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BIG SPRING

HERALD

FRIDAY

JANUARY 18, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 42

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Big Spring Independent School District trustees voted to sell the Runnels School campus to Life Church.

Life Church to purchase Runnels School for \$10,000

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

The new owners of the Runnels Junior High School property plan to keep education as the building's primary purpose.

Big Spring Independent School District trustees approved the sale of the

property to Life Church of Big Spring during their monthly meeting Thursday evening.

Life Church will purchase the property for \$10,000. Its bid was significantly less than the \$37,000 offered by Runnels Place LLC, but with fewer strings attached, trustees said.

"As for the other bid, they wanted too many stipulations that we just couldn't go along with," said Board President Alan Partee. "Life Church has indicated it wants to do something positive within the community with the property."

Clint Collins, pastor

of Life Church, said the organization plans to keep education at the forefront with the property.

"Our five-year goal ... is to have a private school and after-school daycare program on the property," Collins said.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 3A

Despite problems, laptop program solid, officials say

District recalls students' computers for filter fix

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District technology officials admit the first few months of the high school laptop program has had more than its share of problems, but remain fully supportive of the project.

BSISD trustees received an update on the program, which put a laptop computer in the hands of every student and teacher at the high school.

Corey Wood, technology director for the district, said problems were expected when the program began in September, but two major hurdles blind-sided just about everyone.

Wood said that about 15 percent of the computers — close to 200 overall — have experienced hard drive failure, resulting in downtime for those units while replacement parts were installed.

"This has had a huge ripple effect," Wood said. "It has caused I don't know how many

"... there have been good things come from this. We know the laptops can better prepare students to succeed in their coursework."



Wood

more man-hours to be involved in (repair work)."

Also of major concern to officials was the failure of certain "spy" software, designed to prevent students from accessing unauthorized Web content, to perform as advertised.

The content filter failure surfaced a few weeks after computers were distributed to students in September and technology department staff have tried several possible solutions, "all to no avail," Wood said.

See **LAPTOPS**, Page 3A



Brian Moore, 15, a ninth-grade student from Sands High School, gets his barrow, Brummy, ready for competition in the annual Howard County Junior Livestock Show, which continues today at the county fair barn.

Downes' contract extended

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

While acknowledging potential trouble on the horizon, Big Spring Independent School District trustees extended Superintendent Michael Downes' contract by a year Thursday night.



Downes

Downes, recently the subject of a complaint filed with the State Board of Educator Certification, had his contracted extended to run through May 2010.

His annual salary will remain at \$99,500.

A complaint was filed against Downes with SBEC on Nov. 7 by former BSISD teacher Jamie Owen, alleging inappropriate contact with

See **DOWNES**, Page 3A

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16 people indicted by grand jury

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

A Howard County grand jury handed down indictments on 16 people Thursday, including nearly a dozen true bills for possession of a controlled substance.

True-bill indictments were delivered for the following individuals:

- Ricardo Castillo, 29, cur-

rently in the Howard County Jail, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (state jail felony) and evading arrest (state jail felony).

- Victor Manuel Castillo, 35, currently in the Howard County Jail, possession of a controlled substance (third-degree felony).

- Spencer Lee Coker, 37, currently in federal custody, possession of a controlled substance (first-degree

felony, enhanced).

- Roger Lee Edwards, 51, currently in the Howard County Jail, possession of a controlled substance (third-degree felony, enhanced).

- Timothy Joe Flores, 32, of 2903 Clanton, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Fermin Lopez Florez Jr., 57, of 210 N.E. 10th Street, driving while intoxicated (third-degree felony).

- Juan Manuel Garcia, 42, of 205 Becker Road, forgery (two counts, both third-degree felonies enhanced).

- Michael Angelo Garza, 19, currently in the Howard County Jail, burglary of a habitation (second-degree felony).

- Larry Gutierrez, 35, of 6406 E. FM 846, driving while intoxicated (third-degree

See **INDICTED**, Page 3A



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Sports

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Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B
Friday, January 18, 2008

IN BRIEF

Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar TODAY

Big Spring girls basketball vs. Lubbock Estacado, 6 p.m.

Big Spring boys basketball vs. Lubbock Estacado, 7:30 p.m.

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

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

Free junior tennis league playing every Wednesday

A free junior tennis league will take place every Wednesday for several weeks from 4:45 to 5:45 beginning tomorrow.

Boys and girls of any skill level between ages 8-12 are welcome to attend. The league is being conducted by Big Spring tennis instructor Ted Oleson.

No sign up is required. Bring a racket or one will be provided while available.

For more information, call Oleson at (806)236-8901 or visit www.bigspringtennis.com.

Howard College presenting the Harlem Starz

The Howard College athletic department will present the Harlem Starz at 7:00 p.m. Jan. 28th at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The game is a fundraiser which will benefit the Howard College athletic program.

With names like Zig Zag, Hollywood, K-Money, Air Bama and Werm, fans will know they are not attending an ordinary basketball game. Almost every play will involve fancy dribbling, no look passes, amazing dunks and comedy.

In addition to the game, highlights will include a halftime show, prizes and autographs. The game will provide every fan in attendance with a memorable night of sports, fun and entertainment.

For ticket information, contact Howard College at 264-5040.

KBYG 1400 AM's scheduled airings of NBA basketball

KBYG 1400 AM is airing both San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Mavericks basketball throughout the NBA season.

SATURDAY

Dallas vs. Seattle, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY

Dallas vs. Washington, Noon

WEDNESDAY

San Antonio vs. Los Angeles Lakers, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

San Antonio vs. Miami, 6:30 p.m.

Hawks hold off NMJC's late surge

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

Starting the second half of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference basketball season with three consecutive conference wins figures to give most teams a significant amount of momentum and confidence.

However, Howard College's men's basketball coach Mark Adams didn't express a high level of pleasure after the Hawks' 79-72 win over the New Mexico Junior College Thunderbirds Thursday night in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

"We played very poorly tonight. Give New Mexico Junior College a lot of credit, they came over here to win," Adams said. "We played one of our worst games in about four or five outings, so we've got to get a lot better. We were fortunate to get a win tonight."

Both teams played even for the first 14 minutes of the game, however, Howard went on a 15-4 run over the final six minutes of the first half,

earning a 37-28 advantage at the intermission.

The Hawks never trailed in the second half, but were put on their heels by New Mexico for the entire final 20 minutes of the game with the Thunderbirds trimming the deficit to as little as five points.

According to Adams, it was a case of New Mexico having more energy and focus than the Hawks.

"I don't think we were mentally ready for the game," Adams continued. "We didn't have the same effort. We were a step slow on both ends of the court and just weren't mentally alert."

However, the Hawks were able to pull away when it counted the most with sophomore forward Sean Watson securing the win, scoring 18 of his game-high 28 points in the second half.

Watson gave Howard a 10-point lead with just seconds remaining courtesy of a break-away dunk following a steal. However, New Mexico's Cory Davis was able to hit

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull
Howard College Hawks point guard Denzel Barnes (14) pushes past a New Mexico Junior College defender in the Hawks' 79-72 victory Thursday night in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The win is Howard's fifth consecutive in conference play and third since the start of the new year.

HC women shut down NMJC, 66-49

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

Turnovers kill. It doesn't matter what sport it is.

The Howard College women's basketball team was the benefactor of 21 turnovers by New Mexico Junior College's Lady Thunderbirds Thursday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. However, it was what the Hawk women did with those mishaps that made the difference in the game.

Howard converted those 21 turnovers in 32 points, leading the Hawks to a 66-49 victory.

Howard led by 16 at the intermission, but saw New Mexico start to chip away at that lead early in the second half. However, the Hawks never allowed the Lady Thunderbirds to get closer than 10 points.

Still, the second half felt eerily similar to the final 25 minutes of Howard's overtime loss to Western Texas College last week.

"I was really concerned about our intensity for almost the whole game, offensively and defensively," Hawks Head Coach Earl Diddle said. "We're the No. 1 team in the nation defensively and we don't get out after people like we should. Maybe we were still reeling from that tough loss to Western Texas, but we weren't the same team tonight."

Powering the Hawks offensively was Candace Lambert, who had 13 points in the first half and was pivotal in a 13-3 run 13 minutes into the game that allowed the Hawks to pull away.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull
Howard College Hawks guard Veronica Wilson (32) dribbles around a New Mexico Junior College Lady Thunderbirds defender in the Hawks' 66-49 win Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

See **HC**, Page 2B

Garrett turns down Ravens and Falcons

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Sitting in the atrium of Dallas Cowboys headquarters, at the same table where Wade Phillips, Bill Parcells and several predecessors have given their daily briefings for years, Jason Garrett felt comfortable right away.

"I just want to start by saying I'm awfully excited to be sitting in this chair," Garrett said.

No, Garrett wasn't being introduced as Phillips' replacement. He was merely explaining Thursday why he decided to pull out of consideration for head coaching jobs with Baltimore

and Atlanta to remain offensive coordinator in Dallas.

Still, the symbolism was hard to miss — especially for a guy who has been viewed the coach-in-waiting since he rejoined the organization last year.

Garrett held a news conference to discuss his decision to stay, which included a promotion to assistant head coach and, presumably, a raise, perhaps approaching the \$3 million per season made by Phillips. He insisted that he seriously considered the other jobs and didn't just see what was out there for the experience of going through the process.

"They weren't exercises," he

said. "They were great opportunities. ... I think maybe this decision to stay here has a lot more to do with the Dallas Cowboys in 2007 and what the Dallas Cowboys can be in 2008."

Garrett gave thoughtful answers to all questions but one. Asked if he was promised he'd replace Phillips, Garrett said, "No," then turned his head to seek a question from the other side of the room.

League rules prevent team owner Jerry Jones from anointing Garrett as the heir to Phillips, but the way things have played out sure seems to indicate the likelihood.

After all, Jones hired Garrett

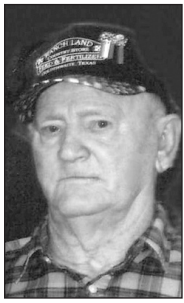
before hiring Phillips last year. And when Garrett returned Wednesday night from visits with the Ravens and Falcons, he huddled with Jones to figure out his next move. Hours later, he opted to stay in Dallas, being part of a club that just went 13-3 and sent seven offensive players to the Pro Bowl.

"We're thrilled that Jason will be with the team in 2008 and moving forward," Jones said in a statement. "We believe that what we accomplished in 2007 is just the beginning of many productive years ahead. His vision and direction on the offensive side of

See **GARRETT**, Page 2B

Obituaries

Charles Dennard



Charles Dennard, 84, of Big Spring, formerly of Goldthwaite died Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Chaplain Dan Shadix of the Veterans Administration Medical Center officiating. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Sunday at Goldthwaite Memorial Cemetery with the Rev. Doug Holtzclaw, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

Charles was born June 12, 1923, in Mills County to Maude and Hugh Dennard. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army. Charles married Ruth Faulkner on April 30, 1944. He lived most of his life in Mills County, where he farmed and ranched, and also worked for the Texas Department of Transportation. Charles lived in Fort Worth from 1952 until 1962, working for General Dynamics and Bell Helicopter. He had been a resident of Big Spring since 2005.

Charles was a member of the First Baptist Church of Goldthwaite. He loved watching football, especially the Goldthwaite Eagles, the Baylor Bears and the Dallas Cowboys. Charles also enjoyed domino games, bingo and attending church services with his friends at the VA.

Charles is survived by his wife, Ruth Dennard of Big Spring; one son, Sammy Dennard and his wife Mary of Big Spring; one daughter, Sandy Skiles and her husband Mike of Bedford; six grandchildren, Gerry Skiles of Lewisville, Sheila Burnett and her husband Glenn of Sugarland, Brent Skiles of Galveston, Brandi Gulde and her husband Jonathan of Hitchcock, Debby Corgan and her husband James of Winthrop, Maine, and Donny Dennard and his wife Amanda of Houston; eight great-grandchildren, Charlie Burnett, Gracie Burnett, Lesley Gulde, Taylor Gulde, Madison Corgan, Jayce Corgan, Caroline Corgan and Tyler Dennard; one brother, Billy Dennard and his wife Peggy of Goldthwaite; one sister, Linda Lewallen and her husband Bill of Jal, N.M.; one sister-in-law, Dorothy Dennard of Goldthwaite; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Charles was preceded in death by one brother, Ed Dennard; and one sister, Virginia Straley.

Pallbearers will be Gerry Skiles, Brent Skiles, Donny Dennard, Glenn Burnett, Jonathan Gulde and James Corgan. Honorary pallbearers will be all of his friends at the Veterans Administration Medical Center and at Goldthwaite.

The family suggests memorials to Spring Creek Fellowship Building Fund, 702 Johnson Street, Big Spring 79720; or other favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Pedro R. Trevino

Pedro R. Trevino, 70, of Garden City died Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008, at his residence. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Interment will follow at St. Lawrence Cemetery.

He was born April 13, 1937, in Muzquiz, Coahuila, Mexico and married Maria Lucila Lopez on July 16, 1956, in Muzquiz, Coahuila, Mexico.

He was a longtime cotton farmer in Glasscock County. He was a member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Lucila Trevino of Garden City; son and daughter-in-law, Oscar and Martha Trevino of Garden City; daughter and son-in-law, Rosa and Ramiro Garza of St. Lawrence; daughter and son-in-law, Lucila and Fernando Dominguez of Odessa; son and daughter-in-law, Pedro "Pete" and Lucila Trevino of Dallas; son, Jesse Trevino of Granbury; son, Joe Trevino of Odessa; daughter, Mary Ellen Trevino of Athens; 17 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; four brothers and two sisters.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister.

The family suggests memorials be made to Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th Suite A, Big Spring 79720.

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

Eileen Zant

Eileen Zant, 85, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **MICHAEL RAY LEWIS**, 46, of 1502 Sycamore, was arrested Thursday on a charge of forgery.
- **MICHAEL RANDALL**, 34, of 912 Culp, was arrested Friday on seven local warrants.
- **FORGERY OF A FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT** was reported in the 500 block of Lamesa.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 2600 block of Dow.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 200 block of Eighth Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 52 inmates at the time of this report.
- **BRANDI NEUSER**, 32, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and theft.
 - **ESMEREILDO BALDERAS JR.**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole - blue warrant.
 - **CYNTHIA SALAZAR**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
 - **JACOBY SAMANTHA MENDEZ**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

Fire/EMS

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

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1100 block of W. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **GRASS FIRE** was reported near the intersection of Bealls Creek and FM 700.

Weather

Saturday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 40s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the east in the afternoon.

Saturday night...Clear. Lows in the mid 20s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s. South winds 15 to 20 mph.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Martin Luther king jr day...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s.

Monday night...Cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s.

Tuesday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

Wednesday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s.

Thursday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and fellowship in attaining and maintaining their physician-prescribed weight goals. For more information, call 263-6819 or 263-1758. Leave a message.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

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

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-7-11-12-19

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize: \$22,468.

Winning ticket sold in: Rockwall.

...

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-21-27-30. Bonus Ball: 4.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.

...

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-3-1-7. Sum It Up: 18.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-4-6. Sum It Up: 19.

Take Note

- American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Saturday at 3203 W. U.S. Highway 80. Everyone is invited. Serving will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Delivery is available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Plates are \$8 each.

- Cross stitchers are needed to complete one or more blocks of this year's Howard County Fair quilt. All supplies are provided. Blocks may be picked up from Posey Cotton Office, 601 Scurry, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. For information, call 263-1267 or 263-4980. This year's quilt theme is "Wildflowers of Texas." All proceeds from the sale of tickets for the quilt are used to defray the expenses of the Fair. The quilt will be awarded the last night of the fair.

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

- St. Mary's and friends of St. Mary's are holding a lap blanket drive to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

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

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Lebron lifts Cavs past Spurs, 90-88

By ELIZABETH WHITE

Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — LeBron James wasn't looking forward to a fourth overtime in three games.

So when San Antonio's Manu Ginobili shot the ball for the chance to tie with just seconds remaining, all James could do was hope the Spurs star missed.

Ginobili did, and James and the Cleveland Cavaliers were able to breathe easy.

"You know it was down to the last shot again for us going into overtime," said James, who scored 27 points in the Cavaliers' 90-88 victory Thursday night. "It was big to see the ball not go in with no time on the clock. Big win."

And while the Cavs were careful to treat the matchup like any other in the regular season, it could not have escaped anyone's attention that the win came against the team that swept them in last season's NBA finals.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas added 17 points for Cleveland, which has won three in a row, and Anderson Varejao scored 12 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in their first meeting with the Spurs since June's finals.

"The finals are over and done with," James said. "One thing we did tonight, we got defensive steps and we made plays down the stretch. ... We've just got to continue to play well. We've been playing great basketball lately."

Ginobili scored 31 points for the Spurs, and Tony Parker added 23 points but missed two free throws with 29.4 seconds to play that would have tied the game at 90.

"They both felt good. They just didn't go in," Parker said. "I shoot 200 free throws every day. It was a good chance to show my improvement. They just didn't go in."

Tim Duncan scored 20 points and had 11 rebounds for San Antonio, which has lost four games at home and dropped to 5-5 in its last 10 overall.

A goaltending call against James, coming off a season-high 51 points against Memphis, gave the Spurs an 86-85 lead with 1:34 to play, but Daniel Gibson's 3-pointer put Cleveland ahead.

Duncan tied it at 88 before James' winning layup gave the Cavs a 90-88 lead with 33.6 seconds left. Parker, with a chance to tie, missed his two free throws and Ginobili's last-second jumper attempt didn't fall.

"I'd do that 10 out of 10 times, you bet," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said of not taking a time out before the last play. "You're not going to get a better shot than Manu or Tony going one-on-one down the court."

Gibson, who added 11 points for Cleveland, agreed, and not because Popovich's decision resulted in the Cavaliers' win.

"It was a great call by Pop, to kind of let them go," Gibson said. "Because when you're in transition, it's tough to find a body. We were all scrambling looking for him."

The Spurs jumped out to a nine-point lead early and extended it to 10 early in the second quarter.

But the Cavaliers, behind Ilgauskas and Varejao, who scored nine and eight points in the quarter, respectively, went on a 17-2 run to go up 43-33 with 3:38 left in the quarter.

Only Ginobili, with 10 points in the second period, kept the Spurs afloat.

Cleveland, up 50-43 at half-time, took the lead with 7:30 left in the second quarter — and kept it until about halfway through the fourth quarter — off Damon Jones' fast break layup that broke a 31-all tie.

The Cavs extended their lead to eight points at 73-65 by the end of a third quarter in which the teams largely traded baskets, allowing Cleveland to keep San Antonio at bay.

Down 73-65 heading into the final quarter, Ginobili scored eight straight for the Spurs to open the period and bring San Antonio within 77-73. Spurs guard Brent Barry, in his first game since tearing a calf muscle in late December, scored his first points of the night on a 3-pointer that made it 77-76.

Parker's fast break to the rim with 6:42 left closed the Spurs' 13-4 run and gave them their first lead, 78-77, since 8:06 remained in the second quarter.

Barry's second 3 gave San Antonio another lead at 81-79 before Ilgauskas tied it at 81 with 5:08 to play.

Suns 106, Lakers 98

LOS ANGELES — Leandro Barbosa scored 22 points, Shawn Marion added 20 points and 16 rebounds, and the Phoenix Suns regained the Western Conference lead.

Boris Diaw scored 19 points, Amare Stoudemire and Raja Bell added 16 each, and Steve

Nash had 13 points and a season-high 20 assists for the Suns (27-12), who won for the eighth time in 11 games to move a half-game ahead of the Lakers.

Kobe Bryant scored 30 points, Lamar Odom had 19 points and 19 rebounds to match his career high, and Jordan Farmar added 16 points for the Lakers (26-12), who had their seven-game winning streak snapped. Los Angeles lost for just the fourth time in their last 21 games.

The Suns bounced back from a 40.7 percent shooting performance in a 97-90 loss to the Clippers two nights earlier, shooting 51.9 percent to 37.9 percent for the Lakers, playing their second game since center Andrew Bynum injured his left knee.

Nuggets 120, Jazz 109

DENVER — Linas Kleiza scored a career-high 41 points and Allen Iverson added 28 for the Nuggets. Carmelo Anthony scored 23 points, and Marcus Camby had 24 rebounds and 11 blocks for the Nuggets, who snapped a two-game losing streak.

Deron Williams had 23 points to lead the Jazz, whose four-game winning streak ended.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

a half-court prayer as time expired, making Howard's winning margin seven points.

Davis finished with 19 points and Louis Benson led the Thunderbirds with 21. Thomas

Melazzo also hit double digits with 14 points.

Corey Allmond was six of eight from behind the 3-point line, finishing with 24 points. Markeys Deans led Howard with nine rebounds and also had 12 points.

The win makes the Hawks 5-1 in conference play, guarantee-

ing them at least a share of the league's top spot in the current standings. However, with Clarendon College paying a visit Monday, Adams feels the Hawks won't be able to maintain that advantage if they don't figure out what was wrong against New Mexico.

"I'm about to go ask the play-

ers what the problem was," Adams said as he was headed into the locker room after the game. "Hopefully, we can get it figured out. We were just fortunate to win."

NMJC 28 44-72
HC 37 42-79

NMJC: Cory Davis 19, Ritchie Lewis 7, Kyrk Freeman 4, Galvin Shamburger 2, A.J.

Flournoy 3, Josh Smith 2, Thomas Melazzo 14, Louis Benson 21.

HC: Corey Allmond 24, Devon Baker 5, Denzel Barnes 6, Sean Watson 28, Corteze Isaac 2, Markeys Deans 12, Vladimir Gavranic 2

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

HC

Continued from Page 1B

Lambert didn't shoot with the same consistency early in the second half, but did sink two important baskets, helping Howard put an end to a New Mexico run.

"Candace did a good job moving without the ball and her teammates found her," Diddle said. "She's a typical rhythm

player. I told her in practice today that she needed to start looking for her shot. She played much more aggressive the whole game."

Lambert finished with 17 to lead Howard in scoring. Monica Jones posted a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

The Hawks outrebounded New Mexico 40-30 with Aqueelah Watkins pulling down a game-high 11 boards to lead the way. Watkins had eight offensive rebounds and

Howard had 18 offensive boards in the game, leading to 18 second chance points.

New Mexico was led by Brittany Foster's game-high 18 points and Malorie Marshall chipped in 17, but was also guilty of nine turnovers.

The win improves Howard's conference record to 3-2 with Clarendon College coming into town Monday. To Diddle, the Hawks need to win every game remaining on the schedule to secure a spot in the Region V

Tournament.

"The Western Texas game is gone, but that was a big game," Diddle said. "We're ready for Clarendon Monday and we've got to win that game. Every conference game is must win for us right now. We're playing to get into the region tournament. Our enthusiasm for the game wasn't the same tonight. We've got to pick that up quickly."

Tip off for Monday's game is 5:30 p.m.

NMJC 21 28-49
HC 37 29-66

NMJC: Malorie Marshall 17, Alana Bell 1, Alesha Jackson 6, Monique Lujan 2, Brittany Foster 18, Dominique Haywood 5.

HC (17-4, 3-2): Candace Lambert 17, Rachael Dryver 7, Monica Jones 12, Kandace Griffin 7, Danielle Cota 6, Aqueelah Watkins 9, Jotisha McDonald 2, Veronica Wilson 6, DeAndra Thomas 5.

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

GARRETT

Continued from Page 1B

the ball will only help us improve and get to where we want to be."

In Garrett's first year of building a game plan and calling plays, the Cowboys averaged the second-most points, third-most yards and fourth-most yards passing in the NFL.

Tony Romo shattered team passing records, Terrell Owens set various receiving records and Jason Witten had one of the most prolific seasons by a tight end in league history. Running back Marion Barber even made the Pro Bowl despite being a backup.

"We made great strides this year," Garrett said. "We didn't achieve all of our goals, but we're heading in the right direction. When (wife) Brill and I looked at each other we said, 'Boy, we have a great chance here in Dallas.'"

Phillips said the importance of having both coordinators back is something "I don't think you can emphasize enough."

Defensive coordinator

Brian Stewart is expected to return.

"That familiarity allows us to build upon what we were able to teach last year and puts us so far ahead of where we were at this time a year ago," Phillips said. "The players learned and accepted two new philosophies on both sides of the ball last year. We will now be able to build upon that."

Last week, there was so much speculation that Jones would push aside Phillips and promote Garrett to avoid losing him that Jones held a news conference in part to deny it. He denied it again Sunday, after Dallas' season-ending loss to the New York Giants.

Why all the fuss? Garrett, a Princeton graduate, impressed Jones during the years he spent as a backup to Troy Aikman in the 1990s; even then he was considered like a coach. His father, Jim Garrett, also worked for the organization for many years.

Although the 41-year-old Garrett has only been in coaching for three years — two in Miami before this past season in Dallas — he's already developed quite a reputation within

the league.

"Jason is an impressive individual and a talented football coach," Falcons general manager Tom Dimitroff said in a statement. "He has a terrific future ahead of him in the National Football League and we wish him all the best."

Garrett said he discussed his choices with several people, including his father and New Orleans coach Sean Payton, who coached him with the New York

Giants.

Payton's perspective was interesting because he had a chance to become coach in Oakland after his first season as the Cowboys' offensive coordinator but turned it down to remain in Dallas. Two years later, he went to the Saints and got them to the conference championship right away, winning coach of the year honors.

"I understand these opportunities don't come every day," Garrett said.

The one in Miami was filled Wednesday by Tony Sparano, who had been Dallas' assistant head coach and line coach. He worked closely with Garrett last season, helping ease him into the coordinator's job. Replacing Sparano — and, perhaps, other coaches who follow him to Miami

— is next on Jones' off-season-to-do list.

Phillips said the hiring of a line coach would happen "real quickly." A front-runner is Hudson Houck, who had the job from 1993-2001. Ironically, he became available when Parcells took over the Dolphins and swept out the assistants.

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

Contract Bridge
By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

East	South	West	North
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass			

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ 5 ♥ 9873 ♦ Q82 ♣ AQJ64
- ♠ 1063 ♥ J52 ♦ KJ542 ♣ A7
- ♠ QJ4 ♥ 96 ♦ A1075 ♣ KJ82
- ♠ KQ85 ♥ A8743 ♦ 10 ♣ Q76

- Three hearts.** Responses by a player who has previously passed are in a different category from those made by a player who did not previously pass. Obviously, a player who fails to open the bidding at his first turn denies the values required for an opening bid. His partner is therefore permitted to pass any response he makes if he thinks game is not possible opposite a passed hand. Thus, a two-club response here would not compel partner to bid again, even though, without a prior pass, it would be 100 percent forcing. For this reason, you should immediately show your support for partner's hearts, while at the same time inviting him to go to game. The three-heart bid can be passed when partner thinks a game can't be made, but the
- Two hearts.** This is preferable to either one notrump or two diamonds, either of which partner may pass. The heart raise has a better chance of spurring a further bid from partner because the knowledge of a trump fit will increase the overall value of his hand.
- Two notrump.** Ordinarily this response would indicate 13 to 15 high-card points, notrump distribution and stoppers in the three unbid suits. But after a player has passed originally, the point-count requirement becomes 11 or 12 points. In the present case, any response other than two notrump is unthinkable.
- Four hearts.** Evaluated in support of partner's opening one-heart bid, this hand now assumes the stature of a full opening bid. The golden rule of an opening bid facing an opening bid means game can therefore be applied, and you should bid it directly.

It would be foolhardy to raise partner to only three hearts and run the risk of a pass. This hand is far too likely to produce 10 tricks to justify such a risk.

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Pets

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ANSWERS

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

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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The moon quickens in sociable Gemini, and people and things that appeal to our intelligence and imagination amuse us. Quickly, three questions: Is it clever? Is there a puzzle or problem to solve? Is it novel and new?



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Exploring factoids and trivial tidbits just feels nourishing, like feeding the mind a satisfying bowl of alphabet soup.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Have no fear, the universe is on your side, which means that you cannot go wrong. And when it seems like you have made a mistake, there is a purpose for the action — a lesson you absolutely need.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Pay attention to your feelings. The uncomfortable ones will point you in the direction you have to go to increase the pleasure in your life. A Capricorn helps you decipher a code.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you pool resources with at least one other person, you can move mountains. You're not only a member of a team, you're also a driving force of the group.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You want to take a big leap forward, but it feels like something is holding you back. Trust that it's for the best. Rest and reassess your situation. You're too hardworking to ever be accused of laziness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A difficult person has something valuable to contribute to you. Try to hear past the prickly communication style and get to the helpful thing that actually being said.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your standards for yourself are already high, so let them be broad, as well. Allow for several ways of achieving your goal instead of one way. For now, the fewer restrictions you have on yourself the better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Complications arise. But there's something good about this turn of events. It bring people together and increases the flow of communication. If you've been avoiding a necessary talk, have it now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Whether it's getting to know your teenage children better or relating to clients from a

foreign land, in some way, you'll be peering into a different culture. Soak up the details, especially the key lingo and values of this group.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is no way to please all of the people. This should be liberating, since checking constantly to make sure everyone is still "OK" gets tiresome. New friends are as energetic and secure as you are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). What's love got to do with it? Everything, today — as you make the craziest choices in the name of that four letter word. Dear ones understand. So go ahead, be a fool for love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's a pesky work situation that returns like a boomerang until it's solved. Tonight, singles connect with someone devastatingly charming, and couples are won over by their partners once again.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Not usually one to act without thinking, you're in for a surprise. Your passionate nature emerges in a big way — some of you could even get married on a whim. Libra is an excellent choice for partnership of all kinds.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: Pick-up lines are passe (and subject to interpretation), but intelligence is attractive — and immune to fashion. TAURUS: You want something badly enough to try to convince them what's best for you is best for them, too. GEMINI: Your flirting and buzzing from event to event, topic to topic, person to person leaves them speechless.

CANCER: It's obvious to everyone that you're the boss, so allow a loved one to take charge for a change. LEO: A fabulous reconnection with a friend from the past gives your heart wings to fly. VIRGO: Your heart wants what it wants, and you sensitively, eloquently find the words to say it. LIBRA: Love comes in different thoughts and impressions. Consider all of them. You're bound to make at least one new discovery. SCORPIO: There's no greater freedom than giving simply because you have it to give. SAGITTARIUS: Someone's doing acrobats for your affections, so go ahead indulge the spirit of playful fun. CAPRICORN: Loved ones admire your knack for making the mundane clever and exciting. AQUARIUS: You take one more step toward mastering the art of freedom and togetherness. PISCES: It's hard to keep your thoughts secret any longer — and why should you?

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: When Pisces and Leo get together, everyone notices this duo's childlike wonder. Wherever they roll, a magical bubble of impressions, shapes, sounds and colors encircle this pair. How do they fare as a couple? Leo's pleased as punch to entertain the fish, but Fishy's wishy-washy resolve can dampen Leo's enthusiasm. The fish need periodic breaks from the spotlight heat Leo generates.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more

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Former chess champion, Cold War icon Bobby Fischer, dead at age 64

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP) — Bobby Fischer, the reclusive chess genius who became a Cold War hero by dethroning the Soviet world champion in 1972 and later renounced his American citizenship, has died. He was 64. Fisher died in a Reykjavik hospital on Thursday of kidney failure after a long illness, his spokesman, Gardar Sverrisson, said Friday. Born in Chicago and

raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., Fischer faced criminal charges in the United States for playing a 1992 rematch against Boris Spassky in Yugoslavia in defiance of international sanctions. In 2005, he moved to Iceland, a chess-mad nation and site of his greatest triumph. As a champion, he used his eccentricities to unsettle opponents, but Fischer's reputation as a genius of chess was soon

eclipsed, in the eyes of many, by his idiosyncrasies. "Chess is war on a board," he once said. "The object is to crush the other man's mind." Garry Kasparov, the former world chess champion from Russia, said Fischer's ascent in the chess world in the 1960s and his promotion of chess worldwide was "a revolutionary breakthrough" for the game.

Kennedy named secondary administrator at CISD

COAHOMA — Coahoma Independent School District trustees named Jay Kennedy secondary administrator during their Thursday night meeting. Kennedy, head football coach at the school for the past year, succeeds high school principal John Massey, who resigned in

December to become superintendent of schools in Eden. Kennedy was a long-time teacher/coach with Big Spring Independent School District before moving to



Kennedy

CISD in 2005. He will retain head coaching duties, Superintendent Jerry Johnson said. "We feel like he's a super individual and that he can handle both duties in a good manner," Johnson said.

DOWNES

Continued from Page 1A students at former stops during his educational career. Trustees decided to modify Downes' contract to address concerns raised by the complaint. "We believe this complaint will be determined in Mr. Downes' favor," said Alan Wolfe, attorney for the district. "And we are going to work closely with Mr. Downes' attorney in regards to the pending complaint." If the SBEC rules against Downes, he would

be unable to continue as superintendent because he would lack proper state certification, Wolfe said. Trustees declined comment on the matter. In other business Thursday, trustees: Accepted the resignations of high school teacher/coach Lilian Chavez, bilingual teacher Suzanne Delarosa, Director of Food Services Joann Knox and special education teacher Stephany Sledge. Approved the hiring of bilingual teacher Gloria Jean Govea, speech therapist assistant Nina V.

Ivanova, teacher coach Ashley King and special education teacher Melissa Valenzuela. Agreed to holding joint elections with the city of Big Spring this May. Contracted with County Election Administrator Sandra Bloom to conduct the May trustee elections. Named Business Manager Debbie Green the district's secretary of elections. Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

LAPTOPS

Continued from Page 1A Officials figuratively waved the white flag on the problem Monday, recalling all student laptops in order to "plug the holes" in the content filter. Wood said the recall and repair should take about two weeks. "We're simply closing the holes in the system," Wood said. "This filter is a permanent feature and not just a stop-gap measure." With the filter not performing as expected, some students were able to access unauthorized Web content, such as

blogs, message boards or pornographic sites, Wood said. Some instances also were reported on students abusing the "webcam" feature on the laptops, a feature that will now be disabled, Wood said. Despite these instances, officials said student misconduct has been at a minimum. "The number of instances involving harmful or pornographic activity is less than half of 1 percent," said Thomas Owens of the technology department. And Wood added that staff remains fully supportive of the program. "We've had some major hurdles to overcome,

some that were not anticipated and were not caused by anyone in our school district," he said. "But there have been good things come from this. We know the laptops can better prepare students to succeed in their coursework." "In any project, the first few months are the hardest," Owens added. "The important thing now is to stay the course. We have a plan; we're evaluating what is working, critiquing what isn't and building on that." Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1A "Eventually, we plan to have a fully accredited Bible college on site." The church, which has helped in downtown renovation efforts, plans the same with the Runnels property, Collins said. "We have a long-term goal — not just for the property, but that entire area," he said. "We have

a history of helping with this community ... we've shown that we are for Big Spring." Christopher Ryan, representing Runnels Place LLC, said the group had planned to convert the buildings into affordable housing. The main building on the Runnels property was constructed during the presidency of Woodrow Wilson in 1916. It originally served as Big Spring

High School, then was converted to use as a junior high in the 1950s, the purpose it served until its closure in 1998. Since that time, it has served as a storehouse for surplus district equipment. Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

INDICTED

Continued from Page 1A felony) and possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony). Bernardo Jacinto Hilario, 20, of 700 Abrams, possession of a controlled substance (third-degree felony). Frank Lee Jackson, 49, currently in the Howard County Jail, burglary of a habitation (first-degree felony, enhanced). Justin Allen Joy, 30, of 2400 Carlton Drive, possession of a controlled substance (third-degree

felony). Daniel Olivas, 43, of 1506 Wood, possession of a controlled substance (second-degree felony). Amanda Lynn Perryman, 40, of 225 Brooks Road, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony). Terry D. Spears, 40, of 608 S. Lancaster, possession of a controlled substance (second-degree felony) and possession of a controlled substance (third-degree felony). Harold Edward Wilson, 52, of 113 Tubb Loop Road, unlawful possession of a firearm by a

felon (third-degree felony). Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Pearl Dean Cotten, 64, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 3:00 PM Saturday. Burial will be at Coahoma Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 8:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Charles Dennard, 84, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside Services will be at 4:00 PM Sunday at Goldthwaite Memorial Cemetery.

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<p>"ONE" 2007 Ford Mustang V-6</p> <p>Up To \$2,500 Customer Cash Plus Dealer Discounts</p>	<p>"TWO" 2007 Ford Fusion SEs</p> <p>Up To \$3,000 Customer Cash Plus Dealer Discounts</p>

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- THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13) Fri. 4:40 PM 7:10 PM 9:40 PM Sat. 2:10 PM 4:40 PM 7:10 PM 9:40 PM
- CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) Fri. 5:00 PM 7:30 PM 10:00 PM Sat. 2:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:30 PM 10:00 PM
- THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) Fri. 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM Sat. 2:00 PM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- FFA and 4-H youth of Howard and Martin counties who are currently participating in stock shows. Hats off, too, to the sponsors, livestock show boards, moms and dads and others who make it all possible.

- All of you who purchased tickets and are sponsoring tables for Thursday's Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet which celebrates Howard County. If you haven't purchased a ticket, the deadline is 5 p.m. today at the chamber office.

- Jay Kennedy, on being named principal at Coahoma High School during Thursday's meeting of the Coahoma Independent School District board.

- The Convention and Visitors Bureau and Ken McIntosh for organizing last weekend's youth trout fishing contest at Comanche Trail Lake. Congratulations to the winners.

- Howard County Commissioners Court, for agreeing to turn over operations of the Senior Center to the city of Big Spring. We appreciate the hard work county officials put into the Center for many years but feel this is a good move simply because the city has more available assets.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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

May we concentrate on what we can accomplish, Lord, with You.

Amen

Funny thing happened one Sunday

This week's confession from a highly caffeinated Christian comes brewed with controversial observations on laughter.

Rules are not funny to me but rules can keep you out of a world of hurt. If there is a rule, it is probably because something happened that somebody else doesn't ever want to happen again. For example, we have "No Smoking" signs at the entrance of our church because Open Door Ministries tends to attract the "Marlboro man" to our services. Rather than run him off, we just want to keep him from firing one up during the announcements. You might think you don't have to ask people to refrain from smoking at church but we have discovered signs are required in Johnson County.

Jesus, Won't You Light His Fire?

There is a good reason why we have one person in charge of calling the prayer chain instead of just handing out the long list of phone numbers for our church's prayer warriors. We used to provide those phone numbers until one lady called through the entire church and asked us to pray for her husband's apparent erectile dysfunction and asked that "the spirit would move" at around 10 p.m. on Friday. When her poor husband found out, he called through the same list insisting that there was no physical problem and that he would probably be asleep by 10 p.m. on Friday anyway. We don't give out those numbers anymore.

Fire in the Sky

When I was young, I used to let

people in the crowd give testimonies but I quit handing the microphone over when one woman shocked the congregation in 1998. Her testimony was that she was in her back pasture when the "Mother Ship" landed not far from where she was standing. She wasn't sure if they were angels or "fire aliens" but something came out and ran her back into the house. I don't hand over the microphone anymore.

If you have church long enough, especially if you are an outreach church, your going to see things that you never thought would happen in a million years. Things that make you want to bust out laughing and make others want to run off crying.

Gun Fire

The first time I preached in Matamoros, Mexico, Pastor Gene Izaguira told me the Mafioso had just warned him not to be preaching anymore to their drug runners because too many had been converted to Christ. When he refused, the bad guys told Gene they would assassinate him behind his pulpit on that very night. Mind you, this was the first night I showed up down there to preach.

"So if somebody walks in and shoots you bro," he said with his hand on my shoulder, "it's nothing against you personally."

That night an armed gunman was stopped at the door by the two new converts who had not yet learned the doctrine of self-control. Forrest Griffin would have been proud of their "ground and pound" technique.

In the midst of the brutal beating, that young man decided to give his life to the Lord and is a big part of Gene's church to this day. That was my first time down there and I've been back more than 60 times since.

How can you not love a church like that?

Fire From Heaven

Just a few months ago, my band was playing at a motorcycle church in Chico, Texas. At the end of the service, a worn out practitioner came forward in his leather and long hair asking for prayer about his hearing. "I'm real scared and I need a miracle," he said to the pastor.

We laid hands on him and the man of God broke out some olive oil and put it on both his ears. The whole prayer team rebuked the devil, shouted at Heaven and proclaimed a miracle healing as our band played upbeat worship as backup. After a good 10 minutes of lively scripture quoting and charismatic breakthrough, the team got quiet and the pastor asked him how his hearing was? The man, with a confused look and oil dripping off both ears stated, "perfect, I can hear perfectly."

Just as praise began to bust out in the church, the man interrupted, "my ears are not the problem! It's tomorrow's court hearing I'm worried about."

I laughed so hard I had to leave the room.

A big part of having real victory in your life is being led by God to know what you should and should not take too seriously. If you are all wrapped up in yourself, you're a gift everybody else could do without. I double-dog-dare you to ask the Lord to give you a heart that loves to laugh. After all, that's His heart too.

"He will yet fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy."

Job 8:21

The Rev. Troy Brewer welcomes your comments. He can be e-mailed at troy@OpenDoorMinistries.org.

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Mortgage crisis needs a better fix

News of Swiss lending giant UBS taking a \$10 billion hit because of the U.S. subprime mortgage meltdown hung in the air last month. It caused a rally of civil rights groups, labor unions and housing activists on Wall Street to trumpet the cause of millions of Americans struggling with adjustable-rate, high interest and/or high-cost subprime mortgages. The rally, interestingly enough, attracted a substantial amount of foreign press — from Japan to Germany to England, demonstrating that the crisis has grown from one of domestic significance to one of global concern. Subprime woes in the United States threaten to cause major disruptions in both domestic and international credit markets as well as throw the U.S. and world economies into a tailspin. But worst of all, they threaten to devastate urban communities, where subprime lending helped millions of hard-working middle-class Americans into their own homes for the very first time, propelling homeownership rates, especially among minorities, to historic levels.

Americans who have lost jobs become temporarily disabled or incurred unexpected medical expenses have been forced to choose between paying the mortgage or repairing the car that transports them to the job that pays the mortgage. It is a vicious cycle exacerbated by inconsistent state laws on mortgage default and foreclosure and inconsistent policies of mortgage lenders and servicing companies in the way they approach delinquent borrowers.

That is why the National Urban League unveiled its Homebuyer's Bill of Rights earlier this year in the first place. We believe that, in the case of default, homebuyers struggling with their mortgages should be afforded the following:

- The opportunity for loan restructuring that includes conversion to fixed-rate loans.
- Fair and unbiased counseling.
- Accessibility to reasonable workout plans that promote home preservation to the greatest extent possible and resort to foreclosure when all other options are exhausted.

Moves by lenders to amend their approach to dealing with delinquencies have given hope to some homeowners teetering on the brink of default. That combined with a Bush administration proposal to freeze interest rates for some adjustable-rate mortgage holders represent small but promising steps to address the crisis. President George W. Bush described the effort as a "sensible response to a serious challenge." According to the White House, as many as 1.2 million Americans stand to benefit. Industry experts, however, have revised that statistic downward to between 250,000 to 400,000.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson played a major role in brokering the agreement with lenders and conceded that it was "not a silver bullet" but would give the nation a "chance to work through a housing cycle." In other words, it buys select borrowers time or, in the words of Rep. Barney Frank, "kicks the can down the road." Paulson assumes that an improved housing market in five years will enable borrowers struggling to make payments to sell their homes off at a profit than not. But we need more than good intentions from our leaders.

What we need is a giant leap forward to keep the subprime cancer from spreading to other parts of the U.S. economy and elsewhere.

Even as the average interest rate on a 30-year fixed-rate loan fell last month to less than 6 percent, subprime borrowers with adjustable rate mortgages will still have trouble refinancing under the Bush administration's proposal. That's largely because the qualifications are strict — borrowers must live in the home and cannot have missed more than one payment in the past 12 months.

"Investors may have thought that Mr. Bush and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson stuck their fingers in a hole in the dyke, thus forestalling disaster. But given the rising tide of bad debt across the economy, today's actions are more like throwing a sandbag into a rising Mississippi River," observed Daniel Gross, a columnist for Slate magazine. "That awful smell in Midtown isn't from the horse-drawn carriages carrying tourists around. It's the distinctive odor of debt going bad."

That's not just mortgage debt. All kinds of debt. We'd be fools to assume that the subprime fiasco is an isolated and contained situation.

Just ask the foreign press. There's a reason why the rest of the world is watching what happens here.

Marc H. Morial is president and CEO of The National Urban League. He served two distinguished four-year terms as mayor of New Orleans from 1994-2002. During that time, he also served as President of the United States Conference of Mayors in 2001 and 2002.

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Club News

Big Spring/Howard County Retired Teachers

The Big Spring/Howard County Retired Teachers Association will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. All retired school personnel in and around Howard County are encouraged to attend.

Guest speaker for the meeting will be Tim Lee, director of the Texas Retired Teachers Association. He will update members on the status of efforts to improve the amount of Social Security benefits received by retirees who have earned them. There will be a question and answer opportunity and he will discuss pending legislation that would affect retired personnel.

The RTA is proactive in legislative affairs concerning retired education employees. We were very involved in the process that resulted in a 13th check for retirees, and during the time before the 2009 legislative session, we plan to be in contact with legislators and to raise awareness of the need for a raise for retirees. It has been several years since retired school personnel received an increase in our annuity.

This meeting will be interesting and informative to all retired school personnel, whether or not they are members of RTA.

Texas Mountain Trail Writers

The Texas Mountain Trail Writers invite all new and published writers for a weekend of recharging your batteries in the beautiful mountains of West Texas. On March 28-30, the Alpine and Big Bend writers will host their 17th Annual Spring Retreat at Camp Mitre Peak Girl Scout Camp halfway between Alpine and Fort Davis. Learn how to hone your writing skills, sell your words and publish in several venues while relaxing in the rugged Davis Mountains.

Dubbed a "Writing Round-Up," the conference will offer western flair, professional speakers, relaxing activities and western "grub." The exciting roster includes Ross McSwain of San Angelo, who for many years wrote the popular Out Yonder column in the *San Angelo Standard Times*. McSwain focuses on historical research, separating fact from myth and folklore and writing for pleasure and for money. Ross' topics are pure West Texas and great entertainment.

Another conference highlight is the duo of Lynn Adler and Lindy Hearne, who will give presentations on song writing and poetry connections, mixing their writing expertise with

homegrown musical performances. The entertaining couple categorizes themselves as writers and singers of "a spiritual blend of folk-country blues-grass."

The fourth professional author who will inform and entertain is Dr. Laura Payne Butler, assistant professor of writing at Sul Ross State University, editor of *New Texas: A Journal of Literature and Culture* and fiction writer. Butler will share tips on getting published in literary markets and creating fiction to sell.

This workshop promises to aid writers in gaining motivation, knowledge and expertise in many genres of writing and publishing. All the speakers have multiple years of experience and look forward to sharing in the rustic atmosphere of the Davis Mountains.

The cost of this fun and fact-filled weekend, from a Friday night reception to Sunday brunch, including all meals, is \$100 for members if paid before Feb. 29 and \$110 for non-members if paid before Feb. 29.

For more information or conference overview and registration forms, contact Reba Cross Seals at 432-837-2919, Jackie Siglin at 432-364-2399, or Kip Piper at 432-386-6646.

TOPS Tx Club 21

TOPS Tx 21 met at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center at 306 W. Third Monday, Jan. 14, 2008. TOPS club provides its members with the support, encouragement and educational opportunities they need to make healthy, permanent lifestyle changes. We care about your health and we want you to take off pounds sensibly.

This week, the meeting opened with Olnee Menges presiding as co-leader. Hughetta Roberts led the prayer for our continued weight loss and for members who have been ill. Carol Smith gave a reading clipped out of the *Big Spring Herald* titled "How many reasons will it take to get active?"

Genay Bertran gave the roll call, where each member gets to tell whether they had a loss or gain. There was a tie for best loser of the week between Smith and Menges with each losing three pounds and receiving the one dollar prize and certificate.

Olnee gave the program, "Exercising the Soul."

The club decided to continue the current contest where members who gain weight that week donate a kitchen or household item to the "pot" and the "Best Loser" will take all at the end of the contest. TOPS meets each Monday at 5 p.m. at the DRRC. Call 263-1758 for more information.



Courtesy photo
Kentwood Elementary School Science Fair participants include, left to right, front row, Katie Wash, Seth Hamby and Hunter Wigington, and back row, Dominique Penny, Bailee Allen, Kaylee Dyer, Danielle Conner and Josh Baker.

Kentwood holds Science Fair

Kentwood Elementary School hosted a Science Fair for its third and fourth graders before the holiday break.

Winners were: Bailee Allen, fourth grade, Earth Science; Danielle Conner, third grade, Animal Science; and Joshua Baker, fourth grade, Chemistry.

Each of these winners will have the option to advance to the

UTPB Regional Science Fair on Saturday, March 8.

The overall winner was Bailee Allen. She will receive a Howard College Kids College Tuition Waiver for 2008.

Other participants included Dominique Penny, Hunter Wigington, Katie Wash, Kaylee Dyer and Seth Hamby.

King ceremony set for Monday

Martin Luther King Jr., one of the most influential civil rights leaders in American history, will be remembered during a program set for 6 p.m. Monday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

Dr. George Bell, pastor of the Greater Ideal Baptist Church of Midland will present the program.

Big Spring High School student Joshua Wilson will recite King's stirring speech, "I Have a Dream."

Members of a community choir will provide music and officials from the city, county, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the League of United Latin American Citizens will speak.

The program is free.

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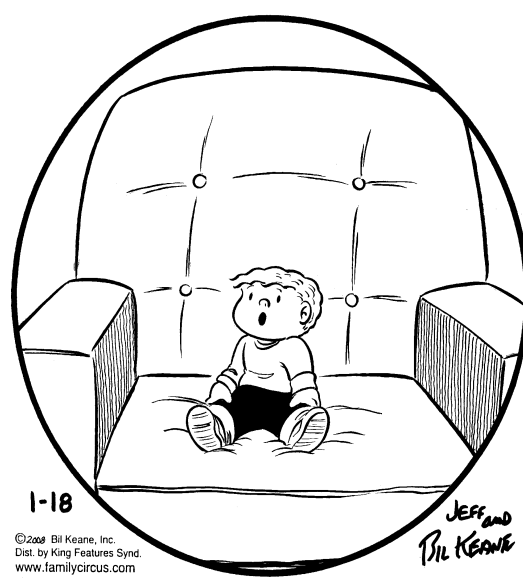
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6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two/Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	John Hagee	News-Lehrer	How It's Made How It's Made		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Movie: Boycott	Han, Montana Han, Montana	Boxing: Gatti vs. Robinson	NBA Basketball:	Haunted (CC)
7:PM :30	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Amar sin Limites	Bones (CC)	Ghost Whisperer	Madre Luna	1 vs. 100 (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Update Review Alan Granger	Wash. Week NOW on PBS	Survorman (CC)	Movie: Death Wish V: The	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Movie: Stealth (CC)		Movie: High School Musical 2 (CC)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights	Portland Trail Blazers at	Flash Gordon (CC)
8:PM :30	Desperate Housewives	Desperate Housewives	Pasion	House (CC)	Moonlight (CC)	Victoria	Friday Night Lights (CC)	Movie: Cheaper by the Dozen (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Bill Moyers Journal (CC)	Man vs. Wild (CC)	Face of Death	Shocking Moments					Miami Heat NBA	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
9:PM :30	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Familia-Luche Retro P. Luche	TMZ (CC) Raymond	NUMB3RS (CC)	Pecados Ajenos (CC)	Las Vegas (CC)	the Dozen (CC)		Slavery and America	Fight Quest Wish V: The	Movie: Death Wish V: The	Most Amazing Videos	Movie: Stealth (CC)	Girlfriends Girlfriends	That's-Raven Life Derek	Tennis: Australian	Basketball: Golden State	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noiciero Univ.	Two/Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	J.R. Church Rico Cortes	Charlie Rose (CC)	Fight Quest Wish V: The	Face of Death	Disorderly Con.	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	Open -- Early Round -- Day	Warriors at Chicago Bulls	Flash Gordon (CC)	
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Fabrica de Risas	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	Decisions	Late Night Snow Day (CC)	In Touch-Dt	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Survorman (CC)	Movie: The Dark Half	MXC MXC		Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Replacements Kim Possible	6 (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	Stargate Atlantis (CC)	
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News		Update Review CCM Ministries	Sign Off	Man vs. Wild (CC)		Game Head Game Head	Movie: Blade: Trinity (CC)	Comicview (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	NBA	NFL Live NBA Fastbreak (CC)	

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"OL' MARGARET WOULD RATHER READ ABOUT HAVIN' FUN THAN DO IT."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"This chair's too big for me now, but I'll grow into it."

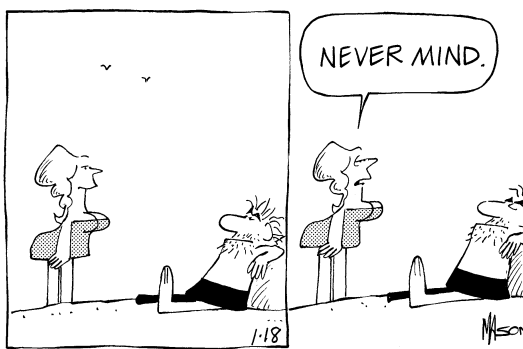
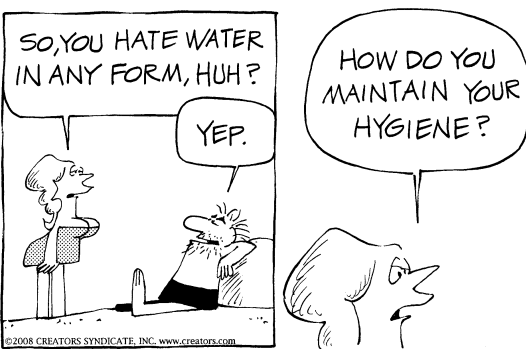
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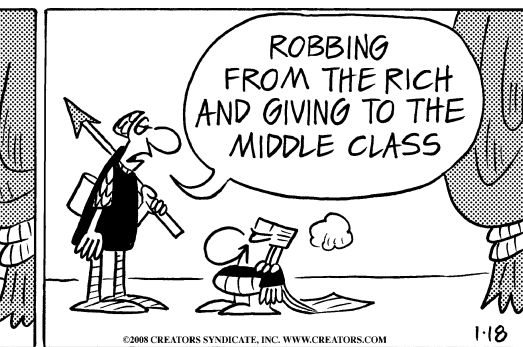
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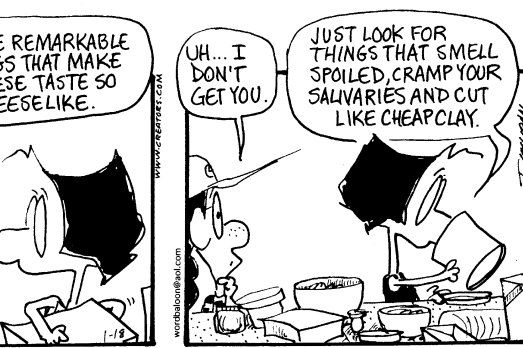
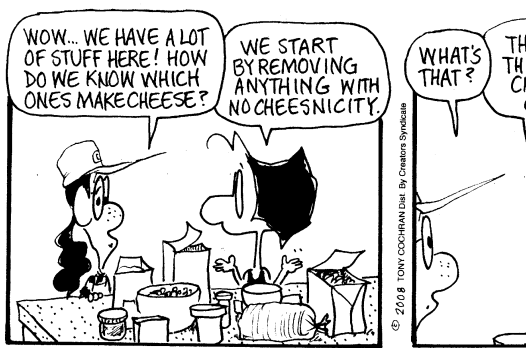
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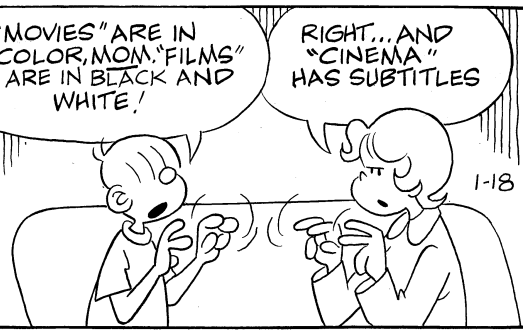
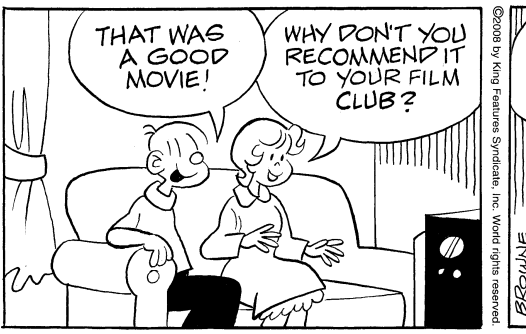
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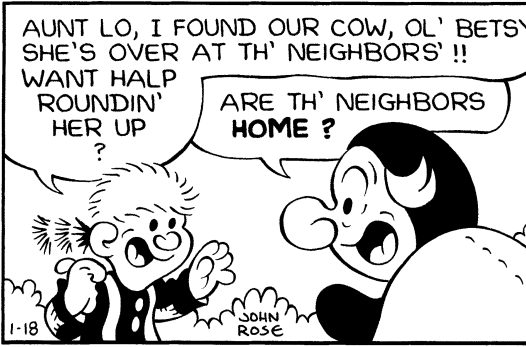
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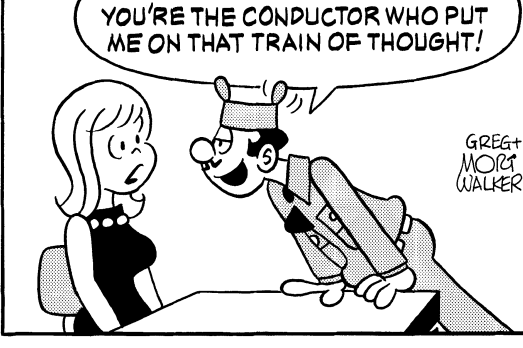
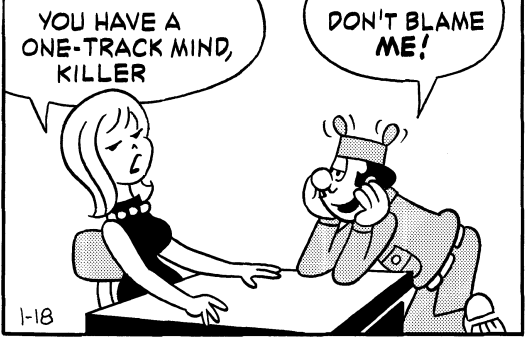
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 18, the 18th day of 2008. There are 348 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Jan. 18, 1912, English explorer Robert F. Scott and his expedition reached the South Pole, only to discover that Roald Amundsen had beaten them to it. (Scott and his party perished during the return trip.)

On this date:
In 1778, English navigator Capt. James Cook reached the Hawaiian Islands, which he dubbed the "Sandwich Islands."

In 1871, William I of Prussia was proclaimed German Emperor in Versailles, France.

In 1919, the Paris Peace Conference, held to negotiate peace treaties ending World War I, opened in Versailles, France.

In 1943, a wartime ban on the sale of pre-sliced bread

in the U.S. — aimed at reducing bakeries' demand for metal replacement parts — went into effect.

In 1943, during World War II, the Soviets announced they had broken through the long Nazi siege of Leningrad (it was another year before the siege was fully lifted).

In 1957, a trio of B-52's completed the first non-stop, round-the-world flight by jet planes, landing at March Air Force Base in California after more than 45 hours aloft.

In 1967, Albert DeSalvo, who claimed to be the "Boston Strangler," was convicted in Cambridge, Mass., of armed robbery, assault and sex offenses. (Sentenced to life, DeSalvo was killed in prison in 1973.)

In 1990, a jury in Los Angeles acquitted former preschool operators Raymond Buckey and his mother, Peggy McMartin Buckey, of 52 child molestation charges.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director John Boorman is 75. Singer-songwriter Bobby Goldsboro is 67. Comedian-singer-musician Brett

Hudson is 55. Actor-director Kevin Costner is 53. Country singer Mark Collie is 52. Actress Jane Horrocks is 54. Comedian Dave Attell is 43. Actor Jesse L. Martin ("Law & Order") is 39. Rapper DJ Quik is 38. Rock singer Jonathan Davis (Korn) is 37. Singer Christian Burns (BBMak) is 35. Actor Derek Richardson is 32. Actor Jason Segel is 28. Actress Samantha Mumba is 25.

Thought for Today: "Of all the liars in the world, sometimes the worst are your own fears." — Rudyard Kipling, British author and poet (1865-1936).

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Answer to previous puzzle

CLAD	MAGS	AKA
HOUR	OLLA	LINED
ECRU	FLAN	GOTTA
WHAM	FIDDLE	WITH
SHOED	ERASES	
PLUTO	SEEN	
OUTING	NET	BENE
SLICKER	RIVULET	
HULK	AYN	LEGION
READ	ELENA	
INSITU	TERSE	
CELLOPHANE	BONE	
EMAIL	ALIE	EGAD
TONAL	VIAL	ALMA
TDS	EELS	DEEM

Newsday Crossword

EAS-Y PUZZLE by Rich Silvestri
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | |
| 1 "Uh-uh!" | 1 Like today's gas | 7 Dated |
| 4 Chatters | 2 Have high hopes | 8 Ballerina wear |
| 8 Moderate | 3 Refused to be discouraged | 9 Send flying |
| 14 Columbus initials | 4 Leave alone | 10 Insignificant |
| 15 Rival of Bjorn | 5 Shampoo additive | 11 Corona kin |
| 16 "Softly, As You" | 6 Current conduit | 12 Time just before |
| 17 Hosp. worker | | 13 Like some srs. |
| 18 Legends | | 21 Boater, for one |
| 19 Semiprecious stone | | 22 Scout's quest |
| 20 Really thirsty Brit's request? | | 26 Ground-breaking discovery |
| 23 Something for Sutherland | | 27 Piece of okra |
| 24 Had | | 29 Actor Wilson |
| 25 Upper bound | | 30 Ice initials |
| 28 University of North Texas site | | 31 <i>The Hollow Men</i> poet |
| 31 High lines | | 32 Make tracks |
| 32 Man of the hour | | 34 A bit under |
| 33 Ambergis source | | 35 Up to snuff |
| 35 Had a bug | | 36 Sly guy |
| 36 Ms. Arthur, letter by letter? | | 37 Write |
| 39 Far more than once | | |
| 41 Where you might turn in | | |
| 42 Transaction of interest | | |
| 43 Automated Web assistant | | |
| 44 Set right | | |
| 49 ___ Mar, CA | | |
| 50 Adjectival suffix | | |
| 51 Where you might turn in | | |
| 52 Former sailor's lament? | | |
| 58 Urge onward | | |
| 60 Near the runway | | |
| | | 38 Something sparking |
| | | 39 Former |
| | | 40 Adversary |
| | | 43 Plays a tattoo |
| | | 45 Second It's subordinate |
| | | 46 Potion portion |
| | | 47 Shim, for example |
| | | 48 Dull |
| | | 50 Without letup |
| | | 53 Sheriff Taylor's lad |
| | | 54 Particular |
| | | 55 Where Timbuktu is |
| | | 56 It's sometimes made up |
| | | 57 Half a course |
| | | 58 Office fixtures |
| | | 59 Least bit |

Church News

First United Methodist Church

Tomorrow, our mission team leaves for Matagalpa, Nicaragua. We ask your prayers for a safe trip, a successful and blessed mission and safe and timely return home Jan. 26.

The Rev. Dr. Jim Smith, interim pastor, will deliver sermons at both services of worship on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. with Sunday School classes for all ages in between at 9:45 a.m.

The children's choir has begun rehearsal for its spring musical, "Simon Says," the rockin' trial of Simon Peter. Rehearsals will continue under the direction of Miz Stacy each Sunday at 4 p.m. for ages 4 years through the sixth grade. Presentation is scheduled for April 27.

Sunday evening, Namiqa Shipman, district superintendent for the Big Spring District of the United Methodist Church will deliver "Islam, Separating Fact From Fiction." This two-hour presentation draws on her first-hand, life-long association with, and understanding of the Islamic faith and culture. Namiqa brings a unique perspective to the current national dialogue around the subject of Islam. Garrett Hall is the location, 6 p.m. the time.

Under the direction of our new youth director, Brent Williams, the youth are planning a Valentine Banquet for Saturday, Feb. 9. This is to be a service project for the group and will include food, fun and entertainment. It's a gift from our youth. Be sure to pick up your free tickets in the church office.

If you are searching for a church home in this new year, we urge you to give us a try. We're located in the heart of downtown Big Spring at Fourth and Scurry streets. We'll be lookin' for you.

First Presbyterian Church

The congregation appreciated having Delores Currie come to the rescue by playing the organ for ailing organist Mike Mitchell. Finding an organist on a last-minute basis is difficult, and we are thankful that she is willing to share her talent with us.

The youth group resumed its regular Wednesday meeting at 6 p.m. this week. They are preparing for the upcoming Tres Rios Youth Connection 2008 retreat at Prude Ranch near Fort Davis, Feb. 1-3. The keynote speaker for that event will be Caressa Murray.

Midweek Bible study is at 5:17 p.m. and choir practice at 6 p.m.

Presbyterian Women will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the library for their continued study of "Above and Beyond, Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth," by Carol M. Bechtel.

The Session will hold its annual Session Retreat for training new elders

and refreshing previously trained one here at the church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Sunday morning services will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. The new class for adults and older youth meets in the Theater Room. This study is based on the book, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Step out of the Boat" by John Ortberg, senior pastor at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church of Menlo Park, Calif. The Jan. 13 session was led by Lucy and Pascal Odom. Rip and Claudie Patterson will lead Sunday's session.

The children's Sunday school classes began a new unit Jan. 13 titled "Boy Jesus at the Temple." This story will be explored through art, audio visual presentations, computer, drama, story telling, games, music and crafts. Every child should find something to interest her/him in these activities.

The other adult Sunday school class, led by John Ferguson and Max Green, meets in the church library.

Following Sunday school classes, everyone is invited to gather in the church parlor to enjoy the fellowship and food during the "Take Ten" minutes before worship service at 11 a.m.

The youth will be in charge of the worship Sunday. Their presentation will revolve around their mission trip to Port Arthur last summer to help rebuild houses lost in the hurricane. They plan to make another such mission trip this summer and that effort has been extended to include the youth of our entire Tres Rios Presbytery. Please be there to hear these young Christians share their experiences.

Lectionary for this Sunday is Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Worship services and Holy Communion are at 9 a.m. Sunday school and adult Bible classes are at 10:15 a.m. Scripture reader is Ken Moore.

Prayer lists are listed in the bulletin each week for those with health concerns, many with cancer, those who are taking care of aging parents, bereavements, a long list of military personnel, travel and special blessings for three of our members each week. Please let the church know if you have someone you want on our prayer lists.

Operation Ongoing Support continues with January care package items as follows: Foil pack (easy open) tuna or chicken, blank CD's (RW) and or jewel cases, Pringles (small cans) any flavor. Don't forget the AT&T phone card fund.

The LWML, along with the Sunday school and Thrivent Financial Services, will be donating more than \$1,700 to the



Anna Ward Smith, center, received a Valiant Woman Award from Church Women United. Also pictured are Madelyn Boadle, left, and Gladys Thompson, CWU president.

Smith receives Valiant Woman Award given by Texas Church Women United

Anna Ward Smith of the First Church of God of Big Spring has been presented a Valiant Women Award for the state of Texas division of Church Women United.

"The CWU told us 'Look around your unit and find a woman who has given service to CWU, her own church and her community for an extended period of time,'" said Gladys Thompson, CWU president. "She does not have to always be a leader but can be someone who leads in a quiet way through her example. Find an individual who lives the Gospel message in her everyday life."

"That's easy," said Gladys. "That's Anna!"

Anna is remembered well as a long-time Big Spring educator. The North Ward and West Ward schools were her initial work areas. Following that, she spent 18 years at Howard College where she retired as dean of students in the early 1970s.

Anna's early life experiences led her to believe "We can accomplish so much more as a group than as individuals. In the group process, one not only gains extra accomplishments. We also gain extra knowledge in learning from each

other."

Already active in her own church, her beliefs led her to become active in the Big Spring unit of CWU.

"I did anything for a buck" to keep the organization vibrant, said Anna. One of her constant tasks was keeping up with all the churches in Big Spring. She extended invitations to the women to join the work of CWU so that all could learn and grow in spirituality, together.

One of CWU's earliest and most memorable projects was the West Side Recreation Center on West Fifth Street, recalled Gladys. World War II created a new phenomena. America's mothers were needed in the workforce and Big Spring needed a place for their children. Thus, the West Side Recreation Center was established.

"The tireless work of the women of CWU helped make it an institution that is still fulfilling a need in Big Spring," said Gladys.

Upon presenting Anna with the Valiant Women Award, Gladys noted, "All your work was not in vain. Those you paved the road for wanted you to know that you are not forgotten."

Howard County Bible classes in our high schools. We are so blessed in this community to be able to have these classes for our young people. The organizers were able to get this program done in the right manner.

Our Sunday school had become much more active lately. Bruce Schooler is superintendent and Angela Newton is working hard to get our Sunday school thriving.

Thank you notes continue to come in from the Lutheran chaplains in Iraq for all the goodies we have been able to send to the military. They appreciate being remembered.

We had our first service from the new Lutheran Service Book last Sunday. Some of the songs in the service are new but really nice. I look forward to having the hymnals in

our hands. The last one was printed in 1982.

God's blessings to all of you!

St. Paul is at 810 Scurry St. The photo number is 267-7163. The pastor is Wayne Frost.

First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church is honored to host The Stamps Quartet next Friday, Jan. 25. The concert begins at 7 p.m. No ticket is needed. A love offering will be taken. We would also be honored to have you as our guest for this evening of worship.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Sunday worship service is at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. A nursery is provided. We are located at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Children's Church is during Sunday morning worship for ages

4-9.

For a ride to Sunday school or church, call 264-9924 or 267-7157. Midweek prayer meeting service is at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The men are having a

breakfast Saturday and a workday.

There will be a ladies meeting also Saturday to discuss the upcoming Valentine Banquet and a Secret Sister drawing.

For information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma

This Saturday, the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma invites members, friends, neighbors and anyone who would like to enjoy an evening of family fun, food and fellowship to come to the first "Frolic" of the year. It will be held at 7 p.m. in the church social hall. We will share a light meal and the talents of anyone who wishes to perform.

This Sunday, designated as the second Sunday in Ordinary Time, the lectionary is Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; Corinthians 1:1-9; and John 1:29-42. Our Sunday worship service begins at 11 a.m.

The first Sunday in February (Feb. 3), Linda Berry and Merlene Brown will be ordained and installed as elders for the Class of 2010.

College Baptist Church

Members of College Baptist Church are looking forward to Discovery Day this Sunday, which has been designated High Attendance Sunday.

Sunday school classes with the highest percentage of members present will be recognized in the morning worship service.

Dr. M. Sheets will be guest speaker when Serendipity meets at 6 p.m. Monday. Dr. Sheets will speak on recognizing signs of depression, with emphasis on helping those who are depressed or suicidal.

Anyone planning to attend who needs child care is invited to call the church office at 267-7429.

CBC youth, with youth minister Bobby Floyd, will attend the Ignite Conference in Lubbock

See **CHURCH**, Page 8A

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MINUTES OF COUNTY FINANCES TREASURER'S REPORT
IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY FINANCES IN THE HANDS OF TERESA THOMAS TREASURER OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.
COMMISSION'S COURT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS IN REGULAR SESSION JANUARY TERM 2008
IN ACCORDANCE with Section 114.026, Local Government Code, we, the undersigned constituting the entire Commissioners Court of said County, certify that on the 14th day of January, 2008 at the Regular term of Court, we compared and examined the monthly report of TERESA THOMAS, Treasurer of Howard County, Texas, for December, 2007, and finding the same correct, entered an order in the Minutes approving said Report, which states total cash and other assets on hand as \$3,368,991.42.
Mark Barr, County Judge
Emma Brown, Commissioner Pct. 1
Jerry Kilgore, Commissioner Pct. 2
W.B. "Bill" Crooker, Commissioner Pct. 3
Gary Simer, Commissioner Pct. 4
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, by Mark Barr, County Judge, and County Commissioners of said Howard County, each respectively, on this the 14th day of January, 2008.
Attest: Donna Wright, County Clerk
FILED FOR RECORD THIS 14TH DAY OF January, 2008, and recorded on the 14th day of January, A.D. 2008.
Donna Wright, County Clerk and Ex-Officio clerk of the Commissioners Court in and for Howard County, Texas.
By: Brent Zitterkopf, Deputy

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over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.



Randy Cotton
Pastor



St. Paul Lutheran Church youth held a balloon launch last Sunday. The balloons contained information about the church and a Bible verse.

St. Paul youth hold balloon launch

St. Paul Lutheran Sunday school students, accompanied by adults, launched more than 100 balloons Sunday morning after their morning worship service.

As the group gathered in the vacant lot north of the church on Scurry Street, Pastor Wayne Frost read a prayer for "wherever and whomever the balloons reached that they might be blessed and encouraged by God's love for them."

Each balloon had a card attached to it with information about St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Sunday school with the address of

the church and times of services. On the back of each card was written the Bible verse, John 3:16 "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

It is the prayer of the Sunday School children that these words may just be the encouragement that the person who found it needs to remind them of God's love for them. The card attached to the balloon further had a note on it encouraging anyone who found the balloon to please respond by sending an e-mail to the Sunday

school's e-mail account. Already by Monday morning, e-mails had been received from people finding the balloons.

The children of the Sunday school are anxious to find out just how far some of the balloons went and who received them. If you happen to find one of the balloons in your yard, please send an e-mail to the address on the card (splsundayschool@yahoo.com) or give a call to the St. Paul Lutheran Church office at (432) 267-7163 and let us know where the balloon came down.



Courtesy photo
East Fourth Baptist Church welcomes Pastor Keith Weaver and wife Denise.

Bro. Keith Weaver to lead congregation at East Fourth Baptist

The membership of East Fourth Baptist Church welcomes their new pastor, Bro. Keith Weaver and wife Denise to Big Spring.

Keith was born Feb. 3, 1962, in Amarillo and grew up in Tyler. He was saved at 13 while working at a church day camp for younger children. On a mission trip in Central America, God called him into the ministry. He was licensed to preach in 1983 and became a minister in 1988.

Keith's first calling was as a youth minister. He has a great love for youth and a desire to see them reach their full potential in the Lord. While a youth minister, he organized many youth camps and saw a large number of youth come to know the Lord as their Savior.

In the ministry for the last 24 years, Bro. Keith has seen the Lord do great and mighty works.

He has a deep love for the people of God, desiring them to have an intimate relationship with the Heavenly Father. He not only has a burden for the lost, but an even greater burden for the lost church member. He feels a church must meet the needs of each family, including mature adults, young adults, single adults, youth and children.

Keith and Denise are

the parents of two children, Michael and Ashley. They also have two granddaughters.

Denise has always played an important role in Keith's ministry. She is not only a great prayer partner, but she has an anointed ministry herself. God has blessed Denise with many talents. An accomplished pianist, she also sings and enjoys teaching young adults and working with children and youth choirs. God has also blessed her with her own ministry to women, holding retreats in Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado. She was the Women's Retreat/Seminar Leader for the Mesa Verde Southern Baptist Association in 2006.

Anyone seeking a church home or wishing to visit is invited to East Fourth Baptist at 401 E. Fourth St.

Sunday services include Sunday school for all ages from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., morning worship service from 11 a.m. to noon, RAs, GAs and youth (Challengers) from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. and evening service from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday services are Bible study are adult Bible study and youth Bible study and choir and children's Bible study and choir (ages 6-12), all at 7 p.m.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 7A

today and Saturday.

Spring Tabernacle Ministries

We're still praising God for being able to give 202 children four presents apiece and each family a bag of oranges and stocking stuffers for Christmas.

The food ministry and clothing ministry are servicing about 30 to 50 families a week.

The Path seems to be meeting so many needs of the people from all walks of life. Many are seeking a closer walk with the Lord. The anointing is so powerful — it breaks the yoke of bondage and brings such peace to so many hearts.

We're praising and worshipping God for all His blessings Sunday at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. We are so blessed by the presence of the Lord. We invite any and all to join us. Sunday nights we have prayer and praise. If you like singing, come and be with us.

We will have our Camp Meeting for Global Missions of Canada Feb. 8-10. People will be coming from Canada and across the United States.

Spring Tabernacle is located at 1209 Wright St.

Chapel of Faith

The Chapel of Faith, 14th and Goliad, is an interdenominational church with an informal worship service held Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Joel Miller presents a meaningful message from the Bible each Sunday.

The message, singing hymns and visiting comprise the morning worship. If this sounds like a church you would like to attend, you will certainly be welcome.

As the church moves toward being established as an official church, committees were named and by-laws were written as the first step toward incorporation.

The goal now is to furnish the church building; therefore, the trustees are looking for used pews, children's table and chairs, items for the nursery and a sound system. If

you know where any these items might be available, please call Pastor Miller at 267-4082.

Come worship with a church filled with love for God. The Chapel of Faith, 14th and Goliad, Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Call 267-4082 for more information.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Sunday will be a special day at Spring Creek Fellowship.

Worship Pastor Stan Hanes, along with Kevin Freeman and Jeremy Alley, will be commissioned for the mission trip they will be leaving for Jan. 25. We will have a special time of prayer and dedication for these men this Sunday. They will be spreading God's saving message and distributing clothes to the needy children along the Amazon. It is exciting to be part of sharing God's Word in all parts of the world.

Pastor Dennis Teeters will continue his series of sermons on the fruit of the Spirit. This Sunday's sermon title is "Fruit of the Spirit — Peaceful, Easy Feeling" and will be based on Ephesians 2:11-22.

Sunday evening at 6 p.m., Pastor Teeters will continue a series on Who is God? This Sunday, the sermon title is "This is My Father's World."

Sunday morning begins with fellowship at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Sunday school connection times begin at 9:30 a.m. with a connection group for every member of your family.

We have a wonderful time of Bible study for all ages Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. We have a ladies Bible study taught by Carol Hanes. This is the new Beth Moore study "Stepping Up." The men have a Bible study and Kevin and Karen Freeman and teaching a child discipline class. We have AWANAs for the kids and youth choir for the teens.

We want to connect with you. Come out and visit and be welcomed warmly.

You get to Spring Creek Fellowship by going east on I-20 to the Salem exit. Take a left under the highway and a left on the service road. SCF is on the right just before you get to the on ramp. We'll be looking for you!



Courtesy photo
Henry Mitchell won the .22 mag rifle given away by Birdwell Lane Baptist Church. The funds went to help send Trent Newton on a trip to Europe through the People to People program. Mitchell is from Sand Springs.

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