

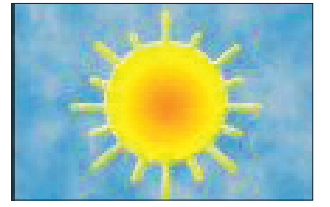
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**SUNDAY**  
NOVEMBER 16, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 300

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**Valle wins state title**

*BSHS senior claims 4A XC championship*

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

When Big Spring's Jordan Valle left for the Class 4A state cross country meet in Round Rock Friday night, he had one personal goal in mind — win an individual state title.



Valle

Mission accomplished.

Valle completed the

See **VALLE**, Page 3A

**'WAIT UNTIL DARK'**



Courtesy photo/Shirley Lee

**Alesha Yanez, left, and Madison Matlock rehearse a scene from "Wait Until Dark," a psychological thriller being staged by the Howard College Theater Department this weekend. Show times are 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Hall Center for the Arts. Admission is \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.**

**Energy minded**

*Forsan ISD to mull hiring consultant firm*

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

**FORSAN** — Like almost everyone else, school trustees here are looking for ways to save money on energy costs.

The Forsan Independent School District school board will consider hiring a firm to conduct an "energy audit" of the district when it holds its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the administration building board room.

FISD Superintendent Randy Johnson said the audit is Forsan's response to state guidelines urging districts to find a way to cut their energy costs by 5 percent over the next five years.



Johnson

"We went out with requests for proposals on this matter a few months ago," Johnson said. "Only one firm — Honeywell — has responded ... so

it's likely the board will have them come in and do an energy audit to help us cut our costs some more."

The problem, if there is one, is that FISD has already been highly proactive in saving energy costs, Johnson said. He pointed to recent renovations, such as a computer system that monitors and regulates utility systems

See **FISD**, Page 3A

**Bush cites progress at world economic summit**

By **JEANNINE AVERSA**

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON** — World leaders edged closer to an agreement Saturday that would flag risky investing and regulatory weak spots as President George W. Bush welcomed the progress at an emergency economic summit.

Nearly two dozen foreign leaders got down to work at the largest gathering of its kind in nearly a decade. A chief goal was charting a

*"I am pleased that we are discussing a way forward to make sure that such a crisis is unlikely to occur again."*

—President George W. Bush

map to avoid future financial meltdowns like the one now imperiling the global economy. Leaders also sought to find ways to revive the economy, which has pushed up unemployment and shrunk savings.

Under the glare of an in-

tense political and public spotlight, the presidents and prime ministers needed to be careful not to let the talks become a blame game, which could further roil the fragile markets.

See **SUMMIT**, Page 3A



AP photo/Evan Vucci

**President George W. Bush talks with Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso during a plenary session Saturday.**

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

**Hangar 25 memberships**

Hangar 25 Air Museum is offering 10 percent off during its annual membership drive. The special offer runs until Jan. 1. The museum highlights Big Spring's role in aviation, honors veterans and holds various activities — many of them youth-related.

One-year memberships, with the 10 percent discount, are student, \$13.50; individual, \$27; family, \$54; sponsor, \$90; supporting, \$225; patron, \$450; and founder, \$900. Checks or money orders may be made to Hangar 25 Air Museum, 1911 Apron Drive, Big Spring 79720. For more information, call 264-1999.

**Tumbleweed's Top 40**

The Heritage Museum will host Tumbleweed Smith's debut party for his latest CD, "Tumbleweed's Top 40," from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday.

The CD features his favorite programs from each year of the 40 years of his radio series, The Sound of Texas. The Heritage Museum is located at 510 Scurry.



**Ring in the credit cards**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)** — It's a true season of change: The Salvation Army is experimenting with a plastic alternative for folks who don't have cash to throw in a holiday red kettle.

This season, five bell-ringers in El Paso County, Colo., will be the first to accept debit and credit cards along with spare change and bills. Salvation Army officials say the kettle tradition needs to be tweaked as consumers increasingly carry only plastic. Some shoppers who saw the new kettles liked them, saying they've walked past kettles in the past and wanted to donate but had no cash.

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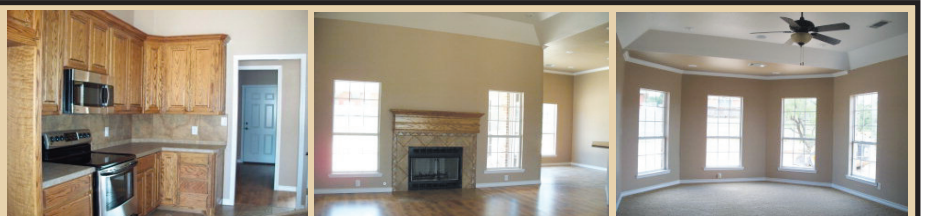
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### HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

## Stanton outsmarts Van Horn for 20-12 win

By JONATHAN HULL  
Sports Editor

PECOS — In a close football game, whichever coach and team make better adjustments generally claims the victory.

Stanton's Buffaloes stayed one step ahead of the Van Horn Eagles throughout the second half Friday, giving the Buffs the Class A, Division I bi-district championship after defeating the Eagles, 20-12.

After the first quarter saw each offensive squad hit some big

plays with its running game, the game became stagnant in the second period and Stanton entered intermission with a 7-6 lead.

However, a change in formation from the Buffs to start the second half allowed them to score on their first play from scrimmage. Stanton has primarily run out of the I-formation throughout the season, but switched to a Flexbone, which is Van Horn's main offensive formation, in the third quarter and needed just one play to score.

Sophomore Adam Montez took a pitch to the left side of the formation, broke through one tackle and sprinted away from the Van Horn defense for a 91-yard touchdown.

"We've got a pretty incredible sophomore right there," said Stanton Head Coach Lee McCown. "He's a great athlete with good speed. He's got to get up in the morning and run at the state cross country meet Saturday, too."

Stanton put a nail in Van Horn's coffin early in the fourth,

utilizing a trick play. Backup quarterback Mark Garcia lined up at tight end and took the hand-off on an end around. Instead of running, he pulled up and threw a strike to fellow tight end Jacob Cazares, who pulled in Garcia's pass for a 48-yard touchdown. A made extra point gave Stanton a 20-6 advantage, making a late 65-yard touchdown by Van Horn's J.J. Baca meaningless.

"We've been working on that play since the first week of the season," said McCown. "They

were playing tight on us at the line of scrimmage so we thought it was a nice time to use it."

Stanton first got on the board after Robbie Noland broke off a 50-yard scamper for a touchdown on the Buffs' opening drive. Noland had 93 yards on 10 carries in the opening stanza, but Van Horn concentrated on shutting him down the rest of the game.

However, the Buffs got nice production from Montez — 101

See **STANTON**, Page 2B

## GC edges Ira, 50-48

By EVAN JANSA

Special to the Herald

LENORAH — Even frigid conditions could not stop the No. 13 Garden City Bearkats from igniting an offensive barrage against the No. 12 Ira Bulldogs.

The 'Kats defeated Ira 50-48 Friday night, and thus planted their first 2008 gold football into the trophy case. The grueling victory came at the hands of a team favored to beat Garden City, according to sixman-football.com

Without the steady arm and clever scrambling of quarterback Levi Schaefer, the 'Kats would have been hard-pressed to win against their familiar foe. The senior signal caller had complete control of the offensive attack and exemplified a quintessential trait of a captain — leadership.

Schaefer played one of his best games of the season, completing 9-of-17 passes for 129 yards. More importantly, nearly half of his completions contributed to the offensive onslaught, as he threw for four touchdowns.

"Before this year Levi had only thrown three or four varsity passes," Head Coach Vance Jones said, "but he's so smart, and the bottom line is, he can really throw the football."



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Garden City quarterback Levi Schaefer passes in action from Nov. 7 in Garden City. Schaefer led the Bearkats to a 50-48 bi-district playoff victory over Ira Friday, throwing four touchdown passes.

See **GC**, Page 2B

## On the brink

Sands staves off elimination, scores 24 unanswered points for 60-52 victory over Dawson

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LAMESA — Things looked grim throughout the night for the Sands Mustangs.

The Mustangs were making their first playoff appearance since 2002 Friday against the Dawson Dragons.

And by the end of the third quarter, it appeared it was going to be a short stay. However, the Mustangs had other ideas.

Trailing 52-36 as the final stanza opened, Sands scored 24-unanswered points, claiming a 60-52 victory.

"This is a very big win," said Sands Head Coach Wayne Henderson. "Our goal at the start of the season was just to make the playoffs and see what could happen. The kind of win we got Friday night is one that can really help establish our program. I think it is that big of a game. Now we go into the rest of the playoffs as a tested team. We know now that when we get down, the game isn't over. We can always fight back and come away with a win."

The Mustangs tied the score with 2:17 left to play, courtesy of a 3-yard pass from Johnny Rogers to Jesus Gomez.

After holding the Dragons, the Mustangs got the ball back and Rogers came up big for the Mustangs again — much like the junior spreadback has done for Sands all season.

With 26 seconds left to play, Rogers made his way across the goal line from 15 yards out, securing the 60-52 victory for Sands and a date with sixth-ranked Sierra Blanca in the regional round of the postseason.

The Mustangs will play Sierra Blanca at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Grandfalls.

"We have to treat that game like any other," Henderson said. "They're a highly-ranked opponent, but we've already had several games like this. Last year, we were stuck in a district with four teams ranked in the Top 15. This season we've already played second-ranked Borden County. All we can do is take it one play and one game at a time."

**Sands 14 8 14 24-60**  
**Dawson 16 24 12 0-52**  
**Rushing:** Sands — Johnny Rogers 27-219, Daniel Armendariz 13-119, Michael Gomez 4-36.  
**Passing:** Sands — Rogers 9-15-0 122, Landon Parker 2-3-0 35.  
**Receiving:** Sands — Xavier Elizondo 5-77, Ethan Zant 2-27, A.J. Hernandez 1-27, Seth Fry 1-15, Jesus Gomez 2-11.

## Lady Steers pick up win

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

For one to understand how important the Big Spring Lady Steers' 41-39 victory over the Snyder Lady Tigers was, all you have to do is look back at last season. A season that saw the Lady Steers go without a win, leaving a bad taste in the mouths of all those involved.

Enter first-year Head Coach Mike Warren and the positive attitude he has brought with him.

"They just had a horrible season last year," Warren commented. "We told the girls things were going to be different this year and I think they have bought into it. They work hard and for them to get the win just makes me so happy for them."

Big Spring came out firing opening

up a 7-0 lead over the first five minutes of the game before the Lady Tigers fought back to make it 9-4 after one quarter of play.

After Snyder made it a two-point game on five straight points by Karissa Medina, Desiree Anderson led the Lady Steers on a five-point run, giving them 27-21 lead at the half.

"The girls never got down on themselves," observed Warren. "With everything that went on last year it could have been real easy for them to give up but they didn't. Every time they made a run at us we kept our composure and didn't fall apart."

The second half became a battle of wills as the two teams combined to score just 13 points in the frame with Snyder cutting into the Lady Steers lead by three for a 32-29 score head-

ing into the fourth and final stanza.

The Lady Tigers finally were able to overtake Big Spring thanks to an 8-1 run over the first four minutes of the frame, 37-33. However, the Lady Steers were undeterred and made certain that was Snyder's only lead of the night.

Desiree Anderson got things started, making a lay up before Kallina Fletcher gave the Lady Steers back the lead they never relinquished.

Fletcher finished off the scoring for the Lady Steers, hitting 3-of-4 from the charity stripe to ice the win and setting off a wild celebration at mid-court — something that has been rare inside Steer Gym.

"You know our crowd played a big part in the way we played there at

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 3B

### CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD BI-DISTRICT PLAYOFFS

<b>Stanton</b> 20	<b>Sands</b> 60	<b>Garden City</b> 50	<b>Big Spring (6-4)</b> vs. <b>Canyon (6-4)</b> 5 p.m. Saturday in Wolfforth
<b>Van Horn</b> 12	<b>Dawson</b> 52	<b>Ira</b> 48	

### Crossroads area football playoffs schedule

**Friday**  
**Class 4A, Division II area**  
(If Big Spring won Saturday vs. Canyon)  
Big Spring vs. EP Riverside, 7:30 p.m., El Paso

**Class A, Division I regional**  
Stanton vs. Morton, 7:30 p.m., Denver City

**Six-man Division I regional**  
Garden City vs. Throckmorton, 7:30 p.m., Trent

**Six-man Division II regional**  
Sands vs. Sierra Blanca, 7:30 p.m., Grandfalls

# Kingdom of Levant

**C**arrefour Hold, a local member of the Kingdom of Levant, joined with its brothers from Abilene to hold a Harvest Festival, Saturday, Nov. 8. The Kingdom of Levant is a medieval re-enactment group based on the Kingdom of Jerusalem during the time of 1099-1291. The harvest festival activities included displays of various arts of the time period, combat fighting, archery and a lecture on the Crusades from Bruce Stewart. For more information, call Walter Ward at 935-6455.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Pam Girard of San Angelo and Elaine Starkey of Trent demonstrate lucet braiding.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Larry Pedleton of Abilene prepares to duel at the festival.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Bruce Stewart and Mike Matthews, both of Abilene, intensely duel.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Joyce Baumann of Coahoma demonstrates the art of drop spinning.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The women enjoy a toast at the feast. Pictured from back, left, are Pam Girard, Tiffany Matthews, Joyce Baumann, Emily England, front, Jane Lusk, Terri Wadsworth, Elane Starkey and Jennifer Hytry.

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## Obituaries

### Colley F. Smith



A Memorial Service will be held for Colley F. Smith Sunday Nov. 16, 2008 immediately following the morning Sunday service at Caney Creek Baptist Church in Caney City, with the Rev. John Hernandez officiating.

Colley was laid to rest Sunday, Nov. 9, 2008, at Laurel Land Funeral Home and Cemetery in Dallas. The Rev. John Hernandez officiated and he was surrounded by his family.

Born in Chipley, Fla., he was a proud U.S. Air Force veteran. Colley met the love of his life, Viola, while living and working in Big Spring. They relocated to Dallas where Colley worked for and retired from the city of Dallas. After years of hard work and service he and his bride of 55 blissful years retired to Log Cabin City.

Colley loved taking long walks every day, reading his Bible and watching classic western movies. He also deeply enjoyed listening to gospel music and working in his garden. His greatest joys and rewards in his life were spent with family. Whether it be adoring his wife, spending time with his children or cajoling his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, he was a family man loved by all.

He worshipped at Caney Creek Baptist Church where he had many loving friends. Colley was truly a wonderful man who has touched many lives. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all that knew him.

He was preceded in death by his son, Colley F. Smith Jr.

Colley is survived by his adoring wife, Viola Faye Smith; his children, son Arnold L. McCollum Sr. and daughter-in-law Rose of Longview, daughter Nora Andrews and son-in-law James of Tyler, daughter Connie Verchueren of Levelland, daughter Gracie Parker of Florida, daughter Christine Lyons of Florida, and daughter Delores Anne Smith; 14 loving grandchildren; 24 beautiful great-grandchildren; and more devoted nieces and nephews than he could count.

*Paid obituary*

### Anna Belle Graves



Anna Belle Graves, 92, of Lubbock, died Friday, Nov. 14, 2008, in a Lubbock hospital. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, 2008, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton with grandson Craig Martin, officiating.

She was born July 23, 1916, in Rising Star and married Luben Graves Sept. 10, 1933, in Lovington, N.M. He preceded her in death Feb. 6, 1982.

Mrs. Graves had lived in Stanton for 52 years and worked at Martin County Hospital. She moved to Lubbock in 1985. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Stanton.

Survivors include a daughter, Jeanette Martin of Lubbock; two grandsons; and four great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Robert Lee and Jenny Simons, and three sisters, Mae Lee, Lois Bond and Lavelle White.

The family suggests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

### Sally L. Beam

Sally L. Beam, 73, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008, in a Abilene hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 5 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

She was born Aug. 25, 1935, in Winnsboro. Sally married James H. Beam June 12, 1968, in Odessa and he preceded in her in death Jan. 8, 1989.

She came to Big Spring in 1935 and taught school in the Big Spring Independent School District for 43 years until she retired. Mrs. Beam was a member of First United Methodist Church and a life member of the Texas State Teachers Association.

She is survived by her family and many friends.

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

## Support Groups

#### 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.

#### CHANGING DATES

• The local National Alliance on Mental Illness group meets every two weeks in the basement of the Howard County Library. For dates and times, contact Ramona Blessingane at 263-9748.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday (Note: an incident log was unavailable):

- DAVID FRANCO, 30, 1602 Virginia, was arrested on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon and a Hidalgo County warrant.
- ROCKY YANEZ, 26, 107 N.E. Ninth, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated and driving while license invalid.
- BOBBY DYKES, 28, 1604 E. 16<sup>th</sup>, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- RICHARD HOPKINS, 31, Climax, Ga., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOSE RODRIGUEZ, 25, Mexico, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- EVERARDO BUSTILLOS, 21, Mexico, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- THOMAS BRADBERRY, 41, 2705 Ann, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- EUGENE SCOTT, 59, 1511 Tucson, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- ELGIN MORENO, 19, 1602 Indian Hills, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- ROLANDO VARGAS, 28, 1002 N. Main, was arrested on a charge of theft under \$1,500.
- JOHN JAY FLORES, 37, 1300 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Place, was arrested on a local warrant.
- YESSINIA VIERA, 23, 1002 Howell, was arrested on a capias warrant.
- JORGE GARCIA, 39, 701 E. 13<sup>th</sup>, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.

## Take Note

- Vendors are needed for the Christmas Bazaar to be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Canterbury South. Please contact Jennifer Mendez at 263-1238 or leave a message.
- Confidential memory screenings are being offered by Accolade Home Care as part of National Memory Screening Day, a national initiative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA). They will be held from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 18 at Room 214 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Place. For information, call Accolade Home Care in Big Spring at 264-1164.
- 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.

• 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.

• 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 register.

• 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.O. 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.

## Your Local Weather

Sun 11/16	Mon 11/17	Tue 11/18	Wed 11/19	Thu 11/20
 <b>70/37</b>	 <b>70/39</b>	 <b>66/41</b>	 <b>71/41</b>	 <b>67/36</b>
Mainly sunny. High around 70F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 30s.

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## Bulletin Board

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

#### MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. 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.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

#### TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

#### WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

#### 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 Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.
- 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.
- American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

## Lottery

The winning numbers from Friday night's Mega Millions drawing were: 3, 18, 19, 30 and 34. The Mega Ball number was 3.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-2-7. Sum-it-Up: 9.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-0-6-5. Sum It Up: 19.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 4-8-13-29-35.  
Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$26,485  
Winning ticket sold in: Fort Worth

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# Duncan scores 22 as Spurs edge Rockets

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — With injuries zapping any offense San Antonio is accustomed to generating, the Spurs have fallen back on what they do best. Play defense.

Tim Duncan scored 22 points, but his defense helped the Spurs avoid another loss in their injury-plagued early season.

Duncan blocked Aaron Brooks' layup with a second left in the Spurs' 77-75 victory over the Houston Rockets on Friday night.

"What can you say about Tim Duncan that hasn't already been said," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "He provides the leadership on this team. He is

the center of the program."

The Rockets (5-4) scored their final points with 4:44 left on the clock. San Antonio scored the game's final 12 points, including a running hook shot by Duncan that gave the Spurs a 76-75 lead with 59 seconds left.

Rookie George Hill, playing in place of the injured Tony Parker at point guard, added 17 points to help San Antonio — down 14 points with 7:37 to go — improve to 3-5. San Antonio also is awaiting the return of Manu Ginobili from an ankle injury.

Houston's Ron Artest missed a 3-point try at the buzzer.

That was one of seven straight shots the Rockets missed to end

the game. The Spurs closed out the game hitting four of six.

"This was a game we should have won," said Tracy McGrady said, who struggled through a 2-for-12 shooting night for seven points. "We had it in our pocket. "We didn't play any defense."

Artest led Houston with 18 points. Brooks, playing at point guard in place of the suspended Rafer Alston, had 14.

The Rockets ended a five-game trip 2-3 and fell a half-game behind New Orleans in the Southwest Division.

Brooks could have won the game for Houston with what was looking to be an easy layup. He got the ball along the baseline

and saw an open path to the basket. But Duncan quickly made up ground.

"I didn't think he was going to get there," Brooks said. "He made a great play. Blocked the shot. That was it."

Houston dominated the inside until that play. The Rockets outscored the Spurs 17-3 on second-chance points and scored eight more points in the paint than San Antonio.

But Duncan's block on Brooks made it a meaningless stat.

"I was just the last line of defense," Duncan said. "I mean there was kind of nothing else to do there. I see him break free and come out wide open. I'm the

help-side defender and I got there just in time."

Houston led by 14 points when Brooks scored with 7:37 left in the game.

But the Spurs regained the lead with 59 seconds left on Duncan's layup over Yao Ming as the San Antonio offense cleared out the middle for Duncan to drive 1-on-1.

But after McGrady's miss, San Antonio failed to take advantage when Duncan missed a hook over Yao. Brooks then tried a baseline drive that Duncan blocked.

See **NBA**, Page 3B

## GC

Continued from Page 1B

Leading up to his junior season, the commander of the Garden City offense had never even considered playing the position. He spent time at both running back and offensive guard.

Schaefer plays an equally important role for the 'Kats on special teams, serving as the team's kicker.

In six-man football, an extra-point kick counts as two points rather than one, so games can be

won and lost on the toe of the kicker.

No point after attempt was more significant this season than the one Garden City faced in the fourth quarter. With 1:29 remaining in the fourth quarter, the 'Kats scored on a Joshua Colunga run to make it a one possession lead for Garden City, 48-40.

With the PAT pending, Schaefer could essentially seal the game with a successful attempt.

He drilled it. "We assumed they figured it was a fake," Schaefer said. "I was just trying to play off how

crucial the kick was, and just do my best to put it through."

The 50-40 lead proved to be insurmountable for the Bulldogs, even though they scored on the ensuing drive to cut the lead to two points with a successful extra point.

Jake Schwartz played an integral role in resurrecting the Garden City efforts after being down 32-20 in the third frame. Schwartz finished with six receptions for 125 yards, and caught three touchdown passes. He also galvanized the 'Kats defense with big plays.

"He's just an incredibly talented kid," Defensive

Coordinator Koby Abney said. "He found that 'edge' in the third quarter and played like he's capable."

The defense stymied the Ira offense that featured two dangerous running backs in Andy Rivera and Seth Sanchez, who had racked up tremendous rushing totals the entire season.

The come-from-behind win should help propel the 'Kats to perhaps another playoff win, according to Jones.

"It's great motivation for us," Jones said. "We know that we can bounce back and turn the heat up."

Garden City will try to do just

that Friday against the Throckmorton Greyhounds at Gorilla Stadium in Trent.

**Garden City 6 8 14 22—50**  
**Ira 0 14 18 16—48**

**Rushing:** Garden City - Josh Colunga 18-134, Jake Schwartz 9-37, Cole Schwartz 3-14, Adrian Arzola 3-10; Ira - Andy Rivera 29-280, Seth Sanchez 11-108, Richard Deluna- 1-8

**Passing:** Garden City - Schaefer 9-17-129, Jake Schwartz 1-1-40, Josh Colunga 2-2 34; Ira - Austin Calley 3-9-52

**Receiving:** Garden City - Jake Schwartz 6-125, Brett Chudej 3-61, Josh Colunga 1-10, Aaron Long 1-5, Ian Schaefer 1-2; Ira- Lance Dunn 3-52

Punts-Avg. 6-38.5 3-29.7  
Time of poss. 22:04 25:56

### Individual statistics

**Rushing:** Van Horn - J.J. Baca 15-171, Jacob Corrales 11-60, Adam Apodaca 1-22, B.J. Willis 1-9, Rene Navarrete 3-5, Leo Corral 2-5, Luis Navarrete 1-2, Bryan Alvarado 5-16; Stanton - Robbie Noland 23-121, Adam Montez 4-101, Tyler Fulton 13-54, Nathan Nix 7-29.

**Passing:** Van Horn - Alvarado 1-5-0 21, Corrales 0-1-0 0; Stanton - Fulton 1-2-1 6, Mark Garcia 1-1-0 48.

**Receiving:** Van Horn - Baca 1-21; Stanton - Cazares 1-48, Noland 1-6.

## STANTON

Continued from Page 1B

yards rushing on four carries — and quarterback Tyler Fulton — 54 yards on 13 carries — to take some of the pressure away from Noland.

"Van Horn was really focused on stopping what we like to do,"

said McCown. "We knew we had to adjust and attack them in different ways. We've been using the Flexbone with some success the past couple weeks. It helped us a lot tonight. I'm really glad some other guys got to step up and make some big plays to get some of the attention off Robbie. That just makes us a better team."

The Buffs face Morton in the

regional round of the Class A, Division I playoffs at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Denver City. Morton defeated Olton in the bi-district round, 40-30.

**Van Horn 6 0 0 6—12**  
**Stanton 7 0 6 7—20**

### First quarter

S - Robbie Noland 50 run (Brandon Almanza kick), 7:00  
VH - Jacob Corrales 34 run (Pass failed), 3:33

### Third quarter

S - Adam Montez 91 run (Kick failed), 11:35

### Fourth quarter

S - Jacob Cazares 48 pass from Mark Garcia (Almanza kick), 11:41  
VH - J.J. Baca 65 run (run failed), 4:38

### VH SHS

First downs	13	14
Total yards	279	359
Rushes-yards	39-258	47-305
Comp.-Att.-Int.	1-6-0	2-3-1
Passing yards	21	54
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	8-49	3-15

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**2007 Chevrolet C1500 Crewcab SL** - Lt. Blue w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Nice Truck, Has Only 29,000 Miles.

Was \$24,995 **Sale Price \$23,995**

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

Was \$21,995 **Sale Price \$20,995**

**2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X2** - Black w/Gray Cloth, Ford Certified Unit, 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Has Only 27,000 Miles.

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**2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4X4 Powerstroke King Ranch** - Maroon And Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.

Was \$30,995 **Sale Price \$28,995**

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

Was \$23,995 **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 Owner.

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.

Was \$14,995 **Sale Price \$13,995**

**2004 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke** - Blue/Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner.

Was \$22,995 **Sale Price \$20,995**

**2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT** - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Great Little Truck, All Power, CD, Low Miles.

Was \$12,995 **Sale Price \$11,975**

### ★★★ TRUCKS ★★★

**2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 4X2** - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Local One Owner, All Power, Very Nice Truck.

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**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.

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**2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4** - White w/Cloth, V-6, All POWER, DVD, Local One Owner.

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**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.

Was \$19,995 **Sale Price \$13,995**

### ★★★ CARS ★★★

**2008 Ford Focus SE** - Blue w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 17,000 Miles.

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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 **Sale Price \$12,995**

**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** - Tan w/Leather, 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**

**2003 Cadillac DeVille** - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.

Was \$14,995 **Sale Price \$12,995**

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# 4-H members offer Thanksgiving Blessing Mix



Members of the Howard County 4-H Club fill bags with a special Thanksgiving Blessing Mix of snack foods for employees of the Howard County Sheriff's Office during the group's Monday meeting

Courtesy photo

## Club shows its appreciation for HCSO employees, elect new chair for Promotional Committee

Logan Gaskins, Howard County 4-H Club president, opened our meeting Monday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., at the Howard County Library.

Walter Ward, with the Howard County Master Gardner Program and Keep Big Spring Beautiful, discussed the future plans for the Pocket Park Project. We will set dates for fall and spring participation in the landscaping work. Parents are welcome to assist us.

We filled baggies of Thanksgiving Blessing Mix to give to the sheriff's department employees to show our appreciation of their dedication.

We are proud to say that Foster Burchett was elected to be our new 3rd vice president. He will chair the Promotional

Committee. Since our focus this year is on deaf awareness, we conducted the business meeting by pantomime to report on how the animal, food, shooting and service projects were progressing.

Let me tell you, there was a whole long list of upcoming to-do projects and committees to be on. (We're an ambitious group!)

We had fun playing a balloon game led by Ali Knight. Refreshments were provided by the Gomez and Chevalier families.

Our Dec. 8 meeting will be a Christmas party.

Molly Walker  
4-H Reporter

## Menus

**Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center**  
Monday  
spaghetti with meat sauce, buttered broccoli, garlic bread/margarine, tossed salad/dressing,

fruit cup, sugar cookies.  
Tuesday  
chicken strips, potato salad, sliced tomatoes on lettuce leaf, WW roll, margarine, berry crisp.  
Wednesday

glazed ham, black-eyed peas, seasoned cabbage, cornbread, margarine, banana pudding.  
Thursday  
beef & chicken fajitas with onions and green peppers, tortillas, refried beans, Spanish rice, chopped lettuce, cheese, picante, fruited Jello.  
Friday

roast turkey, corn bread, dressing, giblet gravy, green beans, WW roll, pumpkin pie.  
**Coahoma ISD**  
Monday  
Breakfast  
Pop Tarts, ham, apple juice, milk.  
Lunch  
Frito pie, ranch beans,

pears, graham crackers, milk.  
Tuesday  
Breakfast  
oatmeal, sausage, apple-sauce cups, syrup, milk.  
Lunch  
grilled cheese, tater tots, pickle spears, milk, burritos.  
Wednesday  
Breakfast  
pancake sausage on stick, apple juice, milk.  
Lunch  
turkey/dressing, gravy, potatoes, green beans, rolls, peach ups, milk, Hot Pockets.  
Thursday  
Breakfast  
biscuits, gravy, jelly, sausage, grape juice, milk.  
Lunch  
pizza, corn, tossed salad, chocolate chip cookies, milk.  
Friday  
Breakfast  
pancakes, syrup, sausage, orange juice, milk.  
Lunch  
hamburgers, chips, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, mixed fruit cups, milk.

Lunch  
chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, hot rolls, strawberry shortcake, milk.

**Big Spring ISD**  
Monday  
Breakfast  
Elementary: cereal, sausage patties, fruit juice, milk.  
High School: French toast sandwich breakfast bars, milk.  
Lunch  
pizza, carrots, applesauce, chocolate pudding, milk, PBJ sandwich  
Tuesday  
Breakfast  
Elementary: biscuits, chicken nuggets, apple-sauce, milk.  
High School: breakfast pizza, fruit juice, Honey Nut Cheerio breakfast bars, milk.  
Lunch  
chicken spaghetti, garden salad, rolls, peaches, milk, PBJ sandwiches.

Wednesday  
Breakfast  
Elementary: baked cheese sticks, fruit juice, milk.  
High School: breakfast pizza, fruit juice, Frosted Flake breakfast bars, milk.  
Lunch  
beef tacos, corn, strawberry/banana bar icy, Spanish rice, orange smiles, milk, PBJ sandwiches.  
Thursday  
Breakfast  
Elementary: pancake sausage on a stick, peaches, milk.  
High School: breakfast pizza, fruit juice, Lucky Charms breakfast bars, milk.  
Lunch  
Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, pineapple chunks, rolls, milk, PBJ sandwiches.  
Friday  
Breakfast  
Elementary: banana loaf, fresh fruit, cheddar cheese porti, milk.  
High School: strawberry Pop Tarts, fruit cocktail, milk.  
Lunch  
barbecue sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, French fries, apricots, milk, PBJ sandwiches.

**Forsan ISD**  
Monday  
Breakfast  
cereal, toast, juice, milk.  
Lunch  
chicken fajitas, refried beans, seasoned corn, orange smiles, chocolate pudding cups, milk.  
Tuesday  
Breakfast  
sausage on a stick, juice, milk  
Lunch  
pigs in blanket, pinto beans, baked chips, pineapple orange salad, milk.  
Wednesday  
Breakfast  
toast, peanut butter w/ jelly, juice, milk.  
Lunch  
submarine sandwich, lettuce, tomatoes & pickles, tater tots, baby carrots w/ ranch, brownies, milk.  
Thursday  
Breakfast  
biscuits, sausage, juice, milk.  
Lunch  
meat & bean chalups, Spanish rice, lettuce & tomatoes, Rosie applesauce, milk.  
Friday  
Breakfast  
cinnamon rolls, juice, milk.

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

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18147

## Special for the Holidays

Howard College is offering the following classes **FREE** to our Community!

Call 264-5131 to sign up for these classes

### Seasonal Scrapbooking (Day Class)

Date: November 18 – December 16, 2008

Day: Tuesday and Thursday

Time: 10:00am – 12:30pm

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: Seasonal Scrap booking is a class that offers unique pages that focus on the upcoming holidays. Create pages that showcase your family during Thanksgiving & Christmas. Learn new techniques, have fun making new friends, and join us for this awesome class.

### Seasonal Scrapbooking (Evening class)

Date: November 18 – December 16, 2008

Day: Tuesday and Thursday

Time: 6:00 – 8:30pm

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: Seasonal Scrap booking is a class that offers unique pages that focus on the upcoming holidays. Create pages that showcase your family during Thanksgiving & Christmas. Learn new techniques, have fun making new friends, and join us for this awesome class.

All of these FREE classes will be at the Big Spring Mall

### Children's Game Workshop

Date: November 22, 2008

Day: Saturday

Time: 1:00 – 5:30

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: The Children's Games workshop focuses on teaching parents, youth leaders, pastors, teachers, etc., new educational games to play with their children. From big movements games to paper games, this workshop focuses on children's growth and fun. In a four hour (I can't remember how long) session you will experience and study new ideas that involve adults and kids in some serious fun! This course is taught by two children's evangelists that have had lots of experience teaching kids new games. Come and join us for this intriguing new course that could be a lifesaver when you run out of ideas!

### Christmas Ornaments

Date: December 1 – 12, 2008

Day: Monday & Friday

Time: 6:00 – 7:30pm

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: This class is for those that are interested in making one-of-a-kind ornaments for their Christmas celebrations. We will be making four different ornaments that could be used for gifts or could be used to display as a one of a kind Christmas decoration.

### Christmas Stockings

Date: Saturday December 6, 2008

Time: 10:00am – 3:00pm

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: Come join us for a fun class creating stockings to display at Christmas time. We will be working on a great stocking that can be used for Advent, and another stocking that can be used to hold all kinds of goodies. This class is for both the beginner and the advanced.

### Christmas Recipes

Date: December 13, 2008

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm

Room: College at the Mall

Instructor: Shelley Futrelle

Cost: **Free**

Description: Come and find unique Christmas recipes that can be passed down thru the generations. Wow your family with these awesome Christmas candies and cookies. This class will include some no-bake options, some fun decorating ideas for Christmas treats, and a wide variety of recipes. Come join us for this intriguing class.

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# 500K illegal immigrants defying deportation orders

By DENISE LAVOIE

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — Zeituni Onyango came to the United States seeking asylum from her native Kenya but was turned down and ordered to leave the country in 2004.

Four years later, she is still here. And her nephew is about to become president of the United States.

Onyango's family connection to Barack Obama has thrown a spotlight on a phenomenon many Americans might find startling: An estimated half-million immigrants are living in the United States in defiance of deportation orders.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has stepped up efforts to catch fugitive aliens, as they are known, and now has about 100 "fugitive operations teams" around the country. In the past year, the teams have made 34,000 arrests, more than double the number two years ago. But there are still 560,000 such immigrants in the U.S.

Fugitive aliens include people who, like Obama's aunt, sought asylum in the United States but were rejected and ordered to leave the country. Others were caught entering or living in this country illegally, and failed to show at their deportation hearings.

Often, illegal immigrants who have been issued deportation notices are given a certain amount of time to get out of the country on their own. They are not forcibly put aboard a plane; these deportations essentially operate on the honor system.

Generally, if these immigrants stay out of trouble — if they don't get pulled over by police or swept up in a workplace raid, for example — they are in little danger of being thrown out of the country.

That galls many immigration reform advocates, who say the practice breeds disrespect for the law and emboldens immigrants to sneak in and stay.

"We are strong believers of enforcement of our im-

migration laws, and this is a priority area for getting the message across to this country, that if they've been convicted of committing crimes or if they have been ordered deported, that they will be apprehended if they try to hide and continue to stay in the country," said Jack Martin of the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

Government officials say that they do the best they can with the money and manpower available to them, and that they focus on the most serious cases, including those involving illegal immigrants who have committed crimes in this country.

"ICE has taken tremendous steps at closing these cases and apprehending fugitives," spokesman Richard Rocha said. "However, we prioritize our efforts on egregious violators and criminal aliens."

Overall, there are an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S. In the last year, the

government arrested and deported a record number of illegal immigrants, nearly 350,000, according to ICE.

Critics of the agency complain of the government's former "catch and release" policy along the border, in which non-Mexicans caught sneaking across were released into this country with a date to appear for an immigration hearing. Officials ended the practice in 2006. Now, these immigrants are held until their hearings.

After paying smugglers \$40,000 to get his family to the United States, Juan, his wife and 3-year-old son were caught the moment they crossed into Arizona from Mexico. A judge ordered them deported, released them on bond and gave them three months to leave.

Nine years later, they are still living in the United States. But they avoid going out in public and refuse to drive for fear of getting pulled over by police. "It's really painful to

wonder if, tomorrow, somebody will knock on your door and everything will be over," Juan said.

But he said that is better than going back to their native Bolivia, where their financial prospects are bleak.

"For me, the best chance is to provide education to my children, and that's something that I can do for them here," said Juan, a 38-year-old construction worker in Maryland who supports two older daughters in Bolivia. He asked that only his first name be used to protect his family.

Advocates say many immigrants defy deportation orders because they have lived in the United States for years, married, had children and put down roots in their communities.

"Is it worth going around with that feeling that you might be discovered? Or packing up your entire family now and settling all your obligations in the United States, buying airplane tickets for your fam-

ily, moving back to a country where you haven't lived for many years, where you are worried about you are going to find a job? There's another whole set of uncertainties," said Maureen O'Sullivan, a Boston immigration lawyer.

It is not clear when Onyango, the 56-year-old half-sister of Obama's late father, first came to the United States. But she moved into a state-subsidized public housing project in Boston in 2003.

After it was reported days before the election that she was in the country illegally, Onyango left Boston and went to Cleveland, where she hired an immigration attorney to fight her deportation order. She is staying with relatives in Cleveland, said her new attorney, Margaret Wong.

The Obama camp has said the candidate did not know about his aunt's status. "If she is violating laws, those laws have to be obeyed," Obama said just before Election Day.

## VALLE

Continued from Page 1A

3-mile course in 15:15 Saturday morning, claiming the top spot on the podium. Teammate Kade Parker finished 13<sup>th</sup> in 15:58 after placing 71<sup>st</sup> in last year's state meet.

Big Spring finished fifth overall while Boerne took first place.

For Valle, the state title is a testament to the amount of work he's put in over the past two years. In 2006, when Big Spring won a team state title, he didn't really figure into the equation, finish-

ing 168<sup>th</sup> with a time of 18:20.9. Last season, he improved upon his time by more than two minutes, placing 12<sup>th</sup> with a mark of 16:01.35. He came close to wiping another full minute off his time this year.

"Jordan is a poster child of how dedicated a runner has to be in this sport to be successful," said Coach Randy Britton before the state meet. "He worked so hard to improve over the past two seasons. I wish everyone I've coached over the years had the attitude he did."

Complete results will be in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

## More trouble for runaway boy who boarded airplane

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — A boy who ran away at age 9 and talked his way onto airplane flights to Texas has blown too many chances to clean up his act and must live with a felony record for a prior car theft, a judge has decided.

Since his headline-making escape in January 2007, Semaj Booker, now 11, has attempted to repeat his airline runaway act, broken curfew, lied to police, burglarized an apartment and destroyed a mattress in juvenile detention, Pierce Coun-

ty Deputy Prosecutor Fred C. Wist said Thursday.

The boy seemed to feed off the attention from his initial escapade, the exasperated prosecutor told Superior Court Judge Frank E. Cuthbertson on Thursday.

"Mr. Booker has never been held accountable for his actions," Wist said. "The time has come, your honor, for this court to say enough is enough."

Cuthbertson agreed, revoking a deferred disposition of the boy's conviction for stealing a

neighbor's car and leading authorities on a high-speed chase on State Route 512, crimes he committed a day before he slipped out of his home again, made it onto two flights and got as far as San Antonio, Texas, in an attempt to visit his grandfather in Dallas.

The boy also was ordered to pay \$100 to a crime-victim compensation fund, make \$3,000 in restitution to the car owner, April Kettner, whose Acura he totaled, and perform four hours of community service.

## FISD

Continued from Page 1A

on the different campuses. "As part of the (2004) bond, we did a variety of

things," Johnson said. "We updated our (heating, ventilation and air-conditioning) systems, we installed the computer system ... and we recently installed a special roofing material that reflects heat ... We're

really stretching to find that extra 5 percent."

Compounding the situation is that, as a result of the 2004 renovations, the district has significantly more square footage to heat or cool, which have

caused energy costs to remain fairly stable, despite the savings.

"We feel like we've done the obvious things to cut costs," Johnson said. "The job now is to dig deeper and try to find some of the

not-so-obvious solutions."

In other business Monday, trustees will consider:

- The district's financial audit from the Stanton firm of Stallings and Herm.
- Reports from campus

principals and the superintendent.

- Personnel matters.

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

## SUMMIT

Continued from Page 1A

A thorny issue was whether all nations should pledge to enact government spending plans to stimulate their economies. It appeared likely the leaders would endorse the benefits of that approach, but stop short of a commitment for all participants to act at the same time.

To help prevent future crises, Bush and his counterparts prepared to endorse a plan for more openness in financial markets and an early warning system for problems such as the speculation frenzy that fed the U.S. housing bubble.

"I am pleased that we are discussing a way forward to make sure that such a crisis is unlikely to occur again," Bush said as discussed got under way. "Obviously, you know, this crisis has not ended. There's some progress being made, but there's still a lot more work to be done."

German Chancellor Angela Merkel told reporters that the leaders will achieve consensus on a plan "that includes almost 50 actions that have to be implemented by the end of March." She added, "There

shall be no blind spots," she said. "I believe there is here a great common will to ensure that such a crisis is not repeated."

The plan would include measures aimed at making the global financial system more accountable to investors and more transparent to regulators, diplomatic officials said.

It would improve international monitoring of markets and bolster rules governing how companies value their assets, a current weakness seen as partly responsible for the financial crisis at hand. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because leaders had yet to agree on their final statement.

While the emerging plan would boost oversight of fragile financial markets, it would fall short of the sweeping set of tough new regulations some Europeans want.

"These are difficult talks," British Prime Minister Gordon Brown said. "I think it's obviously important to move people to decisions ... about what can be done." Brown has taken a lead in pushing for a global coordination of county-by-country economic aid plans.

The Bush administration, however, has reacted coolly to a second U.S. aid

plan and opposes a bailout of the teetering U.S. auto industry. Democrats are pushing for aid to Detroit automakers amid reports that the biggest one, General Motors Corp., could be forced into bankruptcy by the end of next month.

A follow-up summit is envisioned for the spring, after Barack Obama becomes president.

A new "college of supervisors" of financial regulators from many nations was among the ideas expected in the leaders' final statement after the summit ended late Saturday.

The leaders of major industrialized powers, including Britain, Germany, France and Japan, were at the summit, as were the heads of developing countries such as China, India and Brazil. The World Bank president, Robert Zoellick, is among the international finance

leaders who welcomed the more inclusive mix of countries — beyond the top wealthiest nations. That's where many of the problems first cropped up and then spread, affecting developing countries among others. "This crisis is not of their making," he said.

Bush has expressed concern about the dangers of too much government intervention. Strict new regulation of financial companies or products, such as some European leaders have advocated, would crush the global economy instead of protect it, he says.

Critics blame lax oversight and failures by U.S. and other regulators to detect problems as prime reasons for the financial crisis.

The crisis broke out in the United States around August of last year. Mortgage investments soured with the housing

market's collapse and the fallout quickly spread to other countries. Banks and other financial companies suffered huge losses and foreclosures skyrocketed. The troubles crimped auto and student loans and locked up lending for many consumers and businesses worldwide.

Although Obama stayed away from the summit, he designated two representatives — former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Republican Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa — to meet with leaders on the sidelines.

Besides the United States, the participants are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Britain, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy,

Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain and Turkey. Other than Spain, those countries — plus the European Union — make up the Group of 20 industrialized and developing economies, or G-20. The group accounts for roughly 90 percent of the global gross domestic product, which measures the value of goods and services produced worldwide.

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# Cowboys have Romo back for important game vs. 'Skins

By JOSEPH WHITE

AP Sports Writer

LANDOVER, Md. — O, Romo, Romo, how for art thou, Romo? "I'm confident that I'll feel pretty good for the game," the Dallas Cowboys hero replied.

You don't need a Shakespearean balcony scene to realize the importance of Tony Romo's return to the Cowboys, perhaps just in time to save a season going wrong. The quarterback whose broken pinkie sidelined him for three games returns Sunday night to face the Washington Redskins in a game Dallas is calling a must win in everything but name.

"I wouldn't say it's a must game," receiver Terrell Owens said, "but we need to win the game."

Rivalry Week? How about Desperation Week? For both teams, that is. Even though the Redskins (6-3) lead the Cowboys (5-4) by a game in the NFC East, the moods in Washington and Texas are similar.

"It's a must win for both teams — and something has to give,"

Redskins quarterback Jason Campbell said.

Of course, neither would be in such a fix if it weren't for something else they have in common: The Redskins and Cowboys are the only two teams to lose to the St. Louis Rams this year.

"We saw when we played St. Louis — you can't take anyone for granted," Dallas tight end Jason Witten said.

The other problem for these teams is the emergence of the NFC South, which could snag one or both of the wild-card spots that had been expected to go to the East. If Carolina (7-2), Tampa Bay (6-3) and Atlanta (6-3) keep winning, the only sure route to the postseason for the Cowboys and Redskins would be to catch the first-place New York Giants (8-1), who are threatening to run away and hide.

"The Giants are definitely trying to distance themselves from everybody else, and we've got to keep pace," Redskins right tackle Jon Jansen said. "If we don't keep pace, then we'll be looking at a wild-card game and then

you're looking all the way across the board, how we match up (in the standings). We've got to win some ballgames."

The NFL thought enough of the NFC East to feature the division on back-to-back Sunday nights. Redskins coach Jim Zorn was a no-win spectator as he watched the Giants beat the Philadelphia Eagles last week.

"It was tough to know who to root for," Zorn said. "And because of what happened, we have to have a little help if we're going to achieve one of our goals."

The bye week gave several Cowboys time to heal. In addition to Romo, left guard Kyle Kosier is expected to play after missing the last six games with a right foot injury, as is cornerback Terence Newman after being out five because of a sports hernia.

The Cowboys went 1-2 while Romo was sidelined, but there is unanimous agreement that the team's struggles began before he was hurt. The first cracks in the facade showed in Week 4, with

Dallas was stunned at home 26-24 by the Redskins. His return might not be an instant salve.

"I don't know if it's that simple," Witten said. "I mean, even before that we weren't playing our best football. I think that just collectively understanding you have to win your own battle, one-on-one, within the team concept. Obviously not having your quarterback out there puts you in a bad spot. I think we're kind of rallying behind everybody being healthy and making a big push here."

The Redskins are thinking more highly of Romo's potential impact. Exhibit A: Dallas averaged only 140 yards passing in three games with Brad Johnson and Brooks Bollinger.

"When they get Romo back in, they're at full power," Redskins defensive coordinator Greg Blache said. "It's like an automobile getting its engine back in."

As one engine returns, another will likely watch from the sideline. Clinton Portis, the league's second-leading rusher, sprained

his knee in Washington's 23-6 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers before the bye and isn't expected to play.

The Redskins are so nervous about the game that they are taking extra measures to make sure they have a true home-field advantage. Steelers fans dominated the lower bowl of the stadium two weeks ago, so executive vice president of football operations Vinny Cerrato was on the radio this week practically begging the Washington faithful not to sell tickets to Cowboys fans. The team-affiliated radio station is distributing 50,000 "Redskins Rally Rags," a response to the Terrible Towels waved by those Pittsburgh infiltrators.

Needless to say, the nail-biting part of the season has arrived.

"In this next three weeks, you'll really see some teams stay up in the playoff race and other teams will fall behind," Jansen said. "The third quarter of the season is really where it gets tough, and you've got to be mentally tough to win at this time."

# Harrell's talent has No. 2 Texas Tech rolling

By BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — Fooling around with a label maker in fourth grade, Graham Harrell punched out his football dream one letter at a time.

"THE NEXT JOE MONTANA — GRAHAM HARRELL"

The quarterback for No. 2 Texas Tech was about 10 when he tacked the caption to the bottom of a poster of his favorite NFL player. Harrell's not in that league yet, but if the fifth-year senior continues to perform as he has this season, he's got a good shot at playing on Sundays — and at winning the Heisman Trophy along the way.

The Texas native has guided the unbeaten Red Raiders to their highest ranking ever and the inside track to the national title game, though they'll face another huge hurdle next week when they play at No. 5 Oklahoma.

"The guy is a clutch player," said Gil Brandt, a former Dallas Cowboys scout who writes for NFL.com. "He is mentally and physically tough as nails. He's like Coach (Bob) Knight. That's the kind of competitive mentality he has."

Although he has played much of this season in the shadow of another Texan — Colt McCoy — a 10-0 start highlighted by spec-

tacular, prime-time wins over the Longhorns and Oklahoma State have made Harrell one of college football's biggest stars.

Harrell's arrival has been a long time coming — see Joe Montana, above — and he's put in years of work to make it happen.

"He's a quiet, easygoing guy until he gets on the field," said Graham's dad, Sam Harrell, who coached his son in high school at Ennis, just south of Dallas.

There, Harrell led an offense similar to the Red Raider attack, run exclusively out of the shotgun. By the time he graduated, he'd set Texas state records for single-season passing yards (4,825 in 15 games), career passing yards (12,532 with 167 TDs) and single-season touchdown passes (67).

That career earned him scholarship offers from Georgia, North Carolina State, Arizona State and Oklahoma. But he settled on Texas Tech, becoming the first highly touted quarterback to run coach Mike Leach's pass-happy offense.

With a 12-game winning streak dating back to last season, he's lived up to his billing.

This season he's already thrown for 4,077 yards and 36 touchdowns. Combine his high school and college yards and the 23-year-old QB has thrown for more than 15½ miles.

Yes, his gaudy numbers owe something to Leach's scheme. But this year Harrell's accuracy, poise and leadership have helped the team earn some big wins.

Two weeks ago, Harrell heaved a 28-yard pass to All-American receiver Michael Crabtree with 1 second remaining to top-ple then-No. 1 Texas. He followed up that epic win, the program's first over a top-ranked team, with six touchdown passes to beat Oklahoma State 56-20 for a second-straight win over a top-10 team.

Harrell always saw Leach's offense at Texas Tech as a match for his talents.

"It's a quarterback's dream to get to throw the ball 50 times a game and play in a system like this," Harrell said. "Coming out of high school, that's very appealing ... it was just the best fit for me."

Leach's recruiting style added something, too.

Whether it was a card trick or ramblings about his time coaching football in Finland, the coach made an impression on a personal level when he came to Ennis.

"It's an experience like none other," Harrell said. "There's no doubt he keeps it light. You're going to have laughs with Coach Leach every day."

There were probably fewer laughs before Harrell was named the starter in

2006. He fought it out with Chris Todd, a quarterback Leach mined out of Kentucky, where'd he had coached before. Harrell beat out Todd, and the Kentucky quarterback transferred to a junior college in Kansas and now plays at Auburn.

Once at the helm, Harrell's talents blossomed and he displayed his luck late in each of the past two bowl games.

In the 2006 Insight Bowl, Harrell threw for two TDS and ran for another in

helping the Red Raiders pull off the biggest comeback in bowl history — 31 points — to beat Minnesota 44-41 in overtime. Then, in last year's Gator Bowl, Harrell threw for two touchdowns as Texas Tech rallied for 17 points in the final four minutes to beat then-No. 21 Virginia 31-28.

"He doesn't have a cannon for an arm, but it's strong enough," Brandt, the former scout, said. "He doesn't run like Vince Young but he's able to avoid the rush. He's really

an individual without a weakness.

"More than anything he knows how to win and has supreme confidence in his ability."

The 6-foot-3, 205-pound Harrell has another reason to be confident. The Red Raiders have gained more than 100 yards on the ground in every game this season. Texas Tech has gone from 119th in rushing, last in the NCAA with 59 yards per game, to 76th this season with 132.6 yards per game.

## NBA

Continued from Page 2B

Brooks replaced Alston in the starting lineup. Alston sat out the first of his two-game suspension — he'll also miss Saturday against New Orleans — because he charged at the Suns' Matt Barnes during a fight Wednesday night in Phoenix.

McGrady was spared a

suspension for his part — he pushed Suns guard Steve Nash — but he picked up a \$25,000 fine.

Notes: Parker was on the Spurs' bench, limping, but not wearing the protective boot on his injured left ankle. ... Ime Udoka got his third consecutive start at small forward in place of Bowen, who ended a streak of 550 straight active-list starts last week. ... Duncan is averaging 19 shots a game, but he didn't

get his first attempt off until 7:29 into the game when he made a near line-drive hook shot over Scola.

... Houston opened the game 0-for-6 and did not make a basket until 9:01 into the game on Brooks' drive. ... This was former Spurs' guard Brent Barry's first trip back to San Antonio since he signed a free-agent contract with the Rockets, but he did not play.

## LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

the end," Warren said. "Them and the drumline, they got us pumped up. We were able to feed off that and it helped a lot. I cannot say how important that is to a team like this. We are an emotional team, and for us to be able to feed off the crowd, it really gives us an edge. Not to mention, I think it bothered Snyder a bit with all the noise.

"We want to establish a new attitude here," he continued. "To get this win was big and for it to come against a big rival

like Snyder makes it even better. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of what we hope becomes a winning tradition."

When reminded that the Lady Steers used to dominate the district crown, winning six titles in a row in the 1990s, Warren was only able to grin.

"Oh really," was his first response. Then after a second of thought, he continued. "Well that is definitely something that we would like to accomplish."

Big Spring 9 18 5 9-41  
Snyder 4 17 8 10-39  
BS - Bridgette Tuitt 14, Kallina Fletcher 7, Valerie Ross 7, Desiree Anderson 5, Cerbi Ritchey 3, Crystal Woodson 3, Lauren Porras 2.  
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# Weddings

## Bair-Childers



**Amber Bair & William Josh Childers**  
Married Friday, Nov. 8 at East Side Baptist Church

Amber Brooke Bair and William Joshua (Josh) Childers, both of Big Spring, were united in marriage at 11 a.m. Nov. 8, 2008, at East Side Baptist Church with Brother Shelley officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Sandra Bair of Pennsylvania, formerly of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of the late Bobby Wall and Glynora Wall and the late Edward Bair and Florence Bair, all of Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Jeff and Stacey Childers of Big Spring. He is the grandson of the late Bill Childers and Ernestine Childers, Dan Whitaker and Louise Whitaker, all of Big

Spring. He is the great-grandson of the late Sgt. Bill Baker and Kenneth and Lela Geer of Big Spring.

Given away by her mother, the bride wore a formal white satin gown with spaghetti straps, an A-line skirt with a tulle overskirt, a fitted bodice, a tiara, and a tulle veil made by Bobby Bair, brother of the bride. She carried a bouquet of long-stemmed purple roses tied with purple ribbons, bows and crystals.

The Maid of Honor was Amanda Bair, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Lidia Bair, sister-in-law of the bride, Oralia Holland and Anita Guette, friends of the bride.

They wore purple dresses with lavender flower accents, a skirt diagonally slit on the side with a lavender underskirt and spaghetti straps. They carried nosegays of purple and lavender silk flowers.

The best man was John (Trey) Rigdon. Groomsmen were Bobby and Brad Bair, brothers of the bride, and Ryan Childers, brother to the groom. They wore black suits with purple

ties. Flower girl was Ryleigh Fryar, cousin to the groom. She wore a white dress and carried a white basket with purple and lavender rose petals. Ring bearer was Brian Bair, nephew to the bride. He wore a black suit with a purple tie and carried a white pillow holding the bride and groom's rings.

They were married under an arch decorated with tulle, white lights, and purple and white flowers. A unity sand ceremony was performed during the ceremony with lavender and purple sand in personalized glass jars. A barbecue luncheon was provided by the bride and groom's church family immediately after the ceremony.

The bride's cake was two layers of chocolate and strawberry topped with a layer of chocolate cheesecake. The bottom two layers were decorated with white and purple icing and purple flowers and ribbons and the third layer was topped with a precious moments bride and groom hand painted by friend of the bride Oralia Holland.

The groom's cake was chocolate cake with white icing and decorated to resemble a Coca-Cola bottle.

Amber is a 2006 graduate of Big Spring High School and is employed at Wal-Mart Supercenter. Josh is a 2007 home school graduate and is employed at Western Container Corporation.

Following a honeymoon in Arriño, the couple will live in Big Spring.

## The Simons



**Kori and Michael Simon**  
Married Friday, Nov. 7 in Baton Rouge, La.

Roddy and Jann Caffey of Big Spring announce the marriage of their daughter Kori to Michael Simon, both of Addis, La.

The couple were united in marriage on Friday, Nov. 7, in Baton Rouge, La.

Kori is the granddaughter of Dean and JoAnne Forrest of Big Spring and Robert and Patty Caffey of San Angelo.

Michael is the son of John

and Connie Simon of Port Allen, La., formerly of Big Spring. He is the grandson of Floyd and Lucille Simon and Mary Ann Brunetti, all of Frontenac, Kan.

Returning from their honeymoon at Masion Dupuy in New Orleans, the couple will reside in Addis.

Michael is employed by CVT Surgical Center.

# Military News



**David Sousa**

David Sousa, former Navy League Sea Cadet petty officer third class in the Kings Bay Sea Cadet Division and son of the division's commanding officer, Lt. Tracy Sousa, graduated from Marine Corps Recruit Training at Paris Island, S.C. Oct. 10 as a Private First Class (PFC).

Because of the experience he gained training with the Sea Cadets and the NJROTC, Sousa entered the USMC with the advanced rank of E-2.

Sousa, a 2008 graduate of Camden County High School in Kingsland, Ga., is the grandson of Beverly Averitt and the

nephew of Denise Creekmore, both of Big Spring.

Sousa's training included: Drill (the basic way in which platoons march and move from place to place), Physical Training (using a progressive physical training program which builds recruits to Marine Corps standards), Academics (subjects include Marine Corps history, customs and courtesies, and basic lifesaving procedures), Core Values (Honor, Courage and Commitment), Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, Combat Water Survival (developing a recruit's confidence in the water), and Marksmanship training (fundamentals of marksmanship with the M-16A2 service rifle).

# Knitters' gifts put a smile on faces of sick children

By **ANDREA ALEXANDER**  
MCT

PEQUANNOCK, N.J. — For a sick child who needs to talk to a doctor, an imaginary friend who does the talking can take away some of the fear.

And that's where a simple hand puppet can come into play: A doctor can use it to talk to the child, and the child can use it to tell the doctor what feels wrong.

It's that enormous value that motivates a group of knitters living at Cedar Crest - the Pequannock, N.J.'s largest continuing care retirement facility. The 12 to 15 knitters, who call themselves the Guardian Angels, meet for an hour a week and also knit on their own most nights while watching television.

The women used yarn donated by other residents. But the donations have stopped and the women are digging into their own pocketbooks to supply themselves. They are hoping to find more donors, said knitter Rita

Robinson, so they can afford to continue their act of kindness.

"It gives me the pleasure of doing something for a child who needs it," said Kathy Silverman, 83, while sitting around a table Thursday knitting with her friends.

Robinson added "It makes you feel useful."

Since the group came together more than four years ago, its members have knitted thousands of puppets, blankets, hats for newborns, and other toys that have been donated to some area hospitals. They've donated blankets for premature babies to The Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, N.J., and puppets for children with cancer at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, N.J.

Last month they donated 100 hand-knit puppets to

Circle of Life, a Newark, N.J., based program that provides services around the state for children with terminal illnesses.

"Some of these kids never have a homemade gift from the heart," said Sarah Ur, community relations manager for Circle of Life. "It shows that other people care, and it makes a big difference in all our lives."

Using the puppets to help the doctors and children communicate also improves their trust and relationship, Ur said.

"Especially in the hospital setting, they know it's bad news," Ur said. "(The puppets) break down barriers and allow doctors to get down on their hands and knees and communicate with the child on another level."

It's also important to the knitters.

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# Club News

The Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association (BSARTA) will meet Monday, Nov. 17, at Howard College's Cactus Room at 11:30 a.m.

Any interested persons are invited to attend and share a Dutch treat lunch with us.

The speaker will be Tim Lee, Executive Director of the Texas Retired Teachers Association. Mr. Lee is very up-to-date on

legislative matters that affect all Texas retired school employees.

He will report on progress made toward a COLA and other pending legislation. This meeting will be informative for anyone who would like to attend and/or ask questions.

BSA RTA meetings are informative, interesting, and brief. Please join us.

# Dating Violence

"The person I'm going out with scares me sometimes."

### What is it?

Dating violence is controlling, abusive, and aggressive behavior in a romantic relationship. It can happen in straight or gay relationships. It can include verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, or a combination.

### Controlling behavior may include:

- Not letting you hang out with your friends
- Calling or paging you frequently to find out where you are, whom you're with, and what you're doing
- Telling you what to wear
- Having to be with you all the time

### Verbal and emotional abuse may include:

- Calling you names
- Jealousy
- Belittling you (cutting you down)
- Threatening to hurt you, someone in your family, or himself or herself if you don't do what he or she wants

### Physical abuse may include:

- Shoving
- Punching
- Slapping
- Pinching
- Hitting
- Kicking
- Hair pulling
- Strangling

### Sexual abuse may include:

- Unwanted touching and kissing
- Forcing you to have sex
- Not letting you use birth control
- Forcing you to do other sexual things

Anyone can be a victim of dating violence. Both boys and girls are victims, but boys and girls abuse their partners in different ways. Girls are more likely to yell, threaten to hurt themselves, pinch, slap, scratch, or kick. Boys injure girls more and are more likely to punch their partner and force them to participate in unwanted sexual activity. Some teen victims experience violence occasionally. Others are abused more often, sometimes daily.

### If You Are a Victim of Dating Violence, You Might...

- Think it's your fault.
- Feel angry, sad, lonely, depressed, or confused.
- Feel helpless to stop the abuse.
- Feel threatened or humiliated.
- Feel anxious.
- Not know what might happen next.
- Feel like you can't talk to family and friends.
- Be afraid of getting hurt more seriously.
- Feel protective of your boyfriend or girlfriend.

### You're Not Alone

- One in five teens in a serious relationship reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner.<sup>1</sup>
- 50-80% of teens have reported knowing others who were involved in violent relationships.<sup>2</sup>
- Teens identifying as gay, lesbian, and bisexual are as likely to experience violence in same-sex dating relationships as youths involved in opposite sex dating.<sup>3</sup>
- Many studies indicate that, as a dating relationship becomes more serious, the potential for and nature of violent behavior escalates.<sup>4</sup>
- Young women, ages 16 to 24 years, experience the highest rates of relationship violence.<sup>5</sup>

### Get Help

Being a victim of dating violence is not your fault. Nothing you say, wear, or do gives anyone the right to hurt you.

- If you think you are in an abusive relationship, get help immediately. Don't keep your concerns to yourself.
- Talk to someone you trust like a parent, teacher, school principal, counselor, or nurse.
- If you choose to tell, you should know that some adults are mandated reporters. This means they are legally required to report neglect or abuse to someone else.

Or Contact  
**Victim Services**  
**263-3312**

# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

**Ron Midkiff**  
Publisher

**John A. Moseley**  
Managing Editor

**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## YOUR VIEWS

### Thanks from Kentwood

#### TO THE EDITOR:

The faculty, staff and students of Kentwood Elementary wish to extend a huge and tremendous "thank you" from the bottom of our library books to the following community members for volunteering their time and talents during our National Young Readers Week kick-off day by coming and reading to our students!

Thanks go to Tumbleweed Smith (who started off our day reciting original works to the entire student body), Jan Forsyth, Bob Miller, Sherri Key, Tamera Barber, Mark Barr, Danny Whitehead, Kim Walsh, Zelma Evan, Sandra Garcia, Darrell Ryan, Melissa Rogers, Greg Brooks, Melinda Garcia, Lisa Brooks, Tim Green, Dave Foster, Troy Tompkins, Doris Hubreske, Angela Newton, Anita Maxwell, Terri Blackshear, Jim Little and Elise Bancroft.

A special thanks is extended to Tim Walsh and his Wal-Mart management team — who brought six readers to our school! Go Wal-Mart!

With grateful thanks,  
**DANA BYRD, PRINCIPAL**  
**KENTWOOD ELEMENTARY**

### Learn your American History

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing in response to the article in our recent paper telling the world that Obama has tapped UTB President Juliet V. Garcia to be part of his transition team.

Ms. Garcia stated that she was excited to be a part "in the historic transition of our young democracy." Excuse me? I was not aware that Obama was bringing democracy to the United States.

If Ms. Garcia knew her American history, she would discover to her obvious amazement that the United States of America

has enjoyed democracy for 200 years.

Ms. Garcia needs to learn her American history. If this is one of Obama's learned advisors, I can only imagine what a mess it is going to be.

**SHIRLEY BURGESS**  
**BIG SPRING**

### Thieves steal from the poor

#### TO THE EDITOR:

An open letter to the thieves who broke into the American Legion Post 506 on the west side of Big Spring:

Congratulations on your successful break in of our Post, although you are not very bright as it took you two attempts to get in. It was a very good haul — cigarettes, beer and our bank bag that contained money we use for our veterans breakfast and toy and food program for needy families, many of whom live in the same neighborhood that our Post is located in.

You or your crew should really enjoy the funds and goods you stole as by doing so you deprived the poorest families and children, veterans at the VA Medical Center and State Veterans Home residents of what gifts the American Legion, Cossacks Motorcycle Club and Eagles Lodge could have provided.

I personally hope you and your friends are caught and rehabilitated. And to help with this process, I am offering a reward upon the conviction of you and your friends.

**RO GORE**  
**COMMANDER**  
**AMERICAN LEGION POST**  
**506**

### Wow! Shriners were fantastic

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank the Big Spring Shriners for joining in and coming to the rescue for a Hurricane

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

# Handicapped access woefully lacking

**Y**ou can't get there from here. It's the punch line to an old joke, but for millions of Americans, it's no joke — it's just an uncomfortable fact of life. As one of the millions of physically handicapped Americans, I know.

And while my doctors and my therapists tell me that I'm going to regain all of my abilities in time, the fact remains that I am currently in need of handicapped access to virtually all facilities and have become painfully aware of their absence in many locations.

While it's been years since the Americans With Disabilities Act was enacted, there are still many, many places the handicapped are forced to consider inaccessible.

That's a crying shame. In a nation that enjoys one of the world's best standards of living; in one where freedom is valued above almost all; and where most buildings are not centuries old, as they are in Europe, there are millions of us who are daily confronted with situations where we can't go somewhere because someone hasn't been thoughtful.

That's really the bottom line: People, either individually or collectively, haven't, as my father used to say, used their heads for something other than a hatrack.

What's worse is that I'm one of them.

Don't get me wrong, I've always thought we should have handicapped access, but didn't think that

much about it. After all, we have a "wheelchair ramp" at the Big Spring Herald's offices, don't we?

Yes, we in fact do have a ramp that leads to the front door of the Herald. But once I was forced to use it to access the building, it became very clear that it is woefully inadequate. First, it's too narrow — only one of the smaller wheelchairs could navigate it and they come in a number of sizes. Heck, I had three different sized wheelchairs while I was in the hospital.

The Herald's ramp was wide enough, but that was before we allowed the holly plants to encroach on the space available. That's not to mention that there are troubling cracks in the pavement leading to the ramp.

Of course, once inside the Herald's offices, a man who's confined to a wheelchair faces additional problems. That especially true if he needs to go to the restroom, which under any circumstance is far from handicapped accessible. I don't know about the women's restroom because, being a gentleman, I've never been in there.

The important thing to remember is that different people have handicaps. Just because a facility has a wheelchair ramp, it doesn't provide access for others. Perhaps the best example I can provide was that instance when I first went by the Herald's offices once I returned home. I was able to navigate the ramp successfully using my walker, but found myself challenged by a foe I'd never have thought of previously.

You see, the Herald, like many other businesses, contracts with a firm that provides entrance mats. Unfortunately, while handy for

many people, those mats are nothing short of a minefield for people using walkers — particularly those fitted with front wheels liked mine.

To this day, though, there's a handicap access dilemma I encountered in one of the most unlikely places that still troubles me. I'd been a patient at the Health South Rehabilitation Hospital in Plano for a day or two when I noticed that all the patient rooms and therapy center were on the second floor of the hospital.

What was worse was the hospital's emergency evacuation directions in case of fire. They were prominently displayed in all the corridors instructing people not to use the elevators in the event of a fire, but to use the two staircases at the ends to the two wings.

At that time I was confined to a wheelchair and a disturbing thought kept going through my mind. How are all these patients in wheelchairs, including myself, I thought, supposed to get out by way of the stairwells?

I finally asked one of my nurses that question one day and her response it still unsettling. "I don't know, but don't worry," she said, "I'm sure we could get everyone out of here if we had to."

Somehow I don't think so. To this day I've still got the mental image of flopping out of my wheelchair and scooting down one step at a time on my posterior.

If it weren't so serious, I'd laugh.

But like many of this nation's handicapped, I'm not laughing.

Contact Managing Editor John A. Moseley by e-mail at [editor@big-springherald.com](mailto:editor@big-springherald.com).



JOHN A. MOSELEY

## ADDRESSES

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The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**  
U.S. Senator  
703 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305  
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**  
U.S. Senator

517 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305  
Phone: 202-224-2934

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1510 Scurry  
Big Spring  
Phone: (432) 264-0722

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Governor  
State Capitol, Room 2S.1  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, 78711

Phone: (512) 463-2000

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State Representative  
Texas 85th District  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, 78768  
Phone: (432) 213-2897 or  
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# Sharing Thanksgiving in Blanket, Texas

**I**t's a stretch to expect peace on earth any time soon, and it takes more than a Google search engine to ferret out many instances of good will to men.

Still, we pray for government leaders in Washington and Austin to reach across the aisles, and for citizens — all of us — to replace arrows in our quivers with olive branches. Ah, but in Blanket, Texas, (population about 400), church folks are very much in the reaching business, all around town and to the countryside beyond.

We read and hear Thanksgiving stats about how many millions of turkeys we consume, how many miles Americans rack up visiting family and how certain antacids are consumed for diners who can't believe they ate the whole thing.

The story in Blanket, however, is a "three-digit" deal.

On the world stage, the scenario is but a what-not on the top shelf of the curio cabinet, but for the participants in the small community near the heart of Texas, it's a big deal. And one worthy of replication by others across the land.

The gold star goes to the United Methodists of the town, all five or six dozen of them, who've looked inside themselves, outside for the needs of others, and upward for divine guidance.

Near the turn of the century, they mounted an ambitious project.

After "talking things out," they decided that a family life center was critically needed.

This is a big step for a congrega-

tion that averages 35 attendees each Sunday morning.

It's the community's oldest church building in continuous use, constructed in 1904.

They've kept it up maintenance-wise, and a half-century ago removed the belfry and renovated the entry to include a small foyer. Otherwise, the sanctuary looks much the same as it did a century ago.

The new center spans 4,000 square feet at a cost of almost \$400,000.

At the consecration service during morning worship on Sunday, Nov. 23, the Rev. Jim Olney, UMC District Superintendent, will speak.

Oh, it should be mentioned that members have raised more than \$250,000 toward the project, and that they'll be sure to shake hands with a representative of the Methodist Foundation that provided a loan to complete the project.

Excitement has been such that the women of First Baptist Church across the street threw a "shower" (some called it a "pounding") a few days back. Invitees brought gifts of appliances and assorted items.

Gathered that day were several dozen folks from both churches, as well as from the Blanket Church of Christ.

They shared dreams of what the new center might mean to the community.

And why not? Plans are already underway for a monthly luncheon meeting and activities for senior adults.

"Many of them are able to 'go,' but don't have many places to go," someone said.

They're also planning a Christian Athletes' Group, family skills training and perhaps after-school programs.

But first, they're going to feast on

a Thanksgiving luncheon following the consecration service.

Learning that the entire community is invited, the Baptists are lending the Methodists folding chairs for the special event. And, they decided to cancel their own observance, opting to "chow down" with 150 or so others across the street.

Put another way, this will represent nearly half the population of the town.

The "buzz of what might be" continues. The Methodists are pledged to continue their apportionment of gifts to denominational causes, with strongest support of mission causes.

They also want to increase the number of Sunday school classes by 50 percent. Right now, there are but two classes — for children and adults. A third class would be for young adults.

The pastor, Rev. John Seth, is taking notes, smiling as he goes.

His schedule, by the by, is not for the faint of heart. A resident of Comanche, his weekday profession is that of nurse practitioner in Goldthwaite, over in the next county. He is a seminary student one weekend each month in Dallas, and preaches Sundays at his little Brown County church.

The Rev. Seth points to King Solomon's words cited in Proverbs, 19:18 — "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

"I'm glad to serve the Lord and His visionary people in Blanket," the granddad said.

*Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and writer in the Metroplex. He welcomes inquiries and comments. Email: [newbury@speakerdoc.com](mailto:newbury@speakerdoc.com). Phone: (817) 447-3872. Web site: [www.speakerdoc.com](http://www.speakerdoc.com).*

## HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

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



## Heroes Amongst Us

MHMR's Smith draws high praise

Special to the Herald

West Texas Centers for MHMR CEO Shelley Smith was presented with the 'Heroes Amongst Us' Award by the Texas Council of Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers during a November ceremony in Austin.



Smith

The Texas Council of MHMR Centers provides the 39 community MHMR Centers a single voice at the statewide level.

The award was presented to West Texas Centers and several other MHMR Centers for their work responding to the Fundamental Church of Latter Day Saints situation earlier this year outside of San Angelo.

Texas child welfare employees removed nearly 500 children from the Yearning for Zion Ranch, prompting a need for temporary housing and counseling services. The Centers spent a great number of hours assisting the children, said Lee Johnson, Texas Council Membership Support director.

"Community MHMR Centers provided thousands of hours of counseling services," Johnson said.

See SMITH, Page 5C



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Richard Wright, owner of the local Culligan Water business and Supreme Car Wash, greets a motorist at the FM 700 location on Veterans Day. Wright gave free car washes to area veterans during the holiday.

## Watch out for gasoline scams

While gas prices are lower than they have been for awhile, we still look for any opportunity to save money at the pump.

Car dealerships often use advertising promotions to entice customers to their lots. One such promotion is the chance to win a car if the key fits. If the key does not fit, the



TRISH POWELL

consumer then wins \$50 in free gas as a consolation prize.

We've had numerous telephone calls in the past week from consumers who supposedly won \$50 in free gas. When they attempted to claim their gas, they were required to pay processing fees and make gas purchases before they would be eligible for the \$50 reimbursement.

One such promotion is [www.freebeegas.com](http://www.freebeegas.com) or [www.gasolineredemption.com](http://www.gasolineredemption.com).

See SCAM, Page 5C

## Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.



Crude futures settled at a 19-month low last week, as central bank actions served as a reminder of the weakening global economy, sending oil price hurtling toward \$60 a barrel.

Oil prices at \$60 would mark the latest milestone in a four-month plunge from record highs around \$145 in July. A slide that began on weakness in the U.S. economy, and on our contracting oil demand, has gained what many market participants describe as nearly unstoppable downward momentum as the financial crisis spreads around the world.

Prices down to \$50 a barrel, which would approach a three and half year low, are seen as increasingly likely, barring signs that the global economic outlook is improving, or another round of production cuts by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The stock market last week saw prices fall sharply following the election. The sell-off produced the largest two-day percentage drop since October 1987. The popular averages dropped close to 10 percent with the DJIA off a record 929 points over two sessions. All of this damage came in spite of the European central banks cutting interest rates.

We believe the main cause of the dramatic decline is the reality that president-elect Obama faces many serious problems not matched by a new president since FDR. The market will probably have to spend many months either developing or losing confidence in how Obama and the Congress will deal with the steep recession, the credit crunch, two wars and terrorism. Eventually we believe faith in the future will return, but we look for a fairly long period of a nervous market and lots of volatile moves up and down.

Already, the stock market has experienced several climactic selling type of days, which we reiterate is one way to make "The bottom." It is too soon to feel confident that the Dow 7880 and S&P 500 at 840 were the final lows and they certainly could be tested again. The best thing the stock market could do is to show several weeks of cumulative buying and put a big distance between the market and those recent lows. Our best advice is to be patient and we will all just have to see how it plays out.

Portions of this article were produced Nov. 7 by Al Goldman, Wachovia Securities chief market strategist. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable, however accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results and additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice. Investments can fluctuate in price, value, and/or income and you may get back less than you invested. A.G. Edwards is a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.

## Merger OK'd

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has approved a \$52 billion beer merger between Belgian brewer InBev and Anheuser-Busch. But InBev must sell subsidiary Labatt USA before the deal can be completed.

## It's time to begin working on another compost pile

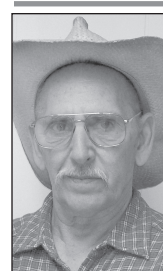
Wait! Don't put away your shovels and trowels yet — even though fall is here there is still work to be done. Now is a good time to plant pansies, if you haven't already done so. You can also plant snapdragons, flowering kale and dianthus which will bloom all winter. It's too late for planting seeds of these though, so use transplants. Remember that unless you have a rigidly formal garden, these plants all look best in clumps and masses. Its also time to divide perennial flowers like iris, salvia, canna and day lillies. This not only improves the health of the plants, but allows you to expand your garden or share with friends.

Don't get in a hurry to prune woody plants. Late December through February is usually the best time to prune them. Be selective in your pruning, keeping in mind the final appearance of the tree or shrub. Severe pruning reduces the life of the tree and allows large entry points for diseases and insects.

Reduce or stop fertilizing indoor plants now through mid-March. Exceptions could be plants in an atrium or well-lighted window that are actively growing. This is a good time also for propagating your geraniums. Clip off the tips about 3 inches long and place in sufficient water to cover the bottom half. Remove any leaves that are under water. In a couple of weeks they will have rooted and can be potted in any decent potting soil. I highly recommend Sunshine Horticulture SB300 Professional Growing Mix. It is available at Johansen Landscape and Nursery and other garden centers.

Evergreen plants frequently suffer from lack of moisture during those winter dry periods that occur in West Texas. Adequate soil moisture provides the best protection you can give your lawn and plants against winter cold injury. Lawns need water during the winter in order to reduce damage that can show up in the spring.

Compost. This is the month of falling leaves and drying grasses so it is also the month of composting. Compost is simultaneously simple and complex. It can be as simple as a pile of leaves in the fence corner that will



WALTER WARD

See GARDEN, Page 5C



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Heath Harrison (with scissors), store manager for Tractor Supply Co., is joined by Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce officials during ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the new business, located on the north service road of Interstate 20.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5A

Ike drive that was started by the Stanton Association of Texas Professional Educators.

Stanton ATPE ran a hurricane rescue drive and collections for the school district and community of West Orange Cove. This community had been overlooked by many after the hurricane because it was up on the Sabine River and not right on the coast. Most of the local help in Texas was going to the coastal towns.

After Stanton ATPE finished the drive, the problem of getting the donations to West Orange Cove began to look like an awesome burden. The Big Spring Shriners came to our rescue, not only with men who volunteered to deliver the goods, but they provided a trailer, too. They added more donations to the cause on behalf of the Shriners. The Shriners were not only knights in shining armor for West Orange Cove folks but for Stanton ATPE educators.

God bless the Shriners!

**Teresa Griffin,**  
president,  
Stanton ATPE

VAMC says thanks for all your help

TO THE EDITOR

On behalf of the staff of the VA Medical Center, I personally want to thank the community of Big Spring for your support to veterans and veteran programs. Our 2008 Veterans Day Program will always be one to remember.

Big Spring should be proud of Jerry Worthy for his leadership, commitment and loyalty to our community. I have had the pleasure of working with

Mr. Worthy for about a year and have thoroughly enjoyed every encounter. He established a landmark in the community of Big Spring by honoring his friend and Medal of Honor recipient George H. O'Brien Jr. Thank you, Jerry, for honoring Big Spring's only Medal of Honor recipient with your donation of the statue.

Please allow me to recognize many of the city staff for their assistance and participation. Todd Darden, assistant city manager, recognized our challenges and offered the assistance of the city staff. Our many thanks go to Todd, as well as Jim Piper and Jesse Baker and their crews. On Monday, when it was time to place the extremely heavy statue upon the base, Randy Phillips of Phillips Fabrication donated his large crane and operations crew to assist with the placement.

Following the Veterans Day Program, all veterans and families were treated to a nice lunch at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center prepared by Great Western Dining of Howard College. Dr. John Freeman, CEO, and Kevin Freeman, president, Ce-RamKote Coatings Inc. made a significant contribution for lunch. Also contributing was James Duncan, Duncan Drilling. Buddy Powell of Big Spring Printing also was a valuable contributor this year.

Dr. Cheryl Sparks' staff at Howard College deserves recognition and thanks for their assistance in planning this year's event. In addition to Jan, Susie, Cindy, Javier and Stan, I must recognize Howard College student Jonathan Smith for his awesome singing of the national anthem. In addition, many

thanks to Howard College Diplomats and Student Government volunteers for helping serve the meal to the veterans. Thanks also to Clarence Hartfield for leading the pledge of allegiance and the Rev. Michael Willard for the invocation.

One of the more emotional portions of our program each year is the wreath laying ceremony. As difficult as it must have been, Belinda Garcia, assisted by Maira Alvarez and Christina Menchaca, honored all fallen veterans during the ceremony. Mike Tarpley also assisted.

If you missed this year's program, you missed the talents of our future singers from Howard County. The Elbow Elementary Choir and Goliad Middle School Choir performed patriotic songs that certainly impressed the attendees. Thank you to both school administrators for allowing their students to participate in this event.

Please allow me to share my thanks and sincere appreciation to each one mentioned in this letter. It is truly an honor to call Big Spring home.

**IVA JO HANSLIK**  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
DIRECTOR,  
VA MEDICAL CENTER

Thanks ... but wait just a minute

TO THE EDITOR:

Veterans Day 2008, Big Spring style.

What a way to say thanks to our veterans. It took two days to get it all in.

Moss Elementary started it on Monday, because there were too many programs on Tuesday. The Moss students gave our veterans a big thank you. Refreshments, songs, DVD video presentation, halls decorated with posters of

thanks, and a moving and informative talk. I would like to take this opportunity to say "thanks" to the students and faculty at Moss.

The next morning, at 7, the POW/MIA flag was raised for the first time at the courthouse. There is a World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam memorial on the east side of the courthouse that has basically been forgotten. We raised the flag with a small crowd. We honored Bill King, a World War II POW.

Marcy Elementary held its annual Freedom Walk at 8:30 a.m. and then honored our veterans with songs, a reading of the meaning of Veterans Day, halls decorated with patriotic artwork and lots of "thank yous." In the cafeteria, we were served refreshments by the students. I will take this opportunity to say "thanks" to the students and staff at Marcy.

Onward to the VA at 11 a.m. If you were not there, shame on you, what a program. George H. O'Brien, the only congressional Medal of Honor recipient from Howard County, was honored in a special ceremony in which a statue of him was unveiled. I was honored to help with the laying of the wreath for the Gold Star mother, along with her daughter and daughter-in-law, both widows of Iraq, and the grandson that was never seen or held by his dad. A big "thanks" to the VA and all who put this outstanding program together.

Goliad Intermediate School — another great program showing appreciation to our vets. The choir did an exceptional job singing patriotic songs. There was an exemplary speech, and again, refreshments were served. Two

students from the high school performed a beautiful and haunting rendition of "Echo Taps." And so, a big "thank you" to the students and faculty at Goliad.

Now to the part of the day that bothered me. No prayer at Moss, Marcy or Goliad. Only moments of silence.

We opened and closed to services at the courthouse with a prayer. What a beautiful sight to see the sun breaking over the horizon on the American, Texas and POW/MIA flags. And the people, heads bowed, giving thanks to our God for the veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we could be there honoring the fallen and those who served.

At the VA, we were led in prayer to God, to remember all those who had served. As I stated earlier, I was holding the wreath for the Gold Star mother. During the prayer, two butterflies landed on the wreath. At the conclusion of the prayer, they flew away. In my sentimental mind, I think God was saying those fallen men were in a better place.

We had prayer at the VA and the courthouse. At the schools there was only a moment of silence. What are we teaching the children who will be protecting our nation in a few years? I promise you that when I was looking death in the eyes I was not taking a moment of silence. I was beseeching God to let me go home, to let me be with my family and hold the son I had never seen. I promise, if you ask any veteran who was in the "kill or be killed circumstance," they cried out to and prayed to God.

How do we take our schools back and teach our kids the power of prayer to our God? The people who

don't like prayer, well they can take a moment of silence, to let us exercise our right to our freedom of religion. Maybe as a united voice we could say the Lord's Prayer. To go back a number of years, what can they do, send us to Vietnam?

MIKE TARPLEY  
BIG SPRING

Maybe this letter will help someone

TO THE EDITOR:

Maybe this letter will help someone who may have been getting long distance phone calls that were not theirs and were not made at their house.

August 2000 I moved back to Big Spring. I contacted Southwestern Bell. I said that I have a phone at Lubbock. I want it turned off and I want a phone at Big Spring at my house.

They let me know that I did not have to make a deposit at Big Spring to get a phone because I had always paid my phone bill each month.

Sometime in 2002 I started hearing people talking on our phone. They were not at our house. I did not know who they were. I wrote and called Southwestern Bell. I told them that I am not supposed to have a party line; I'm paying for a private line. They said that I did not have a party line, only a private line.

I got two long distance phone calls that were not mine to a town I did not know where was. They were not very expensive so I paid them.

Since that happened, I have got a lot of phone calls on my bill that are not mine. I kept paying the monthly fee and any long distance calls that I made

See LETTERS, Page 6A

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- Blum's Jewelers
- Elrod's Furniture
- Hangar 25
- Harris Lumber & Hardware
- Heritage Museum
- Higginbotham Bartlett Building Center
- Inspirations Flowers & Gifts, Inc.
- J. M'Kai Boutique
- Johansen's Landscape & Nursery
- Red Mesa Grill
- Suggs Hallmark

They make great stocking stuffers, gifts for that hard to shop for co-worker or teenagers, great for bunko groups; bridge groups; clubs and organizations, teachers, the list is endless.

"Chamber Bucks" can be bought in \$5.00 increments.  
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Let's try to keep our money locally.

Purchase your "Chamber Bucks" at the  
**Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Office, 215 W. 3<sup>rd</sup>.**  
For more information call 263-7641.



HERALD Photo/Lyndel Moody

**Dani's Cakes-N-More has left its location on 1103 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Place. Owner Danielle S. Ramirez, pictured above, will continue taking orders by phone, 213-7370, or via her Web site at [www.daniscakesmore.com](http://www.daniscakesmore.com) until a new location can be found for the business. Ramirez said she will continue to make wedding cake and cookies for special occasions. She added the community has been very supportive of her new business.**

## Public Records

### Howard County Justice of the Peace

**Outstanding IBC Warrants:**  
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80 Apt. 230, Abilene  
Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger  
Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa  
Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring  
Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock  
Samantha Ann Berrera, 606 Lamar, Sweetwater  
Stephanie Renee Beaty, 2718 E. SH 176, Andrews  
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford  
Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada  
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa  
Dave Bracken, 2720 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Lubbock  
Richard Henry Burk, PO Box 171933, Arlington  
Paul D. Calhoun, P.O. Box 842, Plains  
Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston, Fort Worth  
Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring  
Leonard Carson Jr. 102 S. Peach, Pecos  
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring  
Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City  
Jared Wendell Coby, 901 S. High Street, Longview  
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring  
Patrick C. Criss, 8030 Catalpa, Texas City  
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring  
Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos #238, Midland  
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring  
Carey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring  
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio  
Johnnie Lou Dry, RR 11 Box 156 FM 2011, Longview  
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring  
Wesley Allen Edmondson, 505 E. 14th Street, Big Spring  
Randy James Ellis, PO Box 391, Syder  
Hilda L. Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh Street, Lamesa  
Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa  
Concepcion Garcia, PO Box 16156, Lubbock  
James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.  
Claudet Garza, E. Elm, Apt. 10, Laredo  
Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm, Laredo  
Joe E. George Jr., 6356 FM 585, Bangs  
Katherine A. Gladhill, 7670 M. Trailer/2718 Rear, Lubbock  
Raul Gonzales, 2106 Johnson, Big Spring  
Fernando Gonzales, 3000 Schadt, Fort Worth  
Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring  
Jeffrey M. Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Spring-

town  
Gabriel Guerrero, 411 N.E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa  
Nicholas Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams, Breckenridge  
Dana L. Holguin Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct. Unit B, Arlington  
Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring  
Rickie L. Henderson, 205 Providence Road, Big Spring  
Robert Stephen Hoback, 1516 Comberland, Odessa  
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane 1104, Houston  
Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1502, Big Spring  
Emily Howard, P.O. box 224, Big Spring  
Juan Baldwin Hubbard, 504 Eugene, Midland  
Lucas Shane Hughes, 3906 Connally, Big Spring  
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Hwy. 7, La Grange  
Ronald Jeffery, 1101 Fitch, Odessa  
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio  
Julie L. Johnson, 2504 Ent, Big Spring  
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland  
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan  
Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring  
Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66th Street, Lubbock  
Laura Leon, 319 Rocky Lane Dr., Midland  
Christopher Luellen, 599 Truehart, Pain Rock  
Patricia Luttrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa  
Stephanie Marie Macias, 909 S. Sixth Street, Lamesa  
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland  
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa  
Carrol Lee McNeil, 2601 Westridge, Snyder  
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring  
Brian L. Mendez, 583 56th Street, Lubbock  
Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P. O. Box 291, Mertzon  
Mari Montemayor, 627 State Street, Big Spring  
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas  
Esiquieo Moreno, 508 S.E. First, Andrews  
Angela Moreno, 1712 N. Third Street, Lamesa  
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland  
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring  
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway Rd, Big Spring  
Renee Perez, 2133 Glenwood Drive,

Abilene  
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring  
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring  
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring  
Michael Dewayne Renteria, 1810 Owens, Big Spring  
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock  
Gustavo Alfredo Rios, 1804 Scurry, Big Spring  
Anna Alicia Robles, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 304, Big Spring  
Jose Antonio Rodriguez, 1309 Wright, Big Spring  
Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring  
Sofia Romero, 409 N. Ave Q, Lamesa  
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster / 1501 E. Sixth Street, Big Spring  
Jennifer Ann Rositas, 1420 E. Sixth Street #10, Big Spring  
Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa  
Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton  
Emily Sartain, 1806 37th, Snyder  
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring  
Hari Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring  
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring  
Janie Spurgeon, 1212 Wadley, Midland  
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City  
Robert Lee Summers, 2404 S. Monticello, Big Spring  
James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene  
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.  
Abelina Tercero, 127 Arthur, Longview  
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois #16, Midland  
Brandia Vera, 1901 Ave M, Snyder  
Alicia M. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio  
Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard  
Chrissy Sue Ward, 1003-2 CR 175, Colorado City  
Christina Williams, 400 Macarthur, Odessa  
Kristi Oden Womack, 710 Bell, Sweetwater  
Jerry Lee Wrightsail, 2816 Ridge Road, Ft. Worth

Daniel Selwyn Patterson, 61, and Deanne Marie Thompson, 35, both of Big Spring.

**Warranty Deeds:**  
Grantor: Casey Pledger and Holly Pledger  
Grantee: Dionne Fletcher  
Property: Lot 21, Block 3, Washington Place  
Date: Nov. 6, 2008

Grantor: Juan Manuel Martinez  
Grantee: Richard Sepulveda Merinez  
Property: Lot 10, Block 32, Cole & Strayhorn Addition  
Date: Nov. 7, 2008

Grantor: Michael L. Bell and Jennifer Bell  
Grantee: Prudential Relocation Inc.  
Property: Lots 15 and 16, Block 16, Edwards Heights  
Date: Nov. 10, 2008

Grantor: Maria Mendoza  
Grantee: Jose M. Nino and Susana Nino  
Property: Lot 6, Block 6, Hall  
Date: Nov. 10, 2008

Grantor: Dorothy Cauble  
Grantee: Robert H. Moore III  
Property: One-half interest in the N/28 feet of the S/71 feet of Lots 9-12, Block 4, Original Town of Big Spring  
Date: Nov. 12, 2008

Grantor: Jewel M. Anderson  
Grantee: Robert H. Moore III and Holly R. Moore  
Property: One-half interest in the N/28 feet of the S/71 feet of Lots 9-12, Block 4, Original Town of Big Spring  
Date: Nov. 12, 2008

Grantor: Manuel Chavera  
Grantee: Guadalupe Moreno and Martha Moreno  
Property: Lot 22, Block 10, Monticello Addition  
Date: Nov. 12, 2008

**Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:**  
Grantor: Jessica Jayne Gamble  
Grantee: Joshua Howell  
Property: A 1.07 acre tract out of Section 31, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Nov. 5, 2008

Grantor: First Christian Church of Cleburne  
Grantee: Linda Sepulveda  
Property: Lot 5, Block A, Merrick-Greene Addition  
Date: Nov. 5, 2008

Grantor: Kay Bancroft and G. Ben Bancroft  
Grantee: Carria Knooc dba Texas Rag Doll  
Property: Lot 3, Block 6, McDowell Heights  
Date: Nov. 12, 2008

## SMITH

Continued from Page 4C

“MHMR Services of the Concho Valley, Hill Country Community MHMR Center, the Center for Healthcare Services, and West Texas Centers for MHMR handled this difficult situation with care and tremendous

regard for human dignity.”

The Heroes Amongst Us Award began as a way to recognize the community centers that responded to the FLDS situation, Johnson said.

“The critical role played by Community MHMR Centers represents the backbone of mental health disaster response in Texas and is all too often over-

looked,” he said. “A ‘hero among us’ is a Community MHMR Center that stands up to face devastation and human tragedy with an unwavering commitment to people in our system of care.”

West Texas Centers, which serves more than 2,000 people a month in 23 counties in rural West Texas, was well-equipped to handle the emergency

that unfolded outside of San Angelo and any other situation requiring highly skilled and motivated mental health professionals, Smith said.

“This is why we do what we do,” Smith said. “We exist to help in these types of situations and the day-to-day crises that affect our clients.”

Also receiving the Heroes Amongst Us Award were

the MHMR centers on the Gulf Coast that assisted with Hurricanes Dolly, Gustav and Ike.

The awards were presented at a statewide event that included representatives from across the country affiliated with the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Directors (NACBHDD). The Centers’ recognized

were West Texas Centers for MHMR; Tropical Texas Behavioral Health; Burke Center; Spindletop MHMR Services; The Gulf Coast Center; MHMR Authority of Harris County; Hill Country Community MHMR Center; MHMR Services of the Concho Valley; Center for Healthcare Services; Texana; and Tri-County MHMR Services.

## SCAM

Continued from Page 4C

com. The Clearwater, Fla., Better Business Bureau offers the following information on this company.

Freebeegas.com has an unsatisfactory record with the BBB for a pattern of complaints, failure to respond to complaints and unresolved complaints. BBB processed a total of 94 com-

plaints about this company in the last 36 months, our standard reporting period.

This company offers the fulfillment of gasoline redemption certificates. In order to redeem your certificate you must enclose the postcard into a standard size envelope with a \$5 check, money order or certified check made payable to Tidewater Marketing Consultants, Inc., for shipping and handling.

Once the company receives

the signed redemption post card, they will mail back an application form within 15 days.

The application form must be returned to the company within 30 days with a self-addressed stamped envelope or a \$2.50 money order for shipping. Once the application form is sent back to the company they will send out a gas station selection form so consumers can choose a gas station.

The gas station selection must

be returned to the company within 30 days. Consumer must purchase \$100 or more in gasoline each month at the gas station that was chosen. Consumer must send back the monthly redemption tickets with proof of receipts in a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail the tickets no later than the first day of the following month in order to redeem the gift card.

Consumers should be cautious when attempting to redeem

such offers. Fifty dollars in free gas might initially sound good, but processing fees, postage and time may cost more than \$50.

Start with Trust ... Contact the Better Business Bureau for a reliability report on any business or charity by calling (432) 563-1880, toll-free (800) 592-4433 or by visiting us at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).

*Trish Powell is president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of the Permian Basin.*

## GARDEN

Continued from Page 4C

decompose and be absorbed into the soil before summer arrives. Or as complex as a Swedish garbage composter which runs continuously and uses the heat of composting to produce part of the power to run the facility. I prefer simple.

Eventually we will have little choice but to switch from landfills to something on the order of the Swedish operations, but even then, for home composting, simple is better.

With the winds of West Texas, it is pretty much required to keep a compost pile contained. If you have a sheltered spot where leaves collect that could be a good place for a pile. The only sheltered spot at my house is beside the front door so I have to use containment.

A pen made of four old pallets stood on end and wired together will keep your compost from blowing to Austin and still allow for air flow. Air, water, food and mass are needed for rapid decomposition.

Decomposition is done by bacteria. The kind you want are aerobic (oxygen needing) as they work faster than anaerobic (non-oxygen needing) bac-

teria and also smell better.

Ideally, your compost pile should start out with the moisture of a wrung-out sponge. It should not leave any moisture on your hands when you handle it but should still feel moist.

For food, many recommendations call for “browns” and “greens” — browns being dry materials such as dead leaves, straw, sawdust or wood chips and greens being fresh plant materials such as grass clippings, kitchen vegetable scraps, coffee grounds or animal manure. Recommendations call for mixtures from 25 browns to one green down to two browns for each green, but it only makes a difference if you want fast compost. If you can afford the time, even straight browns can be decomposed.

Pure greens need to be dried before piling or they will probably go anaerobic and turn into a slimy, smelly mass of goo. Your garden won't care, but your neighbors certainly will.

Now that you have air, moisture and food, all that you need for rapid compost is the mass. Since the bacteria that do the decomposition give off heat, the more bacteria, the more heat. Again, recommendations call for

about one cubic meter of mass which works out to about a 3-foot cube. A little more or less won't be a big thing. The heat is not a requirement for composting but is an indication that there are a lot of bacteria at work which will lead to faster compost.

By now you should have a 3-foot cube of mixed dry and fresh materials that

are slightly moist and somewhat fluffy. This is a compost pile. It is only one of hundreds of types of piles. Left alone, by spring it should have decomposed to about one third of its size or less and have the texture and smell of sweet garden soil. Next month I will go into some experimental types of composting for the home.

# sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

For more information, call Walter Ward at (432) 935-6455 or visit the How-

ard County Master Gardeners Web site at [www.howardcountymastergardener.org](http://www.howardcountymastergardener.org)

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
*Voyage of Discovery*

East dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 10 7 6 5  
♥ 9 8 6 2  
♦ J 4  
♣ A Q 3

**WEST**  
♠ A K Q 3  
♥ 4  
♦ 9 7 6 2  
♣ 10 8 5 2

**EAST**  
♠ 9 8 4  
♥ Q 7 5  
♦ Q 8 5  
♣ K 9 7 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ J 2  
♥ A K J 10 3  
♦ A K 10 3  
♣ J 6

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥  
Pass 4♥

Opening lead — king of spades.

There are some decisions you must make at the bridge table where you can't be sure you're right. That is the nature of the game, and the best that can be done in these cases is to exercise your best judgment and hope everything turns out all right.

Take this deal where you're in four hearts and West cashes the K-Q of spades, on which East plays the 4-8. West shifts to the club deuce, and you follow low from dummy, losing to the king. Back comes the nine of spades, which you trump as West follows with the three. The only prob-

lem remaining is to avoid a trump loser. Normally, you'd play the A-K, hoping to catch the queen on the first or second round.

Granting that that's what you usually do with nine cards of a suit missing the queen, playing for the drop is something you should always think about twice. Sometimes it is right to abandon the so-called percentage play in favor of the finesse, and in this case, you should do a bit more investigating before deciding what to do.

Accordingly, after playing a trump to the ace, you cash the A-K of diamonds and ruff a diamond, on which East's queen falls. When you now lead a second trump and East follows low, you are faced with the crucial decision.

West almost surely started with the A-K-Q-3 of spades, given East's failure to signal at trick one and West's discontinuing the suit after the second trick. The clubs appear to be divided 4-4, judging from West's fourth-best lead of the deuce.

Since East also seems to have started with three diamonds to the queen, it follows that his original distribution was 3-3-3-4, making the trump finesse likely to win. Maybe you shouldn't bet the old family homestead on it, but the finesse now has better than a 50-50 chance of succeeding.

## News in brief

### State board of tax examiners may be in jeopardy

AUSTIN (AP) — Calling the Board of Tax Professional Examiners ineffective in overseeing local officials who administer billions in property taxes, a state panel has recommended abolishing the agency and shifting its duties elsewhere.

Staffed with only four workers and no investigators, the board "has not considered enforcement to be a key part of its regulatory effort," according to a report by the Sunset Advisory Commission, which reviews the performance of state agencies.

Created in 1983, the board is charged with registering local tax officials statewide and monitoring compliance. Scrutiny of the board has intensified as taxpayers become increasingly frustrated with rising property appraisals.

The board receives about 20 staff taxpayer complaints a year but conducts only limited inquiries, dismissing most cases for a lack of evidence, the Sunset report said.

Dave Montoya, the board's director, said it wasn't his call "to say whether I agree or disagree" about the recommendation to shut down the agency.

"Whatever the Legislature tells us to do, we do," Montoya told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

### MAD art fetches nearly \$750,000

DALLAS (AP) — The last batch of original art from MAD magazine's New York archives sold Friday for a combined total of nearly \$750,000.

The combined \$746,516 was more than double pre-sale estimates, said Greg Rohan, president of Dallas-based Heritage Auction Galleries.

The collection was mostly made up of covers featuring the grinning Alfred E. Neuman, including the first one drawn by the late Norman Mingo for MAD's issue No. 30 of December 1956, which sold for \$203,150.

Chicago collector Michael Gidwitz was the winning bidder for the cover, which shows the gap-toothed icon as a "write-in candidate for president," saying "What — me worry?" as an elephant and donkey glare angrily at each other in the background.

A Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter who requested anonymity was the winning bidder of three other MAD art covers, Rohan said.

The paintings were consigned by DC Comics, publisher of MAD.

MAD, founded by William Gaines and Harvey Kurtzman, became widely popular for its mix of zany, absurdist and irreverent humor — especially its devastating parodies of Hollywood films and satirical commentaries on pompous politicians and self-important celebrities.

### Bus driver who choked child may face charges

DALLAS (AP) — A grand jury will determine whether a former Dallas school bus driver should face criminal charges for choking a mentally disabled child on her bus.

Video of the incident, which recently aired on Dallas television station WFAA, shows the restless boy seated in the back of the moving bus when he hurls an aluminum can through the aisle at the bus driver's back.

Seconds later, driver Janet Pitts pulls over the bus and angrily confronts the child.

"You want me to beat your a--," she shouts while placing a chokehold on the child. "Don't do that no more, you hear?"

"Do you hear me? Don't do that no more! Do you understand?"

Pitts, who successfully appealed termination over the Jan. 15 incident, resigned Nov. 3 from Dallas County Schools, an agency which provides transportation and other services to Dallas-area school districts. Pitts had worked for Dallas County Schools about 17 years.

She could not be reached for comment Friday.

After viewing the videotape, which was anonymously sent to the television station several months after the incident, Dallas Police referred the case to the grand jury to determine whether a criminal offense occurred.

"They're going to look at it and see if, based on the totality of the circumstances, the driver's actions were so outrageous that criminal charges were warranted," Dallas Police Lt. C.L. Williams said Thursday.

Claudia Nava, the boy's mother, was not aware of the confrontation until she saw the video.

"This is not going to end here," she told WFAA.

Deanne Hullender, a spokeswoman for the Dallas County Schools, said Pitts quit moments before the agency was about to hold another termination hearing against her, armed with additional information gleaned from the video.

"Choking a child is beyond an employment issue, it is a criminal issue," Hullender said. "There are no excuses."

### UTMB retains academic status

GALVESTON (AP) — The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston will remain academically accredited as a medical school despite the loss of 3,800 jobs, officials said.

However, UTMB will continue sending medical students to health facilities elsewhere to gain clinical experience, officials said. Since Hurricane Ike's landfall in September, the school's third- and fourth-year medical students have served their clinical rotations at hospitals across the state.

The UT System announced Friday it has hired an Atlanta-based consulting firm to help in deciding how a diminished medical center could develop "a successful clinical model that includes a presence on the island."

A report from the consultants is due by the end of January. UTMB plans to reopen up to 200 inpatient beds and an emergency room as soon as possible, joining a 16-bed maternity ward that is already operational.

The UT Board of Regents unanimously approved the job cuts Wednesday during a meeting in El Paso, saying they want to keep the medical school in Galveston but could not allow it to continue losing as much as \$40 million a month since Ike hit the island in September.

Tom Johnson, executive director of the Texas Faculty Association, a union that represents the UTMB faculty, said his organization has hired an investigator to examine the reasons behind the layoffs.

"It is our opinion, however, that the crisis has been perpetrated by UT/UTMB..." Johnson wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

UTMB President Dr. David Callender said Thursday he hopes to meet with employees by the middle of next week to let them know who will lose their jobs. Officials will follow UT rules in determining who is laid off, he said, and seniority will be one factor.

Employees will be paid through mid-January.

Ike caused nearly \$710 million in losses to UTMB, which has 12,500 employees with 8,000 working on the island campus. Officials have said that only about \$100 million of the damage from the Sept. 13 hurricane is covered by insurance.

### Another inmate caught with cell phone

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas prison officials recovered yet another contraband cell phone from a death row inmate after conducting an X-ray of the man on Friday.

In the second seizure this week since a systemwide lockdown and search for contraband ended, Texas Department of Criminal Justice officers have found a phone inside the body of condemned inmate Hank Skinner.

"It was hidden in his rectum," said department spokeswoman Michelle Lyons.

Two cell phone SIM cards were found hidden in Skinner's Bible during a routine search Friday afternoon of his cell at the Polunsky Unit near Livingston.

"They suspected he had a cell phone that he would not admit to," Lyons said. "They escorted him to the unit infirmary where they conducted an X-ray and confirmed he was in possession of a cell phone."

Skinner, 46, has been on death row since 1995 for a triple slaying in Pampa in the Texas Panhandle.

He already was classified as a Level 3 inmate, the most troublesome, and his latest infraction will impact any future reduction in his security level, Lyons said.

"I think if nothing else, it illustrates how difficult it can be to locate these phones on death row," she said. "It's not only having to look in their property. In some cases, we have to look inside their bodies."

On Wednesday, just hours after the more than 3-week-long lockdown ended, prison officials found a cell phone, a charger, a makeshift weapon and what appeared to be marijuana in the cell of a different death row inmate. The inmate, Mark Stroman, 39, was condemned for the slaying of a Dallas-area convenience store clerk during a robbery.

During the lockdown, a dozen cell phones, nine chargers, three phone batteries and seven SIM cards were among contraband found on death row.

The Polunsky Unit was the last of the state's prisons on a systemwide lockdown imposed last month after another condemned inmate, Richard Tabler, made threatening calls to a state senator using a phone that had been smuggled to him.

## LETTERS

Continued from Page 5A

or were made at my house. The long distance phone bills that someone else made and were not made at my house kept adding up.

I continued to write to Southwestern Bell, then to AT&T when they took over. And I continued to call them but they have refused to investigate this since 2002. I had asked them to find out who made these phone calls and where they were made. For all these years they refused to investigate this.

So now we have not had a phone for three weeks. I still refuse to pay someone else's long distance phone calls.

As I said, maybe this letter will help some other senior citizen whose phone number has been stolen.

Thanks,  
SUE ELLEN  
WHITE-HOWELL  
BIG SPRING

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Nov. 17th Open Mon.-Sat. 9-6:30 Nov. 22th

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PILLSBURY  
2/\$1.09

QUAKER OATS \$1.69  
42 OZ.  
FREEZER BUTTER-FLAKE ROLLS 89¢  
24 CT.  
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16 OZ.  
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FRESH SWEET POTATOES  
49¢  
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MISSOURI APPLES 3/\$1.00  
BREAKSTONE COTTAGE CHEESE 3/\$1.00  
24 OZ. CTN.  
COOKED 1/2 HAMS SMOKED 89¢  
LB.  
FROZEN AVACADO PULP \$1.99  
5-LB. BAG  
SHURFINE PINEAPPLE SLICES 2/\$1.00  
20 OZ. CAN

WRIGHT THICK  
SLICE BACON  
\$1.39  
LB.

18239

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## Announcements

To WHO ever STOLE my Binoculars and Camera from my truck on Osage, You didn't take my Bible. You Should Have!! Please Return. All is Forgiven.

## Cemetery Lots

2 LOTS at Trinity Memorial Cemetery. Side-by-side. Fully developed Garden of Levenon Section. Estimated value \$3,000.00 Asking \$2,045.00 includes transfer fee. Call (781)335-1918 Weymouth, MA.

CEMETERY LOTS. Payout plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$10.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

NEW MT. Olive Section. of Mt. Olive Cemetery. Blk 131, Lots 7, 8 & 9. \$800.00 Per lot. Call (432)366-6263 or (432)553-9365.

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18550

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**POWER RESOURCES LTD.**, operated by Falcon Power Co., an indirect subsidiary of CalEnergy Generation, is seeking a plant operator for our Big Spring-TX facility. Will be responsible for effective operation and monitoring of plant equipment including gas turbines, heat recovery steam generators, steam turbine, and associated auxiliary support equipment. Candidates should possess a HS diploma or GED, with 2+ years experience in power plant operations preferred. Employment is contingent upon passing physical/drug screening. For a complete job description and to apply on-line, go to our career page at [www.calenergy.com](http://www.calenergy.com) and search "Available Positions." An Equal Opportunity Employer committed to diversity.

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18473

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**ENTRY LEVEL COMMUNITY SUPERVISION OFFICER (CSO)**, minimum requirements as stated in "Standards for TDCJ-CJAD", Section 163.33 (a). Must have a bachelor's degree and unless the degree is in criminology, corrections, counseling, law, social work, psychology, sociology or related field, must have one year of graduate study in one of those fields or one year experience in full-time casework, counseling, or community group work. Bilingual a plus. Must reside within Howard, Martin or Glasscock County or be willing to relocate. Resumes due Friday 11-21-08 at 118th District CSCD, 315 Main, Suite B, P.O. Box 1951, Big Spring, TX 79721-1951. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**FARM HAND** Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

**GARTMAN REFRIGERATION** need Certified HVAC and experienced plumber. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700.

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2. The Wallace/ Ware Prison Medical Units are in need of **LVNs for 3PM to 11PM shifts**. These positions have a sign on bonus for \$2,000.

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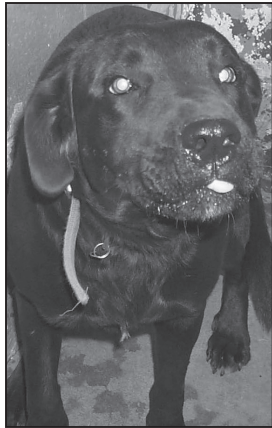
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## ► Adoptable Pets

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to our staff

Shontaye Bowman is the PRN dietitian for Crossroads Hospice here in Big Spring. She is originally from New Mexico, but she moved to the area about a year ago.

Shontaye holds a bachelor's degree in human nutrition from New Mexico State University, received in December of 2004, and a master's degree in human sciences from Texas A&M University-Kingsville, received in August of 2007.

Shontaye is also the Clinical Dietitian at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Her main goal as a dietitian is to help prevent and treat certain illnesses by promoting healthy eating habits through education.

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421 S. Main St. 263-5300

# Iraqi pooch finds new life in U.S.

By **SUSAN SILVERS**  
Connecticut Post

TRUMBULL, Conn. — The new resident of Pinewood Trail is quite curious about his surroundings. After all, before his arrival less than two weeks ago, he had never seen a beautiful lake, falling leaves or grass.

But Kindi, a native of Iraq, has won permission to live in the United States after suffering horrifying abuse in his homeland.

"He just takes two steps and stops to smell, because it's new," said Susan Szmyt, Kindi's caretaker.

Her son, Army Capt. Derek Szmyt, then a second lieutenant, and his platoon found the mixed-breed pooch last spring while on patrol.

"They saw these Iraqi kids throwing this oddly shaped ball," Susan Szmyt said, relating her son's account. But the "ball" appeared to move on its own.

When they stopped to investigate, what the American soldiers saw was no toy.

It was a puppy. "The kids were getting ready to kick the dog over the vehicle," Susan Szmyt said. But they never got the chance.

"It's not your dog anymore," one of the soldiers told them as they took away the battered puppy.

According to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals International, which flew Kindi — named for Al-Kindi, the town in Iraq where he was rescued — here as part of its Operation Baghdad Pups, animal abuse in the Middle East is common. Many dogs and cats aren't domesticated, and some are rabid.

"It's the equivalent of a

rat," Stephanie Scroggs, the agency's spokeswoman, said of the widely held reputation of dogs in Iraq.

The soldiers in Szmyt's platoon brought the puppy back to their base, where a veterinarian was on hand to care for military bomb-sniffing canines. The vet gave the new arrival a clean bill of health. So Kindi suddenly had a new home.

Soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan aren't supposed to have pets, but hundreds of them have befriended native cats and dogs, and the animals have sometimes been accommodated in unusual circumstances.

Scroggs said the adopted pets often provide therapeutic support for the stress of a battle zone and particularly for soldiers who have lost comrades. In any case, "they create a deep bond," she said.

Derek and Kindi quickly formed such a relationship, and the soldier got to work researching ways to get Kindi sent to the States. He stumbled upon the work of Terri Crisp, an SPCA official organizing an animal-rescue program. Derek asked his mother to investigate further.

Scroggs said the rescue costs about \$4,000 per animal, which is covered through donations. To do so, the SPCA charters part of a plane out of Baghdad. Kindi then flew from Kuwait to Amsterdam, and arrived at Dulles International Airport outside Washington two weeks ago.

The SPCA brought an official from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who signed off on his immigration into the United States. The dog

stayed with the SPCA until the Szmyts came to pick him up.

Kindi traveled here with some of Derek's clothes to give him the comfort of familiar smells, and Susan and her husband, Wayne, picked him up in Washington, arriving back home early Nov. 2.

The couple phoned Derek as soon as they had picked up Kindi. "I thought he was going to cry," his mother said.

At about 50 pounds, Kindi is bigger than the Szmyts thought he would be, but that's not all.

"He's much more friendly than we expected," said Derek's father. He slept downstairs when they got home to make sure Kindi would be OK, and when Kindi was finally let out of his travel kennel, "he came right up on the bed

and just slept," he said.

Kindi displayed great interest in visitors to the Szmyt home, politely sniffing and otherwise scampering around the newly recarpeted living room.

The captain, who left Iraq for his new assignment in Germany Oct. 21, is scheduled to be home before Thanksgiving for a month-long leave. He expects to return to Germany to finish out the remaining 15 months of his military service.

"I can't wait to see their reunion," Susan said.

Each pet flown here has a guaranteed home such as the Szmyts are providing for Kindi. But when Capt. Szmyt leaves the service and moves elsewhere, he'll leave behind two partial-beagle friends — as well as two cats — in his parents' household.

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## News in brief

### U.S. military says 10 militants killed in strike on bomb-making cell in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A strike by coalition troops against a bomb-making cell in eastern Afghanistan killed 10 militants, the U.S. military said Saturday.

The troops were targeting several key figures in a network run by Jalaluddin Haqqani, a militant leader believed to operate out of Pakistan, the military said in a statement.

Several groups of armed militants fired on the coalition troops during the operation Friday, according to the statement. The coalition forces returned fire, killing their attackers and destroying a weapons cache.

Separately, Afghan police said two national intelligence agents and one police officer were killed late Friday in a bomb attack on their vehicle south of Kabul.

The three were killed while responding to an earlier bomb attack that injured three police officers, said Regional Police Commander Gen. Zalmai Oryakhail.

### Obama interviews ex-rivals Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bill Richardson as secretary of state

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Barack Obama is interviewing some of his one-time political opponents as he ponders building his own "team of rivals" to help him run the country.

Primary election foes Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bill Richardson both have been interviewed for secretary of state, according to several Democratic officials

who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the secret meetings.

Obama met with Richardson late Friday afternoon, a day after conferring one-on-one with Clinton at his Chicago office, the officials said. He plans to meet there Monday with his Republican opponent, John McCain, but advisers to both of the general election candidates say they don't expect Obama to consider McCain for an administration job.

The meeting with Clinton excited a burst of speculation that Obama would transform the former first lady and fierce campaign foe into one of his top Cabinet officials and the nation's chief diplomatic voice. But where the New York senator stands in contention for the post came into question as other Democrats, also speaking on condition of anonymity about the private discussions, said Richardson was brought in as well.

It's far from clear how interested Clinton would be in the secretary of state job. She would face a Senate confirmation hearing that would certainly probe her husband's financial dealings — something the Clintons refused to disclose in the presidential campaign.

### Wildfires ravage homes in northern Los Angeles, celebrity studded enclave of Montecito

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fierce winds on Saturday fanned a wildfire in northern Los Angeles that quickly spread across neighborhoods, burning several homes and threatening dozens others, while firefighters to the west in Santa Barbara County battled a blaze that had destroyed more than 100 homes.

The fire in the foothill community of Sylmar on the edge of the Angeles National Forest broke out late Friday and charred over two square miles in three hours, prompting officials to order hundreds of residents to leave their homes.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this fire will move faster than you can walk or run," Los Angeles Fire Chief Donald Frazier said. "It's important to move out of harm's way right now."

At least five homes were damaged or destroyed, fire spokeswoman Melissa Kelley said. The fire threatened thousands of homes and a hospital, but officials determined it was safer for patients at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center to stay put.

Some residents left their homes even before mandatory evacuation orders were issued.

### 20-member delegation of S. Korean opposition party visits N. Korea amid tension on peninsula

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — An opposition party delegation was taking a message from the South Korean government to the North on Saturday to try to improve relations that soured after Pyongyang threatened to halt border crossings.

The Democratic Labor Party group arrived in North Korea, the North's official Korean Central News Agency reported.

Vice Unification Minister Hong Yang-ho met opposition leader Kang Ki-kap on Thursday and asked him to tell Pyongyang that Seoul has not turned away from deals reached at two bilateral summits and that it is ready to discuss how to implement them — Jun Kwon-hee, a party leadership aide, told The Associated Press.

North Korea has accused South Korea's new conservative government of ignoring accords reached at the 2000 and 2007 summits — under which the North was promised a shipbuilding factory, and rail and road improvements — and has stepped up rhetoric against the South.

The North's military said Wednesday it would "restrict and cut off" cross-border routes from Dec. 1. The ban could force the closure of dozens of South Korean factories operating at a joint industrial park in the North's border city of Kaesong — a symbolic rejection of South Korean efforts since 2000 to foster reconciliation through commerce.

### Audit concludes Sharpton campaign owes nearly \$500,000 for 2004 presidential campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal auditors have concluded the Rev. Al Sharpton's 2004 campaign owes the government nearly \$500,000 for illegal donations and other financial improprieties. Sharpton has been feuding with the Federal Election Commission for years over his accounting in his failed run for president, for which he received \$100,000 in so-called government matching funds that authorities later concluded he did not deserve because he hadn't followed campaign laws.

The auditors have now determined that

Sharpton owes \$486,803 to the U.S. Treasury because of his campaign's taking improper donations, largely from the National Action Network, a not-for-profit corporation that Sharpton leads but is separate from his campaign committee.

Sharpton will appeal the finding, aides said Friday, which would extend an already years-long fight with the government over how he raised and spent money to run for president.

The audit report is "a gross violation of Reverend Al Sharpton's right to perform his paid duties as president of the National Action Network, a traveling minister, lecturer, and an author who was promoting a book during the time period being audited," said his spokeswoman, Rachel Noerdlinger.

Sharpton's campaign finances came under scrutiny as he campaigned, speaking at churches where he collected "love offerings" that are common to traveling preachers.

### Space shuttle Endeavour races toward international space station after moonlit launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Endeavour raced toward the international space station on Saturday for a home makeover job after a brilliant moonlit launch that had NASA managers in awe.

The shuttle and its seven astronauts blasted into orbit Friday night on a mission to redo the insides of the space station, adding some extra bedrooms and a spare bathroom and kitchenette.

"It's our turn to take home improvement to a new level after 10 years of international space station construction," commander Christopher Ferguson called out.

Ferguson and his crew will double as plumbers and installers once they arrive at the 220-mile-high space station Sunday, hooking up extra cooking and sleeping equipment as well as a new water recycling system so the station's crew can expand next year.

The work will keep the astronauts up over Thanksgiving; NASA expects to add a 16th day to the mission, thanks to the on-time launch.

### Former 'Soul Train' host Don Cornelius charged in connection with 2 domestic disputes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles city attorney has charged Don Cornelius, former host of "Soul Train," in connection with two domestic incidents involving his wife last month.

Cornelius was charged with spousal battery, assault with a deadly weapon and dissuading a witness from making a police report, all misdemeanors, city attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan said Friday.

The married 72-year-old producer was taken to jail last month after police were called to his Hollywood Hills home following a report of domestic dispute.

Cornelius was released on \$50,000 bail. He could face up to one year in prison for each of the five misdemeanor charges.

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# NYC still trying to make yellow cabs green



AP file photo

**A Ford Escape Hybrid taxicab is shown on the street after a news conference introducing fuel-efficient hybrid vehicles to the New York City taxi industry. A federal judge blocked the city from requiring all new taxicabs to be fuel-efficient hybrids, saying the regulations were pre-empted by federal law. The preliminary ruling, released a day before deadline, was a setback for Mayor Michael Bloomberg's ambitious goal to make all yellow cabs green by 2012.**

By SARA KUGLER

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — After a judge threw a roadblock in front of Mayor Michael Bloomberg's quest to replace every taxicab with a hybrid model, the city is creating financial incentives to get more fuel-efficient cabs on the streets.

Bloomberg set fuel standards last year that would have gradually converted the city's 13,000 yellow cabs into hybrids by 2012, but a federal judge said last month that federal law pre-empted the local regulations.

Bloomberg said Friday that he does not plan to appeal the court's preliminary ruling. Instead, he announced new financial rewards aimed at encouraging taxi fleet owners to replace conventional models with hybrids.

"By offering incentives that will encourage more taxi fleet owners to purchase hybrids, we have found another avenue to

reach our goal of greening our yellow cabs, improving our air quality and reducing our carbon emissions," Bloomberg said.

The government does not own cabs but sells licenses to drivers and operators, who must buy vehicles that meet the city Taxi & Limousine Commission's specifications. The agency regulates and licenses all for-hire vehicles in the city.

The Metropolitan Taxicab Board of Trade, a trade association representing taxi fleet owners, had sued to block enforcement of Bloomberg's fuel-efficiency rules, which took effect this year. The association's members account for 25 percent of the city's cabs.

The group argued that only the federal government, not the city, has the authority to regulate emissions and fuel efficiency.

The incentive outlined Friday targets fleet owners. They have been more reluctant to purchase hybrids than individual taxi

owners, partly because fleet owners have not directly benefited from the fuel savings that come with hybrid models, Bloomberg said. Fleet owners charge drivers a fee to use their cabs, and the drivers pay for fuel.

Under the new arrangement, the owners can charge drivers \$3 more per shift for use of a hybrid, generating up to \$2,000 per vehicle each year.

A typical fee now varies from about \$105 to \$129 for a 12-hour shift.

Even though drivers will pay higher fees for hybrids, the city estimates they will save \$15 per shift because the hybrids consume far less fuel.

The Metropolitan Taxicab Board of Trade, which also complains that hybrid vehicles have not been properly time-tested for use as New York City cabs, dismissed the new financial incentives as an "end run" around last month's court ruling.

## Buffalo Tales: News from Forsan ISD

Special to the Herald

The high school math and science teams competed at Abilene Christian University Saturday, Nov. 7. Courtney Blair placed first in science while Sidney Holdampf placed third in science, third in mathematics, first in number sense and second in calculators from the 9th grade.

From the 11th grade, Aric Denton placed second in science, fourth in mathematics and second in number sense. Aaron Johnson was third in calculator and tied for ninth in mathematics. Claudia Jones placed third in science; Shelby Jones tied for 9th in mathematics; and Amanda Longoria placed second in mathematics and first in calculator.

The teams were third in science and calculator and fourth in number sense and mathematics.

The junior high one act play will perform "The Magic Well" for contest



Tuesday. The play begins at 1 p.m.

Members of the cast are Jansen McDonald, Elizabeth Rhodes, Treagan Kendrick, Falon Newton, Cole Long, Brady Gartman, Ali Knight, Tyler Evans, Chandler Freeman, Kelsey Westbrook, Raegan Haggard, Hannah Thompson, Tanner Ballard and Zachary Long.

The crew consists of Colton Wheeler, Kie Jones, Brittney Hergert, Maria Ortiz and Kelcee Hillis. The play is directed by Misty Hoelscher and Jim Rhodes.

The Asian Sensation Talent Show will be held Saturday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Forsan Auditorium. The show is a fund-raiser to help bring home the Kendrick's newly adopted

son from China.

Students are encouraged to sign up for the performance outside Mrs. McDonald's room. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places and tickets will be on sale at the door for \$3.

The student council collected more than 110 hats, caps and scarves to be divided between the Shane Brue Memorial Hat Room and the Cancer Center in Lubbock.

Report cards were sent home Friday.

Junior high basketball will begin Monday with the boys at Iraan and girls at home against Iraan.

School will release for the Thanksgiving holidays Nov. 25.

The high school band will participate in the Christmas parade Dec. 6.

Junior High University Interscholastic League will be held Dec. 10 and 11 at Irion County with writing events taking place Dec. 2 at individual schools.

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