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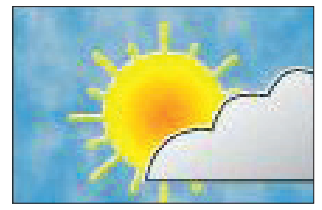
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H BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 8, 2009



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Wind energy training course on tap

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Officials with Howard College are currently searching for a "wind guru" in hopes of cinching up plans for a new vocational program that will concentrate on a field near and dear to many local professionals' hearts — wind energy.

According to Tom Land, director of workforce training for the local junior college, the program consists

of three basic parts: electricity, gearing and wind.

"We've been able to line up instructors for everything except the wind portion of the course," said Land. "So we're currently looking for something of a wind guru to help train our students on understanding the subject."

Land said the course will aim to ready students to enter the field of wind energy, a growing industry in Howard County and West Texas.

"The course will prepare the student to explain, identify and describe how to safely troubleshoot, diagnose service and maintain a wind turbine in today's market," said Land. "The student will also be able to demonstrate how to safely use the tools of the trade. It's an entry-level course aimed at new wind energy technicians and those planning to enter the field."

"It's no secret how fast the wind energy field is growing in Howard

County. All you have to do is take a look around at all of the wind turbines that have gone up in this area over the past few years. And with the current stimulus package being passed around the Capitol right now calling for more, we expect the need for these types of technicians to grow tremendously."

Land said students will receive an introduction to wind, as well as

See **WIND**, page 3A

Love, comedy — and dessert, too

College to stage Valentine's Day revue

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

What could be better than a little romance on Valentine's Day?

How about romance and chocolate?

Area theatergoers will have the chance to experience that potent double play when the Howard College Drama Department stages "Odd Couples for Valentines," a production featuring snippets from several Broadway comedies, at the Hall Center for the Arts Saturday.

The "dessert theater" pro-

See **LOVE**, page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Josh Wilson, left, and Alesha Yanez rehearse a scene from "Odd Couples for Valentines," a production featuring scenes from several Broadway comedies, that will be staged Saturday at Howard College's Hall Center for the Performing Arts.

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BSPD-Sheriff's agreement on county agenda

Parker: Pact would help streamline drug case investigations

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are expected to take action on an inter-local agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department Monday morning, as the two agencies prepare to open a door that could help nab more drug offenders.

"What the agreement does is allow the police department to use their narcotics officers to work out in the county with our guys," Sheriff Stan Parker told commissioners during a recent meeting. "Everything that's done would be done through our office. We've seen a large spread of activity in the county and we don't have the resources available. The city is willing to (share) some of their operations in the county, and it's at no expense to us at all. However, it will definitely benefit us greatly."

Parker said the agreement, as he understands it, will allow narcotics officers with the BSPD to work through the Sheriff's Office when their investigations lead outside the city limits.

"Everything will be under our direction. It's not a situation where we open the door and they (the narcotics officers) go do what they want," said Parker. "Everything will come through our office. Our investigators will be working with them on these cases. That's my understanding of the agreement. We haven't actually seen it yet, but Josh (Hamby, county attorney) has been working with the city attorney on it. Until they approve it, we simply don't have it to present to the commissioners court."

Parker said the agreement would

streamline the investigation process, something that would benefit everyone in Howard County.

"It's a situation where the chief (of police, Lonnie Smith) has sat down and discussed the problems," said Parker. "A lot of the things the city is working on drifts out into the county, and without some type of agreement to go out and pursue that, it makes it very difficult. It's something that has expanded, and the city realizes a lot of their investigations lead out into the county, and we're more than happy to allow them to do that because it benefits everyone."

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the agreement — which was discussed in January by the court but couldn't be approved because the contract wasn't finalized — has been reviewed by County Attorney Josh Hamby and is ready for

See **COUNTY**, page 3A



Parker

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Area roundup: Lady 'Kats clinch district title

Herald Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — The District 10-IIA girls basketball title resides in Garden City. The Lady Bearkats continued their dominant season Friday night with a 60-20 blowout win over Sterling City's Lady Eagles. The Lady Eagles proved to struggle to shut down any Garden City player with the last name Schwartz. Morgan Schwartz posted a game-high 19 points, while

Macy Schwartz added another 15, including three long-range shots from behind the arch. Sterling City was shut out in the first period, making the final three easy for the 10th-ranked Lady 'Kats. Garden City attempts to finish the district season undefeated at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday with a road trip to Water Valley.

See AREA, Page 2B

Bulldogs' playoff hopes growing dim

Herald Staff Report

WALL — Coahoma's boys basketball team saw their hopes of a playoff berth diminish even further Friday night with a 62-48 loss to No. 19 Wall. Likewise, the Bulldogettes found the task of upsetting the third-ranked Wall Lady Hawks too daunting as Coahoma was hammered, 81-24.

Lady Steers rout Rankin

Herald Staff Report

Momentum is key in sports and the Big Spring Lady Steers basketball team shifted the power to its favor Friday night. The Lady Steers ended a 13-game losing streak Friday with a 51-36 victory over the Rankin Lady Red Devils at Steer Gym. The win is particularly big because of who Big Spring plays next. "We need the confidence that comes with this win," said Big Spring Head Coach Mike Warren. "We had a losing streak going and its good to break that before we play Lake View. We did a good job with our press and got some opportunities to get out and run offensively. I think we can do the same thing Tuesday." Big Spring played some of its most dominating basketball in Friday's 15-point victory over Rankin. Valerie Ross scored a season-high and game-high 17 points, while Bridgette Tuitt added 14. All but one Lady Steer hit the scoresheet.

The Lady Steers led by 1 after the first period, but really opened it up in the second, outscoring the Lady Red Devils 18-6 in the frame and taking a 29-16 advantage into the locker room.

The dominance continued in the third as the Lady Steers' lead ballooned to 23 points — by far their largest advantage over an opponent this season.

Big Spring took its foot off the gas in the fourth, but never enough to allow Rankin back into the contest. Kody Anderson paced the Lady Red Devils with 11 points in the loss.

The entire season is on the line at 6 p.m. Tuesday, when the Lady Steers (7-19, 0-7) play host to rival San Angelo Lake View (7-19, 1-6) with the final playoff spot available out of District 4-4A at stake.

See LADY STEERS, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Big Spring Lady Steers post Lauren Porras (52) lays in two points as teammates Bridgette Tuitt (32) and Valerie Ross (20) look on at Steer Gym Friday. The Lady Steers blasted Rankin, 51-36, ending a 13-game losing streak.

Wall 62, Bulldogs 48

Coahoma got off to a sloppy start, falling behind by 10 in the opening period, 14-4. They quickly made up some ground in the second, though, cutting Wall's lead in half by intermission.

However, Wall started off hot out of the locker room again in the second half, torching Coahoma 20-6 in the third period.

Coahoma was led by Cody Sheppard's 16 points. Sheppard was the only Bulldog to score in double figures.

The Bulldogs finish the season with three home games, playing host to Grape Creek (Tuesday), Jim Ned (Friday) and Ballinger (Feb. 17). One loss would eliminate Coahoma from postseason contention.

Coahoma	4	20	6	15-48
Wall	14	15	20	13-62

Coahoma (19-10, 1-6): Cody Sheppard 16, Josh Paniagua 9, Braden Griffin 8, Lane Douglass 4, Isaac Garcia 4, Jovi Paniagua 3.

Wall (25-4, 5-2): Wilman 24, Walling 13, Schooley 8, L. Niehues 4, Wilde 4, Speck 4, Connaway 2, Beard 2, Nevins 1.

Free throws: CHS 9-20, Wall 11-14. 3-point goals: CHS 2 (Griffin 2), Wall 3 (Walling 2, Schooley).

Wall 81, Coahoma 24

Wall lived up to its top-three ranking Friday, crushing the Bulldogettes, 81-24.

Wall started hot and finished strong on the offensive end. Defensively, the Lady Hawks surrendered 10 points to Coahoma in the first period, but gave up just 14 in the final three stanzas combined.

Kylie Gee and Kalea Neff led the Bulldogettes with five points apiece.

Coahoma wraps up District 7-2A play at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday with a home game against Grape Creek.

Coahoma	10	5	5	4-25
Wall	26	18	24	13-81

Coahoma (9-16, 2-7): Kylie Gee 5, Kalea Neff 5, Kenzie Stone 4, Hilari White 4, Jordan Martin 2, Shelbi Paige 2, Alex Moore 2.

Wall (28-3, 8-1): Kellermeier 22, N. Niehues 16, Adams 11, Higgins 10, Hoelscher 8, L. Niehues 8, Widener 3, Carrico 3.

Free throws: CHS 10-14, Wall 14-21. 3-point goals: CHS 2 (Stone, Neff), Wall 5 (Adams, N. Niehues, Hoelscher, Widener, Carrico).

Buffaloes, Lady Buffs regain command of District 7-A

Herald Staff Report

MCCAMEY — First-place is a popular standing in Forsan this time of year as both the boys and girls basketball teams are currently sitting in the top spot in District 7-A, heading into the final game of the league season Tuesday.

The Buffs and Lady Buffs picked up much-needed victories over McCamey Friday with the boys winning to the tune of 62-43, while the girls pulled out a 48-37 win.

Both squads host Stanton Tuesday, needing a win to claim outright district titles.

Lady Buffs 48, McCamey 37

The situation looked bleak after one period Friday night, but the Lady Buffs put together a dominant defensive showing in the second period.

Trailing 16-9 after the first frame, the Lady Buffs shut out McCamey in the second, while dropping 20 points on the Lady Badgers.

The impressive performance gave Forsan a 29-16 halftime lead it wouldn't relinquish.

"This is a good win for us," said

Lady Buffs Head Coach Robert Hillger. "It puts us in a good position heading into the Stanton game Tuesday. The girls played great defense against McCamey and made some big stops down the stretch to seal the deal."

Amanda Longorio led Forsan, scoring 12 points and pulling down nine boards. Kelsey Jones came off the bench to add 11 points.

"I am so proud of these girls," Hillger continued. "They work their tails off. However, the task is not complete. We still have a huge game

against Stanton Tuesday. We know it is a big task. Stanton is well coached and playing well. We know we need to step up and play."

Stanton could force a three-way tie for the district title with Forsan and McCamey if it can defeat the Lady Buffs at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Forsan	9	20	9	10-48
McCamey	16	0	11	10-37

Forsan (21-7, 4-1): Amanda Longorio 12, Kelsey Jones 11, Faith Belew 8, Shelby McDonald 7, Shelby Jones 6, Miranda Park 4.

3-point goals: F 4 (McDonalds 2, Belew 2).

See FORSAN, Page 3B

Sports in brief

Lady Steers boosters meeting Monday

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club is meeting at 5:45 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of Lady Steer athletes from the junior high to the varsity levels are encouraged to attend.

Free junior tennis league starts Monday

Big Spring tennis pro Ted Olesen is starting a free Junior Tennis League Monday at the Figure Seven Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

The league is for boys and girls 8-12 years old or in grades four through six.

It will be held every Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Just bring a racket or one will be provided.

At 5:15 each Monday before the league starts, Olesen will accept challengers who believe they can throw a football farther than he can. Anyone able to do so will win a free 30-minute tennis lesson.

For more information, visit www.bigspringtennis.com.

Coahoma softball alumni needed for annual game

The 7th Annual Coahoma Softball Alumni Game has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, and will be played at the Coahoma High School

field.

Any former player interested in participating should call Amy Dunn at 263-2228 or 394-4323.

BSCC hosting 4-person scramble Feb. 21-22

The Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 4-person scramble tournament Feb. 21-22 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days.

Entry fee is \$75 per player plus cart, although private carts are welcome.

Entry includes barbecue on the course both days and practice rounds on Friday.

The field will be flighted by first-round score.

Call the Pro Shop at 267-5354 for more information.



Greener Living

Simple steps toward a more natural home

FAMILY FEATURES

Whether it's out of concern for the environment or for a desire to live a more natural lifestyle, more people are making green decisions for their homes. In Gallup's annual Environmental Poll (2008), 28 percent of Americans said they've made major changes to their lives to protect the environment, while 55 percent said they have made minor changes. The most common changes involve recycling, conserving fuel, using less electricity and making homes more energy efficient. Another step people are taking is to buy eco-friendly or more natural products for their homes. A recent Yahoo green living survey found that 57 percent of respondents have made green purchases within the last six months.

There are simple and affordable steps you can take around the house that will help improve the environment of your home as well as the earth.

Step One: Understanding Natural

A growing number of companies have come out with "green" or "natural" products. But because these terms do not have regulated definitions or standards, it's important to know what label claims mean when making buying decisions.

For example, when The Clorox Company introduced its line of Green Works natural cleaners, it listed all ingredients on the label and defined what it means by natural: ingredients that are plant-based, biodegradable and not tested on animals.

Check a company's Web site and look for product reviews for more information about the products you want to buy to see if they live up to their claims.

Step Two: Take Simple Steps

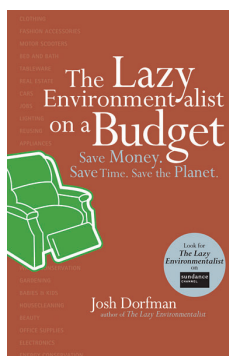
You don't have to give your home a top-to-bottom instant makeover. Take small steps to make your home more energy efficient and natural. Each one you take makes the next one easier.

Here are some simple steps to get you started:

No running on empty. Load the dishwasher after every meal, but only turn it on when it's totally full. Running several smaller loads instead of a full load wastes both water and energy.

Foil spills. Line the oven, broiler and burners with aluminum foil for easier (and less harsh) clean up.

Green cleaning. Use natural cleaning products made from plant-based ingredients. Josh Dorfman is a green lifestyle expert and author of "The Lazy Environmentalist." He places several Green Works natural cleaners on his "50 Best Green Products" list. "I like the Green Works Natural Bathroom Cleaner and Natural All Purpose Cleaner," he says, "because they're natural cleaners that are also effective in getting the job done."



Think reuse! Recycling is great, but it still consumes a lot of energy. Before you toss, ask yourself: "Is there anything else I can use this for?" (Storing toys, sorting change, craft projects, etc.)

Buy recycled. For paper product must-haves, purchase recycled, unbleached paper towels or napkins. Kitchen trash bags made from recycled materials are becoming more widely available as well.

Car smarts. Save water by cutting the number of times you wash the car each month, and make sure to turn off the faucet between rinses. And think twice before hopping in the car for a ride to the store. Try shopping once every one or two weeks instead of making multiple trips for just a few items. Limiting the number of trips helps save gas and money.

Step Three: Get the Family Involved

It's easier to make changes in the household routines if everyone is on board. Talk about why you want to make these changes. Get feedback from the kids on what steps you can take together to make your home healthier and greener. Everyone can pitch in: have the kids help with online research and decisions about new products. Even the littlest ones can help sort the recycling.

Making your home a little greener will not just make you feel better about your home, it will make your home a better place to live. For more tips on greener living, visit greenworkscleaners.com.

In the Know

Here are some definitions of terms associated with green and natural claims.

Renewable Resources

A natural resource qualifies as a renewable resource if it is replenished by natural processes at a rate that's equal to the rate of consumption by humans.

Biodegradable

A biodegradable material is something that has the ability to safely and relatively quickly break down into the raw materials of nature and disappear into the environment.

Sustainable

A sustainable product is something made from renewable resources, which means they can grow back quickly and can be harvested with minimal harm to the environment.

Petrochemicals

Petrochemicals are chemical products made from raw materials of petroleum.

Definitions courtesy of the makers of Green Works Natural Cleaners.

There are many easy things you can do to make your home a cleaner, greener place to live.

LIVING ROOM: One of the easiest ways to save energy is to turn off the television when you leave the room.

KITCHEN: Use kitchen cloths, napkins or hand towels made from bamboo or organic fibers. They are made from renewable resources.

BEDROOM: Use rechargeable batteries for toys and electronics. If you use disposable batteries, be sure to recycle them properly.

BATHROOM: Save water by placing a bucket in the shower or tub while waiting for water to get warm. Use it for watering plants or rinsing dishes.

YARD: Clothes dryers are one of the least energy efficient household appliances. On a sunny day, line-dry your laundry.

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NEW LISTINGS

Obituaries

Jim Shaw



Jim Shaw, 90, loving husband, father, grandfather and proud veteran, passed away on Feb. 6, 2009, in Denton.

He was born Oct. 4, 1918, in Marlow Okla. He married the love of his life, Dorothy Kay West, June 14, 1947. They lived in Big Spring for 44 years before moving to Denton in 2003. He was a deacon at the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ in Big Spring.

Jim entered the U.S. Army Air Corps Jan. 5, 1942 at Sheppard Field. He was a staff sergeant in the 9th Air Force, 363rd Fighter Group, 228th Fighter Squadron, serving as a crew chief for P-51 fighter planes during World War II. Jim loved his country and treasured every minute of service he gave to his country. He was awarded the Bronze Star for 149 missions with no loss of planes due to mechanical failure.

After his military service, he worked for Exxon Mobil for 35 years, retiring in February 1981.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Kay Shaw; a sister, Lula Howard of Madera Calif.; one daughter, Kathy Shaw Butler and husband, Don of Denton; two sons, James T. Shaw of Houston and Joey E. Shaw and wife, Corrine of Houston; and four grandchildren, April M. Lyons and husband, Jordan of Abilene, and Aaron, Derek and Chelsea Shaw of Houston.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Nora E. Shaw; his father, James E. Shaw; five sisters, Annamae Hall, Ruby Elliott, Ruth Pharris, Eula Satterwhite and Pauline Hampton; and one brother, J.E. Shaw.

Visitation will be held at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home, 906 Gregg St., Big Spring, from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2009. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Internment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. Pallbearers will be grandsons and close personal friends.

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

Paid obituary

Ann Marie Fields



Ann Marie Fields, 88, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Steve King, pastor of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

She was born July 20, 1920, in Skokomish Valley, Wash. and married Paul "Red" Fields March 13, 1958 in Seattle, Wash..

She graduated from Irene S. Reed High School in Shelton, Wash. in 1940 and came to Big Spring in 1964. She worked at Golden Plains Care Center as a nurses aide and a medication aide and had also been a home health provider.

Survivors include her husband, Paul "Red" Fields of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Paula and Tommy Carey of Big Spring; and one grandson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister; two brothers; and a granddaughter.

The family suggests memorials to the Texas Kidney Foundation, 1525 W. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, 75235.

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

Maxine Barkley

Maxine Barkley, 87, of Blackwell, went home to be with the Lord Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, in a Bronte nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2009, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring. Interment will follow at Loraine Cemetery, Loraine. Visitation will be held on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Maxine was born March 8, 1921, in Roscoe and married James A. Barkley Nov. 4, 1938 in Colorado City. He preceded her in death Jan. 13, 2001.

Survivors include two sons and three daughters-in-law, Robert and Betty Barkley of Blackwell, Gary Don and Larrie Sue Barkley of Grove and Glenda Barkley of Odessa; one sister, Lurline Feaster of Colorado City; two brothers, Bill Hunt of Oregon and Glen Hunt of California; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by one son, James E. Barkley; one sister, Jerry Feaster; and one brother, Earl Hunt.

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

Paid obituary

Take Note

• Saturday, Feb. 14, Canterbury/Canterbury North will host a Senior Sweetheart Dance. The dance will be held at 1700 Lancaster from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and is open to all seniors. Admission is free and music will be provided by RC Entertainment. Burrito and dessert will be for sale starting at 3 p.m. and during the dance.

• 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.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

• The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

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

Support Groups

TUESDAY

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

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St. Tuesday, Jan. 6, Teen Challenge will be held at The Path. They will present a Rally for Jesus.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

Your Local Weather

Sun 2/8	Mon 2/9	Tue 2/10
 65/42	 68/41	 70/36
Windy with isolated thunderstorms developing. High around 65F.	Partly cloudy and windy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 30s.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

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

MONDAY

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

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

• Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

• The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.

• Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

• Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacients meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Dragon Restaurant, 1300 S. Gregg. Everyone is welcome. Call 263-3869 for more information.

TUESDAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• The Big Spring chapter of the American Cancer Society meets at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh St. at noon. Lunch is provided. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at (432) 264-7599.

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected xxxxyday in the Mega Millions lottery: 2-12-18-28-31. Mega Ball: 3.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 30-29-15-16-4.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-1-5-6. Sum It Up: 18.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-5-1. Sum It Up: 14.

Lots of Love,
Lois, Jim, Leisha,
Heather, Jarod, Halle,
Jax, Greg, Shana, Greg,
Scarlett, Mikaela,
Tanner, Tom, Mollie,
Jillian, Jaclyn, Marty,
Michelle, Chris, Alex,
Ethan, Nick, Sophia,
Loanne, Cal, Rhiannon,
Morgan, Elijah

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Dad, Granpa & Gpa

Charles Biddison

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AREA

Continued from Page 1B

Sterling City 0 6 6 8-20
Garden City 12 13 17 18-60
Sterling City: Hodges 6, Hasty 4, McGuire 4, Venegas 3, Musick 3.
Garden City (26-3, 9-0): Morgan Schwartz 19, Macy Schwartz 15, Brooke Halfmann 9, Paige Niehues 5, Britton Avery 5, Melissa Hirt 4, Kate Halfmann 3.
Free throws: SC 10-18, GC 19-35. 3-point field goals: SC 0, GC 5 (Ma. Schwartz 3, Mo. Schwartz 1, Niehues 1). Fouled out: None.

Dawson 45, Grady 43

LENORAH — A late rally came up just short as the Grady Lady Wildcats continued to struggle in District 9-IIA play with a 45-43 loss to Dawson.

Down 35-25 heading into the final stanza, Grady put up a valiant effort to put itself in better standings for the postseason, outscoring Dawson 18-10 in the fourth.

Instead, the Lady 'Cats must pick up a win over Loop at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Lenorah and also hope Klondike falls in its district finale.

Dawson 7 16 12 10-45
Grady 8 7 10 18-43
Dawson: Chelsea Castillo 18, Key 17, Cruz 9, Napper 3.
Grady (15-13, 3-6): Lauren Robinson 15, Eva Dyck 14, Maegan Blocker 6, Kaitlyn Blocker 2, Katie Meeks 2, Kelly Cook 2, Julia Schuelke 1.
Free throws: Dawson 15-35, Grady 8-10. 3-point goals: Dawson 0, Grady 3 (Dyck 2, Robinson). Total fouls: Dawson 18, Grady 24. Fouled out: Mahan, Dyck.

Sands 38, Loop 27

ACKERLY — The Sands Lady Mustangs

are now assured their season will continue for at least another week as they wrapped up a play-off spot with a 38-27 victory over Loop Friday.

The Lady Mustangs were once again paced by Brittni Blaggrave, who scored 12 points.

The Lady Mustangs will be the second seed out of District 9-IIA.

Loop 6 9 5 7-27
Sands 12 9 6 11-38
Leading scorers
Loop — Young 11.
Sands (18-11, 7-2) — Brittni Blaggrave 12.

Santon 56, Iraan 43

STANTON — Stanton's Lady Buffaloes got off to a slow start this season, but have turned it on when it counted most.

The Lady Buffs put themselves in a situation to play for a share of the District 7-A title with a 56-43 win over Iraan Friday.

Stanton sank six three-pointers in the victory with four coming off the hand of Adrian Carrasco, who finished with 12 points. Rachel Fleckenstein led all scorers with 15, while Kesley Jones added 11.

Now the Lady Buffs can share a district title with Forsan and McCamey if they can once again upset rival Forsan on the road at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Last time the two teams met, Stanton won, 52-40.

Iraan 5 7 12 19-43
Stanton 16 16 16 8-56
Iraan: Perry 24, Hernandez 7, Petraleba 4, Ybarra 4, Conn 2, Ledford 2.
Stanton (14-14, 3-2): Rachel Fleckenstein 15, Adrian Carrasco 12, Kesley Jones 11, Naomi Delao 9, Krista Sanchez 4,



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Garden City's Morgan Schwartz (left) goes up for two points over a Sterling City defender in action from the Lady Bearkats' 60-20 victory Friday night in Garden City. The Lady 'Kats clinched the District 10-IIA title with the win.

Ashton Snelgrove 2, Bea Martinez 2, Michelle Graves 1.

Boys basketball Iraan 57, Stanton 50

Stanton's boys basketball team saw their opportunity for an outright District 7-A title go by the wayside Friday night as they fell to Iraan, 57-50.

With the game tie at 31 after three, Iraan outscored the Buffs, 26-19, in the fourth period.

Trace Sidle led Stanton with 13, while Tyler Fulton and Jacob

Cazares each added 12 apiece.

Stanton travels to face rival Forsan at 8 p.m. Friday and can still claim a share of the district title with a victory.

Forsan defeated Stanton in the finals of the Sterling City Tournament earlier this season, but it was Stanton that came out on top in the first district contest between the two squads, handing Forsan its first and only loss of the district season.

Iraan 8 8 15 26-57
Stanton 9 10 12 19-50

Iraan: Green 16, Cade 9, Wright 4, Ledford 9, T. Galindo 6, Arnold 2, B. Galindo 11.
Stanton (8-5, 3-2): Trace Sidle 13, Jacob Cazares 12, Tyler Fulton 12, ryan Brantley 4, Ramsey Fleckenstien 2, Nathan Koonce 5, thomas Ramos 2.
Free throws: IHS 8-14, SHS 21-29. 3-point goals: IHS 1 (Cad), SHS 1 (Sidle). Totals fouls: Iraan 21, Stanton 11. Fouled out: Ledford.

Garden City 44, Sterling City 30

GARDEN CITY — The Lady Bearkats weren't the only ones winning a District 10-IIA title in Garden City Friday night as the boys put together an encore performance in a 44-30 win to earn the league championship.

It's the third district title in four years for the Bearkats.

Brett Chudej showed his typical dominance from the post, scoring a game-high 23 points, while Jesse Montes scored 13.

Garden City led by just 1, 28-27, heading into the final period, but outscored Sterling City, 16-3, in the final stanza.

The Bearkats will attempt a perfect district season at 8 p.m. Tuesday on the road against Water Valley.

Sterling City 9 9 9 3-30
Garden City 16 4 8 16-44

Sterling City: Munoz 7, Wright 6, Tethrow 4, Z. Foster 3, Galaviz 3, Horwood 3, Long 2, Hughes 2.

Garden City (14-8, 8-0): Brett Chudej 23, Jesse Montes 13, Aaron Long 4, Michael Clarke 4.

Free throw: SC 5-15, GC 9-17. 3-point field goals: SC 1 (Horwood), GC 1 (Montes). Total fouls: SC 15, GC 11. Fouled out: None.

Grady 54, Dawson 34

LENORAH — Grady's Wildcats are one game

from claiming a District 9-IIA title after dominating Dawson, 54-34, Friday night.

The Dragons led 14-13 after one period, but saw Grady open it up in the second and third frames, holding Dawson to just 10 combined points, while Grady put up 32.

Dylan Cox led all scorers with 14, while Jacob Rodriguez scored 13 and Shane Teague and Geoffrey Schuette added 10 apiece.

Grady can clinch an outright district championship with a win at Loop at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Dawson 14 4 6 10-34
Grady 13 15 17 9-54

Dawson: Ramos 12, Brown 8, Key 7, Bera 3, Rhodes 2, Brown 2.

Grady (21-5, 8-1): Dylan Cox 14, Jacob Rodriguez 13, Shane Teague 10, Geoffrey Schuette 10, Joe Cook 3, Johan Wiebe 2, Tyler Matthews 2.

Free throws: D 4-8, G 9-17. 3-point field goals: D 4 (Ramos 2, Bera, Key, G 1 (Teague), total fouls: D 16, G 10. Fouled out: None.

Sands 61, Loop 46

ACKERLY — Four Sands players scored in double figures as the Mustangs defeated Loop, 61-46, Friday.

Seth Fry led all scorers with 16 points, while Mason Parker scored 13, Jesus Gomez added 12 and Johnny Rogers chipped in 11.

Sands has clinched a playoff spot and wraps up its regular season at 8 p.m. Tuesday against Borden County.

Loop 10 10 9 17-46
Sands 16 16 16 13-61

Leading scorers
Loop: Armendariz 13.
Sands (17-8, 7-2): Johnny Rogers 11, Mason Parker 13, Seth Fry 16, Jesus Gomez 12.

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- 2004 F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke Diesel - Blue/Silver, Local One Owner. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Tan w/Cloth, V-8, One Owner w/68,000 Miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Gray w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Maroon, All Power, One Owner. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - White w/Cloth, V-8, Local One Owner, w/78,000 Miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/54,000 Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2004 Ford Ranger S/C XLT - White w/Cloth, Local One Owner, w/62,000 Miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 2003 Ford F250 Crew Cab XL - White, 5.4 V-8. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 2002 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 4X4 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel - Local One Owner w/90,000 Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2001 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel - White w/cloth, New Transmission, 132K Miles, Local One Owner. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$12,995**

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- 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Crew Cab - V8, Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/73K Miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Crew Cab - Blue w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One Owner w/28,000 Miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$22,995**
- 2007 Chevrolet Colorado L.S. Crew Cab - White, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/37,000 Miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2006 GMC Canyon Crew Cab 4X4 SLE - Red, V-6, All Power, One Owner w/27,415 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$16,995**
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Kloppenbergs & Adkins



Sara Elizabeth Kloppenburg and Landon James Adkins will wed April 18, 2009, at The Sara Ellen and Samuel Weisfeld Center in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kloppenburg of Spring and Mrs. Lila Adkins and the late Larry Adkins of Big Spring announce the engagement of their children Sara Elizabeth Kloppenburg and Landon James Adkins.

The couple will unite in marriage at 6 p.m. April 18, 2009 at The Sara Ellen and Samuel Weisfeld Center in Dallas.

Landon is the grandson of Evelyn Adkins, the late Lawrence Adkins, and the late Ima Dell and Floyd Williams.

Sara graduated from Klein High School in 2001 and Landon graduated from Big Spring High School in 2002.

They both majored in finance. Sara graduated from Texas A&M University in May 2005 and Landon graduated from Texas Tech University in December 2005. Both are employed as risk consultants for Protiviti Inc. in Dallas.

Vanderslice & Weatherby

Ms. Anne Vanderslice of Stanton announces the engagement of her daughter, Heather Nicole Vanderslice, to Justin Derik Weatherby, son of Pam and Fred Weatherby of Big Spring.

Heather is the granddaughter of Frank and Billie Faye Conard of Colorado City.

Justin is the grandson of Leon and Nelda Alfano of Big Spring.

The bride-elect is a 2005 graduate of Stanton High School and attended Howard College.

She is now attending Midland College. She is employed by the House of Beauty of Midland.

The future groom is a 2006 graduate of Big Spring High School and attended Midland College. He graduated from the aviation mechanics program.

The couple plan to wed March 13, 2009, at First Baptist Church in Stanton.



Heather Nicole Vanderslice of Stanton and Justin Derik Weatherby of Big Spring plan to wed March 13, 2009, at First Baptist Church in Stanton.

Marshall & DeLeon

Misty Dawn Marshall and Johnny Ray DeLeon, both of Big Spring, will be united in marriage at 6 p.m. March 21, 2009, at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

The bride-elect is the mother of Brooke and Blake Marshall.

She is the daughter of Judy Bayes and her husband, Bobbie, and Jeff Morton and his wife, Mavis.

Misty is the granddaughter of the late R.P. Morton and Ella Ruth Morton and Ray and Dell Phillips, all of Big Spring.

The future groom is the father of Cody DeLeon. He is the son of Ray and Janie DeLeon of Big Spring and grandson of Maria and the late Alfredo Ramirez of Lamesa and the late Ricardo Marrojo of Big Spring.

Misty is a 1991 graduate of Sands High School.

She works as a legal secretary for The Law

Offices of R. Shane Seaton, PLLC.

Johnny is a 1992 graduate of Big Spring High School and a United States Army veteran, military intelligence branch.

He attended Howard College where he received his associates in applied science and associates in science degrees.

He is employed as a program support assistant for the West Texas VA Health Care System.



Misty Dawn Marshall and Johnny Ray DeLeon will be united in marriage at 6 p.m. March 21, 2009, at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Health and Medical Guide

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Friday, Feb. 27, 2009
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WIND

Continued from page 1A

learn about programmable logic controllers, basic electricity, maintenance of the turbines, electromechanical systems and basic hydraulics, just to name a few.

“Right now the course is set as an 18-week course,” said Land. “The fact of the matter is, the people we need to teach the classes work during the day, so most of the classes we’re looking at right now are night classes. However, in the future, if we can get some instructors that can teach during the day, the course could be shortened, possibly even cut in half.

“This is only going to grow, and it could be huge for Howard College. They are currently building a plant in San Angelo that will be constructing the towers these turbines sit on, and it’s expected to open sometime mid-year. Obviously, these people aren’t building a plant

“There’s been a lot of talk recently about the lack of vocational training in the county, and how we need to start supporting our high school students that are graduating but not planning to attend college. This certainly falls into that category. This course could prepare those kids for a career in wind energy. Really, the opportunities are endless.”

Tom Land,
director of workforce training,
Howard College

in West Texas because they are planning to ship those

towers overseas.”

The course could also help support recent efforts to develop vocational training in Howard County, according to Land.

“There’s been a lot of talk recently about the lack of vocational training in the county, and how we need to start supporting our high school students that are graduating but not planning to attend college,” said Land. “This certainly falls into that category. This course could prepare those kids for a career in wind energy. Really, the opportunities are endless.”

Land said the course could lead to an associates or bachelors degree is students follow their training to other campuses.

Anyone with questions regarding the course — or prospective wind gurus interested in teaching — can contact Land by calling 264-5077.

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

COUNTY

Continued from page 1A

approval.

Also during Monday’s meeting, County Auditor Jackie Olson will present the court with invoices, purchase requests and amendments to the budget for the new county jail currently under construction. Olson is also expected to discuss office supplies and approval to purchase computers and printers for the new jail facility.

Don H. Stephens, CPA, is also expected to present the annual financial report for the county, while County Treasurer Teresa Thomas will go over personnel considerations and the payroll reports with commissioners.

Thomas is also expected to discuss with commissioners Sheriff Stan Parker’s recent request to make two of the part-time dispatcher positions full-time, according to Barr.

County Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson will report on pipeline crossings and road maintenance, as well as supplies for his department, including aggregate and asphalt, according to the agenda.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Jimmie Long is also on the agenda and is expected to discuss road repairs in his precinct.

County Clerk Donna Wright will present commissioners with several items for consideration, including approval of official bonds for elected officials, continuing education certificates for both her office and the District Clerk’s office, and notice of a Merger involving Basin Pipeline.

The meeting will get underway at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the second floor of the County Courthouse.

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

LOVE

Continued from page 1A

duction also will provide patrons with a wide variety of sweets, such as chocolate covered strawberries and “Chocolate Decadence” cake.

Cost is \$10. Desserts are served at 7:30 p.m., followed by the production at 8 p.m. Seating is limited and tickets must be picked up by Friday, officials said.

Kirk Davidson, head of the college drama department, said the event will satisfy the sweet tooth and tickle

the funny bone.

“Last year, we did ‘Love Letters’ on Valentine’s Day and people loved it ... but we didn’t want to do the same kind of show this year,” Davidson said. “The real inspiration for this is the old variety shows. You’d have people playing six or seven roles and everything happened very quickly. You’ve got to be ‘on’ immediately. It takes strong, more powerful acting.”

“Odd Couples For Valentines” will feature scenes from 14 Broadway plays, with the majority being Neil Simon favorites such as

“Barefoot in the Park,” “Chapter Two” and “The Odd Couple.”

“We call it ‘Love through the ages,’” Davidson said. “We show it in old age with ‘On Golden Pond,’ with newlyweds in ‘Barefoot in the Park’ and in first-date situations like in ‘Last of the Red-Hot Lovers.’”

For this production, Davidson is handing the directorial reins over to Jason Worthington, a sophomore who has served as technical director for several plays.

“I’ve been wanting to direct for some time,” Worthington said. “It’s

something I’ve always aspired to, but I never had the chance until now.”

Worthington noted that the reality of being a director has differed from his preconceptions.

“It’s actually been easier than I thought it would be,” he said. “I did go into this thinking it might be hard to direct my peers, but they’ve all taken to it pretty well.”

Worthington said running through 14 scenes in less than two hours means a fast-paced production.

“We’re not going to leave the audience any

time to be bored,” he promised. “At the same time, it won’t be so fast that they can’t keep up.”

Contact Cynthia Weeks at 264-5161 for ticket information.

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Paul Blart Mall Cop (PG)
Sun.: 1:20 4:20 7:20

Pink Panther 2 (PG)
Sun.: 1:10 4:10 7:10
Taken (PG)
Sun.: 1:30 4:30 7:30

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Menus

Forsan ISD
Monday
Breakfast
cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch
hot dogs, tater tots, apple & orange smiles, sherbert cups, milk
Tuesday
Breakfast
scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk
Lunch
enchiladas, refried beans, tossed salad, cinnamon apples, milk
Wednesday
Breakfast
cinnamon rolls, yogurt, juice, milk
Lunch
hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, baked beans, baby carrots w/ranch, crispy cereal treat
Thursday
Breakfast
donuts, applesauce, juice, milk
Lunch
taco salad, seasoned fruited gelatin, brownies, milk
Friday
Breakfast
cereal, yogurt, juice,

milk
Lunch
popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, English peas, pineapple tidbits, hot rolls, milk
Coahoma ISD
Monday
Breakfast
oatmeal, ham, apple juice, milk
Lunch
smothered steak, creamed potatoes, peaches, bread, milk,
McRibs
Tuesday
Breakfast
biscuits, gravy, sausage, grape juice, milk
Lunch
pizza, salad, oranges, milk
Wednesday
Breakfast
French toast, syrup, ham, orange juice, milk
Lunch
taco beef pie, ranch beans, baby carrots w/ dressing, Jello w/fruit milk, burritos
Thursday
Breakfast
Pop Tarts, sausage,

apple sauce, milk
Lunch
homemade burritos, potato salad, apples, milk, corn dogs
Friday
Breakfast
pancake sausage on a stick, syrup, apple juice, milk
Lunch
pig in blanket, carrots, peaches, hot pockets
Big Spring ISD
Monday
Breakfast
cinnamon biscuits, fruit juice, milk
Lunch
pig in blanket, baked beans, cucumbers, sliced apples, milk
Tuesday
Breakfast
grilled cheese uncrustables, fruit cocktail, milk
Lunch
chicken enchiladas, refried beans, garden salad, fruit cocktail, milk
Wednesday
Breakfast
blueberry loaf, fruit juice, cheddar cheese

porti, milk
Lunch
barbecue chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, peaches, rolls, milk
Thursday
Breakfast
French toast sticks, pineapple chunks, milk
Lunch
beef/bean burritos, broccoli, cheese sauce, orange smiles, rolls, milk
Friday
Breakfast
breakfast ham/cheese bar, fruit juice, milk
Lunch
hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, French fries, pineapple chunks, bananas, milk

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF WELDON (WD) JONES
AUGUST 20, 1927 - JANUARY 08, 2009

Weldon Jones living in Tishomingo, OK. Went to his Heavenly Home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ January 08, 2009.

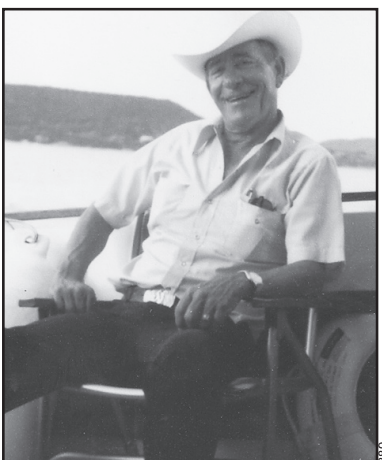
Weldon was born August 20, 1927 to Maudie and Dave (DA) Jones in Eastland, Texas. He spent his early years growing up in Big Spring, Texas. Some of these years were spent working, with his twin, Eldon and their Dad in the Family owned business. However, the twins being movie buffs, it was not unusual for DA to find the twins dump-trucks parked, and the twins enjoying a movie.

Weldon and Eldon volunteered for the US Army and served their country proudly in World War 2. While serving in the service, the twins became friends with another set of twins, Clinton and Clayton Hill. The four would enter and follow the Rodeo Circuit, when time and money permitted.

In Weldon’s work history, he owned his own Paving Company. He spent time living in Alaska and working in the Oil Fields of Alaska. He had a love for Race Horses, he raised them and had a few winners along the way.

Weldon, you are a bright and shining star to our family, and WD, you took a piece of our heart with you, but we now we will see you in our new life so fly high WD.

Maxine Jones Hughey, Eldon Jones, Joyce Jones Streicher, Katie Jones Cathery and Jack Cathery, Wayne and Patsy Owens Jones.



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LeBron loses triple-double due to statistical error

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — LeBron James never saw this steal coming.

Two days after Cleveland's superstar recorded an apparent historic triple-double in a 107-102 win against the New York Knicks, the NBA stripped James of one of his 10 rebounds after reviewing game tape. The league said the rebound with 39.3 seconds left should have been credited to Cavaliers center Ben Wallace, who tapped a loose ball that James grabbed.

Wallace finished with two rebounds but probably should have had more as several tip-outs were not scored as rebounds by the stats crew at Madison Square Garden.

A release from the league said: "All NBA games are reviewed to ensure the accuracy of the game statistics." Wallace benefited from a review in a game at Charlotte on Dec. 6, when a

blocked shot originally credited to Zydrunas Ilgauskas was changed to Wallace.

James finished with 52 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds.

If his triple-double had stood, it would have been the first 50-point game in a triple-double since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1975. Instead, James lost it and the Cavaliers were dealt a second slap from the league as point guard Mo Williams was not picked — for the second time — as an All-Star reserve on Thursday.

With Orlando guard Jameer Nelson out with a shoulder injury, commissioner David Stern selected Boston Celtics guard Ray Allen over Williams, a slight that drew criticism from Cleveland owner Dan Gilbert and several Cavaliers. Williams, who is averaging 17.1 points for the Central-leading Cavs, was also left off the team in a vote by Eastern Conference coaches.

"Ben Wallace was right when he

called Mo originally being passed over for the All-Star game a shamokery," Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert said in a tongue-in-cheek e-mail to The Associated Press. "But not naming him as the natural and obvious replacement for the unfortunately injured Jameer Nelson is stupidiculous, idillogical and preposterageous."

Earlier this week, James called Williams' initial snub as "a total smack in the face."

The Cavaliers, who will put their 23-game home winning streak on the line Sunday against the Los Angeles Lakers, are using Williams' omission as motivation.

"He has played so well all year long and we've played great," forward Wally Szczerbiak said. "Obviously LeBron is what makes our team tick, but there are other guys out there on the floor, especially Mo, who are contributing a lot. It's a real injustice that Mo didn't make it. I don't know,

maybe the coaches haven't seen him enough. I can't understand why.

"He's made big shots and made big plays for us. What are you going to do? We'll just move forward and use it as motivation."

Cleveland will be represented in Phoenix by James as well as coach Mike Brown and his staff. Brown, though, feels the Cavaliers deserved more.

"It's unfortunate that at the end of the day Boston has three guys and Orlando has three guys and we have one," he said after practice on Friday. "LeBron is a hell of a player, but I wonder in people's minds, what does that say about the rest of our team? Defensively we're No. 1. I think our points per game differential is No. 1. Obviously, our record is what it is."

"There are a lot of things stat-wise that show we're a pretty good team. For us not to be represented by multiple guys is disappointing."

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

"Four teams from a district making the playoffs seems a little watered down until you're one of those teams playing for the spot," said Warren. "It keeps our hopes alive. I've been proud of the girls in practice. I think they realize there's still a lot to play for."

A Big Spring win would force a play-in game later in the week between the Lady Steers and Lake View at a time, date and site still to be determined. The winner of that play-in game would earn the final postseason spot out of 4-4A.

Lake View, which is coming off an

84-47 loss to Frenship Friday, simply needs to win Tuesday to get in.

The two teams have met twice this season, each coming away with one win. However, Lake View's victory meant much more as it came as a part of the district season. Big Spring's victory occurred in a pre-district tournament in Clyde.

The Lady Steers had a chance to take down Lake View in San Angelo, but lost late, 37-36. The Maidens were keyed to victory by Mercedes Reyes, who scored 14 points. However, all of her points came in the first half as freshman LaShaunte Anderson completely shut her down in the second.

Unfortunately, Anderson is no longer with the team, meaning Warren must look elsewhere to slow Lake View's top scoring threat.

"We let Reyes get off on us far too much the first time around. She's a great scorer," noted Warren. "We shut her down in the second half and we'll be trying to do that for the whole game Tuesday. Linzee Yarbar has stepped into our defensive stopper role. I think she's done a great job on the defensive end and we're going to put her on Reyes. Lake View will come down the court and force up a lot of shots, even bad ones. If we can get them to do that and then rebound the ball, we've got a great chance of beating them."

To the victor goes the spoils of facing the state's second-ranked Class 4A squad, Canyon, in the first round of the playoffs. Canyon is also one of the most notable and prestigious girls basketball programs in the history of

the sport in Texas.

"Just getting playoff experience is important for us," said Warren. "We're very young and I'd like to think we wouldn't be intimidated playing Canyon. We've played some good teams in Frenship and Plainview and I'd like to think those games would have prepared us for a team like Canyon."

Rankin	10	6	3	17-36
Big Spring	11	18	13	9-51
Rankin: Kody Anderson 11, Hailey Avalos 8, Nadyeh Castillo 5, Shianne Stephens 5, Ceci Hernandez 5, Kylie Wrinkle 2.				
Big Spring (7-19, 0-7): Valerie Ross 17, Bridgette Tuitt 14, Cerbi Ritchey 8, Lauren Porras 4, Linzee Yarbar 4, Taylor Seaton 2, Desiree Anderson 2.				
Free throws: Rankin 9-23, Big Spring 12-19. 3-point goals: Rankin 3 (Anderson 2, Hernandez 1), Big Spring 1 (Ross). Total fouls: Rankin 15, Big Spring 22. Fouled out: Ritchie, Wrinkle.				

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Buffs 62, McCamey 43

Forsan blew open a tight game in

the second period, outscoring McCamey 21-5 in the frame as the Buffs were on their way to a 62-43 victory.

Forsan was led by two double-double performances. Jeremy Robbins scored a game-high 20 points and pulled down 11 rebounds, while Evan Burton put in 15 points and had 13 boards.

"We were able to start off quick and play four good quarters of basketball," said Forsan Head Coach Terry McDonald. "Everyone got to play and contribute to the win."

Forsan hosts rival Stanton at 8 p.m. Friday and can claim an outright district championship with a win. The Buffs defeated Stanton earlier this season in the finals of the Sterling

City Tournament. However, Stanton is responsible for Forsan's only district loss of the season.

Forsan	18	21	15	8-62
McCamey	13	5	7	18-43
Forsan (21-3, 4-1): Jeremy Freitag 6, Jeremy Robbins 20, Jace Sandridge 5, Tristian Clay 5, Ryan Flores 1, Evan Burton 15, Alex Huckabee 2, Nathan Atkerson 8.				
3-point goals: F 6 (Robbins 4, Freitag, Clay).				

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► Weddings

Richard Crowley and Angela Tubb

Angela Rae Tubb and Richard Webster Crowley were married on Aug. 30, 2008, in an outdoor ceremony at Veritas Vineyard in Afton, Va. Brian Vaughan officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Richie and Jill Tubb of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Janie Hunt of Big Spring and Horace and the late Jewel Tubb of Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Stephen Crowley of Kansas City, Mo., and Candy Crowley of Bethesda, Md. He is the grandson of Nadine Alt Leonard and the late Richard Alt Jr. and the late John and Isabel Crowley.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a silk/cotton Mikado strapless A-line gown trimmed with crystal embellished Venice lace from Priscilla of Boston. She carried a hand-tied bouquet of deep purple hydrangeas, Picasso and eggplant mini callas, red dahlias, and purple and white orchids.

Attending the bride were maid of honor Hali Tubb and bridesmaids Brenda Tubb, Tandi Stockton, Lauren Jackman, Amber Glaeser and Lezlie Warren. The flower girl was Karli Tubb.

Serving the groom were best man Jonathan Crowley and groomsmen Todd Benke, Gabe

spray roses. Music for the reception was provided by The Jangling Reinharts.

The groom's parents hosted a rehearsal dinner on Aug. 29, at Ristorante Al Dente in Charlottesville, Va.

The groom received his bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and master's degree from the Medical College of Pennsylvania and graduated from George Washington University Medical School in Washington, D.C. He is currently completing a neurosurgical residency at the University of Virginia.

The bride received her bachelor's degree from Lubbock Christian University and graduated from Texas A&M University College of Medicine. She is a rheumatologist at The Orthopaedic Center of Central Virginia.

After a honeymoon in Bora Bora, the couple made their home in Charlottesville, Va.



Holland Photo Arts

Richard and Angela Crowley

Albornoz, Kwabena Ako-Adjei, Ashok Asthagiri, and Nate Durick. The ring bearer was Cal Jackman.

Immediately following

the ceremony, a seated dinner was served. The four-tiered, white almond wedding cake was accented with fresh purple orchids and red



Courtesy photo

This photo of five generations of the Fred and Nona Carson family was taken at a recent family gathering in Big Spring. From left: Kaden Dae Mead, David Mead, Debra Faye Guerrero, Ann Hayes and Nona Faye Carson

Births

Sunny and Craig Knocke announce the arrival of their son, Connor Blake Knocke on Jan. 28 in Dallas weighing 6 pounds, 14 ounces.

He is the grandson of State Sen. Troy Fraser and Linda Fraser of Horseshoe Bay and Richard and Jeanie Knocke of Big Spring. He is the great grandparents of Jo Fraser of Horseshoe Bay and Harold and Emma Jean Hall and R.J. Knocke of Big Spring



Connor Blake Knocke

Connor was welcomed home by big brother Davis.

One online dating service won't do

NEW YORK (AP) — When it comes to love, Kathleen Hanover is searching for a needle in a haystack. So to find Mr. Right, she has profiles on at least five online dating sites.

Hanover, who owns a marketing business, figured it's simple math. "You have to have a big pool of leads to find the percentage who might feel right," said Hanover, 43, of Dayton, Ohio. "I'm looking for a very specific kind of man."

With 1,400 online dating sites, according to research firm Hitwise, many singles are finding it easy to cast a wide

net, posting profiles on multiple sites in the hopes of reeling in the one.

Melissa Galt, an interior designer and motivational speaker in Atlanta, was on four sites at once and compared it to having a second full-time job. One site she used was about "quantity and not necessarily quality." Another was better suited to one-night stands.

Markus Frind, CEO of the free dating site Plentyoffish.com, estimates 15 percent of the people in the United States who are active on his site are members of other, paid dating sites.

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Supper Club, "Red Mesa", 5:30 pm
- Feb. 11 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 am "Roast Beef"
Movie Wednesday's 1:00 pm "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
- Feb. 12 - Mall Walking, 8:00 am
Just Peachy Café, 10:00 am \$3.50 Thursday's
- Feb. 13 - Valentine's Pot Luck & Bingo, 11:30-2:00 pm
- Feb. 15 - MCT "Les Miserables", 1:00 pm
- Feb. 16 - Games 1:00-4:00 pm "Hand & Foot Canasta"
- Feb. 17 - Mall Walking, 8 a.m.
Supper Club "Herman's", 5:30 pm
- Feb. 18 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 am
Smothered Pork Chop, LUNCH-N-LEARN 11:30 pm
Movie Wednesday's, 1:00 pm "Clambake"
- Feb. 19 - Mall Walking, 8 am
"Just Peachy Cafe", 10:00 am \$3.50
Thursday's, Bunko, 5:00 pm
- Feb. 20 - Meet & Greet, 1:00-2:30 pm
- Feb. 23 - Games 1-4 pm "Hand & Foot Canasta"
- Feb. 24 - Mall Walking, 8 am
Supper Club, "Cowboy's", 5:30 pm
- Feb. 25 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 am "Cordon Blu",
Movie Wednesday's 1:00 pm, "Shall We Dance"
- Feb. 26 - Mall Walking, 8 am
Just Peachy Cafe, 10:00 am \$3.50 Thursday's

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I got flowers today!
It wasn't our anniversary or any other special day;
Last night he threw me into a wall and then started choking me;
It seemed like a nightmare, but you wake up to find they aren't real;
I woke up this morning sore and bruised all over - but I know he must be sorry;
Because he sent me flowers today
I got flowers today!
And it wasn't Valentines Day or any other special day;
Last night he beat me and threatened to kill me, Make-up and long sleeves didn't hide the cuts and bruises this time;
I couldn't go to work today because I didn't want anyone to know - but I know he's sorry;
Because he sent me flowers today.
I got flowers today
Today was a very special day -
It was my funeral;
Last night he finally killed me - I was beaten to death;
If only I would have gathered the courage and strength to leave him;
The Women's Shelter could have helped me, but I didn't ask for their help;
So I got flowers today ... for the last time.

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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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OUR VIEW

2-1-1 Day's message is a simple one

Concerned about your health or living condition and don't really know who to call? Maybe you're concerned about a loved one's health, but don't know where to turn. Well, the answer is simple: Just dial 2-1-1.

That's the message officials with 2-1-1 Permian Basin — a free information and referral line offered by the Permian Basin Workforce Development Board and answered by nationally-certified specialists — are hoping the residents of West Texas get Wednesday, which has been declared 2-1-1 Day in the Lone Star State.

"We want every individual in the Permian Basin to know that 2-1-1 is the number to call when he or she just does not know whom to call," said Juanita Castilleja, director of 2-1-1 Permian Basin. "When you dial 2-1-1, a trained expert will listen to your needs and provide anonymous referrals to local community resources that can help with everything from finding food, housing and child care to crisis counseling or substance abuse treatment.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission declared Wednesday as 2-1-1 Day, in order to educate organizations, agencies, individuals and other service entities about the free, three-digit phone number that puts callers in touch with services in their community that can improve their health and quality of life.

The February date will be the first time 2-1-1 Day has been celebrated throughout Texas.

"When callers dial 2-1-1, they are connected to area information centers in their region," said Castilleja. "These experts have access to the most comprehensive data base of community-based organizations, government agencies and non-profits that exist in Texas."

What's more, 2-1-1 personnel can provide information in more than 90 languages, including Spanish.

Resources available through 2-1-1 are far reaching, including information for assistance with domestic violence programs, drug and alcohol treatment, elder care services, emergency shelter and food, family counseling, housing assistance, legal help, disaster response and relief, prenatal health and home care and temporary financial and energy assistance.

In other words, if you have a need and don't know where to go, call 2-1-1.

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We can steer clear of complications, Lord, when we give them to You to handle.

Amen

The road to romance

Looking for your Mr. Right may sometimes seem like a futile journey. Some "experts" suggest that too many of us are clueless about what we really want or need and explain this as the reason we don't find a permanent partner.

Perhaps your love life has not been a bed of roses. And if you're like me, you've been dumped more times than you want to say. I wish someone had told me, "He's just not that into you!" These words of wisdom might have kept me from wasting so many days (or weeks) pining over what I thought was lost love.

I had seven years of dating prior to meeting my husband. And during those years I traveled many miles on the road from rejection to romance.

Rejection can leave you feeling devastated. It can seem impossible to get past the hurt. At such times I usually wanted to withdraw into my little burrow and hide away from the world. But time truly healed all wounds, and I found myself back in the saddle -- at least until I was thrown off the horse again!

After a fall, most folks advise: "Dust yourself off and get back on the horse."

This reminds me of the time Jesus told his disciples to "shake off the dust of their feet" (Matthew 10:14) when they were faced with folks who didn't welcome them into their communities or want to hear what they had to say. He seemed to be telling them to just move on in those instances, to not make a scene, to not hang around and try to force the situation. There were plenty of people who would be interested in them elsewhere, just as there is someone who will be interested in each of us.

Some people promise you're most likely to find Mr. Right when you're not looking for him. And I suppose this is what happened to me. But just because I wasn't specifically looking for my husband at Six Flags over Texas that hot summer day, doesn't mean I wasn't a hopeful romantic and very expectant that Mr. Right would cross my path --eventually.

I had spent my dating years implementing the "Are you my husband?" method. Remember the Dr. Seuss book, Are you my mother? A baby bird is hatched while his mother is away. After falling from his nest, the confused little bird sets out to find his mother and asks everyone he meets the big question -- including a dog, a cow and even an airplane.

Every man I dated was evaluated with my big question in mind. And, frankly, after years of unsuccessful hunting by this method, I came to the realization

that too much analysis caused me to miss out on a lot of fun and friendships, and in the end, I still had no husband.

A few months before I met my husband (of 28 years now), I decided I needed a new approach to my pursuit of lasting romance.

Friends advised me to focus on living a full and happy life rather than searching desperately for a husband. "Do things you like to do and you'll meet others who love to do the same as you." Good advice!

Psychologists say the key to getting off the dating merry-go-round requires nothing more than taking the time to get to know yourself before you try to get to know someone else. Also good advice!

So take heart my single friends. I believe God peoples the world so none of us have to be alone.

We're walking this life journey together -- side by side. And we're never really alone because our Father is with us.

Don't waste time in dismay when your Mr. Today turns out not to be your Mr. Forever.

I met my husband when I least expected to.

The same thing could happen to you, too.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality.com. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com.

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

• RANDY NEUGEBAUER

U.S. Representative
19th Congressional Dist.
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

STATE GOVERNMENT

• RICK PERRY

Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• JOE HEFLIN

State Representative
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (432) 213-2897 or
(512) 463-0604

• KEL SELIGER

State Senator
401 Austin, Suite 101
Big Spring, 79720
Phone: (432) 268-9909

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

Russ McEwen, Mayor —
Home: 263-0907; Work:
267-1413.

Greg Biddison — Home:
267-6009; Work: 267-
7121.

Manuel Ramirez Jr.
—Home: 268-9692; Work:
263-7361.

Stephanie Horton —
Home: 264-0306; Work:
263-7361..

JoAnn Staulcup —

Home: 263-4980.

Gloria McDonald —
Home: 263-4835. Work:
263-7615.

Troy Tompkins — Home:
267-8769. Work: 263-
0180.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mark Barr, County
Judge — Home and Office:
(432) 517-0707.

Emma Brown — Home:
267-2649.

Jerry Kilgore — 263-
0724; Work: 267-5471.

Jimmie Long — Home:
466-0793.

Gary Simer — Home:
263-0260.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Once again we say, "hats off" to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the staff, physicians, nurses and volunteers.

Our treatment was caring and prompt. The room was sparkling clean, the food was good and we are just so happy to have such a facility right here at home.

Special thanks to Drs. Ladd Hoffman, Manish Shroff and Rudy Haddad for excellent care. And thanks too to the Senior Circle and the special features afforded circle members..

DEAN AND JOANNE FORREST
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I would first like to congratulate our new sheriff, Stan Parker, and wish him the best of luck.

It astonishes me how some "law enforcement" personnel (and I use this word lightly), amounted to nothing while growing up in this town. But give them a job, which takes no education to obtain, give them a badge and they think they actually are someone/something special.

More specifically, Sheriff Parker has his hands full having to deal with some of his deputies who have somehow acquired a terrible disease, known as the "God complex."

It was only a couple of months back when a letter to the editor was written about how these "deputies" have some vendetta against the Atkinson family.

Tammeye Jan Atkinson passed away and was taken from our lives on Jan. 27, 2009. Her passing had not even been a week before these "deputies" began harassing the family, once again.

I feel sorry for any individual that has such low self-esteem that they cannot allow a family to grieve before they began to show how uneducated and corrupt they truly are.

Because of my relationship

with the Atkinsons, I too am being targeted and harassed, with multiple unjust and false accusations. One of which is that I am "presenting myself as a licensed practicing attorney."

This letter is to inform, openly and publicly, so that there can be no misconceptions or mistakes, while I have received my juris doctorate (juris doctor, or doctor of jurisprudence, commonly abbreviated J.D., is the degree commonly conferred by law schools, required in all states except California to gain admission to the bar) from St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio.

I am not a licensed practicing attorney in this state at this time.

Once again, I would like to congratulate Sheriff Parker and send out my condolences for the hard work he has ahead of him. I eagerly await our newly-elected sheriff's dedication to his position and show the citizens of Howard County that law enforcement individuals should be courteous and respectful.

In return, they will be respected. I am sure Sheriff Parker will show compassion and respect to the Atkinson family in this time of their loss.

I know Sheriff Parker will "clean house," to include, but not limited to discharging any and all "deputies" which have been tormented and inflicted with the terrible "God complex" disease.

RONALD J. HOPE
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

In the discussion and debate on the economic recovery legislation, Congress needs to make poor families and vulnerable workers central priorities. Low-income families and individuals who are experiencing the greatest hardship have the least capacity to cope in this time of economic crisis. By providing

these people with the assistance they need, they are the ones who most likely will use the new resources quickly to purchase the essentials of life and would help to move our economy forward.

The recovery legislation needs to avoid partisan or ideological agendas and to focus on the needs of the most needy. These programs include increasing funds for nutritional assistance through food stamps and other programs, protecting low-income families from losing Medicaid and social service assistance and extending unemployment insurance benefits.

As both the House and the Senate consider different versions of the economic stimulus package entitled "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009," special consideration must also be shown for increases to HUD's emergency shelter grant program that helps families avoid eviction and obtain new housing.

This new legislation should capitalize on the new Housing Trust Fund which would employ workers in the construction or rehabilitation of homes for families facing dire situations.

And this recovery plan should also create jobs for unemployed and underemployed people in private, non-profit and public sectors that advance important national priorities reflecting good stewardship of resources. Special emphasis needs to be given to strengthen and expand the refundable Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit that would offer assistance to poor working families.

This is not a time to seek economic or partisan advantage. This is a time for our national leadership to pursue the common good, beginning with help for families and communities.

THE REV. MICHAEL PFEIFER
BISHOP
DIOCESE OF SAN ANGELO

Report: A-Rod used steroids in '03 season

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez tested positive for steroids in his MVP season of 2003, according to a report by Sports Illustrated.

The New York Yankees star tested positive for two anabolic steroids, four sources told Sports Illustrated in a story posted Saturday on its Web site.

His name appears on a list of 104 players who tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs in a 2003 baseball survey, the magazine said. He reportedly tested positive for Primobolan and testosterone while playing for the Texas Rangers.

Rodriguez declined to discuss the tests when approached by SI on Thursday at a gym in Miami, where he lives in the offseason.

"You'll have to talk to the union," he told a reporter. Calls from SI to union head Donald Fehr were not returned.

An e-mail from The Associated Press to Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras, was not immediately returned. The Yankees and Fehr had no comment.

In a December 2007 interview with "60 Minutes," three days after George Mitchell's report on drugs in the sport was released, Rodriguez denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

"I've never felt over-matched on the baseball field. ... I felt that if I did my, my work as I've done since I was, you know, a rookie back in

Seattle, I didn't have a problem competing at any level," he said.

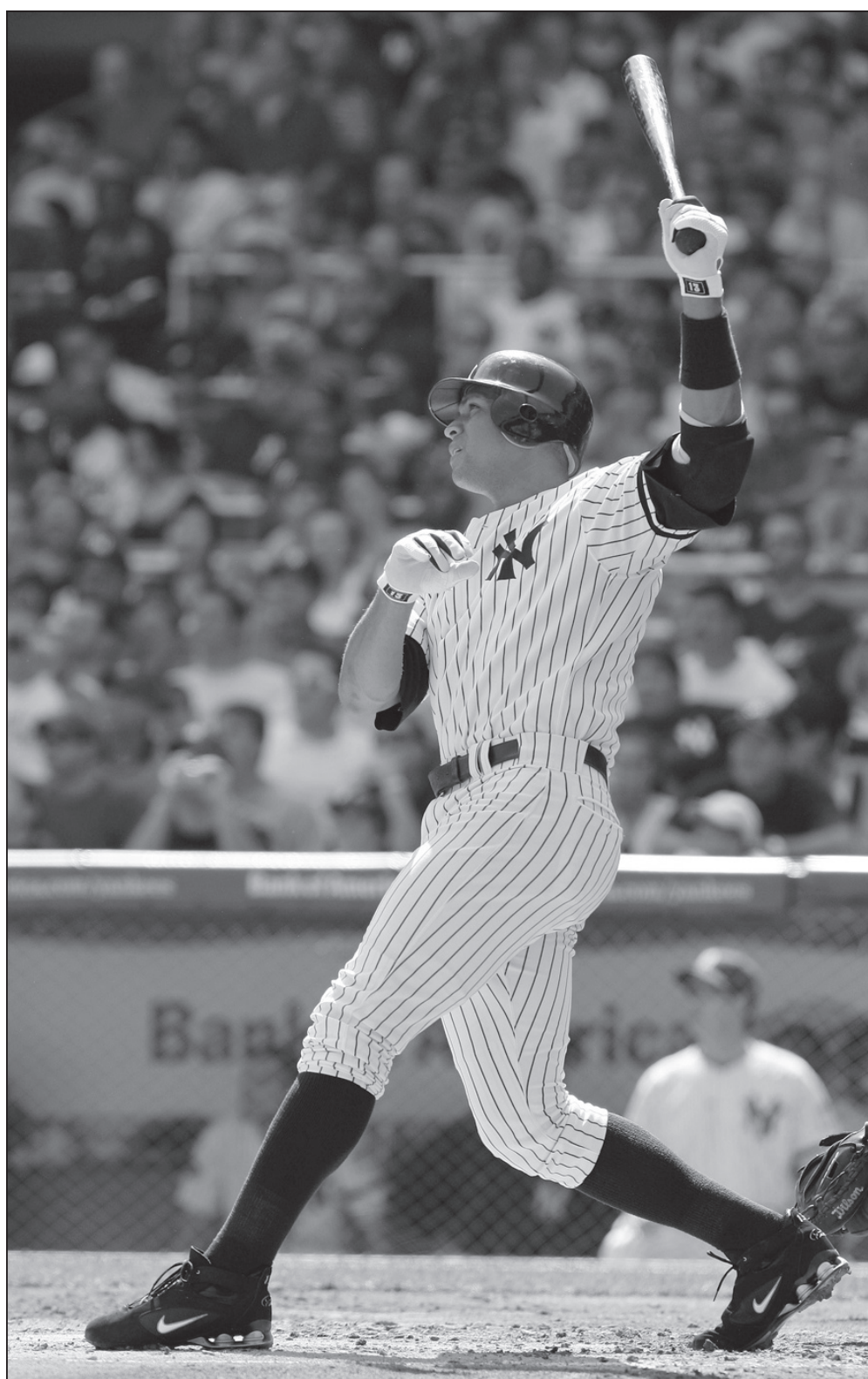
Rodriguez played for the Rangers in 2003, when he won the AL home run title and MVP award. He was traded to the Yankees in 2004. He is drawing a major league-high \$27 million salary after signing a record \$275 million, 10-year contract with New York in 2007.

The revelations come at a time when baseball's focus on drugs has concerned Barry Bonds and the legal maneuvering leading to the start of his trial March 2. The government is trying to prove the home run king lied when he told a grand jury he never knowingly took performance-enhancing drugs.

Rodriguez until now has had an offseason dominated by talk of disclosures in Joe Torre's recently released book. The former Yankee manager wrote of the pressure A-Rod puts on himself and the third baseman's need to command the stage. Torre said some in the Yankees clubhouse referred to Rodriguez as "A-Fraud," although Torre made light of that during interviews promoting his book, "The Yankee Years."

Baseball's drug policy prohibited the use of steroids without a valid prescription since 1991, but there were no penalties for a positive test in 2003.

As part of an agreement with the players'



AP file photo

In this 2008 file photo, New York Yankee's Alex Rodriguez hits a grand slam in the first inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays at Yankee Stadium in New York. Sports Illustrated has reported Rodriguez tested positive for steroids in 2003.

union, the testing in 2003 was conducted to determine if it was necessary to impose mandatory random drug testing across the major leagues in 2004.

The results of the testing of 1,198 players were meant to be anonymous under the agreement between the commissioner's office and the union. SI reported that

Rodriguez's testing information was found after federal agents, with search warrants, seized the 2003 results from Comprehensive Drug Testing, Inc., in Long Beach, Calif.

That was one of two labs used by baseball in connection with the testing. The seizure in April 2004 was part of the government's investigation

into 10 baseball players linked to the BALCO scandal, the magazine reported. Rodriguez has not been connected to BALCO.

Primobolan, also known as methenolone, is an injected or orally administered drug. It improves strength and maintains lean muscle with minimal bulk development.

Contract talks stall between TTU, Leach

LUBBOCK (AP) — Contentious negotiations on a new contract for Texas Tech coach Mike Leach have stalled largely on questions of what happens if he tries to leave the Red Raiders.

Leach and his agents have taken issue with termination and buy-out clauses and a provision that would trigger the coach's firing and a \$1.5 million penalty if he interviewed for another job without permission, according to documents released by Texas Tech University Friday.

"It's pretty much out of my hands. I'm just focused on coaching football," Leach told The Associated Press late Friday.

In his current deal, which has two years remaining, Leach has no restrictions on interviewing elsewhere.

Athletic director Gerald Myers wrote to one of Leach's agents that approval for interviews "would not be withheld unreasonably, but we want you as his agent to stop shopping Coach Leach everywhere and him not saying anything to deny that he's looking for another job."

The letter was among 92 pages of correspondence between school officials and Leach's agents released to several media outlets through an open-records request.

The letters and e-mails were obtained by The Associated Press.

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Chiefs name Haley new head coach

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Whenever conversation at the Haley family dinner table turned to football, it was more than just talk.

It was education. While Dick Haley was personnel director at Pittsburgh and helping craft the great Steelers dynasty of the 1970s, Todd Haley was taking it all in.

Todd Haley rose to prominence this year as offensive coordinator for the NFC champion Arizona Cardinals and on Friday, just weeks

shy of his 42nd birthday, was introduced as head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs.

"I would not be where I'm at right now without my father, or without having the father that I did," said Haley.

He replaces Herm Edwards, who was fired at the end of a 2-14 season, and fills the NFL's last remaining head coaching vacancy.

Dick Haley was personnel director at Pittsburgh from 1971-90 before going on to other front office jobs in the NFL.

"He knew what good was," Todd Haley said. "And I've just always believed that was a big asset of mine, the fact

I grew up in personnel, went to bowl games with him, went to practice with him, watched tape on the wall with him."

One of the people who worked under the elder Haley in New York was Scott Pioli, who was hired as Chiefs general manager last month. Pioli became friends with his new head coach when the two were with the New York Jets.

"I worked for Todd's father, Dick, who's probably one of the finest personnel men in the history of the National Football League," Pioli said.

"Todd has a very unique background, and something I told (Chiefs

owner) Clark (Hunt) was important was finding a head coach who not only understands personnel, but understands scouting, understands football players. I think Todd brings a very unique background in the sense that he grew up in a football family. His father was a personnel director and one of the best ever."

Haley inherits a team that lost all but two of its past 25 games and is joining a franchise that hasn't won a postseason game since an aging Joe Montana was quarterback in the 1993 season.

"Todd is very bright," Pioli said. "He's extremely dedicated and very strong-willed."

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BIG SPRING HERALD

Club news

Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association hosted Dr. Steven L. Brown at its Jan. 19 meeting in Howard College's Cactus Room. Dr. Brown is a noted cardiologist and author in Midland. His topic, and the title of his book, is "Navigating the Medical Maze."

In his presentation, Dr. Brown gave the Top Five Worst Reasons to Pick a Doctor. These included: the State Board only caught him twice; he'll talk to me if I block his exit from the room; and he has a nice receptionist. Dr. Brown emphasized one of the most important positive reasons to select a doctor is character, and described qualities that indicate character, such as: he or she shows self-sacrifice in that he replies quickly to pages and urgent calls, and he is interested in my condition.

Patients were reminded to always bring all of their medicine containers with them to visits. Alternative medicine was also discussed and there was a question and answer period.

There will be a retirement education meeting Feb. 7 at Abel Hanger School in Midland for school employees nearing retirement. In the past, these meetings have been well-attended and very informative.

Members turned in their records of

miles walked and volunteer hours. These will be tabulated by the District TRTA and submitted to the state. This information is used to point out the many volunteer hours contributed by retired school personnel and their efforts to maintain good health, thereby eliminating many medical visits.

Our next meeting will be Feb. 16 with Carol Horton of Odessa speaking about untitled property. This information will be useful and all interested individuals are invited to meet with us.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful

Keep Big Spring Beautiful met in the Cactus Room at Howard College Monday, Feb. 2.

Pat Simmons gave the invocation and Walter Ward, new president, called the meeting to order. After minutes and financials were approved, Walter reminded the group that this year's dues are now payable.

Bobby McDonald reported on the e-waste project. Several firms are no longer accepting recycled material and Bobby will search for another firm.

Debbie Wegman will work on our KAB certification. Debbie also addressed the logo sign progress.

In new business, it was decided to apply to take over the Adopt-a-

Spot formerly kept clean by Pat and Walter Ward as a group responsibility.

Upcoming events for 2009 include the Don't Mess With Texas Trash-off April 4, headed by Pat Simmons, and our annual golf tournament handled by Verna Davis, Jan Hansen and Willie Ledford. We will observe Arbor Day April 25 or 25, conduct the Love Our Lake project May 9 and Sept. 5.

We also participated in the Feb. 5 Chamber Banquet.

Todd Darden introduced Chad Averette, new supervisor for code enforcement for the city.

Our next meeting will be March 2 in the Cactus Room. Volunteers are welcome!

TOPS Club

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Club was called to order with the TOPS cheer led by Laura Sickles. The TOPS pledge was led by Dennis Stapel and the KOPS pledge by Ethel Cassidy. The welcome song was sung by all members.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Linda Stapel and approved by all members. Roll call by Hughetta Roberts showed nine TOPS and two KOPS weighed in.

Frank Sickles was applauded as best loser for the week with a 7.5-pound loss. He was awarded \$1 and a Best Loser certificate.

The business portion reminded all members of the State Recognition Day coming April 17-18 in Wichita Falls. Be sure to get your registration fee and hotel reservations in early.

A new contest will begin in February. A wrapped prize will have all members' names written on it. A weekly loss will keep a name on; a gain will erase the gainer's name. The last name on the prize box will win the gift inside.

In March, another contest, "Yes I can" will begin and points will be awarded for weight loss and points subtracted for gains. The most points at the end of the contest will be the winner. The prize will be revealed later.

A program, "When to Eat What and What to Eat When," was presented. Questions with true or false answers gave all member something to ponder on the coming week.

All visitors are welcome. If you have questions about our meetings, call Frank Sickles at (432) 213-1342 or Olnee Menges at 263-6819.

TOPS Club meets at 5:30 p.m. Mondays. Weightpin begins at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church fellowship hall, 10th and Goliad.

We hope, if you have a weight problem, you will come and check us out. TOPS Club does help. We need you and you need us.

See you there.

Church news

St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church invites you to join a loving, caring congregation. Services are

led by Pastor Wayne K. Frost. Sunday worship begins at 9 a.m. with adult, youth and children's Sunday school at 10:15 a.m.

There will be a special

presentation Sunday by Richard Sanders following worship service. Pictures and information on his upcoming mission trip will be discussed.

Small group Bible study classes are available. Contact the church office at 267-7163 for places and times.

February items for Operation Ongoing Support for our troops are: Chapstick, Blistex, hand sanitizers and licorice. You can also donate to the AT&T Phone Card Fund.

Who's who

Navy Seaman Recruit Allan W. Belew, son of Virginia and Richard D. Belew of Big Spring, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Belew completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp

is "Battle Stations". This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Belew is a 2002 graduate of Coahoma High School of Coahoma.

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Don't let life without peanut butter be a downer

(AP)—Whether salmonella has them spooked or allergies make them averse, plenty of people are passing on peanut butter.

Peanut butters sold directly to consumers have not been affected by the current recalls. But if you're giving peanut butter a pass, there are plenty of options for making do (or just mak-

ing lunch) without it.

Here are some simple substitutions that won't leave you feeling like a culinary victim.

PEANUT NOODLES

The gist here is you toss warm noodles with a spicy sauce made from peanut butter, hot peppers, scallions and usually a splash each of vinegar and soy sauce.

Some grilled chicken or shrimp often are added for good measure.

If tree nuts aren't your concern (peanuts are a legume, but some people with peanut allergies also have tree nut allergies), cashew butter is the best choice. It is ultra rich and creamy, making it a perfect foil for the other flavors in the sauce.

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Energy Watch



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

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



Good Bank/Bad Bank —have you heard about this? The government appears to be closer to adopting a new way to deal with bad loans on bank balance sheets.

Under the new approach the FDIC would create a new entity (a "bad bank") that would buy the bad loans from other banks leaving them with a healthier balance sheet (a "good bank").

The problem as we see it, has always been valuing the bad bank loans.

The FDIC could use several methods including pricing the bad loans at a value similar to other loans, using models to estimate the value of the loan or simply pricing them based on the judgment of the FDIC officials.

Valuing the loans was always a problem under the original troubled asset rescue package passed last fall.

Once the bad loans are turned over to the government, officials can more easily modify the loans in order to potentially prevent foreclosures. At this point, there is a lot of discussion about this approach but nothing is finalized.

We feel that the bad bank proposal is interesting on a foreclosure level but likely won't cause banks to increase lending, which is also a core problem.

The biggest problem with the plans is that the banks likely won't rush to participate in the selling of assets if the new administration wants to pay the greatly reduced "fair" market value for the assets as the capital loss to banks would likely be too great.

We are also concerned about two other developments last week that could negatively impact the markets near term.

The confirmation of Timothy Geithner as Treasury Secretary could raise fears that the changes and transparency offered by the new administration could fall short.

This could hurt confidence and raise the realization that the government now lacks the checks and balance of one party in the White House, and another in the Congress. Also, the anxiously awaited stimulus package is out and reported to be loaded with pork and light on programs that will really stimulate the economy now.

The package could be adjusted and perhaps will provide more stimulation than is now apparent. Our concern may be misplaced and we certainly hope so. As always, we will let the stock market tell us whether these concerns are valid and whether or not investor confidence will be hurt. We still believe the bigger picture is an economy that will be doing better in the second half of 2009 and that we are bottoming out of the bear market.

For crude, prices drifted mostly sideways last week, fixed within recent trading ranges by the opposing pressures of OPEC's production cuts, and concerns over oil demand amid the continued slowdown in worldwide economic activity. Concern over the global economy wasn't helped by news from Japan that its industrial production fell by 9.6 percent in December after already plunging 8.5 percent in November.

Counteracting the gloomy economic backdrop, the United Arab Emirates said late last week, that it will cut oil supply in March by 10 to 15 percent. The news was followed by tanker tracker Oil Movements saying that crude oil exports for OPEC, excluding Angola and Ecuador, are forecast to fall to 23.55 million barrels a day from 23.71 million barrels a day.

As we see it, production cuts are oil producer's greatest pricing weapon against a sagging global economy.

We do believe that at some point in the future, supply side efforts and economic recovery will converge potentially giving rise to prices.

Past Performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced on January 30, 2009 by Al Goldman, Wachovia Securities Chief Market Strategist. Wachovia Securities did not assist in the preparation of this article, and its accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed. The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Wachovia Securities or its affiliates. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy any security or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Additional information is available upon request (432)684-7335. Wachovia Securities, LLC., member SIPC is a registered broker dealer and a separate nonblank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.



AP Photo/Evan Vucci

President Barack Obama speaks to the House Democratic Issues Conference in Williamsburg, Va.

President: Jobless numbers demand immediate action

By PHILIP ELLIOTT

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama decried as "inexcusable and irresponsible" the delay of his economic recovery legislation in Congress with an estimated 3.6 million Americans losing their jobs since the recession began.

Obama's remarks were some of his most direct and pointed in support of the massive economic package that the Senate considered Friday and tried to pare down below its \$900-billion-plus price tag. Obama acknowledged it was not perfect and pledged to work with lawmakers to refine the measure, which he called "absolutely necessary."

"But broadly speaking, the package is the right size, it is the right scope, and it has the right priorities to create 3 to 4 million jobs, and to do it in a way that lays the groundwork for long-

"These numbers demand action. It is inexcusable and irresponsible for any of us to get bogged down in distraction, delay or politics as usual while millions of Americans are being put out of work."

President Barack Obama

term growth," Obama said at a ceremony in the White House East Room.

The president named an outside economic team of advisers as the nation dealt with more bad news in the unemployment report for January. Employers slashed payrolls by 598,000, the most since the end of 1974, propelling the unemployment rate to 7.6

percent. The rate is the highest since September 1992.

"These numbers demand action. It is inexcusable and irresponsible for any of us to get bogged down in distraction, delay or politics as usual while millions of Americans are being put out of work," Obama said bluntly. "Now is the time for Congress to act."

Borrowing themes from an address the night before to fellow Democrats on retreat in Williamsburg, Va., Obama reminded lawmakers that voters gave them the White House and control of Congress.

"They did not choose more of the same in November," Obama said Friday. "They did not send us to Washington to get stuck in partisan posturing, to try to score political points. They did not send us here to turn back to the same tried and failed approaches that were rejected because we saw

See **JOBS**, page 6C

Oil drops below \$40 on dismal jobs report

By CHRIS KAHN

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oil prices dropped below \$40 Friday as the government reported U.S. employers slashed more than a half million jobs last month, the most in 35 years.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery fell \$1.67 to \$39.50 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The Labor Department reported 598,000 jobs were lost in January. The unemployment rate rose to 7.6 percent, the highest since 1992.

Oil traders see layoffs as an instant drag on oil demand. People have less need for gasoline when they no longer have a daily commute. They also cut their spending for toys, non-stick pans, raincoats and millions of other products that are made with petroleum.

"The economy's ugly. We know it's ugly," analyst and trader Stephen

Schork said. For a sustained rebound in oil prices, "you have to stop seeing the economy contract. You have to stop seeing people get laid off. We probably won't see much of that this year."

The number of people remaining on the unemployment compensation rolls increased slightly to nearly 4.8 million, the most since records began in 1967.

Many more are likely to come. Chrysler LLC said Friday it will temporarily close four assembly plants next week because of weak U.S. sales.

Spokesman Max Gates said additional closures are possible because the company reviews its production schedules every week.

Amid the gloom, some companies are performing above analysts' beaten-down expectations. Wal-Mart's sales beat Wall Street's forecasts and Macy's department store, which this week

said it would slash 7,000 jobs, raised its fourth-quarter and full-year forecasts.

Elsewhere, investors also are keeping a wary eye on China and other developing countries for signs of how far the global recession has spread. Chinese factories were expected to continue to pump up oil demand, but experts are no longer betting on this.

Recent reports from the Chinese government say 20 million people have been thrown out of work, and experts now believe that the country's once-burgeoning economy has stalled.

Oil traders also are watching for possible further production cuts by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which has already promised to reduce output by 4.2 million barrels since September.

OPEC leaders have said they may reduce supplies again at the

group's next meeting in March.

"I think they'll try to talk the market up rather than actually cut again," said Gerard Rigby, an energy analyst with Fuel First Consulting in Sydney. "They still need to sell their oil to get revenue."

Oil prices won't likely fall much below \$40 a barrel and should trade in the \$50s by the end of the year, Rigby said.

"In second half, the economy should be turning around, and once we see that, commodities should start to improve," Rigby said.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline futures fell 3.14 cents to \$1.2434 a gallon.

Heating oil dropped 3.61 cents to \$1.3311 a gallon, while natural gas for March delivery rose 2.5 cents to \$4.667 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, the March Brent contract gave up \$1.11 at \$45.35 on the ICE Futures exchange.

News in brief

Moderate Democrats, GOP forge deal to trim

\$100 billion from stimulus bill
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's economic recovery plan is on track to pass the Senate after a handful of moderate Republicans and Democrats forced more than \$100 billion in cuts in programs that wouldn't create many jobs right away.

But the group backed away from a confrontation that threatened to kill the legislation altogether after White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel weighed in to urge Democrats make a final round of concessions.

Architects of the compromise included Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Ben Nelson, D-Neb., who represented a broader group of moderates unhappy that so much money went into programs they thought wouldn't create jobs.

Eventually, every Republican except Collins and Arlen Specter, R-Pa., left the talks, which finally produced a deal with the White House late Friday afternoon.

While ensuring passage of Obama's plan in the Senate within a few days, the deal sets up difficult negotiations with the House.

Officials put the cost of the bill at \$827 billion, including Obama's signature tax cut of up to \$1,000 for working couples.

Also included is a tax credit of up to \$15,000 for homebuyers and smaller breaks for people buying new cars. Much of the new spending would be for victims of the recession, in the form of unemployment compensation, health care and food stamps.

FDA: Company shipped peanut products after receiving tests confirming salmonella

WASHINGTON (AP) — As far back as 2007, salmonella-laced products were shipped by a Georgia peanut company that knew the peanuts probably were tainted and sometimes after tests confirmed that contamination, inspection records show.

Federal law forbids producing or

shipping foods under conditions that could make it harmful to consumers' health.

Food and Drug Administration officials earlier had said Peanut Corp. of America waited for a second test to clear peanut butter and peanuts that initially were positive for salmonella. But the agency amended its report Friday, saying that the Blakely, Ga., plant actually shipped some products before receiving the second test and sold others after confirming salmonella.

In 2007, the company shipped chopped peanuts on July 18 and 24 after salmonella was confirmed by private lab tests, the FDA report said. Peanut Corp. sold products "on or after the positive salmonella results were obtained."

In other cases, the company didn't wait for a second round of salmonella tests.

Contractor awarded \$35M contract in spite of criminal investigation into deaths

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense contractor KBR Inc. has been awarded a \$35 million Pentagon contract involving major electrical work, even as it is under criminal investigation in the electrocution deaths of at least two U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

The announcement of the new KBR contract came just months after the Pentagon, in strongly worded correspondence obtained by The Associated Press, rejected the company's explanation of serious mistakes in Iraq and its proposed improvements. A senior Pentagon official, David J. Graff, cited the company's "continuing quality deficiencies" and said KBR executives were "not sufficiently in touch with the urgency or realities of what was actually occurring on the ground."

"Many within DOD (the Department of Defense) have lost or are losing all remaining confidence in KBR's ability to successfully and repeatedly perform the required electrical support services mission in Iraq," wrote Graff, commander of the Defense Contract Management Agency, in a

Sept. 30 letter.

Graff rejected the company's claims that it wasn't required to follow U.S. electrical codes for its work on U.S. military facilities in Iraq.

KBR has said it would cost an extra \$560 million to refurbish buildings in Iraq used by the U.S. military, including Saddam Hussein's palaces, which among other problems are based on a 220-volt standard rather than the American 120-volt standard.

KBR announced last week it won a new \$35.4 million contract from the Army Corps of Engineers to design and build a convoy support center at Camp Adder in southern Iraq.

It will include a power plant, electrical distribution center, water purification and distribution systems, wastewater and information systems and road paving.

Board investigates doctor who helped woman become pregnant with octuplets

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The fertility doctor who helped a California woman have 14 children, including octuplets born last month, is now facing a state investigation on top of harsh criticism from medical ethicists.

The Medical Board of California did not identify the doctor who helped Nadya Suleman, 33, of Whittier, become pregnant with the six boys and two girls born on Jan. 26. Suleman has six other children.

"We're looking into the matter to see if we can substantiate if there was a violation of the standard of care," board spokeswoman Candis Cohen said Friday. She did not elaborate.

Suleman, a divorced single mother, told NBC's "Today" show that the same fertility specialist provided in vitro fertilization for all 14 children using sperm donated by a friend.

In the interview broadcast Friday, Suleman also said six embryos were implanted for each of her pregnancies. In her latest, two of Suleman's embryos split, resulting in two sets of twins among the octuplets.

NATO chief urges more European countries to step up Afghan involvement

MUNICH (AP) — NATO's secretary-general on Saturday blasted Europe's reluctance to respond to American calls for more troops in Afghanistan, saying countries like Germany and France needed to "share the heavy lifting."

Jaap de Hoop Scheffer pointed to a joint call this week from German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Nicholas Sarkozy to strengthen Europe's role in NATO, saying it was a good idea but would not come without cost.

"A two-way street must also apply to the rebalancing of the relationship between the United States of America and Europe," he told a gathering of world leaders and top ministers at the Munich Security Conference.

"I'm frankly concerned when I hear the United States is planning a major commitment for Afghanistan but other allies are already ruling out doing more," he said.

"That is not good for the political balance ... and it also makes the calls for Europe's voice to be heard in Washington perhaps a bit more hollow than they should be."

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden is expected to push allies at the conference for a greater share of the diplomatic, military and economic burdens confronting the new administration of President Barack Obama in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Red Cross requests safe passage for hundreds of patients trapped in war zone

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Hundreds of sick and wounded people are stranded in a makeshift hospital in war-ravaged northern Sri Lanka, the Red Cross said Saturday as it urged the government and Tamil Tiger rebels to let the patients out of the conflict zone.

Meanwhile, the military said the chief of the rebel sea wing has been reported missing since an air force raid on his hide-out Friday.

The makeshift hospital in Puttumatalan village is the only medical facility available in the region after the war zone's last hospital in Puthukkudiyiruppu was forced shut after being shelled for days in attacks the Red Cross said left at least 12 people dead and 30 wounded.

International Committee of the Red Cross spokeswoman Sarasi Wijeratne said there are currently some 400 people, most of them lying on the floor in an overcrowded community center and in school buildings turned into makeshift wards, waiting to be taken to better hospitals in government-controlled territory.

The patients are among some 250,000 people trapped inside rapidly shrinking rebel territory near the island's northeastern coast as government troops come closer to crushing the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The rebels have been fighting for 25 years for an independent state for the country's ethnic minority Tamils.

States that didn't exist at Abe Lincoln's birth 200 years ago find ways to honor him

DENVER (AP) — When you think of Abraham Lincoln, you think of ... Idaho?

As the nation prepares to commemorate the Feb. 12 bicentennial of Lincoln's birth, Western states that didn't exist until after Lincoln's 1865 assassination, much less his 1809 birth near Hodgenville, Ky., are grabbing a piece of the famous birthday.

Problem is, the connection between the architect of the Emancipation Proclamation and the nation's post-Civil War states is sometimes thin. In Idaho, for example, officials claim their state is closer to Lincoln than any other — because he helped choose Idaho's name when he signed an order making it a territory in 1863.

"More than any other state, Idaho is related to Abraham Lincoln," argued David Leroy, chairman of the Idaho Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

"That sounds astounding, I suppose, if you're from Kentucky, Indiana or Illinois. But we think we have a pretty good claim."

Western states, which like their older sisters have state panels marking the event, insist that the 16th president played a vital role in the region's development by preventing the expansion of slavery, authorizing the Transcontinental Railroad and signing the 1863 Homestead Act.

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Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80 Apt. 230, Abilene
Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger
Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa
Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa
Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd Street, Lubbock
Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring
Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City
Jared Wendell Coby, 901 S. High Street, Longview
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos #238, Midland
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring
Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio
Brendee A. Eberhardt, 197

Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
Wesley Allen Edmondson, 505 E. 14th Street, Big Spring
James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring
Gabriel Guerrero, 411 N.E. 10th Street, Big Spring
Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring
Rickie L. Henderson, 205 Providence Road, Big Spring
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan
Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring
Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th Street, Big Spring
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring
Mari Montemayor, 627 State Street, Big Spring
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring

Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring
Michael Dewayne Renteria, 2516 Dow, Big Spring
Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa
Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th Street, Big Spring
Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring

District Court Filings:

Howard County vs. Mary Jane Adams, tax suit.
Gary Lee Smale vs. Nelda Jean Smale, divorce.
Irene Castillo Johnson vs. Jimmy Ray Johnson, divorce.
Kyle Thomas Humphries vs. Kristal Ann Humphries, divorce.
Ruel Metcalf vs. Carolyn Metcalf, divorce.
Shaw SSS Fabricators Inc. and Shaw Process Fabricators Inc. vs. Alon USA Refining Inc., civil suit.
The State of Texas vs. Horace Atkinson and Shelita Dupre, civil suit.
Jeannie Marie Marquez vs. Jesse Moreno Marquez Jr., divorce.
Patricia Kay Butts vs. James Lynn Butts, divorce.
Maribel Rees Weekley vs. Walter Erik Weekley,

divorce.
Doris Virginia Lewis vs. Herschel Lee Lewis, divorce.
Kevin Duane Thompson vs. Elizabeth Gail Thompson, divorce.
Joanne Payen vs. Javier Payen, protective order.
Kristin Negrette vs. Jose Negrette, divorce.

Marriage Licenses:

Elbert Lynn Jones, 55, and Cynthia Lee Snyder, 49, both of Big Spring.
Juan Antonio Cantu, 48, and La Fawn Johnson Garza, 36, both of Big Spring.
Ricky F. Mier, 22, of Big Spring, and Monika D. Villalobos, 25, of Pecos.
Todd Eugene Wombwell, 46, and Tonya Michelle Wombwell, 34, both of Big Spring.
Jessie Ragelio Olguin, 25, and Christine Gonzales, 25, both of Big Spring.
Kevin Lance Murphy, 21, and Kayla Brooke Hankins, 20, both of Big Spring.

Warranty Deeds:

Grantor: B.G. Barber
Grantee: Dianne Austin
Property: A 2-acre tract out of Section 24, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Jan. 29, 2009

Grantor: Ruel Metcalf and Carolyn Metcalf
Grantee: Jacob Rubio and Lauren Rubio
Property: Lot 10, Block 2, Suburban Heights
Date: Jan. 30, 2009

Grantor: Doyle Coor and Judy Coor
Grantee: Wesley Beauchamp and Kristi Beauchamp
Property: A 4-acre tract out of Section 8, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Jan. 30, 2009

Grantor: Clay Harris
Grantee: Ruben Rangel and Maggie Mendez
Property: Lot 7, Block 12, Settles Heights
Date: Feb. 2, 2009

Grantor: Wanda Bristo
Grantee: CDR Properties, dba Charles Rosenbaum
Property: A 3-acre tract out of Section 21, Block 31,

T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey; and a 2.3-acre tract out of Section 21, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 3, 2009

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:

Grantor: Geraldine C. Spears
Grantee: Teresa A. Thomas
Property: Lot 2, block 3, Ridgelea Terrace
Date: Feb. 3, 2009

Grantor: Geraldine C. Spears
Grantee: Teresa A. Thomas
Property: Tract 13 out of Lot 11 and Lot 12, Block 13, Cole & Strayhorn Addition
Date: Feb. 3, 2009

Grantor: Susan Ita Bristol Holley and Harlan Bristol
Grantee: Oscar Cervantes and Erica Cervantes
Property: Lot 6, Block 3, Douglass Addition
Date: Feb. 4, 2009

JOBS

Continued from page 5C

the results. They sent us here to make change with the expectation that we would act."

Obama's feisty speeches, delivered back-to-back, were a reminder of the aggressive campaigner who helped his party boot Republicans from office. It also was a sign that the administration was increasingly worried about losing their first major legislative priority so soon after taking office.

He warned inaction would only deepen the problems.

"These Americans are counting on us, all of us in Washington. We have to remember that we're here to work for them. If we drag our feet and fail to act, this crisis will turn into a catastrophe. We'll continue to get devastating job reports like today's month after month, year after year," Obama said grimly.

He reminded his audience that some 3.6 million Americans had lost their jobs as the economy has gone into a free fall.

"That's 3.6 million Americans who wake up every day wondering how they are going to pay their bills, stay in their homes and provide for their children. That's 3.6 million Americans who need our help," he said.

Obama had already tapped Paul Volcker, a former Federal Reserve chairman and a top Obama adviser, as the leader of the newly created Economic Recovery Advisory Board.

Volcker said he expects Congress to share the president's "sense of urgency" that something must be done to remedy a skidding economy.

Other members of Obama's panel include former Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman William Donaldson, TIAA-CREF President-CEO Roger Ferguson and Harvard University professor Martin Feldstein, who wrote a Wall

Street Journal op-ed piece last year titled "John McCain Has a Tax Plan To Create Jobs."

Obama friend and campaign finance chairwoman Penny Pritzker also is on the board, as is Caterpillar Inc. Chairman-CEO Jim Owens and General Electric Co. CEO Jeffrey R. Immelt. Two labor officials — Anna Burger of Change to Win and Richard Trumka of the AFL-CIO — also were named to the 15-member board designed to offer Obama advice as he seeks a way to rebuild the economy.

The new council is intended to be an economic sounding board for Obama — an outside-the-Beltway group that will report to the president directly. It will meet regularly with Obama, perhaps once a month. Its mission will include responding to requests from Obama — such as delving into a particular subject — without competing with the National Economic Council or day-to-day, decision-making at the White House.

U.S. TV shutdown bolder, riskier than most

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. has planned for more than a decade to have TV broadcasters turn off their analog signals, yet when the Feb. 17 deadline loomed, it flinched, delaying the mandatory shutdown for four months.

The delay, which causes confusion for TV viewers and havoc for broadcasters, is a symptom of the unique way the U.S. conceived the shutdown: No other big country has dared to, or plans to, end its analog TV broadcasts all in one go.

All developed countries are looking at turning off their analog TV signals because of the obvious benefits. Going digital improves the quality of TV reception and frees up large swaths of the airwaves for other services like wireless data.

But other countries are being more cautious about moving into the digital age. Austria, which is the size of South Carolina, turned off its analog signals over seven months in 2007, moving area by area from west to east. Germany, slightly smaller than Montana, shut down area by area over five years.

To find countries that turned off their signals all in one go, as the U.S.

essentially was about to do Feb. 17, you'd have to go to countries like the Netherlands, about the size of Maryland, and Luxembourg, which is smaller than Rhode Island. Those countries aren't just small — they also have very few households that watch over-the-air TV broadcasts. Olivier Pascal at research firm Analysys Mason estimates that only 30,000 Dutch homes were affected by the analog shutdown. The rest have cable or satellite dishes.

According to research firm MRI, 17.7 percent of Americans live in households with only over-the-air TV.

Turning off area by area lets a country focus manpower and money on the region that is next to make the jump. In Britain, where a five-year transition is slated to end in 2012, technicians will come to your home if you are disabled or over 75 and help you set up for digital reception, including installing a new antenna.

Italy chose the island of Sardinia as a testing ground, turning off analog TV there in October. Though a few small towns reported some reception problems, most were quickly solved.

"We didn't have big

problems," said Industry Ministry spokesman Pino Caiola. "Otherwise there would have been a revolution."

Three years in advance, Spain picked a small province as a digital-only testing ground. Analog signals were turned off there in July, with groundwork that included the distribution of free digital converter boxes by the Red Cross.

The U.S. "all together now" transition plan was set by Congress in 2005. It was only in May last year that the FCC decided to have limited tests ahead of the national switch-over.

"Our single transition date does not afford us the luxury of a built-in learning curve. We have one chance to get this right — one opening night," FCC Commissioner Michael Copps wrote.

The FCC chose Wilmington, N.C., as a pilot area for the switch-off. Despite an intensive public education campaign before analog signals died Sept. 8, there were many calls to help lines, mostly because people were unable to tune one or more digital channels.

In Hawaii, analog signals were shut down in January, but that was so analog towers could

come down before an endangered bird's nesting season, and not designed as a learning exercise.

The one main national transition date also made it hard to estimate how many people would request \$40 subsidy coupons for digital converter boxes. The government fund ran out of money in early January, prompting calls for a delay of the transition to give Congress time to allocate additional funds. The Democratic economic stimulus plan would add \$650 million to get the coupons flowing again.

The bill that called for the delay leaves stations the option of keeping the Feb. 17 date for the shutdown, and many, though not all, will do so.

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Doing What Comes Naturally

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠	A		
♥	Q 10 9 8 3		
♦	A K J 5		
♣	Q 8 4		
WEST		EAST	
♠	Q J 10 8 2	♥	7 6 5 3
♥	5 4	♦	K J 7 2
♦	4	♣	9
♣	9 7 6 5 2	♠	A K 10 3
SOUTH			
♠	K 9 4		
♥	A 6		
♦	Q 10 8 7 6 3 2		
♣	J		

The bidding:
North East South West
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass
4♦ Pass 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 6♦

Opening lead — queen of spades.

The opening lead is instrumental in determining the outcome of many hands. For example, look at this deal where the opening lead proved fatal to the defense. North-South bid aggressively to a slam, and West led the queen of spades.

The lead was certainly "normal" and natural, and would be made by most players holding the West cards. Declarer saw immediately that he was in trouble, as he apparently had to lose a heart and a club.

But South did not give up. He

also saw that he had a legitimate chance to make the slam if the adverse cards were favorably divided. He knew West couldn't have the A-K of clubs, since he surely would have led a club with that holding. This meant there was an increased chance that East had both top club honors. And if East also had the king of hearts, the slam could be made.

So South proceeded on this basis. He won the ace of spades, led a low diamond to the ten, cashed the king of spades, discarding a heart from dummy, then ruffed the nine of spades. Next he led a low club from dummy.

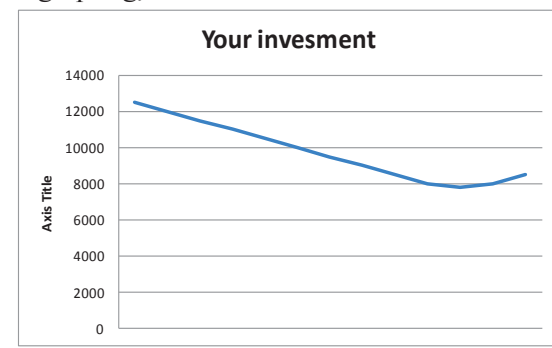
East took the club with the ace, catching South's jack, and then did as well as he could by returning a low club. But South was not fooled. He discarded a heart and so made the contract.

The same result would have accrued if East had returned a heart from the king or had attempted to cash the king of clubs. All roads were sure to lead to Rome once declarer decided to play East for all the key cards.

Of course, if West's opening lead had been a heart or a club, the contract would have failed. But it would be wrong to fault West for choosing the spade lead. He was only doing what came naturally.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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Versatile actor James Whitmore dies at 87

By **BOB THOMAS**

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — James Whitmore, the many-faceted character actor who delivered strong performances in movies, television and especially the theater with his popular one-man shows about Harry Truman, Will Rogers and Theodore Roosevelt, died Friday, his son said. He was 87.

The Emmy- and Tony-winning actor was diagnosed with lung cancer the week before Thanksgiving and died Friday afternoon at his Malibu home, Steve Whitmore said.

"My father believed that family came before everything, that work was just a vehicle in which to provide for your family," said Whitmore, who works as spokesman for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. "At the end, and in the last two and a half months of his life, he was surrounded by his family."

His long-running "Give 'em Hell, Harry," tracing the life of the 33rd president, was released as a theatrical movie in 1975. Whitmore was nominated for an Academy Award as best actor, marking the only time in Oscar history that an actor has been

nominated for a film in which he was the only cast member. His Teddy Roosevelt portrait, "Bully," was also converted into a movie.

He later became the TV pitchman for Miracle-Gro plant food, and used the product in his large vegetable garden at his Malibu home.

While not known for his politics, Whitmore was an early supporter of President Barack Obama. He stumped for Obama during a 2007 rally at the Gibson Theatre at Universal Studios, telling the crowd that Obama had the wisdom "to deal with a very, very confused and complex country, and the world." Whitmore also appeared in TV commercials in 2008 for the "First Freedom First" campaign, which advocates religious liberty and preserving the separation of church and state.

Whitmore started both his Broadway and Hollywood careers with acclaimed performances, both as tough-talking sergeants. In 1947, discharged a year from Marine duty, he made his Broadway debut in a taut Air Force drama, "Command Decision." He was awarded a Tony for outstanding performance by a newcomer.

Two years later,

Whitmore was nominated for an Academy Award and won a Golden Globe as supporting actor in the war movie "Battleground."

Shirley Jones, a teenager when she starred in "Oklahoma," said she came to know Whitmore during months of filming in Nogales, Ariz., and recalled being impressed by her good-humored and highly disciplined colleague.

"He told me, 'If you're going to be in this business, you better learn your craft,'" Jones recalled.

His favorite film was "Black Like Me" (1964), a true story about a white reporter who used medication to blacken his skin to experience life as an African-American in the South.

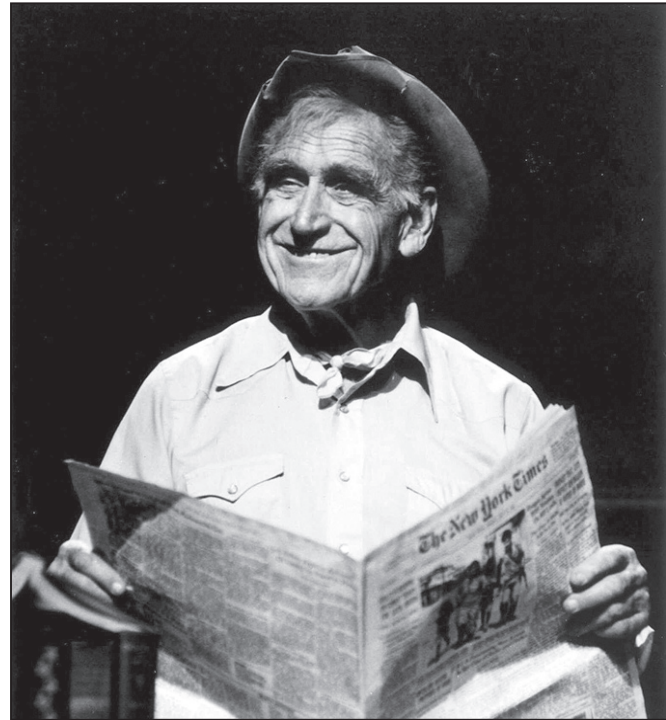
Whitmore often appeared on television, starring in the series "The Law and Mr. Jones" (1960-1962), "My Friend Tony" (1969) and "Temperatures Rising"

(1972-1973). He received an Emmy in 1999 as guest actor in a series for "The Practice."

Jones recalled seeing him in a 2007 episode of the TV drama "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and marveling at his still-sharp talent. "I was absolutely blown away by that. He had a huge role, playing a lawyer, and it was phenomenal," she said.

A student of history, Whitmore delighted in portraying famous American personages. He toured in the play "The Magnificent Yankee," about Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. He played Ulysses S. Grant in a 1960 TV movie, Adm. William F. "Bull" Halsey in the Pearl Harbor attack spectacle "Tora! Tora! Tora!," and Walt Whitman in a dramatic reading, "A Whitman Portrait."

The monologues of Harry Truman, Will Rogers and Teddy



AP file photo

Actor James Whitmore plays Will Rogers in "Will Rogers' U.S.A.," a one-man show on the cowboy humorist at Ford's Theatre in Washington. Whitmore, a Tony- and Emmy-winning actor, who was also nominated for an Oscar, died of lung cancer Friday in his Malibu home.

Roosevelt brought Whitmore his greatest success. In 2000, he appeared in "Will Rogers, U.S.A." at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., his eighth engagement in the show at Ford's over a 30-year period.

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5 year limited warranty

Help Wanted

JOB OPPORTUNITIES
RNs- All Shifts
Earn up to
\$5,377.77 per month (DOE)
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Additional bonus program is offered to all RNs
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Earn up to
\$2,746.48 per month (DOE)
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Nursing dorms available
Contact our Job Center
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Complete an application online at
<https://accesshr.hhsc.state.tx.us>
Big Spring State Hospital
1901 North Hwy 87
Big Spring, TX

LOCAL COMPANY now Hiring Labor Workers. Must be able to read tape measure and pass drug test. Pick up application at 1700 Rickabaugh or call (432)267-4700 for directions.

NEED CDL Driver- Home Nightly, Local Run. Part-time or full-time. Call (432)267-4700 for directions or come by 1700 Rickabaugh.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation is now seeking a full time 10/6 Charge Nurse. This position will offer retirement, paid vacation, health insurance bonus, great starting pay and a friendly working environment. Stop by or fill out an application online at www.parkviewnursing.net
3200 Parkway
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PART-TIME JANITORIAL Work. Dependable. Call (432)267-6027, (432)213-1186.

POST OFFICE Hiring Nationally! Avg. pay \$20/hr, \$57K/yr including Federal Benefits, OT. Optional fee-based test prep materials, not affiliated with the US Postal Service. 1-866-795-4058.

Help Wanted

PIZZA INN
EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

REGIS HAIR Salon Big Spring Marketplace, now hiring a Part-Time Dependable Stylist with a Great Personality. All tool supplies furnished except shears. Apply in person.

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Sterling County Nursing Home now hiring CNA's all shifts. Med Aide 6:00a-6:00p Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Call Carmen Rios 325-378-2134.

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Items for Sale

3 PCS King Pillow Top Mattress Set still in plastic w/Factory Warranty. \$255. 432-664-8980.

\$140 Brand Name Queen mattress set New with factory warranty. 432-664-8980.

ESTATE SALE

By Appt. Only
(432)267-6847
*6 chair wooden picnic table, umbrella, base
*Southwest-style wooden Credenza's (3) *couch, 2 matching chairs. *fireplace sets (3) *6 chair wooden dining room table w/rotating center piece *art-work *Sony TV's *other misc.

FIREWOOD. SEASONED
OAK FIREWOOD. Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$295.00 Full Cord & \$160.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 325-648-2818 or 512-913-8297.

Items for Sale

FULL PILLOW Top Mattress set with frame Only \$175. 432-664-8980.

Brand New Micro fiber Sofa/Love seat, with Warranty. \$550. 432-664-8980.

LEATHER SOFA and love, brand new has Warranty. Will take \$665. 432-664-8980.

Wrought Iron Bed new in box \$225. 432-664-8980.

Miscellaneous

BLACK RUBBER counter high dining table, swivel stools, Brand NEW, List, \$1380, sell \$550. 806-549-3110.....
Dining table & chairs. Rich cherry finish. Brand New!!!! \$399. 806-549-3110.....

On the Farm

2008 HAY
Hybrid Sorghum Sudangrass Tridan (Sweet)
1- 2500 Round Bales 5x6
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Pets

AKC REGISTERED Dachshund puppies. Call (432)353-4435 or 270-1435.

YORKIE PUPPIES. 4 months old. Male- \$300. Female-\$400.. Current on vaccines, ACA registry available. Call 432-394-4474 or 599-2649.

Real Estate for Rent

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
• Swimming Pool
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• Appliances
• Most Utilities Paid
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Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
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1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths
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Real Estate for Rent

\$400/MO! BUY a 4 bed, 3 bath! 5% dn, 30 yrs, 8% apr! For listings 800-544-6258 x F086.

1 BEDROOM House. All utilities and cable paid. \$525.00 Month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)263-0259 or 213-1252.

1201 LLOYD, 2 bdr, 1bath. 2 Living areas, CH/A, carport. \$525. month- \$400. deposit. Call 432-263-1792, 816-9984.

1206 EAST 11th Place. 3 Bedroom 2 bath, 2 car garage, CH/A, living/ dining room. \$950.00 Month plus deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. (432)267-2296.

14X80 MOBILE Home 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A. Forsan School District. Water furnished, electrical only utility. Call (432)267-1180 or 816-4644.

1734 PURDUE 3 bdr, 2 bath, Fenced yard. \$850/ month, \$750/ deposit. Call after 5pm 432-816-1255.

4207 PARKWAY. 3 Bdrm, 1-1/2 bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

426 DALLAS- Nice 1 Bedroom house. CH/A. \$500 Month, \$500 deposit. Washer & dryer connections. No Pets. Call 432-935-8297 or 935-6209.

702 WEST 18TH. Three Bedroom, two bath. CH/A, two living areas, utility room. \$750. month, \$400. deposit. Call (432)267-7449.

FURNISHED CORPORATE RENTAL AVAILABLE. 30 day Minimal Stay. Beautifully furnished with new appliances, complete kitchen appliances, BBQ, cable internet. Call James at (432)816-4453 or email: torreyhomes@hue-llc.com

LOFT FOR Lease, 123-C Main. \$1,000. month plus deposit. One year lease required. No pets. (432)770-5656. or (432)517-0038 or office (432)263-6514.

REMODELED- 1211 Wood. Call for more information, (432)213-4152 or 213-8847.

SMALL TWO bedroom house, CH/A, Forsan ISD, fenced backyard. \$550. month, \$500. deposit. Call (432)263-7420.

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New Name
TANGLEWOOD GROVE APTS
Efficiency,
One- Two- Three Bedroom (Unfurnished)
*All New Appliances & Fixtures
*Security System in Place
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\$100. off 1st month rent!
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1 Bdrm \$350 month
2 Bdrm \$395 month
!!!!!! Now Available !!!!!!!

Real Estate for Sale

HOME REALTORS 110 W. Marcy 263-1284 263-4663
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2009
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
2713 REBECCA
Hosted By:
Linda Barnes

A REAL PROFIT MAKER FULL SERVICE BRUSHLESS CAR WASH PLUS 5 SELF-SERVE WASH BAYS 4 VAC STATIONS PLUS 8 DETAIL STALLS
2 Self-service Shampoo Machines and Vending Machines. Self Service Air.
Located on Full City Block 220'x240' Paved.
Details and Price Doctors orders.
Must Retire See Me Today!!
Bill Chrane
432-213-0426
Big Spring, Texas

ATTENTION HOME Builders and Developers. For Sale 26 Acres, corner of Parkway and Hearn Street. Next to City Park and Golf Course. Paved streets, all utilities- either in street or alley. Lots already plotted into 70 lots approved by the city. Owner will sell you the lots and property under contracted to be paid upon completion and sale of house and lot. Call (432)213-0426.

By Owner 2535 Gunter Circle. 2 Bdrm, 1 bath. Fully remodeled, new carpet and paint. CH/A. Garage and Utility room. Oversize bedroom and lounge. In good neighborhood. \$59,900.00. Payments will be \$566. Monthly. Call Patience 432-349-5242.

BY OWNER 3 bedroom, 2 bath 2 living areas. 1408 Stadium. Call Pam (432)631-5468.

BY OWNER 3/2/2, 1885 sq. feet. 525 Scott, Highland South, Remodeled in 2007. \$145,000.00. Call 432-264-1364.

BY OWNER- 3547 Sq. Ft. Brick- 4 bdrm, 2-1/2 baths, 3 living rooms, 2 car garage, 1-1/2 acres. 8403 Gail Hwy. Below appraisal \$179,500.00. 432-270-4646.

CHAMPION LAKE Cabin. One acre. Stocked. Great fishing from city park on lake. Appraised \$23,000.00. Sell \$12,000. Good Investment. Call (325)728-9169.

FORECLOSURE! 3 bdrm, 2 bath! Only \$24,500! Must see! For listings 800-544-6258 ext. F906.

Real Estate for Sale

HERE'S FLORIDA! Florida Manufactured Home Magazine. A guide to finding and buying a manufactured home in the Sunshine State. Call to request your FREE copy today! Toll Free: 1-888-739-3530 Or Visit our website www.flmanufacturedhomes.com

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OWNER FINANCE, 5 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2,500 sq. ft. \$3,950. Down, \$735. per month plus taxes and insurance. Call (432)816-9591.

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OWNER FINANCE. \$3,950 down, \$535.78 month. 1403 Tucson in Big Spring. Call (432)816-9591.

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

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16162

1995 MAZDA 626 Cheap! \$650 obo! Runs Great! For listings 800-544-1092 x N237.

2001 HARLEY Davidson, Soft Tail Deuce. 17,000 Miles, covered in chrome, twin cam fuel injected. \$12,500. OBO. Call (432)816-3030.

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Hidden treasures? Junk? Recycle your unwanted items! Call 263-7331 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

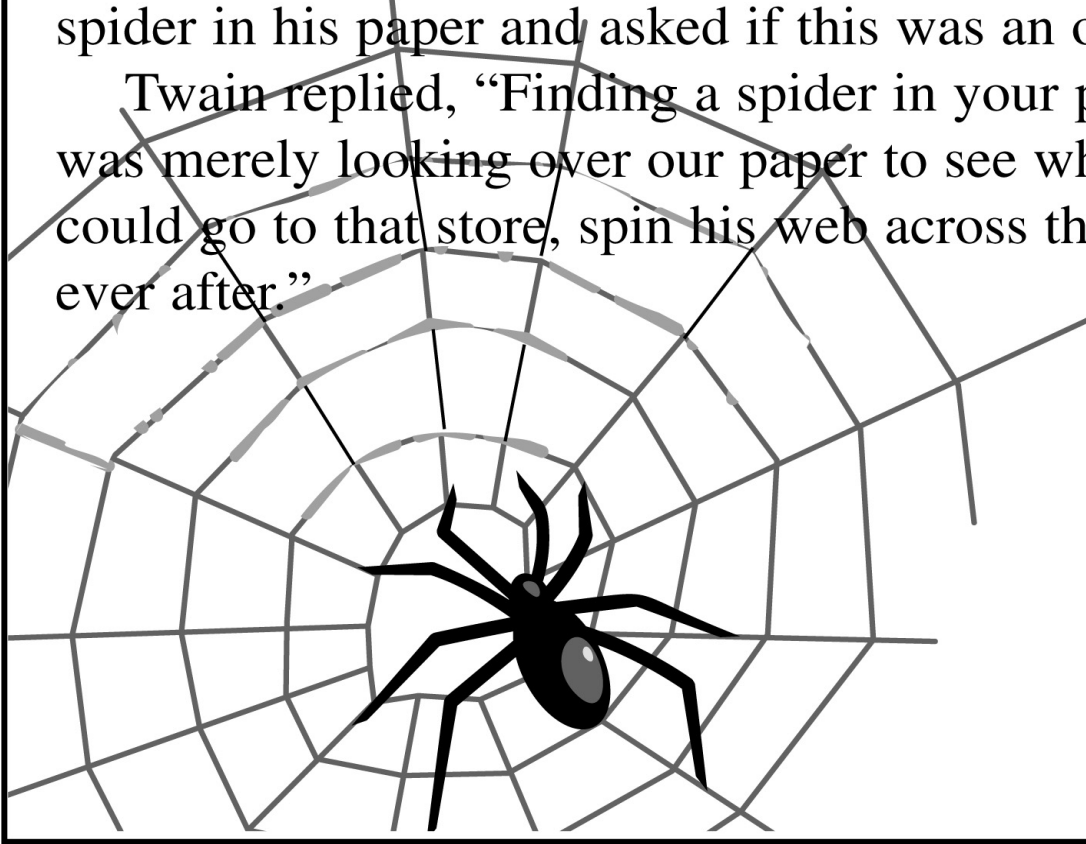
A Sweetheart Of A Deal!
The Heights Apartments
Big Springs NEWEST Affordable Apartment HOMES
(Leasing at the Knollwood Apt. office)
1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.
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Lease by 2/14/09 and receive a \$250 Wal-Mart Gift Card.
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• Washer/Dryer Included
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• Fitness Center
HURRY IN ~
This Offer Won't Last Long!
\$0 Deposit & \$0 Application Fee!
www.wilhoitproperties.com
*Certain Restrictions apply - Must move-in by 2/28/09 to receive gift card.

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.
Call today
(432) 263-7331

Legals

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

THE STATE OF TEXAS & COUNTY OF HOWARD

By virtue of a ORDER OF SALE issued out of the District Court of Howard County, Texas, pursuant to judgment rendered in 118th Judicial District Court of Howard County, Texas, by the District Clerk of said Court, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suits and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said County, I did on the 29th day of January, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., levy upon and will proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder at public auction on the 3 day of rd February, 2009, being the first Tuesday of said month beginning at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on said day, at the North Courthouse door of said County, all the right, title, and interest of the Defendants in such suits in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said Defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Howard and the State of Texas, to-wit:

- CAUSE NO. STYLE PROPERTY DESCRIPTION T-4639 Howard County, et al vs. Ascension Hilario The South half (S/2) of Lts 10 and 11, Bk 5, Cedar Crest Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-4816 Howard County, et al vs. Isela Rodriguez, aka Isela M. Rodriguez, Individually and dba Alberto's #2 and Alberto's Crystal Cafe Lots 5-8, Bk 106, Original Town, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-4816 Howard County, et al vs. Isela Rodriguez, aka Isela M. Rodriguez, Individually and dba Alberto's #2 and Alberto's Crystal Cafe E/90' of Lt 1, Bk 13, Original Town, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5066

- Howard County, et al vs. Gary L. Moore All of Lt 4, Bk 2, Hayden Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5180 Howard County, et al vs. Glen S. Murphy Lts 12-20, Bk 59 Original Town of Forsan, Howard County, Texas T-5180 Howard County, et al vs. Glen S. Murphy Lts 12-15, Bk 58, Original Town of Forsan, Howard County, Texas T-5180 Howard County, et al vs. Glen S. Murphy Lts 16-22, Bk 58, Original Town of Forsan, Howard County, Texas T-5189 Howard County, et al vs. Luis Pena and Margarita Pena Lt 10, Bk 33, Cole & Strayhorn Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5211 Howard County, et al vs. Dora C. Velasquez aka Dora C. Velasquez Lt 8, Bk 8, Suburban Heights Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5369 Howard County, et al vs. Pedro Jaenz and Agustina Jaenz Lt 17, Bk 14, Monticello Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5398 Howard County, et al vs. R. L. Fields West Five feet (W/5') of Lt 11, and all of Lt 12, Bk 10, Jones Valley Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5494 Howard County, et al vs. Jose Antonio Hernandez Rodriguez S/25' of Lt 4 and all of Lt 5, Bk 10, Wright's Airport Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5536 Howard County, et al vs. Roger Lee Edwards Lt 9, Bk 20, Cole & Strayhorn Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas

- T-5537 Howard County, et al vs. Mark Edwards Lt 8, Bk 20, Cole & Strayhorn Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5543 Howard County, et al vs. Henry Franco Lt 7, Bk 1, Mountain View Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5543 Howard County, et al vs. Henry Franco Lt 8, Bk 1, Mountain View Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5543 Howard County, et al vs. Henry Franco Lt 9, Bk 1, Mountain View Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5543 Howard County, et al vs. Henry Franco Lt 10, Bk 1, Mountain View Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5549 Howard County, et al vs. Denver Heffington Lts 23 & 24, Bk 1, J. T. Price Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5551 Howard County, et al vs. Vickie Elkins Ledesma Lt 6, Bk 7, Monticello Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs. Witness my hand this 29th day of January, 2009. Stan Parker SHERIFF OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS BY: Deputy #6021 February 8, 15 & 22, 2009

Legals

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE (REAL ESTATE)

The State of Texas To any Sheriff or any Constable Within The State of Texas-Greetings:

Whereas John G. Kelley on the 4th day of December A.D., 2008 in the Honorable 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas, in Cause No. S2612J11 and S2613J11, John G. Kelly, Plaintiff, VS. Nancy J. Fields Defendant recovered a judgment against Nancy J. Fields for the sum of \$6,788.00 and \$788.00 with interest from the 4th of December 2008 A.D., at the rate of five percent (10%) per annum, and all costs of suit. THEREFORE, you are commanded that out of the property of said Nancy J. Fields subject to execution by laws, you cause to be made the sum of \$6,788.00 and

\$788.00 with interest thereon from the 2nd day of October, 2008 A.D., at the rate of five percent (10%) per annum, together with the sum of \$188.00 cost of suit a each, and also the cost of executing this writ and you will forthwith execute this writ according to laws and the mandates thereof. BY VIRTUE OF A Writ of Execution issued out the Court of Howard County, Texas, in a certain cause numbered: S2612J11 and S2613J11; Issued December 4, 2008 A.D.; John Kelley versus Nancy Fields writ was delivered to me, as the Sheriff and directed and delivered, I will levied upon 7th day of April, 2009 A.D. at 10:00 in the morning at the north court house doors at 300 Main Big Spring, TX 79720, of said Howard County, proceed to sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in

hand, all rights, title and interest if any, which defendant: had on the 4th day of December, 2008 A.D., or at any time thereafter, of in and to the following described property. **Property Legal Description:** E/92 of LT 2& S/10 W/48 of LT2 BK 40 Original Town IRR 0704 LT 6 BK 4 Porter 50x140 402 BLK/Tract 40.161 Acres ACQ 060606 LT 5 BK 38 Cole & Strayhorn 50x140 738 BLK/Tract 380.161 Acres ACQ 060606 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND on this day of December 23, 2008 Dean Restelli, Civil Investigator Howard County Sheriff Office Big Spring, TX 79720 Deputy Dean Restelli 432-264-2244 #6045 February 8, 15, 22 and March 1, 2009

Legals

Public Notice Howard College will be holding a 2 day public silent auction. Auction will be held at the Howard College Occupational Building 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. The public may bid on items between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM Friday

February 13, 2009 and Saturday February 14, 2009. Items include computers, printers, scanners, tables, desks, chairs, televisions, and miscellaneous furniture and equipment. All items are sold "as is", no warranty or guarantees. Items should

be inspected before bid upon. No refunds will be given. There will be no reserves or minimums on bids. Forklift will be available to move pallets. For more information, please contact Bo Bokelman at 432-264-5095. #6047 February 2 & 10, 2009

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Encore Operating L.P., 777 Main Street, Suite 1400, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fresh water fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres Formation, in wells Clay, H.R. "E" #70. The injection well(s) is

located 3 miles East direction from Forsan in the Howard-Glasscock Field, in Howard County. Fluid is injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2000 to 2600 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #6044 February 8, 2009

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 402.069 and City of Coahoma Resolution No. 43, notice is given that the City of Coahoma desires to assess costs for certain improvements to the sewer system to the owners of certain property in the City of Coahoma. The needed improvements

shall include the laying of mains, laterals, and extension and all appliances and necessary adjuncts required for the sanitary disposal of excreta and offal from the properties in which improvements are made. The improvements will affect Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, Block 4, Foster Addition to the City of Coahoma. The estimated total cost of improvements is

\$38,250.00 and will be assessed at an estimated amount per front foot of \$14.52. A hearing on the proposed improvements and assessment will be held on February 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chamber in City Hall of the City of Coahoma, Texas. #6040 January 30 and February 4 & 8, 2009

When the Strategy Is Deny, Deny, Deny

Dear Margo: Five months after we were married, my wife had an affair. She was bringing the man into our house, and the affair lasted until I left.

I recorded the man's voice on several occasions — even recorded her telling him I was listening and he should be quiet.

As I said, I have moved out, but she stands her ground that she did not have an affair. I have filed for divorce, but I still love her. However, without an admission of what she has done I can't stay with her.

What comes to mind when you hear this story? — *Hurt Heart*

Dear Hurt: Well, since you ask, what comes to mind is the old joke: "Who are you gonna believe — me or your own eyes?" In your case, however, let us substitute ears.

You know as a certainty she had an affair — and after only five months of marriage, no less. The fact that she "entertained" in your shared home and then had the gall to deny it makes me wonder why you would take her back if she would only admit it.

You know it's a fact, so what would hearing an admission do for you? The two of you sound as though you may have dovetailing neuroses. The healthiest thing for you to do, if, in fact, that is what you're interested in, is to go forward with the divorce and next time find a woman who is both truthful and faithful. — *Margo, bemusedly*

Tough Love for a Twin Who Is Beyond Eccentric Dear Margo: My

husband has a twin brother, "Mark," who lives in an apartment without heat or electricity. No, he's not destitute; he's actually a millionaire.

He lives that way because his gas and electric were shut off last year when he went on an extended vacation and didn't bother to forward his mail, including bills. Everything remains off because he "just doesn't want to deal with" the gas and electric companies — they annoy him.

Now, all that would be fine with me (it is his life, after all) but for the fact that he keeps asking to come to our house to warm up, shower and sleep in a clean bed.

I guess he "doesn't want to deal with" basic housekeeping, either. His place is a mess — he never cleans up after himself. He also breaks things in our house, which he never takes responsibility for or offers to replace. And the guy has more money than I'll probably ever see.

The thing is: He is my husband's twin, and he loves him and worries about him. I don't ever want to come between my husband and "poor Mark," but I don't want to be a victim of an unspeakably lazy nut-job who hasn't found a "hobby" yet. What do you advise? — *Knows Better Than To Come Between Brothers*

Dear Knows: Your husband's twin needs more than a place to warm up, shower and find clean sheets.

He needs professional help. Rather than worrying

about his brother, I suggest your spouse see to it that he receives treatment. To ignore all this craziness does "poor Mark" no favors.

Explain to your husband that by doing nothing except enabling Mark to live like a bum, he is allowing the situation to deteriorate, and his mentally unstable brother will be a thorn in your sides until you are all old people.

Your husband should seek conservatorship, if necessary, to pay for treatment. If Mark rejects this idea, he should be told the time has come to "deal with" the public utilities, and that you are out of the hotel business. — *Margo, therapeutically*

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearmargo@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

© 2009 MARGO HOWARD DISTRIBUTED BY CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Answer to previous puzzle

STRIP	SKIM	SIFT
TIOGA	TINY	ADOS
ESSEN	ESTE	BOOK
WHATDO	THEY	CALL
IAN	KNELT	
LOFT	WEED	EIDER
URL	SALS	SENORA
COUNTRY	MUSICIN	
INNEED	DATE	KEG
DOGIE	FONT	ESSE
GLEAN	OSU	
OTHER	COUNTRIES	
CRAB	RAVE	RANDI
OSLO	ODAY	AIKEN
BOER	LENS	PLANK

Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Signifies 9 Place to entertain a beau 15 More nifty 16 Galahad's mother 17 Vouched for 18 Just missed, on the green 19 Devise 20 Elite group 22 Organ part 23 Looks for 25 Betray a lack of confidence 26 Secure 27 Small amount of work 28 Serving with saffron 31 Per 32 Gets into 33 Shut up 35 Behind, in a way 38 Girt 39 Gave a hoot 41 It has new tails in 2009 42 Gathers dust 43 Metaphor for opulence 45 Rig devices 48 Astronaut excursion 49 Walt's brother 50 Band 52 Blend 54 Surname shared by at least eight related sports pros 56 #1 preceder 57 Informs 59 Newcomer 61 Big-ticket items for astronomers 62 Got to go 63 More provocative mother 64 Corrects one's words, perhaps DOWN 1 Army helicopter 2 Construction by-product 3 Out with 4 Suggestion 5 Grunts 6 Mediterranean staple 7 Gets a new canine 8 Trial 9 It's often picked for locks 10 37-time Sports Illustrated cover figure 11 Way off 12 Circumscribing 13 Integrated 14 Got back 21 Tools for tooling 24 Bon vivant 29 Wing 30 Shown 31 Make an impression on 32 Mars or Jupiter 34 Pope after Peter 35 Build 36 Didn't sit still 37 Coming to 40 Rats' relative 41 Hot stuff 44 Less uninterested 45 Institute 46 Kind of commerce 47 Photographer's concerns 51 Something surprising 53 Big name in '50s TV 54 Erstwhile power 55 Bug 58 Late 60 Indonesian export

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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17									18				
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(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

Kansas City water supply division assistant manager for operations Mike Klender stands by one of the city's auxiliary water intakes designed to suck water from lower river levels at a pumping station along the Missouri river in Kansas City, Mo. Thursday, Jan. 9, 2009. The gradual lowering of the river bed could eventually threaten billions of dollars in property development, the stability of levees and bridges and make boat travel more difficult by exposing navigation hazards.

Sinking Mo. River threatens bridges, levees communities

By **CHRIS BLANK**

Associated Press Writer
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Missouri River is sinking.

As engineers try to figure out why, the phenomenon threatens to damage billions of dollars in property, weaken levees and bridges, and expose navigation hazards such as sunken piers and underwater pipelines.

The problem is this: Parts of the nation's longest river are losing elevation. The so-called "degradation" process is not affecting the amount of water in the channel, but the water is physically lower on the Earth because the river bottom is washing away.

The water depth is not changing, and the situation is nearly imperceptible from shore. But for engineers, it's a costly headache.

"Part of the whole problem is it's not visible," said John Grothaus, chief of planning for the Army Corps of Engineers in Kansas City, where the river bed has dropped by about 12 feet over the last 50 years.

"It's not in the public eye. You can't see it on the river."

Degradation has been observed in waterways across the country, but many scientists are focused on the Missouri River, which is used for shipping many agricultural products and provides drinking water to many cities.

Researchers do not know exactly why the channel is sinking in places from southeast Nebraska to St. Louis, but possible causes include natural erosion and the effects of man-made structures such as dams.

Researchers are unsure whether the process can be reversed or how much it would cost to do so.

As the river drops, it also erodes the banks and bottoms of tributaries that flow into the main channel, causing similar problems there.

But the greatest risk is to infrastructure such as bridges. When the river bed erodes, it exposes more of the pylons that hold up bridges. That reduces the support the founda-

tion gets from being buried in the ground.

For instance, a bridge designed to have its pylons buried 10 feet in the river bed might now be buried only 8 feet deep. If not corrected, the erosion can increase the risk for collapse.

"You have to look if that were allowed to continue, what could be the problem that could occur," said Christina Ostrander, the corps' project manager.

Also at risk are levees such as those separating the Missouri River from an estimated \$20 billion in developments, including Kansas City's downtown airport, a General Motors plant and the entire suburb of North Kansas City.

The Missouri begins near Three Forks, Mont., and flows south into the Mississippi north of St. Louis. Since at least the 1920s, its elevation has gradually declined, but the drop has been precipitous over the last decade. The start of the most rapid decline seems to be the 1993 flood, which took several feet out of the river.

And through the middle part of the 2000s, the average annual elevation has fallen by nearly a foot per year. Compounding the problem has been a drought that also reduced river levels.

That's what concerns Missouri's six dredging companies, which can scoop up from the river about 7 million tons of sand and gravel every year to make concrete and build roads. Dredgers are sensitive about getting blamed for degradation, and they are paying for an environmental study of their work.

Jefferson City attorney David Shorr, who represents dredging companies, said the Army Corps' own projects have been designed to cut away the river bottom to ease the need for dredging.

"The Corps is charged with the responsibility to create a navigation channel by Congress. They did that and did it well," said Shorr, who described the river engineering as "a self-scouring system."

Researchers have several theories to explain

why the Missouri River is sinking:

- **Less sediment:** Dams trap silt upstream, sending clearer water downstream that does not have as much material to replace what the river erodes. Tributaries also are carrying less material into the channel.

- **Natural processes:** Rivers cause natural erosion and gradually erode bends such as those that twist around Kansas City. And floods can degrade river bottoms.

- **Other man-made structures:** Levees, dikes and other projects confine the river's natural flow and can cause it to strip away the river bottom.

The Corps hopes that a preliminary study will provide some answers. The initial draft of the report was to be completed by January.

The effects of the sinking river are becoming clear.

In Kansas City, officials have spent more than \$4 million to ensure that the community's drinking-water pumps reach lower river levels. The water supplier in Jefferson City has applied for a permit to lower its intake pipes.

Kansas City leaders are also considering using a horizontal well to tap underground liquefied sands and ease dependence on the river.

In the Kansas City suburb of Parkville, degradation in a creek upstream from the Missouri River caused the stream banks to collapse and threatened baseball fields and two bridges, including one more than a century old.

In 2007, the town had to stabilize the banks and terrace the stream bed at a cost of about half the community's budget for parks, streets, public works and sewer systems.

Mike Klender, assistant manager of operations for the Kansas City water department, said managing the complexities of the dropping river is a challenge.

"It's not any easy task," he said. "I don't envy the Corps with trying to juggle all these issues. It is a daunting task that they have."

On the eve of the full moon in Leo, playful ideas begin to percolate. It's as though a child inside has been awakened from a long nap and is refreshed and ready to explore.

The mere mention of mischief is a delight, though most won't fully commit to crazy fun until tomorrow when the wild full moon makes the frivolity seem a little bit irresistible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Good news: There are no drastic measures necessary to solve a problem, even one that seems enormous. Small adjustments will do the trick. In many cases all that's needed is friendly cheer to smooth things over.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). That person who tells you that you can't have what you want? It's entirely possible they want it for themselves. So do a little covert investigation. It's likely you will end up getting exactly what you planned.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There is so much for you to do to keep this lifestyle you've created rolling along. Consider making some cuts, especially with your things. The less stuff you have, the fewer hours you'll need to spend in maintenance.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Happy people are strong people. Scientific research proves that even your immune system is better when you're worry free. During this afternoon's gleeful mood you'll do something you didn't know you could do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's hectic out there. Everywhere you turn you'll get information you don't need or want. Insulate your sensitive soul and protect your creativity. Anchor yourself in a routine that promotes your health and well-being.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're in a fanciful mood and your powers

of imagination are at a high. You will mentally project yourself into different situations just to try them on. This is a powerful form of wishing, so go carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may be compassionate, easy going and tolerant in matters that concern your personal life, but when it comes time to wheel and deal, you're tough. Business is business and you're not about to agree to anything unfair.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be responsible for solving a problem within an organization. E-mail and written correspondence won't tell the whole story. You'll learn the nuances of a situation by actually talking to the people involved.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you need something from someone, it puts you in an awkward position. To improve the dynamics of a relationship, be as self-sufficient as possible. You're so charming when there's nothing at stake.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Much of what's going on has nothing to do with you; however, there is a ripe opportunity in the middle with your name all over it. You'll be able to take advantage of the situation by staying impartial.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You want to connect with others and you may have to adjust your communication style in order to do so. An old familiar behavior won't fly in a new crowd. It's admirable how adaptable you can be.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you had your own novelty t-shirt made up just for today it would probably say "wake up, people!" Every day you grow in consciousness and because of your influence others will want to be more aware.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Tomorrow features the first lunar eclipse of the year. Every year there are at least two, and up to five lunar eclipses. This year boasts four -- not bad at all.

The eclipse tomorrow

is a penumbral eclipse, so only a portion of sunlight will be blocked and it will be visually unnoticeable for the most part, but the mystical implications are still present. Some ancient superstitions saw the lunar eclipse as a bad omen.

The modern mystics usually bring a more enlightened view to this shadow aspect. The eclipse doesn't signify bad luck so much as change. And besides, who is to say what is good luck and what is bad luck?

Someone always benefits when fortunes turn and it is not always the one who makes the money, gets the girl or scores the winning point. Sometimes the money breeds new problems, the girl is a handful and the winning point starts a jealous backlash.

Our job is to strive for what we believe is right and hope for the best outcome for all involved. It is our interpretation of events and not the events themselves that will impact our lives. So let this lunar eclipse refresh our optimism, for every shadowy moon has a silver lining.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Seth Green has gone from a loveable friend of Buffy the Vampire Slayer to being a ubiquitous name in the entertainment industry with acting credits on television, movies, in animation and as a producer. He even plays a rough and tumble playboy version of himself on the HBO hit series "Entourage." Eclectic Aquarius people are known for working in multiple media at once.

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