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Pellet guns and costume robberies

It was a crazy evening for Big Spring law enforcement authorities

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A Big Spring youth was arrested and charged with aggravated assault against a public servant late Tuesday night after law enforcement officials say he pulled

a pellet gun on a police officer. The 16-year-old juvenile —

whose name is not being released ment. due to his age — was taken into custody in the 1000 block of 11th Place at approximately 9:15 p.m., according to Sgt. Tony Everett,

the Big Spring Police Depart-

"An officer observed two male subjects walking down the street near Trinity Church," said Everett. "One subject was a black

public information officer with male wearing all black clothing and a bandana. The second subject was a white male, and he ficer restrained him and placed was wearing a bandana over his

> "The officer stopped the two, and at that time the white male See **POLICE**, Page 3A

— a 16-year-old juvenile — pulled a pellet gun on the officer. The ofhim under arrest. Luckily, the officer was close enough to react



Mark McKinney, a Big Spring native turned Texas country musician, shows off his skills during a recent show. McKinney and his band will be playing the Howard College Hawkfest Saturday night at the school's campus.

McKinney back home to perform

Big Spring was inspiration for his 'Stompin' Ground' hit

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While Saturday's Hawkfest on the Howard College Campus will be fun and games for many area residents and students, it will serve as a homecoming for at least one Crossroads native, as country music sensation Mark McKinney returns home to perform.

A former Big Spring High School student, McKinney has attracted attention in the Texas music scene, having toured across Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana for the past two years. According to McKinney, Big Spring is also the inspiration for his current single, "Stompin' Ground," which is listed on the Texas Music Chart.

"Stompin' Ground,' was one that I wrote about Hawkfest 2008

When: Saturday.

Where: Howard College Campus.

What: Food, fun and games for the entire famil from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. A costume contest recognizing the cutest costume and most original costume. Age groups are 0-2 and 3-5, 6 p.m.; 6-9 and 10-14, 7 p.m.; and 15-20 and 21-up, 8 p.m.

What else? A Texas Country Concert featuring Mark McKinney and Crimson Soul at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the gate.

growing up in Big Spring,"

See MCKINNEY, Page 3A

Elementary lunches trimmed to fit state guidelines

"Before, we didn't have the technology to provide different-sized portions ...

We were serving children in the lower grades the same amount of food as

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring elementary students have recently began receiving a little less on their lunch plate.

Local school officials have made slight decreases to lunch portions served to students in grades kindergarten through 4 to bring those servings more in line with Texas Department of Agriculture guidelines.

Judy Grant, director of food services for Big Spring Indepen-

children at the junior high and high school level." dent School District, said the

lower food costs for the district. Until recently, children in the elementary grades were receiving the same size portions as

changes should also result in

those in the middle and high school grades, which ran counter to state recommendations

and cost the district more. "We have been terribly overbudget the past few years. Dur-

ing an audit, we were told we spend \$150 more per child per school year than other school districts," Grant said. "Before, we didn't have the technology to provide different-sized portions

-Judy Grant, BSISD director of food services

... We were serving children in the lower grades the same amount of food as children at the junior high and high school

level." With the acquisition of new computer software, however, food service officials have begun streamlining operations.

The software, called NutriKids, monitors all aspects of student menus, from nutritional value of meals to portion sizes, Grant

See **FOOD**, Page 3A

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Panel calls for vaccine for adult smokers

By MIKE STOBBE AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA — For the first time, an influential government panel is recommending a vaccination specifically for smokers.

The panel decided Wednes- other illnesses. day that adult smokers under 65 should get pneumococcal vaccine. The shot is already over 65. It protects against bacteria that cause bacterial pneumonia, meningitis and

Federal officials usually adopt recommendations made by the Advisory Committee recommended for anyone on Immunization Practices. The vote means more than 31 million adult smokers probably will soon be called on to

get the shot.

Studies have shown that smokers are about four times more likely than nonsmokers to suffer pneumococcal disease. Also, the more cigar-

See **SHOT**, Page 3A



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Page 1B Wednesday, October 22, 2008

BSHS tennis wins third straight match

Herald Staff Report

With no other matches currently scheduled for the Big Spring High School tennis team, the fall season draws to a close on a very high note.

The Steers won their final three team tennis matches, clinching a 13-6 victory over Lubbock Trinity at Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park Tuesday.

Of the matches officially counting — several others were played that didn't factor into the overall score — it was the girls singles bracket where Big Spring did the most damage.

Kristina Chang, Brandi Rigdon and Leslie Cash all won threeset marathons, while Brittany Farmer, Shayla Drake and Brionna Palmer coasted to straight set victories, meaning the Lady Steers won all six of their singles matches.

Boys teams made up of Jeremy Langford and Jonathan Womack and Mike Gonzalez and C.J. Burleson won its doubles matches in straight sets.

Those same four players also won their singles contests, giving Big Spring 4-of-6 matches in boys singles.

"We played very well overall

against Lubbock Trinity," said Tennis Coach Dana Jones. "There were lots of close matches, but this makes three in a row. Good, solid play from all the girls in the singles matches. There was good mental toughness from top to bottom from the whole team today.'

Big Spring defeats **Lubbock Trinity, 13-6** Girls Singles (BSHS listed first.)

Brittany Farmer defeated Lauryn Lee, 6-1,

Kristina Chang defeated Alison Elder, 2-6, Brandi Rigdon defeated Lori Elder, 6-7,

Leslie Cash defeated Seena Gandhi, 5-7,

Shayla Drake defeated Jenny Keith, 6-4,

Brionna Palmer defeated Kristy Tardy,

Alyssa Byrd lost to Claire Kelley, 9-7 Reba Smith defeated Charisse Aguas,

Girls Doubles

Farmer/Rigdon lost to Elder/Elder, 7-5, 5-7, 10-6

Parnell/Chang lost to Lee/Gandhi, 6-7,

Drake/Palmer defeated Tardy/Aguas, 6-3,

Boys Singles

Mike Gonzalez defeated Josh Aguas, 4-6, 6-4. 10-7

Jeremy Langford defeated Michael Payne,

C.J. Burleson defeated Pierce Hardin, 1-6, 6-4, 10-8

Matt Garza lost to Patric Johnston, 7-5,

Jonathan Womack defeated Jared Franco,

Chad Bowles lost to Ryan Gregory, 6-4,

Matt Ryan lost to Alex Shaw, 6-0, 7-5 Jonathan Ray lost to Evan Johnson, 8-6 Tyler McKinley lost to Jonathan Blalack,

Boys Doubles

Langford/Womack defeated Johnston/ Franco, 6-1, 7-5 Gonzalez/Burleson defeated Aguas/

Payne, 6-2, 7-5 Ryan/McKinley lost to Gregory/Johnson,

6-2.6-0 **Mixed Doubles**

Ray/Byrd lost to Keith/Johnson, 6-4, 4-6,

Seth Yarbar/Anna Scott lost to Kelley/ Shaw, 7-5, 7-5

World Series Game 1 starters share common bond

By MIKE FITZPATRICK

AP Baseball Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Scott Kazmir was selected 15th overall in the 2002 amateur draft and Cole Hamels went No. 17.

A pair of high school lefties, both brimming with promise. The comparisons were inevitable.

Six years later, Kazmir and Hamels are certainly fulfilling those lofty expectations. They're set to square off on baseball's biggest stage Wednesday night when the worst-to-first Tampa Bay Rays host Philadelphia in Game 1 of a World Series matchup that hardly anyone expected.

See **SERIES**, Page 2B

Romo says he won't play Sunday

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo said Tuesday night his broken right pinkie likely will sideline him again this Sunday.

Romo, who was injured in Dallas' overtime loss to the Arizona Cardinals on Oct. 12, was expected to be out three to four weeks but had hoped to play last Sunday against St. Louis. He warmed up before the game and said Tuesday he couldn't grab the ball and throw it quickly.

Brad Johnson got the start against the Rams, and threw three interceptions in the Cowboys' 34-14 loss to the Rams. It looks as if the 40-year-old backup will be behind center again when Dallas hosts Tampa Bay on Sunday.

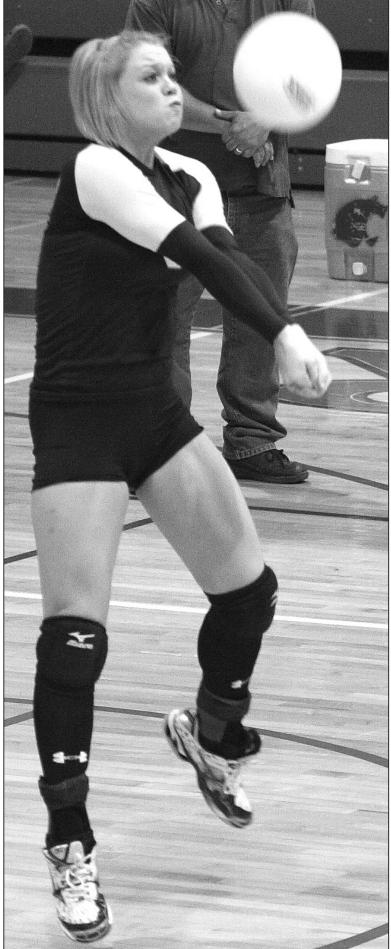
"It's going to be Brad. Brad is going to go this week unless something happens that I don't foresee," Romo said on Terrell Owens' "Inside the Huddle" radio show at the House of Blues.

Romo's absence would be a big blow for the slumping Cowboys (4-3), who have lost three of four.

In 2007, his first full season as a starter, Romo led the Cowboys to an NFC-best 13-3 record, but Dallas was upset by the Giants in the playoffs. He set team records with 335 completions for 4,211 yards and 36

Against Arizona this season, Romo broke Troy Aikman's team record with his 14th career 300-yard passing game in his 32nd start. Aikman's 13 came in 165 starts.

Romo has completed 64 percent of his passes this season for 1,689 yards and 14 touchdowns with five interceptions.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Baylea Fox bumps a pass to a teammate in District 4-4A volleyball action from Tuesday night at Cooper High School in Abilene. Cooper swept the Lady Steers in straight sets.

Running out of time

Loss to Cooper leaves Lady Steers with two last chances for playoffs

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

ABILENE — Big Spring's Lady Steers are cutting it close if they want to make the playoffs.

The Lady Steers lost their sixth District 4-4A volleyball game Tuesday night, falling to the Abilene Cooper Lady Cougars in straight sets, 25-10, 25-14,

Cooper had little trouble dispensing the Lady Steers in the first two sets. The Lady Cougars opened the second game with a 13-1 advantage.

In fact, Cooper didn't face a deficit until the third set, when Big Spring finally gained the lead at 5-2 and later at 14-12. The decisive game featured nine ties with the last coming at 15-all.

From there, Cooper put together a 6-0 rally to distance itself from the Lady Steers, eventually winning the third set, 25-18.

"We can't show up to play after we're down two



Blake

sets," Lady Steers Head Coach Meghan Blake said. "Well, we can, but we have to finish it. The difference between us and everyone else we've played this season is we go out not to lose while our opponents go out to win. If we can ever decide to play to win, like we did against Lake View earlier this season, then we can have success. I don't know why we haven't done that against everyone else we play, though."

See LADY STEERS, Page 2B

District 4-4A Volleyball Standings & Schodula

Standings & Schedule									
Team	District	Overall							
Frenship	6-0	30-5							
Cooper	5-1	20-15							
Plainview	3-3	12-20							
Big Spring	1-6	6-30							
Lake View	0-6	12-27							
	1, 0	D: 0 :							

Tuesday's results: Cooper d. Big Spring, Frenship d. Plainview

Saturday's schedule: Plainview at Cooper, Frenship vs. Lake View

Sports in brief

MLB World Series schedule Philadelphia Phillies vs. Tampa Bay Rays (All game televised on Fox)

Game 1: Wednesday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. Game 2: Thursday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.

Game 3: Saturday at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. Game 4: Sunday at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

Game 5: Monday at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Game 6: Oct. 29 at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Game 7: Oct. 30 at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Texas Shootout comes to Moss Creek Ranch

The Texas Shootout is a Tournament Hunter Bird Dog Challenge event being hosted by Moss Creek Ranch. This is a major event, offering an auto bid into the

Nationals with an opportunity to qualify for the World Championships. There are different levels of competition for pointing

and flushing dogs. For more information on Bird Dog Challenge, visit www.nbdca.com. Entries must be confirmed by Friday. For entry information, call Andy Anderson at 213-3801 or Linda at 213-2606.

Coach Diddle and Hawk women set for Hawk Buddies Program

Howard College women's basketball head coach Earl Diddle, assistant coach Jamie Fisher and the Hawk women are announcing the start of the 2008-2009 Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The first day of the program is Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Cost is \$20 and includes a T-shirt, free admission for all family members to Hawks home games, two clinics with lectures on goals and basketball fundamentals, a pizza party with the Hawk women's team and a buddies night, including autographs and photos with the team.

For more information, call Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Jamie Fisher at 264-5155.

Big Spring Chicano Golf Association hosting monthly tournament Sunday

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association is hosting

their monthly tournament Sunday at Comanche Trail

Cost is \$17 per person and participants must be registered by 10 a.m. Sunday.

The tournament will be played in a 4-man scramble

For more information, contact Sammy Reyna at 267-5627.

October Washer Tourney scheduled for Saturday

tition. Cost is \$10.

A single-elimation at two-man team washer tournament is scheduled for Saturday at La Vedera Club. Cost is \$20 and teams must be registered by 1 p.m. on

the day of the tourney. If time permits, a single-elimination singles tourney will also be held after the completion of the team compe-

Contact Pano Rodriguez at 816-4223 or Mark Juarez (325) 277-8553 for more information.

in the upper

70s and lows

in the upper

Obituaries

Imogene Williams

Imogene Williams, 83, of Big Spring died Monday, Oct. 20, 2008, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

- The Moodys will be in concert at 7 p.m. this evening at Eastside Baptist Church, 1108 E. Sixth. The concert is free; an offering will be taken for the Moodys' ministry. Everyone is invited.
- West Texas Centers for MHMR Warriors of Hope will be hosting a brisket burrito fund-raiser from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the east entrance to Wal-Mart. Homemade brisket burritos will be available for \$3 each. Homemade salsa and desserts will also be available. Proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society through the Howard/Glasscock Relay For Life.
- Big Spring High School Junior Class will meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3 in the athletic training center. For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.
- Big Spring High School sweatshirts and hoodies are available by calling Denise Carrillo at 816-1685. Sweatshirts are \$20 each; hoodies are \$25.
- The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.
- A fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union for Sheena Hill, who lost most of her possessions in a recent house fire. Mail donations to Big Spring Education Employees FCU, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720 or call 263-8393.
- HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.
- · A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently disgnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.
- Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.
- Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.
- The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to regis-
- 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.
- All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.0, 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.
- · Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.



REELECT

C.E. (Mike) Thomas, III **Howard County Attorney**

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Police blotter

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

- AUDRY FREITAG, 22, of 1003 Runnels, was arrested Monday on two local warrants.
- DANIELLE FRIETAG, 19, of 1003 Runnels, was arrested Monday on a local warrant.
- TERRENCE YOUNG, 19, of 109 N.E. 10th Street, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants and four other
- THEFT was reported:
- in the 900 block of Willia.
- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- in the 1200 block of Gregg Street. • POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
- was reported in the 1600 block of Airbase Road. • FRAUDULENTUSE/POSSESSION OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION was reported in the 1700 block of
- Harvard. • CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 500 block
- of Birdwell Lane. • BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:
- in the 500 block of Eighth Street. in the 1200 block of Lindberg.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- AGGRAVATED ROBBERY was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT AGAINST A PUBLIC SERVANT was reported in the 1000 block of 11th

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 47 inmates at the time of this report.

- ARMANDO JUAN SALCIDO, 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- GERARDO JERRY OCHOA, 44, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to identify and failure to identify – giving false information.
- VICTORIA ALDRIDGE, 22, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and claiming a lottery
- STEPHANIE FRISBY, 23, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.
- JOSE ALFREDO MELENDEZ, 25, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and failure to maintain financial responsibility with a previous conviction.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.



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lows in the

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

Winds WNW

at 5 to 10

mph

lows in the

mid 40s.

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. · Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at
- the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of Stonehaven. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Colby. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5700 block of Cedar. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of the Interstate Highway 20 N. Service Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 11000 block of E.
- County Road 34. One person was transported to SMMC. ullet MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of E. 11 $^{\hbox{th}}$ Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Robin. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

A single ticket has won the grand prize from the latest Mega Millions lotto drawing.

Lottery officials said the winning ticket from Tuesday night's drawing — worth \$42 million — was sold in Dallas, Ga.

The winning numbers from Tuesday night's drawing were: 16, 19, 39, 42 and 44. The Mega Ball number was

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-9-17-20-36 Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-2-5-2. Sum It Up: 14.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-5-8. Sum it Up: 13.

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SERIES

Continued from Page 1B

"Seems like we were pretty much in every single league going through the ranks," Kazmir said of his Phillies counterpart. "I got to see quite a bit of him and kind of follow his career a little bit."

Pretty impressive stuff for these two budding aces, both still shy of their 25th birthday.

"We relate at the same level, because we've had to go through the same experiences," Hamels said before Philadelphia worked out at tricky Tropicana Field.

Their teams have something in common, too: a history of los-

Tampa Bay's tale is hard to believe — 10 futile seasons as a perennial doormat before this sudden surge to American League supremacy.

On the other side, the Phillies, with one championship (1980) in

125 seasons and more losses than any franchise in professional sports.

This isn't exactly Yankees-Dodgers or Celtics-Lakers.

"There aren't too many people in this room — or on the other side — who have been in this situation," said 45-year-old Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer, also in his first World Series. "It's just a great place to be."

Justask Kazmir, Carl Crawford and the rest of the Rays, finally successful after all those growing pains in a nearly empty

"It means everything to me, it really does, especially for this city." Kazmir said. "It's pretty much worth the wait, you could say, for what we had to go through the past four years."

The Rays, who dropped the "Devil" from their nickname before the season, have been stockpiling young talent and top draft picks for years. Still, few thought they could complete such a remarkable turnaround

so fast.

Against the Phillies, Kazmir will have to contend with a potent lineup that includes NL MVPs Ryan Howard and Jimmy Rollins, plus slugging second baseman Chase Utley. No easy task for a hard thrower who often struggles to get deep in

After going 12-8 with a 3.49 ERA and earning his second All-Star appearance this season, Kazmir labored through his first two playoff starts — raising questions about his health. But he put those to rest with six shutout innings of two-hit ball in Game 5 of the AL championship series at Boston.

"It's not an injury situation. He just was uncomfortable,' Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "The other day against the Red Sox, I think you saw more sliders coming back into the mix, which I like. And he's got a very good changeup. I don't have a real intelligent explanation, other than I just thought that he

got out of his delivery a bit, maybe started over-thinking it a little bit."

Tampa Bay blew a seven-run lead after Kazmir left, but regrouped to beat Boston in Game 7 at home Sunday night. Unfazed by the kooky catwalks, slick artificial turf and slanted white roof at the Trop Shop, the Rays have bedeviled visitors all year. They went a major leaguebest 57-24 at home during the season, then 4-2 in the playoffs.

Drafted by the New York Mets and then traded to Tampa Bay in a lopsided deal four years ago, the baby-faced Kazmir is a big reason his team has home-field advantage for the World Series.

He was the winning pitcher in the July 15 All-Star game at Yankee Stadium.

As for Hamels, he's been tough to hit anywhere. After shutting down the Los Angeles Dodgers, the NLCS MVP is 3-0 with a 1.23 ERA in three postseason starts this year, striking out 22 and

walking six in 22 dominant innings.

Perhaps his biggest concern now is a six-day layoff before his World Series debut. He and the Phillies hope to look more rested than rusty.

"Because I can't throw in a live game, I just throw in the bullpen. And it's just the focus that you have to have," said Hamels, sporting boyishly long dark hair. "When I go out to my bullpen, I do try to visualize that there's a hitter out there, and I try to make every pitch count, as though it's a game situation.'

Hamels went 14-10 with a 3.09 ERA in 33 regular-season starts. Including the playoffs, he's thrown 249 1-3 innings this year, 66 more than his previous high set last season.

"Every time he walks out on the mound I expect him to win a game," Philadelphia manager Charlie Manuel said. "He's definitely capable of shutting a team out. He's capable of throwing nohitters."

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

The Steers are now 1-6 in district, which is good enough for fourth place in the five-team league. The top four teams advance to the postseason. Big Spring is ahead of San Angelo Lake View, which is 0-6 in league

Big Spring and Lake View close their seasons Tuesday in a match played at Steer Gym. Should the Lady Steers win, then don't have confidence when

they would earn the final playoff spot in the district. However, a loss sends them to a tiebreaker match against Lake View that would be played at a time and place to be named later.

Of course, Blake hopes it doesn't come to that.

"If we win we're in," she said. "That's what it comes down to. The question is do we want it enough. We've had the opportunity to clinch a spot the last two games and haven't put forth good performances. We just

we're swinging at the net. Our back row did very well tonight, but we couldn't take advantage of it at the net."

Blake credited Sloan Davis and Baylea Fox with strong defensive play in the back row. Each girl had five digs to the lead the

Big Spring registered just 15 kills as a team with Andrea Claxton topping the list with

The Lady Steers have a bye Saturday before hosting Lake View Tuesday. Blake is hopeful the community will turn out in large support for the Lady Steers.

"I think the community really gets behind our athletic teams here, but it'd be nice to have the gym packed out for the final game," she commented. "I'm hoping everyone will wear black and we can try to black out the gym. It's our senior night and we have three seniors we'll be honoring at the game. It'd just be an intimidating sight for Lake View to come in and see the stands completely full."

Abilene Cooper defeats Big Spring 25-10, 25-14, 25-18

Kills - Macy Graves 3, Andrea Claxton 4, Halee Thomas 2, Cerbi Ritchey 2, Desiree Anderson 3, Belle Feaster 1.

Assists – Ritchey 13.

Blocks - Graves 1, Claxton 1. Block Assist - Claxton 2,

Graves 1, Thomas 1, Anderson Digs - Baylea Fox 5, Sloan

Davis 5, Claxton 2, Anderson 2, Valerie Ross 3, Ritchey 1.

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Owner, Nice Truck, Has Only 29,000 Miles. Sale Price \$23,995 was \$24,555 **2006 Chevrolet Avalan** On-Star, Local One Owne w/Tan Leather, All Power, On-Star, Local One Owne

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew 4X2 XLT - Silver w/Gray Cloth, Local One Owner, Like New, Has Only 28,000 Miles. Was \$21,995

Owner.

Was \$12,995

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X2 - Black w/Gray Cloth, Ford Certified Unit, 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Has Only 27,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$23,995** 2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab Lariat Powerswtroke - Black w/Gray Leather, Local One Owner.

Sale Price \$25,995 Was \$28,995 2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT -Maroon w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One Owner w/18,000 Miles.

Was \$23,995 <u>Sale Price \$20,995</u> 2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4X4 Powerstroke King Ranch - Maroon And Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Sale Price \$28,995 Was \$30,995

2005 Chevrolet 1500 H.D. Crew Cab L.S. 4X4 - White w/Cloth, 6.0, V-8 Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$21,995**

2005 Ford F150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, Tilt/Cruise, 5.4 V-8, Local One Owner. Was \$18,995 **Sale Price \$16.995** 2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One

Was \$14,995 Sale Price \$13,995 2004 Chevrolet C1500 L.S. - Short Wheel Base, Pewter w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., Automatic, Air, One Owner w/58,000 Miles.

Sale Price \$13,995 2004 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke - Blue/Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner.

Sale Price \$20,995 2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Great Little Truck, All Power, CD, Low Miles.

 $\star\star\star$ TRUCKS $\star\star\star$

2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 4X2 - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Local One 2008 Ford Focus SE - Blue w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Owner, All Power, Very Nice Truck. Was \$16,995 **Sale Price \$15,995**

* * * SUVS * * *

e l rive - Black w/Gray Cloth, All at ade In. Only Has 36,000 Miles. 2007 Nissan Murano Power, Local One Own Was \$22,995 Sale Price \$21,995

2007 Ford Expedition Ed Loaded, DVD, 6 Disc CD, R. r i 4**X2** - Brown w/Tan Leather, era. **Sale Price \$27,995**

2005 Ford Explorer XLT Sport Trac - Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 Sale Price \$16,995

2005 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, Moonroof, Local One Owner, 44,000 Miles. Was \$27,995 Sale Price \$22,995

2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 Sale Price \$18,995

2004 Nissan Murano SE - White w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 **Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Gray w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/57,000 Miles. Was \$21,995 **Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4 - White w/Cloth, V-6, All POWER, DVD, Local One Owner. **Sale Price \$10,995** Was \$13,995

2004 GMC Yukon XL SLT - Maroon w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Was \$19,995 **Sale Price \$17,995**

2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/36,000 Miles. Sale Price \$13,995 Was \$19,995

 $\star\star\star$ CARS $\star\star\star$

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2008 Ford Focus SE - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 19,000 Miles. Sale Price \$16,995 Was \$18,995

2008 Ford Focus SE - White w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 12,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$16,995** Was \$18,995

<u>Was \$16,5950</u> 2007 Nissan Versa SL New, Well Taking Care Or Cloth, Beat Gas Prices, Like Miles. Was \$15,995 **Sale Price \$14.995** 2007 Chrysler Sebring - Wi Cloth, All Power, Local One ar, only 30,000 Miles.

Owner, Like New, Great L Was \$14,995 Sale Price \$13,995 2007 Lincoln TownCar Signature LTD - White Silk, w/Tan Leather, Lincoln Certified 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Great Looking

Towncar, Must See. Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$31,995 Sale Price \$29,995 2007 Ford Fusion SEL - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, Bought At Ford Program Sal;e, Like New, All Power, Great MPG, Only 24,000 Miles.

Sale Price \$16,995 2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Dark Stone, Leather, All Power, One Owner w/35,000 Miles.

Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$21,995 2004 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles. Was \$15,995 <u>Sale Price \$12,995</u>

2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - Cashmere White w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/32,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 Sale Price \$18,995

2004 Mercedes C240 - Ta All Power, Locally Owned w/42,000 Miles. Was \$21,995

Sale Price \$17,995 2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Local One

Owner, Skylight. Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$17,995 2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver w/Leather, Moonroof, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles.

Sale Price \$17,995

2003 Cadillac DeVille. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Sale Price \$12,995

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Oil falls below \$69 on U.S. recession fears

Bv LOUISE WATT

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Oil prices fell below US\$69 a barrel Wednesday as investors shrugged off a looming OPEC production cut after company forecasts suggested the U.S. may be headed for a severe economic slowdown that would crimp demand for crude.

Light, sweet crude for December delivery dropped US\$3.37 to US\$68.81 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by mid-afternoon in Europe.

The November contract expired Tuesday and fell US\$3.36 to settle at US\$70.89. Last Thursday, that contract had declined as low as US\$68.57 a barrel, the lowest since June 2007.

Crude investors have followed equity markets this week, looking for signs on how the U.S. economy will weather the current global financial turmoil. On Tuesday, DuPont, Sun Microsystems and Texas Instruments reported disappointing earnings and bleak forecasts, sending the Dow Jones industrials average down 2.5 percent.

"Oil is now highly correlated with the stock market," said Clarence Chu, a trader with market maker Hudson Capital

Energy in Singapore. "People are looking to the Dow for sentiment on the economy."

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which accounts for about 40 percent of global oil supply, has signaled it plans to announce an output quota reduction at an emergency meeting Friday in Vienna.

But investors are skeptical about how much of the cut will be implemented, given the history of OPEC members exceeding their production quotas.

"There should be a short-term boost to prices when they announce a cut on Friday," Chu said. "But OPEC production has always been above their quotas, so there's a credibility problem."

Russia's top energy official said Wednesday that Russia, the largest oil producer outside of OPEC, may set aside an oil reserve to influence global prices — but won't cut output, according to news reports.

Deputy Prime Minister Igor Sechin said the government was considering creating an oil production reserve "which would allow it to work more efficiently with prices on the market."

Sechin would not name the amount of the reserves, but said they should be "enough to reach efficient pricing parameters," Russian news agencies reported.

He confirmed that Russia wouldn't cut oil output, unlike OPEC nations which are expected to slash production by 1 million barrels.

Crude oil is down 53 percent from its peak of US\$147.27 reached in mid-July.

A stronger dollar this week has also pushed oil prices lower. Investors often buy commodities like crude oil as an inflation hedge when the dollar weakens and sell those investments when the dollar rises.

The euro fell below US\$1.28 for the first time in nearly two years on Wednesday. The 15-nation euro dipped as low as US\$1.2736 in morning trading before rising slightly to US\$1.2873, down from US\$1.3003 late Tuesday in New York.

Investors are also watching for signs of slowing U.S. demand in the weekly oil inventories report to be released Wednesday from the U.S. Energy Department's Energy Information Administration. The petroleum supply report was expected to show that

Gas truck delivery driver Tim Trabue, right, loads gas into underground holding tanks from his truck at a gas station in Springfield, III., Tuesday. Oil prices dipped below \$75 a barrel Wednesday, a new 13-month low, as OPEC reduced its 2009 petroleum demand forecast amid signs that the global economy is headed for a severe downturn.

oil stocks rose 2.9 million barrels last week, according to the provider Platts.

The Platts survey also showed that analysts projected gasoline inventories rose 3.0 million barrels and distillates went up 600,000 barrels last week.

In other Nymex trading, heat-tures exchange.

ing oil futures fell 6.22 cents to US\$2.11 a gallon, while gasoaverage of analysts' estimates in line prices dropped 6.57 cents to a survey by energy information US\$1.63 a gallon. Natural gas for November delivery jumped 3.8 cents to US\$6.88 per 1,000 cubic

> In London, December Brent crude was down US\$2.64 to US\$67.08 a barrel on the ICE Fu-

MCKINNEY

Continued from Page 1A

said McKinney. "It's about visiting your hometown, re-living all the memories and looking at all the spots where you made those memories. Different lines (in the song) reference different spots in Big Spring. The line about 'rolling my truck' refers to the time I wrecked my '79 Jeep CJ7 over by the old bowling alley. It talks about playing Little League at International Stadium out at the base, cruising up and down Gregg Street, and finding love — I met my wife, April, in Big Spring.

"I really attribute much of my success to the relationships I formed in Big Spring and the people who believed in me here. It's so great to be coming home to play at Howard College Saturday. I'm really looking forward to visiting Big Spring and catching up with some friends from my childhood."

McKinney said growing up in Big Spring played a big part in his decision to pursue a career as a recording artist and songwriter.

"You'll hear several references to my Big Spring upbringing if you listen to my lyrics," said McKinney. "I started playing music in sixth grade. My dad, Rick McKinney, taught my brother, Eric, and me how to play guitar and with his guidance we started our first band. Throughout high school

our bands played all over Big Spring and Midland. Seeing Willie Nelson there at Memorial Stadium also made a big impression on me as a kid."

After graduating from high school, McKinney began working on his musical career in earnest.

"I decided that I wanted to keep pursuing music so I moved to Austin to seek out greater opportunities," said McKinney. "I had a band there in Austin, but it wasn't until a few years ago when I started touring as a solo act that big things started to happen. Rob Dennis, who is also from Big Spring, started a record label, Super Loud Music, and I was his first "For the past two years

I have been touring Texas and Oklahoma, playing everything from roadhouses to fairs. I'm getting radio play and have had four singles on the Texas Music Chart, three of which have been Top 10."

The concert is set to get under way at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at the Outreach Office on the Howard College campus, or that evening at the gate. No alcoholic beverages will be sold or allowed on campus.

For more information, call 264-5034.

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

POLICE

Continued from Page 1A

with his hands and not his own weapon."

Everett said no injuries were reported as a result of the altercation and the second subject was not arrested.

"We didn't have anything on him, so the officer let him go," said Everett.

And though the investigation into the wouldbe masked bandit is as good as closed, Everett said a robbery during the early morning hours Tuesday still has investigators on the

"At approximately 2:40 a.m. a male subject attempted to run out of the Wal-Mart Supercenter without paying for merchandise," said Everett. "A clerk tried to stop him, at which scene."

While the circumstances of the robbery which was enhanced to an aggravated robbery due to threats made with the knife — may not seem all that odd, what the thief made away with is, according to Everett.

"According to the clerk, the man stole several Halloween costumes," he said. "That's right, Halloween costumes. A kid with a pellet

gun and a guy committing aggravated robbery for some Halloween costumes. That's pretty strange, if you ask me."

Luckily, no injuries were reported as a retime the suspect produced a pocket knife. sult of the robbery, according to Everett. The The clerk backed off and the suspect fled the suspect is described as a black male, short in stature, wearing a gray pullover shirt and a baseball cap.

> Anyone with information regarding the robbery is encouraged to contact the BSPD at 264-

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

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FOOD

lookout.

Continued from Page 1A

said.

"There was a ton of food being wasted in the lower grades," Grant said. "The for the little kids."

The biggest impact in the streamlined menus are in how portions for fruits and vegetables and meat and offered. Grant said those portions for elementary students have been

portions were just too big reduced to a half-cup of fruits and vegetables and 1.5 ounces of meat.

> Other portions are basically unchanged, she added.

The new system was instituted in all BSISD elementary campuses within the past few weeks and Grant hopes the transition will be relatively seam-

"It has been a process," she said. "It's involved a lot of time and training ... and it's been very timeconsuming. But in the end, menus will be in compliance with what we're supposed to be serving."

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

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SHOT

Continued from Page 1A

ettes someone smokes each day, the higher the odds they'll develop the illnesses.

Why smokers are more susceptible is not known for sure, but some scientists believe it has to do with smoking-caused damage that allows the bacteria to more easily attach to the lungs and windpipe, said Dr. Pekka Nuorti, a mediepidemiologist with Centers for Disease

Pneumococcal infections kill thousands of people in the United States each year, most of them 65 years of age or older.

Control and Prevention.

The committee voted 11 to 3 to pass the recommendation, adding a call for smoking cessation counseling. Some members said it might be more cost effective to recommend the vaccine for smokers who were at least age 40, because

pneumococcal disease is relatively uncommon in younger smokers.







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2. Coahoma

3. Forsan

4. Stanton

5. Grady

6. Sands

9. Texas

7. Garden City

8. Texas Tech

10. Buccaneers

Wednesday following the games.

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Colorado City
- 3. Plains
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Borden County
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Texas
- 10. Dallas



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Motors

1. Big Spring

2. Coahoma

3. Forsan

4. Stanton

5. Grady

6. Sands

8. Kansas

9. Texas

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Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter.

Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of The Big Spring Herald are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the Big Spring Herald the

THIS

IS FOOTBALL

SEASON!!

7. Garden City

10. Cowboys

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Borden County
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Texas 10. Cowboys



The Dodds Bowlarama

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton 5. Ira
- 6. Sands
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech 9. Texas
- 10. Cowboys



Tank & Roxie **Buffalo Country** Fina

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Sands
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Oklahoma State
- 10. Cowboys

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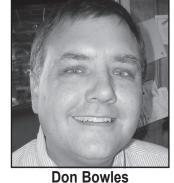
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- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Sands 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Texas 10. Cowbovs



Mike Abusaab Sonic **Drive-In**

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Colorado City 3. Plains
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Borden County
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech 9. Texas
- 10. Cowboys



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- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton 5. Grady
- 6. Sands
- 7. Garden City
- 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Texas
- 10. Cowboys



Caprock

- 1. Abilene Cooper 2. Colorado City
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Borden County
- 7. Garden City 8. Texas Tech
- 9. Texas
- 10. Cowboys









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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Are you lucky enough to give something?

The stock market is way down. The value of your home may be heading underwater. Your retirement account is a shambles. Has there ever been a tougher time to ask people for donations to the United Way?

Not that we can recall.

And yet, all over, people are doing just that. They're asking. And people are responding. They're responding for the same reason they send help to an area hard hit by a hurricane or flood or other natural disaster. Because other people need it. Because they have a little to spare. Because they know these hard times won't last. And because they know they'll feel better helping someone else.

We thought about that instinct to give recently when actor Paul Newman died. He had been a superstar for decades, a sex symbol and idol. When his film career started winding down, he could have retreated to the golf course or the casinos in Monaco. He didn't. He marketed his homemade salad dressing, had his face slapped on the label. Then came popcorn and spaghetti sauces and other products. Hundreds of millions of dollars — all the profits from those sales — were donated to charities, including his camp for seriously ill children. That is an achievement far beyond fame.

Of course, most of us can't match generosity on that scale. The beauty is: You don't have to. You give what you can, and you're entitled to feel as satisfied as Newman did.

With the United Way, you know that donation goes directly to the people who need help most in communities across the area. United Way helps kids stay in school and graduate. It helps battered women seeking shelter. It helps seniors and the disabled live independently. It helps people suffering substance-abuse problems get treatment or job training. Working families that need child care. And those who just need a meal.

Last year, for the first time, charitable donations exceeded \$300 billion in America, according to the Giving USA Foundation. Three out of four of those dollars came from individuals, not corporations. Many of those donations were in small denominations.

Many Americans are hurting financially. That's familiar terrain for the United Way. Did you know the Chicago-area chapter was created in the depths of the Great Depression, as the best way to combine individual and company resources to directly help struggling families?

Then, as now, there were people fortunate enough to be able to give, despite the financial convulsions. Does that describe you this year? If so, please remember the United Way and those who aren't so lucky.

Remember the United Way.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: Locally, the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County assists 15 agencies. Your donations help thousands of people right here at "home." Please send your tax deductible donation to United Way, P.O. Box 24, Big Spring 79721, or call 267-5201 for more information.

Ignoring the red-ink rendezvous

McCain make one multibillion-dollar campaign promise after another, they doubtlessly realize that they can't come close to fulfilling their pledges to provide

new and extended tax cuts, tax credits, tax deductions, spending programs and other alluring voter bait.

The candidates' overpromising is unseemly, but politically understandable. It increasingly seems that many American voters simply "can't handle the truth' if told that the next

Z. **S**MITH

JACK

president won't be able to fulfill their wish that he become Santa Claus on the Potomac.

In 1984, Democrat Walter Mondale was clobbered by GOP President Ronald Reagan after telling Americans that tax increases would be needed to scale back large budget deficits.

Mindful of that, Republican George H.W. Bush, when campaigning for president in 1988, told voters: "Read my lips. No new taxes." He broke his no-new-taxes pledge after becoming president.

The latest hard evidence that neither Obama nor McCain will be able to deliver on many of their campaign promises came Tuesday from the lame-duck administration of President George W. Bush, whose popularity rating is only slightly

s Barack Obama and John above that of contaminated infant formula from China.

The administration said the federal budget deficit for the 2008 fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 was a record-high \$454.8 billion, eclipsing the \$413 billion shortfall in 2004.

But wait, that's the good news. The bad news is that the administration has projected that the deficit for fiscal 2009 will be another record-smasher, with \$482 billion in red ink.

But wait, there's even worse news: Some analysts say the 2009 deficit could be far higher than the administration's forecast — possibly exceeding \$700 billion as a result of the sharp downturn in the economy, protracted housing slump, hundreds of billions of dollars authorized for the financial bailout program approved by Congress and another "economic stimulus package" that might follow the \$168 billion one implemented earlier this

American voters, here's the truth, whether you can handle it or not: A painful combination of spending cuts and tax increases will be required in coming years if Washington simultaneously is going to deal with the bloated budget deficits and address the funding crises facing Social Security and Medicare.

The next president "will be inheriting a fiscal and economic mess of historic proportions," Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D., aptly noted on Tuesday. Here's a sobering fact: The first 42 U.S. presidents left us, after more

than 200 years of governance, with an accumulated national debt of \$5.7 trillion.

Under the 43rd president — Bush, the current White House occupant — the debt has soared by an outrageous \$4.6 trillion, to \$10.3 trillion. In other words, nearly 45 percent of the debt has been rung up just

under Bush's watch.

The fiscally reckless Texan concocted a deadly deficit-swelling brew of excessive tax cuts and heavy federal spending accentuated by an unnecessary, very costly war

With an ugly recession looming, deficits piling up and the Social Security and Medicare tsunamis on the horizon, the next president won't have any wiggle room left to enact major new spending initiatives or deliver on all his promises of lower taxes.

So what about McCain's no-newtaxes vow that he made in February? If he wins an upset victory, can he avoid raising taxes, while maintaining his pledge to extend the Bush tax cuts?

If Obama wins, can he deliver on his pledge to cut taxes for 95 percent of working families?

Read my lips: No way, in either

Can you handle that?

Jack Z. Smith is an editorial writer for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may write to him at 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, or via e-mail at jzsmith@star-telegram.com.

ADDRESSES

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· GEORGE W. BUSH President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

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517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305

· RANDY NEUGEBAUER

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Put the country ahead of party

ill Bradley should have been president. I thought it in 2000, and I still think it. And he did nothing to dissuade that notion during a lively back-and-forth with a member of the Bush

clan Tuesday night at Texas Christian University.

Granted, Bradlev's been out of office since 1997, when he retired from the U.S. Senate after representing New Jersev for 18 years. so he doesn't have to worry so much about being politic — or politically correct.



CAMPBELL

But his candor and lack of rancor were such a refreshing antidote to the intense and distressing nastiness that has infected the last weeks of the current presidential campaign.

"The biggest lie perpetrated on the American public the last 40 years has been this red-blue divide," Bradley told a full-house audience at Ed Landreth Auditorium.

In reality, he said, Americans have a common interest in wellpaying jobs, good schools, an opportunity to send our children to college, health care if someone in the family gets sick and an adequate retirement package after working 40 years. And people from both red and blue political persuasions are realizing "that it's time to break our addiction to oil" from foreign sources.

"We are connected to each other in very fundamental ways," he said. But instead of crafting solutions, Washington has operated with "a can't-do attitude," under both Republican and Democratic administrations, he said.

"But that's not who we are as a people." Bradley called for our leaders

to "put country ahead of party and tell us the truth about our circumstances."

The economic truth? We don't save enough, which means "we end up borrowing money from the Chinese to buy their products."

The solution? Reduce what the federal government takes out of the economy, which will require tax increases and spending cuts.

The truth about public education? We aren't adequately preparing students to be competitive in the world, not when high school students in China all are taking advanced biology and calculus but fewer than 20 percent of U.S. high schoolers are.

The solution? National educational standards and teacher pay that's "based on merit and accomplishment" and not controlled by teacher unions.

The truth about energy? We're too dependent on insecure sources of foreign oil.

The solution? Reduced dependence through more drilling but also greater fuel efficiency, such as adopting the European standard of 46-miles-a-gallon vehicles instead of our 24-miles-a-gallon average. And, yes, he would tax gas guzzlers to fund rebates for people opting for more fuel-efficient cars, if that's what it takes to break the oil addiction.

"When we face the truth, there are answers," Bradley said.

Sure, it's easier to tell the truth when you aren't courting votes. During an election campaign, people don't really want to hear the truth — remember how Walter Mondale got pummeled in 1984 after being frank about raising taxes?

At the same time, who really believes the unrealistic promises that the candidates feel compelled to make for fear of tanking in the polls and then at the voting polls? Bradley said that solving the nation's problems will require

Democratic collective caring and Republican personal responsibility. The event was billed as "Red State

+ Blue State = Purple Politics." And former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush also talked about finding common ground.

"I don't believe in partisanship anymore," he claimed.

But it was Bradlev who offered thoughtful, well-developed proposals.

He's had plenty of time to devise them. And he's spent several years promoting the theme of national unity over party-driven divisiveness.

In 2000, columnist Molly Ivins called Bradley — former Olympic gold medalist, NBA star, author of tax-reform legislation — "a class act, without a phony bone in his body."

Conservatives shouldn't hold that against him.

But Democrats needn't worry about his creds.

When Bush praised Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin as a maverick, Bradley quickly pointed out that the term originated with a Texas family, and "the Mavericks were liberal Democrats for a long time."

Yes, indeed, lawyer/land baron Samuel Maverick served in the Texas Legislature as a Democrat in 1851-63, according to the Handbook of Texas Online.

I just hope the next president — and those tugging on the edges of both parties — will heed what Bradley said, that "we as Americans share a lot more in common than we have dividing us." It's the vast majority in the middle who'll move us forward.

Linda P. Campbell is a columnist and editorial writer for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Write her at 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, or via e-mail at lcampbell@ star-telegram.com.

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News in brief

McCain returns to N.H., site of 2 pivotal primary wins, hoping to stave off November loss

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — New Hampshire launched John McCain's two presidential campaigns, and now he's hoping it doesn't end his bid for the White House.

The Republican nominee was returning Wednesday to the state whose primary he won in 2000 and again earlier this year. But there were signs it was tilting toward Democrat Barack Obama in the Nov. 4 general election.

Recent polls have shown Obama, an Illinois senator, with a lead no smaller than 7 percentage points, prompting speculation that McCain may have to surrender the state's four electoral votes and focus elsewhere if he hopes to cobble together the 270 needed to become presi-

Senior adviser Mark Salter dismissed such thinking Tuesday. He said McCain was visiting New Hampshire because "we get a charge out of it. We think we're competitive there. They get it."

With less than two weeks until Election Day, McCain and his wife, Cindy, were rallying those who "get it" at a rally at St. Anselm College in Goffstown.

Obama takes on national security while keeping focus on economy during Va. swing

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Democrat Barack Obama is bouncing from one patch of Republican turf to another this week. Virginia is his stomping grounds on Wednesday, as he continues his assault on Republican John McCain's economic proposals while also introducing national security differences into the finalstretch mix.

The endorsement over the weekend of Obama by longtime Republican Colin Powell, the former secretary of state under President Bush, gives the Democrat an opening to go on the offensive on foreign affairs. The topic is generally considered his weakest against McCain, but Powell's backing undercut McCain's perceived dominance.

So, while in the Virginia capital on Wednesday, Obama and running mate Joe Biden planned to meet with a group of national security advisers to the campaign. Obama planned to talk publicly after the discussion about his approach to world affairs, and how it differs from McCain's.

That doesn't mean the economy won't remain front and center with less than two weeks to go before Election Day.

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lies in Richmond and Leesburg, were to focus heavily on the financial crisis that has morphed into broad and intense anxieties throughout the country. The economy is also likely to be a key theme at a rally Thursday in Indiana, yet another state that voted GOP in 2004.

Officials set to announce final rule for long-awaited air passenger screening program

WASHINGTON (AP) — A long-delayed government program designed to more accurately prescreen the names of airline passengers against terror watch lists is expected to launch early next year.

On Wednesday, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff was expected to announce the final rule for the program, called Secure Flight, which would validate air travelers' information so there's less chance a person could be mistaken for someone else on a watch list. The program has been delayed several times over privacy concerns.

Misidentification of passengers has been one of the biggest inconveniences in post-Sept. 11 air travel, and widely known for putting Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., a few infants and thousands of innocent U.S. residents through extensive searching and questioning before they were allowed to fly.

Currently, passenger prescreening for domestic flights is handled by the individual airlines. But those airlines do not always tap into the most up-to-date watch lists, which contain names of people whom intelligence agencies determined should not be on planes. Under the new program, the airlines will be responsible for collecting a passenger's full name, gender and birth date, as opposed to the current practice of only collecting the passenger's name.

"This should eliminate the vast majority of misidentifications and significantly reduce instances where travelers believe, or are even told by airlines, that they are on a watch list," said a Homeland Security official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the final rule had not been announced.

India launches first moon mission, entering Asian space race with fresh effort to map the moon

NEW DELHI (AP) — India launched its first mission to the moon Wednesday, rocketing a satellite up into the pale dawn sky in a two-year mission to redraw maps of the lunar surface.

Clapping and cheering scientists tracked the ascent on computer screens Obama's other events in Virginia, ral- after they lost sight of Chandrayaan-1

from the Sriharikota space center in problem. southern India. Chandrayaan means "Moon Craft" in ancient Sanskrit.

Indian Space Research Organization chairman G. Madhavan Nair said the mission is to "unravel the mystery of the moon."

"We have started our journey to the moon and the first leg has gone perfectly well," he said.

Chief among the mission's goals is mapping not only the surface of the moon, but what lies beneath. If successful, India will join what's shaping up as a 21st century space race with Chinese and Japanese crafts already in orbit around the moon.

Food allergies increasing in U.S. kids, study says

ATLANTA (AP) — Food allergies in American children seem to be on the rise, now affecting about 3 million kids, according to the first federal study of the

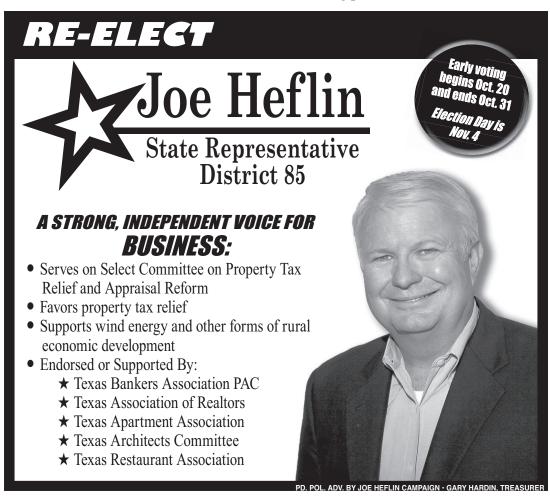
But experts said that might be because parents are more aware and quicker to have their kids checked out by a doctor.

About 1 in 26 children had food allergies last year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Wednesday. That's up from 1 in 29 kids in 1997.

The 18 percent increase is significant enough to be considered more than a statistical blip, said Amy Branum of the CDC, the study's lead author.

Nobody knows for sure what's driving the increase. A doubling in peanut allergies — noted in earlier studies — is one factor, some experts said. Also, children seems to be taking longer to outgrow milk and egg allergies.

But also figuring into the equation are parents and doctors who are more likely to consider food as the trigger for symptoms like vomiting, skin rashes and breathing problems.



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Announcements

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The Physicians and Staff of Family Medical Center will provide continuing services to our patients. Dr. Barkley is newly established and a member of Medical Scenic Mountain Group.

Records may be transferred on receipt of written request. Regulations allow thirty days for this service. The fee established in state regulations may be charged.

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Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Why not check this out? At the library

he Friends of the Library book sale has ended. Thanks to all who came, who looked, who purchased. If you are interested in joining the Friends of the Library, they will be meeting Thursday at noon, in the library. Ask a staff member for directions to the meeting room.

With the holidays approaching, there are a number of days the library will be closed. We will

be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day and will close at 3 p.m. Nov. 26 for the Thanksgiving holidays. We will reopen Monday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. For the Christmas holiday, we will close at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24 and will reopen Monday, Dec. 29. We will also be closed Jan. 1.

New book pickins' are getting rather low. The staff has been busy taking inventory, making sure our catalog is up to date

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and processing the few "new" books that are coming in. Historically, we

are not able to purchase books until the middle of January. That is when the tax revenue begins trickling in and that is when we hit the

book-buying



binge.

Erica Spindler's newest book is "Breakneck" and will be published Jan. 20. From her Web site, she writes "No matter how innocent the story being relayed to me is, I can twist it into something pretty damn frightening. I've learned the real trick is not sharing these versions with those relaying the story. It tends to make

people avoid me."

Raised in Rockford, Ill., Erica had planned on being an artist, earning a BFA from Delta State University and an MFA from the University of New Orleans in the visual arts.

In June of 1982, in bed with a cold, she picked up a romance novel for relief from daytime television. She was immediately hooked, and soon decided to try to write one herself.

She leaped from romance to suspense in 1996 with her novel "Forbidden Fruit," and found her true calling. In 2002, her novel "Bone Cold" won the prestigious Daphne du Maurier Award for excellence. A Romance Writers of America Honor Roll member, she received a Kiss of Death Award for her novels "Forbidden Fruit" and "Dead Run" and was a three-time RITA® Award finalist.

Weekly awarded the audio version of her novel "Shocking Pink" a Listen Up Award, naming it one of the best audio mystery books of 1998. The library has an extensive collection of her fiction and it can be found in either the Mystery or Fiction

In 1999, Publishers

section. Look in the New Book Binder for the latest additions.

Lisa Gardner is another prolific author who writes thrillers. Check out her Web site for a complete list of her books. The site is http://www.lisagardner.com. The library has just added "The Perfect Husband" (this was her first book published by Bantam) and "The Third Victim." Please check the catalog for more of her books.

A favorite of English teachers everywhere (and I mean everywhere) is the Old English poem called "Beowulf."

There is no known author, but the 3,182-line poem is the only epic poem that has survived from the Anglo-Saxon period. It is challenging not only because of the complicated contextual problems it raises, but also because what it doesn't say. (That explanation is from the introduction, not me). J.R. Tolkien loved this poem, reading it over and over again and it probably influenced his writing as well.

Translated by Alan Sullivan and Timothy Murphy, "Beowulf" (829.3 AND S) is

edited by Sarah Anderson. Included are notes that explain unfamiliar terms, assistance with literary allusions and other aides to help the reader understand the poem. Enjoy!

BIG SPRING HERALD

"Can't Buy Me Faded Love" (SF ROU J) by Josh Rountree is an anthology of his stories published over a number of years. Josh is a 1991 graduate of Big Spring High School and is the son of Mary Gregg.

He lives in Austin with wife and three sons. He plays exclusively Fender electric guitars and amps, Gibson acoustics and GHS strings.

His Web site is http:// joshrountree.com/ and you can find out more about him there.

The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us. If you have a reference question, we now offer (during library hours) response by email.

You may e-mail us at hclref@hotmail.com. It is checked several times a day and a prompt (hopefully) response will be forthcoming.

VICTIM SERVICES

A mother walking the streets at night with her children at her side, no where to turn she has been beaten mentally and physically. Can you just walk on by?

A child in a fetal position not speaking: He has been physically abused. Can you walk on by?

A young mother has left during the day as he is at work, with only her baby and her clothes on her back. Can you walk on by?

A young teen has been harassed and bullied to death. Can you walk on by?

Every Crime Has a Victim Every Victim Needs our Help

October is National Domestic Awareness month. Victim Services has served 194 cases involving family violence from January - December of 2007. In the state of Texas there were 120 women kill due to family violence in 2006.

Static show that:

- 1. Minimum age was 14, Maximum Age was 68
- 2. 6 Children were killed due to family violence
- 3. There were 77 Homicides and 43 Murder-Suicides

Cause of Death

Beaten with Hands	9
2. Shot to death	76
3. Stabbed	17
4. Strangled	12
5. Weapon Used	2
6 Other	3

Perpetrator Relation to Victim

1. Common law wife	15
2. Estranged Wife	12
3. Ex-girlfriend	9
4. Ex-wife	
5. Girlfriend	29
6 Wife	51

We need your help. Victim Services will be conducting training for volunteers. Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to violent crimes of assault, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30 hours training, an interview process background check and attend training. We need you.

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or several years, I lived on the eastern side of the **Rocky Mountains**

between Colorado Springs and Denver. As I would drive to my office in Denver I would see many buildings that were built along the range



through the years but had been abandoned. One of the old abandoned barns brought forth a story that I'll never

forget. A stranger was inquiring about buying one of the old barns. The clerk at the store, noticing that he was a city type, asked why he

wanted the old barn. He said he just couldn't resist it; that he would drive by it each day see that beautiful barn sitting there and wondered if it was for sale.

The clerk told him he had a funny idea of beauty. That old barn was a handsome building in its day, but there's been a lot of winters pass with their snow and ice and howling wind.

The summer sun beat down on that old barn until all the paint had gone and the wood turned silver gray and it leaned quite a bit. Yet, that fellow called it beautiful.

The stranger said he would like to use the lumber to line the walls of his den in a new country home he's building. He said you couldn't get paint that beautiful. Only years

of standing in the weather, bearing the storms and scorching sun can produce beautiful barn wood.

As I heard that story, I thought, we're a lot like that. Only it's on the inside that our beauty grows. Sure, we turn silver gray and lean a bit more than we did when we were young. And as the years pass by, the hard weather has had an effect on our lives.

The dry spells and the stormy seasons have done a job of beautifying our souls that nothing else can produce.

I guess someday you and I will be hauled off to the great beyond and I suspect we'll be more beautiful then for the seasons we've been through here. And through it all, may we enjoy a peace within and a knowledge that we are ex-

actly where we are meant to be.

LOCAL

I remember a quote I heard years ago, "When one door closes, another door opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us."

There is an old Indian proverb which says that the rainbows of the soul are formed by the tears in our eyes. So, may we not look back in anger or forward in fear but around us in awareness.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

Greater Rotary Club Tailgate Party set Friday

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club will be hosting its Annual Tailgate Party Friday at the Steer home game, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in parking lot of Memorial Stadium, west side — north end.

Members will be cooking and selling beef or chicken fajitas, which will include a cookie and a drink for \$7. Tickets are available from any of the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club members, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce or any Interact Big Spring High School student.

Proceeds from this event will help the Interact Program at the High School.

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club helps different entitles like this one throughout the year.

"In the past we have done Fajitas for Footwear where we helped put shoes on some of the local school children whose parents were just not able, high school after-prom parties, literacy programs and more. That is what Rotary is all about, service above self," said President Keith Graumann. "And, if you can't come out to eat with us, donations are greatly appreciated, too,"

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS The sun enters Scorpio, circulating deeper psy-

chological truths. This time of year encourages us to live more fully by being honest about our passions and agendas.



our emotional lives ■ might resemble a bottleneck or an unstoppable reservoir dam generating forceful creative energy. For Scorpio, it's in the way you use it!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're having some mighty brilliant thoughts. Announcing them might take away some of your enthusiasm, though, since not everyone will understand you. Work out the details in private.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have a sense that you should stop giving a certain unreliable friend the benefit of the doubt. You can still stay friends if you stop expecting this person to act in a wav other than his or her nature.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Several people at your workplace are putting pressure on vou. Collaboration is the best means to a good end. Let your inner guidance system lead you to the right partnerships to make your life easier.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your excitement about a relationship continues to grow even as vou learn more and spend more time with a person. And the best part is that the feeling is mutual. Make plans you both can look forward to.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Take the time to involve the people around you in formulating a plan and This executing it. requires patience and social savvy. Others will appreciate your restraint and recognize you as a team player.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. popular. You're

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2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Of-

fice for an estimate of \$15,716.90.

MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available TxDOT's website from www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 27724

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s)

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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national ori-

#5961 October 15 & 22, 2008

Instead of letting that go

to your head, you use your current charisma to build friendships. Also, you'll be privy to the wisdom and mistakes of others, from which you'll learn immensely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's pointless and stressful to argue with what is. Acceptance of what you can't change will set you free. And if you take it one step further and really fall in love with reality. you'll be downright happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your work requires you to grasp skills and concepts that are big, weighty and hard to process. It's all a very good sign that you're bettering yourself. Dig in. It will get easier tomorrow.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The task at hand is not your favorite, but act quickly to secure an enticing incentive to keep you going. You respond to rewards. The evening fun will be some compensation for this laborious day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Relax and refrain from defending your version of the truth. Take a beat to think things over. There are many versions of the truth, some of which will never be heard. This is probably a battle not worth fighting.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Exuberant morning activity could tire you out for the afternoon. Pace yourself carefully. When you exercise a measure of restraint, it is possible to promise very little and deliver way over what you said you would.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). With all the giving you're doing for others lately, some of the more frivolous details have DICATE, INC.

gone overlooked. Glamour is a nice thing to strive for, but being real and doing what's right is obviously much more important.

ASTROLOGICAL QUES-TIONS: "I am a Pisces born 3/10/83, and my love life is not exactly great. I have always attracted bad boys and trouble. Will my love life ever improve?" So you're attracted to

trouble like a magnet, huh? Your Venus and Mars are joined in Aries so this makes sense. First things first, recognize the power to choose whom you attract. Trouble likes you because you're attracted to him, but by making the same choice again and again, you really do limit yourself to this one dimension of love. There's value in your attraction for risk-taking, impulsive, even dangerous types -- and hey, you like whom you like. But danger is an operative word for you here and there is such a thing as healthy danger. An EMT or professional sports player demonstrates the more noble qualities of Aries, and both have the risk, masculinity and excitement factors you dig. Of course, this would mean making the courageous choice to choose differently: to literally will yourself toward the positive side of Aries -brave, independent, pioneering men. Not boys. By not doing so, you're simply not playing your powers of attraction -your Venus -- to your full advantage.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, please go to www.creators.com. © 2008 CREATORS SYN-

Annie's Mailbox •

Dear Annie: My friend "Beth" divorced her husband three years ago. The divorce was amicable. They had no children together, although Beth has a child from a previous marriage. Shortly after the divorce, I learned from a very reliable source that her ex had been having an affair with a co-worker almost the entire time they had been married. I did not tell Beth this as they were already divorced and I didn't want to hurt her.

Recently, Beth has begun seeing her ex again, and I can tell by the way she talks about him that she has stars in her eyes and thinks this is leading to a reconciliation. But from what I hear, the ex is still involved with the coworker.

Beth has a good job and makes terrific money. She also comes from a very well-to-do family. I think the ex sees dollar signs and realizes his standard of living would improve if he got back together with her.

Should I tell Beth what I know about the co-worker or just keep my mouth shut? I am sure she will be upset that I didn't tell her about the affair two years ago, but at the time, I did not see the need since she had divorced the creep. Now I feel like I should 'fess up. With STDs being what they are, plus the fact that her child is involved in all this mess, I think she ought to know. I have seriously thought about an anonymous letter. What would you suggest?

-- Torn by Friendship Dear Torn: Don't send an anonymous letter. It is both frightening and easy to discount the information. Talk to Beth. Tell her you know she still has feelings for her ex, but you heard he and a coworker had a thing going



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

on and she might want to make certain he isn't still seeing the woman. Let her take it from there.

Dear Annie: I recently began seeing "Zack" again after we broke up nearly two years ago. During our hiatus, we both dated other people.

Zack has many pictures of his ex-girlfriend on his wall. These pictures make me feel uncomfortable, especially since he's never put up a photo of me. I asked Zack if he would take the pictures down, but he refused. I don't think he still has feelings for this girl, and I also realize that, as an artist, he may place a different value on photographs than I do. However, it bothers me that he cares more for a bunch of old pictures than for me.

I think it's time to take those pictures down. Am I overreacting? -- Picture Not-So-Perfect Massachusetts

Dear Picture: Talk to Zack calmly and ask why he insists on displaying photographs that he knows make you uncomfortable. If he is no longer interested in this woman and considers the pictures works of art, you have no reason to be threatened. Still, he should show enough respect for your feelings to put them in a location where they are less

prominent.

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News in brief

Afghan officials say coalition airstrike kills 9 Afghan troops; US blames 'mistaken identity'

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A U.S.-led coalition airstrike mistakenly hit an Afghan army checkpoint Wednesday, killing nine soldiers and wounding three, Afghan officials said.

The strike hit a checkpoint in the Sayed Kheil area of Khost province in eastern Afghanistan, said Arsallah Jamal, the province's governor.

The U.S. said its forces "may have mistakenly killed and injured" Afghan soldiers in what may have been a case of mistaken identity "on both sides."

"As a Coalition forces convoy was returning from a previous operation, they were involved in multiple engagements," a U.S. military statement said. "As a result of the engagements, ANA (Afghan army) soldiers were killed and injured."

Col. Greg Julian, the chief spokesman for U.S. troops in Afghanistan, said American officials would meet with Afghan defense officials to "sort out the details."

Bush administration says it will take time for economy to recover from financial crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is pledging to do whatever it takes to battle a severe financial crisis that is threatening to push the country into a

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steep recession.

But even with the aggressive steps the government has already taken, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson says it will take time before things get turned around.

"Clearly, we're going to have a number of difficult months ahead of us in terms of the real economy," Paulson said Tuesday in an interview on "The Charlie Rose Show."

Asian markets veered sharply lower Wednesday, with Tokyo's Nikkei index tumbling 6.79 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was down 6.2 percent, while South Korea's main index shed 5.1 percent. European markets also opened lower.

A week after Paulson announced the administration would spend \$250 billion to buy stakes in U.S. banks, the Federal Reserve stepped up Tuesday with a new program to help money market mutual funds that have been squeezed by worried investors demanding to cash out their holdings.

Asian markets slide on pessimism over earnings; Nikkei slides nearly 7 percent

TOKYO (AP) — Asian markets veered sharply lower Wednesday, with Tokyo's Nikkei index tumbling nearly 7 percent, amid spreading pessimism over corporate earnings outlooks in the U.S. and at home. European markets also opened lower.

As credit markets show signs of improving, investors are turning their attention to dismal forecasts from major U.S. companies and Japanese media reports of disappointing sales and profit results — stoking fears of a global recession.



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Asian markets opened lower after an overnight decline on Wall Street but extended losses as the day progressed.

Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average fell for the first time in three days, dropping 631.56 points, or 6.79 percent, to 8,674.69. Hong Kong's Hang Seng sank 5.2 percent, while South Korea's main index shed 5.1 percent.

"The credit crunch seems to be behind us, and we are shifting focus to corporate earnings and economic conditions, and clearly both are deteriorating," said Alex Tang, head of research at Core Pacific-Yamaichi in Hong Kong.

Fort Bragg trial to start in case of soldier accused of 'fragging' 2 superior officers

FORT BRAGG, N.C. (AP) — The court martial of the first soldier accused of killing a direct superior in Iraq — known as "fragging" during the Vietnam War —

— known as "fragging" during the Vietnam War — opens Wednesday, three years after a suspicious blast tore through the living quarters of two National Guard officers.

Numerous delays in the case against Staff Sgt. Alberto B. Martinez have frustrated the widows of Capt. Phillip Esposito and 1st Lt. Louis Allen, both killed when a Claymore mine detonated outside their room in 2005. The trial judge has pledged to hear testimony on holidays and weekends, but the case is still expected to run through the end of the year.

"I never imagined that it would take more than three years to bring him to trial," said Esposito's wife, Siobhan, who along with Allen's wife has attended every hearing. "My life irrevocably changed."

Martinez, 41, of Troy, N.Y., is accused of planting the anti-personnel mine that detonated on June 7, 2005, in a window just outside the officers' room at Saddam Hussein's Water Palace in Tikrit. The officers died the next day.

At an earlier hearing in Kuwait, a witness testified Martinez had said twice that he disliked Esposito and was going to "frag" him.

Defense attorneys have said in court there is no evidence linking Martinez to the killings. They also have said he was charged because of his feud with Esposito, a by-the-book West Point graduate who took over a relaxed National Guard unit.

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5		News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Cortes Israel	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Beckinsale	Unsolved Mysteries	Law & Order	BET's Top 10	Wizards Wizards	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
	:PM :30	News Entertain	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Two Men Two Men	News Entertain	12 Cora- zones	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Prophecy Hagee	News-Lehrer	Made Made		CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Live Hip Hop	Suite Life Montana	Football NFL Live	MLB Clutch
7	:PM :30	Pushing Daisies	Pushing Daisies	Cuidado- Ángel	MLB Base- ball: World	Christine Gary	Doña Bar- bara	Knight Rider	Payne Payne	Israel Scott	Secrets of the Dead	Time Wrp Time Wrp	Movie: Road House, Sam	CSI: NY	Movie: Old School,		Movie: High School	Madden Madden	Series of Poker
	:PM :30	Private Practice	Private Practice	Fuego en la Sangre	Series Game 1 Teams TBA.	Criminal Minds		Deal or No Deal	Payne Payne	Light of the Southwest	Independent Lens	MythBusters	Elliott	UFC Un- leashed	Vince Vaughn	Bone	Musical	Madden Madden	Series of Poker
9	:PM :30	Dirty Sexy Money	Dirty Sexy Money	Don Fran- cisco	757.	CSI: NY	Sin Senos	Lipstick Jungle	Payne Payne			Prototype This!	Movie:	The Ultimate Fighter	School,	Comic Comic	Wizards Life De	Shifting Gears	Series of Poker
	:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Israel	Charlie Rose		Blown Away, Lloyd	The Ultimate	Vince Vaughn	Karen	Suite Life	Shifting	SportsCenter
10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	El Juramento	Tonight Show		Dr. Young		Made	Bridges	Fighter		Hatchett	Montana	Gears	
44	:PM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-	La Hora de	Law Order:				Sex &	CCM	Smiley	Time Wrp		CSI: NY	Movie: The		So Raven	NASCAR]
11	:30	Jimmy Kim-	mel Live	la Risa	CI		El Rostro de	Late Night	Movie:	Scott	Smiley	Time Wrp			Ringer, Kath- erine Heigl	Tryin' Walter	Cory	Series of	
	:AM	mel Live	Extra	Amarte-	RENO 911	Show	Analia		Secondhand Lions	Israel	(Off Air)	MythBusters	Movie: Road		erine rieigi	Tryin', Walter Alza		Poker	Baseball
12	:30	News	Paid	Pecado	RENO 911	Insider	Programa	News		Sanchez			House, Sam Elliott				Kim	Series of	NFL Live
		Profits	mag	Clasicos	Friends	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After		Light of the		Prototype	Linott	Star Trek:	Deuce		Emperor	Poker	SportsCenter
	:30	Paid	Paid	Humor	TMZ	Paid	Pelicula:	Dark	Movie:	Southwest		This!		Voyager	Bigalow:	The Wire	Dragon	Madden	

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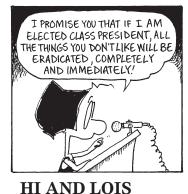


MY SONTO GO TO COLLEGE, BUT HE JOINED A STREET GANG INSTEAD

PARKER

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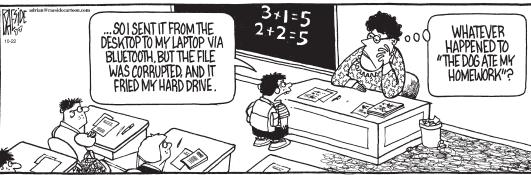




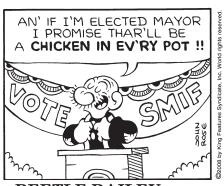




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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 22, the 296th day of 2008. There are 70 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 22, 1962, President Kennedy announced a quarantine of all offensive military equipment shipped to Cuba, following the discovery of Soviet-built missile bases on the island.

On this date:

In 1746, Princeton University was first chartered as the College of New Jersey.

In 1797, French balloonist Andre-Jacques Garnerin made the first parachute descent, landing safely from a height of about 3,000 feet over Paris. In 1836, Sam Houston was inau-

gurated as the first constitutionally elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1883, the original Metropolitan Opera House in New York held its grand opening with a performance of Gounod's "Faust."

In 1928, Republican presidential nominee Herbert Hoover spoke of the "American system of rugged individualism" in a speech at New York's Madison Square Garden. In 1934, bank robber Charles

"Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot to death by federal agents at a farm in East Liverpool, Ohio. In 1968, Apollo 7 returned safely,

splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean. In 1979, the U.S. government

allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment — a decision that precipitated the Iran hostage crisis. In 1981, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization

ernment for its strike the previous August. In 1986, President Reagan signed into law sweeping tax-overhaul

legislation.

was decertified by the federal gov-

One year ago: A federal judge in Dallas declared a mistrial for former leaders of the Texas-based Holy Land Foundation, a Muslim charity accused of funding terrorism. China's Communist Party gave President Hu Jintao a second five-year term.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Joan Fontaine is 91. Nobel Prize-winning author Doris Lessing is 89. Actor Christopher Lloyd is 70. Actor Derek Jacobi is 70. Actor Tony Roberts is 69. Actress Annette Funicello is 66. Movie director Jan de Bont is 65. Actress Catherine Deneuve is 65. Rock musician

Leslie West (Mountain) is 63. Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour is 61. Actor Jeff Goldblum is 56. Movie director Bill Condon is 53. Actor Luis Guzman is 51. Actorwriter-producer Todd Graff is 49. Rock musician Cris Kirkwood is 48. Christian singer TobyMac is 44. Singer-songwriter John Wesley Harding is 43. Actress Valeria Golino is 42. Comedian Carlos Mencia is 41. Country singer Shelby Lynne is 40. Reggae rapper Shaggy is 40. Rapper Tracey Lee is 38. Actor Michael Fishman is 27. Talk show host Michael Essany is 26. Rock musician Zac Hanson (Hanson) is 23. Actor Jonathan Lipnicki is 18. Actress Sofia Vassilieva is 16.

Thought for Today: "Happiness is not a horse; you cannot harness it." — Russian proverb. 2008 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle



READ ME by Fred Piscop

holder

46 Wipe out

48 E-mailer,

for one

50 Poet W.H.

Doone

53 Ph.D. exam

54 Promenade

51 Fictional

52 Very bad

trees

40 Intense dislike

41 Prefix for cycle

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Smart-alecky
- 9 Volleyball smash
- 14 Gas-leak
- evidence **15** Not often seen
- **16** Mexican

- 18 Demon's
- 19 Make amends
- 20 Cell-phone
- 23 Charged
- particle
- 25 Male or
- female 29 G-men's org.
- 31 Shell game
- **35** Steer clear of
- 38 Bullfight cheer
- phrase
- 43 Archie
- 44 Construction-
- 45 Have to have
- 48 Spiffed up
- de Cologne
- 52 Stereo knob
- manor
- **61** Gung-ho 63 Party's
- nominees

2 Blue-pencil

3 Gad about

dinosaur

5 Slight quake

7 Exodus author

applications

9 Thespian's

domain

10 Barbecue

spots

11 Clicker's

20

14

17

66

picture

4 Fearsome

6 Place of

refuge

8 Hair

- 66 Trojan War captive
- 67 Play a big part **5** Hoodlum **68** Room-service
 - holder
 - **DOWN** 1 Pea holder
- munchies
- **17** Sub maneuver
- doing
- option
- 24 Prefix for physics

- **36** Individuals
- **39** Conference-ad
- **42** Rubber-stamps
- Bunker's wife
- site sight
- 47 TGIF part
- 49
- 51 Director Ang
- 59 Ran on TV
- 60 Man of the
- 64 Mare hair
- 65 Disaster relief org.

- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 37 Potpourri 12 Ape of films
- 13 Language suffix
- 21 Color, hippie-style
- 22 Fast on one's
- feet 25 French-
- speaking
- African land 26 Conjure up
- 27 Rope loop
- **28** Cartoonist
- Browne
- 29 Military installations
- 30 Place for
- roses
- 32 TV talk host O'Brien
- 33 Without
- support

15

18

21

- 34 Made cat calls 59 Hardwood 36 Office wear
- 55 Cloakroom hanging
 - 56 Castaway's
 - transport 57 [see other side]
 - **58** South
 - American capital

 - **62** Calendar box
 - 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 16
 - 22

68

23 24 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 29 | 30 31 32 33 34 35 38 40 43 44 46 49 50 52 53 54 55 57 58

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