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BIG SPRING

HERALD

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2007



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 10

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City moves to take over Senior Center

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
The Big Spring City Council voted to move forward with possible acquisition of the

Spring City Senior Citizens Center from Howard County Tuesday night. The council voted unanimously to allow Mayor Russ

McEwen — along with council members Jo Ann Staulcup and Gloria McDonald, and several city administrators — the opportunity to begin negotia-

tions. “There have been some talks and this would allow us to move forward with this,” said McEwen. “This is a matter I

really feel strongly about. The people who are seniors in this community deserve a place to See **CITY**, Page 3A

Where are the angels?

As deadline nears, more than 200 children without gifts in Angel Tree program

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
Desperate. That’s the word local Salvation Army Capt. Linda Keeney used to describe the charity’s annual Angel Tree program, which provides Christmas gifts for area low income children. “Here we are, only a few days from the program deadline, and we still have 200 children still on the tree,” said Keeney

“I know we’ve gotten worried a few times in years past, but this year has me genuinely scared.”



Keeney gravely. “I know we’ve See **ANGELS**, Page 6A



Work crews were busy at the Big Spring Tuesday, installing a trio of security cameras which officials hope will help combat vandalism and other criminal activity at the historic site.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Reaching out for the little ones

Spring Tabernacle Toys for Children set Friday morning

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor
Mona Lue Tonn may be a pastor, but that doesn’t keep her from shining shoes. She doesn’t do it for tips at the barbershop though. She does it for the children of Howard County. “We’ve been busy, busy, busy,” said Tonn, taking time out from washing Teddy Bears, sorting clothes and the aforementioned shoe shining.



It’s Toys for Children time at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, and for the 12th year, church members and volunteers are busy readying hundreds of toys and articles of clothing for one purpose — to make Christmas brighter for the area’s youth.

Most of the items to be distributed are used, but all have been cleaned and refurbished, and look as if they’ve been taken out of the box for the first time. “I wouldn’t give anything to these children that I wouldn’t give to children of my own,” said Tonn. “We work very

See **TOYS**, Page 6A

Council approves pact for Settles Hotel

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
“This is a great day for Big Spring.” Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen made that claim several times during Tuesday night’s

meeting, as the city council unanimously approved \$3 million in funding and a 10-year tax abatement for the Settles Hotel Development Company. The funding — which will come from Moore Development

for Big Spring Inc., which approved performance and escrow contracts with SHDC Monday night — does include a guarantee, according to City Attorney Linda Sjogren. “It essentially provides for a 2-

to-1 matching setup, where SHDC must spend \$2 for every \$1 Moore Development spends, up to a maximum of \$3 million plus the interest on the escrow See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A

BSISD trustees to consider selling Runnels

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer
Big Spring Independent School District may be on the verge of ending a 90-year association with the Runnels Junior High

School building. School trustees will consider selling the Runnels complex when they hold their regular monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The school board voted during its November meeting to put the complex up for sale; since that time, two bids have been received for the area, BSISD Business Manager Sandra Waggoner said.

The building was constructed in 1916 and served as the local high school until the 1950s, at which time it became Runnels Junior High. See **BSISD**, Page 6A

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Big Spring native killed in Iraq

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer
A former Big Spring police officer has been killed in Iraq, officials announced Monday. Steven Evrard, 36, of Big Spring, was among three men killed when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. A military spokesman said the casualties occurred when a roadside bomb went off as a security convoy was traveling on a road southeast of Baghdad. A fourth man was injured but is in

“He was very well-respected and well-liked, the kind of guy who would do anything for anybody else.”

—BSPD Lt. Terry Chamness

stable condition, military officials said. Evrard and the other men worked as security specialists employed by SOC- See **EVARD**, Page 6A

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Page 1B
Wednesday, December 12, 2007

IN BRIEF

Big Spring High School schedules fall sports banquet

The Big Spring High School booster clubs have scheduled a fall sports banquet for Saturday 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.

Lady Steers softball holding fund raiser at Pizza Inn Dec. 20

The Big Spring Lady Steers Lady Steers Booster Club will be holding a fundraiser for the softball team Dec. 20 at the Pizza Inn.

The Pizza Inn Doughnation Drive begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m. Pizza Inn will donate 10 percent of the night's profit to the softball team.

Individuals needed to referee area basketball games

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

Anyone interested should call Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300.

Crossroads region varsity sports weekly calendar

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

FRIDAY

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.

MONDAY

Big Spring boys and girls basketball vs. Snyder, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

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

Coahoma boys and girls basketball at Merkel, 6:30 p.m.

Lady Buffs defeat Grady in overtime

By JEFF LANE

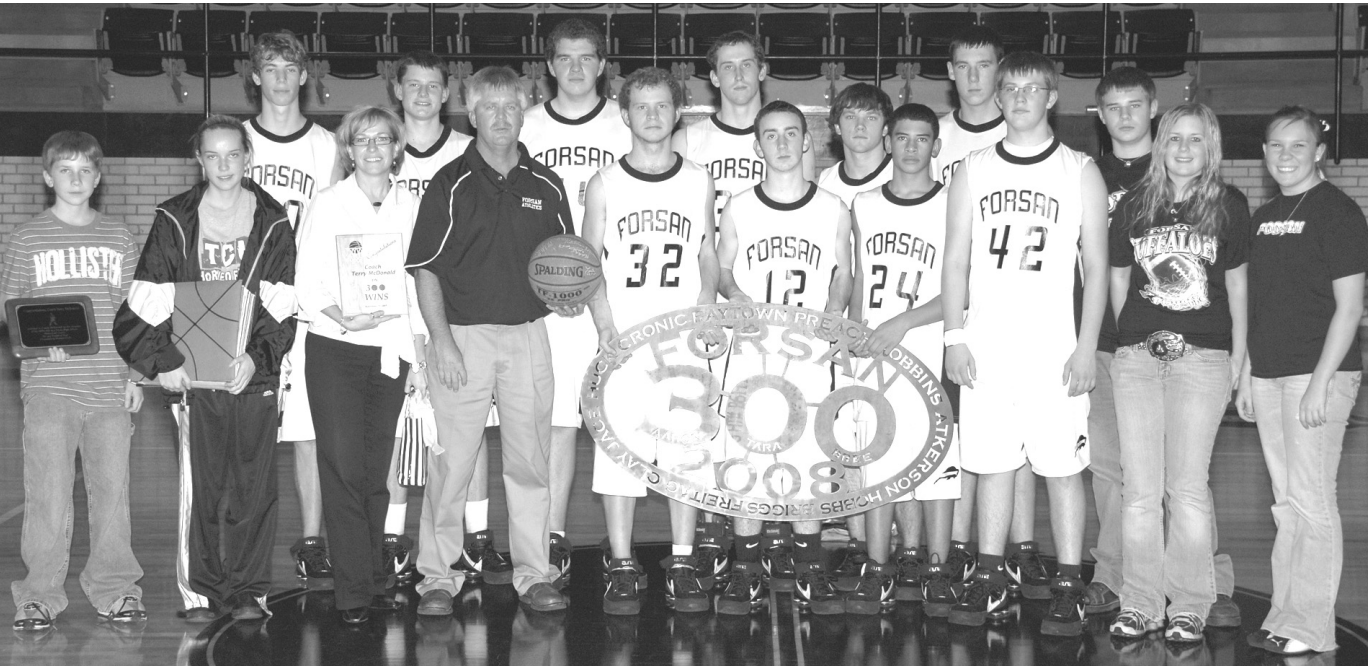
Special to the Herald

Tuesday night was a big night all around for Forsan basketball.

The varsity and junior varsity teams took a four-game sweep of the Grady Wildcats and Lady Cats. Then, Buffs' Head Coach Terry McDonald was honored for his 300th career win.

Varsity action for the special night began with an overtime thriller on the girls' side as the crowd at Buffalo Gym was treated to a very intense match-up with the Lady Buffs beating the Lady Cats, 50-49.

The Lady Buffs fell behind early, trailing 26-16 at halftime and did not fare much better in the third period, falling behind even further, 40-27 as the final frame began.



Forsan Buffs Head Coach Terry McDonald (middle left, holding basketball) was acknowledged for his 300th career victory Tuesday night in Buffalo Gym in Forsan. He's seen above with the 2007-08 version of the Buffs' basketball team along with the training staff and members of his family.

See FORSAN, Page 2B



Big Spring Steers guard Lance Gross pushes the ball past a Midland Lee defender in the Steers 75-44 loss to Lee Tuesday night at the Chaparral Center on the campus of Midland College. Gross had nine points in the Steers fourth straight loss.

Steers fight, but fall hard to Midland Lee

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

MIDLAND — A final score can be misleading. At first glance, it appears Midland Lee's Runnin' Rebels dominated the Big Spring Steers for the second time in a week with an impressive 75-44 victory Tuesday night at the Chaparral Center in Midland.

However, the game wasn't in hand until midway through the fourth period for the Rebels, who scored a lot of easy layups with the game already decided, making the beating seem worse than it actually was.

Trailing 26-14 coming out of intermission, Big Spring finally found its offensive rhythm to open the second half keyed by senior forward Jason Walker, who opened the third period with a layup he was fouled on. He successfully converted the old fashioned 3-point play then followed it up with a 3-point field goal on the Steers' next trip down the floor.

Walker then set up a Lance Gross 3-pointer and Tyrone Clemons made a basket, cutting the Lee lead to 31-25 with 4:02 left in the third period.

With the score 33-27, Lee went

on a 9-2 run to open up a 13-point advantage. However, Big Spring appeared to have momentum heading into the final frame, courtesy of Walker hitting a 3-point shot just as the horn sounded to end the third period.

Leading 42-32, Lee opened the fourth stanza with 12-2 run for a 54-34 advantage, keyed by three 3-pointers by Josh Fields. From there, Lee coasted to victory. The Rebels sank seven of their eight 3-point attempts in the second half.

See STEERS, Page 2B

CHS girls start district action with big victory

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COLORADO CITY — The best way to start any season is with a win, but it's especially important in the district season.

The Coahoma Bulldogettes used unselfish offensive and a strong interior defense on their way to a 60-24 win over the Colorado City Lady Wolves, opening District 5-2A play with a 1-0 record.

The Bulldogettes wasted little time putting distance between themselves and the Lady Wolves, busting out to a commanding 28-11 halftime.

Laci Sterling, a 5-10 junior post, did most of the work in the first half, scoring 17 of her game-high 22 points in the opening half.

"Laci did a good job for us tonight," Bulldogettes Head Coach Chris Sumrall said. "She got us going and we were able to distribute the ball where it needed to be for us to have a good night."

"I was really proud of how unselfish we were tonight," Sumrall stated. "Our point guards did a really good job of passing the ball around and then on the defensive side we did a really good job of helping out."

In the second half, Christy Rich decided to give Sterling a break as the junior scored 12 of her 16 points over the final 16 minutes.

The Bulldogettes had little trouble closing things out defensively, allowing the Lady Wolves just three points in the final stanza.

Letesha McDuffie led the way with seven points for the Lady Wolves.

The Bulldogettes will next be in action Friday night as they host the Lady Bulldogs of Stamford High school. JV action tips off at six with varsity to follow.

See COAHOMA, Page 3B

Area roundup: Lady Bearkats defend No. 7 ranking

Herald Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — Iraan's Lady Braves made the seventh-ranked Garden City Lady Bearkats look vulnerable. Well, at least for one half they did.

The Lady Bearkats led by seven at halftime, unable to put a comfortable distance between themselves and Iraan. However, Garden City came out of the intermission with guns blazing, outscoring Iraan 16-3 in the third period and cruising to a 53-30 victory from there.

The Lady Bearkats used a balanced scoring attack to fight off the Lady Braves with eight different players sinking baskets. Brittney Chudej had a game-high 10 points and Lyza Lopez chipped in nine. Amy Multer and Britton Avery each scored eight apiece with Whitney Kellermeier finishing with seven.

The Lady Bearkats try to continue a fast start to their season

Friday when they host an improving Forsan Lady Buffaloes team at 6:30 p.m.

Iraan 8 8 3 11—30

Garden City 12 11 16 14—53

Iraan: Stroup 5, Perry 5, Carson 1, Hernandez 3, Sanchez 6, Young 6, Peterson 4.

Garden City (11-3): Whitney Kellermeier 7, Milissa Hirt 2, Amy Multer 8, Britton Avery 8, Brittney Chudej 10, Lyza Lopez 9, Morgan Schwartz 6, Paige Niehues 3.

Iraan 44,

Garden City 42

Garden City's Bearkats came up a bucket short of giving Garden City a clean sweep of Iraan Tuesday night in a very evenly played matchup.

Neither the Bearkats nor the Braves led by more than three points at the end of a period. With the score even at 23 at intermission, Iraan used a 9-6 advantage in the third stanza to gain just enough of an edge to hold off Garden City.

Eric Hirt led all scorers with 16

points as he teamed up with Wade Jansa, who scored 14, to lead the Bearkats comeback attempt in the fourth period that fell just short.

Garden City wraps up the first half of its season Friday, hosting a Forsan Buffaloes' team that won Garden City's own Bearkat Klassic earlier this season. Tip off is set for 8 p.m.

Iraan 11 12 9 12—44

Garden City 9 14 6 13—42

Iraan: Galindo 14, Green 11, Chavez 6,

Cade 4, Zuniga 4, Ledford 3, Gonzalez 2.

Garden City (8-4): Eric Hirt 16, Wade Jansa 14, Josh Colunga 6, Jake Schwartz 4, Nick Sanchez 2.

Stanton 65,

Pecos 40

PECOS — With the score tied at 14 after one stanza, the Stanton Buffaloes used a dominant second period to run away with an easy victory over the Pecos Eagles.

The Buffs waylaid Pecos in the second, outscoring the Eagles 19-

8 in the stanza for a 33-22 edge at intermission. From there, Stanton extended its lead with each ensuing period, dominating the Eagles in the second half, 32-18.

Adam Evans scored 20 points to lead the Buffs' charge, but Garrett Fulton might have made the biggest impact. The senior guard had eight points, eight rebounds and eight assists. Fulton's brother, Tyler, had 13 points and seven rebounds. David Erives finished with 10 points.

Stanton (7-4) opens District 5-2A play next Tuesday, hosting Colorado City at 7:30 p.m. before heading into the Christmas break.

Stanton 14 19 13 19—65

Pecos 14 8 7 11—40

Stanton (7-4): Garrett Fulton 8, David Erives 10, Tyler Fulton 13, Justin Hinojosa 6, Ramsey Fleckenstein 2, Victor Rodriguez 3, Chase Pinkerton 4, Adam Evans 20.

Pecos (5-6): Lujan 13, Zubeldia 3, Dominguez 3, Portillo 3, Madrid 10, Soto 6.

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

go and congregate, and in many cases, it's the only meal they get each day.

"What we're talking about doing is the city would take over the operation of the Senior Citizen Center. Our structure in municipal government lends itself to these types of opera-

tions because we have professionals with management structure that can do this."

County Commissioner Bill Crooker recently laid out the financial details of the proposed transfer, explaining the county would still be responsible for the same fiscal totals through this budgetary year.

"I've given you (the commissioner's court) a proposal for the transfer of management of the Senior Citizens Center,"

said Crooker. "There is the matter that we would guarantee for the 2007-2008 fiscal year the \$108,000 we have in our budget for operational costs, and that we would turn over the funds from the grants — approximately \$84,000 — and all money and accounts held by the county for the Senior Center would be given to the city of Big Spring.

"That would include all lawn and maintenance equipment, as well as the two vehicles that are

being used to deliver meals. I visited with Jackie (Olson), and she's had a chance to review this proposal and this is acceptable to her, and we feel it pretty much covers the subject."

Commissioners, facing a \$1 million budgetary shortfall for the coming year, approved a resolution in November that shows the court's intent to begin negotiations on the matter, but did not provide for any financial details.

The council also approved the sale of property at 1200 Utah to the county during Tuesday's meeting — land that is expected to become part of the site for a new \$11.57 million jail facility commissioners have planned for the location.

According to city officials, the property is being sold to the county for \$14,500 — the price, plus attorney fees, the city invested in the lot.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

account," Sjogren said. "SHDC would then have to spend \$6 million plus two-times whatever the interest amount is on the account to receive the maximum financial payment.

"Payments will only be made for eligible 4A expenditures, as determined by Moore (Development's) council... Reconciliation requires that once they reach substantial completion or three years after the effective date, there will be a reconciliation to make sure the payments have kept the correct ratio."

Sjogren said the interest accrued by the \$3 million, which will remain in escrow, was a bargaining point in negotiations between Moore Development and SHDC.

"The repayment and clawback agreement is the reason Moore Development requested

the guarantee from Mr. (Brint) Ryan (SHDC manager)," said Sjogren. "And, in exchange for that, they were able to work out the situation on the escrow. That way, if negotiations were to fail or the deal were to fall through, we have a little more than just the ethics of SHDC to fall back on."

McEwen said although SHDC will get the interest from the escrow account, it's not a situation where the company could simply take that money over the next three years and walk away from the project.

"If we reached that three-year mark and no work has been done, the contract would not allow Mr. Ryan to keep the interest accrued by the escrow account," said McEwen.

City Councilman Troy Tompkins, who, before being elected to the council acted as spokesperson and contact point for SHDC, implored the council to pass the measure by unanimous vote.

"I would respectfully

request the council unanimously support this item at this time," said Tompkins.

Because the agenda item was an emergency reading, it would have to be passed by a unanimous vote to avoid going to a final reading during the council's next meeting.

McEwen said the reason for the emergency reading was a time crunch from Ryan faced with the closing of 2007.

"He said he'd like it done by the 21st (of December), and the reason for that is they are in a position where he has some obligations for buildings that he has optioned, and those options will run out Dec. 31," said McEwen. "And he doesn't want to exercise options on large buildings if he doesn't know for sure he has this agreement. So, it's logical that we do it that way, and that's the reason for the emergency reading. He has things that have to be taken care of by the end of the year, and this

is our only meeting in December."

McEwen said a renovated Settles Hotel could be the rallying point for downtown Big Spring, and eventually, the city as a whole.

"This is a day I have been looking forward to for what seems like three or four years, even though it's only been a little over a year," said McEwen. "This is a good day for Big Spring, for considering this, because the Settles Hotel could be the crown jewel of downtown redevelopment."

"I've said it many times before, I know of no rural community that has a viable economy that doesn't have a revitalized downtown. They just go hand in hand. This is awfully important and I've had a lot of comments about spending \$3 million of taxpayer money, but the fact of the matter is if we do not revitalize the Settles Hotel, we're going to spend in the same range to tear it down. I'd rather spend \$3 million

and have something to show for it — a revitalized Settles — than to tear it down and have another parking lot downtown that doesn't need to be used."

SHDC announced plans for a \$12 million renovation project in December 2006. According to SHDC officials, the project

includes plans for commercial and residential use of the property, with retail space available on the first and second floors.

The council also approved a tax abatement contract during the meeting that would grant the company a 10-year, 100 percent suspension of taxes on the Settles and any other properties owned by the company.

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Broncos' Young heads home to face Houston

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — It's a big week for Selvin Young.

Denver's undrafted rookie ran for a career-high 156 yards in a win over Kansas City on Sunday and gets to play in a prime-time game in his hometown Thursday night against the Houston Texans.

Young knows his performance against the Chiefs won't matter when the Broncos play the Texans.

"It's not about what you've done last time, it's what you're doing now," he said. "What are you doing for me lately. So it's being consistent, trying to do what I can do and ... learn from the things that I did wrong last week and try to get better."

Young is the latest in Denver's rich tradition of successful running backs who were undrafted or low draft picks. Injuries pushed Young into the starting role and the former University of Texas standout has made the most of his opportunity, averaging 5.7 yards a carry.

Young's effort Sunday gave him 569 yards for the season, making him the sixth undrafted

rookie in league history to rush for more than 500 yards.

Denver coach Mike Shanahan isn't surprised by Young's success. When asked if he thought Young would be this type of player, he brought up a low draft pick who went on to unprecedented success in Denver.

"We thought Terrell Davis would be the type of player he was, too, that's why we took him in the sixth round," Shanahan said. "You never know what guys are going to do and you give them an opportunity to show what they can do. I think we've seen what Selvin can do in the preseason. I said in preseason it wouldn't surprise me if he was a starter in the National Football League and be an over 1,000-yard back."

Davis was a sixth-round pick in 1995 and ran for more than 6,000 yards in his first four seasons in Denver.

Texans coach Gary Kubiak said he liked Young during the draft, but at the time he had plenty of depth at running back.

"He's a fine player, Houston kid and a lot of people talked about him coming out of

Texas," Kubiak said. "They've done a great job of finding backs that nobody else can find and this kid's been a great surprise for them."

Shanahan said Young is as mature as a five-year veteran and the Broncos are lucky to have him. He added that he thinks he could be the full-time starter.

"The guy is tough as nails," Shanahan said. "He blocks in pass protection, he blocks in the open field. We've got him in the nickel and he takes on linebackers and gets the job done."

As smooth as his transition to Denver has been, there's one thing he hasn't adjusted to yet.

"I'm looking forward to going home, getting away from some of this snow, going back to seeing some good dry grass more than anything," he said.

Young expects to have dozens of family and friends at Thursday's game, including his five younger brothers.

"I've got a bunch of little brothers," he said. "I'm more excited about letting them get the chance to see me play at home and I just can't wait to come back."

While the Broncos rave about their undrafted rookie running



AP photo
Denver Broncos running back Selvin Young (35) carries the ball for a long gain in the first quarter of the Broncos' win over the Kansas City Chiefs in Denver, Sunday.

back, the Texans are a bit apprehensive about the possibility they'll have to start theirs.

Darius Walker, who made his NFL debut Sunday, could start against Denver as Ron Dayne struggles with a sore ankle. Dayne injured his ankle two weeks ago and aggravated that injury against Tampa Bay. He was limited to just seven car-

ries against the Buccaneers.

Walker had 16 carries for 46 yards and six receptions for 35 yards Sunday. Houston's other running back is former practice squad player Adimchinobi Echemandu.

"Ronnie's still very hobbled, his ankle," Kubiak said. "We'll just treat the heck out of him and see how much progress we can make with him."

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

"We were more competitive this time, but we gave up too many layups," said Steers' Head Coach Marcus Morris. "We knew we couldn't do that coming into the game. Plus, they hit some big shots down the stretch. Three pointers and layups, it's hard to come back from that."

"We played together well in the third period," Morris continued. "We got the ball into our posts and our guards did their job. We played a pretty

good basketball game. We looked like a really good team for three quarters playing against a good Midland Lee team. We just need to learn to sustain that for four quarters."

Midland Lee was led by Malcolm Miller with 16 points, scoring a pivotal five points in the third period to thwart the Big Spring run. Wayne Betts had 15 and Dave Morris chipped in 11.

Jason Walker again led Big Spring in scoring, finishing the night with 13 points, despite having just one point at half-time. Lance Gross had nine and Terrance Clemons finished

with eight.

Morris was encouraged by the Steers' stout performance against a team that pounded them so heavily Friday.

"We played better defense this time," noted Morris. "We kept up with this team for three periods instead of just one like we did the first time we faced them. Hopefully, we can keep improving. You can learn something from a loss."

The loss drops the Steers' to 7-5. Big Spring had won seven straight games after opening the season with a loss, but has lost four straight since then.

"If you look at our schedule, it

was easy to see that this was going to be a tough and challenging stretch for us," Morris said. "We've just got to keep the kids positive. They're hungry to win. We've got to keep that going."

The Steers have just one game remaining before Christmas break with the Snyder Tigers paying their second visit to Steer Gym this season at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

"It will be a good basketball game," noted Morris. "Snyder is a good basketball team and can play with these guys. Just because they're not a 5A team doesn't mean they can't com-

pete. Anybody can be beat anytime in basketball and I hope our guys understand that."

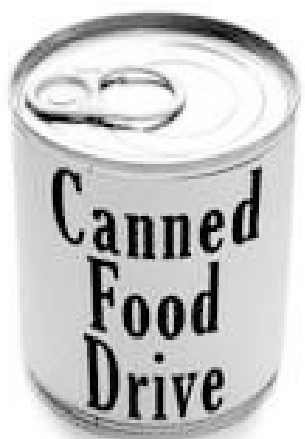
Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Big Spring 4 10 18 12-44
Midland Lee 10 16 16 33-75
Big Spring (7-5): Terrance Clemons 8, Lance Gross 9, Jerrell Williams 6, Tyrone Clemons 4, Hadden Phillips 4, Jason Walker 13.
Lee (8-7): Tevin Morris 5, Josh Fields 9, Isaac Sokolowski 4, Josh Gilbert 9, Josh Templeton 2, Riley Coffman 3, Wayne Betts 15, Dave Morris 11, Malcolm Miller 16, Jon Benavides 1.

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SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$ on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

SPECIAL SALE. Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

Educational

AMAZING OPPORTUNITY! Train for a new career in Medical Assisting, Medical Office Specializing, or Computer Business Systems! Call now for more information! **800-497-1557**
Southeastern Career Institute
Westwood Village Shopping Center
4320 West Illinois, Suite A
Midland, TX 79703

Garage Sales

AVON PRE-HOLIDAY SALE
614 Dallas Street,
Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm
Get a jump-start on your Christmas shopping! We have lots of stocking stuffers and other great gift ideas. Credit cards & checks welcome!

ESTATE SALE.... Most items must go. 706 Ohio, Saturday 8am-1pm.

Help Wanted

COMFORT INN needs housekeeping. Apply at Front Desk @ 2990 East I-20.

Maintenance/Electronics/Electrician Positions

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has openings for Maintenance Workers in Big Spring. A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. CRMWD has an opening for an Electronics Technician and also an Electrician. Electronic and/or Electrical experience required. District benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. EOE. Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by calling 432-267-6341.

Help Wanted

Ameri-Tech Building Systems

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE Immediate openings!!!

Office Coordinator & Sales
Seeking a mature, responsible individual! Candidate must be highly motivated to work at fast paced growing manufacturing business.

Must have ability to communicate well with others and excellent phone skills, well organized with the ability of working independently.

If you're willing to learn, we are willing to train you.

Excellent pay with commission and a full range of benefits.
Fax resume to:
Jamie White
936-598-6359

ADON/MSD Coordinator

LTC facility in LAMESA seeks experienced individual with State license. TILE Certification a plus! Competitive salary and benefits. EOE. Fax cover letter & resume, with salary history to Marcie Pruitt, (972)739-6699, or send via email to: mpruitt@seniorlivingemail.com

DAY'S INN needs Housekeeping. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST/ Assistant needed. Experience preferred. Drop off resume at 1708 E. FM 700.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation

Now Hiring for Certified Nurse Aides.
We have the following shifts open:
* 6am-2pm shift
* 10pm-6am shift
Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

Help Wanted

DUNCAN DISPOSAL - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Please come by the Duncan Disposal office at 8220 West Hwy 80, Midland, TX- just east of the airport to apply in person. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon- Fri., with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

Gill's Fried Chicken looking for Management positions and Cooks. Experience a plus. Competitive wages. Benefits package includes health, vision & dental. Apply in person, 2100 S. Gregg. No phone calls.

NEED A job today? Come be a delivery driver for Domino's Pizza. We pay competitive hourly wages & put cash in your pocket daily! Working for the other guys? Bring your experience over to Domino's Pizza and get paid top dollar. Part time and full time positions available. Need day hours? Need night hours? We have all shifts available. We work with ALL types of schedules. **Apply now and get hired on the spot (some restrictions apply).**
2111 Greg Street
EOE, Drug Free environment

Help Wanted

GREATER OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PERMIAN BASIN INC.: Project Head Start has the following position available: **Teacher Aide:** Must be 18 years of age and have a High School Diploma or GED. Must be able to attend training and participate in child development classes and occasionally attend out-of-town training. **Teacher:** Must have a degree AA or BA in Early Childhood Education, Child Development or related field or a CDA Credential. All applicants must: Be 18 or older. Pass a pre-employment drug screen. Post-employment Criminal History check must be clear of felony convictions to continue employment with the agency. Agency offers OJT, benefit package for all full and part-time employees. Applicants may apply at Lakeview Head Start 1107 NW 7th St. Big Spring, Tx. Positions will be opened until filled. Applications available on line www.gopb.org. All interviews will be held at the Administration Office at 206 W. 5th in Odessa, Tx..

HOUSEKEEPING NEEDED. Competitive pay and paid holidays & vacation. Pick up application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford Street.

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

Help Wanted

JANITORIAL/ GROUNDS help needed. Howard/ Mitchell Rest Areas. Multiple shifts available. Call (903)757-7244 between 9-4, Monday-Friday to arrange an interview.


PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING COOKS AND DRIVERS FOR EVENING SHIFTS. ALSO ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY LEVEL MANAGEMENT POSITION. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

MIDWEST FINANCE CORP now hiring assistant manager/ collector. Benefit package. Pay DOE. Apply in person, 600 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

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THE CITY of Big Spring is hiring for the following positions...
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Wastewater Plant Operator
Utility Service Worker
Heavy Equipment Operator - Landfill
Heavy Equipment Operator - Sanitation
Human Resource Technician
Staff Accountant
EXCELLENT BENEFITS including 100% paid Employee Health Ins. FULL Retirement after only 20 years of service! Call (432)264-2346 or go to www.ci.big-spring.tx.us EOE/Smoke & Drug Free Workplace



The Permian Basin Community Centers seeks for a

Community Service Aide (CSA)

Crisis Response Worker - Night

Ft. Stockton and Alpine, TX - Permian Basin Community Centers has immediate openings in its Alpine and Ft. Stockton offices for after hours Mental Health Crisis Outreach workers. These positions will work a five day on and five day off schedule with the added benefit of Paid Time Off. Excellent Salary and benefits. Tuition reimbursement after one year of employment. Positions require a bachelors degree in a behavioral science or related field.

Online applications and other current job listings are available at www.pbmhm.com or call the Jobline at 432-570-3424 for more information on this position.

Western Container Corp.

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- Ability to work 12 hour rotational shifts
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Benefits:

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Apply at:
1600 1st Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
Between the hours of 8am and 4pm Monday thru Friday

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H&R Block, the leader in tax services for fifty years, is looking to hire and train individuals who want excellent pay, flexible hours. You'll learn by working on actual cases, hands-on, to become a tax professional able to complete even the most complex Federal returns. Don't miss this great opportunity.

To apply, call 432-263-1931

H&R BLOCK 1512 S. Gregg
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Write one word on each line:

Up to 25 words: ___ Sunday Only \$19.50 ___ One weekday only \$12.25 ___ Two Consecutive Days \$16.50 ___ Three Consecutive days \$20.25 ___ Four Consecutive Days \$23.50 ___ Five Consecutive Days \$25.75 ___ Six Consecutive Days \$28.00 ___ Two weeks \$53.00 ___ Three Weeks \$67.50 ___ Four weeks \$79.00 ___ Garage Sales (3 days) \$16.75
Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day.

Enhancements Price per word for entire run: ___ Bolding \$1.00 ___ Centering \$1.00 ___ Italics \$1.00
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Prices Include placement on internet at www.bigspringherald.com




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DEADLINES:
12 noon Fri. for Sunday; 4:15 Fri. for Monday; 12 noon Mon. for Tues; 12 noon Tues. for Wed.; 12 noon Wed. for Thurs.; 12 noon Thurs. for Fri.

CLASSIFICATIONS:
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Enclosed is \$ _____
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Exp. Date _____ Vcode# _____

Are you a subscriber: ___ Yes ___ No

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Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



<p>AC & HEATING</p> <p>JOHNSON AC, HEATING & SHEET METAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Servicing all heaters central & wall • Duct work - all sheet metal work • Registers & Grills <p>We Carry All Heating Parts & Filters, Belts</p> <p>1408 E. 4th 263-2980</p>	<p>HEATING & AC</p> <p>Crossroads Refrigeration</p> <p>Air Conditioning, Heating & Ice Machines</p> <p>We service all makes and models!</p> <p>Cell: (432) 270-0501 24 Hour Service</p> <p>TACLA26711C</p>	<p>AIR CONDITIONING</p> <p>WARREN REFRIGERATION</p> <p>AIR-HEAT-ICE</p> <p>NEW CUSTOMER SPECIAL</p> <p>10% Off Labor</p> <p>(Limited Time)</p> <p>Loran Warren</p> <p>NATE Certified Service Technician Licensed and Insured TACLA26337C</p> <p>CALL (432) 263-5144</p>	<p>AUTO CARE</p> <p>G & M Auto Care</p> <p>Locally Owned & Operated</p> <p>Service 1972</p> <p>263-1091</p> <p>George & Mary</p> <p>900 E. 3rd St. Big Spring</p>	<p>AUTO PARTS</p> <p>A Modern Auto Dismantler</p> <p>WESTEX</p> <p>Since 1947</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 Acres of dismantled vehicles • 20,000 sq. ft. of Warehouse storage • Specialize in late model quality auto parts • Foreign and domestic parts for cars, trucks, mini-vans, 4x4 and sports utility vehicles <p>Hrs. 8 a.m.-5:30 Wk/day 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Sat.</p> <p>1511 Hwy 350 • (432) 263-5000</p>	<p>BED LINERS</p> <p>C & D Truck Accessories</p> <p>2706 N. HWY 87</p> <p>432-263-3600</p> <p>Rhino Linings</p> <p>THE SPRAYED-ON LINER</p>
<p>CATERING</p> <p>Tee's Catering</p> <p><i>A Taste of Elegance</i></p> <p>Big Spring's only Catering Company</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menu Design • Now Booking Your Holiday Events • Corporate Events To 750 <p>Call Theresa Andrews at 432-264-0579 Call 432-599-1689</p>	<p>CONCRETE</p> <p>J. T. Builders</p> <p>Remodeling • Drywall Ceramic Tile • Electrical Plumbing • Roofing Brick & Concrete Work Driveways • Sidewalks Fireplaces • Stucco Swimming Pool Decks</p> <p>JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ (432) 213-0882 Cell (432) 935-6310 Res.</p>	<p>CONCRETE</p> <p>All Types Concrete Work Block & Brick Repair Trenching & Tractor Service & Landscaping</p> <p>Campbell Concrete Contractors</p> <p>Call-Tommy Campbell Concrete Contractor</p> <p>(432) 466-0623 2006 Runnels (432) 935-3644 Big Spring, TX 79720</p>	<p>YOUR AD</p> <p>PUT YOUR AD HERE</p> <p>CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds</p> <p>HERALD</p>	<p>CONCRETE</p> <p>MARQUEZ FENCE CO.</p> <p>All types of fences, tile fence & repairs.</p> <p>Concrete work, carports, stucco work All work guaranteed. Free Estimates</p> <p>Benny Marquez-Owner 267-5714</p>	<p>CONCRETE</p> <p>STUCCO DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS BLOCK FENCES</p> <p>Chico and Sons Concrete</p> <p>(432) 466-0573 (432) 816-6561</p> <p>621 Sgt. Paredes Fred Rubio Big Spring, TX 79720</p>
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<p>YOUR AD</p> <p>PUT YOUR AD HERE</p> <p>CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds</p> <p>HERALD</p>	<p>SCHOOL</p> <p>Maranatha Baptist Academy</p> <p>School Age Pre • 4-5 K-12 • A.C.E. Home Schooling Individualized Tutoring Available</p> <p>903 Johnson 263-7696</p>	<p>YOUR AD</p> <p>PUT YOUR AD HERE</p> <p>CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds</p> <p>HERALD</p>	<p>SIDING</p> <p>Four Seasons Insulation & Siding</p> <p>Specializing In Wall Insulation Thermal Replacement Windows & Siding</p> <p>Call 264-8610</p>	<p>WINDOW TINT</p> <p>C & D Truck Accessories</p> <p>2706 N. HWY 87</p> <p>432-263-3600</p> <p>Solar Gaurd Window Tint 5 year limited warranty</p>	<p>WINDOW TINT</p> <p>C & D Truck Accessories</p> <p>2706 N. HWY 87</p> <p>432-263-3600</p> <p>Solar Gaurd Window Tint 5 year limited warranty</p>

Visit Us Online

www.bigspringherald.com

CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST

**Kids Submit Your Entry
Color 1 Block & Bring To
The Big Spring Herald**

By

**Monday, Dec. 17, 2007
5:00 p.m.**

**1ST PRIZE: \$75⁰⁰ GIFT CARD
2ND PRIZE: \$50⁰⁰ GIFT CARD
3RD PRIZE: \$25⁰⁰ GIFT CARD**

COLORING CONTEST RULES:

1. Contest open to children ages 10 and under. Relatives of newspaper employees or contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
2. Contestants may use crayons, colored pencils or markers. Adults may assist in completing the contest entry form, but not in the coloring.
3. Limit one entry per child. Entries will not be returned.
4. All entries must be turned in by Dec. 17, 2007, 5 p.m.
5. Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
6. Decision of the judges is final.



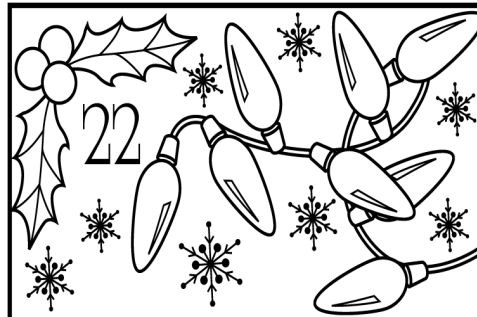
Home Realtors
110 W. Marcy Dr.
263-1284



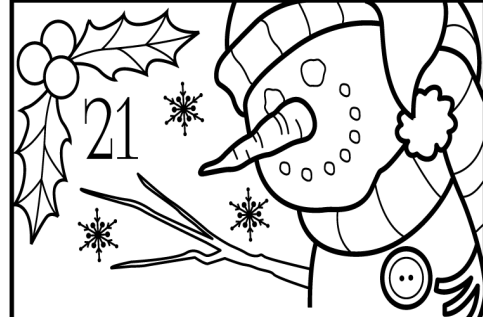
Quality Plumbing
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Gandy's Dairies
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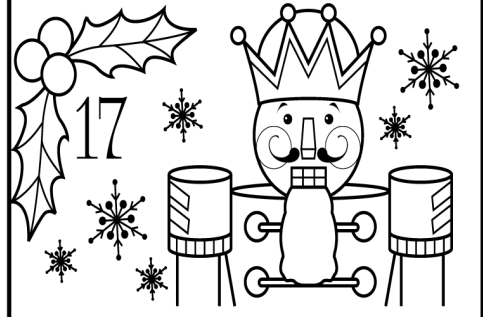
Klassic Kleaners
2107 Gregg St.
263-7004



Surety Title
421 Main St.
263-2407



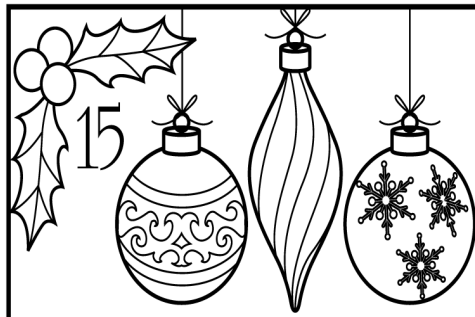
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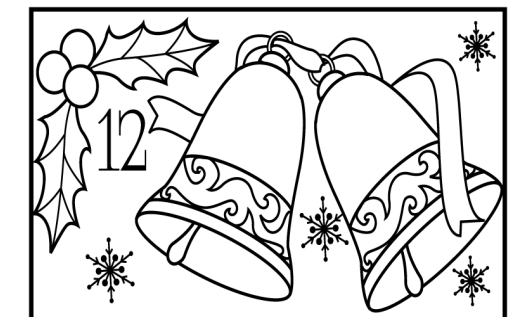
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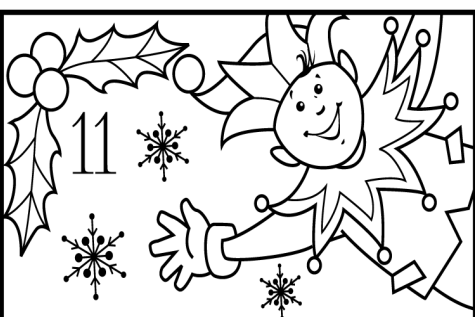
Blum's Jewelers
Inside The Big Spring Mall
267-6335



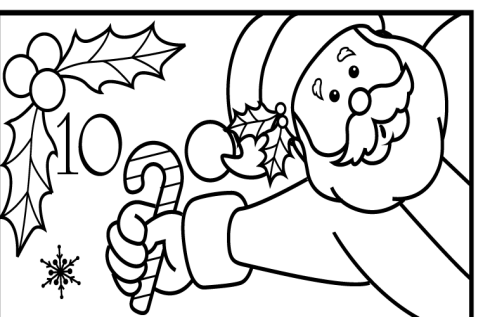
Walmart
201 W. Marcy
267-3363



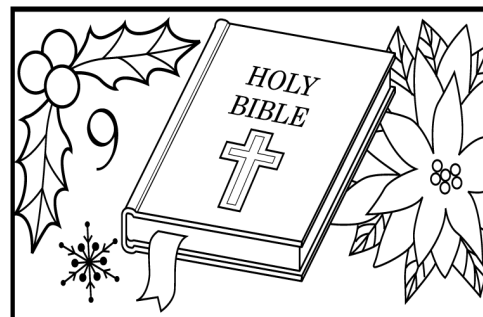
Jack & Jill
1708 S. Nolan
267-8411



Sierra Animal Clinic
3404 E. FM 700
263-1198



First Bank Of West Texas
607 Scurry - 466-0000
FM 700 - 267-1113
Coahoma - 394-4256



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403 Runnels
264-9107



Startek
501 Birdwell Lane
264-7940



Quality Glass
505 E. 2nd St.
263-1891



Dr. Chavez
1501 W. 11th Place, Ste. 205
714-4700



Harris Lumber
1515 E. FM 700
267-8206



Medicine Center Pharmacy
1001 Gregg
263-7316



Fowler Insurance Agency
108 South Salem
393-5712



Bean's World Cafe
100 Main St.
263-1133



Casa Blanca
1005 Lamesa Hwy.
263-1162

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN COLORING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

**Mail to: THE BIG SPRING HERALD
710 SCURRY ST.
BIG SPRING, TEXAS 77020
Merry Christmas and Good Luck!
DEADLINE: MONDAY, DEC. 17TH**

ANGELS

Continued from Page 1A

gotten worried a few times in years past, but this year has me genuinely scared. A have a dozen angel cards sitting on my desk right now because we don't have room on the trees to put them up."

With nearly 500 children and more than 70 area seniors — represented by Angel cards on the trees — counting on the program for gifts to open Christmas morning, Keeney said she's afraid the Dec. 15 deadline to return cards and gifts may come and go with many left out.

Adopting a holiday angel is simple, according to Keeney.

"They just take the Angel card from the tree and purchase Christmas gifts for that

child or senior," said Keeney. "The card has a wish list, but the gifts don't necessarily have to be what's listed on the card. Once you buy the gifts, you simply attach the card to the gifts and bring them to our office, or drop them off where you got the card."

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

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

"It's not hard at all, and it only takes a few minutes of your time," said Keeney. "And if you don't have time

to go out and purchase the items on the list, you can make a monetary donation. You can fill the list for between \$25 and \$50 in most cases, but you can spend as much or as little as you would like. Every penny counts, especially with so many angels left on the trees."

A fifth Angel Tree — bearing the cards for needy senior citizens — is located at the Big Spring Herald office.

Keeney said she and her staff will keep the doors of the Salvation Army office — located at 811 W Fifth Street — open Saturday in hopes of collecting as many gifts as possible, but if area shoppers aren't able to provide for the last of the angels, there's little the local charity can do.

"We haven't been contacted by any local groups wanting

to help pick up the last of the angels this year," said Keeney. "So, there's no safety net this year, which makes us very, very nervous. Our funds are so low right now there's just no way we'll be able to make up the difference. We desperately need the community's help, or many of these children may go without this holiday season."

Distribution of the collected gifts is expected to take place Tuesday at the Big Spring Refinery Union Hall. For more information on the Angel Tree program, call 267-8239 or stop by the Salvation Army office.

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

Robber was 'mugged'

ELMWOOD PARK, N.J. (AP) — When a thief started taking cash from his register over the weekend, Dunkin' Donuts employee Dustin Hoffmann fought back by clobbering the man with a ceramic mug.

But Hoffmann admits he was less worried about the stolen cash than how he might look on the video-sharing site YouTube.

"What was going through my mind at that point was that the security tape is either going to show me run away and hide in the office or whack this guy in the head, so I just grabbed the cup and clocked the guy pretty hard," Hoffmann told The Record of Bergen County.

The man came into the shop and ordered a pastry Sunday night, according to Elmwood Park Police Chief Donald Ingrasselino. Once Hoffmann opened the register, the man jumped over the counter and started taking cash.

TOYS

Continued from Page 1A

hard. If you look at our infants room, it looks like a store; it's beautiful."

Room after room at the church is filled with age-appropriate items. There are lots of rooms and that's good because the Toys for Children program has toys and clothing from newborn

through age 16 or 17.

Spring Tabernacle's gifts for children project began in 1995. That year, 87 children received toys.

"It's been growing every year. We must be doing some good," Tonn said with a smile.

Last year, 284 children were given four gifts apiece. That's more than 1,000 gifts to children who otherwise might not be given anything.

So how does the pro-

gram work? Do hundreds — a thousand — kids go running through the church, snatching up gifts in a free for all?

"No, that would be a nightmare," Tonn said, while rolling her eyes. "No we have the parents pick them out."

In fact, Tonn prefers parents don't bring their children with them unless they have no other recourse.

"We just don't have

enough volunteers to watch the children while someone takes the parent around to pick out toys," said Tonn. "So if they must bring children, they need to bring someone to watch the children."

Tonn said if the child is raised by a grandparent, then the grandparent may pick out the toys.

"We'll have about seven or eight volunteers taking the parents around, so be prepared to wait.

Sometimes it is a long wait, but there's just nothing we can do about that," said Tonn.

Parents will also receive stocking stuffers and a bag of oranges.

There is no pre-registration, no proof of income is necessary.

"We do all this on faith. We figure if they show up and wait and wait, then they must have a need," Tonn said.

Spring Tabernacle,

located at 1209 Wright, will open its doors for the Toys for Children project at 10 a.m. Friday.

For more information, to volunteer or to make donations of "like-new" items, go by the church between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331, ext. 235, or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

When the current junior high was built in 1998, Runnels was shut down and is now used solely for storage purposes.

Also Thursday, trustees will

hear a report on a recently instituted program that requires the district to fingerprint all new employees.

"That was part of Senate Bill 9, which was passed during the last session of the (Texas) Legislature,"

BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said.

While applauding the aim of the program, Downes noted that the state is only providing partial funding.

"It will provide another level of security for school districts," he said. "I had hoped the new requirement would be fully funded, but sadly enough, inadequate funds were provided."

Waggoner estimated fingerprinting all new employees this school year will cost the district between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

- Proposals for vending machine services and contract renewal for auctioneer services.

- Budget amendments for textbooks and campus activity funds.

- Personnel matters.

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

EVRARD

Continued from Page 1A

SMG Inc., a security firm based in Minden, Nev., according to the Coalitions Munitions Clearance

Program, which has headquarters at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville.

Evrard, who was on his second tour in Iraq, and his colleagues were tasked with handling and destroying captured munitions in Iraq.

Evrard, the son-in-law of Big Spring Police Department Sgt. Tony Everett,

served on the local police department from 2001 to 2006 as a corporal in the patrol division, BSPD Lt. Terry Chamness said.

"He was a very good officer, a real go-getter," Chamness said. "He was very well-respected and well-liked, the kind of guy who would do anything for any-

body else."

Evrard is survived by his wife, Tanya, of Big Spring. No funeral plans have been announced.

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

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Max Webb honored as Paul Harris Fellow by Big Spring Rotary

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

When Northside Community Center Director Max Webb stepped through the doors of the Howard College Cactus Room for Tuesday's weekly Rotary Club meeting, the local charity leader had no idea what was waiting for him.

Webb, who was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship Award by the Rotary Club Tuesday afternoon, was stunned, but that didn't stop long-time friend and Rotarian Hayes Stripling from presenting him with the certificate and medal.

"The Paul Harris Fellowship Award is the highest honor given by Rotary International to any individual," said Stripling. "It indicates the recipient, who is chosen by Rotarians, is someone who is very, very important to the community, and this is a token of our gratitude, esteem and honor. Not many people receive this award and it's held in very high esteem among 1.5 million Rotarians in all parts of

the world." Webb's response was simple.

"The truth is, I really don't know what I did to deserve this award," said Webb with a smile. "I didn't know anything about this until just a few minutes ago."

Webb's humble reaction is one Stripling said he not only expected, but was prepared for.

"In 80-plus years, I have only known, met and been acquainted with less than 10 people I truly consider selfless," said Stripling. "Selfless people, as you know, never consider themselves. It's always about the other person. Max Webb is one of the few people I know who is utterly selfless. That's one of the rarest attributes, traits and characteristics found in the human tribe."

Webb, who was accompanied by his wife, Barbara, and Northside Community Center Administrative Assistant Bobby Armstrong, answered the beaming comments on his behalf with one of his greatest attributes — a smile.



Rotary member Hayes Stripling, left, presents the Paul Harris Fellowship Award to Max Webb, director of the Northside Community Center, and his wife, Barbara Webb Tuesday afternoon.

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

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Courtesy photo

These Coahoma students were recently named to the Region 6 All-Region Choirs. Standing are Reagan Reid, Tenor 1 and Ryan Reid, Bass 1, who were named to the Freshman/Junior High Region Choir. Reagan is a third year member of the choir and Ryan is a seventh-grader selected for the first time. Seated from left to right are Teryn Bibb, Soprano 1 and a third-year member of the high school All-Region Choir, Kenzie Moore, Alto, and Heather Kirby, Soprano 2, both second-year members of the Freshman/Junior High Region Choir.

Commissioners approve burn ban that limits fireworks use in county

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

No fins, no sticks. That's the message delivered by the Howard County Commissioner's Court Monday, as the panel enacted a burn ban that will outlaw aerial fireworks that include sticks — such as bottle rockets — and missiles that include any type of fin.

County Judge Mark Barr said it was necessary for the court — which approved the measure by a unanimous vote — to do so quickly to meet state deadlines.

"To place a ban on aerial fireworks — we're talking about things like bottle rockets — you have to do so before Dec. 15," said Barr. "And I'm really afraid of what this season could bring with so much fuel out there."

Barr said despite the recent wet weather, he's worried a quick dry spell could mean disaster for

Howard County.

"I have to tell you, I'm scared to death we're going to burn something up," Barr told commissioners during the meeting. "I know it's wet out there right now, but we all know it will dry out."

The burn ban currently in effect was recently approved by the court, and if conditions don't cooperate, according to Barr, it could stick around a lot longer than just 90 days.

"At the end of that 90-day period, we can either let the ban lapse or we can renew it," said Barr. "I'm really not sure what we'll be doing at this

point. If we've received plenty of rain and things look better, we might let it lapse. If it's still windy and dry — which it will most likely be — then I'm sure we'll renew it. It all depends on what the situation is. We just want to make sure people understand how incredibly dangerous out there it is right now."

According to Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan, the recent rains have not diminished the dangers that lie ahead.

"We've been seeing a heavy influx of wildfires over the last month," Sullivan said. "We expect-

ed that because of the rains this year. Rain is always good for our area, but the end result is always high fuels. We have the highest amounts of fuel this year than we've seen in the past 25 years.

"The recent rains have helped to slow down some of the grass fires, but once things start to dry out again, the fuel is still going to be there. We really need people to be safety minded."

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

LETTERS TO SANTA

Don't Miss This Section


Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Area Schools Students, Submit Their Letters To Santa Claus

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Dear Santa,
Thank you for the gifts th got last year. I still have m 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.

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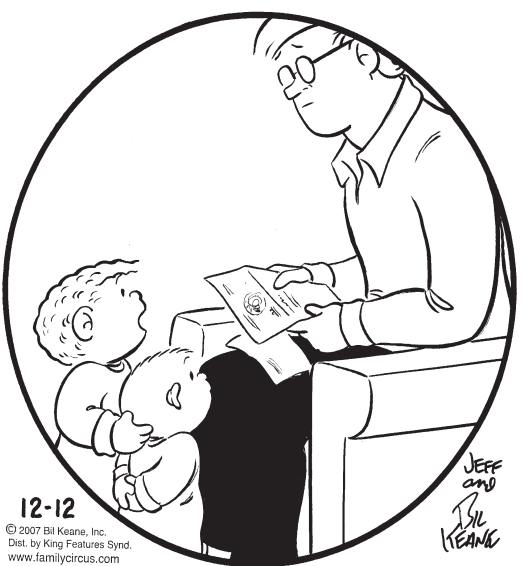
Table listing TV and radio programs for Wednesday, December 12, 2007, across various stations including WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, and SCIFI.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I HEARD THAT SANTA'S SLEIGH IS OVERLOADED, SO HE'S GIVIN' OUT GIFT CARDS THIS YEAR."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"If Mommy didn't see PJ before he was born, how did she know it was him?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



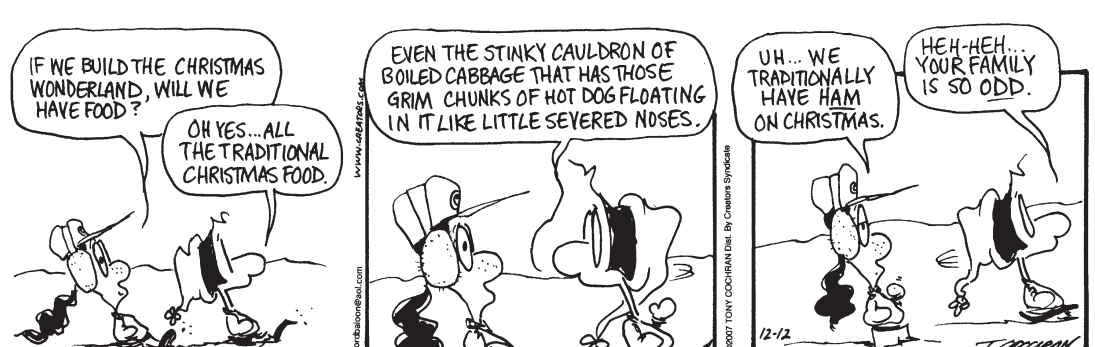
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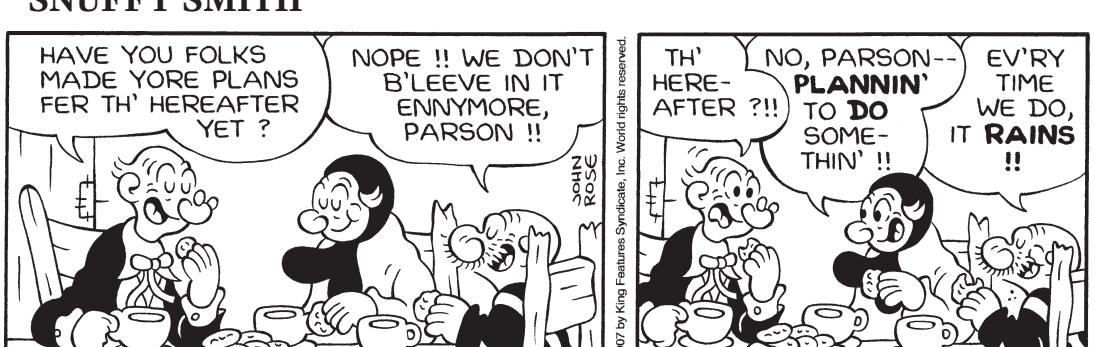
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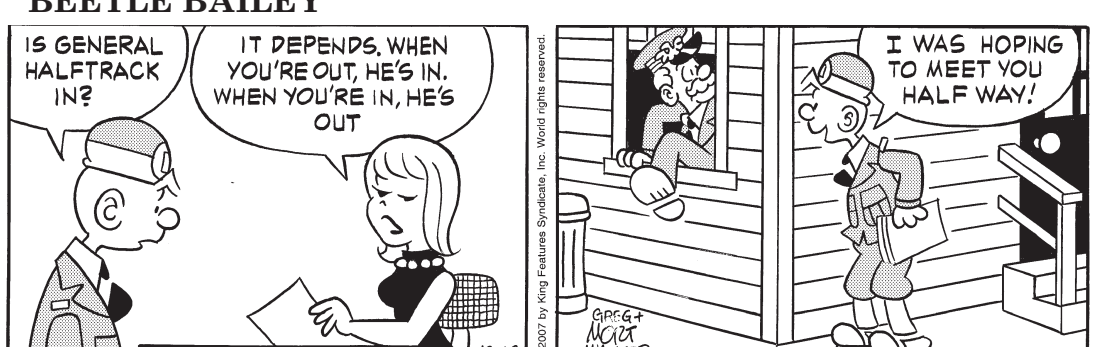
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2007. There are 19 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 12, 1917, Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Neb. On this date: In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1897, "The Katzenjammer Kids," the pioneering comic strip created by Rudolph Dirks, made its debut in the New York Journal. In 1906, President Roosevelt nominated Oscar Straus to be secretary of commerce and labor; Straus became the first Jewish

Cabinet member. In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been recovered. In 1937, Japanese aircraft sank the U.S. gunboat Panay on China's Yangtze River. (Japan apologized, and paid \$2.2 million in reparations.) In 1963, Kenya gained its independence from Britain. In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland. In 2000, a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election, transforming George W. Bush into the president-elect. One year ago: A suicide bToday's Birthdays: TV host Bob Barker is 84. Former New York City Mayor Edward Koch is 83. Singer Connie Francis is 69. Singer Dionne Warwick is 67. Rock singer-musician Dickey Betts is 64. Actor Wings Hauser is 60. Actor Bill

Nighy is 58. Country singer LaCosta is 57. Gymnast-turned-actress Cathy Rigby is 55. Actress Sheree J. Wilson is 49. Pop singer Daniel O'Donnell is 46. Rock musician Eric Schenkman (Spin Doctors) is 44. Rock musician Nicholas Dimichino (Nine Days) is 40. Actress Jennifer Connelly is 37. Actress Madchen Amick is 37. Country singer Hank Williams III is 35. Actress Mayim Bialik is 32. Model Bridget Hall is 30. Thought for Today: "There are two cardinal sins from which all the others spring: impatience and laziness." — Franz Kafka, Czech author (1883-1924).

Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words like BOGS, DOFFS, MAAM, OKLA, JULIA, ALTO, TRES, STUNG, CLOP, HANOI, DOES, HOLE, PRIOR, LOWLY, CASHIN, EDGE, ACCOST, SNOOPERS, STAN, RECAP, EVES, TIREISOME, ARREST, ASSN, STINTS, QUART, TOTES, UNDO, HALO, SCRAM, ATOP, AMAZE, OAHU, FIRE, LIMES, PIES, FEES, LAPSE, ELMS.

Newsday Crossword

ON COURSE by Kevin Donovan Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Nightclub 6 Pointed weapon 11 Gift from 24 Down 14 More or less 15 Mandel of TV 16 Sense of self 17 Teddy Roosevelt's regiment 19 College Web-site suffix 20 Lesson periods 21 At a quicker pace 23 Playfully evasive 24 Wild West hangouts 25 Big blockage 29 Family member 30 Spring time 31 People see through them 32 Classified listings 35 Swarm (with) 36 Board game of a sort 37 Take a powder 38 Compass reading 39 Craft for Columbus 40 Fabric fold 41 Ward workers 43 Pines (for) 44 Courtroom do-over 46 Mauna (Hawaiian peak) 47 Chinese philosophy book 48 Beach location 53 Dobbs of CNN

- 54 Skeet participant 56 Stately tree 57 Haunting 58 Putting into service 59 Society gal 60 Object of worship 61 Durango dough DOWN 1 Graph components 2 Double-reed instrument 3 Notes promising payment 4 Pulls 5 On the up and up 6 Highly polished 7 Veggie holders 8 Farm female 9 Carriers' charges 10 Secondhand shop's business 11 Nondrinker 12 Utah city 13 Not mine 18 Space 22 Junior, to Senior 24 Chimney guy 25 Expected earlier 26 Amenable 27 Talent for gardening 28 Joseph Conrad title character 29 Actors' jobs 31 Group of experts 33 Senior member

- 34 Firms up 36 Clash 37 Marlins, on scoreboards 39 Put on paper 40 Fog, so to speak 42 Swiss canton 43 Affirmative answer 44 Vexed 45 Paris school 46 ... Cuckoo's Nest author 48 Skewer 49 Hydrant attachment 50 Big name in elevators 51 Silver State city 52 Work units 55 Onassis nickname

Large crossword grid with numbers 1-61 indicating starting positions for words.