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BIG SPRING

HERALD

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 5, 2007



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Local races draw more candidates

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Local political party officials added three more names to the roster of hopefuls vying for Howard County offices in the March primaries, as the race to beat the Jan. 2 filing deadline begins.

The race for the Precinct 3 seat on the Howard County

Commissioner's Court saw two new candidates file, as Winston Pachal Odom and Dick Dubose threw their hats in the ring, joining candidate Jimmie Wayne Long.

Long is currently the only Republican candidate who has filed for the post, as incumbent Bill Crooker has announced he will not seek re-election. Crooker will end a 40-year run

as county commissioner when he steps down. If no other Republican candidates file, Long could bypass the March primaries and concentrate solely on the November election.

Both Odom and Dubose will be running on the Democratic ticket, assuring at least one race in March.

Odom said he decided to run for the office because he feels

he has a lot to offer the county. "It looks like there are going to be a lot of changes in the commissioner's court in the next four years, and I felt like I could offer something," said Odom. "We need fiscal responsibility in the coming years. I don't have a particular ax to grind, but I feel like I can help out."

Dubose, who ran for the same

office four years ago and failed to garner his party's support, could not be reached for comment at the time of this report.

The race for sheriff also saw some action Tuesday, as Charles Gary Morgan filed to run, pitting him against former Big Spring Police Department officer Stan Parker, who filed out.

See **Candidates**, Page 3A

Symphonic Christmas

Symphony's holiday salute drawing closer

Special to the Herald

*"I played my best for Him
Pa rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
Then He smiled at me
Pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum."*

"A Symphonic Christmas"
Saturday, Dec. 15,
8 p.m.
Big Spring Municipal Auditorium
E. Third and Nolan

The touching story of "The Little Drummer Boy" is just one of the musical delights to be expected when the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra presents "A Symphonic Christmas" Dec. 15 in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

Set to begin at 8 p.m., the orchestra will play a variety of Christmas favorites — sacred and secular.

"We want to make this the musical highlight of your holiday season," said music director and conductor Dr. Keith Graumann.

Featured performers will be the Coahoma Choir Kids under the direction of Sandra Wallace and special guest

vocalist Dann Coakwell, tenor. The audience will also be featured as they will be invited to sing along with the orchestra on two medleys of familiar Christmas carols.

According to Graumann, the orchestra will entertain with well-known pieces including "Silver Bells," "Carol of the Bells," "The Little Drummer Boy" and "I'll be Home for Christmas."

Coakwell will perform "Ev'ry Valley" from Handel's "Messiah," as well as popular tunes such as the "Christmas

See **SYMPHONY**, Page 3A



HERALD file photo
First Church of the Nazarene's annual Christmas Drive-Through Nativity will be held for the 21st straight year beginning Friday. The event runs through Sunday. Admission is free, although donations will be accepted.

Story of Christ Nativity enters 21st year

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Texas' biggest — and many would say best — live drive-through nativity takes a bow for the 21st year this week.

The First Church of the Nazarene's annual Christmas Drive-Through

Nativity, featuring almost 20 scenes from the life of Jesus Christ, will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday at the church, located at 1400 Lancaster.

The event began in 1987 with only

See **NATIVITY**, Page 6A

Luminaria to light up holidays

Annual event set Thursday on college campus

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Howard College's annual Christmas Luminaria ceremony is about more than just a bunch of pretty lights.

To be sure, there will be plenty of those — hundreds of luminarias will decorate the Birdwell Lane campus Thursday night — but there will be plenty of other family activities planned for the evening.

From Santa Claus to Christmas carols to a band concert — and even a pair of basketball games — there is a bit of something for everyone, organizers said.

"We call this Howard College's Christmas gift to the community," said Susie Teeters, administrative assistant to the dean of students. "This is a way for us to say thank you and give something back to the community. It also gives an opportunity for our students to have a little bit of home on campus."

The evening begins at

See **LUMINARIA**, Page 3A

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www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:
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.



WINTER FESTIVAL SET

Big Spring Independent School District will have its best young vocalists on display when it holds its second annual Winter Festival at 7 p.m. Thursday in the municipal auditorium.

Vocal groups from all five elementary schools and Goliad Intermediate will perform during the concert, which is free to the public.

Darrell Ryan, director of federal programs for the school district, said each group will perform three songs during the concert, which should last about an hour.

"This should be an evening of Christmas music that everyone should enjoy," Ryan said.


VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Clem Jones has been selected as the Hangar 25 Air Museum Veteran of the Month for December.

A reception in his honor will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11 in the museum's Briefing Room.

The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact the museum at 264-1999.



20 Shopping Days Til Christmas

"I'll just put my list online this year."



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432-213-0909

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
Wednesday, December 5, 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. today 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 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:

THURS.-SAT.

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.

FRIDAY

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.

DEC. 14

Big Spring girls basketball vs. Clyde, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan boys and girls basketball at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma girls basketball vs. Stamford, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma boys basketball at Pecos, 7:30 p.m.

Steers rally past Greenwood, 74-66

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

GREENWOOD — Big Spring's Steers faced their biggest challenge Tuesday night since their season-opening loss to Abilene Wylie Nov. 13.

The Midland Greenwood Rangers pushed the Steers for three quarters. Although the Steers led for most of the game, the Rangers didn't allow Big Spring to jump out to more than a 7-point lead until the fourth period.

Jason Walker and Jerrell Williams led the charge for Big Spring in the final stanza, driving the Steers to a 74-66 victory.

Walker finished the game with 22 points, but spent two periods on the bench with foul trouble. However, Big Spring surrendered the lead just once without

its top scorer.

"Greenwood played hard, but we did, too," Coach Marc Morris said. "We had to overcome some adversity. We've been talking about how good Jason is in the papers and then he's suddenly on the bench with fouls. The team played hard and put forth a great effort to win this game."

Terrance Clemons had 20 points with most of them coming with Walker on the bench. Williams finished with 14 points.

"Everybody knows that Jason is going to score, but he's not our only weapon," Morris said. "Terrance can score. Tyrone (Clemons) can score. Sidney (Parker) can hit some layups. Lance (Gross) can hit an open three. Jerrell is great at driving the lane. We have a lot of guys that can make shots. Jason has to touch the ball, but we didn't

miss a beat when he was on the bench. We can play without him if we have to."

The Steers led by three, 36-33, at the half, but Greenwood trimmed the deficit to one point by the end of the third period, 45-44.

Greenwood converted a 2-point field goal into three points after a foul was called on Big Spring during the shot with 4:04 left in the game, taking a 54-53 lead. It was the Rangers first lead since the opening period.

However, it was short lived as the Steers battled back and led 61-58 with 2:29 left in regulation. That's when Walker and Williams took over the game.

Williams made the first and missed the second on a trip to the foul line. Unfortunately for Greenwood, Walker, who played the entire fourth period with

four fouls, skied for the rebound and was fouled on the way up. He converted both free throw attempts and then took advantage of a Steers' turnover by dunking over two Rangers, putting Big Spring up 66-60 with 1:41 left in the game.

From there, the Steers were gold at the free throw line as they finished 21 of 29 from the charity stripe on the night. Morris said the Steers are fortunate to have a lot of good shooters on the team.

"We don't spend a lot of time on free throws. It's part of our daily routine to practice, but we don't put an extra emphasis on it," Morris explained. "We're blessed to have a lot of players with a good shooting touch. I don't think you can make a big deal

See STEERS, Page 2B

Lady Steers' fall to Midland High, 91-23

Big Spring still looking for first win of season

Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — Big Spring's Lady Steers trailed, 3-2, early in their matchup with the Midland High Lady Bulldogs after Abbi Lloyd hit a field goal.

Sadly, the game got out of hand from there as the game was essentially over after the first minute of play.

Midland responded to Lloyd's jumper with a 24-0 run en route to a 91-23 win over Big Spring. Midland scored five layups and set up several other easy shots with steals during the run, giving Midland an early 27-2 advantage.

Things only got worse from there. The Lady Bulldogs used a full-court press that has given the Lady Steers problems all season. Big Spring committed 38 turnovers, but took only 31 shots.

All 13 of Midland's players scored by the end of third period with Marquessa Shelby and Paris Webb leading with 10 apiece. The Lady Bulldogs got 55 points from their bench.

Midland led 34-4 at the end of the first and extended that lead to 49 points at the half, 57-8. The Lady Bulldogs took their foot off the gas some in the second half, working on setting up their offense instead.

Still, the Lady Steers couldn't solve the Lady Bulldogs' defense as they mustered just 15 points in the second half, compared to 34 for Midland.

Katy Tompkins led Big Spring with seven points, converting all three of her shot attempts and one free throw. Abbi Lloyd and Andrea Claxton each finished with four.

The Lady Steers continue their search for the season's first victory as they take part in the Clyde Tournament beginning Thursday.

Big Spring 4 4 7 8—23

Midland 34 23 17 17—91

Big Spring: Abbi Lloyd 4, Kenzie Hunt 3, Andrea Claxton 4, Katie Tompkins 7, Linzee Yarbar 2, Clarissa Carrisalez 1, Callie Partee 2.

Midland: Zeslie Johnson 6, Rachel Forrester 7, Marquessa Shelby 10, Chelsea Hudson 7, Avian Brown 6, Marquessa Collins 8, Paris Webb 10, Lauren Unger 8, Kelsey Hoppel 9, Whitney Barrett 7, Dreamika Merchant 5, Brittany Koehl 6, Kaitlin Miller 2.

Boys' basketball

Coahoma 58,

Grape Creek 36

GRAPE CREEK — Coahoma's Bulldogs led by just three points at the half, despite scoring 21 points in the opening stanza.

Grape Creek's defense stifled the Bulldogs in the second period, holding Coahoma to just eight

See AREA, Page 4B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Big Spring's Abbi Lloyd dribbles past a Midland High Lady Bulldogs' defender in the Lady Steers' 91-23 loss Tuesday night in Midland.

Bufs stay perfect, beat Borden County

Forsan girls' comeback falls short, fall to Lady Coyotes, 43-38

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

Forsan's Buffaloes have had no trouble moving from the gridiron to the hardwood.

The Forsan Buffaloes and Lady Buffaloes basketball teams traveled to Borden County Tuesday night, looking to improve on what is already a promising season.

In boys' varsity action, the Bufs easily cruised past the Coyotes to remain unbeaten at 5-0 with a 40-point win, 74-34.

Adam Bailey chalked up another double-double to lead the Bufs, scoring 20 points and grabbing 11 rebounds.

Three other Bufs scored in double digits with Jeremy Robbins adding 16 points while Cameron Parker and Nathan Atkerson each had 10. Robbins also had five steals and Blake Grantham hauled in 11

rebounds.

"We got off to a quick start and our pressure and transition bothered them a little early on," said Forsan Head Coach Terry McDonald. "We will need to be mentally and physically ready for this weekend's tournament. We will see three good teams in a row."

The Buffaloes tip off again this Thursday in the Borden County Tournament against Meadow at 5 pm.

On the ladies side, the Lady Bufs' varsity team fell just short of making the sweep against Borden County, losing 43-38.

The Lady Bufs' 2-5 record is not indicative of their toughness in games this year and Lady Bufs' Head Coach Robert Hillger said he feels like things are coming together for his team.

"We got off to a slow start tonight and dug ourselves into a 13-point hole at halftime, 22-9,"

said Hillger. "In the second half, we came out firing on all cylinders showing we really have a lot of fight in us. Everyone from top to bottom is contributing in some way every night as we continue to work toward district."

Amanda Longorio came away with a huge night, scoring 18 points and pulling down 18 boards for the double-double. Sandi Golleher scored 11 points and had nine assists.

Hillger praised the defensive effort of Tori Gauer as she held who he feels was Borden County's best shooter to just four points on the night and added six points and five rebounds of her own.

Notes: The Lady Bufs' junior varsity extended its record to a perfect 7-0 on the season, taking care of the Lady Coyotes, 39-17.

Head coach Gary Huckabee said a fast start and excellent team play was the key to shut-

ting down Borden County.

The Lady Bufs never trailed as they jumped out to a 13-0 lead in the first period and a 17-6 half-time margin.

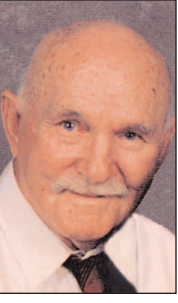
Brittney Roemer led all scorers with 14 points and had four rebounds. Kelsey Jones came away with four steals and chipped in 10 points to help the ladies get the win. Morgan Forshee added seven points on the night.

The Forsan boys' junior varsity team also came away with a win, beating Borden County in overwhelming fashion, 47-18.

Evan Burton lead the way, scoring 13 points while Riley Wood and Kolten Self each had eight. Head coach Brad Batla said he was very pleased with the overall team effort from his squad.

Obituaries

Robert E. 'Bob' 'Mac' McClure



Robert E. "Bob" "Mac" McClure, 93, of Big Spring died Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007, at the Grace Fellowship Church of God with his step grandson, the Rev. John Conger, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

He was born Dec. 20, 1913, in Millersview and married Aubrey Mae Riggins Weatherby Aug. 5, 1992, in Big Spring.

Mr. McClure was proud of his service in the United States Army during World War II and had spent time as a prisoner of war. He was an avid gardener and had done landscaping for many people through the years. He loved to fish, work on small engine projects, visit with friends and being involved in his church. He especially enjoyed his children and grandchildren. He was a member of Grace Fellowship Church of God.

Survivors include his wife, Aubrey Mae Weatherby McClure of Big Spring; three daughters and sons-in-law, Carolyn and Chris Carter, Gracie and David Dolan and Bobbie and Lloyd Waltenbaugh, all of Big Spring; four step children, Ruby Payne and Fred Weatherby, both of Big Spring, Luther Weatherby and wife, Joyce, of Angleton, and Brenda Robertson and husband, Gene, of Lake Brownwood; a sister, Jeanette Wolfman of Lovington, N.M.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Fay McClure; his parents; and several brothers and sisters.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Stella L. Arnold



Stella L. Arnold, 78, of Big Spring, died Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Ralph Anderson, minister of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born April 3, 1929, in Big Spring and married Cecil Arnold Oct. 6, 1946, in Midland.

Mrs. Arnold was raised in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. Stella was the first woman to have the honor of retiring from the Colorado River Municipal Water District after 21 years of service.

She worked for the proposing and completion of Ivie Lake and the dam on the Colorado River. Mrs. Arnold was a charter member of the Big Spring Genealogical Society, where she served on the board for several years. She was a member of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband of 61 years, Cecil Arnold of Big Spring; a son, John "Pinky" Arnold of Big Spring; a daughter, Carla Arnold of Big Spring; three sisters, Ozelle Tynes Wright, Lenna Tynes Wyman and Mildred Vaughn, all of Big Spring; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Hunter Harold Tynes and Fisher P. Tynes; and two sisters, Frances Tynes Taylor and Geraldine Tynes Harris.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Ada Freeze Gresham



Ada Freeze Gresham, 83, of Odessa, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, 2007, at Trinity Memorial Park with Sgt. Jay Ward of the Odessa Salvation Army officiating. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Sept. 28, 1924, in Mountain View, Ark., to Beulah and Jake Mitchell. She married J.D. "Red" Gresham in 1979. He preceded her in death in 1999. She was a resident of Howard County from 1953 until 2003, when she moved to Odessa. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She is survived by four daughters, Shirley Dorries Gedney and her husband, Walter, of Odessa, Joyce Gammons and her husband, Roger, of San Angelo, Lorene Nix and her husband, Richard, of Big Spring, and Irene Wilson and her husband, Mike, of Lakeland, Fla.; three sons, Jimmie Freeze and his wife, Rae, of Abilene, Pershing "Jr." Freeze of Vaughn, Wash., and David Freeze and his wife, Victoria, of Denison; a brother, Alvie Mitchell of Mountain View, Ark.; three sisters, Betty Vonck of Kansas City, Mo., Alfa Elvin of Spring, and June Stevens of Wisconsin; and 37 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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

Charley Upton



Charley Upton, 87, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday at Trinity Baptist Church with the Rev. Randy Cotton, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Jan. 20, 1926, in Arkansas City, Kan., to Bertha and Lee Upton. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He had been a resident of Big Spring for more than 50 years.

He was a very active, long time member of Trinity Baptist Church and was especially active in the library. He was an engineer for Malone and Hogan Hospital and later Scenic Mountain Medical Center for more than 20 years. After retiring from the hospital, he worked at Jack and Jill Day Care.

He is survived by his goddaughter, Amanda Hernandez, and her children, Allison Hernandez and Aric Hernandez; two daughters, Sandy Stinnett and her husband Michael of Austin and Scharlene Paul and her husband Ron of Winterhaven, Fla.; a son, Samuel Upton and his wife Mary Sue of Roundrock; grandchildren, Jay Upton of Roundrock, Brandi Michalk and her husband Justin of Victoria, Scharlene Ladd and her husband Richard of Taylor, Terry Smith of Lampasas, Charles Smith and his wife Lisa of Austin, and Dawn Bajarona and her husband Andres of Albuquerque; and great-grandchildren, Zachary and Terrie Leigh Ladd, and Constance and Sebastian Smith.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Ed Upton; and three sisters.

Pallbearers will be Rick Daniels, Joshua Daniels, Cecil Willey, Aric Hernandez, Kaleb Willey and Garrett Willey.

The family will be at 2615 Cindy Lane. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Lou Wright

Lou Wright, 70, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Jonneal Eshleman

Jonneal Eshleman, 68, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows near 40. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the low to mid 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds around 15 mph.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 50.

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

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the upper 30s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Cooler. Highs around 50.

Monday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows around 40.

Tuesday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s.

Police blotter

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

- **JOEY MATA**, 20, of 1812 Alabama, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants.

- **ERNEST CLARK**, 67, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on charges of public intoxication, disorderly conduct - language and assault.

- **CHRISTOPHER VIERA**, 21, of 1907 S. Main, was arrested Tuesday on charges of theft, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and a Scurry County warrant.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.

- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1400 block of Tucson.

- **ASSAULT** was reported:
 - in the 800 block of Baylor.
 - in the 1200 block of Gregg Street.

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.

- **ERIC EUGENE MCINTOSH**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana.

- **ROY DWIGHT BIDDLE III**, 47, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700. Service refused.

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of 15th Street and Goliad. Two people were transported to SMMC.

Lottery

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

Winning numbers drawn: 1-4-17-18-27

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize: \$24,956.

Winning ticket sold in: La Grange.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-3-5-1. Sum It Up: 10.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-2-5. Sum It Up: 11.



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Sunday Morning 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Dallas' season to remember could be in December

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys so far have had a season to remember, with the NFC's best record and a playoff spot already secured.

Just don't forget December.

Sorry, Jerry Jones, we can't fast-forward from now to the playoffs. There is still one-fourth of the regular season remaining.

Despite the best start in franchise history at 11-1, even better than when the Cowboys won three Super Bowls in a four-year span in the 1990s, Jones still has an uneasy feeling.

That's because the calendar has turned to December, which has provided plenty of letdowns for the Cowboys since their last championship seasons.

"I am more excited about what is going to happen, without a doubt," the Cowboys owner said this week, then followed that immediately with a cautionary statement.

"Consequently, I am apprehensive about what can happen."

Since winning their last playoff game during the 1996 season, the Cowboys haven't had a winning record for regular season games played in December and early January. They are 16-29 in such games, plus the four playoff losses after losing momentum late in those seasons.

Dallas entered December 2003 with an 8-4 record in Bill Parcells' first season, then went 2-2

to miss out on the NFC East title. That also dropped the Cowboys to the sixth seed in the NFC and they lost the wildcard game.

The Cowboys reached December at 7-4 and atop the division each of the past two years. They went 2-3 both times, missing the postseason in 2005 and winding up a wildcard last season before the playoff loss at Seattle in Parcells' final game.

"We've tried to let go of the past, but one thing that we've done since I've been here is just faltered," linebacker Bradie James said. "We've nose-dived in December."

Another December collapse won't keep the Cowboys out of the playoffs this season. Plus, with one more victory, or a loss by the New York Giants, Dallas clinches its first NFC East title since 1998.

The Cowboys don't even need a winning month to match the franchise record of 13 victories. A 2-2 record would accomplish that and Green Bay (10-2) would then have to win the rest of its games to take away home-field advantage through the NFC playoffs.

"With each win, the confidence grows," safety Roy Williams said. "We just can't get too relaxed."

Being rested and mentally fresh is another thing. That should be easier to accomplish since the overbearing Parcells is no longer running things.

That should make a huge difference this December.

With Parcells, the

Cowboys seemed worn down and had already peaked by the time they got to the closing stretch each season. Still, the coach kept pushing, and pushing.

Coach Wade Phillips' easygoing approach has created a different feel on the practice field and in the locker room. Players are at ease, working hard and seemingly ready to change how they've ended previous seasons.

"We're still trying to get that pot of gold," said linebacker Greg Ellis, who was part of three consecutive 11-loss seasons in Dallas. "We want to keep this thing going."

After the Cowboys beat Green Bay in the showdown of 10-1 teams Thursday, the players got a three-day weekend in which Phillips "didn't expect anything football-wise. Just told them to relax and whatever they wanted to do, within limits."

When the players returned to Valley Ranch on Monday, they had only a short walkthrough practice that mainly stressed fundamentals.

Dallas has a six-game winning streak since a 48-27 home loss in mid-October to New England, still the NFL's only undefeated team after an incredible escape Monday night at Baltimore.

Receiver Patrick Crayton virtually guaranteed a Super Bowl for the Cowboys after the loss to the Patriots, when he said the day after, "If they get to Arizona, we will see them again."



AP photo
Dallas Cowboys' running back is upended by the Jets' Hank Poteat in action from earlier this season. The Cowboys hope their season won't be upended in December in a repeat performance of last year's final month of the year.

See **DALLAS**, Page 4B

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2007 Ford Focus ZX4 SE - Liquid Gray/Cloth, All Power, CD/MP3, Remote Keyless, Only 18,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2007 Ford Focus ZX4 SE - Cloud 9 White/Cloth, All Power, CD/MP3, Remote Keyless. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2007 Ford Focus ZX4 SE - Pearl White/Cloth, All Power, CD/MP3, Remote Keyless. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2007 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - White w/Tan Leather, All Power, 6 Disc CD, Heated Seats, Nice Car, Like New, 16,000 Miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**

2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2-3-4 Cyl., 12,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$18,995**

2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Dark Red, Gray Leather, 3.0, V-6, Moonroof, All Power, 12,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,870. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**

***** CARS *****

2007 Lincoln Town Car Signature LTD - Vibrant White w/Lt. Camel Leather, All Power, Fully Loaded, Power Moon roof, 6 CD In Dash Player, Only 16,000 Miles. **Was \$48,075** **NOW \$29,995**

2007 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Vibrant White w/Lt. Camel Leather, All Power, Fully Loaded, Power Moon roof, 6 CD In Dash Player, Only 17,000 Miles. **Was \$48,075** **NOW \$29,995**

2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/32,000 Miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**

2006 Ford Mustang V6 - Satin Silver w/Black Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Power Seats, Low Miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**

2005 Ford Five Hundred Limited - Dark Gray w/Tan Leather, Automatic, 6 disc MP3, Moonroof, Locally Owned. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2005 Ford Five Hundred Limited - Dark Gray w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD, MP3 Player, Heated Seats, All Power, Only 23,000 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2005 Nissan Altima 2.5S - White w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Automatic, 35,000 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2005 Toyota Matrix Wago XR - Dk. Green w/Dk. Gray Cloth, All Power, In Dash 6 Disc CD Player, Low Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**

2005 Nissan 350E Touring - White w/Tan Leather, Fully Loaded, All Power, Like New, Only 4,800 Miles. **Was \$26,995** **NOW \$25,995**

2004 Mercedes-Benz LK C240 - Gold w/Tan Leather, Woodgrain, Moonroof, Heated Seats, 6 Disc CD, Loaded, Only 42,000 Miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$22,995**

2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Dark Red w/Tan Leather, CD Player, Heated Seats, Like New, Low Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2004 Ford Mustang V6 Convertible - Black w/Tan leather, CD Player, Like New, One owner, Only 19,685 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2004 Ford Thunderbird Convertible - Silver w/Black Leather, Loaded, One Owner, 2 Tops, Only 20,800 Miles. **Was \$27,995** **NOW \$26,995**

2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Lt Tan w/Tan Leather, Loaded, CD Player, Nice Car. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2004 Ford Taurus LX - Tan w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Nice Clean Car, Local Owner. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$8,995**

2004 Oldsmobile Alero - Silver w/Gray Cloth, Low Miles, All Power, Local One Owner. **Was \$8,995** **NOW \$7,995**

2004 Nissan Altima 2.5S - Gold w/Gray Cloth, Like New, Local One Owner, Only 27,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**

2004 Ford Mustang - Black w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., 5 Speed, All Power, Local One Owner w/23,000 Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**

2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Skylight, Local On Owner w/65,000 Miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$21,995**

2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver Metallic w/Leather, All Power, Skylight w/41,000 Miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$21,995**

2004 Ford Focus ZTS 4-DR - Silver w/Black Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$11,945**

2004 Chevrolet Monte Carlo LS - Gold w/Black Cloth, All Power, Nice Car, CD Player, Only 44,000 Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,945**

2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - Tri White w/Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, Only 30,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**

2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - Tri White w/Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, In Dash CD Player, Only 32,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**

2003 Ford Taurus SES - Light Blue, w/Cloth, Extra Clean, Automatic, All Power. **Was \$10,995** **NOW \$9,995**

2003 Honda Civic LT - Gold w/Black Cloth, Low Miles, Automatic, All Power. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**

2003 Ford Escort ZX2 - Black w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, Great Gas Car. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$8,995**

2002 Honda Accord Special Edition Coupe - White, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$12,995**

2002 Ford Focus ZX5 - Silver, w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, 39,000 Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW \$10,995**

2002 Chevrolet Cavalier - Blue w/Gray Cloth, Like New, One Owner, Only 38,000 Miles. **Was \$10,995** **NOW \$9,995**

***** TRUCKS *****

2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - White w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Like New, Bedliner, Only 19,000 Miles. **Was \$27,995** **NOW \$24,995**

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 5.4 V8 - Oxford White, w/OK Flint Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Like New, Bedliner, Only 16,000 Miles. **MSRP \$31,665** **NOW \$24,995**

2005 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado 4X4 - White w/Gray Leather, Crew Cab, CD Player, One Owner, All Power. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**

2005 Ford F-150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, V-8, Air, Automatic, Local One Owner w/60,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**

2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, Local One Owner. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2005 Ford F350 Crew Cab V-10 - Like New, w/Leather, One Owner, Like New, Very Nice, Ready To Be Sold. **Was \$27,995** **NOW \$26,995**

2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Like New, All Power, Like New, One Owner, Low Miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$16,995**

2004 Nissan Frontier Crewcab XE - White w/Gray Cloth, In Dash CD Player, All Power, Only 23,000 Miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$16,995**

2001 Ford F250 Supercab XLT 5.4 L V8 - White w/Gray Cloth, Nice Truck, One Owner, All Power. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**

2000 Ford F350 DRW 7.3L Diesel - Black Gold w/Tan Leather, Lariat, 6 Disc In Dash, One Owner. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**

***** SUVS & VANS *****

2007 Ford Explorer XLT 4X2 - Redfire w/Lt. Stone Cloth, Fold Flat, 3rd Seat, Comfort Group, Cd MP3 Player. **MSRP \$28,115** **NOW \$23,995**

2007 Ford Escape XLT - Titanium Gold w/Black Cloth, Power Seat, Alarm, Privacy Glass, 12,000 Miles. **Was \$23,130** **NOW \$17,995**

2007 Ford Expedition XLT - Oxford White w/Black Cloth, Rear Air, Fold Flat Third Row, Like New, 12,000 Miles. **MSRP \$31,225** **NOW \$26,995**

2007 Ford E350 15 Pass. XLT 5.4 - Pueblo Gold w/Pebble Cloth, Remote Keyless Ent/Panic Alarm, Only 12,000 Miles. **Was \$32,350** **NOW \$22,995**

2007 Ford F350 15 Pass. XLT 5.4 - White w/Gray Cloth, Remote Keyless, Panic Alarm, Only 20,000 Miles. **MSRP \$32,350** **NOW \$22,995**

2006 Nissan Xterra XE - Red w/Gray Cloth, Like New, One Owner, CD Player, Only 13,900 Miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**

Ford Expedition XLT 4X4 - Silver w/Gray Leather, All Power, One Owner, Nice, Low Miles. **Was \$21,995** **NOW \$20,995**

2005 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Nice SUV, 44,000 Miles. **Was \$27,995** **NOW \$25,995**

2004 Nissan Xterra XE - Gold w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Super Clean, Only 19,024 Miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Gold/Tan Cloth, All Power, One Owner, CD Player, Only 28,000 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**

2004 Nissan Murano SE - Silver w/Black Leather, Heated Seats, All Power, Moonroof, Only 23,000 Miles. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**

2004 Nissan Quest 3.5 SL - Gold w/Black Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Heated Seats, Only 30,000 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$16,995**

2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/35,000 Miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$16,995**

2004 Ford Explorer XLT - Silver w/Gray Cloth., 3rd Row, All Power, 4-Dr., One Owner, 23,000 Miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**

2004 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT - Green w/Tan Cloth, All Power, One Owner, CD Player, Nice SUV. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**

2004 Honda CRV 4WD - White w/Gray Cloth, Nice SUV, Like New, One Owner. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**

2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$18,995**

2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/81,000 Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$14,995**

1999 GMC Suburban LT - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned, Over 100K Miles. **Was \$11,995** **NOW 9,995**

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SYMPHONY

Continued from Page 1A

Song” and “Christmas Waltz.”

“I have asked Mr. Coakwell to also demonstrate his vocal prowess to us on two short arias by Mozart and Rossini,” said Graumann. “Mr. Coakwell is truly a great popular music entertainer, but I think the audience will also really enjoy hearing how accomplished he is as a classical musician.”

The Coahoma Choir

Kids will sing “On This Still, Silent Night,” “The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy” and “Shepherd’s Pipe Carol” accompanied by the full orchestra. They will also sing an unaccompanied version of “Non Nobis Pacem.”

“Mrs. Wallace is a wonderful music teacher. I am always impressed with how well her students are prepared and how truly good they sound. Besides, no Christmas Concert would be complete without a choir, and particularly a children’s choir as fabulous as the Coahoma

Choir Kids,” said Graumann.

Rounding out the evening will be a rendition of “O, Holy Night,” performed by one of the Permian Basin’s favorite sopranos, Joyce Bradley.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students and are available at Blum’s Jewelers, Faye’s Flowers, First Bank of West Texas (all locations), Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, *Big Spring Herald*, and at the door.

“A Symphonic Christmas” is sponsored by Alon USA.

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

CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 1A

his candidacy Monday.

Morgan, the director of environmental services for the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, said he’s been around law enforcement officials all his life.

“My grandfather was a police officer for 38 years,” said Morgan. “His brother was a constable in Georgia for 40 years. So I’ve been around law enforcement officers ever since I can remember.”

Morgan said he doesn’t have any law enforcement experience, but more than makes up for that with his life’s experience.

“If I can train soldiers in the Army, I bet I can do the same with the sheriff’s office,” said Morgan, who was stationed at Fort Benning for three years. “I have a college education, and I feel like I could do a good job as sheriff.”

Incumbent Dale Walker said Monday he plans to run for re-election, but hasn’t yet filed. Walker has run as a Democrat in both of his past elections.

Howard County Tax Collector and Assessor Kathy Sayles and Justice of the Peace Bennie Green both filed for re-election on the

Republican ticket, according to Margarita Durand-Hollis, party chairman.

Democratic Party Chairman Ro Gore said Wednesday morning County Attorney Mike Thomas also filed for re-election.

Other positions up for election during the March primaries and November election are constable Precincts 1 and 2, district attorney and several state and federal offices.

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

LUMINARIA

Continued from Page 1A

6 p.m. with the arrival of Santa Claus at the “Seven Oaks” section of the campus, located approximately halfway between the student union building

and the performing arts center.

Aside from letting children present Santa with their Christmas wish list, the college will also provide a free Frito pie dinner to all attendees. Hot chocolate will be provided free of charge.

Adding to the holiday spirit will be Christmas carols sung by Howard College’s New Dimension group, followed by the HC student band presenting a free concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Hall Performing Arts Center.

Also on tap that evening will be a pair of college basketball games. Howard College’s women will face Frank Phillips College at 5:30 p.m., followed by the men’s game at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free to anyone providing a canned food item.

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Ada Gresham, 83, died Saturday. Graveside Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Charley Upton, 87, died Tuesday. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday at Trinity Baptist Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jonneal Eshleman, 68, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Texas Schoolboy Playoff Pairings

CLASS 5A
DIVISION I
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

Eules Trinity (12-1) vs. Arlington Bowie (12-1), 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium

Region II
QUARTERFINAL
Dallas Skyline (12-1) vs. Plano (12-1), 2 p.m., Saturday, Mesquite's Memorial Stadium

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Fort Bend Hightower (10-3) vs. Galena Park North Shore (13-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, Rice Stadium

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Converse Judson (9-4) vs. SA Reagan (11-2), 4 p.m., Saturday, Alamodome

DIVISION II
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

Abilene (12-1) vs. Lewisville Hebron (11-2), 1 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium, Irving

Region II
QUARTERFINAL
Pflugerville (10-3) vs. Longview (12-1), 1 p.m., Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Fort Bend Clements (13-0) vs. Katy (13-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Rice Stadium

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Smithson Valley (12-1)

vs. SA Madison (12-1), 2 p.m., Saturday, Alamodome

CLASS 4A
DIVISION I
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Aledo (11-2) vs. Copperas Cove (11-2), 7 p.m. Saturday, Baylor's Floyd Casey Stadium

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Rosenberg Lamar (11-2) vs. New Braunfels (13-0), 7 p.m., Saturday, Texas State's Bobcat Stadium

DIVISION II
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

WF Rider (12-1) vs. Everman (13-0), 8 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Dayton (10-3) vs. Waller (10-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Cypress' Berry Stadium

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Lake Travis (12-1) vs. Beeville (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Alamodome

CLASS 3A
DIVISION I
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Abilene Wylie (11-2) vs. Gilmer (13-0), 6 p.m.,

Saturday, Birdville Athletic Complex

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Liberty Hill (12-0) vs. Pleasanton (11-2), 8 p.m., Saturday, Alamodome

DIVISION II
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

Snyder (11-2) vs. Vernon (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Shotwell Stadium, Abilene

Region II
QUARTERFINAL
Celina (13-0) vs. Glen Rose (9-3), 4 p.m. Saturday, Justin Northwest

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Waco LaVega (13-0) vs. China Spring (12-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Waco's Floyd Casey Stadium

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Cuero (11-2) vs. Palacios (10-3), 7 p.m., Friday, Victoria Memorial Stadium

CLASS 2A
DIVISION I
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Early (10-3) vs. Farmersville (11-2), 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Tatum (12-1) vs. Salado (13-0), 6 p.m., Saturday, Corsicana's Tiger Stadium

DIVISION II
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

Canadian (13-1) vs. Idalou (13-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Kimbrough Memorial Stadium, Canyon

Region II
QUARTERFINAL
Boyd (9-4) vs. Cisco (13-0), 2 p.m., Saturday, Graham

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Elysian Fields (12-1) vs. Arp (10-3), 7:30 p.m., Friday, Gladewater

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Refugio (13-0) vs. Altair Rice (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, San Antonio's Ferris Stadium

CLASS 1A
DIVISION I
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Sunray (10-2) vs. Seymour (9-3), 6 p.m., Saturday, Lubbock's Lowery Field

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Alto (12-0) vs. Granger (12-1), 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sam Houston State, Huntsville

DIVISION II
Region I
QUARTERFINAL

Sundown (13-0) vs. Nazareth (12-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Littlefield HS

Region II

QUARTERFINAL
Munday (12-0) vs. Windthorst (6-6), 2 p.m. Saturday, Wichita Falls Memorial Stadium

Region III
QUARTERFINAL
Maud (10-2) vs. Tenaha (10-3), 7:30 p.m., Friday, Tatum

Region IV
QUARTERFINAL
Bremond (10-2) vs. Harper (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Pflugerville Connally

SIX MAN
DIVISION I
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Rankin (11-1) vs. Rule (12-0), 5 p.m. Saturday,


San Angelo Stadium, San Angelo

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Trinidad (11-1) vs. Richland Springs (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Hico

DIVISION II
Region I and II
SEMIFINAL

Jayton (9-4) vs. Matador Motley County (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Lubbock's Lowrey Field

Region III and IV
SEMIFINAL
Woodson (11-2) vs. Gustine (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Trent



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STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

out of poor free throw shooting. Then it becomes a bigger problem."

Big Spring (7-1) plays in the Midland Tall City Oilman's Tournament

beginning Friday against Midland Lee. Morris is excited about the quality of teams the Steers will face in bracket play.

"There will be an increase of competition in this tournament and that's what we need right now," Morris said.

Big Spring 23 13 9 29-74
Greenwood 20 13 11 22-66
Big Spring: Terrance Clemons 20, Lance Gross 2, Tyrone Clemons 6, Jason Walker 22, Tyler Tannehill 6, Sidney Parker 4, Jerrell Williams 14.
Greenwood: Blake McColloch 1, Willie Daines 2, Brandt Cox 2, Stacy Smith 2, Austin Ivie 17, Josh Cook 16, Nick Traylor 16, Colby Gilbert 8, K.C. Proctor 2.
Contact Sports Editor

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

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Can Food Accepted at the Concert to benefit the Salvation Army

Please help restock the shelves!

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

Contest a good reason for us all to be decorating

Big Spring decorates during the holiday season, doesn't it? Well maybe not everyone, but a great many take part. And if anyone in our community needed incentive to join in and decorate their home or business this holiday season, it is now being provided.

Boasting the Festival of Lights, the Big Spring VA Medical Center's outdoor display, and the brightly colored poinsettias adorning the dam at Comanche Trail Park and countless homes and businesses, Howard County is well known throughout West Texas as a good place to view Christmas lights.

That's why it only makes sense that we all take part in the annual Christmas Decorating Contest.

Sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, *Big Spring Herald* and KBST/KBTS, the contest has three categories: Residential, commercial and non-judged.

Best of all, it's free. That's right, there is no entry fee.

But you do need to act quickly.

Entries are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, and judging will be held Monday, Dec. 17.

Debbie ValVerde, the Chamber's executive director, says there will again be no inside judging this season — a change made during last year's contest.

Those wishing to participate can obtain an entry form at the Chamber, 215 W. Third St. For more information, call the Chamber at 263-7641.

Residential entries can choose between religious, lights only, original homemade and "other" categories. Commercial entries can pick either show windows only or lights only. Non-judged entries can be residential or commercial.

"Once again, we will have a list of everyone who enters and will compile that for the public so that they can drive by and see the lights," said ValVerde. "So, if you don't want to enter as a competitor but would like to let others know about your lighting display, enter the non-judged division and we'll all know where you are."

We hope that everyone will enter. As is the case with the annual Community Christmas Parade, we here at the *Herald* want the entire community to get involved.

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

- 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

Dear Lord, may we think of You before we leap into any situation.

Amen

Venezuelans reject Chavez dictatorship

For several years, it seemed as if the Venezuelan people had gone crazy. Over various election cycles, they gradually had given away their freedom and allowed their madcap president to rule like a vociferous tyrant.

It seemed as if we were about to witness the creation of the world's first democratically elected dictatorship.

But a funny thing happened Sunday on the way to Hugo Chavez's crowning: His final move to consolidate his Cuban-style socialist dictatorship was rejected by Venezuelan voters.

Even the Chavez-controlled election authorities had to acknowledge that voters rejected Chavez's effort to remain in power indefinitely.

They said Chavez lost by a 51 percent to 49 percent margin in a referendum that would have approved 69 amendments to the Venezuelan constitution and eliminated term limits for "el presidente."

Given the amount of cheating everyone expects the "Chavistas" to have done, the opposition probably won by a much bigger margin. Some polls had predicted Chavez would lose by as much as 20 percent! Had the "Chavistas" stolen this election, Venezuela

might have been headed for massive street violence and even civil war.

It was a slap in the face to the high and mighty Chavez, who had asked the Venezuelan people to give up their last vestiges of freedom and democracy in exchange for better worker benefits and a six-hour workday.

In effect, Chavez was buying their votes! And still, he lost.

Venezuelans realized they were being asked to create a constitutional dictatorship — with a madman at its helm — and they finally said "no mas" to Chavez's power grab.

At stake were 69 Chavez-proposed amendments that would have given him the power to suspend civil liberties, censor the media, hand-pick local leaders and basically turn Venezuela into a totalitarian police state. It also would have given him the right to run for re-election every seven years, indefinitely. Under current law, he would be barred from running after his current term expires in 2012. Yet Chavez already had announced he wanted to rule until at least 2021.

And for all that time, he was seeking unchecked power, enough to create a socialist state in which only those who support the regime are entitled to its benefits.

Apparently, this was enough to make Venezuelans step on the brakes. You would think they would have done it sooner — especially because Chavez has traveled

around the world making a fool of himself and getting into spats with other world leaders — but they finally did it! At least for the moment, they've slowed the march of the so-called "Bolivarian Revolution" that aims to unite all of Latin America as one single country, under one single socialist dictator.

But what happens next? Can the new student-driven Venezuelan opposition begin to regain the power they have lost to the "Chavistas"?

After all, "el presidente" Chavez already has gone a long way toward becoming "el dictador" Chavez. In other elections and referendums, Venezuelans already have given away protections that are not easy to retrieve.

After announcing the referendum results, Tibisay Lucena, the president of the National Electoral Council, said the process "shows the entire world that (Venezuela is) a democratic country."

Really? If the president controls the legislature, the courts, the army and most of the media, should we still call him a president because he was elected democratically? Or is he an elected dictator?

Without a system of checks and balances, at least for the next five years that Chavez still will be in power, can we really call Venezuela a democracy?

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My loyalty is just not for sale

"You saved \$5.61 with your shopper loyalty savings card!" the cashier cheerily reports, as The First Wife gets the receipt handed to her at the grocery store.

"No," I mutter under my breath. "We paid full price for everything. We would have paid even more if we didn't have your shopper surveillance card!"

The First Wife doesn't want to hear it from me anymore. My disapproval of the so-called grocery store loyalty savings cards is because they are a cancer on retailing, are anti-consumer and result in higher prices for shoppers while sacrificing the shoppers' privacy for no benefit to them.

You probably have one or more in your wallet today, and if so, you probably hand it over to be flashed through the bar code scanner at the checkout stand. The promise of lower prices in exchange for your "loyalty" to one or a few stores for your grocery shopping is an illusion.

In fact, the grocery store chains without shopper surveillance card programs are leading the industry in customer satisfaction, low prices and sales growth. The chains with the biggest surveillance card programs are losing customers, profits and market share at an alarming rate.

If you haven't thought of it before, when you use such a card, you're giving the grocer a marketer's treasure trove of highly specific data about you and your habits. Are you buying sour cream, cheese, eggs and steaks? Wouldn't that information be fascinating to your health insurer or life insurer?

Is that a case of beer and a bottle

of wine in your shopping cart this week? That bit of info could be worth a lot in a child custody or divorce case, a DUI prosecution, or again, a health care claim.

And don't think your shopping records are private under a card scheme. Shopper surveillance data has been subpoenaed, and the very existence of a privacy policy for programs like these indicates that the grocers aim to tie your personal information to your purchases and potentially to sell that information to other organizations without your consent or knowledge.

As an added defect, these shopper surveillance card schemes are expensive. Without the administrative, advertising and logistical overhead of a loyalty card program (reported by one chain in the United Kingdom to cost up to \$70 million per year), grocers without card programs can charge less and make more money doing it, since they don't have to fund the vast expense of running the card program.

Isn't it funny how the fastest-growing U.S. grocer, Wal-Mart, manages to sell more groceries than anyone else and does so at overall prices consistently lower than their competitors, and is able to achieve such efficiency without a shopper surveillance card program?

Granted, Wal-Mart collects and analyzes mountains of data from millions of transactions a day in order to operate its immense supply chain, but if you pay cash at Wal-Mart, your purchase is anonymous since there is nothing personally identifiable to tie you to what you bought. The same is not true of a cash purchase made in conjunction with a shopper surveillance card.

Funny, too, how the marketing stories supporting the need for a shopper surveillance card program change as time goes by. Years ago, a large national chain said they

didn't need a surveillance card program to offer low prices, at a time when some of their competitors were implementing such programs. After a few years, they did introduce a surveillance card of their own with great fanfare, claiming that it would lead to lower prices. Now that the same chain is in financial trouble and losing customers, its has dumped the surveillance card as a needless expense. Now it touts its everyday low price "Bonus Buys" as a competitive advantage.

Some of the nation's best and most profitable grocers are able to please customers and offer low prices without asking them to give up their privacy to a computerized registration scheme. The Publix chain, for example, has been the No. 1-ranked grocery chain for 12 years in a row, as ranked by the American Customer Satisfaction Index. Publix has never had a shopper surveillance card.

It increased its rating to a new all-time high in 2006, based on a strategy of keeping stores spotless and providing great customer service.

That sounds like a great way to encourage shopper loyalty. Chief regional rival Winn-Dixie struggles to keep up with Publix since introducing a card program some years ago.

There's a wealth of information about this subject on the Internet, of course, and it's best if you read up on it and then decide for yourself if these card programs are really something you want to sign up for. NoCards.org is a good place to start.

Personally, I like shopping at stores that deal with me honestly, without the charade of a "loyalty" program that only benefits them. My loyalty isn't for sale.

Mike Sullivan is a freelance writer from Carrollton. He can be reached by e-mail at newspapercolumnist@mac.com.

DALLAS

Continued from Page 1B

make sure they avoid frigid Lambeau Field in January.

Take care of business in December, and Dallas can play all of its NFC playoff games at home. Texas Stadium hasn't hosted a postseason game since the Cowboys beat Green Bay in the NFC championship game in January 1996 before winning their fifth Super Bowl title.

Here we are, at the part of the season that Jones was already concerned about during training camp.

"That's one of the things we've all gotten criticism over. We've habitually dropped off at the end of the year," Jones said during camp, insisting that he wasn't criticizing Parcells. "I can't blame Bill for us dropping off at the end of the year. I don't blame him. I know what he put into it and how hard he worked and how hard he

worked the players. That was a surprise."

Despite his uneasy feeling, then and even now, Jones should be comforted by the biggest difference this December: Parcells will be in a television studio instead of on the sideline.

Plus, even though it was the last NFL game played in November, Jones took the Week 13 victory over Green Bay as a positive sign.

"This starts us off right to addressing a swooning effect that we've had the last four years," Jones said in the locker room that night. "The team is mentally fresh, that ought to help us."

In December, and beyond.

Call 263-7331, ext. 237, to submit a sports item.

Taylor's shooter identified as 17-year-old

By MATT SEDENSKY

Associated Press Writer

MIAMI — The 17-year-old suspect in the death of Sean Taylor is scheduled to make his first appearance in court one day after he was accused of firing the shot that killed the Washington Redskins safety.

Eric Rivera is expected to make his first appearance in a Miami-Dade court Wednesday. A grand jury identified him as the gunman in its indictment issued Tuesday.

The indictment charges Rivera and the others — Charles Wardlow, 18; Jason Mitchell, 19; and Venjah Hunte, 20 — with first-degree felony murder and armed burglary.

Wardlow, Mitchell and Hunte were ordered held without bail during brief court appearances via a videoconference from Miami-Dade County jail. The three, who stood

silently during the hearing, will remain at the jail under suicide watch after Judge John Thornton Jr.'s ruling.

Rivera was being transported from Fort Myers to Miami-Dade on Tuesday night. One of his attorneys said the grand jury's identification of Rivera as the gunman was expected.

"This does not come as a surprise," said Sawyer Smith, who along with his father Wilbur represents Rivera.

The 24-year-old Taylor died Nov. 27, a day after he was shot in the bedroom of his home. Police have said he was a victim of a botched burglary.

"I think he's in disbelief over what occurred," Wilbur Smith said. "His expression to me was that 'I can't believe this kind of thing happened.'"

Asked how he would defend his client, Wilbur Smith said simply: "Stay

tuned."

Attorneys said the four young men were agitated. "He's very distraught," said Hunte's attorney, Michael Hornung. "He's scared."

Hornung offered glimpses of his client's possible involvement. He said Hunte was the only suspect with a valid driver's license and behind the wheel at least part of the time. He said Hunte did not have a gun and did not know his friends' plans.

"Just a bunch of friends that evening said they were going to the East Coast, and he went along," Hornung said. "He had no idea whatsoever what was going on."

Probable cause affidavits for Mitchell and Rivera said the two confessed to participating in armed burglary.

According to the reports, Mitchell and Rivera admitted entering the

home and said someone had a gun and shot Taylor, but they didn't identify who. Police and attorneys also have said some of the young men confessed, though they wouldn't elaborate.

Wardlow's attorney, David Brenner, did not return a phone message. Wilbur and Sawyer Smith have said there is a fifth suspect, though police would not confirm that.

Richard Sharpstein, Taylor's former attorney, said the athlete's family was grateful for police and prosecutors' work, but that it did little to lessen their loss.

"They're still grieving and no amount of justice could ever replace Sean to them," Sharpstein said. "However, they'll support this prosecution and wish the state attorney best in achieving the most severe punishment to these people."

AREA

Continued from Page 1B

points. The Bulldogs led 29-26 at intermission.

However, Coahoma came out of the locker room blazing, outscoring Grape Creek 16-6 in the third period to take a 45-32 lead into the final stanza.

Coahoma kept its foot on Grape Creek's throat, suffocating the Eagles with strong defensive play. Grape Creek managed just four points in the final period and 10 in the second half.

Cody Sheppard scored a game-high 14 points while Colter Morgan and Logan Stone each chipped in 12. Matthew Tatum also reached double figures, scoring 10.

Coahoma plays in the Hooptown Classic in Stanton beginning Thursday.

Coahoma 21 8 16 13-58
Grape Creek 12 14 6 4-36

Coahoma: Josh Paniagua 6, Colter Morgan 12, Logan Stone 12, Matthew Tatum 10, Jovi Paniagua 4, Cody Sheppard 14.

Grape Creek: J. Jones 6, Jones 7, McCall 7, Long 2, Broadway 8, Sessom 2, Farmer 2.

Garden City 47, Crane 45

CRANE — Trailing 27-16 at the half, Garden City's Bearkats adjusted defensively during the intermission to stifle the Crane Cranes offensive attack for the come from behind 2-point victory.

The Bearkats struggled to get their offense rolling in the first half, scoring just six points in the second period. However, defensive pressure helped Garden City score 14 in the third and 17 in the fourth to clinch the victory.

Wade Jansa had a game-high 18 points and Jake Schwartz scored 10.

Garden City 10 6 14 17-47
Crane 12 15 7 11-45

Garden City: Wade Jansa 18, Jake Schwartz 10, Brett Chudej 7, Nick Sanchez 6, Eric Hirt 4, Cole Schwartz 2.

Crane: Justin Carrasco 11, Kaleb Kea 9, Tyler Esparza 7, Lloyd Chisum 7, Daniel Cox 6, Josh Figueroa 3, Teague Esparza 2.

Girls Basketball
Wink 38, Stanton 19

STANTON — Both teams struggled offensively in the first half with Wink's Wildcats holding a narrow 12-10 lead at intermission.

However, while Wink corrected its offensive problems, Stanton's Lady Buffaloes continued to struggle.

Wink poured it on, outscoring Stanton 26-9 in the second half.

Stanton didn't have a

player score more than four points in the loss. Rachel Fleckenstein, Adrian Carrasco and Kelsey Coggin each led the Lady Buffs with four.

Stanton will host the Hooptown Classic beginning Thursday.

Wink 5 7 10 16-38
Stanton 4 6 4 5-19

Wink: Shackelford 3, Creech 4, Sellers 3, Walker 10, Clayton 2, Turnbow 5, Solis 6, Curtis 3, Boggess 2.

Stanton: Laci Luna 1, Kelsey Coggin 4, Naomi Delao 3, Rachel Fleckenstein 4, Adrian Carrasco 4, Krista Sanchez 2, Michelle Barrera 1.

su | do | ku

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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

Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 3, 9, 2, 4, 6, 8, 2, 7, 1, 5, 2, 5, 7, 7, 8, 2, 7, 3, 2, 7, 9, 8, 4, 1, 7, 6

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

An Unusual Defensive Play

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠K 7 5 4
♥K J 9 3
♦6 3
♣Q 10 2

WEST

♠J 9
♥7 4 2
♦Q J 10 7 4
♣K 8 4

EAST

♠A 6 2
♥10 8 5
♦K 8 5
♣9 7 6 3

SOUTH

♠Q 10 8 3
♥A Q 6
♦A 9 2
♣A J 5

The bidding: South West North East

1 NT Pass 2♣ Pass

2♣ Pass 4♣

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

There are plays a defender can make that clearly run against the grain and yet are indubitably correct.

For example, consider this deal where South arrived at four spades after a Stayman inquiry by North.

Declarer won the opening diamond lead with the ace and played a low spade to the king, on which West produced the nine and East the deuce!

When the king held, South natu-

rally concluded that West had the ace. So when he next led another trump from dummy and East followed low, declarer finessed the ten, hoping West had started with A-9 doubleton. But West won the trick with the jack, and South finished down one, losing two trump tricks, a diamond and a club.

East's play of the deuce of spades on the king was, of course, unusual, but it was well-conceived. He realized that West might have the J-9 doubleton, in which case the defense's best chance of scoring two trump tricks was to allow the king of spades to win the trick.

Now let's consider what might have happened had East taken the king of spades with the ace. He would have cashed the king of diamonds and shifted to a club. Declarer would no doubt finesse, losing to the king, win the probable club return in dummy and lead a trump, East following low.

There is no way of knowing whether South would finesse and go down one, or whether he would go up with the queen and make the contract. But there is no question that East's duck of the king of spades gave his side a much better chance to defeat the contract.

Advertisement for Kim L. Bango, MD, Board Certified in Family Medicine. Includes contact info: 432-263-0500, 1608 W. FM 700, Suite D, Big Spring, Texas. Logo for Center for Family Medicine.

Large advertisement for Bob Brock Ford. Text: 62 New Units Will Be Sold Regardless of Profit. BIG YEAR END SELL DOWN Large Inventory OF 2008 & 2007's Rebates Up To \$5,500 OR 0% APR. Includes images of Ford trucks.

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Dec. 8th, 8am-4pm. From the
interstate go south on FM 1229
(212 Exit), go to LCR 317 and
turn right, go approx. 1 mi. to
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house on right. In case of bad
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**Heavy Equipment Operator -
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FURNISHED APT. extended stay hotel. Weekly \$245.00 plus tax, monthly \$700.00 and up. Microwave and fridge. Call 1-800-677-8175.

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

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2000 JAGUAR. Body damage in front. Runs and Drives. Leather. Also Ford Mercury. Call 432-816-5407 to see.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The devil does wear Prada, and so does Venus entering Scorpio. Power, sex and money can seduce a person of certain sensibilities to do things she otherwise wouldn't. But powerful attractions are hard to deny. Intrigued by alluring people and taboo situations, we're tempted by some very good-looking "devils."



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What you do for those dear to you may be unappreciated at first, but give them time to comprehend it. Of this you can be sure: There are big gestures of gratitude in your future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You observe not only the scene before you but the emotions behind the scene, too. Your emotional intelligence will take you far beyond obvious solutions and into simple but ingenious fixes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You refuse to take life seriously — one of your best qualities. The undertow of family drama is dangerous. The best way to fight it is not to step into it. Not even one tiny step.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your service to a lesser-known and very needy cause is the most rewarding thing you'll do all week. And if you give anonymously, the rewards are 10 times greater.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You won't believe the difference a day makes — so long as that day is sunny, at least in the emotional sense. In the right light, things that are downright dull look positively extraordinary.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are growing tired of these lessons in humility and are quite ready for a different kind of teaching — like how to behave as if you're puffed up and sure of yourself even when you're not.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Let your light shine. Self-deprecating humor won't play — it might even make people uncomfortable. So forget it. Stand in your power, claiming your gifts and thinking, "It's good to be me."

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've come so far from where you've been. You understand what you never did. And now you reach out in a situation where you once would have crossed your arms over your chest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Approach leisure in the same way as you do work. Identify your best possible chance

for fun, and then concentrate on it single-mindedly. You won't regret it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The microcosm of your choices represents the macrocosm of your outlook. Furthermore, when you speak well of your world, you're saying something positive about yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Stock up on positive reinforcement so you can avoid a "garbage in, garbage out" scenario. The company you keep makes a huge contribution to your mindset, as well.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Shakespeare wrote, "Life is as tedious as a twice told-tale, vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man." Prove him wrong. Act out in extremely exciting ways, and then tell the tale but once. Exaggerate if needed.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPICS: Venus enters Scorpio. A combination of vixen, scoundrel and snake goddess, there's no sign more complex or more fraught with the highs and lows of love than Venus in Scorpio. As Venus trades her ball gown for darkly interesting Scorpio, she'll do just about anything to get closer to her heart's desire. Murder or mayhem? Maybe. Or maybe this Venus has been plagued by some

bad PR. Venus in Scorpio could be more like the Indian goddess Kali, the formidable, beautiful feminine who influences natural forces of creation and destruction. Kali wears skulls for jewelry and has snake tongues — no frail flower, she, with a penchant for destroying possessions and popping up at graveyards, an absurd reminder about how crazy it is to become overly attached to people or things. I imagine her sitting atop yet one more unnecessary purchase, saying, "What are you buying all that for? Ha! You can't take it with you." In love, Kali points out the obsessions, attachments and injuries that need to be healed before we can know happiness. As Kali ventures into the heart of darkness to discover what's lasting and true, Venus in Scorpio helps us do the same.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Sagittarian Tom Waits is famous for his unique gravelly voice and perhaps lesser known but equally unique acting. Venus joins intelligent Jupiter in Aquarius for an aesthetic with offbeat appeal — which eclectic thinkers appreciate. Tom's in good company. With Neptune's longer passage through Aquarius, the popularity of experimental artists and art forms continues to grow.

Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I'm a 25-year-old single woman whose best friend for the past 10 years has been a guy. "Tony" and I have a lot in common and enjoy hanging out and playing video games together. (I am a bit of a tomboy.) Whenever Tony gets a girlfriend, he always asks me what I think of her, and I do the same with my boyfriends. We have a brother-sister relationship. Our friendship has never been an issue when we are dating other people, which is great.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Here's the problem: It seems everyone else can't accept that Tony and I are just friends. My co-workers, our mutual friends and even some members of our families keep trying to play matchmaker with us. Tony and I have talked about it and gave it a shot a few years ago, and we both came to the conclusion that we're better off staying friends. We can't imagine being intimate with each other, and he even told me that kissing me was like kissing his sister. A relationship beyond friendship just isn't going to happen, and we don't see the point in forcing one.

We're both frustrated with everyone pushing us together. At first we shrugged it off, but it's reached the point where I can't show interest in other men without being criticized. The same goes for Tony. In an effort not to give people the wrong idea, we make sure that when we go out to have fun, it's with a group of other people, but it seems a lot of folks can't accept

the idea of a man and woman being friends. How do we get through to them? — Frustrated in Carolina

Dear Frustrated: As long as neither you nor Tony is harboring thoughts of a more intimate relationship, ignore the well-meaning busybodies. They will give up only when one of you is "best man" at the other's wedding.

Dear Annie: I am a 15-year-old sophomore in high school. I don't keep secrets from my parents except for one thing. I am bisexual and they don't know.

I want to tell them, but I'm afraid they will be ashamed of it and of me. I know they will still love me, no matter what, but will they be able to accept me? I am totally confused. Please help. — Mixed-Up Child

Dear Mixed-Up: Your parents might not respond with enthusiasm, but that doesn't mean they won't be accepting. They may be surprised by your announcement, however, so give them time to work through their feelings. Please contact PFLAG (pflag.org), 1726 M Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036 for information and suggestions on how to talk to your parents about this. Good luck.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "No Way, Buddy," who complained that she just wanted to be friends, but her latest male companion wants more. A key phrase is that he's "generous." Does she think he's

buying her dinner because he thinks she's hungry? If she really wants friendship without obligation, she shouldn't be accepting generosity that creates obligation — they should split all expenses.

Many women seem to think it's perfectly OK for men to pay for everything, and that they have no responsibility to reciprocate. I'm not saying accepting a rare dinner from a man should force a woman into bed, but there is no free lunch in life. If she continues to look for "generous" men, she will undoubtedly continue to find herself in the same situation.

I am a 50-year-old man and have many true "friendship-only" relationships with women. I enjoy them, and neither of us feels taken advantage of. If "No Way" is seeking that freedom, she needs to belly up and pay her own way. — Friends Go Dutch

Dear Friends: It's true that a woman should not expect her male friends to pay the bills, not only because it is unfair, but because some men interpret that to mean they are entitled to a sexual reward. If "No Way" isn't already splitting the costs of her entertainment, we hope she will do so immediately.

Dear Annie: I'm an attractive, smart and talented 42-year-old woman who has been married for 18 years to my first love, "Zane." I'm extremely fit and am told that I look 10 years younger. I am aware that many men are attracted to me, but I have a very loving husband. The problem? We do not have sex. Zane and I have not been intimate in three years, and before that, we had sex about twice a year. This makes me feel really unattractive, especially when I know there are men out there who would sleep with me in a heartbeat.

When I approach Zane on the subject, he says work stresses him out

and makes him tired and he knows he should make more time for intimacy, but it never happens. Instead, what should be our intimate moments revolve more frequently around spending time with other couples.

Part of me thinks many relationships are like this, but no one seems to own up to the fact. Another part distrusts him and wonders if he is sleeping with someone else. I also am depressed and indignant that he no longer finds me attractive. To deal with it, I fantasize that I am sleeping with other men.

Does this sound normal to you? Please don't tell us to go for counseling. — Craving Intimacy in Indiana

Dear Indiana: Fine, no counseling, but an inch of newspaper space can only do so much. A healthy "marriage involves a satisfying sexual relationship. That can vary depending upon the couple's needs, but it should not be so one-sided that one person is content while the other is miserable. Ask your husband to see his doctor and have his testosterone levels checked. If everything is OK physically, you need to make your husband understand that his unwillingness to address the lack of intimacy is undermining your marriage. (This is the part where we'd recommend professional intervention, but if you can work this out on your own, go for it.)

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

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ANSWERS

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

Encounter with IED doesn't deter Hill

U.S. Army Cpl. Allen Christopher Hill has just found out that sometimes the bad things don't happen only to other people. While on a convoy escort mission in Iraq Nov. 21, an IED (improvised explosive device) exploded close to his armored Humvee, and put the vehicle and Chris temporarily out of business. Chris was manning the turret gun of the Humvee when the explosion knocked him unconscious and he woke up on the floor of the truck.



LANE BOND

Today Chris is living in Walter Reed Hospital in Washington. I just talked to him on his cell phone, where I found him out of the hospital on a pass. He and his wife were out shopping. He arrived in the U.S. with, as he told me, "my birthday suit and a hospital gown." The fact that he is well enough to go shopping is great news. He sounded good throughout our interview.

Don't misunderstand —

it was not a minor incident. He wanted to stay in Iraq and the doctors just said, "No way!" He now wants to go back and be with his guys and finish his job, but the doctors told him to forget it. His chest has been rather severely traumatized, and the permanent results are not yet known.

Word of Chris' wound reached the *Big Spring Herald* so quickly because Chris has two close friends in Big Spring, Judge Tim Green and his brother, Carl Green.

Green and Chris graduated together in 1986. Carl was ahead of them by three years. They grew up playing Little League baseball together. They have kept in touch.

Chris was born Jan. 8, 1968, in Big Spring and was raised by his grandparents, Jimmie and Oma Lee Hill.

Chris is married to

Troop Salute

Gina Hill from Ottawa, Kan. They have three sons, Allen Hill II, 18, Makale, 11, and Dreyson, 4.

Chris joined the Army in September 1986, four months after graduation. There was a two-year hiatus while he attended Johnson County Community College in Kansas, where he earned an associate degree in automotive engineering. After basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., Chris served in various routine assignments in several units.

Chris is currently assigned to Bravo Company 2/137th Infantry, based at Fort Riley, Kan. His unit is a transportation company, responsible for convoy security. Chris was deployed to Germany from January 2002



Chris Hill

through September 2002, with a unit standing ready to replace another unit already in Iraq, but they did not go at that time. For a year, beginning August 2005, and again for another year, beginning in November 2006, he was in Iraq. A third year in Iraq began in January and his unit is still there. The unit is due to return to the U.S. in February.

Chris has been awarded a Purple Heart, as well as the Combat Infantry Badge and Combat Action Badge.

An e-mail from Carl Green after he talked to Gina shows his pride in his friend:

"His condition is improving every day and he wants to continue serving our country. God bless our guys. I know how he feels, for I was in the Navy for seven years and served in Desert Storm. I remember how proud I felt."

Gina wrote, via e-mail: "His mission ... entailed convoy security. They were heading back to their home camp. He was in the last truck of the convoy when they were hit by an IED. ... He real-

ly did not have any external injuries but did stop breathing on them. The doctor at the troop medical center inserted a chest tube as he had a collapsed lung. He was then flown to Landstuhl, Germany, where he remained for a few days before being transferred to Walter Reed.

"If he had the chance, he would go back to Iraq to finish this deployment. However, his doctors have told him there is no way that will happen. He feels a great obligation to finish any missions he starts and not to leave his guys short handed. He is a true soldier.

"He is amazed at the interest there is in him due to this injury. He is truly our hero but does not view himself in this

way. He has commented many times that he is just doing his job. ... a job that he loves."

I asked Chris what message he has for those of us at home, and he was glad to respond.

"I feel very positive about what we are doing in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Hill. "Despite some popular notions, what we are doing over there is serving a good cause. President Bush has been fed wrong information by his subordinates, and reports of his actions and this war have been misrepresented by the press. I have great faith in my president.

"I volunteered for this mission, and I did it to try to help others have a

See **TROOP**, page 6A

**21st Annual
Drive Through Nativity**
Dec. 7, 8 & 9, 2007
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
6:30-9:30 p.m.



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TROOP

Continued from page 5A

better life. Most people in Iraq do not have what we have. To go to Iraq is to go back in history, for most of what they do is so primitive as to be amazing. They are sick so much of the time from contaminated water, even though the resources are there to do otherwise. There is much good coming out of a bad situation because the Iraqi people are being helped and taught to help themselves.

"Also, I have benefited from working with troops from 35 other countries in the coalition working together to solve the problems in Iraq. I have learned much from them, and much understanding has been gained between all of these peoples from this joint effort."

I visited with Judge Green, referred to earlier as a classmate and life-

"I volunteered for this mission, and I did it to try to help others have a better life. Most people in Iraq do not have what we have. To go to Iraq is to go back in history, for most of what they do is so primitive as to be amazing."

— Chis Hill, U.S. Army

long friend of Hill. Among the compliments that he paid Chris are

"outstanding guy" and "positive." The Judge surprised me with the information that the Class of 1986 was the best class that ever came out of Big Spring High School; I had always thought it was my Class of 1952.

Chris' plans for the future are to finish his 20-year career next year. If he has to retire before his working years are up, he would like to work for the military as a civilian.

Schoolmates or other friends who would like to contact Chris — who better for your Christmas card list? — can do so at Chris Hill, 1433 N. Mulberry, Ottawa, KS 66067; e-mail allen.c.hill@us.army.mil; cell phone (785) 248-1388.

Do you have a story about your own family members in the military? E-mail Lane Bond at lane@bondwebs.com, call him (432) 263-4033, or visit his Web site at www.bondwebs.com

BSSH seeking clothing items

Special to the Herald

Men's pants are in high demand for the patients at Big Spring State Hospital, said Director of Community Relations Billie Christie-Morgan.

"We typically have trouble collecting men's clothing because men tend to hold onto clothes more so than women," Christie-

Morgan said. "Although, we need all types of clothing, right now we really need men's pants, particularly smaller sizes."

Donations can be taken to The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., or to the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations office. Please make sure the clothing is clean, Christie-Morgan said.

Clothing that is unable to be used by the patients is sold at The Chalet, the volunteer's resale shop.

The hours are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

All money raised through sales at The Chalet benefit the 200 patients at Big Spring State Hospital.

NATIVITY

Continued from Page 1A

seven scenes, and has grown over the years to include 17 scenes, live animals and a cast of more than 130 people, Pastor Byron Brown said.

The scenes depict many Biblical events pertaining to the birth and life of Christ, said P.J. Ward, executive secretary of the church.

"It brings the Bible to life," Ward said. "We are creatures of sight. If we can see it, we can grasp it, and the drive-through nativity brings this great story to life."

Brown said the entrance to the nativity is best approached from the west on Martin Luther King Boulevard, then south on

Lancaster.

A CD or audio tape will be provided to visitors and will provide narration to the event, Brown said. The program is about 10 minutes long, although visitors may have to wait in line for some time.

"A lot of people stop off at (a restaurant) first and pick up something," Ward said. "That way, they can have a snack while they wait."

Admission is free, although donations will be accepted. Ward said all money raised during the event will go toward producing next year's nativity.

The event, which draws visitors from across West Texas, has become a holiday mainstay, Ward said. "When we get phone

calls from people ... who say that this has become a family tradition for them, it makes us think that we just have to keep this thing going," she said.

For more information, contact the church at 267-7015.

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

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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

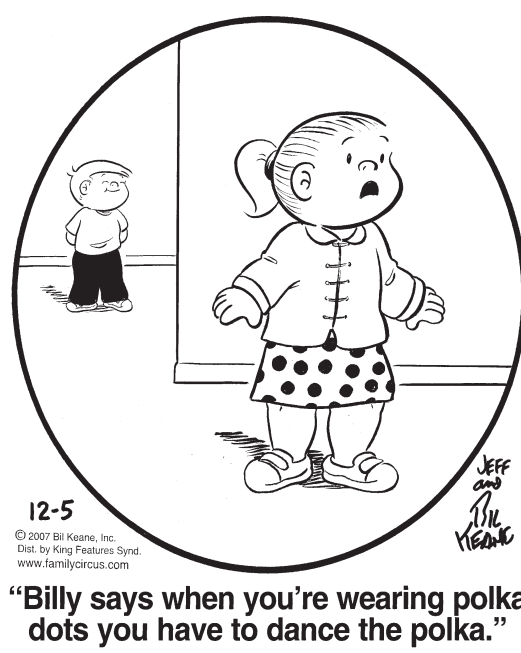
WEDNESDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Swallow John Hagee	News-Lehrer	How It's Made How It's Made	Planner	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Access	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	NFL Live College	College Basketball:	Tin Man
7:PM :30	Santa Is Coming to Town	Santa Is Coming to Town	Amar sin Limites	Back to You T'l Death	Kid Nation (CC)	Madre Luna	Deal or No Deal (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Update Israel Rico Cortes	Tommy Fleming: A	Rise of the Video Game	Julia Roberts: Tribute	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Movie: Pretty Woman (CC)	Movie: Soul Plane (CC)	Movie: Stuart Little 2 (CC)	Basketball: Syracuse at	Alabama vs. Georgetown	
8:PM :30	Private Practice	Private Practice	Pasion	Kitchen Nightmares	Criminal Minds (CC)	Victoria		House-Payne House-Payne	Light of the Southwest	Journey Home From Galway	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Raising Helen (CC)	UFC Unleashed			That's-Raven	Virginia (CC) College	NBA Basketball:	Ghost Hunters (CC)
9:PM :30	Dirty Sexy Money (CC)	Dirty Sexy Money (CC)	Don Francisco Presenta	TMZ (CC) Raymond	CSI: NY (CC)	Pecados Ajenos	Life (CC)	House-Payne House-Payne		To Broadway (CC)	Fearless Planet		The Ultimate Fighter	Movie: Pretty Woman (CC)	American Gangster	That's-Raven Life Derek	Basketball: West Virginia	Lakers at Nuggets	Ghost Hunters (CC)
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noti-Telemundo Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update Israel Dr. Young	Charlie Rose (CC)	Rise of the Video Game	Julia Roberts: Tribute	Brian Deegan Story	Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	at Auburn Baseball	SportsCenter	Movie: Dark Ride	
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night- Conan O'Brien	Frank TV Movie: Van Helsing (CC)	CCM Ministries Charles Scott	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Rise of the Video Game	Movie: Daddy and Them	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Replacements Kim Possible	2007 World Series of Poker		
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Marketing	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Update Israel Dell Sanchez		Sign Off	MythBusters (CC)		Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace (CC)	Movie: Soul Plane (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	College Football:	NFL Live NBA Fastbreak	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

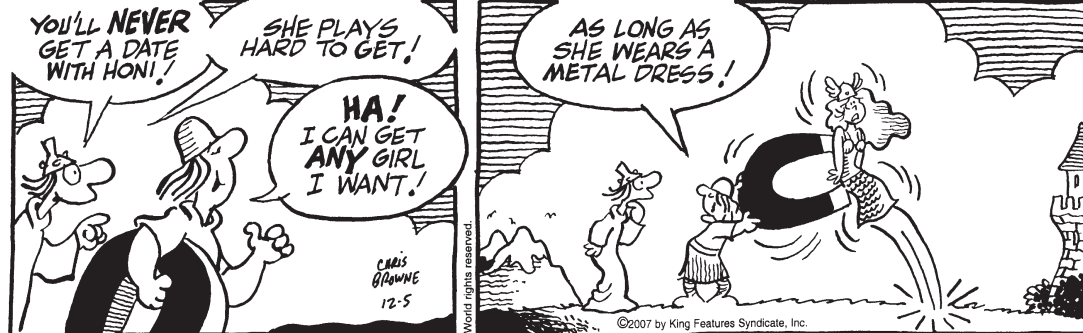
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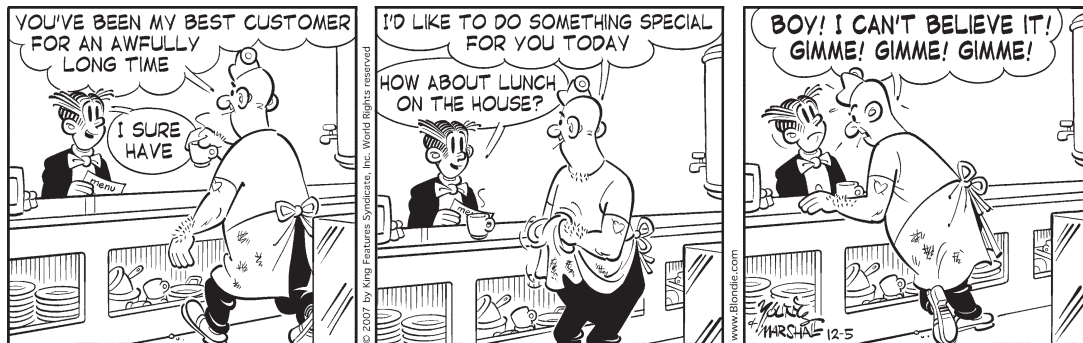
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



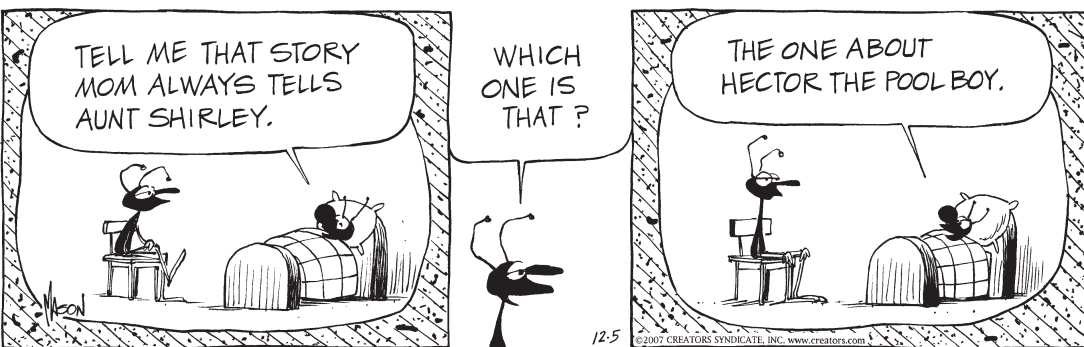
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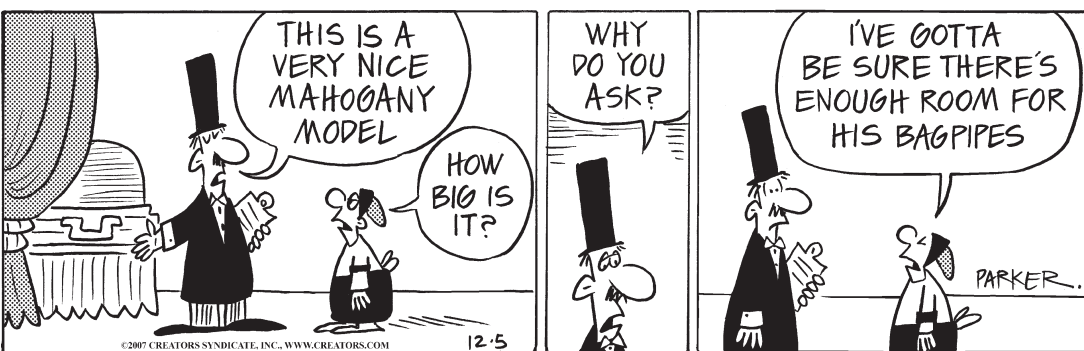
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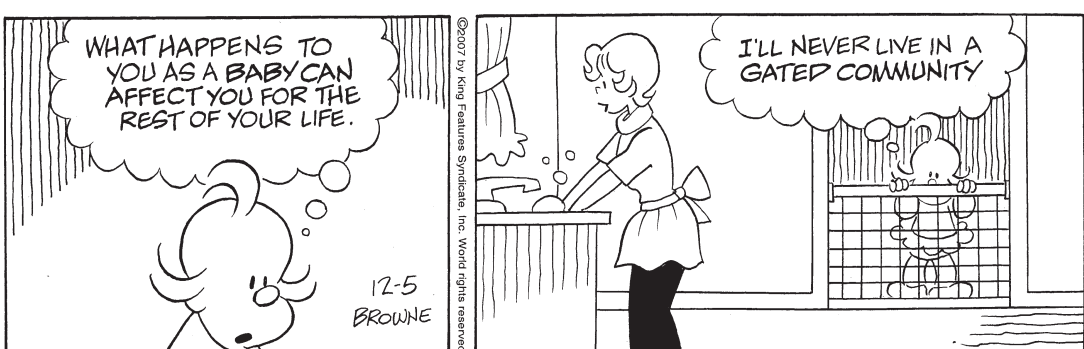
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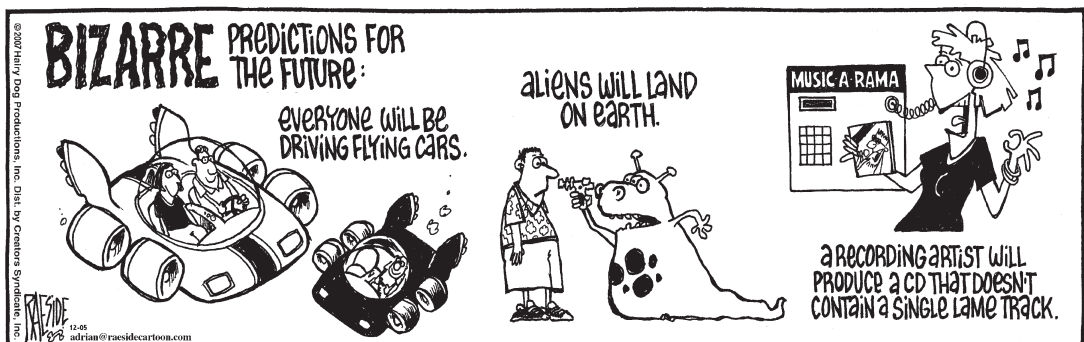
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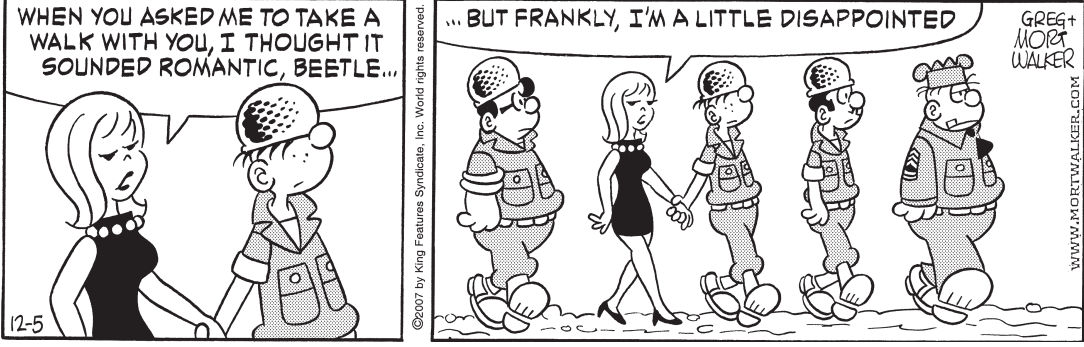
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 5, the 339th day of 2007. There are 26 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 5, 1791, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart died in Vienna, Austria, at age 35.

On this date:

In 1776, the first scholastic fraternity in America, Phi Beta Kappa, was organized at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

In 1782, the first native U.S. president, Martin Van Buren, was born in Kinderhook, N.Y.

In 1792, George Washington was re-elected president; John Adams was re-elected vice president.

In 1831, former President John Quincy Adams took his seat as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1848, President Polk triggered the Gold Rush of '49 by confirming that gold had been discovered in California.

In 1932, German physicist Albert Einstein was granted a visa, making it possible for him to travel to the United States.

In 1933, Prohibition ended as Utah became the 36th state to ratify the 21st Amendment to the Constitution, repealing the 18th Amendment.

In 1955, the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations merged to form the AFL-CIO under its first president, George Meany.

In 1991, Richard Speck, who had murdered eight student nurses in Chicago in 1966, died in prison a day short of his 50th birthday.

In 1994, Republicans chose Newt Gingrich to be the first GOP speaker of the House in four decades.

One year ago: Robert Gates won speedy and unanimous approval from the Senate Armed Services

Committee to be secretary of defense.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Little Richard is 75. Author Joan Didion is 73. Author Calvin Trillin is 72. Musician J.J. Cale is 69. Actor Jeroen Krabbe is 63. Opera singer Jose Carreras is 61. Pop singer Jim Messina is 60. Actress Morgan Brittany is 56. Actor Brian Backer is 51. Country singer Ty England is 44. Rock singer-musician John Rzeznik (The Goo Goo Dolls) is 42. Country singer Gary Allan is 40. Comedian-actress Margaret Cho is 39. Writer-director Morgan J. Freeman is 38.

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Answer to previous puzzle

A	F	E	W		M	O	A	T		M	O	G	U	L
R	O	M	E		A	R	C	H		O	B	E	S	E
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				A	N	T	S	Y		S	A	S	S	R

Newsday Crossword

FRICIONLESS by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jabs with a finger
 - 6 Take a hike
 - 10 Jazz phrase
 - 14 Go-between
 - 15 Soothing stuff
 - 16 Demon's doing
 - 17 Paper from the Returns Dept.
 - 19 Sponge opening
 - 20 Two fins, monetarily
 - 21 Took the helm
 - 23 Place to moor
 - 25 With skill
 - 26 Bogart's love
 - 30 "¿Cómo usted?"
 - 32 Metered vehicle
 - 35 Autumn colour
 - 36 Deck finish
 - 37 Barn bird
 - 38 Is regretful about
 - 39 Beyond well-done
 - 40 Hamster's home
 - 41 LAX guess
 - 42 Becker of tennis
 - 43 Snaky shapes
 - 44 Workout unit
 - 45 Square footage
 - 46 Hits hard
 - 47 Lasting impression
 - 49 After the buzzer
 - 51 Accepts, as a challenge
 - 54 Hook's crew
 - 59 Actor Epps
- DOWN**
- 60 Amusement-park feature
 - 62 Baptism, e.g.
 - 63 In perpetuity
 - 64 Last Greek letter
 - 65 Bad time for Caesar
 - 66 Depend (on)
 - 67 Former Green Party candidate
 - 7 The whole shebang
 - 8 Lane at *The Planet*
 - 9 Didn't give up
 - 10 Ward off
 - 11 West African republic
 - 12 Hot stuff
 - 13 Hightailed it
 - 18 Slave away
 - 22 Abba of Israel
 - 24 Hung-jury result
 - 26 Awl, for example
 - 27 Sharp
 - 28 Scrooge was one
 - 29 Start of MGM's motto
 - 31 ___-serif typeface
 - 33 "Shucks!"
 - 34 Sanctify
 - 36 Unerring
 - 39 Library patron
 - 40 CBS cop show
 - 42 Flock calls
 - 43 "Self-Reliance" essayist
 - 46 Mix together
 - 48 First asteroid discovered
 - 50 Mimic's skill
 - 51 Musical Amos
 - 52 In the thick of
 - 53 Church part
 - 55 ___ mater
 - 56 Neck and neck
 - 57 Upper hand
 - 58 Blacken a bit
 - 61 Address-book abbr.

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