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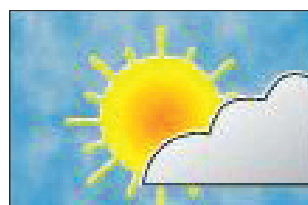
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# HIGH SPRING HERALD

**MONDAY**

DECEMBER 15, 2008



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 12

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## Chili cooks unite!

*Fund-raiser set Jan. 3 for MHMR kids*

By **VALERIE AVERY**

Special to the Herald

Aspiring chili cooks or those who just like to socialize while they stir the pot are encouraged to participate in the Seventh Annual Chili Cook-off Saturday, Jan. 3, at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 3188 building, 703 W. Third St., in Big Spring.

"A chili cook-off is only as good as the number of cooks who attend," said Landon Sturdivant, one of the organizers of the event.

"Luckily, we have had a very good track record for this event because of our past success. It is very well-organized, well-run, well-attended, distributes great prizes, and most of all, it's lots of fun. That's one of the

See **COOK-OFF**, Page 3A

## GRADUATION DAY



Courtesy photo

**Big Spring High School Principal Mike Ritchey, left, presents local physician Dr. P.K. Reddy with his high school diploma. According to officials, Reddy left his studies at Big Spring High School early to attend college and then medical school, but hadn't received his diploma until now. Dr. Reddy, who attended Baylor University, was one of the youngest Texans to become a doctor. Reddy practices medicine in Big Spring and Midland.**

## Body found

*Believed to be that of local man missing since mid-October*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The body of a Big Spring man reported missing in mid-October is believed to have been found Sunday in a wooded area east of FM 700.

Edward Allen Welch, 53, of Big Spring, was reported missing Oct. 18, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department.

"The sheriff's office received a call that a body had been found in a wooded area north of the Interstate Highway and east of FM 700," said Everett. "Deputies and

police officers responded and located what is believed to be the remains of Edward Welch."

Welch was reported missing in October after his vehicle was found abandoned in a secluded area near where the body was found. According to police reports, the man was armed with a handgun and was believed to be suicidal.

A ground search, which included tracking dogs brought in by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice from Colorado City, turned up no evidence of Welch's whereabouts.

See **BODY**, Page 3A

## Star program aids elderly, disabled

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Adult Protective Services is hoping to give area gift-givers the chance to shine this holiday season, as the annual "Be a Star" program looks to wrap up this week.

Part of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Adult Protective Services kicked off the program two weeks ago, collecting Christmas gifts for the area's elderly and

**Select a star from any First Bank of West Texas location, purchase a gift and return it to the bank before noon Saturday.**

disabled.

"A lot of people don't realize it, but the elderly and disabled population is the fastest growing in the state," said Darla Barton, community initiatives specialist for APS. "According to the last census, people 65 and older make up 12.4 percent of the population.

People between the ages of 21 and 64 with disabilities make up 15.1 percent of the population, and both of these demographics are the fastest growing in the nation.

"Those same numbers are always higher for West Texas. In Howard County, 14.1 percent of the population is 65 or

older, and 23.6 percent are between 21 and 64 years old with disabilities. So Big Spring and the surrounding areas have a very real stake in a program like this."

The program, which is being sponsored by First Bank of West Texas, will run until noon Saturday — the week before Christmas.

"All you have to do is go to any First Bank of West Texas location and pick out a star," said Bar-

See **STAR**, Page 3A

### 10 Shopping Days Til Christmas



**MEDICINE CENTER PHARMACY**



## Meiser to be honored

Ed Meiser has been named Hangar 25 Air Museum's Veteran of the Month for December. Meiser served in the U.S. Air Force from 1968

See **MEISER**, Page 3A

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## Gas prices break streak as oil jumps over \$49

By **The Associated Press**

Retail gasoline prices rose over the weekend for the first time in nearly three months and crude prices jumped Monday ahead of an OPEC meeting in Algeria, where oil producing countries are expected to announce huge production cuts.

After hitting a low of \$1.6559 gal on Friday, gas prices rose over the weekend to break an 86-day streak begun in July after prices topped \$4.11 per gallon, according to the Oil

Price Information Service.

With average wholesale costs rising 20 cents per gallon or more since late November, "there's a sense that the Autumn low of \$1.6559 gal may indeed represent the 2008 low water mark for street prices," OPIS analyst Tom Kloza said in a note.

Light, sweet crude for January rose \$1.89 to \$48.17 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Friday, the contract fell \$1.70 to settle at \$46.28.

In London, January Brent crude

rose \$2.42 to \$48.83.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which accounts for 40 percent of global supply, has signaled it plans to announce a substantial reduction of output quotas at its meeting Wednesday in Algeria.

"The extent of such cuts is still unclear and this uncertainty has been a source of continuing volatility in futures markets," said a report by analysts at KBC Market Services in Great Britain.

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COMPLETE STORY

## HERALD SPORTS HONOR ROLL.

### Michael Cooley

*Borden County junior tailback*

Cooley racked up 268 yards rushing and five touchdowns on 22 carries, leading the Borden County Coyotes to a Six-man, Division II state title Saturday with a 54-8 victory over Woodson.

John Hensley sealed the 45-point mercy rule victory by returning a Woodson fumble 52 yards for a score.

### Jerrell Williams

*Big Spring junior guard*

Williams led the Steers to their second victory of the season Saturday as they blasted Class 2A's sixth 2A's squad, Jim Ned's Indians, by 17 at the Catclaw Tournament hosted by Abilene

Wylie. Williams scored a game-high 16 points in the victory and was complimented by Tyrone Clemons' 12 points and Matt Ritchey's 10.



Williams

### Crystal Woodson

*Big Spring senior post*

Woodson helped deliver the Lady Steers over district rival Lake View Friday.

The senior post scored nine points in the 46-36 victory as the Lady Steers improved their record to 6-5 for the season.

### Kylie Gee & Berkley Iden

*Coahoma posts*

Gee's and Iden's performances were pivotal in the Bulldogettes' drive to the title game of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton over the weekend.

Iden scored 19 points in the semifinals vs. district foe Grape Creek and added 15 in the Bulldogettes' loss to Kermit in the finals Saturday. She averaged 14 points in three tourney games.

Gee led all scorers with 17 points in Saturday's championship. She averaged 12 points a game during tournament play.

### Nathan Atkerson

*Forsan senior forward*

Atkerson scored 20 points in the third-place game of the Borden County Invitational Friday.

The 6-4 senior used a major height advantage in the Buffs' 82-32 victory over Wilson. Atkerson scored in

double figures in all one of the four games Forsan played in Thursday and Friday. He averaged 14.3 points per game.

### Amanda Longorio

*Forsan junior post*

Impressive performances abounded in Forsan's matchup with Borden County Tuesday.

The Lady Coyotes received strong efforts from Taylor Richey and Olivia Key, who scored 28 and 16 points, respectively.

However, they couldn't best Longorio, who put up an incredible 34 points and pulled down 17 rebounds in the 62-59 victory.

# Coyotes win state title

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

WOLFFORTH — State championship football games aren't supposed to be a blowout. Somebody forgot to tell the Borden County Coyotes, though.

The Coyotes claimed a Six-man, Division II state championship Saturday in Wolfforth, routing the Woodson Cowboys, 54-8.

The Coyotes were led by the play of

junior Michael Cooley, who ran through and around the Cowboys defense throughout the game. Cooley had more than 120 yards at halftime and finished the contest with 268 yards and five touchdowns on 22 carries.

As a team, the Coyotes racked up 319 yards rushing, throwing the football just three times with their only completion being a four-yard scoring hookup from Miles Valentine to Austin Fields.

Meanwhile, Woodson managed just 237 yards of total offense.

Cooley got started in the first half, scoring on runs of 5 and 17 yards in the first quarter. He added a 66-yard jaunt in the final minute of the second game, giving the Coyotes a 24-0 lead at halftime.

See COYOTES, Page 2B



Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo (9) reacts after the Cowboys scored against the New York Giants in the fourth quarter of an NFL game, Sunday in Irving. Dallas won, 20-8.

AP photo

# No more drama?

*Turmoil behind them, Dallas rips NY Giants*

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Jerry Jones has been through enough weeks like the one the Dallas Cowboys just had to know all that drama — real or perceived — rarely affects what happens when it's game time.

"This reinforces it for me," the Cowboys owner said late Sunday night after a much-needed 20-8 victory over New York Giants.

The Cowboys spent more time during the week answering questions about their own squabbles than about playing New York — including talk of Terrell Owens being upset about Tony Romo's close relationship with Jason Witten and confirmed meetings of T.O. and two other receivers with offensive coordinator Jason Garrett.

Yet when the game was over, and even on the sideline before that, T.O., Romo and Witten were standing together and all smiling.

"Sometimes people think that stuff that gets talked about decides football games," Romo said. "What decides it is the execution of the

See COWBOYS, Page 2B

# Bulldogettes runners-up to Kermit

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

STANTON — For the second straight week, the Coahoma Bulldogettes found themselves in the finals of a tournament. Unfortunately, the results were the same as the Kermit Lady Yellow Jackets claimed the Hooptown Classic title in Stanton, 43-38.

It was a physical game from the start as both teams played suffocating defense, forcing a combined 16 turnovers in the first period with the Lady Jackets claiming the slim 6-5 lead heading into the second.

Kermit extended its lead going into the half thanks to a defensive press that frustrated the Bulldogettes face-paced style, while the Lady Jackets turned two of three shooting from beyond the three-point line into a 17-11 advantage after sixteen minutes of play.

Kermit pushed the score to 29-21 after the third quarter as the Lady Jackets continued the physical play, frustrating the Bulldogettes with a technical foul eventually being called on the Coahoma bench.

"They come out and played us extremely



Big Spring Steers point guard Jerrell Williams brings the ball up the court in Andrews Dec. 5. Williams led the Steers to their second win of the season Saturday over Jim Ned at the Catclaw Tournament hosted by Abilene Wylie.

HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

# Steers pick up second win of season

Herald Staff Report

ABILENE — Maybe the Big Spring Steers have finally turned the corner.

At least that's what Steers Head Coach Marcus Morris is hoping after the Steers won their final game of the Catclaw Tournament hosted by Abilene Wylie Saturday.

The Steers played a dominant third period, upending Jim Ned's Indians, who are ranked sixth in Class 2A, 57-40.

The win came after the Steers dropped their first two games to Lubbock Trinity and Lubbock Cooper.

"We played a competitive game against Trinity, but had far too many turnovers against Cooper. There was almost a lack of interest in the second half of that Cooper game," said Morris. "We got down and just reacted in a completely non-competitive way.

"We played an entire game against Jim Ned," he continued. "Jim Ned was the same type of team Cooper was. The only real difference is we played a complete game. I think the guys are tired of losing and are realizing we need to play together. It's almost Christmas break and district will be here soon. Hopefully we can carry this momentum through this week."

The Steers travel to play Snyder at 6 p.m. today. The Lady Steers are set to play at Snyder at 4:30 p.m.

See HOOPTOWN, Page 2B

## Obituaries

### Aloma Kay Koerber

Aloma Kay Koerber, 65, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with Pastor Clint Collins officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Aloma was born Dec. 2, 1943, in Winters. She grew up in Phoenix, Ariz., and married Donald Koerber June 10, 1960, in Phoenix. They moved to Big Spring in 1988. She was a Christian.

Survivors include her husband, Donald Koerber of Big Spring; three daughters, Debbie Storie of McCamey, Shelley Burrow and her husband Mike, and Brenda Tubb and her husband Brian, all of Big Spring; two sons, Don Koerber and Jim Koerber, both of Big Spring; a son-in-law, Mike Roever of McCamey; seven grandchildren; one sister, Gloria Alexander of Big Spring; and one brother, Jim Graves of Big Spring.

Mrs. Koerber was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Verba Graves; a granddaughter; and a son-in-law, John Storie.

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)

### Marie Pate

Marie Pate, 83, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring. Officiating will be the Rev. Lynn Robertson, chaplain of Compass Hospice. The family will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m., Monday, at the funeral home. The family will be staying at 1907 Nolan.

Marie was born Dec. 1, 1925, in Krum, Texas, and married Wayne Pate Oct. 4, 1941, in Sanger. He preceded her in death Nov. 19, 2001.

She grew up and graduated from high school in Krum. She and her husband came to Big Spring in 1953 from Sanger. Mrs. Pate was a homemaker. Marie was a Baptist.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Joey and Carol Pate of Big Spring; a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Larry Knox of Waco; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; one brother, Parker Flanagan of Ponca City, Okla.; and two sisters, Johnnie Melton of Granbury and Jeanie Anderson of Arlington.

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)

### Albert C. Pettus

Albert C. Pettus, 91, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Don McKinney

Don McKinney, 82, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Sotero Cerna

Sotero Cerna, 70, died Monday, Dec. 15, 2008, at Stanton Care Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 50-23-13-16-36-35.  
Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-5-16-27-12.  
Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: \$12,581  
Winning tickets sold in: Brownsville, Houston

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

5-1-3-4. Sum It Up: 13

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

3-3-2. Sum It Up: 8



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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- SIMON JACOB ARENEVAS, 18, of 2603 Ent Dr., was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication and consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- ANTONIO GARCIA JR., 20, of 1208 Wood St., was arrested Sunday on nine local warrants.
- JOSHUA LYNN HOLDMAN, 21, of 2508 Hunter, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- DAVID GOMEZ, 28, of 818 W. Eighth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon – family violence.
- JOHNNY CANTU, 36, of 605 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Sunday on a warrant.
- RICHARD LEE OLIVAS, 21, of Waco, was arrested Sunday on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information, possession of marijuana – two ounces or less, theft and failure to appear.
- ERNEST CLARK, 68, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 700 block of Bell.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WITH A VEHICLE was reported in the 300 block of San Jacinto.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
  - in the 1100 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - in the 1200 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - in the 1100 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - in the 2500 block of Monticello.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
  - in the 2100 block of Carl.
  - in the 2500 block of Langley.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of Douglas.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR was reported in the 800 block of Scurry.
- FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS was reported in the 2900 block of Cherokee.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 800 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 800 block of Eighth Street.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3100 block of Hamilton. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of W. Eighth Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Meadowbrook. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Sycamore. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3700 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Tucson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Pettus Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of South Avenue in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of S. Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported near the intersection of Gregg Street and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Take Note

• Donnavan J. Silvas, 1, of Big Spring, died Friday, Dec. 5, 2008, in a local hospital. The parents are in need of help with burial expenses. All donations can be made at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Big Spring.

• The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

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## Your Local Weather

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<b>60/44</b>	<b>67/56</b>	<b>71/40</b>	<b>66/37</b>	<b>61/21</b>
Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High near 60F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.	Cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 50s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 20s.

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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](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

### TODAY

- 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.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.
- Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.
- The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.

## Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 68 inmates at the time of this report.

- ROBERT RAMIREZ GONZALES, 43, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- WILLIAM KYLE DUGAN, 19, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ALBERT RIVAS, 50, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order.
- STEVEN RAY CROFT, 30, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a building.
- BENJAMIN DEANDA III, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of theft of service.
- RANDAL KIRK KIRKHAM, 18, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of no driver's license, disregarding a stop sign (two counts) and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.
- DENNIS RAY BUCHANAN, 42, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- GUSTAVO CHON MARQUEZ, 48, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- BRIANNA GRAHAM, 28, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- HAYLEA NICOLE HODNETT, 17, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of driving under the influence by a minor, minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage and driving while license invalid – mandatory conviction for possession.
- ERLINDA EVETTE RIOS, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- NAOMI TREVINO, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- HEFFRON HEREDIA YANEZ, 39, was arrested Saturday on a charge of violation of parole – driving while intoxicated.
- JANETTE MARIE LOYA, 38, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of theft.
- RANDY EUGENE SPARKS, 37, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of driving while license invalid, open container, violation of a promise to appear (two counts), ride not secured by safety belt, expired driver's license and unsafe speed.
- MONICA NICOLE RIVERA, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- BOE LEWIS PAYNE, 26, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of assault causing bodily injury – family violence and public intoxication.
- JOHNNY DELACRUZ JR., 28, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- JULIAN CONTRERAS-GARCIA, 27, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of driver's license, expired registration, no insurance and no seat belt.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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# COYOTES

Continued from Page 1B

Woodson finally found some success on the ground in the second half, changing their scheme from a spread offense to a tighter formation. The Cowboys took the opening drive for their first and only score of the game as Jared Hutchens punched it in from 2 yards out.

However, the most pivotal coaching decision of the second half came just before play restarted. Borden County

had deferred after winning the toss at the start of the game, giving them the right to choose possession or which side it would defend beginning the second half.

A strong wind was blowing out of the south and Borden County Head Coach decided he wanted the wind at his back in the fourth quarter. It paid dividends, allowing the Coyotes to focus solely on the Cowboys run game in the final quarter as the gust in their face prevented them from throwing the ball.

Cooley added touchdown runs of 61 and 48 in the third quarter. The game

ended midway through the fourth due to the 45-point mercy rule, courtesy of a 52-yard fumble return by John Hensley.

The Coyotes finish the season with a 14-0 record and are the only undefeated team in either division of six-man football in the state.

<b>Woodson</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0-8</b>
<b>Borden Co.</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14-54</b>
<b>1st quarter</b>				
BC - Michael Cooley	5			run (Flynn Chapman kick), 5:36
BC - Cooley	17			run (Chapman kick), 2:49
<b>2nd quarter</b>				
BC - Cooley	66			run (Chapman kick), :56
<b>3rd quarter</b>				

W - Jared Hutchens 2 run, (Cortez kick), 8:45  
BC - Cooley 61 run (Chapman kick), 7:57  
BC - Cooley 48 run (Chapman kick), 1:39

**4th quarter**  
BC - Austin Fields 4 pass from Valentine (Chapman kick), 8:39  
BC - John Hensley 52 fumble return (No PAT)

**Individual statistics**  
**Rushing:** Woodson - Jared Hutchens 15-71, Caleb Hagle 13-67, Levi Smith 1-9, Chris Clark 1-5, Alex Cortez 2-(-6), Spencer Clark 2-(-21); Borden County - Michael Cooley 22-268, Flynn Chapman 4-39, Austin Fields 3-26, Miles Valentine 4-(-14).  
**Passing:** Woodson - S. Clark 9-13-0 73, Hutchens 1-4-1 39; Borden County - Valentine 1-2-1 4, Cooley 0-1-0 0.  
**Receiving:** Woodson - Randy Sullivan 4-48, Hagle 2-40, Hutchens 3-19, Ryan Sullivan 1-5; Borden County - Austin Fields 1-4.

# HOOPTOWN

Continued from Page 1B

physical," Coahoma Head Coach Randal Petty said. "We got a bit frustrated and got the technical called on the bench. After that I wasn't allowed to leave my seat and it's hard to coach from there."

With the score sitting 41-31 late in the fourth quarter, the Bulldogettes finally found their groove running off a 10-2 run in the final five minutes, ending when Kylie Gee pulled down an offensive rebound and put back. The bucket pulled the Bulldogettes to within 3, 41-38, with six seconds left on the clock.

Shelbi Paige tied up the ball on the inbounds pass, resulting in a Lady Jackets turnover with three seconds left.

It was not to be, though, as senior Ashley Montoya stepped in front of the pass intended for Paige, forcing the Bulldogettes to foul the 5'2 guard. Montoya iced the game from there sinking both shots from the charity stripe to give Kermit the win.

"We called a timeout after we got the ball back and I asked the girls if they wanted to go for the three or try to get the two and hope for the foul and the said they wanted to get the three," Petty said. "We usually shoot the three real well so I thought it was a safe play. Unfortunately, we turned the ball over and that was the end of the game."

Gee led the Bulldogettes scoring 15 with Berkley Iden adding 11. Lucinda Quiroz had a game high 16 points for Kermit.

<b>Kermit</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14-43</b>
<b>Bulldogettes</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17-38</b>
Coahoma - Kylie Gee 15, Berkley Iden 11,				

K'Leigh Fowler 7, Hilari White 3, Alex Moore 2; Kermit - Lucinda Quiroz 16, Ashley Montoya 13, Jazmine Saucedo 6, Emily Etheridge 5, Lucero Porras 2, Jennifer Muniz 2, Lauren Nutt 2, Ravyn Marshall 2.

## Bulldogs 69, Sands 33

The Coahoma Bulldogs rebounded from their poor performance Friday night to win the third place game in Stanton's Hooptown Classic running away from the Sands Mustangs, 69-33.

After the two teams fought to a 14-13 Bulldogs advantage after the first quarter, Coahoma finally found the offense Head Coach Kim Nichols had been looking for the past week.

"We finally went out and played a game like we are capable of," Nichols said. "We ran our offense, didn't take bad shots and played solid on the defensive end."

The Bulldogs served notice in the

second that the Mustangs were fighting an uphill battle as they ripped off an 18-3 run in the stanza to enter the second half, doubling up the Mustangs, 32-16.

The third proved to be more of the same as the Bulldogs exploded for 27 points, moving ahead by 32 entering the final quarter of play.

Cody Sheppard and Josh Paniagua led all scorers with 15 apiece while Xavier Elizondo scored 13 for Sands.

The win gave Coahoma third place at the Hooptown Classic.

District foe Wall won the tournament, defeating Reagan County, 43-37, in the final.

<b>Coahoma</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10-69</b>
<b>Sands</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6-33</b>
Coahoma - Josh Paniagua 15, Cody Sheppard 15, Isaac Garcia 12, Jovi Paniagua 11, Braden Griffin 6, Karly Green 3, Matthew Taylor 3, Ray Gutierrez 2, Hunter Williams 2. Sands - Xavier Elizondo 13, Seth Fry 11, Ethan Zant 7, Johnny Rogers 2				

# LETTERS TO SANTA

## Don't Miss This Section Sunday, December 21, 2008

### Area Schools Students, Submit Their Letters To Santa Claus

**"DEADLINE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008"**

**Advertisers, Don't Be Left Out!**

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good most of this year. Will you wake me up when you come? I have a gift for the raindeer. I have something for the raindeer. Can you bring a football for another so he can stop a mine? I sent 2 stuff I want you Santa.

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the gifts that I got last year. I still have most of them. I'd like a puppy, a game and a new bike. If you want to bring more stuff it's ok with me. I know I sent a letter before but this new list is what I really want. Thank you Santa.

With Love,  
Sam

# COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

players on the field and the preparation you put in."

For the record, Romo's first pass was intended for Witten, an incomplection. Owens dropped a catchable deep ball on the next play, drawing more boos like he got during pregame introductions.

But on third-and-9 with 3 minutes left, Witten caught a short pass from Romo and surged ahead for the extra yards to get a first down. T.O. was there for a celebratory fist-bump, and Tashard Choice ran 38 yards for the game-clinching touchdown on the next play.

The Cowboys (9-5) moved to the top of the NFC wild-card standings heading into their Texas Stadium finale

Saturday night against Baltimore.

"It was just something we had to deal with," said Owens, no stranger to controversy. "We just stuck together. We knew what was important and that was the game today."

New York (11-3) locked up the NFC East title last Sunday, but has lost consecutive games for the first time since starting 0-2 last season. Both losses have come since star receiver Plaxico Burress accidentally shot himself in the leg and was lost for the season. Still, New York can clinch the NFC's top playoff seed by winning at home Sunday night against Carolina.

"I'm disappointed, a little frustrated, but not concerned," said Manning, who was 18-of-35 for 191 yards with two interceptions. "We have to get back to playing good football. We'll have our hands full. The defense is playing well, but offensively we're not doing our part."

# Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,  
This year I have a good girl.

*A Keepsake Section  
Of Holiday Wishes From  
the kids who can't wait for  
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**Publication Date: Sunday Dec. 21st  
Advertising Deadline: Wed. Dec. 17th**

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### Ousting Gov. Rod Blagojevich high on legislators' to-do-list

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Republicans and Democrats alike are calling for Illinois lawmakers to begin impeachment proceedings against Gov. Rod Blagojevich, saying the step is necessary to restore public confidence in state government.

"The General Assembly must move to impeach Rod Blagojevich immediately," said DuPage County State's Attorney Joe Birkett, a potential Republican candidate for governor in 2010.

"We should have started yesterday," agreed Rep. Jack Franks, a Democrat.

Legislators were to meet Monday afternoon for the first time since Blagojevich was arrested last week on charges he shook down businesses seeking state deals and tried to profit from his power to choose a replacement for President-elect Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat.

The session's focus was supposed to be about considering a special election, but impeachment is likely to be the chief topic of conversation.

### Gap in black and white colon cancer deaths widens, report says

ATLANTA (AP) — The racial gap in colon cancer death rates is widening, a new report says, and experts partly blame blacks' lower screening rates and poor access to quality care.

Colon and rectal cancer death rates are now nearly 50 percent higher in blacks than in whites, according to American Cancer Society research being released Monday.

The gap has been growing since the mid-1970s, when colon cancer death rates for the two racial groups were nearly equal.

"We have seen this enormous progress in whites. We could be seeing the same progress in blacks, if we could overcome disparities in access to health care," said Elizabeth Ward, who oversees surveillance and health policy at the cancer society.

Colorectal cancer is the third leading cancer killer in the United States. About 50,000 Americans will die of the disease this year, the cancer society estimates.



Courtesy photo/Lane Bond

Roger Albertson presents a program to Big Spring Art Association members.

## BODY

Continued from Page 1A

According to Everett, the gun Welch is believed to have gone missing with was recovered near the body.

"The remains were decomposed, but items found with the body indicate it is Welch," said

Everett. "Justice of the Peace Benny Green pronounced death and ordered an autopsy, which will be performed in Lubbock. Evidence at the scene suggests Welch took his own life. A .38 caliber handgun was found near the body, which was located three-quarters of a mile to a mile northeast of where his vehicle was found in October."

At the time of Welch's disappearance, police officials said it

was likely he hitched a ride on Interstate Highway 20 or jumped a train leaving Big Spring.

Everett said the case will remain open until the autopsy is completed and a final ruling on the cause of death is made by Green.

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

## Club News

### Big Spring Art Association

The Big Spring Art Association met Nov. 18 for its monthly meeting in the basement of the Howard County Library. A regular business meeting was held and then Roger Albertson presented the evening's program. Roger has a master's degree plus 70 hours and is a retired art teacher from Illinois. His program was on "Perspective." He gave a great presentation, and 'tested' the group at the end. It was fun association members all came away a new way to look at their art.

Tuesday, the BSAA will hold its annual Christmas party. This

year the host and hostess will be Bruce and Belle Schooler. The party will be held at their studio/home, located at 6414 S. Service Rd., Big Spring. All members will bring finger foods, and a small "art" gift to exchange at the party. Visitors are welcome to come and meet everyone and find out more about the art association.

Monthly meetings are held at the Howard County Library, in the basement, the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. All artists and those who love art are invited.

## COOK-OFF

Continued from Page 1A

most important things to keep in mind when hosting a chili cook-off," said Sturdivant, who also serves as chief operating officer for West Texas Centers for MHMR.

The event benefits the West Texas Centers for MHMR Children In Need Fund and is sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Proceeds from the tasting and entry fees benefit the fund, which helps purchase school supplies, clothing, tuition for summer camps and helps meet other financial needs of special children who are receiving services from West Texas Centers for MHMR.

The Eagles group has donated more than \$30,000 to the fund through its chili cook-offs over the past six years, West Texas Centers CEO Shelley Smith, LMSW, said.

"These funds have been instrumental in

helping to address the unmet financial needs of children with mental illness and emotional disorders in West Texas," Sturdivant said.

"These funds help the kids whose parents can't afford the specialized camps or other items that the kids need. Without the funds raised by the Eagles, most of these children and adolescents would go without these needs being met. The funding is absolutely critical to these kids."

Cooking begins at 8 a.m. Judging begins at 11:30 a.m., and sampling begins soon afterward.

"Most people who attend chili cook-offs do so to sample the culinary skills of all the cooks, but watching the rivalry and competition among the cooks is downright entertaining," Sturdivant said.

"It's a great time to meet up with good friends, have a lot of laughs and eat some of the best chili in Texas."

Those who have attended past chili cook-offs, but never stirred a pot of chili at a cook-

off should take the first step at the January event, Sturdivant said. "It's very low key and there are a lot of people around who can help you out. And it's for a good cause."

It's really not as difficult as some people think, he said.

"Anyone can participate in a chili cook-off. All you need is the proper cooking equipment, ingredients and a great recipe. All of these items vary, as much as the taste of the chili. Some cooks bring their state-of-the-art kitchens that they have taken years to build on a trailer. Yet, others only need only to bring an electric skillet and grandma's recipe to cook up an award-winning pot of Texas chili."

Team ribbons will be presented to the top 10 finishers. A showmanship award also will be presented.

Team participation is limited to two members at a cost of \$10 a team. Entry into the event is \$5 a person, which includes tasting all entries.

For more informa-

coats, shoes, gloves and scarves; hair dryers and electric razors; as well as lotions, perfumes and colognes.

First Bank of West Texas has locations at 607 S. Scurry, 1810 E. FM 700 and 500 W. Broadway in Coahoma. Lobby hours

are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information on the program, contact Barton at 432-684-3201.

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

## STAR

Continued from Page 1A

ton. "The stars will have the client's first name and requested gift. Each gift that is purchased for the elderly or disabled clients needs to be returned to the bank.

"The elderly and disabled people APS serves are our neighbors and part of our communities. Each are special and unique. This is everyone's chance to contribute to a project that makes everyone feel like a star."

Barton said among the items being requested are blankets for those who have little or no heat in their homes; portable electric heaters; small kitchen appliances and pots and pans; clothes, such as pajamas, robes and slippers,

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EXP. 12/30/08

## MEISER

Continued from Page 1A

to 1974. He was an air traffic controller during the Vietnam War.

A reception in his hon-

or will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday in the museum briefing room. The public is invited.

Hangar 25 Air Museum is located at 1911 Apron Drive.

For more information, call 264-1999.

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Sotero Cerna, 70, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**2008**

**YEAR IN REVIEW**

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

**Ron Midkiff**  
Publisher

**John A. Moseley**  
Managing Editor

**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## OTHER VIEWS

# Putting polish on Lady Justice

In March 2005, a month after Alberto Gonzales became U.S. attorney general, Justice Department staffers sent to the White House a chart ranking all 93 U.S. attorneys in terms of their allegiance to President George W. Bush and his administration.

On that chart, Patrick J. Fitzgerald, the U.S. attorney for Northern Illinois, was ranked somewhere in the middle, below those federal prosecutors who exhibited loyalty to the administration but above the "weak U.S. attorneys who ... chafed against administration initiatives."

Two U.S. attorneys who got the same ranking as Fitzgerald later were fired in a White House political purge of nine federal prosecutors. Fitzgerald, who was serving a dual role at the time as special counsel into the leak of CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity, was insulated from the firings.

That proved to be a bad break for I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, the former chief of staff to Vice President Dick Cheney who was sentenced to 2½ years in prison for his role in outing Plame, and for then-New York Times reporter Judith Miller, who spent 85 days in jail for refusing to cooperate with Fitzgerald's single-minded pursuit of the truth.

On Tuesday, it also became a bad break for Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, whom Fitzgerald charged with conspiracy and corruption for acts that reek of sleaze and stupidity.

That Fitzgerald survived the Bush administration's attempts to politicize the Justice Department turned out to be a break for the people of Illinois, who now have yet another golden opportunity to clean up the state's culture of corruption.

It is also a break for the Justice Department's 113,000 employees: Fitzgerald and his assistants and investigators put a little polish back on Lady Justice and her scales, which had been badly tarnished by people that one of Gonzales' flunkies called "loyal Bushies."

Newspaper reporters and prosecutors don't always see eye-to-eye, perhaps because both professions can attract obsessive people with chips on their shoulders. As Fitzgerald said to reporters Tuesday, "I will say this: As you guys know, you guys are in the information business of getting it and publishing it, and we're in the information business of getting it and using it."

Some journalists thought Fitzgerald went too far when he jailed Miller and threatened to jail other reporters who refused to cooperate in the Plame investigation.

Nor does Fitzgerald seem to care very much about politics. In New York, where he prosecuted mobsters and terrorists before Bush appointed to him to the job in Chicago in 2001, he was registered as in "Independent" until he found out that in New York, "Independent" is the name of a political party.

He put a Republican governor, George Ryan, in prison and now aims to do the same with a Democratic governor. He's received publicity and attention that any politician would kill for. He has been mentioned as a possible successor to Robert S. Mueller when the head of the FBI retires and even as a possible attorney general. Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, a Democrat, wants him to remain as U.S. attorney in Chicago, and senators from the president's party generally get their way.

If Fitzgerald truly wants to clean up Illinois, he'd run for governor in 2010. We don't care if he's a Republican or a Democrat, a Whig or a Vegetarian. We'd just like to watch the panic in Springfield.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

# Draw the line on bailouts

If our government's economic experts really knew what they were doing, they wouldn't be frenetically experimenting with the people's money, treating billions like nickels. They wouldn't be so hellbent on dampening expectations and instilling fear as if oblivious to the real impact of public psychology on the economy.

I'm just not buying their doomsaying anymore. Even if they're right and we do end up in a full-scale financial meltdown, at least it will be finite and America's best days will still be ahead of us. But if we don't stop this panic-driven government intervention madness now, the chances are we'll still face a major meltdown and pass the point of no return into the bottomless pit of socialism.

The auto bailout and future proposed gargantuan government interventions must be rejected.

Government bailout architects ominously warned that unless we adopted their original "\$700 billion" bailout proposal to purchase distressed mortgage assets, we'd face catastrophic economic consequences rivaling or exceeding the Great Depression.

Just weeks later, these same architects betrayed their own warnings and said their do-or-die plan would not work after all. Buying the troubled assets wouldn't inject capital into the banks quickly enough, so instead the government would have to distribute the money directly to major financial institutions.

But whatever happened to the government's mollifying assurance that if we pursued the original asset purchase plan, which involved buying the assets at a bargain, taxpayers might even make money on the deal? How about its promise that its involvement would be short-term? Obviously, the government's promises were more short-lived than its intervention. Predictably, all kinds of sup-

plicants showed up at government's doorstep looking for their own "rescue" funds. And we're just getting warmed up.

While Congress probably never should have authorized the original bailout plan, there is at least a plausible rationale to draw the line in the sand now. As others have noted, most bailouts to date have been to the financial sector. But once we open the door to the automakers, on what non-arbitrary basis do we deny future private industry petitioners, especially when their collective failure could arguably have a major impact on the economy?

Free market capitalism is obviously not perfect, but it's the least imperfect economic system, and its pricing mechanism does an infinitely better job of allocating resources and rationally picking winners and losers than government planners could do, even if they had the foresight of Nostradamus on his best day.

Keynesian interventionist types insist that the intrinsic weaknesses of capitalism require large-scale government interventions from time to time, such as FDR's New Deal. Nonsense. While there are certainly cyclical ups and downs inherent in market economies, there is usually scant justification for such major government adjustments.

Indeed, but for liberally biased historians, we'd understand that FDR's actions exacerbated and prolonged the Great Depression and that Obama's planned New Deal would do likewise. The financial meltdown was not caused primarily by too much capitalism but reckless government policies that interfered with the market's pricing mechanism, such as mandating uncreditworthy real estate loans.

Even if we draw the bailout line now, we must understand that we've still seen an enormous government intervention under a Republican president's watch, which will make future bailout proposals difficult to credibly oppose.

Some contend there is a silver lining in these bailouts, namely that their inevitable failure will teach the lesson that they don't work and cause our rededication

to market principles.

But this ignores that a large percentage of the political class has no fealty to market principles. The Harry Reids and Nancy Pelosis of the world are licking their lips in anticipation of the opportunities for government intervention this crisis presents, as Obama's chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel, brazenly admitted.

In the typically arrogant spirit of social planners, they are poised to micromanage an industry they know less about than they know about balancing the federal budget. Worse still, they refuse to divorce their self-assigned mission of restoring financial stability to the industry from their policy and political goals of imposing environmental mandates and protecting their union voting constituencies.

It's time to take our medicine, even if that means bankruptcy and the restructuring of an industry whose wages have long defied market standards. Any resulting hardships are sad and troubling, but the alternative is worse.

If we don't stop this runaway freight train now, there might be no extricating ourselves from the government planning model, which would be disastrous for America's unique and world-leading prosperity and liberty.

Conservatives better start screaming bloody murder, or the market enemies soon to dominate two of the three branches of the federal government with a lust for the third could build a socialist momentum that would be difficult to restrain, much less reverse.

Enough is enough.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His book "Bankrupt: The Intellectual and Moral Bankruptcy of Today's Democratic Party" was released recently in paperback. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com). To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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# Free the California 52,000?

A panel of three federal judges is holding a trial to determine whether to free 52,000 of California's 172,000 prison inmates to alleviate overcrowding. You might be asking yourself: Who elected these guys to run California?

One of the three judges, U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson, determined in 2005 that California's prison health care system is so bad that it's unconstitutional. He put the system in receivership and appointed law professor Clark Kelso to oversee prison health care.

Now Kelso is demanding \$8 billion to renovate the system — even though the state is spending about \$14,000 on health care per inmate, according to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. (California's total health care spending was \$169 billion in 2006, the California Medical Association's Ned Wigglesworth told me, which divided by 37 million comes to about \$4,600 per head — or a third of what is spent on the incarcerated.)

Here's the unfunny funny part: Criminal Justice Legal Foundation President Michael Rushford recently figured out that inmates live longer on the inside than on the outside, and they live longer on the inside than outsiders live. He found a study, "Release

from Prison — A High Risk of Death for Former Inmates," published last year in the New England Journal of Medicine, which shows that the mortality rate for Washington state inmates spiked more than 1,200 percent in the first two weeks after their release, and averaged 386 percent higher than inmates in prison during the two years after release.

The study also found that Washington inmates have a lower mortality rate than the general population. In that Washington state inmates have a mortality rate very close to the California rate, Rushford figured that the judges should beware that by releasing 52,000 prisoners, more inmates will die.

As the New England Journal study noted, "the risk of death was sharply higher after release than during incarceration." The leading cause of death for released inmates was drug overdose, followed by cardiovascular disease, homicide, suicide, cancer and motor vehicle accidents.

Apparently prison — even prisons with shabby health facilities — provides a healthier environment than what most criminals are used to. Behind bars, there are fewer ways to be self-destructive — and there's health care.

I do not intend to make light of any substandard medical care in California prisons. Henderson found California penal health care to be so "fraught with medical neglect and malfeasance" as to be unconstitutional. He cited filthy conditions and poor hygiene practices — including

a San Quentin dentist "who neither washed his hands nor changed his gloves after treating patients into whose mouths he had placed his hands." Ugh. (If this were a "Law & Order" episode, prosecutors would have charged the dentist with a crime — and rightly so.)

The good news is that after Henderson stepped in, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger worked to improve the prison health care system and poured money into the effort, with results to show for it. A 2007 analysis of prison deaths for Kelso reported that a number of health workers left the system, while state prisons hired board-certified professionals.

Does Kelso understand that 47 percent of the California prison population are repeat violent offenders, 33 percent are repeat offenders and many of the rest are first-time felons who committed serious crimes against people, like rape and murder? Do the three judges? As the Associated Press reported, one of the three, U.S. District Judge Lawrence Karlton of Sacramento, asked recently, "In the long run, does it make any difference to public safety if we release them 60 days earlier?"

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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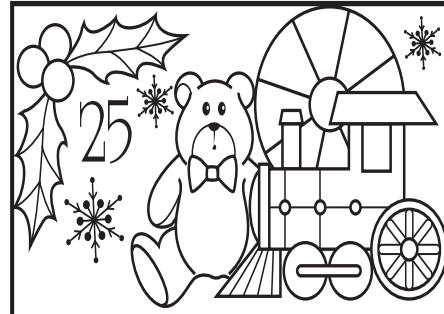
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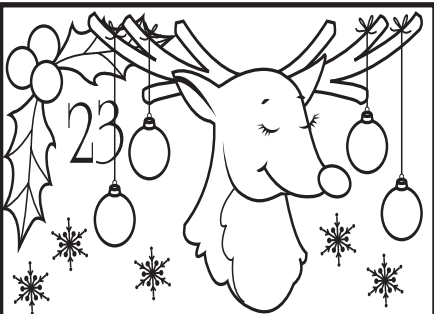
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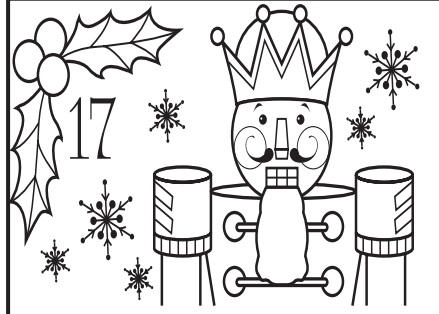
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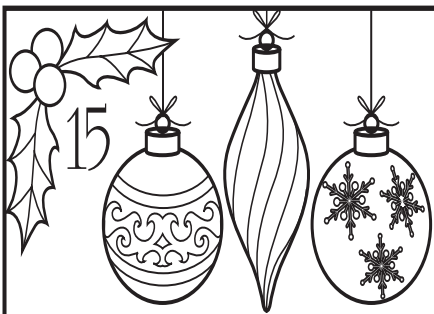
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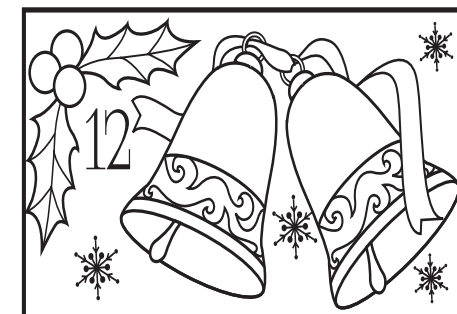
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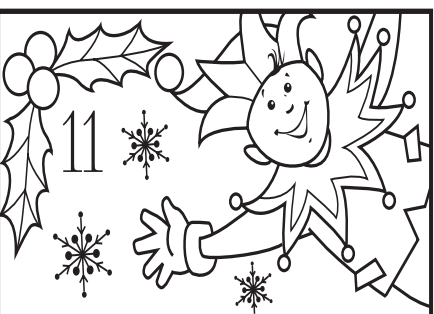
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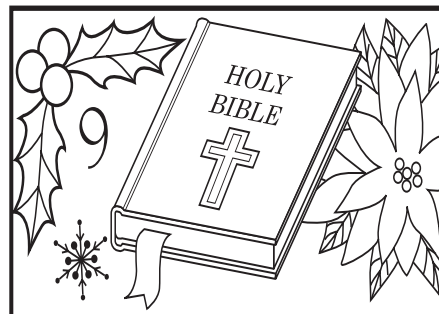
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County Attorney Mike Thomas, right, and Sheriff Dale Walker enjoy an afternoon with fellow county employees during a farewell party held in their honor recently at the County Courthouse.

Courtesy photo



# Making the most of your doctor's visit

Visiting the doctor can be an intimidating experience, whether your appointment is for a routine check-up from your family physician or for evaluation of a more complex problem with a specialist. No matter how prepared you think you are, several factors can determine how you feel about the quality of your time with your doctor and the outcome of your visit: the reason for the visit, your doctor's communication style, and the amount of time you spend in the waiting room before your visit, to name a few. Your health history and attitude toward your health can also influence your feelings about a doctor's visit.



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Most of us prepare for a doctor's visit much the same way: checking with our health insurance company to determine coverage, co-payments and necessary referrals; making sure we have insurance cards in hand; and, if our visit is problem-focused, researching symptoms through discussions with friends and family or on the Internet. But there's much more you can do to make sure your visit is a success.

It's important to be prepared with questions – and not be afraid to ask those questions. Although communication styles vary, your physician is there to serve your interests and make sure that you are informed. However, your physician isn't a mind reader; be prepared with any questions or concerns. Write them down so that you don't forget them once you're in the exam room.

Remember that you and your doctor are partners in your health care. Your preparation and participation are important determinants in how successful your visit will be.

Here are a few tips for guaranteeing that your next visit is informative and productive:

Keep your own medical journal at home. This means keep a log of the following: questions you have; a food and exercise diary; over-the-counter and prescription medications (including dosage) and herbal supplements; as well as symptoms you have/are experiencing, along with descriptions and dates/times of those symptoms. Review this information while you're in the waiting room so that it's fresh on your mind.

Bring blank paper to your visit to make notes during your appointment for later review.

Have a friend or family member to accompany you on your visit. Often, they can remember details that you may not recall.

If you anticipate that there may be a language barrier with your doctor, bring along someone who is proficient in medical terminology who can interpret for you.

Bring any magazine articles that pertain to your health condition, if you would like to ask your doctor about similar cases and treatment options covered in the article.

Ask the doctor what your exact diagnosis is, the recommended treatment plan, and when he/she would like to see you again (or if a visit to a specialist is needed). Don't be intimidated by medical jargon. Ask your doctor to explain things to you in easy-to-understand terms and don't be afraid to ask the doctor to repeat instructions or answers you don't understand.

Be an involved and informed healthcare consumer. Being prepared – and knowing how to talk to your doctor – will help you make the most of your time there and gain maximum benefit from his or her guidance. And remember, your relationship with your physician should be a partnership, not a dictatorship. If you are unhappy with explanations of your diagnosis or treatment plan, let your physician know. If your concerns aren't remedied, consider a second opinion. Our job is to insure quality of care and peace of mind. Make sure you get both.

## Just In Time For The Holidays

### Record a Holiday Greeting Video To Be Posted at [bigspringherald.com](http://bigspringherald.com)

For only \$25, record a 30 second Video Greeting

For more information Contact: Kim Klug @ 263-7331  
[www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

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Whew! How the time really flew...We wish each of you the best the coming season can bring ... and now you can delivery best wishes to each of your customers and save money, too.

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Pickups  
**Half Price**  
as often as you'd like  
December

**DEADLINE: 12-17-2008**

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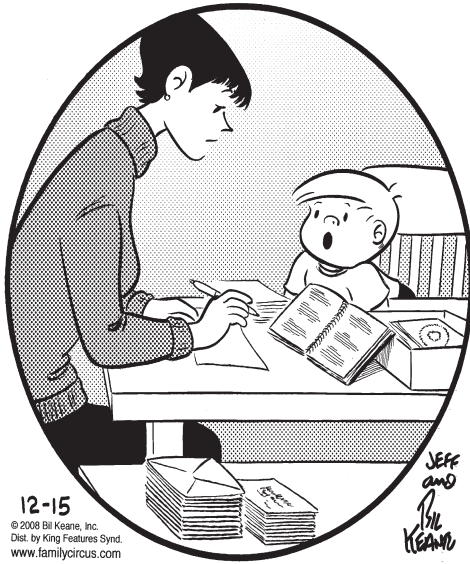
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Raymond	CCM	BBC	Cash Cab	Kevin Bacon	CSI: NY	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazonas	News NBC	Friends	Granger	Business	Cash Cab		CSI: NY	Law & Order		Suite Life
7 :PM	Entertain Charlie Brown	Fortune Charlie Brown	Cuidado-Angel	Two Men	Entertain Sarah Connor	Entertain	Millionaire	Seinfeld	News-Lehrer	News-Lehrer	Made					Montana
8 :PM	Charlie Brown	Charlie Brown	Cuidado-Angel	Two Men	Big Bang How I Met	Doña Barbara	Chuck	Fam. Guy	Israel	Antiques Roadshow	Jesus-Complete	Movie: A Christmas Carol	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: Three Can Play That Game	Movie: Stuart Little 2
9 :PM	20/20	20/20	Fuego en la Sangre	Prison Break	Two Men Worst	El Rostro de Analia	Heroes	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Basin	Jesus-Complete	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Law & Order		Wizards	
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Leverage	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	(-15) Movie: Prancer, Cloris Leachman	The Closer	Hatchett	Suite Life	
11 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones de	Tonight Show	Sex & Sex	Uri Harel	Smiley	Jesus-Complete	MAN	Without a Trace	Hatchett	Montana	
12 :AM	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Movie: A Time to Kill, Matthew McConaughey	Israel	(Off Air)	Jesus-Complete	(-45) Movie: A Christmas Carol	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace	Replace	
1 :AM	Paid	Basco	Clasicos	Friends	Entertain	Pagada	Poker After Dark	Light of the Southwest			Jesus-Complete	Deep Space 9	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WE HAD REALITY TV WHEN I WAS YOUNG." "IT WAS CALLED THE NEWS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I thought this was the year you were gonna address Christmas cards during summer vacation."

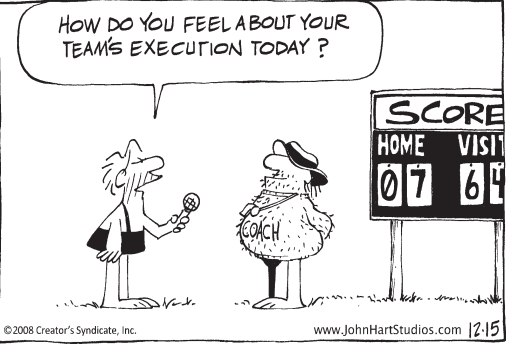
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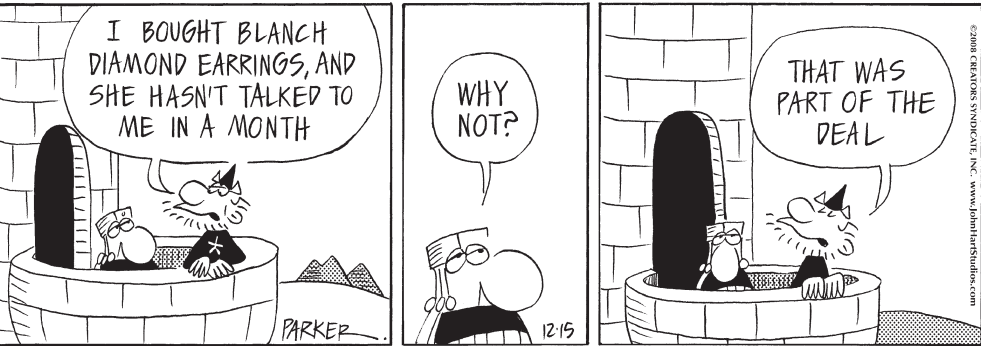
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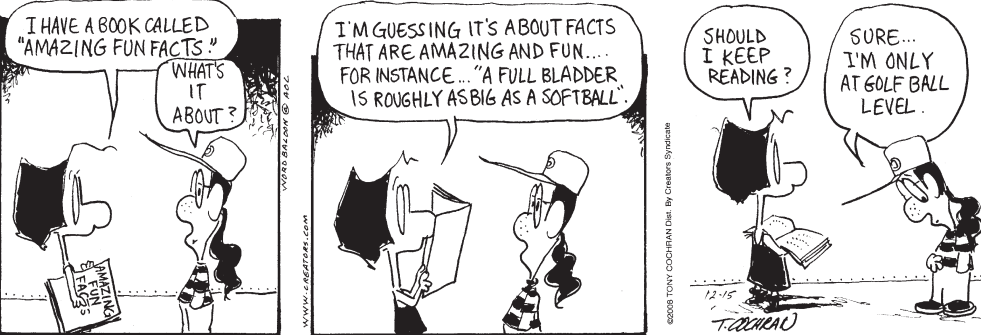
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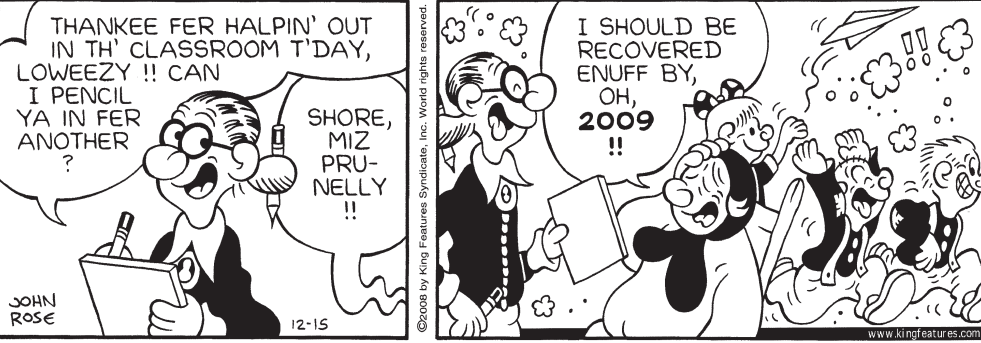
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 15, the 350th day of 2008. There are 16 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 15, 1791, the Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

On this date: In 1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, S.D., during a confrontation with Indian police.

In 1938, groundbreaking ceremonies for the Jefferson Memorial took place in Washington, D.C., with President Franklin D. Roosevelt taking part.

In 1939, the motion picture "Gone With the Wind" had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1944, a single-engine plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller, who was a major in the U.S. Army Air Forces, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

In 1944, during World War II, American forces invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines.

In 1948, former State Department official Alger Hiss was indicted by a federal grand jury in New York on charges of perjury. (He was convicted in 1950.)

In 1961, former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death by an Israeli court.

In 1964, Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design.

In 1965, two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini 6A and Gemini 7, maneuvered to within ten feet of each other while in orbit.

In 1978, Cleveland became the first major U.S. city since the Great Depression to default on its loans.

One year ago: Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf lifted a six-week-old state of emergency.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ernest Ashworth is 80. Actor-comedian Tim Conway is 75. Singer Cindy Birdsong (The Supremes) is 69. Rock musician Dave Clark (The Dave Clark Five) is 66. Rock musician Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge) is 62. Actor Don Johnson is 59. Movie director Julie Taymor is 56. Actor Justin Ross is 54. Rock musician Paul Simonon (The Clash) is 53. Country singer Doug Phelps (Brother Phelps; Kentucky Headhunters) is 48. Movie producer-director Reginald Hudlin is 47. Actress Helen Slater is 45. Actor Stuart Townsend is 36. "Crowd-hyper" Kito Trawick (Ghostown DJs) is 31. Actor Adam Brody is 29. Actor George O. Gore II is 27.

Thought for Today: "History is the record of an encounter between character and circumstances." — Donald Creighton, Canadian historian (1902-1979). © 2008 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

COARSE	OKLAHOMA
ANVILS	CHAPERON
STATES	TAPERING
SHIED	IONS
EEL	SLOBS
TRIG	ODE
TUNA	AIRIER
ENGLAND	NEEDFUL
BEEFUP	ERNE
MUGGER	ARE
INLET	TIERS
SPAN	CARD
TIRE	SOME
ELEVATES	INTROS
REDALERT	RESENT

Newsday Crossword

GET CREATIVE by Gail Grabowski  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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