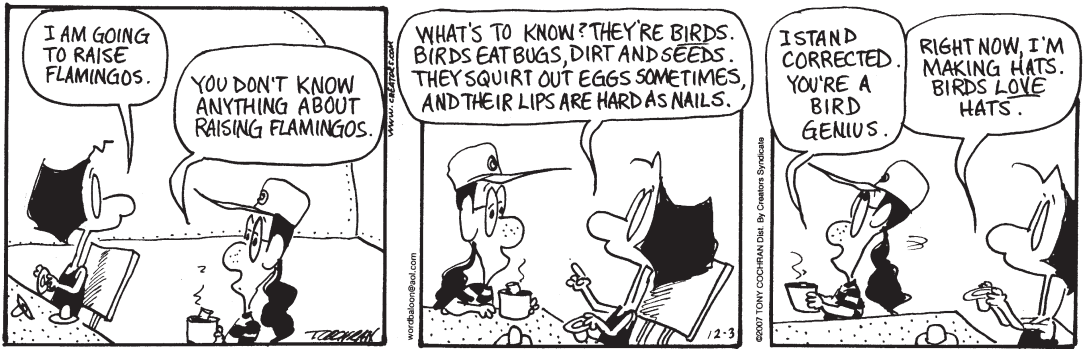
BC



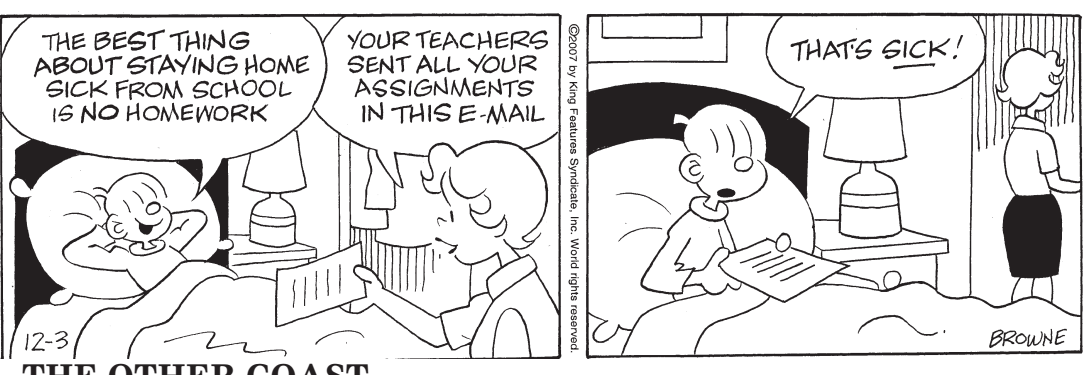
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



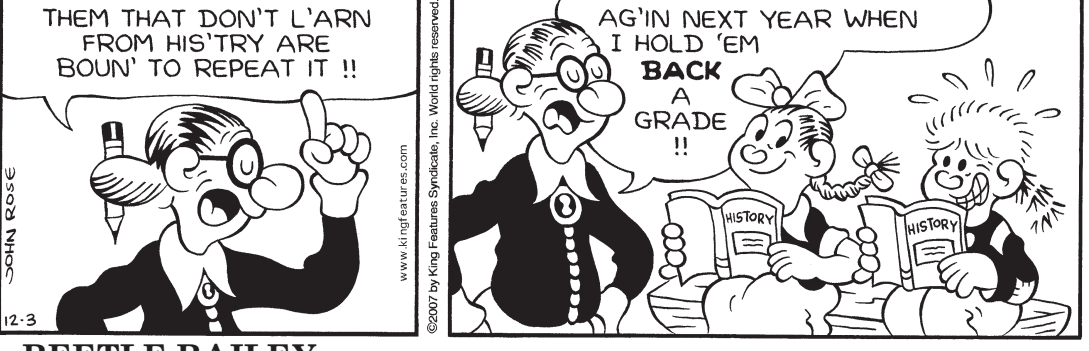
HI AND LOIS



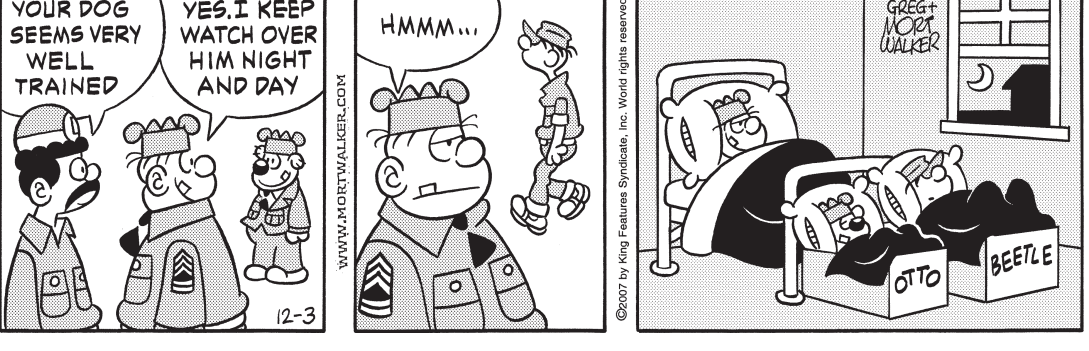
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press Today is Monday, Dec. 3, the 337th day of 2007. There are 28 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 3, 1967, surgeons in Cape Town, South Africa, led by Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first human heart transplant on Louis Washkansky, who lived 18 days with the new heart. On this date: In 1818, Illinois was admitted as the 21st state. In 1828, Andrew Jackson was elected president of the United States by the Electoral College. In 1857, English novelist Joseph Conrad was born in

Berdychiv, Poland. In 1925, "Concerto in F," by George Gershwin, had its world premiere at New York's Carnegie Hall, with Gershwin himself at the piano. In 1947, the Tennessee Williams play "A Streetcar Named Desire" opened on Broadway. In 1953, the musical "Kismet" opened on Broadway. In 1960, the musical "Camelot" opened on Broadway. In 1967, the 20th Century Limited, the famed luxury train, completed its final run from New York to Chicago. In 1979, 11 people were killed in a crush of fans at Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum, where the British rock group The Who was performing. In 1984, thousands of peo-

ple died after a cloud of methyl isocyanate gas escaped from a pesticide plant operated by a Union Carbide subsidiary in Bhopal, India.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ferlin Husky is 82. Singer Andy Williams is 80. Movie director Jean-Luc Godard is 77. Singer Jaye P. Morgan is 76. Actress Mary Alice is 66. Rock singer Ozzy Osbourne is 59. Actress Heather Menzies is 58.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words: STOP, MARAT, CAST, NANA, GLOBE, ALPO, ABEL, MODERATION, ROSIN, NEFERTITI, LOOSEY, GOOSEY, WAVE, RAN, SPA, CONDENSAT, TENAM, AHME, SUDAN, PEPE, GNASH, SISYPHEAN, YON, OFT, PEER, HEARTS, DESIRE, AFTERCARE, LINUS, HAIR, SALONS, AGTS, AMMO, DITSY, NATE, BEES, EASED, STYX

Newsday Crossword

RHYME TIME by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 60 Nation north of Chile 61 Sandwich cookie 62 Honeydew, for one 63 Manuscript enclosure: Abbr. 64 Butterfly catchers 65 Software purchasers DOWN 1 That woman's 2 Jai 3 Crooned 4 Formerly 5 Slightly less than a dozen 6 Inexperienced in 7 Actor Baldwin 8 Plummeted 9 Despite the fact that 10 Piece of the action 11 Business-district thoroughfare, often 12 Ye \_\_\_ Shoppe 13 Attendee 21 Irish dance 22 Peculiar 24 Assembled from a kit 26 Embarrassing mistake 27 Roundish shapes 28 Ungracious players 29 Touches down bugs 32 \_\_\_ once (suddenly) 33 Like old bread 35 Flamingo's color 36 Glue and rubber cement 38 Have trust in 39 Make, as a salary 44 Shade tree 45 Portion of butter 47 Copy of a magazine 48 Mexican coins 49 Navigation references 50 Creative thought 51 Blaze 52 Mile fractions 54 White as a sheet 55 Aroma 56 Family rooms 59 Australian bird

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-65 indicating starting positions for words.



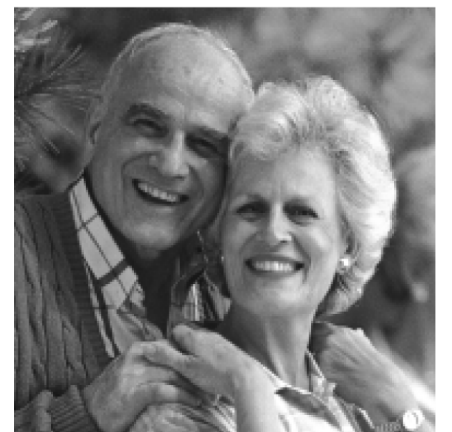
**Clockwise from top left:** Members of the local Red Hat Ladies wave to the judges; children and adults alike topped this Alon USA float; a woman gets into the holiday spirit atop the entry from local business Kokopelli's; holiday angels show their spirit on the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home float, which won the commercial division; and these Big Spring Steers cheerleaders wave to the masses gathered along Gregg Street.

Photos by Thomas Jenkins



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**Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS**  
-Hosted by-  
**First Bank of West Texas - Scurry Branch**  
607 S. Scurry  
**Tuesday, December 4, 2007**  
**7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.**  
Door Prizes \* Bring a Guest \* Bring Your Business Card  
Business Before Hours is a program specifically designed to encourage networking and to showcase sponsors.  
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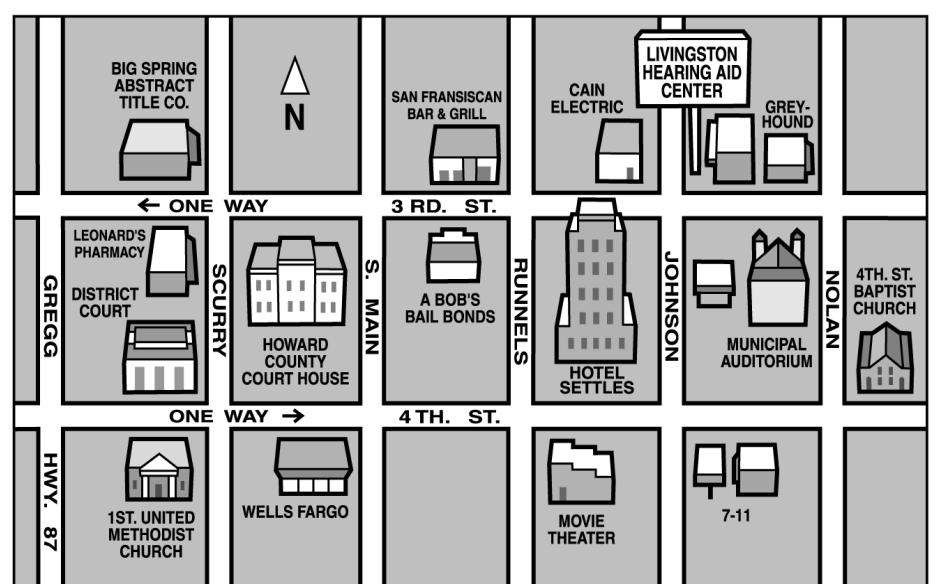
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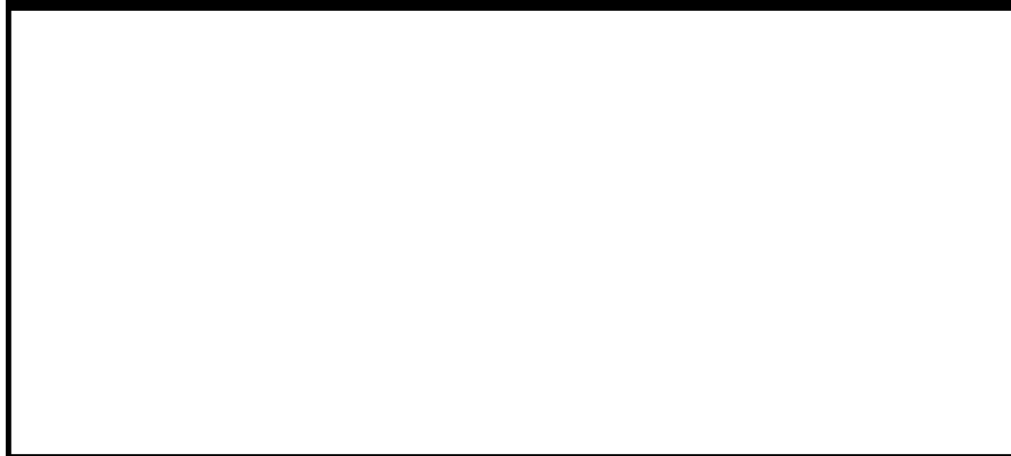
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# Hear the Sounds of the Season.

## HEARING LOSS PUTS A STRAIN ON FAMILIES DURING THE HOLIDAYS

While the holidays bring joy for families, it can also be a rude awakening to adult children that their parents are getting older and that the sensory or physical capabilities may have deteriorated. Half of those 65 and older have diminished capabilities; of those only 20% actually seek help. Some family members with hearing loss may become angry or even withdrawn from the family.

With recent advancements in hearing aids, some are actually invisible. Screaming, turning the television up loud or asking people to constantly repeat themselves is a lot more noticeable than hearing aids.

This holiday season give your loved one or yourself the gift of hearing better again. Don't miss a single word this holiday.

Happy Holidays from Beltone Hearing Care Center.

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For as long as you own your Beltone hearing aids, you're eligible to receive complimentary follow up instrument care at any of the more than 1,800 Beltone offices and service centers nationwide. The Lifetime Care program includes a 6-point hearing instrument checkup.

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- Clean and adjust the battery contacts.
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