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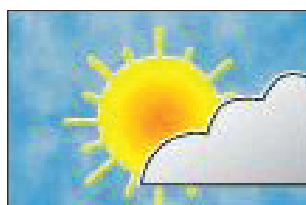
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# HIGH SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 18, 2008



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 15

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Investigators with the Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff's Office look for evidence and discuss the details of a shooting Wednesday afternoon in the 100 block of Lockhart. According to law enforcement officials, a Big Spring man allegedly shot himself during a pursuit with sheriff's deputies.

## Authorities: Bizarre death was suicide

### Texas Rangers called in to investigate incident

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

A Big Spring man was killed Wednesday afternoon by what authorities are saying was a self-inflicted gunshot wound, following a brief — and bizarre — foot chase.

Billie Odell Rawls, 61, was pronounced dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center Wednesday afternoon by a Howard County Justice of the Peace.

"Deputies were responding to a home in the 100 block of Lock-

hart, where a wanted individual was believed to be staying," said Howard County Chief Deputy Mark Hall. "While they were attempting to serve the warrant, they observed someone fleeing the residence."

Hall said deputies chased the then-unidentified man into the backyard of a nearby home.

"He was crouched down, hiding behind a block fence in the backyard of the residence," said Hall. "While the of-

See DEATH, Page 3A

## Big Spring men among those jailed in Lubbock

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Several alleged members of the Latin Kings street gang — including two Big Spring residents — were arrested in Lubbock over the weekend on drug charges.

Reynaldo Nava Jr., 27, of 1306 Mesa, and Carol Ann Rivas-Nava, 20, also of Big Spring, were among the six members of the Latin Kings street gang arrested by fed-

eral agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration on charges of conspiring to possess and distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine, according to complaints filed in criminal court earlier this week.

Federal agents also netted 30-year-old Jose Nava of Lubbock, believed to be the leader of the Texas faction of the Latin Kings; Marie Chavez, 28, of Lubbock; Luis Nava, of

Midland; and Cecily Juarez, of Midland.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, the Latin Kings are believed to be responsible for the May 4 slaying of a Big Spring woman and man in a drive-by shooting.

"We don't know that any one of the people arrested in Lubbock actually pulled the trigger in the May murders,"

said Everett. "However, they are part of the Latin Kings, and we know the Latin Kings were involved in the murder. So there's a definite connection there."

Valerie Garcia, 20, and Michael Cardona, 21, both of Big Spring, were pronounced dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center shortly after a drive-by shooting was reported at 905 E. 16th St. at 9:38 p.m. Sunday, May 4. Accord-

ing to police reports, Garcia was pregnant at the time of her death.

Also injured in the shooting were an unidentified 3-year-old girl, 19-year-old Philp Martinez, 21-year-old Daniel Rios and 21-year-old David Rios.

Everett said the Lubbock arrests may have a marked impact on violence reported

See JAILED, Page 3A

## Borrowers rushing to refinance loans as rates drop

By ALAN ZIBEL

AP Real Estate Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Homeowners around the country are scrambling to refinance their mortgages at the lowest rates since the early 1960s as the economy staggers through what's likely to be the worst recession in de-

cadec.

Mortgage brokers are already reporting a surge of calls from borrowers trying to take advantage of the Federal Reserve's extraordinary actions this week. Meanwhile, President-elect Barack Obama is laying the groundwork for a giant economic stimulus package, worth pos-

sibly \$850 billion over two years, which Democratic congressional leaders say could be passed within two weeks of Obama taking office.

The latest jobs data from the government showed that new claims for unemployment benefits dropped last week but remain near a 26-year high. The Labor Department

on Thursday said its tally of initial jobless benefit claims fell to a seasonally adjusted 554,000 from an upwardly revised figure of 575,000 the previous week. The new tally was slightly below economists' expectations of 558,000 claims.

Another slight improvement was seen in the number

of people who continue to receive jobless benefits, which declined to 4.38 million from 4.43 million the previous week. Economists expected a slight increase to 4.45 million.

Last week, the government said claims jumped by

See REFINANCE, Page 3A

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Find us online at:  
www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:  
Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**'Nutcracker Ballet'**

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra and Midland Festival Ballet will present Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

Tickets are available at the Chamber, Blum's Jewelers, the Big Spring Herald, Faye's Flowers, First Bank of West Texas and the Midland Festival Ballet.

7 Shopping Days Til Christmas

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**Veteran of the Month**

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

A reception in his honor will be held at 6 p.m. this evening in the museum briefing room. The public is invited.

Hangar 25 Air Museum is located at 1911 Apron Drive.

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### Saldivar, Hollandsworth receive AP All-State honors

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

One of the more successful seasons in the history of Big Spring Steers football received more notoriety Wednesday as seniors Cade Hollandsworth and Zack Saldivar were given honorable mention to the Class 4A Associated Press All-State team.

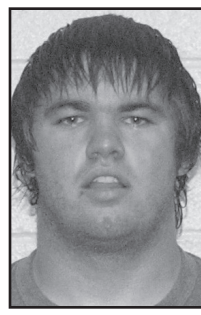
"This is a great honor for our team," said Big Spring Head Coach Phillip

Ritchey. "We made some noise in the playoffs this year. The deeper we got, the more recognition we received. These two guys getting noticed as some of the best players at their position in the state is just a result of that."



Saldivar

This is the second year in a row Hollandsworth received honorable mention on the all-state team. Last season, he made the list as a linebacker. However, it was his play at defensive end earning him recognition in 2008.



Hollandsworth

Hollandsworth's selection is a bit ironic because he wasn't even named to the first- or second-team in District 4-4A's awards due to missing the first three games of the district season with an injury.

"The only reason he didn't make all-district is because he missed three games with an injury," said Ritchey. "I still thought he was deserving to

See ALL-STATE, Page 2B

### Legendary QB Baugh dead at 94

Texas football, NFL icon passed away Wednesday

By BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — Slingin' Sammy Baugh, the ultimate three-way threat who revolutionized the use of the forward pass as a Hall of Fame quarterback for the Washington Redskins, died Wednesday night. He was 94.

Baugh, who had numerous health issues, died at Fisher County Hospital in Rotan, according to his son, David Baugh. He said his father had battled Alzheimer's disease and dementia for several years and recently had been ill with kidney problems, low blood pressure and double pneumonia.

"It wasn't the same Sam we all knew," his son told The Associated Press. "He just finally wore out."

Sammy Baugh was the last surviving member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame's inaugural class.

After starring at TCU, "Slingin' Sammy" played with the Redskins from 1937 to 1952, leading them to the NFL title in his rookie season and again in 1942.

Baugh was the best all-around player in an era when such versatility was essential. In 1943, he led the league in passing, punting and defensive interceptions. In one game, he threw four touchdown passes and intercepted four as well. He threw six touchdowns passes in a game twice. His 51.4-yard punting average in 1940 is still the NFL record.

"There's nobody any better than Sam Baugh was in pro football," Don Maynard, a fellow West Texas Hall of Famer who played for Baugh, said in a 2002 interview. "When I see somebody picking the greatest player around, to me, if they didn't go both ways, they don't really deserve to be nominated. I always ask, 'Well, how'd he do on defense? How was his punting?'"

When Baugh entered the NFL, the forward pass was so rare that it was unveiled mostly in desperate situa-



AP file photo

In this photo from Dec. 15, 1936, Sammy Baugh, backfield star of Texas Christian University, is demonstrating his sidestepping ability in Dallas. Baugh, who set numerous passing records with the Washington Redskins in an era when NFL teams were running most every down, died Wednesday night at the age of 94 at Fisher County Hospital in Rotan, according to his son, David. Baugh was suffering from numerous health issues.

tions. But Baugh turned the pass into a regular feature of the offensive game plan.

As a rookie in 1937, he completed a record 81 passes (about seven a game) and led the league with 1,127 yards. By contrast, only six quarterbacks averaged three completions a game that year. He went on to lead the league in passing six times.

Baugh still holds Redskins records for career touchdown passes (187) and completion percentage in a season (70.3). His 31 interceptions on defense are third on the team's career list.

"He was amazing, just tremendously accurate," Eddie LeBaron, who took over as Washington's quarterback in Baugh's last season, said in a 2002 interview. "He could always find a way to throw it off balance. I've seen him throw the ball overarm, sidearm and underarm and complete them."

Baugh guided the Redskins to five title games and two championships, playing his entire career without a face mask. His No. 33 is the only jersey Washington has retired.

See BAUGH, Page 2B

### Pacman back with Cowboys

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Once again, Adam "Pacman" Jones is back with the Dallas Cowboys.

Thought to be out for the season because of a neck injury, Jones returned to practice Wednesday and is expected to play Saturday night, both at cornerback and returning kicks, after missing only one game.

"It surprised everybody," coach Wade Phillips said. "He's got nine lives. Maybe he's got 18 lives."

Jones was injured two Sundays ago against Pittsburgh in his first game after a six-week suspension for violating the league's personal conduct policy. Tests showed a herniated disk and there was talk of shutting him down for the season.

The Cowboys didn't put Jones on injured reserve just in case he healed. Sure enough, doctors checked him out again this week and discovered he was healthy enough to play, prompting speculation this wasn't a new injury; perhaps he already had the herniation and it was merely aggravated against the Steelers.

"It just wasn't as bad as we thought," Phillips said. "Once it was treated, it was better. ... They said he's ready to go. He seems ready."

Said team owner Jerry Jones: "Our initial diagnosis there wasn't that encouraging that he'd get back this quickly. We're really excited about having him; we need him. I don't know that we could have added anything personnel-wise that gives a lift like having him in the secondary."

Dallas (9-5) plays Baltimore on Saturday night in a game between teams vying for wildcard berths in each conference. Having Jones back helps because it frees cornerback Anthony Henry to play more at safety, where the Cowboys are running out of healthy players. Starter Ken Hamlin didn't practice Wednesday and may not all week; he didn't practice last week, but played in the game. Fellow starting safety Keith Davis is fighting a variety of injuries, and their only backup, Tra Battle, strained a hamstring in the last game.

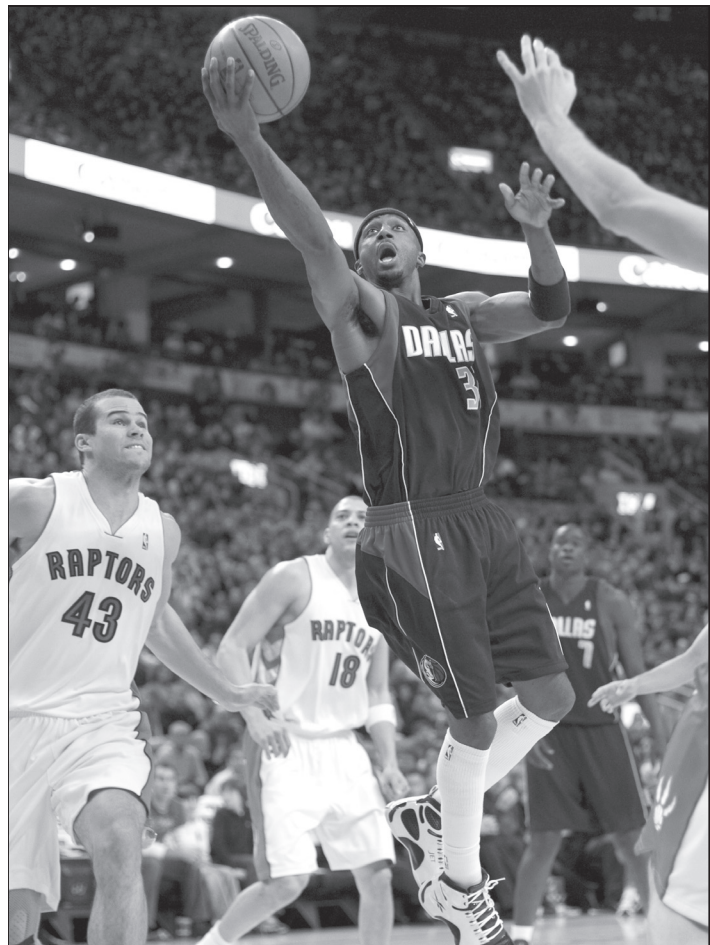
Quarterback Tony Romo practiced Wednesday despite his back being stiff and sore, but running back Marion Barber sat out because of his dislocated right pinkie toe.

Romo went through most of the workout and Phillips said Romo improved as he went along. Everyone seems confident he'll be ready to play against the Ravens in what also will be the Cowboys' last game at Texas Stadium.

"I'm sure it will be fine by Saturday," Romo said on a conference call with Baltimore reporters. "I think it's just part of playing football. Everyone gets banged up this time of year."

Barber was injured on Thanksgiving and missed the Pittsburgh game. He was a game-time decision Sunday night against the Giants and wound up gaining only 2 yards on eight carries. Phillips said Barber will be a game-time decision again.

"I think he's feeling better than he was last week at this time. That's a positive sign. But it's still early in the week," Phillips said.



AP photo/Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press

Dallas Mavericks guard Jason Terry drives to the basket as the Toronto Raptors' Kris Humphries (43) and Anthony Parker (18) look on during the first half of an NBA game in Toronto Wednesday.

### Nowitzki, Terry lead Mavs past Raptors

TORONTO (AP) — Down by 12 points after one quarter, the Dallas Mavericks knew better than to panic. Instead, they waited for the struggling Toronto Raptors to crack. It didn't take long.

Dirk Nowitzki had 27 points and 10 rebounds, and Jason Terry also scored 27 points in the Mavericks' 96-86 victory over the Raptors on Wednesday night.

"Dirk is having a great year," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "When he's dialed in, there's nobody better."

Josh Howard added 20 points for Dallas in his first start since Nov. 18. Howard, who came off the bench Monday night in a loss to Denver after missing 11 games because of a sprained ankle, scored Dallas' first nine points and had 11 in the first quarter.

Terry, who had seven rebounds and eight assists, said Howard's strong return

gave him more room to maneuver.

"With Josh out there, it just gives us another weapon," Terry said. "It's hard enough to stop Dirk by himself, but then you put (Howard) out there and now they forget about me."

Terry said the Mavericks were well aware of what happened to Toronto Monday, when the Raptors opened with a 16-2 run but missed 14 straight fourth quarter field goals in a loss to the Nets.

Against Dallas, Toronto was hot again in the early going, opening 16-for-24 and building a 33-21 lead after 12 minutes.

"We knew they blew a big lead the other night, so we didn't get down (after the first)," Terry said. "We just said 'Keep grinding. If we can put some doubt in their mind they may fold,' and that's what we were able to do in the second and third quarter."

## Obituaries

### Bertha Reyna

Mrs. David Reyna, nee Bertha Barrera of Floresville, passed away in the Regency Manor in Floresville Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008, at the age of 63 years.

Mrs. Bertha Reyna is survived by one daughter, two sons and spouses: John and Carol Brown of Kerrville, Brenda and Brian Ballard of Floresville, Fred Brown of Cibolo; four grandchildren: Joshua and Skylar Brown of Kerrville and Michael and Natasha Ballard of Floresville; and one sister: Benina Barrera of Fort Worth.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Julio and Inez Moncada Reyna; husband: David Reyna, who passed away May 13, 2008; one brother and one sister: Julio Barrera Jr. and Pricilla Reyna.

She was born July 4, 1945, in Big Spring.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008, in the chapel of the Schaeffer Funereal Home in Comfort with the Rev. Jim Cashin officiating. Graveside services preceded interment in the San Jose Cemetery.

Those who desire may make memorial contributions in her memory to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Notre Dame Catholic Church or to the charity of your choice.

Pallbearers were Albert Rodriguez, Buddy Rodriguez, Anthony Jones, Abraham Rodriguez, Siberio Martinez, Amor Galindo, Brian Ballard and Craig Henry.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Schaeffer Funeral Home of Comfort. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.schaeffer.com

*Paid obituary*

### Shirley Clay

Shirley Clay, 62, of Stanton died Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008, in a Stanton hospital. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton with Van Pendergrass, minister of Downtown Church of Christ in Stanton, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Shirley was born Sept. 21, 1946, in Big Spring.

She was a longtime resident of Stanton and had worked as an office manager for the Texas Department of Transportation for more than 20 years.

Survivors include two sons, Shane Clay and Shandall Clay, both of Stanton; one daughter, Shanna Helmer of Midland; one grandson; and one brother, Roger Graves of Midland.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Verbin and Faye Graves and one brother, Alfred Graves.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

### Billy Odell Rawls

Billy Odell Rawls, 61, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008 in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Support Groups

#### THURSDAY

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

#### FRIDAY

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

#### SATURDAY

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

#### SUNDAY

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

#### MONDAY

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

## Police blotter

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

- JOSE OLIVARES, 47, of 2000 S. Johnson, was arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.
- KAYLA OSBORNE, 18, address not provided, was arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.
- JOE HAYS, 52, of 1200 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- MARK STANLEY, 47, of Odessa, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ROBERT SANCHEZ, 44, of 423 Westover Rd., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHNNY TREVINO JR., 18, 3607 Hamilton, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of no driver's license.
- DANIEL FLORES, 40, of 1507 W. Fourth St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of assault – family violence.
- THEFT was reported: in the 3200 block of Fordham. in the 3600 block of Calvin.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: in the 1500 block of Wood. in the 1600 block of Harding.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1400 block of Sixth Street.

## Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 64 inmates at the time of this report.
- RICHARD LEE OLIVAS, 21, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of assault – family violence, violation of parole, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
  - HOMERO B. MENDOZA, 45, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of contempt of court – disobedience of a court order.
  - JODI LYNN MILLS, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft by check.
  - KEITH ANDREW HILARIO, 24, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of delivery of a controlled substance and manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.

## Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the Howard County line on N. Highway 87. Three people were transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported at Goliad Intermediate School. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of E. FM 700. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of W. 11<sup>th</sup> Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of Lockhart. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of N.W. Eighth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Indian Hills. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Goliad. Service refused.

## Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-3-25-24-32-23.

Number matching six of six: 0.

• Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-23-33-29-32.

Number matching five of five: 0.

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

7-0-9-0. Sum It Up: 16

• The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday afternoon by the Texas Lottery, in order:

0-7-8. Sum It Up: 15

## Your Local Weather

Fri 12/19	Sat 12/20	Sun 12/21	Mon 12/22	Tue 12/23
<b>71/47</b>	<b>72/25</b>	<b>47/24</b>	<b>53/35</b>	<b>66/32</b>
Partly cloudy. High 71F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 20s.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 20s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Partly cloudy and windy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 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**

#### TODAY

• 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 Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.

• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.

• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

#### FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

## 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 purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring Volunteer program today. We request potential volunteers not to volunteer for one year after a significant loss. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432)517-4073.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

• The Big Spring Salvation Army will be conducting free blood pressure and glucose screenings Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Army's Corps Building, located at 811 W. Fifth St. The screenings are being sponsored by In-Home Care. For more information, contact the Salvation Army at 267-8239.

• 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.

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# PIGSKIN PREDICTIONS

This week's games



Jonathan Hull



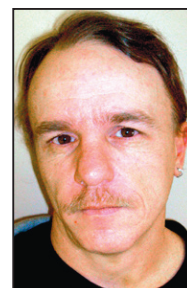
Jeff Lane



Robert Smith



Troy Hyde



Brandon Hallford



Art Barrera



Tim Knox

Allen vs. FB Hightower  
Wylie vs. Katy  
Longview vs. Lake Travis  
Sulphur Springs vs. Dayton  
Celina vs. Carthage  
Cisco vs. Daingerfield  
Stratford vs. Cayuga  
Ravens at Cowboys  
Texans at Raiders  
Steelers at Titans  
Cardinals at Patriots  
Chargers at Buccaneers  
Jets at Seahawks  
Bills at Broncos  
Eagles at Redskins  
Falcons at Vikings  
Bengals at Browns  
Saints at Lions  
Panthers at Giants  
Packers at Bears

Allen  
Katy  
Lake Travis  
Sul. Springs  
Celina  
Cisco  
Stratford  
Cowboys  
Texans  
Titans  
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Lake Travis  
Sul. Springs  
Celina  
Daingerfield  
Stratford  
Cowboys  
Texans  
Steelers  
Patriots  
Bucs  
Jets  
Broncos  
Eagles  
Falcons  
Bengals  
Saints  
Panthers  
Bears

Allen  
Katy  
Lake Travis  
Sul. Springs  
Celina  
Daingerfield  
Stratford  
Cowboys  
Texans  
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Giants  
Bears

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Wylie  
Lake Travis  
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Carthage  
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Allen  
Katy  
Lake Travis  
Sul. Springs  
Celina  
Cisco  
Cayuga  
Cowboys  
Texans  
Titans  
Patriots  
Bucs  
Jets  
Broncos  
Eagles  
Vikings  
Bengals  
Saints  
Giants  
Bears

Last week	12-8 .600	13-7 .650	13-7 .650	14-6 .700	12-8 .600	13-7 .650	12-8 .600
To date	252-137 .648	277-112 .712	260-129 .668	261-128 .671	254-135 .653	249-140 .640	247-142 .635

## ALL-STATE

Continued from Page 1B

make the first or second team. The AP doesn't really know who missed what, though. Cade is well known throughout the state after the season he had last year.

"Making the team as a defensive end after being on it as a linebacker last season is just a testament to the heart, desire and versatility Cade has as a player," he continued. "Many guys wouldn't like the position change, especially when they excelled at one like Cade did at middle linebacker. It just shows the type of person and player he is to accept what

the coaches want to do and then to be very good at it."

In seven games, Hollandsworth recorded 80 tackles, with 30 of them being solo, including five for loss and four sacks. In the playoffs, he played a pivotal part in the Steers' drubbing of El Paso Riverside, forcing two fumbles and recovering one of them in the end zone for a touchdown.

Saldivar was an all-district transfer from Lamesa, coming over with his father Steven Saldivar, who took over as the assistant superintendent for Big Spring Independent School District this year.

The senior center graded out at 85 percent and recorded 11 pancake blocks. He was a second-team all-district selection behind only Frenship's

Mason Walters, who was named first-team All-State at the position and has committed to play for the University of Texas.

"Zack's selection shows how much recognition Big Spring was getting for the playoff run we made," said Ritchey. "His stats were pretty good. He graded high and did a good job for us all year. He did a great job of blending in for his first season with the team. Zack was a key part of our offensive line, which was a secret to our success this season. We got great play from our offensive line.

"Zack never had this type of success while we were in Lamesa and we're extremely happy for him to get this type of experience his senior year," he continued. "You can tell he had spent the time to get better at his

position. He was a leader by his example and played with a lot of fire. Winning this season was a very special to him."

Neither player nor any of the other seniors on the Steers have committed to play football at the next level, however, Ritchey says the interest is there.

"We've had a lot of Division II and even Division I-AA schools coming through showing interest in a lot of our seniors," said Ritchey. "Some of these guys are going to have a chance to play at the next level for sure."

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

# 2008

## YEAR IN REVIEW

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## BAUGH

Continued from Page 1B

"Sammy Baugh embodied all we aspire to at the Washington Redskins," Redskins owner Dan Snyder said. "He was a competitor in everything he did and a winner. He was one of the greatest to ever play the game of football, and one of the greatest the Redskins ever had."

Baugh's reputation blossomed as a star high school football, baseball and basketball player in Sweetwater.

It began to grow during his college days at TCU.

It was there that he picked up the nickname "Slingin' Sammy" — but it wasn't for his passing. It was for the rockets he fired to first base as a shortstop and third baseman.

As an All-American football player, he led TCU to a 29-7-3 mark, including Sugar Bowl and Cotton Bowl victories.

He masterfully executed an early ancestor of the West Coast offense at TCU, and he credits Horned Frogs coach Dutch Meyer with his NFL success.

Baugh was known to make blunt, witty remarks.

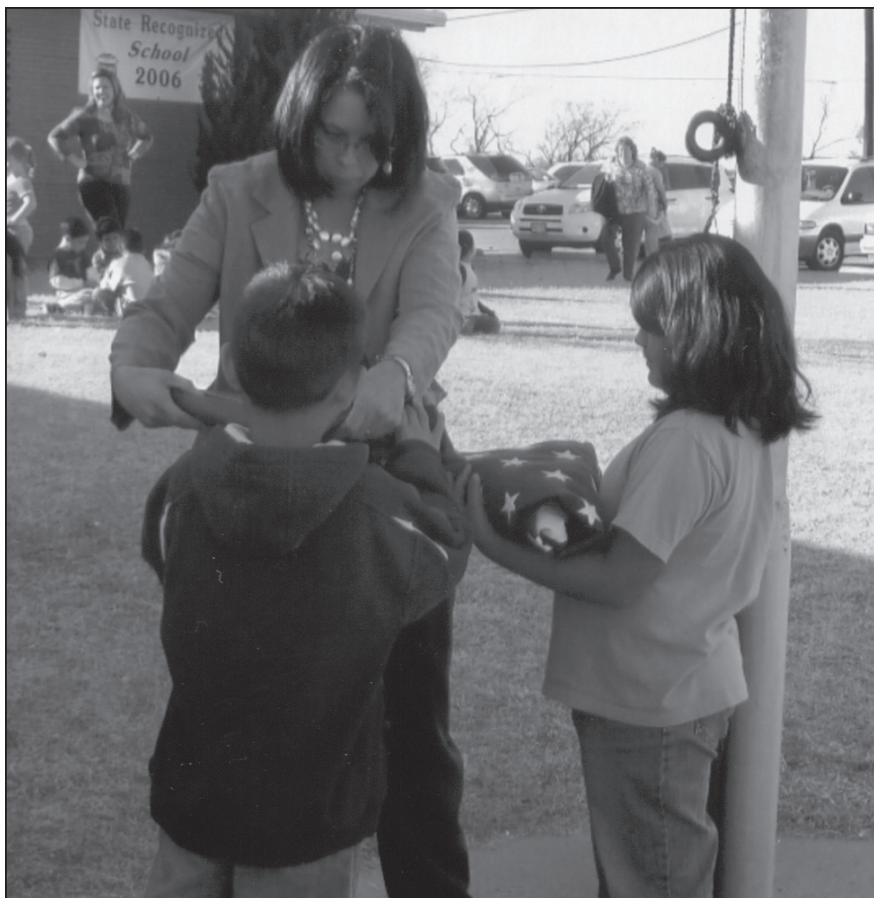
After the Redskins' 73-0 loss to the Chicago Bears in the 1940 championship, a writer asked if the outcome would have been different had an end not dropped an early touchdown pass.

"Yeah," drawled Baugh. "It would have been 73-7."

## 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.

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



Courtesy photo  
**Effi Tucker shows children at Marcy Elementary how to fold a flag. Pictured with her are second-grade students Jason Miramontes and Angelika Rojero. Tucker has been showing children how to fold the U.S. and Texas flags all month.**

**Colorado woman dies in wreck**

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

A Colorado woman is dead following a one-vehicle roll-over Wednesday on U.S. Highway 87. Facunda Karr, 68, of Aurora, Colo., was pronounced dead shortly after 7 a.m. Wednesday when the 2005 Ford pickup she and three other people were traveling in went off the roadway, according to law enforcement officials. "The information we have at this time is sort of sketchy," said Department of Public Safety Operator Matthew Cockerell. "According to the investigating trooper's report, the driver of the pickup lost control of the vehicle and overcorrected, sending the truck into a roll. It came to rest in the center median." Cockerell said the other three

people involved in the accident received non-incapacitating injuries and were transported by ambulance to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. According to witnesses at the scene, at least two of the passengers in the truck were ejected in the course of the accident, which took place in a construction zone. Cockerell said it's unclear where the group was traveling to or from. Information regarding the condition of the three survivors — as well as their identities — was not available. The accident was investigated by DPS Trooper Travis McRee. *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com*

**DEATH**

Continued from Page 1A

Officers were looking for him, he simply stood up, pulled out a gun and shot himself in the chest. "He wasn't the individual the deputies were trying to serve the arrest warrant on. In fact, he didn't have any warrants at all, as far as our records indicate, so we have no idea why he would have fled the scene, much less why he would shoot himself."

Hall confirmed Rawls' address of record was at the home where officers were attempting to serve the warrant. A search of the premises failed to turn up any evidence indicating why the Big Spring man would shoot himself, authorities said. "The investigation into this is ongoing," said Hall. "However, we don't have any indication at this time why he would do something like this. It's all just very bizarre. We would certainly like to know what pushed things to this." No arrests were made and the want-

ed individual deputies were searching for was not located, according to Hall. The Texas Rangers have been called in to perform an independent investigation into the shooting, Hall said. "We've contacted the Rangers and asked them to investigate," said Hall. "It's merely a precaution, and we feel confident we know where the investigation will lead." Hall said it looks like Investigators will have to do without at least one key piece of evidence in the matter — the bullet that killed Rawls — which

was not recovered from the scene. "It's an important piece of the puzzle because it will show the caliber of the gun that killed him," said Hall. "However, we have been unable to locate it." Funeral services for Rawls are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com*

**JAILED**

Continued from Page 1A

in the Crossroads area, but the drug trade is expected to march on.

"I really don't see this as having a heavy impact on the drug trade in Big Spring. There are plenty of other people and groups trafficking narcotics through here," said Everett. "However, locking them up should have a

very positive impact on the amount of violence in the area. Just look at how much it has dropped since many of them left Big Spring for Lubbock. The drive-by shootings have been far and few since then."

Reynaldo Nava, who was indicted earlier this year for deadly conduct — discharge of a firearm, had the charges against him dropped in October after "exculpatory evidence" cleared him and a second Big Spring man of

wrongdoing in a May 3 drive-by shooting. *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com*

**REFINANCE**

Continued from Page 1A

almost 50,000 to 573,000, the highest level since 1982, though the labor force has grown by about half since then. The Federal Reserve, aiming to free up lending and jolt the economy back to life, on Tuesday cut the federal funds rate from 1 percent to a target range of zero to 0.25 percent and pledged to keep funneling money into the market for mortgage investments. On Wednesday, some mortgage brokers were quoting mortgage rates of close to 4.5 percent for people with strong credit and hefty down payments. "This is beautiful, oh my gosh!" said Patti Mazzara, a mortgage broker in the Minneapolis suburb of Edina, who was surprised when she looked up rates and found them well below 5 percent, down at least three-quarters of a percentage point from earlier in the week. "This is a whole new game now. Hopefully it's going to give people some relief."

rate on 30-year, fixed mortgages was 5.06 percent on Wednesday, according to financial publisher HSH Associates — the lowest since the 1960s and down from 5.3 percent Tuesday. It was the best news in months for anyone looking to lock in a 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage. But it was not expected to be a cure-all, and borrowers already in danger of foreclosure probably won't be able to take advantage. "It's a call to action for homeowners looking to get out of adjustable-rate mortgages," said Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com. "Unfortunately, it's not an equal-opportunity party." Analysts say the Fed's moves to buy up mortgage debt are designed to reduce the an unusually large difference, or spread, between mortgage rates and yields on government debt. In recent years, there has been about a 1.8 percentage point difference

between the yield on a 10-year Treasury note and 30-year mortgage rates, but gap currently hovers around 3 percentage points. Falling interest rates mean Americans could suddenly find billions of extra dollars in their pockets at a time when consumers have sharply cut back on spending amid rising unemployment and declining household wealth. But many experts believe that the interest rate cuts alone won't be enough to jump-start the economy. "It's a tall order to get (people) to go out and spend again," said Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank. "That's why you also need a stimulus." Later Thursday, the New York-based Conference Board's index of leading economic indicators for November is expected to fall 0.5 percent, according to the consensus estimate of economists surveyed by

Thomson Reuters. The index posted a 0.8 percent decline in October. The index is designed to forecast economic activity in the next three to six months based on 10 economic components, including stock prices, building permits and initial claims for unemployment benefits. And Freddie Mac, the mortgage company, is also scheduled to release its weekly survey of mortgage rates Thursday. Also Thursday, President-elect Barack Obama is set to name a veteran of the Securities and Exchange Commission to lead the agency as it faces growing criticism for its failure to protect investors and

detect trouble on Wall Street. Mary Schapiro, who currently heads a non-government regulatory group for securities firms, is also a former head of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and former member of the SEC. She has been appointed to government posts by two Republican presidents and one Democratic chief executive. Wall Street stocks finished moderately lower Wednesday, as further signs of economic deterioration dampened investors' earlier enthusiasm about the Fed's record interest rate cut. Stocks declined in the early going after a larg-

er-than-expected loss from Morgan Stanley offered fresh evidence of the sizable obstacles the battered financial industry still faces. The company posted a loss of \$2.37 billion, or \$2.34 per share, for the fiscal fourth quarter. The report came a day after rival Goldman Sachs Group Inc. posted its first quarterly loss since going public in 1999.

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1:00 pm-5:00 pm  
Christmas Eve  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

*In observation of the Christmas Holiday, The Big Spring Herald will observe the following deadline schedule:*

**RETAIL / CLASSIFIED ADS**  
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24TH  
Deadline Monday, Dec. 22nd, 3:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 25TH  
No Paper Christmas Day

FRIDAY, DEC. 26TH  
Deadline Tuesday, Dec. 23rd, 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 28TH  
Deadline Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, 10:00 a.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 29TH  
Deadline Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, Noon

*Merry Christmas!*

**AN ENCOURAGING WORD**

By Eddy Pitchford

Christmas can become a warped mixture of competing loyalties. While tangled in many ways, it has roots that pay tribute to Christ. Materialism is certainly a major component of Christmas today. Family relationships also receive attention during this time. Expressions of charity round out the list of key ingredients. Of course, this all needs to be packaged with songs about peace and joy.

If you look over the list and check it twice, what do you really find? *A little bit of confused religion, a desire for things, a yearning for family bonding, a passing awareness of needy people and dreams of peaceful joy.*

Prayerfully check the list a third time. Now you know the need for "The Savior, Who Is Christ The Lord."

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"A loving family that exalts Jesus Christ"

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Sunday Worship.....10:20 AM  
Sunday Worship.....5:00 PM  
Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

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**BIG SPRING** Independent School District hiring cashiers, cooks, and line servers. Please apply online at www.bsisd.esc.18.net. No phone calls please.

**BIG SPRING** Oil Company, needs experienced Tool Pusher. Must be able to pass drug test. Competitive salary and limited benefits. Most work within 60 miles of Big Spring or Snyder. Please send resume to: PO Box 1870, Big Spring, TX 79721.

**BLUE BELL** Creameries is seeking a responsible, dependable Part Time Shipping Clerk. Position involves site maintenance, loading and unloading trucks, etc. Must be 18 years old and have reliable transportation. No experience necessary, we will train. We offer competitive pay and flexible hours. M-F, 20 hours per week. Apply in person at 401 East I-20.

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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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## OTHER VIEWS

# We need more focus on Mexico

Every gun fired by drug traffickers dealing death in Mexico is one that might as well be aimed at the heart of U.S. well-being.

As the Homeland Security Department has acted as if illegal immigrants doing U.S. jobs represented the dire threat, Mexico bravely has launched a campaign against the drug violence that has claimed more than 8,000 lives since President Felipe Calderon assumed office in December 2006. More than 5,000 have died in 2008 alone.

It's a fight that the United States cannot allow Mexico to lose. It has pledged \$400 million for Mexico's police and courts, releasing \$197 million of that recently.

It's not enough.

This country long has recognized what economic distress in Mexico has meant - more immigrant workers. This, at least, has had distinct benefit for this country. But there is nothing beneficial about this other export, which will only increase in volume should Mexico not prevail.

And while there is no comparison between what Mexican economics and Mexico's traffickers deal, there is a similarity in why each occurs. The U.S. offers a market for both. If there weren't so many drug users here, Mexico wouldn't have the problem it has. And if this country didn't have so many guns, the Mexican traffickers' wouldn't have so many at their disposal.

This presents the United States with both an obligation and a necessity. It must curtail the drug market here - and not purely with the blunt instrument of law enforcement.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office said in October that the U.S. has spent \$6 billion since 2000 to fund Plan Colombia, a project to reduce illegal drugs there and to help that government reclaim territory claimed armed groups. The agency reported mixed results - decreased opium cultivation and heroin production but increased coca cultivation and cocaine production.

That, too, is a fight that must be won. But the fight at our doorstep is at least as important. Instability in Mexico has consequences for the United States that instability elsewhere does not.

The new administration must give Mexico at least as much attention as it does the world's other hot spots.

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- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SHORT PRAYER

Help us Lord, to never doubt that You are the reason for the season.

Amen

# Finding the Obama-era center

Barack Obama's national security and economic appointments largely have been a plus for those of us who reside in the political center.

A Robert Gates understands that America can't retreat from the world without nations like Iran filling the vacuum. A Lawrence Summers gets that large deficits threaten the economy.

Yet the center will look different under President Obama than it did under President Bill Clinton. The world has changed, and Obama sees some things differently from the truly centrist Clinton, the most recent Democrat in the White House.

Which leads to this: What should be the center's parameters under an Obama administration?

My suggestions:

**The economy:** Those of us worried about the deficit are in a bind. We either oppose every stimulus idea, or we admit the economy's in such sad shape that Washington must rev it up. I'm in the latter camp.

I concede that something should be done, unless this situation reverses itself before Jan. 20, but we shouldn't do it without also tackling America's long-term debt problem — \$53 trillion when you include unfunded promises to Social Security and Medicare.

Again, I suggest this: In return for some kind of stimulus pack-

age, let's have a federal commission to determine how to pay for our huge debt. No commission, no stimulus.

**Education:** Numerous legislators, parents and teachers are hot and bothered by how states hold schools accountable. You can see that in Texas, with the movement to change the state's accountability system, and in Washington, where the effort to renew the No Child Left Behind Act slowed last year.

OK, I concede here, too: Folks want change.

Fine, but the change agents must explain something before getting those of us who believe in accountability to sign on: How will their new way of measuring schools uphold the idea that all children have the capacity to master their material, no matter whether they come from a rich suburb or a poor barrio?

That's the premise behind No Child. And, fortunately, there are plenty of people in the civil rights community who don't want to give up on that ideal. Will those who want to change the system water it down?

**Corporate governance:** Corporate honchos had better wise up. After the fallout from sloppy oversight of the financial industry, it's going to be rough for them.

And why not?

Shareholders deserve better than what some of these guys have given them.

But here's my question: If we load up businesses with so many regulations, how do we expect them to create jobs and expand the economy? We need some new balance in this new progressive era. Without it, the economy will

never get off the mat.

America in the world: The Obama crew isn't a bunch of isolationists, which should please the many internationalists who live in the middle. It also should relieve security hawks' worries that the new president would hand the store to Iran or anyone else.

Since Obama has nodded to them, the hawks should nod back. Give Gates the leeway to draw us down in Iraq in a responsible manner. Give Obama a chance to employ soft power in the Muslim world and elsewhere.

We can't afford to withdraw from the world, including the global economy. But we can do more than muscle our way into countries.

These are a few fence posts for the shifting political center. There will be battles galore for the next two years, since the Senate's Democratic leaders won't have enough votes to pass every bill on a party-line tally. They'll need Democratic and Republican moderates to enact key legislation.

So the center will be important, as it always is. That's where our many factions come to fight out their differences. The center doesn't offer up perfect answers, but it often yields shared answers. That's why some of us believe it's an important place to live.

*William McKenzie is an editorial columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him at the Dallas Morning News, Communications Center, Dallas, 75265; e-mail: wmckenzie@dallasnews.com*

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# Policies over charisma, please

Charisma. A commanding presence. Leadership.

These are all terms used to describe America's best presidents, and they already are being used by some to describe Barack Obama's calm, confident demeanor.

But is a great president one who inspires the country to move in a certain direction, even if that direction ultimately is wrong - perhaps leading us into an unnecessary war or creating new government programs the country can't afford — or should a president be judged by different standards?

Who, in fact, is better: a dull and uninspiring president, such as Calvin Coolidge, who quietly does the right things, or bold and confident leaders, such as Lyndon Johnson and Ronald Reagan, who pull the country into war, increase the size and scope of government, and expand presidential powers beyond what the Constitution intended?

Presidential rankings should be based on what a president does to promote peace, prosperity and liberty — the foundations of our constitutional democracy — not on style or personality.

Give me the dull guy who does the right things every time over the charmer who pushes policies that undermine personal or economic freedom.

Did the president use restraint in international affairs? Did he pay more than lip service to the rule of law? Did he show respect for the limits of executive power

spelled out in the Constitution? Did he do everything in his power to guard economic freedom and civil liberties? Was he a good steward of the taxpayers' money? These are the key questions, not whether he was popular, delivered memorable speeches, or was adept at multitasking.

A president should not be viewed as a good president, or even a successful president, if he effectively implements policies that damage the economy, provokes avoidable conflict, or undermines our liberties.

Presidents cannot be blamed for what they inherit: accumulated decades of government growth, stifling regulation, damaging court precedents and bad law. Such policies can't be changed overnight.

Dull, drab or quiet presidents rarely are rated high. Those who are charismatic, can deliver a good speech, feed us memorable sound bites and, in the 24/7 television and YouTube era, look good on the small screen usually are put in the top ranks.

Consider Theodore Roosevelt, whose bigger-than-life personality and bravado have produced both excessive fascination with and admiration for the man.

Roosevelt had a zest for life and seemingly boundless energy. Although he came from a wealthy family, Roosevelt had been a cowboy and served in the Spanish-American War, becoming a war hero. Analysts still are fascinated by his Rough Rider image. Yet Roosevelt was a less-important president than William McKinley, from whom he inherited the office after McKinley's assassination.

In strictly policy terms, I would rank Coolidge, or "Silent Cal" as

he became known, ahead of Teddy Roosevelt, ahead of his cousin Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and ahead of the two most-popular presidents of the modern era: John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan.

This is not to suggest that presidential personalities should be discounted entirely. If the president uses his persuasive powers to promote proper policies it is a plus. Beyond this, however, personality shouldn't really matter.

Even great presidents who serve during uneventful times unfortunately seem to get lost in the crowd. Coolidge had the misfortune to lack charisma, generally avoided government activism, and served during a time of peace. Today, he is all but ignored by historians. But I rank him among America's best presidents.

Though most Americans today seem to want non-stop action from the White House, the best presidents are often those who approach the job with caution, allowing the American people to flourish economically, politically and socially with minimal government interference.

The American presidency is a unique office.

Those who hold the office should be judged not only on their short-term economic record, but on whether they promoted peace, adhered to the rule of law, and protected individual rights and civil liberties.

Barack Obama appears to have the right stuff. But will he do the right things?

*Ivan Eland is director of the Center on Peace & Liberty at the Independent Institute, (www.independent.org), 100 Swan Way, Oakland, Calif. 94621.*



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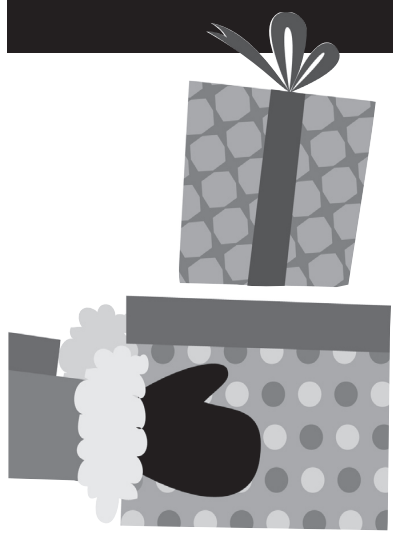
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<sup>†</sup>Total savings off original prices.

**SAVINGS PASS VALID THRU DECEMBER 22**  
**EXTRA 20% OFF EVERYTHING!\***  
**REGULAR PRICE, SALE & CLEARANCE!**  
\*Excludes cosmetics, fragrances, formalwear rental, gift cards and previous purchases. Cannot be combined with other coupons or private savings offers.



**BEALLS**

Prices effective thru Monday, December 22, 2008. Selection varies by store. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Entire stock only where indicated.

**10% OFF ALL DAY** + Bonus VIP Points when you open a new credit card account.\*  
\*Subject to credit approval. Exclusions apply.

**Cellfire** **HOURS:** GET EXTRA COUPON SAVINGS SENT DIRECTLY TO YOUR CELL PHONE!  
Call 1-877-737-8243 or log on to 22888 Free sign-up at cellfire.com

**STORE LOCATOR!**  
Call 1-877-737-8243 or log on to [www.beallstx.com](http://www.beallstx.com)

**MON.-THURS. 9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 8:00 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.**  
**INSIDE THE BIG SPRING MALL**

**SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

Real Estate for Sale

**OWNER FINANCE.** 1524 East 17th. Large 2 bedroom, with garage. Deserving Buyers. Call for information, (325)277-4923.

**OWNER FINANCE.** Fixer Upper! Low monthly. Low down. 1300 & 1302 Wright. (325)277-4923.

**SALE BY Owner:** Remodeled 4/2/2 2495 sq. ft. home with 3 living areas. New patio and large storage building. Landscaped, with large oak trees and well maintained yard. Quiet street, great for young family. 432-213-3544.

**OWNER FINANCE,** Low Down, Low Monthly, Easy Terms. 1505 Cherokee- 3/2, 808 Settles- 3/2. Call Trent 512-426-1850.

**WE BUY HOUSES and LAND.** Any Condition. Tax Liens No Problem. Call (512)940-5200, 432-631-8100.

Vehicles

**1995 MAZADA B2300** Pick-up. Original Owner. Runs Great. Air conditioning works great. \$1,800 OBO. Needs minor body work. Call (432)270-2585.

Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, Jan 15, 2009, for the purchase of **Fleet Vehicles.**

At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

This project consists of supply and delivery of 10 pickups & 1 Sport Utility Vehicle. Specifications are available and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 406 E.23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721 during normal business hours.

Inquiries regarding equipment specifications are to be directed to **John Womack, Field Operation Superintendent,** telephone (432) 267-6341, email: jew@crmwd.org.

#6011 December 18 & 24, 2008 and January 1, 2009

NOTICE OF CAP ROCK ENERGY CORPORATION'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PURCHASED POWER CONTRACT (DOCKET NO. 36446)

On November 26, 2008, Cap Rock Energy Corporation (Cap Rock) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) requesting approval of a new purchased power contract with Garland Power & Light (GP&L). The contract will provide the power and energy needs for Cap Rock's Hunt-Collin Division. This application was submitted pursuant to Commission Substantive Rule 25.238(a)(3). If the Commission approves Cap Rock's application, Cap Rock may apply its Power Cost Recovery Factor (PCRF) to the purchased power contract with GP&L to recover from all of its Texas retail customers the costs incurred under the contract. Under the PCRF, Cap Rock's power costs are reconciled on a monthly basis. Cap Rock's application affects the recovery of Cap Rock charges for purchased power but does not affect its base rates.

Persons with questions or who want more information on Cap Rock's application may contact Ronald W. Lyon with Cap Rock Energy Corporation at 500 West Wall, Suite 280, Midland, Texas 79701, telephone toll free at (800) 422-8688 during normal business hours. A complete copy of the filing is available for inspection at the address listed above. Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this application should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Consumer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120, or toll free at (888) 782-8477. A deadline for intervention of January 12, 2009 is proposed for this case, and you should contact the Commission prior to that deadline. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll free) at (800) 735-2989. #6014 December 18, 2008

ATTENTION

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

This waning Virgo moon is like a painter hard at work on a masterpiece, looking at the work from up close, far away, in between and upside down. The lunation affords us the perfect opportunity to take a step back from confusing matters, or rush in on them with a sideways glance. Choose a different manner of focus to get a different view on life.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Keep the commitments to a minimum, especially the financial ones. Otherwise you wind up with a long-term agreement that could later make you feel stifled. Stand strong against pressure to sign anything.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You've learned from the past. Once you get a sign, you don't hesitate to move forward. Whether it be a golden path, a yellow brick road or the sunny side of the street, you're walking it and you like where it's going.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June

21). You will be reading, musing and meditating your way through an issue. You're able to get such a lofty perspective on your life that it's like you are watching yourself being watched. Pisces is a mentor.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You often help others see the things that are going well for them. Now it's time to use this positive focus on your own life. So much is right that it makes the things that are wrong seem like no big deal.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're feeling slightly insular. And though you don't mind meeting new people, you find an emotional touchstone in the people that you know well. Share some relaxing time with your closest people.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are plenty of exits from the freeway to success. But if you accidentally get off before you reach your destination, don't worry. By now you have a pretty good sense about where the next entrance will be.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The social milieu is a delicate balance these days. This is not time to wing it -- you need an educated plan. Consult with some-

one who follows the rules even better than you do and you'll sparkle when it matters most.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No wonder someone is so crazy about you today. You're spontaneous, joyful and gentle. You're exactly the kind of partner a sensitive Pisces or Cancer has been looking for. Laughter and love are your future.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What you thought would be an easy day is probably already turning tricky. You may recall forgotten information and have to scramble to make up for it, or you may deal with unusual circumstances.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If there's anything that gets your (sea) goat, Capricorn, it's pettiness. Some people simply can't stop tallying every tit for tat. Your answer is to give so generously that others can't help but realize how silly they are being.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It is with great love that you do the simple thing -- wash the dish, pick up the dirty sock, pay the bill. It's not so much the activity as it is the feeling that radiates from you that is your contribution to the world.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You've got your eye on something high and gleaming -- an impossible star maybe, but reach anyway. Maybe you'll get it, and maybe you won't. But you won't get a fistful of mud either.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm angry that my husband, a Pisces, isn't a better father. He's not bad, but he's far from good. He can interact with our 4-year-old in a playful manner. But after about 20 minutes he's on to doing what's more important to him -- taking a business call, shopping online, watching television. He just doesn't have great parenting skills and has no interest in developing any. I'm angry that he doesn't take more of an interest in our child's development and I also feel as though I am doing all of the work. It's just not fair. Signed, Leo Mom."

Your standards are too high for him to fulfill and he never will be able to. There is nothing you can do to make him more interested in parenting. He will probably never be able to give more emotionally, energetically or otherwise than he does now. I write this to liberate your soul and prod

you to move on from this losing battle. Your sign connects to children in a unique way and you simply can't expect others to have the same connection. So celebrate what he does give, and know that you'll have to make up for the rest. It's simply your destiny.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Christina Aguilera is a pop star who's grown up in front of an audience, from "The Mickey Mouse Club" to "Genie in a Bottle" and beyond. Sagittarius is usually more worldly than their years can account for and Aguilera proves her sophistication by playing with media perceptions, changing her image constantly and producing vocals that can go toe to toe with any of the world's best singers.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a mother of three girls. My 8-year-old daughter, "Grace," has a terrible problem. She lies about everything and blames everything she does on her younger sister.

We have tried several different ways to stop this behavior and nothing has worked. We have taken away toys, TV and computer time, and outdoor play, only to hear Grace lie every chance she gets. The worst part is, she's been doing this since she was 2 years old. Everything that comes out of her mouth is a lie.

I watched one morning as she walked over to her baby sister and pulled her hair. When I confronted her, she insisted she didn't do it and that I was lying.

I thought for a while she needed extra attention, but the more attention she gets, the more she acts out. A few days ago I took her to the store, and while she was at the checkout, she opened and ate a candy bar I had told her earlier she couldn't have. When the store employee embarrassed me by screaming that my daughter had eaten it right in front of her, Grace told me repeatedly that the woman was making it up. Much later, in the car, she finally confessed that she took the candy.

The thing is, Grace has no remorse whatsoever about what she does. Yesterday, she told my cousin it didn't matter what she did, that she could have whatever candy she wanted. I'm fighting a losing battle and have been for the last six years. My husband seems to think she needs counseling. I'm ready to give up. What do you say? -- A Mother at Wits' End

Dear Mother: Your husband is right. Grace's lying may be pathological and won't stop without professional intervention. She does not seem to have a good grasp of right and wrong or why her behavior falls into the latter category. Please ask your pediatrician to refer you to a therapist, preferably one who has experience in this area.

Dear Annie: At upscale restaurants where alcohol is served, one usually finds a wine glass on the table setting, next to the



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

coffee cup. If one does not wish to have coffee, is it acceptable to turn the cup over and return it to the server that you do not wish to have coffee? If you do not wish to have wine, is it proper to turn the wine glass over?

It's not always possible to catch the server before he or she pours something for you, especially if the diners are engaged in conversation and not aware the server is doing so. How do we handle this? -- T.T. in Dallas

Dear Dallas: Generally, coffee cups and wine glasses are not on the table simultaneously. When coffee cups are put out for a breakfast meal or with dessert, it is usually not difficult to inform the server that you will not be having coffee.

According to Emily Post, it is not proper to turn over a wine glass. If you cannot put your hand over it when the server is planning to pour, it is more polite to let the glass be filled and simply not drink it.

Dear Annie: "Have Medicare But No Doctor" said her physician dumped her because she was on Medicare. You gave a very good answer, but for patients in medically underserved areas, there is more help available. "Have Medicare" should check to see if she is in a county designated as underserved. If so, she should be able to find a Rural Health Clinic to serve her medical needs.

These clinics employ primary care physicians who agree to serve more Medicare patients in exchange for a higher reimbursement from government programs. For more information, your readers can check out [www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/Downloads/rhc-factsheet.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/Downloads/rhc-factsheet.pdf).

-- John Sheckler, Scott Memorial Hospital public relations director, Scottsburg, Ind.

Dear John Sheckler: Thanks for the additional information. Our rural readers will appreciate it.

Dear Annie: I am 48 years old and my brother is a year older. I have always helped my parents with everything. When I was 13 and my grandparents became ill, I did all the housecleaning, yard work and food shopping for them. Now I am always the one who runs to my parents' house anytime they need me.

My brother does very little because he lives far away. I guess I always did these things to win approval from my parents. Growing up, my brother was always everyone's favorite, but I thought when we became adults my parents would view us as equals.

Yesterday, Dad had surgery, and both my brother and I were there. When Dad finally woke up, he was glad to see me, but when he saw my brother, he said, "Oh, my favorite is here!" It hit me like a rock. After all these years, he prefers my brother to me.

I didn't stay at the hospital long. I wanted to get away before I cried. Why would he do this? He is 74 years old and he needs me, but I don't want to see him now because he hurt me so much.

What should I do? Should I ignore the comment and keep being the good child? I don't want to mention the comment to my mother because she'll get angry and yell at my father. I need some guidance. -- Little Sister

Dear Sister: A child can be a "favorite," but that doesn't always mean he or she is appreciated more than another child. And it's not uncommon for parents to value the child they see less often, because visits are so rare. Please try to forgive your father for the attention he gave your brother. When he is feeling better, you should discuss this with him directly and see if you can help him understand why his comment hurt so much.

Dear Annie: We have family members with small children who invite themselves to our home every year around the hol-

idays. We have a small house with no extra room. Each year they pile in on us for at least a week. Although money is not an issue for them, my husband refuses to suggest they get a hotel room. Instead, we have complete chaos.

We barely make ends meet, yet we are expected to provide expensive entertainment, meals and laundry service. It takes days to get our home back in shape when the herd finally departs and even longer to replenish our bank accounts.

We love seeing the family, but we simply do not have the space or the money. I know I have two choices -- put up with it or risk creating a family rift. But I am -- Looking for Option Three

Dear Option Three: You can make plans to go away during the time your relatives descend on you, but if your husband enjoys the company and refuses to have them board elsewhere, he's not likely to go for it. If these are his relatives, you are stuck. If they are yours, explain that it's getting too crowded to be fun and give them the names of nearby hotels. Assign chores, and if they stay longer than a weekend, send them to the grocery store with a list so they

can chip in for a meal, which, if they had any sense, they would offer to do. And cut back on the entertainment.

Dear Annie: My son and I read the letter from "Perplexed in Pennsylvania," whose annual party is ruined because "Ed" brings his own bottle and proceeds to become drunk, rude and obnoxious.

We think they should videotape Ed at the next party. Give him the tape privately, and tell him if he can't behave, he won't be invited in the future. -- Palmetto, Fla.

Dear Palmetto: They've already tried talking to him, but a videotape might provide more compelling evidence. If not, we agree he shouldn't be invited back.

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, 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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Looking for a new house? A good car? An affordable computer? Find just what you need and want in the classifieds.  
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# CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST

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

**Monday, Dec. 22, 2008  
5:00 p.m.**

**1ST PRIZE: \$50.00 GIFT CARD  
2ND PRIZE: \$35.00 GIFT CARD  
3RD PRIZE: \$25.00 GIFT CARD**

**COLORING CONTEST RULES:**

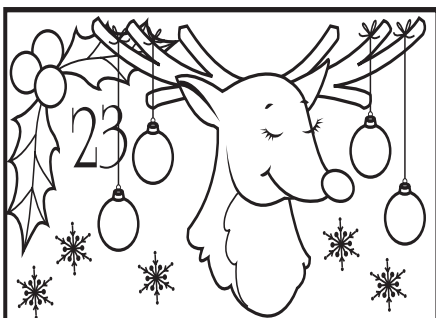
1. Contest open to children ages 10 and under. Relatives of newspaper employees or contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
2. Contestants may use crayons, colored pencils or markers. Adults may assist in completing the contest entry form, but not in the coloring.
3. Limit one entry per child. Entries will not be returned.
4. All entries must be turned in by Dec. 22, 2008, 5 p.m.
5. Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
6. Decision of the judges is final.



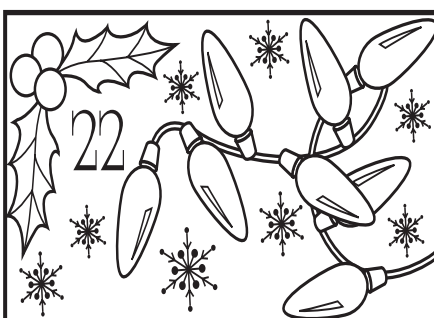
**Spanky's Coffee House**  
1903 Gregg St.  
**935-6767**



**A-Bob's Bail Bond**  
110 E. 3rd  
**263-3333**



**City Of Big Spring**  
310 Nolan  
**264-2401**



**Chamber of Commerce**  
"Get Your Chamber Bucks"  
215 E. 3rd **263-7641**



**Wagon Wheel**  
2010 Scurry St.  
**267-2851**



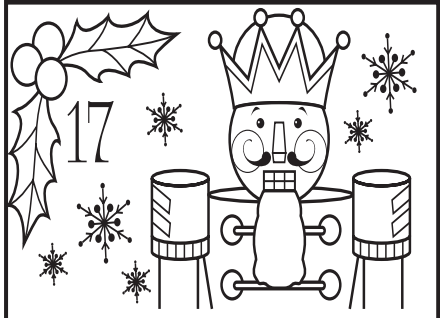
**Klassic Kleeners**  
2107 Gregg St.  
**263-7004**



**Water, Water, Inc.**  
Your Culligan® Dealer  
1509 E. FM 700  
**263-8781**



**C&D Truck Accessories**  
2706 N. Hwy. 87  
**263-3600**



**Domino's**  
2111 Gregg  
**267-4111**



**Comet Cleaners**  
1500 E. FM 700  
**267-2584**



**Cap Rock Energy**  
Stanton Division  
1-800-442-8688 (after hours)  
432-756-4126



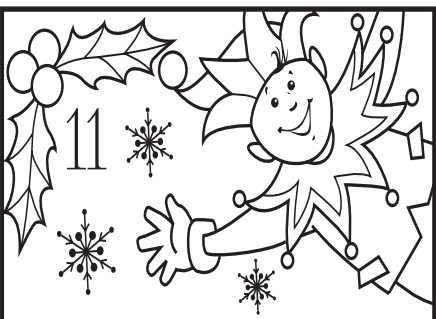
**Blum's Jewelers**  
Inside The Big Spring Mall  
**267-6335**



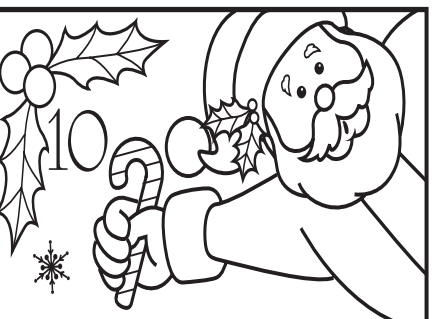
**Big Spring Community  
Federal Credit Union**  
503 E. FM 700 **263-1361**



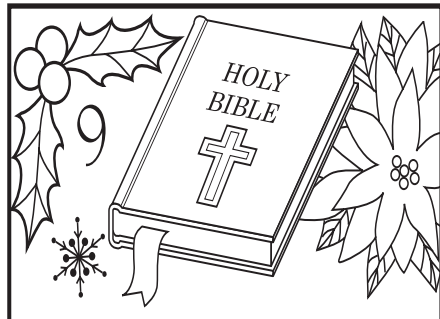
**New Hope Christian School**  
118 Cedar Dr.  
**263-0203**



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**Big Spring Farm Supply**  
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403 Runnels  
**264-9107**



**Basin 2-Way Radio**  
1808 Scurry  
**264-7034**



**Wendy's**  
2311 Gregg  
**263-6663**



**Compass Hospice**  
1003 E. FM 700  
**263-5999**



**Harris Lumber**  
1515 E. FM 700  
**267-8206**



**Medicine Center Pharmacy**  
1001 Gregg  
**263-7316**



**Fowler Insurance Agency**  
108 South Salem  
**393-5712**



**Big Spring Living Magazine**  
Kim Klug  
**263-7331 ext. 231**



**Jewels By Park Lane**  
319 Rock Ln., Midland, TX  
**(432) 634-9893**

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN COLORING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: THE BIG SPRING HERALD  
710 SCURRY ST.  
BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720  
Merry Christmas and Good Luck!

**DEADLINE: MONDAY, DEC. 22ND**

	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 Noticiero	Lopez CBS	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Granger Brad	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Two Weeks Notice, Alicia Witt	CSI: NY	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards of Waverly Place
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men CBS	Two Men CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Friends	Brad Sanchez	Business Made	Cash Cab	CSI: NY	Law & Order	Movie: Idlewild, Paula Patton	Montana	Wizards of Waverly Place
7 :PM	Entertain Ugly Betty	Fortune Ugly Betty	Cuidado-Angel	Secret Millionaire	Million Dollar	Doña Barbara	Name Friends	Kath-Kim Friends	Israel Sprna	Texas Road Trip	HowStuff-Works	Movie: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory	CSI: Crime Scn	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Magic	Movie: Idlewild, Paula Patton	Wizards of Waverly Place
8 :PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Fuego en la Sangre	You Smarter?	CSI: Crime Scn	El Rostro de Analia	Office Friends	Friends Friends	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory	TNA iMPACT!	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Magic	Movie: Idlewild, Paula Patton	Wizards of Waverly Place
9 :PM	(01) Private Practice	(01) Private Practice	Rosa Guadalupe	TMZ Raymond	(01) Eleventh Hour	Sin Senos El Cartel	30 Rock Office	Movie: Dumb & Dumber, Lauren Holly	Israel Van Impe	Faith Hill, Joy	Ratzilla	Movie: Big, Robert Loggia	NBA Basketball: Suns at Trail Blazers	Movie: Idlewild, Paula Patton	American Gangster	Wizards of Waverly Place
10 :PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond King-Hill	News Late Show	Noticias Titulares	News Tonight Show	Sex & Dr.	Smiley Smiley	HowStuff-Works	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: Gremlins 2: The New Batch, John Glover	MXC MXC	Inside the NBA	Movie: Any Given Sunday	Wizards of Waverly Place
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Noticias de Famosos	Late Night	Sex & Dr. (12:10)	Israel (Off Air)	LightWrd	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: Gremlins 2: The New Batch, John Glover	MXC MXC	Inside the NBA	Movie: Any Given Sunday	Wizards of Waverly Place
12 :AM	G. Keith	Weekend	Amarte-Pecado	RENO 911	RENO 911	Insider	Programa Pagado	News Poker After Dark	Judge Dredd	Light of the Southwest	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: Gremlins 2: The New Batch, John Glover	MXC MXC	Inside the NBA	Movie: Any Given Sunday	Wizards of Waverly Place
1 :AM	Paid	Basco	Clasicos Humor	Friends Paid	Friends Paid	Entertain Paid	Entertain Paid	Poker After Dark	Judge Dredd	Light of the Southwest	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: Gremlins 2: The New Batch, John Glover	MXC MXC	Inside the NBA	Movie: Any Given Sunday	Wizards of Waverly Place

DENNIS THE MENACE



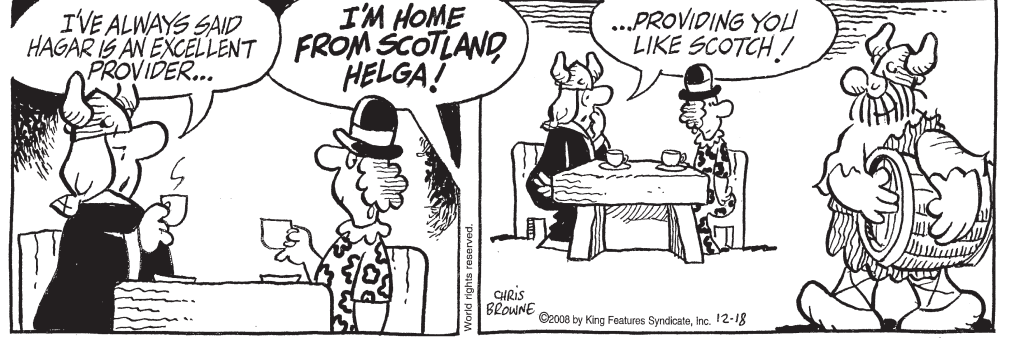
"I'll promise to behave if you'll promise to NOT bring me underwear like last year!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

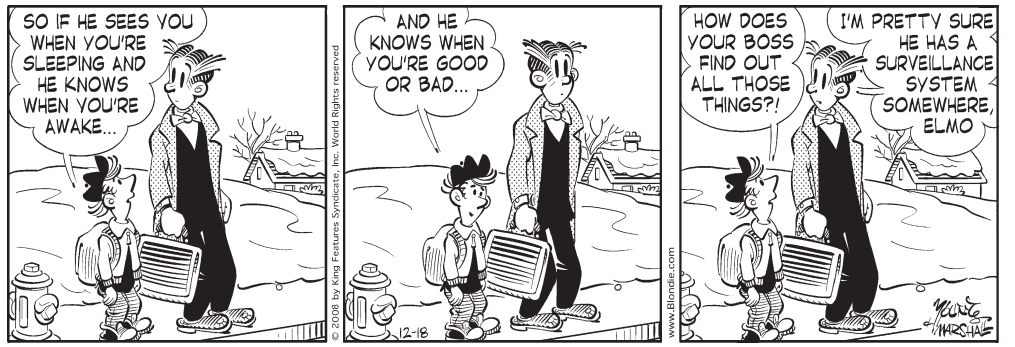


"... leave it to us grownups to ask him about fixing the economy."

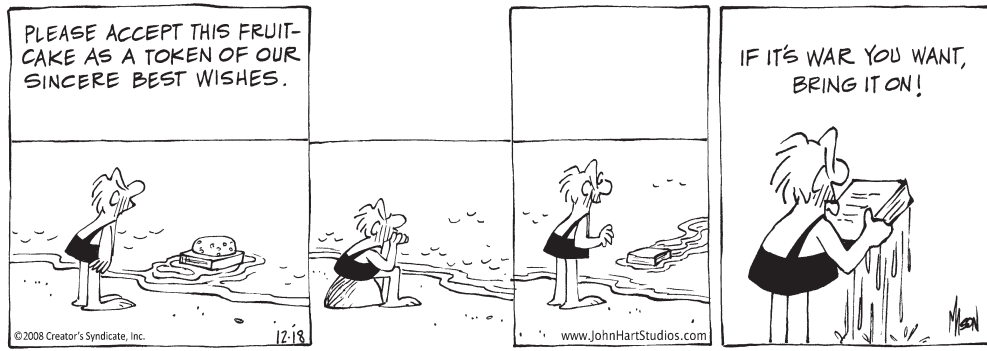
HAGAR



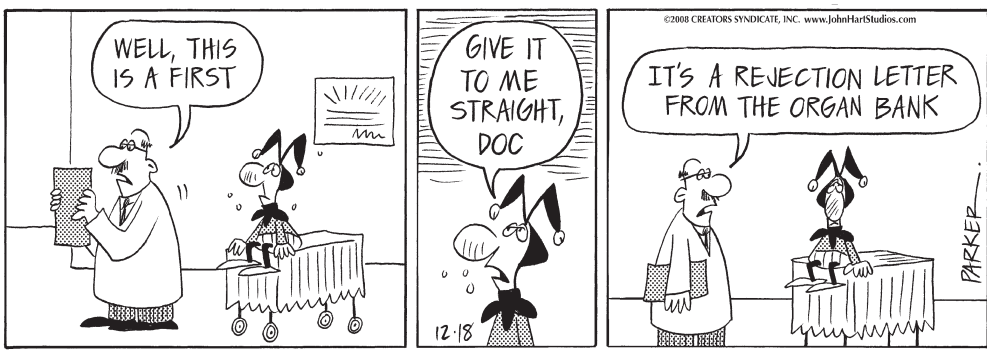
BLONDIE



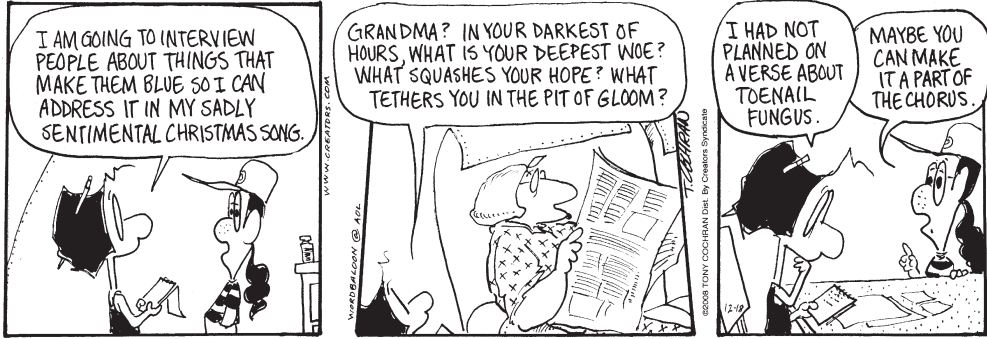
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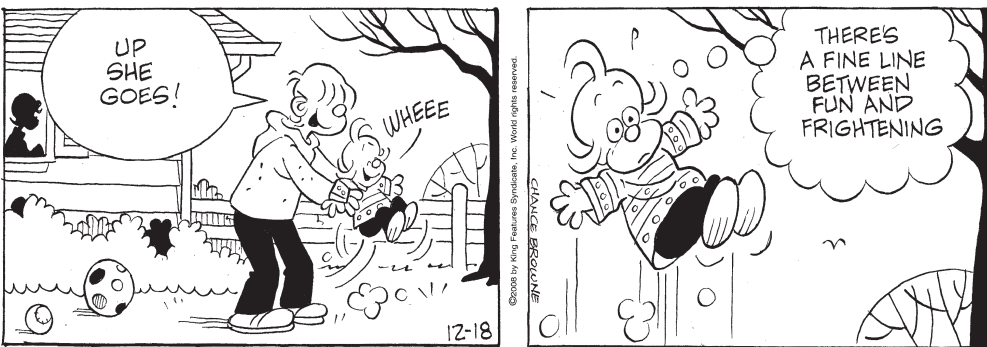
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



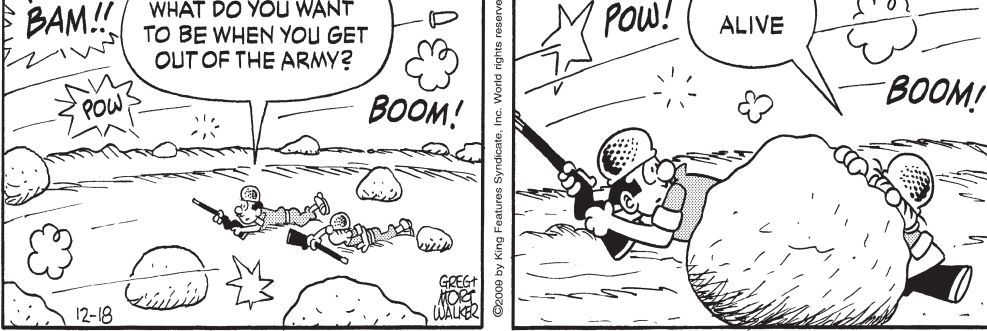
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 18, the 353rd day of 2008. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect by Secretary of State William H. Seward.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1915, President Woodrow Wilson, widowed the year before, married Edith Bolling Galt at her Washington home.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler ordered secret preparations for Nazi Germany to invade the Soviet Union. (Operation Barbarossa was launched in June 1941.)

In 1944, in a pair of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the wartime relocation of

Japanese-Americans, but also said undeniably loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry could not continue to be detained.

In 1956, Japan was admitted to the United Nations.

In 1957, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, the first public, full-scale commercial nuclear facility to generate electricity in the United States, went on line. (It was taken out of service in 1982.)

In 1958, the world's first communications satellite, SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment), nicknamed "Chatterbox," was launched by the United States aboard an Atlas rocket.

In 1972, the United States began heavy bombing of North Vietnamese targets during the Vietnam War. (The bombardment ended 11 days later.)

In 1980, former Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin died at age 76.

Today's Birthdays: Television writer-producer Hal Kanter is 90. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 81. Actor Roger Smith is 76. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 75.

Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 65. Writer-director Alan Rudolph is 65. Movie producer-director Steven Spielberg is 62. Blues artist Ron Piazza is 61. Movie director Gillian Armstrong is 58. Movie reviewer Leonard Maltin is 58. Rock musician Elliot Easton is 55. Actor Ray Liotta is 53. Comedian Ron White is 52. Actor Brad Pitt is 45. Actress Rachel Griffiths is 40. Singer Alejandro Sanz is 40. Country/rap singer Cowboy Troy is 38. Rapper DMX is 38. Tennis player Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is 37. DJ Lethal (Limp Bizkit) is 36. Singer Christina Aguilera is 28. Christian rock musician Dave Luetkenhoelter (Kutless) is 26.

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Answer to previous puzzle

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T	A	S	E	R	O	R	E	S	I	R	E	D

Newsday Crossword

NAME THAT TUNE by David W. Cromer  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

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► News in brief

**Fallout over Madoff ripples through DC as money manager placed under electronic monitoring**

NEW YORK (AP) — As Bernard Madoff returned home to his Manhattan apartment, it was impossible to overlook the disorder he has brought on with his alleged \$50 billion investment fraud.

Cameras awaited him as he walked out of the courthouse toward his black SUV. Minutes later, a smirking Madoff was swarmed by more cameras as he entered his apartment building, with the scrum at one point turning into a shoving match between Madoff and a journalist.

He was then fitted with an electronic-monitoring bracelet and placed under house detention in his \$7 million apartment.

Madoff's chaotic commute came on a day when the fallout over the scandal spread through the nation's capital, with the Securities and Exchange Commission taking more heat and Congress jumping into the fray.

The chairman of the House capital markets subcommittee, Rep. Paul Kanjorski, D-Pa., announced an inquiry that will begin early next month into what may be the biggest Ponzi scheme of all time and how the government failed to detect it. The SEC is also looking into the relationship between Madoff's niece and a former SEC attorney who reviewed Madoff's business.

**Illinois court rejects attempt to remove governor**

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — With the Illinois Supreme Court rejecting an effort to oust Gov. Rod Blagojevich, a legislative panel considering impeachment prepared to examine whether he abused his power, despite

challenges from the Democrat's lawyer.

Attorney Ed Genson called the impeachment effort "Alice in Wonderland" and discounted federal wiretaps in which Blagojevich is heard talking about selling or trading Barack Obama's vacant U.S. Senate seat.

The Illinois House impeachment committee faces even more pressure now that the state's highest court has blocked an attempt to declare the two-term governor unfit to serve because of his legal and political troubles.

The panel planned to hear from its first witnesses Thursday, including state government's top internal watchdog. The chairwoman, Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie, said the committee will focus on whether Blagojevich abused his power by defying lawmakers, refusing to release public documents and spending money without authorization.

**Chrysler, Ford close plants for now; GM stops making key factory as companies await loans**

DETROIT (AP) — Chrysler is closing all its North American manufacturing plants for at least a month, the starkest move yet taken by U.S. automakers as they anxiously await word about government loans.

The shutdown comes as The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday that Chrysler has restarted talks with General Motors about combining the two ailing automakers.

Chrysler, GM and Ford have been taking dramatic steps as they struggle to survive the recession and U.S. sales have dipped to their slowest rate in 26 years. Chrysler and General Motors fear they might not have enough money to pay their bills in a matter of weeks.

Attempting to cut costs, GM was halting construction of a plant tied to

one of its most important projects, the Volt. Ford also said it will shut down 10 plants for an extra week in January because of sluggish sales.

**Nursing home industry worries about federal government's new star rating system**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rating systems help people decide which restaurants to go to or hotels to stay at. So why not something similar from the federal government for the nation's 16,000 nursing homes?

Such a simple rating for so complex a task as caring for the elderly is lead-

ing to much anxiety in the nursing home industry. Home operators worry about the ramifications for their business if they get one or two stars — when five is the best.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services was to let everyone know Thursday just how many stars each home is getting. Already the industry is questioning the validity of the rankings. To operators, the five-star system is a great idea whose time has not yet come.

The system "is poorly planned, prematurely implemented and ham-handedly rolled out," said Larry Minix, president and chief executive officer of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.



Courtesy photo

Kendra and Alexa Ontiveros pose for a photo. Husband and father Lance Cpl. Manuel Ontiveros Jr. is serving in the U.S. Marines in Iraq.

**Helping veterans**

Lance Cpl. Manuel Ontiveros Jr. and his family, wife Kendra and daughter Alexa, have been presented a \$500 check from the Veterans Families Fund.

"This check was made possible from donations by Big Spring area residents," said J Gale Ontiveros Kilgore. "Uncle Sam doesn't always provide enough money and we want to say thank you to the veterans and their families for their sacrifices during their service to our country."

Manuel Ontiveros has been in the Marines since November 2007. He was deployed to Iraq in August and is due to return home in March.

People wishing to donate to the Veterans Families Fund can send them to the Wood Forest National Bank, Veterans Families Account 5901848, 201 W. March Drive, Big Spring 79721.

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	<b>2005 Nissan Pathfinder</b> 2WD, Fully Loaded, "New Car Trade" <b>\$11,950</b>		<b>2006 Volkswagen Beetle Conv.</b> 28K, Automatic, Factory Warranty. <b>\$16,950</b>
	<b>2006 Jeep Unlimited 4X4</b> 12K, "Factory Warranty" <b>\$17,450</b>		<b>2008 Impala LT Sedan</b> 28,000 Actual Miles, Full Factory Warranty. <b>\$14,950</b>

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# New Maxima

*Nissan adds more power, look to flagship sedan*



The all-new 2009 Nissan Maxima is a honey of a car.

With bold, aggressive styling, a cockpit-like interior and addictive performance under the hood, the seventh generation of Nissan's flagship sedan is a commanding four-door sports car that truly stands out

mission), performance is stellar for this five-passenger, front-wheel drive platform.

Inspired by the development of Nissan's new GT-R supercar, engineers and designers set the bar high, wanting to build a Maxima that was unique in both appearance and driving feel.

They succeeded.

Everything about this vehicle is special, from the four-channel, four-wheel anti-lock brake system with electronic brake force distribution and brake assist to the new twin orifice power steering system designed to offer improved high performance response yet still provide ease of driving at low speeds.

And the new "super cockpit" interior — wow!

While the interior is roomy and comfortable for both driver and passengers, the instrument panel provides a high-tech appearance. Especially like the new driver's seat with additional support in the side bolsters while the optional thigh extension provides extra comfort on long drives, helping reduce driver fatigue.

Everything about the interior has a high-touch, high-tech sporty feel.

Standard equipment includes a moonroof, 8-way power driver's seat and four-way power front passenger seat, dual-zone automatic temperature control, cruise control with illuminated steering wheel mounted controls, Intelligent Key with push button ignition, power windows and door locks, premium eight-speaker

audio system with an available interface system for iPod.

The 3.5 SV trim adds leather seats, an advanced Bose audio system with nine speakers, speed-sensitive volume control and Radio Data System, HomeLink universal transceiver, fog lights and outside mirrors with turn signal indicators.

There are also several optional packages, including a Sport Package featuring sport-tuned suspension, 19-inch wheels, rear spoiler, HID Xenon headlights and steering wheel mounted paddle shifters.

A Premium Package features a number of items, including dual panel moonroof and power retractable sunshades.

With a base price starting at \$30,160, the 2009 Maxima is highly recommended for a test drive for those in the market for a premium, performance-oriented sedan. Even if you're not, it's still worth a visit to your local Nissan dealer and taking a spin around the block.

## THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL:	2009 Nissan Maxima 5-seat performance sedan	bar (front); multi-link independent with 21 mm stabilizer bar (rear).
Front-wheel drive	Trim packages:	BRAKES: ABS with electronic brake force distribution and brake assist.
3.5 S, 3.5 SV	PRICE RANGE:	LENGTH: 190.6 inches
\$31,000-\$38,000	ENGINE:	WHEELBASE: 109.3 inches
ENGINE:	3.5-L V-6 (290 hp/261 torque)	WIDTH: 73.2 inches
TRANSMISSION:	Xtronic CVT with adaptive shift control and manual shift mode	HEIGHT: 57.8 inches
EPA: 19 mpg city, 26 mpg highway	FUEL: Premium unleaded	WEIGHT: 3,556-3,579 lbs.
SUSPENSION:	Independent strut with coil springs, 25.4 mm stabilizer	TRACK: 62.4/62.4 (front/rear)
		FUEL TANK: 20 gallons
		TIRES: 18-, or 19-inch SAFETY: Advanced frontal impact airbags, front-seat side-impact airbags, roof-mounted curtain side airbags, LATCH child seat anchor system, child safety rear door locks, tire pressure monitoring system.
		MADE AT: Nissan's Smyrna, Tenn. assembly plant.

*Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at [neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com](mailto:neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com).*



in the crowd.

The all-new 2009 Maxima will be available in two trim levels — 3.5 S and the 3.5 SV.

Everything about this car is designed for performance.

It's wider than the previous model, with a wider track. Coupled with a new suspension system featuring aluminum links, new technology shocks, revised steering and suspension geometries, the '09 Maxima handles like it's on a rail.

Powered by Nissan's 3.5-liter VQ-series V-6 engine (now rated at 290 horsepower and 261 lbs.-ft. torque) and mated to a new Xtronic CVT (continuously variable trans-

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