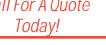
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Council candidate swaps districts

Restman will campaign in District 2 instead of 4 now

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Big Spring City Council hopeful Terena Restman made a change to her elec-

tion bid this week, as the local woman dropped her campaign against District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald in favor of contesting District 2 Councilman Manuel Ramir-

According to city officials, council candidates may run for any available seat on the council and are not required to run in the district where they reside.

Ramirez, who recently filed to run for re-election, said he's looking forward to the race with Restman.

"I think it's an exciting challenge we have before us," said Ramirez. "I'm looking forward to a good, clean race. I feel like I've accomplished a lot dur- Restman ing my past term, and I feel like I've done what I





was speak for the people in District 2, not speak at them." Restman could

set out to do, which

not be reached before press time. The move will

See COUNCIL, Page 3A



In the above photo, Howard College Dental **Hygiene student Brianna Thurman applies** a tattoo to the cheek of young Axton Fish during the department's annual Dental Health Fair, held on the Howard College campus Saturday morning. At right, children are entertained by a puppet show teaching the value of proper dental care. The dental hygiene department provides teeth cleaning and dental X-ray services at reduced cost to area residents. For an appointment, call 264-5075.

HERALD photos/Steve Reagan



Local kids brush up on hygiene

Dental Health Fair educates, entertains

"Our main priority

community, not just

teach our students."

-Mary Wallace, instructor

is to serve the

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Dental hygiene can be fun.

That was the message area children learned during Saturday's Dental Health Fair, held at Howard

College. The event, hosted by college's dental hygiene department, aimed to

teach youngsters that keeping their healthy teeth doesn't have to be all work and worry.

Balloons, puppets and tattoos were just some of the props students and teachers used to get their message across.

"Many of these children have either never been to a dentist or know about dental hygiene, so this helps get the word out. Also, it makes it a little bit more fun for them,' said Mary Wallace, an instructor at the college. "Also, it's good for our students. It gives them a chance to interact with the children."

The dental fair, which has been an annual attraction for more than 25 years, is held in conjunction with Children's

Dental Month. Attractions included a puppet show highlighting the benefits of fluoride and a slew of interactive exhibits that taught children

vari-

ous aspects of dental health. Also, children were able to trade in their old toothbrushes for new ones, Wallace said.

Wallace said the event is just as much fun for the students as it is for the children.

"This is my fourth fair ... and I just love watching the students interact with the children and make them smile," she said.

Up to 100 children were expected to visit the fair Satur

See FAIR, Page 3A

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Austin trip draws near

Shirt deadline is Monday; charter signup due Friday

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer Time is running out for area resi-

dents wanting to take a chartered bus to the state capitol for Big Spring Day in Austin, according to local of-But Terry Wegman, executive di-



rector of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, said everyone planning to attend the biennial event — set for March 25 — is being asked to sign up, no matter how they plan to get Wegman to Austin.

"We're asking everyone to register at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, regardless of how they are going or when they are leaving," said Wegman.

Taking the bus will be a daylong event but at an attractive price.

See AUSTIN, Page 3A



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Page 1B Sunday, March 1, 2009



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College pitcher Blake Barnes winds up in the Hawks' Western Junior College Athletic Conference opener against Odessa College Friday at Jack Barber Field. The Hawks swept the first of two doubleheaders this weekend, 9-3 and 4-3.

Hawks sweep doubleheader from OC in dramatic fashion

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

There was a little drama involved in Howard College's first Western Junior College Athletic Conference doubleheader Friday afternoon at Jack Barber Field.

After rolling through Odessa College 9-3 in the first game, the Hawks got a little stagnant offensively and trailed 3-2 heading into the bottom of the eighth.

With one man on and nobody out, sophomore shortstop Bryan Johns took a Jermaine Barksdale pitch over the left field wall, giving the Hawks a 1-run lead.

Will Calhoun kept Odessa from getting a runner on base in the ninth, sealing a 4-3 win for Howard (15-0).

"We've traditionally been slow out of the

gate in the conference play, so to get these two wins to get things started is a big deal for us," said Howard Head Coach Britt Smith. "Today's over and now we've got to

do it again tomorrow."

The Hawks wrapped up a 4-game series with Odessa College Saturday. Results from those games will be available in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

The 2-run homer for Johns was his second of the day as his drove in a combined six runs in the doubleheader. He took over the shortstop position from Tyler Ladendorf, who was a second-round draft pick for the Minnesota Twins in the last year's MLB Amateur Draft and one of three all-Americans for the Hawks in 2008.

Ladendorf was actually at the game Friday and coached first base for Howard.

Smith noted that Johns — a transfer from Blinn Junior College — has been able to come in and give Howard no drop off from the production Ladendorf had delivered Howard for the prior two seasons.

See **HOWARD**, Page 2B

Forsan blows past Eagles

Herald Staff Reports

POST — Forsan's Buffaloes aren't quite ready to leave the hardwood yet.

The Buffs' offense exploded in the second and fourth periods, coming away with a 12-point victory, 59-47, over the No. 18 Seagraves Eagles Friday in Post.

The Buffs move on to the Class A regional quarterfinals, facing Sudan's Hornets in a playoff game tentatively set for 6:30 p.m. in Wolfforth at Frenship High School.

The Buffs trailed 9-7 after the opening frame, but blew up for 20 points in the second period, while holding Seagraves to a mere nine. The second stanza dominance gave Forsan a 27-18 lead heading into halftime.

"Both times were just kind of feeling each other out in the first period," noted Forsan Head Coach Terry McDonald. "They were trying to press a lot and we were trying to be disciplined against it. In the second, we finally figured it out. We saw what

was working and what wasn't. We adjusted and were able to get things going on both ends of the court."

Seagraves cut Forsan's lead to 3 by the end of the third period, but couldn't keep the Buffs' offense down in the final frame. The Eagles were able to score 17 points in the fourth, but Forsan dropped 26, giving the Buffs an area championship.

Forsan was led by Jeremy Robbins, who scored 20 points and

See **AREA**, Page 2B

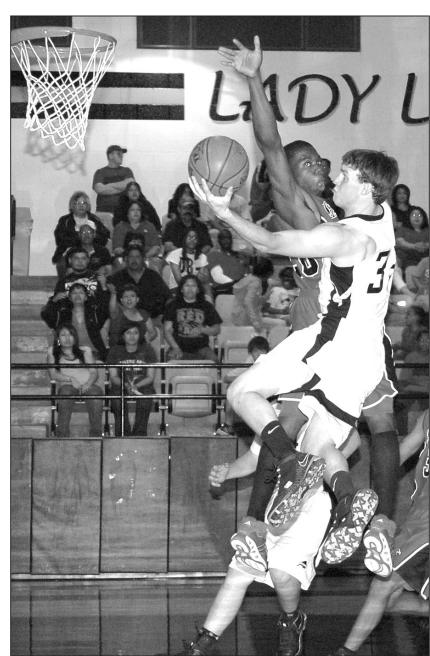
Local boys basketball playoff schedule

Wednesday

Forsan vs. Sudan, 6:30 p.m. in Wolfforth.

Grady vs. Paducah, 6:30 p.m. in Jayton.

Sands vs. Garden City or Valley, TBA.



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Forsan Buffaloes forward Evan Burton is fouled on his way to the hoop in a Class A boys basketball area playoff game against Seagraves in Post. Forsan beat No. 18 Seagraves, 59-47.

BSHS swimmers ousted in prelims

Herald Staff Report

AUSTIN — Unfortunately, Big Spring's DeShae Green and Cameron Hughey had a short stay at the Class 4A state swim meet in Austin over the weekend.

Neither Hughey or Green qualified for the finals in their respective races.

Hughey, who was making his second consecutive appearance at state, finished the preliminaries of the 100-meter freestyle in 13th with a time of

Green was disqualified during the 200-meter freestyle prelims after he didn't touch the wall on the turn before his final leg of the race.

Both swimmers are seniors at Big Spring.

For Hughey, it's possibly his final competitive race in the pool as he doesn't plan to pursue the sport in college. Instead he is hoping to join the Coast Guard.

Green plans to continue his training at the University of Texas-Permian Basin in Odessa.

Mavericks rally past OKC in OT

By DAVID JIMENEZ

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — Even with Oklahoma City missing Kevin Durant, the Dallas Mavericks turned to two of its stars to fend off the Thunder on Friday night.

points in the fourth quarter and overtime, Jason Kidd hit two big 3-pointers in the extra period, and the Mavericks overcame a 12-point deficit to beat the short-handed

Dirk Nowitzki scored 17 of his 41

Oklahoma City Thunder 110-108.

After struggling for most of the second half, Nowitzki scored 12 points in the final 4:47 of the fourth quarter and hit two straight baskets in overtime to give the Mavericks the lead. Kidd was 0-of-5 from the floor before scoring all 10

"It showed we can put it together pretty quickly when we have to,"

of his points in OT.

See MAVS, Page 3B



AP photo/LM Otero

Dallas Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki (41) shoots over Oklahoma City Thunder forward Nick Collison (4) during the second half of an NBA game in Dallas Friday. Nowitzki scored 41 points in the 110-108 overtime win.

Packers show interest in Dallas free agent defensive end Canty

By CHRIS JENKINS

AP Sports Writer

It's no surprise that the Green Bay Packers didn't join in the spending spree on the first day of NFL free agency. But they have expressed interest in free agent defensive end Chris Canty.

Canty's agent, Brad Blank, said Friday that Canty already has visits lined up with the New York Giants and Seattle Seahawks, adding that the Packers have called and a visit to Green Bay was a possibility next week.

"When I get a sense of what the market is, I'll call the Packers back and ask, 'Are you in this?" Blank said. "And I hope they are."

The Packers' interest in Canty was reported on

The Packers' interest in Canty was reported on the Web sites of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and *Green Bay Press-Gazette* earlier Friday.

Canty has played the first four seasons of his career in Dallas after the Cowboys took him in the fourth round of the 2005 draft.

Blank said Canty fits best as a defensive end in a 3-4 defense, tying up blockers to free up outside linebackers to make big plays — as he did for DeMarcus Ware in Dallas. The Packers are switching from a 4-3 alignment to a 3-4 next season, and star pass rusher Aaron Kampman is moving from defensive end to linebacker.

See **CANTY**, Page 3B

Page 1C

Sunday, March 1, 2009

Marachi San Pablo

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 9 a.m. Sunday, March 8'

-ariachi San Pablo" from the Ysleta Lutheran Mission near El Paso will provide music for the worship service at St. Paul Lutheran Church Sunday, March 8. The public is invited to the 9 a.m. worship service. Mariachi San Pablo will sing songs in both Spanish and English. This marks the group's third visit to the church, located at Ninth and Gregg streets. Following the morning worship, everyone is invited to a brunch hosted by the women of the church.

Mariachi San Pablo is an intergenerational music ministry, based in one of the poorest communities along the border. It is one of three Christian mariachi groups in the El Paso /Juarez area.

It began in 2001 with five members, mostly beginning musicians. The group currently has 12 members, teenagers to adults, who offer their talents in service to the Lord.

While at home on the U.S./Mexico border, Mariachi San Pablo works to reach its community through music that both inspires and touches the lives of those who hear it. Since its beginning, the group has traveled to 17 different U.S. states as well as into Mexico, performing for a variety of Lutheran conventions, conferences and outreach for churches, celebrating with and assisting others in reaching the Hispanic populations in their

The group performs a variety of music, including traditional hymns and contemporary Christian songs. They also play music from the popular mariachi tradition.

In 2008, Mariachi San Pablo musicians gave a combined total of 2,915 hours of community service, rehearsing and performing their music, spreading the Gospel message using the talents God blessed them with.

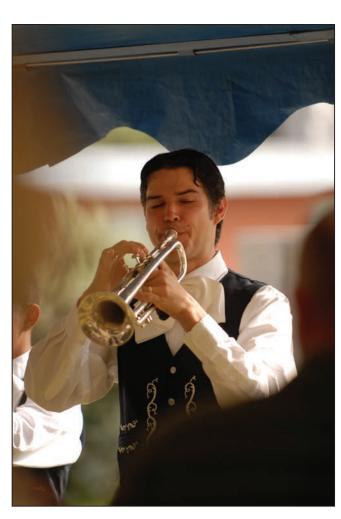






Photos by Bruce Schooler









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Obituaries

David Micheal 'Mike' Price



David Micheal "Mike" Price, 60, of Slaton passed away Monday, Feb. 23, 2009. He was born in Dallas on Sept. 17, 1948. He graduated from Abilene Cooper High School in 1967. In his young adult life, he drove an ambulance, worked at a grocery store and worked for Mrs. Baird's Bread. He was a corrections officer for the Giles W. Dalby Unit in Post at the time of his death.

Survivors include his brother, Mickey Price of Post; two daughters, Amanda "Mandi" Price of Big Spring and Andrea Oyler and husband Danny of Rossville, Ga.; three grandchildren, Gloria Stinson of Big Spring and Darian and Kord Oyler of Rossiville, Ga.; aunt and uncle, Edith and Duane Cotton of Lubbock; cousins, Tim and Janet Cotton and children of Alamogordo, N.M., Gary Cotton and sons of Tomball and Belinda Cotton of Corpus Christi. He was also survived by numerous friends and co-

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandma, Isa Hawkins, who raised him.

Mike will be greatly missed by all! He was an honorable man and loving dad.

Memorial services will be held Monday, March 2, 2009, at 10 a.m. at Sanders Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Eddie Marcum officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Sanders Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made at www.sandersfuneralhome.com

Paid obituary

Gladys McBrayer



Gladys McBrayer, 92, of Big Spring died Friday, Feb. 27, 2009, at her son's residence. The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Clark Funeral Home Chapel in Frankfort, Ky., with burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens. Gladys was born July 18, 1916, in

Shelby County, Ky. She spent most of her life in Frankfort, Ky. Gladys worked in a defense plant in Portland, Ore., during World War II, and later in defense plants in Kentucky. She was a homemaker, but also worked in medical offices. Gladys moved from Frankfort to Big Spring in 2000. Her hobbies were sewing and quilting, and she was a member of the Quilting Guild in Big Spring.

Gladys is survived by one son, Michael McBrayer and his wife Joyce of Big Spring; two grandsons, Jeremy McBrayer of Big Spring and Christopher McBrayer and his wife Lisa of Corpus Christi; one sister, Bea Morris of Frankfort, Ky.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hattie brother, Luther White; and three sisters, Smith, Edna Roberts and Iva Faye Woods.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Jackie McKee Blair



Jackie McKee Blair, 44, passed away Sunday, Feb. 15, 2009, in Azle after a long battle with cancer.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009, at First Assembly of God in Azle.

She was born March 17, 1964, to James Austin McKee and Wyona

Sue Moore. She was an advocate for abused children and wrote a book called

"Stop Abuse." She had been a long-

time Big Spring resident.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth Gene Blair; her children, Brandi Fincher and her husband Jerod, Billi Brosh and her husband Brian, Mandi Moreno and her husband Tyler and Bradley Kirk; eight grandchildren; brother Ricky Harrington; and sister, Penny Brown; and her parents, James Austin McKee and Wyona Sue Moore. She was preceded in death by a sister, Tammy Di-

anne Moore.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Child Advocates, 808 Austin St., Wichita Falls.

Support Groups

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



Police blotter

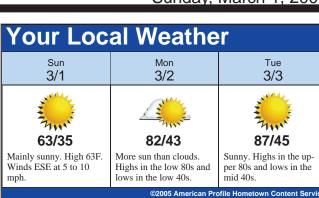
The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday:

- ERNEST CASTANEDA JR., 22, 1303 Nolan, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- SALVADOR GUTIERREZ PEREZ, 37, 1513 S. Scurry, was arrested on a charge of public intoxica-
- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 36, 1603 Donley, was arrested on a charge of assault/family vio-
- · ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- · ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87 (two reports).
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1200 block of 16th.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA was reported in the 800 block of Marcy.
- THEFT was reported in the 3300 block of Inter-
- THEFT OF SERVICE was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg.
- UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT was reported in the 800 block of Johnson.

Take Note

- This is the 80th anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring and the club will be having its annual pancake supper Friday, March 6 at the Howard College cafeteria. They will be serving pancakes, bacon and sausage from 4 p.m. thru 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person.
- Big Spring resident Velma Campbell was on vacation when she had a massive stroke. She is in critical condition in Arizona. Her family hopes to have her medically transported back home as soon as possible. She has many friends and is an avid bowler. If anyone would like to help, a savings account has been set up at Wells Fargo. The savings account number is 9662778118.
- · Coahoma alumni will hold an all school, all class es reunion Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Coahoma school building. Individual classes are encouraged to plan their class get-togethers Friday night or Saturday night. This year's reunion theme will highlight sports and former coaches Bernie Hagins and Norman Roberts will be honored, along with all former athletes and coaches at Coahoma ISD. Funds will be raised for the Coahoma Scholarship Fund as well. The Coahoma Alumni Association is trying to update its e-mail and mailing address lists and asks that you contact Patti Meets at pmeeks@basin-net. net or (432) 267-6688 with updates. More information will be shared as the reunion planning progresses.
- 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 and John White; her husband, Hart McBrayer; one 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-
 - 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.





Bulletin Board

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

MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more informa-
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at
- 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

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

in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

Big Spring Country Club. • Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Mega Millions lottery: 24-37-44-50-56; Mega Ball:

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night: Winning numbers drawn: 21-15-25-31-6. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:9-6-1-4. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-6-0. Sum It Up: 13.

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

Busch brothers top qualifying at home track

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Kyle and Kurt Busch became the first brothers since 2000 to sweep the front row in qualifying for a NASCAR race on Friday, but Kyle's blown motor will prevent the Las Vegas drivers from starting next to each other at their home track.

Kyle Busch blew a motor in his Toyota during practice, changed the engine, then ran a pole-winning lap of 185.995 mph (299.32 kph) to knock his big brother off the pole for Sunday's Shelby 427 race. Kurt Busch ran a lap at 185.707 mph (298.85 kph).

But under NASCAR rules, Kyle Busch will have to drop to the back of the field at the start of the race. Third-place qualifier Jimmie Johnson will slide onto the front row next to Kurt Busch during the warm-up laps.

Kyle Busch wasn't worried about having to drive to the

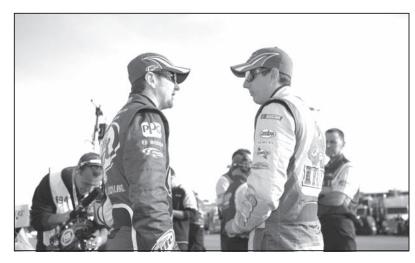
"Unfortunately for myself, I won't be in the cool photo next to my brother at the drop of the green flag," said Kyle Busch, who celebrated the pole-winning run by crashing a Victory Lane wedding ceremony between race fans and stepping in as the best

The 1-2 qualifying effort marked the first time brothers have swept the front row since Rusty and Kenny Wallace at Martinsville in 2000. Bobby and Terry Labonte also took the top two starts at the 1998 Daytona

The motor change spoiled what would have undoubtedly been an intense fight to lead the first lap, so Kurt Busch wasn't bothered that Kyle will fall to the back of the field.

"It would have been great to go after it and see who would leave the first lap, but you can't get caught up in all that," Kurt Busch said.

See **NASCAR**, Page 3B



Kyle Busch, right, talks to his brother Kurt Busch after qualifying for the NASCAR Sprint Cup series Shelby 427 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway in Las Vegas Friday.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

Kidd said. "That's a lesson learned. We've got to win these games."

Oklahoma City played most of the way without Kevin Durant, who sprained his right ankle and left the contest with 4:21 remaining in the first quarter.

Durant left the arena in crutches and wearing a protective boot. His status is day-to-day.

Despite the loss of the NBA's fourthleading scorer, the Thunder led by 12 midway through the fourth quarter and then overcame a five-point deficit to force overtime.

Oklahoma City is 3-17 in games decided by six points or less.

"With Kevin out, we had to step up and really play together," Oklahoma City forward Jeff Green said. "We

still had a chance with a couple of big

plays we could have made."

Nowitzki hit two free throws to give the Mayericks the lead in overtime. then followed with a 3-pointer that gave the Mavericks a 103-99 advantage with 1:39 left. It was his fourth 40-point game of the season and 12th of his career.

"It was definitely a lucky win," said Nowitzki, who'd scored only three points in the second half before breaking out late. "It doesn't happen very often when you're down that much that late and come back."

Russell Westbrook, who hit a 3-pointer to send it to overtime, scored 33 points and Green added 28 points for the Thunder, who have lost seven

Dallas' Josh Howard had 13 points and James Singleton added 12 points and nine rebounds.

"We're fortunate," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "Kidd made plays, Dirk made plays and we lived to fight another day."

Durant apparently hurt himself

when he stepped on Howard's foot on a drive to the basket.

He stayed in the game for three more minutes before leaving with a slight limp.

The former University of Texas star finished with a season-low six points after scoring at least 30 in nine of his last 10 games.

Thunder interim coach Scott Brooks did not know how much more action Durant would miss. "We obviously know Kevin is one of

our better players," Brooks said. "But that's part of it. We can't worry about it. We have to fight through it and continue to get better." The Mavericks trailed 87-75 with

just over five minutes left in regulation before going on a 16-0 run. Nowitzki scored 10 in the surge, including a jumper that gave Dallas an 89-87 lead.

Still ahead 95-90, Dallas fouled Westbrook shooting a 3-pointer with 22.7 seconds left. He hit the first two free throws and Nenad Krstic grabbed the miss on the third attempt.

Krstic gave the ball back Westbrook, who hit a tying 3-pointer.

Dallas had a chance to win it in the final seconds but was denied when Howard couldn't handle an inbounds pass and lost the ball with 2 seconds remaining.

"We fouled 3-point shooters and didn't box out on a free throw," Nowitzki said. "That shouldn't happen to a veteran team."

Kidd, who had 13 assists, opened the extra period with a 3 and drained another to give Dallas a 106-101 advantage with 20.7 seconds left in overtime.

Nowitzki and Kidd each hit a pair of free throws in the final 20 seconds to

Notes: The Mavericks have won eight in a row at home over the Thunder. Six of those came while the franchise was in Seattle. ... The Thunder have lost eight straight on the road, dropping to 3-25.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

"Bryan has been everything we thought he'd be," said Smith. "He's been exceptional defensively. He's the anchor of our defense. The big deal with Bryan is his swing. It's really good. He came in and bought into what we teach right away. He doesn't try to do too much. If a team pitches him away, he hits it the other way. If they pitch him inside, he's going to turn on the ball. He's just a opening contest, singled to knock in a Hamblin and Andrew Collazo also Springer 2; HC - Johns 2, Leftridge 2.

baseball player. That's a great compliment for anyone who plays."

Johns' game-winning homer was set up by Joe Leftridge, who led off the eighth with a single, setting up his teammate's heroics.

Will Calhoun took over for Blake Barnes in the eighth inning, allowing no hits and striking out three bat-

Barnes gave up three runs in the first inning after Odessa's Norberto Susini, who hit a 3-run homer in the seventh inning of Game 1 gave the Wranglers their only scores of the run and was followed with a 2-run jack by Preston Springer. Howard scored a run in the third

and fourth innings, both knocked in by Leftridge, to pull within 1 run, 3-2. Zach Neal picked up the win in

Game 1, giving up no runs in six innings of work.

The Hawks built a 9-0 lead after five innings and came just one score short of ending the opening game early via the mercy rule.

Johns had a home run, a double and four RBI in the first contest. Miles

homered.

Howard College is currently ranked sixth in the nation.

Game 1 Odessa 000 000 3—3 5 1 Howard 120 420 x-9 13 1 WP - Zach Neal.

2B: HC - Johns, Hamblin, Calhoun. 3B: HC -Leftridge. HR: OC - Susini; HC - Hamblin, Johns, Collazo. RBI: OC - Norberto Susini 3; HC - Johns 4, Hamblin, Collazo 2, Kreder.

Odessa 300 000 000-3 2 1 Howard 001 010 02x-4 10 0

WP - Will Calhoun. LP - Jermaine Barksdale. 2B: HC - Nine, Kreder. 3B: HC - Davis. HR: OC - Preston Springer; HC - Johns. RBI: OC

AREA

Continued from Page 1B

pulled down 17 rebounds. Evan Burton scored 18 points, while Nathan Atkerson put in nine and secured nine boards.

Sudan is coming off a 44-30 victory over Stanton Friday. Stanton is a district opponent for Forsan and defeated the Buffs once this season.

The Hornets boast a lot of size, including 6-7 post B.J. Davis. However, McDonald believes the Buffs can match up with them.

"They're huge, but we've got some good size as well," he said. "Sudan is a good, solid program. They're like us and have been in the playoffs for several seasons in a row. This is should be a good matchup."

9 12 17—47 7 20 6 26—59

Forsan (23-3): Robbins 20, Burton 18, Atkerson 9, Huckabee 8,

Grady 44, Spur 41

SLATON — Grady's Wildcats held on for a 3-point victory over Spur in a Class A, Division II area playoff game.

Dylan Cox led all scorers with 16 points, while Shane Teague added 11.

Grady led by just 1 at the break, but was able to get a 7-point lead before the start of the final

Spur made a run at the Wildcats, but couldn't quite dig out of its hole. The Wildcats face No. 2 Paducah at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday at Jayton. Paducah routed Grady's dis-

NEED MONEY Get A Quick, Easy & Confidential Quick Cash **432-263-4400** OPEN SATURDAYS 612 S. Gregg trict rival Borden County Friday, 69-28.

12 7 16 9—44 10 8 10 13—41 Grady

Fouled out: None.

Grady (23-5): Shane Teague 11, Dylan Cox 16, Tyler Matthews 2, Joe Cook 6, Geoffery Schutee 4, Jacob Rodriguez 5.

Spur: Zack Harston 7, Landon Hinton 9, Landen White 2, Anthony

Molina 14, Cole Clark 7. Free throws: Grady 12-17, Spur 10-19. 3-point goals: Grady 6 (Teague 3, Cox 3), Spur 2 (Molina). Team fouls: Grady 16, Spur 14.

Sands 65, **Vernon Northside 47**

JAYTON — The Sands Mustangs did their part to potentially set up a postseason battle between two Crossroads area teams Friday with their 65-47 victory over Vernon Northside in a Class A,

sudoku

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

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

Division II area playoff. The Mustangs face the winner of Garden City and Turkey Valley, which played Saturday in Post. Results from that game were not available as of

press time. If Garden City won, the Mustangs and Bearkats would play Wednesday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.



By Steve Becker The Bidding Tells the Tale

conclude that West must have the K-Q of spades, K-Q of hearts and queen of clubs for his opening bid. Only 12 West dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH **↑**J754 ♥J98 high-card points are missing at this point, and West must have them all. Accordingly, declarer leads a club from dummy at trick three and WEST EAST finesses the jack, knowing it will **♦** K Q 8 **♦**9632 ♥10763 lose. West wins and returns a diamond to the jack, whereupon South ♦ 10 9 8 cashes the A-K-10 of clubs and queen of diamonds **♣**Q976 **SOUTH** On the fourth diamond, West **↑** A 10 **♥** A 5 2 now down to six cards - must discard a spade or a heart. Let's say he ◆ O J 7 2 discards a spade, in which case dummy discards a spade. South then **♣**AKJ10 The bidding: plays the ace and another spade.

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT

later in the play.

nond to dummy's ace.

ass

Dble heart from the K-Q-4. If he leads the king, South has an easy time making a second heart Opening lead — ten of diamonds. trick, so let's say he returns the four As the play progresses, declarer's instead. Ordinarily, declarer would

South

play the eight from dummy in the hope that West had the K-10-4 or Qpicture of how the unseen cards are distributed steadily becomes clearer. 10-4, but here, with the knowledge Sometimes he gains all the informaaccumulated earlier, South goes up tion he needs almost immediately, and sometimes he must wait until Take this deal where declarer, at

with the jack to score his ninth trick. Sadly, many experienced declarers would fail to draw the obvious infertrick one, learns essentially all he needs to know about West's hand. ence at trick one about the nature of West's hand. East's king-ofdiamonds play clearly marks West with the five other missing high Let's say that after declarer plays low on the opening diamond lead, East wins with the king and returns a dia-

cards, and South should shape all his subsequent plays to fit that assump-

West wins and is forced to lead a

It isn't difficult for declarer to Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

Menus

Coahoma ISD

Monday Breakfast: waffles, hams, syrup, orange

juice, milk Lunch: spaghetti, salad, mixed fruit cup, rolls, burritos, pickle spears

Tuesday Breakfast: Pop Tarts, ham, applesauce

cups, milk Lunch: Nacho Grande, pinto beans, oranges, milk

Wednesday Breakfast: biscuits, sausage, gravy, jelly,

orange juice, milk Lunch: tacos, salad, fruit, milk, corn dogs

Thursday

Breakfast: oatmeal, ham, apples juice, milk Lunch: chicken patties, gravy, mashed, potatoes, corn, roll, milk

Friday Breakfast: French toast, sausage, syrup, grape, juice, milk

Lunch: pizza, salad, apples, milk

Forsan ISD

Monday Breakfast: cheese omelet, toast, juice, milk Lunch: burritos, Spanish rice, tossed salad,

fruit, sugar cookies, milk

Tuesday Breakfast: French

toast, sausage, juice,

Lunch: popcorn chicken, broccoli & cheese, corn cobbette, French bread sticks, frozen peach cup, milk

Wednesday Breakfast: breakfast pocket, juice, milk

Lunch: barbecue chicken, macaroni & cheese, tossed salad, chilled pears, cornbread, milk

Thursday

Breakfast: donuts, applesauce, juice, milk

Lunch: pizza, tossed salad, seasoned corn, chocolate cake, milk

Friday

Breakfast: cereal, yogurt, juice, milk

Lunch: steak fingers, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, hot rolls, frozen cherry bar, milk

Big Spring ISD

Monday

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See MENUS, Page 3C



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Robyn Paige McKinney and Jason Paul Price

McKinney and Price

Steven and Jennifer Price of Big Spring announce the engagement of their son, Jason Paul Price to Robyn Paige McKinney, both of Midland. The couple will be united in marriage April 4, 2009, at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Midland with Mark McCormick of Dalhart, uncle of the groom, officiating.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Bob and Patsy McKinney and the granddaughter of Jack and Helen Arnold and James McKinney, all of Midland and the late Frances McKinney.

The future groom is the grandson of Frank and Vola Moore of Stamford, Alvie Price of Seagraves and the late Pat Price.

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Contact the Herald



Toni Jo Lynn Coggin and Kelly Jay Wade

Coggin and Wade

Bill (Chipper) and Jo Coggin of Stanton announce the engagement of their daughter, Toni Jo Lynn of Midland, formerly of Stanton, to Kelly Jay Wade of Midland, formerly of Big Spring. Kelly is the son of Kirk Wade of Midland and DeLisa Wade of Big

The bride-elect, known as T.J., is the granddaughter of Bill Coggin, the late Roxy Coggin and Ouida Coggin of Stanton and the late Evelyn Lankford of Stanton.

The future groom is the grandson of Dana and Steve Turner, DeWayne and Nancy Wagner, Patsy and Joe Sharpnack, all of Big Spring, and Jim Wade of Tucson, Ariz.

T.J. graduated from Stanton High School in 2003. She earned her cosmetology license from Midland College and is finishing her associate's degree. She is employed with Midland College in the Technical Studies Division and intends to continue school, majoring in business or education.

In 2002, while attending high school, Kelly began his career in the oil and gas industry, working on drilling rigs. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 2003. He is employed with J.B. Hunt Gas and Oil Drilling as a daylight driller.

Kelly and T.J. are to be married June 6, 2009, at the Cuthbert Mansion in Midland. After their honeymoon in Paris, France, they will reside in Midland. Visit their Web page at www.kellytj6-6-9.blogspot. com.



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Dating



What is it? Dating violence is controlling, abusive and aggressive behavior in a romantic relationship. It can happen in straight o

gay relationships. It can include verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, or a combination of them.

Controlling behavior includes Not letting you hang out with your friends

 Calling or paging you frequently to find out where you are, who you're with, and what you're doing
 Telling you what to wear · Having to be with you all the time

Verbal and emotional abuse includes:

Calling you names

 Jealousy • Belittling you (cutting you down) · Threatening to hurt you, someone in your family, or themselves if you don't do what they want

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

Sexual abuse includes • Unwanted touching and kissing • Forcing you to have sex

• Not letting you use birth control • Forcing you to do other sexual things Anyone can be a victim of dating violence. Both boys and girls are victims, but boys and girls abuse their partners in different ways. Girls are more likely to yell, threaten to hurt themselves, pinch, slap, scratch, or kick. Boys injure girls more, are more likely to punch their partner, and more likely to force them to participate in unwanted sexual activity

Some teen victims experience violence occasionally. Others are abused more often, sometimes daily.

If you are a victim of dating violence, you might...

• Think it's your fault • Feel angry, sad, lonely, depressed or confused Feel helpless to stop the abuse
 Feel threatened or humiliated

• Feel anxious • Not know what might happen next

· Feel like you can't talk to family and friends • Be afraid of getting hurt more seriously

· Feel protective of your boyfriend/girlfriend

You're not alone

 One in three teenagers has experienced violence in a dating relationship. • 50 percent to 80 percent of teens have reported knowing others who were involved in violence relationships.

· 15 percent of teen girls and boys have reported being victims of severe dating violence (defined as being hit, thrown

down, or attacked with a weapon). · 8 percent of 8th and 9th grade students have reported being victims of sexual dating violence

· Young women, ages 16 to 24 years, experience the highest rates of relationship violence

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

• If you think you are in abusive relationship, get help immediately. Don't keep your concerns to yourself • Talk to someone you trust like a parent, teacher, school principal, counselor or nurse.

· If you choose to tell, you should know that some adults are mandated reporters. This means they are legally required to report neglect or abuse to someone else, like the police or child protective services. You can ask people if they are mandated reporters and then decide what you want to do. Some examples of mandated reporters are teachers, counselors, doctors, social workers, and in some cases, even coaches or activity leaders. If you want to help deciding who to talk to, call our Helpline at 1-800-FYI-CALL, or an anonymous crisis line in your area. You might also want to talk to a trusted family member, a friend's parent, an adult neighbor or friend, an older sibling or cousin, or other experienced

• If you want to get advice about who to talk to, call our helpline (1-800-FYI-CALL) or an anonymous crisis hotline in your area. You might also want to talk to a trusted family member, a friend's parent, an adult neighbor or friend, an older sibling or cousin, or other experienced person who you trust.

Think about ways you can be safer. This means thinking about what to do, where to go for help, and who to call ahead

· Where can you go for help? · Who can you call? · Who will help you?

· How will you escape a violence situation? Here are other precautions you can take

Let friends or family know when you are afraid or need help.

· When you go out, say where you are going and when you'll be back

• In an emergency call 911 or your local police department

• Memorize important phone numbers like the people to contact or places to go in an emergency Keep spare change, calling cards, or a cell phone handy for immediate access to communication

· Go out in a group with other couples · Have money available for transportation if you need to take a taxi, bus, or subway to escape

If you know someone who might be in an abusive relationship, you can help.

 \bullet Tell the person that you are worried \bullet Be a good listener \bullet Offer your friendship and support · Ask how you can help · Encourage your friend to seek help

• Educate yourself about dating violence and healthy relationships · Avoid any confrontations with the abuser. This could be dangerous for you and your friend.

> **Victim Services Agency** 263-3312 www.vsofbigspring.com

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James Fryar, left, of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers' Club presents City Public Works Director Todd Darden with a check for \$750 at City Hall recently. The check will go to help reconstruct the Kids Zone playground area at the city park. The playground was heavily damaged by arson in December.

Teens face tanning regulation

FORT WORTH (AP) — Teens across Texas may lose their winter tans under proposed legislation that would require a physician's written consent to use tanning beds.

House Bill 1310 would ban anyone younger than 18 from using a tanning facility without a doctor's note specifying the number of visits. Rep. Burt Solomons, R-Carrollton, filed the bill because of concerns about skin cancer.

"The studies are pretty clear now that you shouldn't be doing a lot of tanning, so why are we letting minors go to tanning salons?" Solomons said in Friday's Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

At least 29 states have passed laws restricting teens from tanning salons.

Current state law requires children under 13 to have a phy-

only service the department pro-

"Even after all these years, a

lot of people in the community

don't really know there's a hy-

giene class here at the college,"

she said. "Our main priority is

to serve the community, not just

vides to the community.

teach our students."

sician's consent and anyone 15 or vounger to have a parent in the salon while tanning.

The \$5 billion indoor tanning industry opposes restrictions for minors but has worked to educate people on the value of moderate tanning as a way to prevent a dangerous sunburn, according to Joseph Levy, vice president of the International Smart Tan Network.

Stimulus leaves state on mountain of cash

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer AUSTIN — Texas lawmakers started off the year staring down a multibillion dollar budget hole. Thanks to Uncle Sam, they'll soon be sitting on a mountain of cash.

About \$17 billion of President Barack Obama's economic stimulus package is headed for the Lone Star State, some of it helping to fill the gaps that otherwise would have strained the two-year state budget and its Rainy Day Fund savings account. Officials are still trying to figure out how and where to spend it, but fears of deep cuts and a looming future deficit have all but faded.

Republicans, who control both houses of the Legislature and every statewide office, have expressed misgivings about the mound of federal debt required to pass the stimulus package. Traditional deficit spending is not allowed in Texas, which has a pay-as-you-go budgetary system.

"We can balance the budget," with or without the stimulus money, said Sen. Steve Ogden, the Senate's budget leader. "We do it every session. We are not the federal government."

Still, legislative lead-

District 4 incumbent,

Steven Villa, have filed

to run for re-election

and are currently unop-

Contact Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins at 263-

posed.

ers say if Texans have to go into debt to help pay for the federal pork, they might as well get their share of the benefits. That, in turn, has relieved the pressure on them to balance a budget that began with a \$9 billion drop in available revenue compared to the last budget cycle.

And the state has to spend the money. The federal law, intended to jumpstart the economy with an immediate infusion of cash, prohibits states from saving any of the money. Analysts say about \$8 billion in state money will be freed up in the budget.

The law says "if you

receive these funds, you can't add it to your Rainy Day or reserves — there's a question about what that means," said Rep. Jim Dunnam, chairman of the House Committee on Federal **Economic Stabilization** Funding, who plans to take his panel to Washington to try to get answers — or possibly have to pay some of the money back.

For example, if the Legislature simply leaves the money in the treasury, unobligated, does that violate the law?

MYERS & SMITH **FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Gladys McBrayer, 92, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Clark Funeral Home Chapel in Frankfort, Kentucky with burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

leave McDonald currently unopposed for the May contest.

Longtime Councilman for District 6 Greg Biddison announced early on he would not be running for re-election. Shortly after his announcement, Howard College Vice President Terry Hansen filed to run for the seat. Hansen remains unopposed at this time.

According to Assistant City Secretary Tami Davis, would-be candidates have until March 9 to file their candidacy at City Hall to be eligible for the May contest. The city of Coahoma

has three seats — all are at-large — up for election in May.

Seats held by incum-

Ricky Stone and Mayor

Bill Read will all be up for grabs. According to officials with the city of Coahoma, Coahoma resident Jay Holt filed to run for one of the atlarge seats, but is the only candidate right now. In fact, officials say all three incumbents have indicated they do not plan to run for re-election.

In the city of Forsan, three at-large positions bents David Elmore, will be decided in the May election, as incumFred Hogan and Marty Whetsel have all indicated they plan to run for re-election. According to Forsan Mayor Roger Hudgins, no challengers have come forward as yet. In Stanton, an at-large

bents Mary Gressett,

position on the city council, along with the District 4 seat, will be up for the taking. According to officials, the | Dragon China Buffet | at-large incumbent, Tommy Haislip,

Teeth cleaning and dental X-ray services are provided at reduced cost by the department. for more information, call 264-5075.

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

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AUSTIN

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

Continued from Page 1A

kids come in," she said.

day and Wallace hopes to attract

even more in the future. "We'd

like to have between 100 and 150

Wallace said the fair is not the

"For those who are planning to take advantage of the bus we have chartered, we'll be leaving from the east parking lot at Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 4:30 a.m.," Wegman said.

"It's \$40 to take the bus, and that included transportation to and from the capitol and a box lunch while we're there. The deadline to pay for a bus ticket or order a box lunch is Friday. If you're not taking the bus but want to have a box lunch waiting for you, it's \$9.

"Food and drinks on the bus will be the responsibility of those traveling, and on the way back we'll be stopping off at Coopers Barbecue, which will be Dutch treat. We expect to arrive back at Howard College at approximately 11 p.m."

Wegman said the time at the state capitol will be well spent, featuring a number of events to help highlight Big Spring and Howard County.

"They will read the resolution on the floor of the House and Senate proclaiming March 25 Big Spring Day in Austin," said Wegman. "Also, students from the Howard County School Choir — made up of students from several different schools in the area — will perform in the rotunda. We'll have a box lunch on the east grounds of the capitol, as well as have a Coke and Blue Bell Ice Cream reception, followed by a group photo on the capitol steps."

Big Spring Day in Austin is an excellent way

to catch the attention of lawmakers in the Lone Star state and let them know Howard County residents are very interested in how state policy effects the Crossroads community, according to Wegman.

"This is a great chance to see first-hand how the legislature works," said Wegman. "They make the laws that effect our lives, day after day."

Residents planning to attend are being asked to follow a dress code while in the capitol, Wegman said.

"We're asking everyone to wear a Big Spring shirt and khaki pants or skirt," said Wegman. "If you don't already have one of the denim Big Spring shirts, you can order both long and short sleeve ones from the chamber office. They are \$25 each, and the deadline to order a shirt in time for Big Spring Day in Austin will be Monday."

For more information on Big Spring Area Day in Austin, call Big Spring EDC at 264-6032 or the Big Spring Chamber at 263-7641.

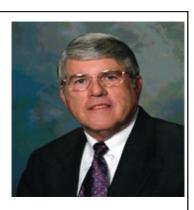
Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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Feds to appeal Bonds evidence ruling

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Bonds' perjury trial was delayed indefinitely Friday after federal prosecutors notified the judge overseeing the case that they will appeal her decision to exclude key evidence from

Jury selection, which has been set to start Monday, "will not proceed until further notice," according to a filing Friday by the clerk for U.S. District Judge Susan Illston.

Prosecutors told Illston of their intention to appeal a couple of hours after Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson, said at a court hearing that he would not testify at the slugger's perjury trial.

Illston had barred prosecutors from showing the jury three positive steroid tests allegedly belonging to Bonds and other vital evidence unless Anderson took the witness stand to authenticate them.

The latest developments are another blow to the all-time home run leader's hopes to resume his major league career. Following his indictment in November 2007, no team made an offer to sign him for 2008. If his trial had ended next month and he gained acquittal, he would have been in better position to join a team early this season.

Bonds is accused of lying to a grand

jury in 2003 when he denied that he knowingly took performance-enhancing drugs.

A reluctant and annoved Illston told lawyers earlier Friday that, in the event of an appeal, she would have little choice but to wait until the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decides

Illston noted that 90 prospective jurors had been planning to show up to court Monday and that court staff and security personnel had been preparing for an expected crush of media and onlookers.

Bonds' attorneys argued against postponing the trial in a court filing late Friday, saying it "will result in a waste of considerable judicial resourc-

They complained about the delay in a statement after the court called off Monday's jury selection.

"Barry Bonds is innocent," said a joint statement signed by three of Bonds' attorneys. "It's unfair to him, to the taxpavers, and to the judicial process. The government's strategy of delay shows what little confidence they have in their own case."

Legal analysts said the government faces long odds of winning its appeal. Appeals courts give lower courts broad discretion in deciding pretrial matters such as what evidence the

jury will hear, they said.

"It's very stupid move," said Golden Gate University law professor Peter Keane. "It is a futile act and a terrible tactical blunder.'

It's unknown when the appeals court will decide the issue. It will soon set a schedule for both sides to file their legal arguments.

The appeal is a direct result of Anderson's refusal to testify.

In Illston's Feb. 19 ruling, she blocked the government from showing the jury three positive steroid tests that allegedly belong to Bonds as well as so-called doping calendars that prosecutors say Anderson maintained for the home run king. Without Anderson's testimony, she said, the government cannot prove those things belong to Bonds.

During a September 2003 raid of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, federal investigators seized the positive test results along with 21 other blood and urine samples that tested negative. The three key tests showed positive results in 2000 and 2001 for the steroids nandrolone and methenolone, according to the govern-

Prosecutors want to use all the tests to support their claim that Bonds was a knowing steroids user and frequent customer of BALCO, the center of a massive sports doping ring.

But the judge said Anderson's testimony was crucial because he allegedly was the one who collected the urine samples and delivered them for testing.

Anderson told Illston on Friday that he would refuse to testify even if she ordered him imprisoned during the trial, which she promised to do. He already has served a year in prison for refusing to testify in 2006 before a federal grand jury investigating Bonds for perjury.

Anderson's attorney, Mark Geragos, spoke outside the courthouse with his client at his side.

Geragos insisted that Anderson's longtime friendship with Bonds is not the reason for his refusal to testi-

"These are prosecutors that he (Anderson) does not trust. These are prosecutors who have made certain promises and, he believes, has broken those promises," Geragos said, without elaborating on what those promises were.

Geragos said he hopes to persuade the judge that Anderson should not be sent back to prison.

Associated Press writer Sudhin Thanawala contributed to this report.

Vikings acquire QB Rosenfels

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Entering his ninth season in the NFL, and playing for his fourth different team, Sage Rosenfels was asked how many times previously he entered training camp with a chance to compete for the starting quarterback

"This is it," Rosenfels said with a big grin.

The Vikings acquired Rosenfels from the Houston Texans on Friday for a fourth-round draft pick and signed him to a two-year, \$9 million contract extension that could keep him in Minnesota through

Rosenfels will compete with incumbent Tarvaris Jackson for the starting job.

He entered the league as a fourth-round draft pick of the Washington Redskins in 2001. He was traded to Miami the following season but got just two starts in four years.

The chance to be the man appeared to be on the way during his second season in Houston in 2007, but the Texans spent two second-round draft picks and nearly \$50 million to get Matt Schaub away from Atlanta.

It's the second season in a row that the Vikings have tried to trade for Rosenfels. Last year, the two teams could not agree on compensation, so Minnesota brought in veteran Gus Frerotte as a backup. They finally came together on a

See ROSENFELS, Page 4B

NASCAR

Continued from Page 2B

David Reutimann and Marcos Ambrose qualified fourth and fifth, but also had to change their motors after their laps and will drop to the back of the field. Brian Vickers, who won the pole last week at California but had to forfeit it because of an engine change, and his teammate Scott Speed also switched motors on Friday.

In all, five Toyota teams switched motors.

"I don't have any idea," Busch said of the rash of motor problems. Kyle Busch's motor is built by Joe Gibbs Racing, but the others all came from Toyota's factory in Costa Mesa, California.

Ryan Newman qualified sixth and was followed by Kasey Kahne, Mark Martin, Kevin Harvick and Tony Stewart.

A total of 51 drivers entered the race, meaning 16 drivers were vying for the eight available spots in the field. Among those to make the race were AJ Allmendinger — a year after he missed the event for Red Bull Racing and was temporarily pulled from his ride the next week — Brad Keselowski and Regan Smith, last year's rookie of the year.

Missing the field was Jeremy Mayfield and Scott Riggs, who both raced their way into the Daytona 500 three weeks ago, as well as Travis Kvapil, Dave Blaney, Sterling Marlin and Tony Raines.

CANTY

Continued from Page 1B

Canty was open to playing in Green Bay if the

offer was right, Blank said.

The Packers have taken a conservative approach to free agency under general manager Ted Thompson, placing a larger priority on signing their own players to contract extensions and improving primarily through the draft.

Former Cowboys' QB Carter arrested for DWI

MISSION (AP) — Former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Quincy Carter was arrested early Friday on drunken driving and marijuana possession charges in South Texas, authorities said.

Carter was pulled over in the Mission area for failing to signal a right turn and the arresting officer observed bloodshot eyes and slurred speech, said Texas Department of Public trooper Johnny Hernandez. Carter's blood-alcohol level tested at 0.14, above the state's legal limit of 0.08,

Hernandez said.

The 31-year-old Carter was charged with misdemeanor possession of less than 2 ounces of marijuana after the drug was found in his car, Hernandez

Carter was arraigned Friday morning and being held in the Hidalgo County jail, said Sgt. Juan Reyes. No information on an attorney for Carter was available. Reves said.

Carter was the Cowboys' starting quarterback when they went 10-6 and reached the playoffs in 2003, their first season under

coach Bill Parcells. But he was released in training camp before the 2004 season.

He started briefly for the New York Jets before poor play and drug-related arrests ended his NFL career. He played in the Arena League before a brief tryout last year with the Miami Dolphins.

The marijuana possession charge was at least the third for Carter since 2006, when he was arrested in the Dallas suburb of

He was arrested a year later in Shreveport, La.



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Club News

Big Spring Area Retired Teachers

At the Feb. 16 meeting of the Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association, Carol Horton of Odessa discussed disposition of untitled property, which is primarily property owned by a deceased person who has left no indication of which persons are to receive the items.

Horton pointed out we all accumulate "stuff" which may or may not be valuable to others. She recommended at some point a person should indicate to whom his/her untitled property should go. Untitled property is personal items without a legal document to indicate who officially owns them.

To be certain items are given as desired by the deceased person, it is a good idea for that person to have handwritten a list of items and what person should receive them.

The list could be included with one's will, and might be notarized.

Another method is to distribute items while one is still living. Or family and friends could be asked to indicate desired items and write why they wish those things.

It is not recommended these untitled items be designated in the will, because over time some of them could be lost, broken, or stolen. Their value might increase or decrease, and it is simpler for the survivors to list the "stuff" separately.

In other business, Lora Warren, health care chairman, reported 36 members turned in lists of hours volunteered and miles walked in 2008. Myrtie Lee volunteered 2,500 hours, and top walkers were Ron Plumlee with 1,723 miles and Judy Plumlee with 1,693.

The next meeting will be March 16, with the principals of Forsan and Coahoma schools reporting on the latest school news.

We meet the third Monday of each month at Howard College's Cactus Room, at 11:30 a.m. Meetings are informative and brief. Anyone is invited to attend.

TOPS

TOPS members an-

swered Leader Laura Sickles' call to order with a rousing cheer.

Then Linda Stapel called for the TOPS cheer and Laura Sickles led the KOPS in their cheer. The welcome song was led by Carol Smith and all members joined in.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Linda Stapel and approved by all present.

Roll call by Hughetta Roberts was answered by eight TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) and two KOPS (Keep Off Pounds Sensibly). Best weekly loser was Lynne Criswell with a loss of 3.5 pounds. The club loss was recorded with a 15.50 loss.

Business portion of the meeting reminded all those wanting to attend State Recognition Day in Wichita Falls that they need to give their registration money to treasurer Frank Sickles. There will be, however, a late registration fee payable at the meeting.

Announcement of the coming TOPS garage sale May 20 at Dennis and Linda Stapel's home was made.

Members were told club election of officers will be March 2 and installation will be March

The new contest "Yes, I can" will begin March 2. All members were given a chart to mark food and water consumption for the new contest.

Carol Smith then gave a very humorous reading titled "Changes." This was followed by an interesting program called "Heart Healthy Foods," by Pam Klaus. The emphasis was to learn about and eat healthy food coupled with the importance of exercise to keep our hearts strong and healthy and our weight under control.

The closing song was then and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20

All visitors are welcome at the TOPS meet-

Weigh-in begins at 5 p.m .and the meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information about TOPS, call Frank Sickles at (432) 213-1342 or Olnee Menges 263-

► Anniversary



Rev. Carroll and Leighrene Kohl 50th Wedding Anniversary

The Dora Roberts Com- wedding anniversary munity Center served as celebration of the Rev. the setting for the 50th Carroll and Leighrene

Kohl, Sunday, Dec. 28,

The reception was given by their children and spouses, Thomas and Lori Kohl of Tolar, Angela and Billy Newton of Coahoma, Glenda and Scott Ramsey of Wichita Falls and Dana and Darren Byrd of Big Spring.

The Lakeside Room was colorfully decorated with poinsettias and golden accessories, ornaments, trees and candles depicting the same type of decorations as was used in their wedding.

Guests were treated to a beautiful three-tiered anniversary cake along with many trays of hor dourves, fruits, nuts, candy, coffee and punch. Pictures of the couple from their wedding day and Leighrene's wedding dress were displayed for all the guest to enjoy. The black and

Personal Trainer

white pictures were great conversation piec-

Granddaughters Breanna Conner, Analysia Rodriguez and Caroline Ramsey served as greeters and guest book at-

tendants.

Family members attended from Wichita Falls, Vernon, Tolar, Snyder and San Angelo. Friends and guest not only came from the Big Spring area to share in the celebration, but also from Midland, San Angelo, Lubbock Brownwood, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and Refu-

A majority of the guests were members of Lutheran churches where Pastor Kohl had served in their congregations. Approximately 100 guests shared in the celebration and reception.

Who's Who

during fall commencement ceremonies.

Among those recognized were Kristi Lynn Hutchison, who received a bachelor of science in interdisnesiology.

Joseph Bumbulis of Big Spring was one of Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary who received degrees during commencement exercises Dec. 19 in the Paul W. Powell Chapel. Bumbulis, who attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, received his master of divinity de-

Alyssa Rains of Big Spring, the daughter of John Rains, has been named recruitment assistant for Alpha Xi Delta's Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of Texas at Austin. Rains is a sophomore at UT, majoring in management information systems and computer science.

Diplomas were awarded to 3,182 Texas A&M University graduates, including three from Big Spring,

ciplinary studies; Robert Ray Lee, who received a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry; and Crystal Leanne Wingert, who graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in ki-

Black pepper is the most popular spice and an indispensable seasoning,

How much water do we need? Water is absolutely essential to health, and the consequences of becoming dehydrated can be serious, but how much is enough?

Water replacement rule 8x8 rule An adult urinates about 1.5 liters

a day ... and loses 1 liters by breathing ... so if an average diet provides about 20% of the water you you should drink about

Many people aim to drink eight 8 oz. (240 ml) glasses of fluids (not just water) There is no scientific evidence that this is correct. but many people use this



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Military

rett L. Bradshaw has graduated from basic

military training at Lackland Air

Force Base in San Antonio. During the six weeks of training, Bradshaw studied the

Air Force mission, orga-

Air Force Airman Jar- nization, core values and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches; and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, training exercises and special training in human relations.

> He is the son of Darrell Bradshaw of Stanton and a 2006 graduate of Stanton High School.

MENUS

Continued from Page 2C

Lunch: corn dogs, potato rounds, orange smiles, broccoli salad. milk

Tuesday Breakfast: grilled cheese uncrustables,

fruit cups, milk Lunch: steak fingers,

GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

mashed potatoes/gravy, brownies, rolls, pineapple chunks, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast: blueberry loaf, fruit juice, cheddar cheese portion, milk

Lunch: fish nuggets, mac & cheese, carrots, pears, milk

Thursday

Breakfast: cinnamon toast, pineapple cups, milk

YOUR JOURNEY FROM MOURNING TO JOY

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who

understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life.

Lunch: ravioli, broccoli & cauliflower, strawberries, rolls,

Healthy Living

Black

Green

○ White

A guide to pepper colors

Picked half-ripe, dried until dark color

An entirely different species of plant,

related to ragweed; picked ripe and dried

urce: The World's Healthiest Foods, MCT Photo Service

Organic pepper (all colors) has not been exposed

to pesticides or irradiated, which can damage its vitamin C

Picked while unripe, then dried

Picked ripe, soaked in brine

Organics and health

to remove dark shell

but these other colors of pepper are also sold widely.

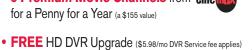
cheese bar, animal

Lunch: deli sandwich, baked chips, carrots, orange-pineapple Jello, milk

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GriefShare groups meet Tuesday evenings

from 6 pm-8pm



milk Friday Breakfast: ham/ crackers, fruit juice,

Editorial

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

> **Ron Midkiff** Publisher

John A. Moseley

Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

Our View

We simply must learn to begin making changes

ig Spring Mayor Russ McEwen delivered an important message Tuesday during his State of the City Address at the annual community luncheon — that although we face "interesting times," we simply cannot afford not to move forward.

As McEwen put it Tuesday, "There can be two responses to these times. Pull in your horns, hunker down and prepare for the worst. Or we can use this as the opportunity of a lifetime. We, as a community, have the opportunity to do the latter, thus changing the future of Big Spring and Howard Coun-

That's a message we here at the *Herald* have to agree with.

While we will be happy to tell anyone Big Spring, and by extension Howard County and West Texas, is absolutely the best place anyone could live on this planet, there's no question we can make it better.

The mayor was also correct, we believe, when he said we need to "learn to spend our dollars here," that we need to "change the face of education in Howard County and that we must "make certain that all entities in Howard County are working together to be certain we're spending your money wisely."

Certainly, challenges await us as a commu-

But we agree with McEwen that we can weather the storm and emerge stronger, as long as we as a community are brave enough to be bold, do things differently and look forward to the future with a sense of optimism and hope.

Sure, at times it's going to be difficult. But if this truly is the best place anyone could live on Earth, we should be capable of meeting whatever challenges lie before us.

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter
- per 30-day period per author. · Letters that are unsigned or do not include a tele-
- phone 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

Sometimes life can feel like you're crawling ever found a billfold lost in July through ground glass. When we feel that way may we come to You, Lord, and give you all mail today. our problems.

Deadbeat parents a problem

t's no secret the economy has set itself on a downward spiral, and as jobs become more and more scarce, many families are making major sacrifices to weather the coming storm.

Unfortunately, for some parents, it's not as simple as taking on a second job or nixing HBO and Showtime. Many are being forced to look at cutting much more than just traditional creature comforts, as things like medical insurance, much-needed medications and



child care costs begin to look expendable. As dire as this situation may

sound, it gets even worse for Single parents — most of them

moms, but there are a few single dads out there, myself included - are faced with an even darker scenario, especially when the other parent is a deadbeat. And, unfortunately, it's not something you're going to hear about on the nightly news because the majority of these cases simply fall through the cracks.

In essence, if you're a single parent not receiving your courtordered child support, you have to rely on the Texas Attorney General's office to encourage that's a gentle euphemism — the deadbeat parent to take responsibility for their part in their children's lives. And, like most government agencies, the AG's office is overworked and underpaid, trying their best to wade through a sea of red tape and get help to those that need it most.

And, for the most part, the system may be slow up to this point, but it works. Beyond this, however, things seem to go terribly wrong. I can remember when I was a

child hearing my mom and dad chide parents that lived solely on welfare and other state and federal programs, while they continued to have children at a breakneck pace. My mom had a term for it, but I doubt it's appropriate for publication.

And, because the children's care was being paid for with taxpayer money, the Attorney General deemed these cases the highest priority, chasing down these deadbeat parents and doing whatever was necessary to get them to live up to their parental responsibilities. Great.

These people need help, and the

deadbeats need to pay, so it's a

win-win situation.

Not quite. In the meantime, parents who are working and making poor wages are turned away from government programs like CHIPS a type of Medicaid strictly for children in Texas — and other state and federal programs because they make between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year.

Personally, I have to wonder who comes up with the fiscal guidelines. Have any of them tried to raise a child and provide for them the way they are expected to while making under \$30,000 a year? It's just a hunch, but I seriously doubt it.

These folks find themselves falling between the cracks in the system, making too much to qualify for state assistance and too little to take care of their children and keep the lights on. And, to make matters worse, they get little or no assistance from their deadbeat ex-partners, many of whom spend their days sitting on their butts, chomping on Cheetos and glued to a Play-

They work and get paid "under the table" to avoid paying their child support, or they simply don't work at all, becoming not only a deadbeat parent, but a deadbeat citizen. And those of us who continue to fall between the cracks in the system can only sit back and watch helplessly, struggling to make a better life for our children.

And, worst of all, the children are the ones who pay the heaviest price. Forced to do without as their parents skimp to try to pay the bills, their chances for a higher education — and to climb out of this vicious cycle — begin to slip away. Out-of-reach health care and medications take a toll on their health that will follow them for years, and the knowledge one of their parents was a deadbeat will tear at them as they someday begin to raise their own family.

It's time we, as a state and a nation, stand up and say enough is enough. If you're going to father or mother, for that matter – a child, then you had better be willing to keep a job and do your part to help raise that child, not because it's the law, but because it's your moral duty.

Are stricter, less forgiving laws the answer? Should we not allow someone to receive state or federal aid if they aren't living up to their parental duties? Maybe. Maybe not.

However, if something isn't done to address the system's failure to help parents who are working and struggling to get by, the problem will only get worse, and it's our future that will suffer.

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





Your

TO THE EDITOR:

We would like to take the time to thank the many volunteers who helped with the grass fire next to our house Monday morning around 4 on Lintner Road.

Thanks to Bingo with TXU, who knocked on our door to let us know of the fire and helped spray the butane tank with the water hose while we were getting dressed.

Thanks to John Spence with the Howard County Sheriff's Office, who celled to let us know of the fire.

And special thanks to Tommy Sullivan and his volunteer firefighters. I don't know who all those firefighters were on those trucks, but thank you for all that you did and everything you do, no matter what time of the day or night it is. You're very special people that should be recognized

> TERRY AND CINDY SANDERS **BIG SPRING**

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank whomof last year. I received it in the

the city council says it's the fault There was no information, as of citizens in our community for the Post Office replaced the enthe auditorium being closed. The

velope since it was damaged in delivery. It is so nice to know there are

Morris Bingham

BUCHANAN DAM

TO THE EDITOR:

TO THE EDITOR:

good samaritans.

Same song, next verse. The recent article of why gas prices are high even though the price of oil is down didn't seem to hold water (pardon the pun) to me.

For years our refinery has been touted as the world's largest inland refinery. I seriously doubt we are refining oil from the Middle East instead of West Texas.

National wholesale gas prices today are an average of \$1.02 in the U.S. If that price holds true in Big Spring, it means the jobber and the dealer are making between 75 and 82 cents a gallon Gouging? You decide. Keep Big

Spring green, buy gasoline.

I resent it when a member of

BIG SPRING

CLEM JONES

I can hardly believe my eyes and ears — \$800 a year for married couples which may amount to \$13 a week for the remainder of this year and then \$7.70 a week for 2010.

only citizens at fault are some of

those currently seated, and those

in the last 20 years, that have

The federal law pertaining to

the ADA, Americans with Dis-

abilities Act, has been in effect

for 20 years and, for whatever

reason, our city officials have

These citizens on which the council have placed the blame

have only tried to see that the

laws are upheld so all citizens of

City council members, you

have no further to look than in

the mirror to see the persons re-

sponsible for closing the audito-

rium. Stop passing the blame and

whining about it and just do your

RITA M. BROWN

BIG SPRING

Big Spring can enjoy our town.

elected to ignore it.

been seated on our city council.

I am dreaming of ways to spend my money but the possibilities

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

TO THE EDITOR:

Cubs' Lilly efficiently takes care of Rangers

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Chicago Cubs lefty Ted Lilly tuned up neatly for the World Baseball Classic.

In his only spring training start for the Cubs before joining Team USA, Lilly pitched two efficient innings Friday in a 10-4 win over the Texas Rangers.

Lilly allowed two hits and struck out two.

"I wasn't really hitting my spots real well, but the ball was coming out of my hand well," he said.

Cubs manager Lou Piniella said Lilly would have pitched a third inning if not for Chicago scoring seven runs in the top of the second.

"If he hadn't sat out for so long we would have let him go to get him ready for the Classic," Piniella said. "He looked good."

Lilly, who was 17-9 with a 4.09 ERA for Chicago last season, will leave Cubs camp in nearby Mesa on Sunday to join the rest of Team USA in Florida.

"That's going to be weird," Lilly said. "There's part of me that's excited but part of me feels like I'm going to sneak out. I feel like I'm leaving the guys behind."

Lilly said he'll pitch an exhibition for Team USA against the Toronto Blue Jays before changing his focus for the WBC.

"The difference is in spring training I'm playing to prepare myself for the season," Lilly said. "With the WBC, you're going out there to do what you can to win. I want to win but I'm not going to be stupid. It's an absolute privilege to have the opportunity to pitch for my country, but my responsibility first and foremost is to the Chicago Cubs."

Mike Fontenot homered, tripled and drove in four runs for Chicago. Micah Hoffpauir and Sam Fuld also homered for the Cubs, who have won their first three spring games for the first time in four years.

Rangers starter Scott Feldman

struggled through what had been scheduled as a two-inning stint. He lasted only 1 2-3 innings after allowing seven runs on nine hits and a walk.

"The good thing is that it happened now and not during the season,' Feldman said. "I'm looking forward to getting the ball again and working on some stuff in the bullpen and on the side before I go back out there. I was behind everybody, and you can't pitch like that."

Notes: Andruw Jones made his first start for the Rangers in center field and went 1-for-4. Jones struck out three times before getting a gift single on a slow roller. Signed to a minor league contract just before spring training, he is 1-for-7 with six strikeouts. ... Rangers DH Josh Hamilton, who homered in his first two games, went 1-for-2 with an RBI. Hamilton will not make Saturday's trip to

Nationals 2, Astros 0

VIERA, Fla. (AP) — Shawn Hill pitched a scoreless inning in his first appearance in nearly eight months, and the Washington Nationals beat the Houston Astros 2-0 on Friday.

"It was a little weird going out and throwing just one inning," Hill said. "They're doing it for the right reasons. I appreciate that. I definitely think I could have thrown two, but there's no reason."

Hill's season was cut short on June 25, when he went on the disabled list with an injured elbow. He had arthroscopic surgery to remove bone spurs from his right elbow in September.

He threw just 12 pitches, six for strikes, walking one as Washington's starter Friday.

Jesus Flores and Cristian Guzman each had RBI doubles off Astros starter Wandy Rodriguez.

ROSENFELS

Continued from Page 3B

fourth-round pick, and the Vikings released Frerotte soon after the deal was announced.

"Over eight years I've really worked my tail off to get to this point, to get this opportunity," Rosenfels said. "I'm hoping to make the most of it."

Rosenfels went 2-3 in five starts for the injured Schaub last season. He threw for 1,431 yards with six touchdowns, 10 interceptions and a 66.7 completion percentage.

Bringing in someone to compete with Jackson for the starting job was one of Minnesota's biggest offseason priorities after losing to Philadelphia in the playoffs.

Jackson was benched after two losses to open last season and Frerotte went 8-3 in his place.

When Frerotte went down with a back injury, Jackson flourished to finish the regular season. He rallied

the Vikings to a victory over the Lions after Frerotte got injured and won NFC Offensive Player of the Week honors the following week after throwing four touchdown passes in a road victory over Arizona.

In the first round of the playoffs. however, Jackson took a big step back against the frenetic blitzes of the Philly defense. He went 15-for-34 for 164 yards and had an interception returned for a touchdown in a 26-14 loss to the Eagles that ended Minnesota's season.

"You're always trying to get yourself better," Childress said. "So I felt this would make us a little bit better, in terms of competition."

Rosenfels was up and down last season as well.

He completed 21 of 29 passes for 224 yards and two touchdowns in relief of Schaub against the Vikings in November, but he also threw an interception in the end zone in the 28-21 loss.

In October, Rosenfels came in for Schaub again and had the Texans up by 17 points in the fourth quarter, but fumbled twice down the stretch as the Colts rallied to win 31-27.

"I probably forced the ball a few too many times," Rosenfels said of last season as a whole. "I didn't have a top-five or whatever our defense was, the Vikings defense, was last year and I think Matt and I both probably got too aggressive last year.'

But the market for quarterbacks is especially thin this offseason, with other options including Jeff Garcia, Dan Orlovsky, Rex Grossman and Ryan Fitzpatrick.

Playing under Gary Kubiak in Houston, Rosenfels ran a West Coast offense similar to the one that Brad Childress employs in Minnesota.

One of the biggest differences? The Texans had Steve Slaton, but he's no Adrian Peterson. "The Minnesota Vikings are a very,

very good football team," Rosenfels said. "Having number 28 behind there, that's a quarterback's dream."

He did throw four more interceptions than touchdowns, but he had a good completion percentage, which is important in this scheme.

Jackson has struggled in that area, having yet to complete better than 59.1 percent of his passes in his three seasons in the league.

"I think that's the thing that separates people apart, knowing your guys and putting the ball in catchable spots for those guys," Childress said. Last year Jackson started five

games and played in nine total, throwing for 1,056 yards with nine touchdowns and just two interceptions.

The 37-year-old Frerotte threw for 2,157 yards with 12 touchdowns and 15 interceptions last season.

With the quarterback position addressed, the Vikings now turn their attention to other areas of need, including right tackle and defensive back. They are also trying to re-sign free agent center Matt Birk, tight end Jim Kleinsasser and linebacker Heath Farwell.

"We'd love to have them back, if we could," vice president of player personnel Rick Spielman said.

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2007 Lexus ES 350 - Blue w/Tan Leather, One Owner, Very Nice Car, Loaded, Only 27,000 Miles.

2007 Ford Fusion SEL - Silver, w/Gray Leather, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 24,000 Miles.

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Was \$13,995 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4X2 - Gray, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One

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2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Nice SUV, Only 52,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$13,995

2004 Buick Ranier V8 CXL - Silver, w/Gray Leather, Loaded, DVD Player, Moonroof, 51,000 Miles.

2003 Lincoln Navigator 4X2 - Silver, w/Gray Leather, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, 78,000 MILES.

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Business and Agriculture

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item for the Business and Agriculture pages? Call John Moseley, 263-7331, Ext. 230, or leave a voice mail.

Page 4C Sunday, March 1, 2009



Courtesy phot

Abusaab Companies donates \$3,000 to Howard College to fund the Sonic/KBST scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to Howard County graduating high school seniors wanting to attend Howard College. Interested students should apply through the financial aid department at Howard College by contacting Liz Adamson at 264-5084 or visiting www.howardcollege.edu Pictured from left to right are Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, president of Howard College; Mike Abusaab; Melinda Flenniken of KBST Radio; and Sheila Abusaab.

SNB to celebrate 100-year anniversary

State National Bank will is celebrating its 100th anniversary Monday with a ribbon cutting at 10:30 a.m., followed by an open house. The public is invited

Chartered in January 1909, State National Bank

opened for business March 1 of that year at 204 Main St. The original bank was organized as the First State Bank of Big Spring and in 1924, converted to a national bank charter, with the bank being renamed The State National Bank of Big Spring.

In March 1909, the bank officers were C.D. Read, president; A. Biney Jones, vice president; and T.S. Currie, cashier, who also managed the bank. Directors were E.D. Bell, T.S. Currie, William B. Currie,

William Fisher, A. Biney Jones, C.D. Read and A.C. Walker.

William B. Currie later became president before relinquishing the reins to T.S. Currie. Robert W. Currie, the son of T.S. Currie, succeeded his father as president from 1951 until 1974. His son, John Currie, served as president from 1974 until 1988. Jim R. Purcell took over the presidency at that time and remains president and CEO today.

The bank was located at 204 Main from 1909 until 1934, when it moved to 124 Main St. and operated there until May of 1979. The bank then moved to its present location at 901 Main, where it continues to be well-capitalized and remains a strong presence in the community.

State National Bank is a full-service bank with branches in O'Donnell and Lamesa.

Farmerville plant among Pilgrim's Pride closings

By ALAN SAYRE

AP Business Writer

Poultry processor Pilgrim's Pride Corp. announced Friday that it will at least temporarily close its plant at Farmerville in northeastern Louisiana, putting 1,200 workers out of jobs in a region that has been hit hard by major business closings in recent years

The company also is idling plants in El Dorado, Ark., and

Douglas, Ga., bringing the number of workers losing their jobs to 3,000, or about 7 percent of the Pittsburg, Texas-based company's work force.

"The idling of these three plants is a painful reflection of the unprecedented challenges facing our company from an excess supply of chicken and weakening consumer demand resulting from a crippled economy," said chief executive officer Don Jackson.

Ricky Albritton, board member of the Union Parish Chamber of Commerce, said one of the most immediate effects would be the cutoff of income to about 265 local chicken farms that supply the plant. Those farms depend on loans to operate.

"In 10 weeks, they will have no income and that will hit the local banks," Albritton said. "It's

See **PRIDE**, Page 5C

Wal-Mart recently presented a \$1,000 donation to the Howard County Council on Aging to help with Meals on Wheels. Pictured from left to right are Val Macias, Wal-Mart co-manager; Evelyn Elrod, representing the Howard County Council on Aging; and Tim Walsh, Wal-Mart manager.





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.



With a few rallies along the way, the stock market has spent the last seven weeks on the downside, the DJIA made a new low, just below the climactic low and apparent bottom on Nov. 20. The S&P, so far, has managed to stay above its 741 low.

Our opinion has been that Nov. 20 represented the low for the bear market and that the stock market had entered the bottoming process. Also, we have stated that the economy would likely hit a trough about mid-year and that economic activity would perk up modestly by year end. Fed Chairman Bernanke said about the same thing last Wednesday concerning the economy.

Our market opinion since Nov. 20 is currently being tested. If the stock market keeps acting poorly, we will have to continue the bottoming process from lower levels than we had believed.

The problems facing today's stock market are extreme but not unique; near term fear and lack of confidence. This is always the mood at bottoms. However, in today's world, investors are dealing with a new set of problems most of us have never experienced and the unknown is keeping fear levels higher than we have ever experienced.

The ducks are lined up; stocks have been hammered to very attractive valuations, there is record cash on the sidelines, interest rates on bonds are not providing important competition for stocks, the problems are well known to everybody who is still breathing. All this fear and no interest in owning stock should eventually change because it always has. The "always" is based on the 234 year history of America.

The timing of our bottoming opinion may prove to have been too optimistic, but our concept that buying for the long term will prove again, we believe, to be correct. At this point, the best development would be a resolution of the toxic bank asset situation and supposedly the Secretary of the Treasury is working on it. President Obama ran his campaign based on hope for the future of America, we are ready.

Regarding crude this week, the near month shot up the most in 2009 after U.S. inventories fell for the first time in eight weeks, defying forecasts for another big build. April crude, now the most actively traded, rose 6 percent. However, oil contracts have consistently risen just ahead of expiry so these movements by no means indicate a trend. Meanwhile, natural gas fell below \$4 per million BTU's for the time in more than six years and gold rose to more than \$1,000 an ounce for the first time in almost a year. Very emotional highs and lows.

In the end, commodities like stocks seem to be trading on emotions. Emotions are very difficult to gauge but we do know that out of great bearishness often comes great opportunity. For now, patience is very difficult but it is the key word for us all.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced on Feb. 20, 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 non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

FSA producer meetings

Wednesday, March 4, 9 a.m., Knott Co-op Gin

Thursday, March 5, 9 a.m., Big Spring Co-op Gin

Thursday, March 5, 10:30 a.m., Big Spring Gin Co.

The purpose of the meetings will be to discuss various elements of the 2009 Farm Program, particularly the provision of payment limitation applicability.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

overwhelm me.

Millions to automakers and mortgage companies, but the average family will get \$13 a week or \$6.50 each in their paychecks.

I am overwhelmed, Mr Obama.

The Austin American-Statesman editorial stated they were worried people would save the money they are getting and not spend it, therefore not stimulating the economy.

Good for them, that is probably what we will do so at the end of the year we will have the full amount that we can do something useful

On second thought, maybe we will just throw caution to the wind and spend that \$13. You've got to love it!

> CAROLYN BURKHART BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I wonder how it is that the city can spend \$2 million on the municipal golf course, but has to ask for donations to rebuild the kids' playground.

And, by the way, I play golf at the municipal course.

> W.H. SMITH **BIG SPRING**

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you from "The Heart!"

A very special thank you to the community of Big Spring for your support of recent events for the American **Heart Association!**

The "Go Red For Women" Luncheon at the Dora Roberts Community Center on Feb. 19, sponsored in conjunction with Scenic Mountain Medical Center's "Healthy Woman" program, included 200 people in attendance. Dr. Sue Roberts and Dr. Cynthia Rutledge provided very informative details on "a light-hearted approach to a very serious topic" focusing on heart disease in women. Cardiovascular disease kills approximately 450,000 women each year or about one woman every minute, and the Go Red event reminds us all of the need to take care of the one heart that we've been given.

The "Don't Gamble with Your Health" Gala on Saturday at the Big Spring Country Club featured Dr.

Clark McDaniel, a local physician and heart attack survivor, as the guest speaker. He reminded us of the need to "know our genes" and other risk factors, as well as encouraging us to make healthier choices in our daily lives, in order to reduce our chances for heart attack and stroke. The event, sponsored by Scenic Mountain Medical Center, also included drinks and hors d'oeuvre, live music by "The Shades" from Midland, and silent and live auctions with over 50 items.

We sincerely appreciate those in attendance and all of the local businesses who donated items for the auction. Special thanks to several local businesses for co-sponsoring the event

The support from these individuals and businesses, local media, as well as from volunteers in the community, help the efforts of the American Heart Association to build healthier lives in West Texas, provide patient education materials and resources and further the research in the fight against heart disease and stroke. Thank you from "the heart!"

> PAM HUGHES CORPORATE MARKET DIRECTOR MIDLAND-ODESSA-BIG SPRING AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

TO THE EDITOR:

I live in Midland and I am one of millions of people who have joined the movement to end multiple sclerosis. I am writing you to ask for your help in changing the lives of more than 900 people in our chapter of the National MS Society who are currently living with MS.

Every hour someone is diagnosed with MS, a chronic disease of the central nervous system for which there is no cure. Multiple sclerosis interrupts the flow of information between the brain and the body and interrupts or stops certain body functions. Some individuals loose the ability to walk, speech is affected in others and others loose eyesight. Everyone is affected differently. All need your help.

MS Awareness Week takes place March 2-8. I encourage people to join the movement to end MS and help people with MS move their lives forward. It's easy to get involved. It only takes a few minutes to make a difference in the lives of the millions of people worldwide who live with this disease.

I currently serve on the Advisory

Board for the West Texas Division of the MS Society and help with the MS Bike Ride, which comes through Big Spring in July.

Some simple things you can do: Visit nationalMSsociety.org to

learn more about MS. Tell 10 people that MS Awareness Week is March 2-8 and ask them to

tell 10 people they know. Sponsor a walker or cyclist in a Walk MS or Bike MS event, or partici-

pate yourself! I look forward to working with you to help end this disease which affects so many in our area.

> DAVID HAM **M**IDLAND

TO THE EDITOR:

Two big automakers have been full of promises this week, hoping American taxpayers will nurse them back to health by lending them huge amounts of cash. GM and Chrysler vowed to make cuts in the size of their workforces, the number of brands, and the number of their factories if only Washington would give them transfusions of money to keep going. They even got concessions from the United Auto Workers to save on the cost of health care for retirees.

Absent from the conversation is talk about what they will do in the positive sense, and that absence is alarming. The companies seem to think that after this bump in the road, they can return to business as usual. These same automakers faced criticism a short time ago for arriving in company jets to plead for government loans. The entire conversation is about what automakers need, giving little or no attention to what Americans need.

Americans need cars and Americans need jobs. The automakers can supply both, if they want to do more than streamline operations. Americans have never needed Hummers on the streets. They do not need them now, and if the brand becomes history, few will miss it. Americans need cars that allow them to move around without enriching oil-producing countries that use the profits to terrorize them. No one mentioned retooling to produce the kinds of cars Americans need, low-emission models that use little or no gasoline. No one mentioned research and development.

American automakers arrived at their current state by ignoring what

Americans need and focusing instead on what was easy.

Successful entrepreneurs start a business by finding a need and filling it. This recipe has yielded success and profits forever. American Automakers, on the other hand, seem to have it backward. They build what they want to build, and try to create a need for it through marketing. It comes as no surprise that this way of doing business originated in the auto industry with Henry Ford, who went from painting the Model T in whatever color the customer wanted to selling cars that were painted "any color you want, so long as it is black" because black paint dried faster and helped his profit margin. Ford also invented planned obsolescence and the status model for cars.

A good business produces profits, stock dividends, and executive bonuses as byproducts of serving customers, not in spite of doing so. GM and Chrysler have failed to serve their customers and found that their customers have deserted them for companies that provide what they need. If American automakers are unwilling to cater to American needs, the time has come for them to step aside, and allow companies to take over that

The Toyota Prius is the premiere hybrid vehicle in this country. After eight years of growing popularity, it faces negligible competition from American models. American-made hybrids are caricatures of the class. Of the few currently available models, every American hybrid costs thousands more than the Prius. Even the best gets 40 percent fewer miles from a gallon of gas. At times, Americans have been willing to wait months to buy a Prius. Why should Americans have to import the cars they want, when GM and Chrysler have factories

Americans are not interested in helping executives at GM and Chrysler line their golden parachutes before they let the industry die. If producing affordable, non-polluting and highly fuel-efficient vehicles is not part of the business plan, it's time to pull the plug. The patient has no prospects for meaningful life.

ANN WEAVER HART

Parts of Texas are driest in United States

LUBBOCK (AP) — Central Texas cattle almost every part of the raiser Gerry Shudde state — nearly 97 perremembers drought of record in the some drought, accord-1950s when his family's ranch sometimes got a couple of 4-inch rainfalls a year.

But the drought ongoing now is far different.

"This is just cut off completely," the 74-yearold rancher said. "In a lot of ways, it's worse."

Across the nation's No. 2 agricultural state, drought conditions are evaporating stock tanks, keeping many crop farmers from planting into long-parched soil, forcing cattle producers to cull their herds, and dropping water levels in state lakes.

Despite hurricanes Dolly, Gustav and Ike

soaking Texas in 2008, Texas' cent — is experiencing ing to the most recent U.S. Drought Monitor map, released Feb. 26.

> Parts of Central Texas and the Hill Country more that 8 percent of the state — are not only in exceptional drought the most severe stage of dryness — but they are now the driest region in the country and the driest they have been since 1918. It is the only place in the U.S. experiencing exception-

al drought. San Antonio, two counties east of Shudde's ranch, has gotten only 16.67 inches of rain since September 2007, its driest 17 months ever and about 28 inches below normal.

November, December and January were the driest statewide since 1971 for that threemonth span, the fourthdriest on record. Texas averaged .32 inches of rain in January, the fourth driest in history, and about one-fifth the normal monthly total.

Statewide numbers for February have not yet been compiled.

"February's gotten nothing but worse," said Victor Murphy, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Fort Worth. "It's going to be the same gloomy numbers."

Some local numbers were available, though, and they show that none of the state's 25 largest cities got even half the normal rainfall between Dec. 1 and Feb. 25.

"That's another example of how bad things central Pacific Ocean. are," Murphy said. "Things just continue ing to weaken," Murphy to get worse."

There is, however, a glimmer of hope. Forecasters it

appears the La Nina weather pattern that's kept Texas dry may be breaking up over the

"It looks like it's startsaid. "With that being the case, May and June, our normal rainy months, we might have something positive to look forward to."

The cost to agriculture could be enormous.

"It's too preliminary" to estimate what the losses could be this year, said Travis Miller, drought specialist with Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

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If you discover any or all of these warning signs, leave the area immediately. Do not operate motor vehicles or equipment nearby, and forego any activity that could generate a spark. You should immediately contact your local emergency authorities and ONEOK WesTex Transmission at 1-800-562-5879, or the operator of the pipeline.

By using your built-in detection devices, you can prevent any disasters associated with random natural gas pipeline leaks



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, Lub-

Christopher Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big

Spring Teresa Baumann, 1509 E. Sixth, Big

Spring

Vern Black, 329 W Tennesse, 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, Colo-

rado City Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring

Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring

Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big

Spring

Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring

Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring

James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo. Rachel Garza, 1600 Wren, Big Spring

Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden

Winters Greenhill, 1103 W. 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 Kimberly King, 1711 Young, Big Spring Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan

Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th Street, Big Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hicko-

ry/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

Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt.

226, Big Spring Michael Dewayne Renteria, 2516 Dow,

Vanessa Rodriguez, 406 N. Scurry, Big Spring

Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa

Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th Street, Big

Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big

Spring Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road,

Big Spring Mickey Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler

Robert Lee Summers, 2404 S. Monticello, Big Spring

Ycidro Villareal III, 408 Abrams, Big Spring

County Court Decisions:

Judgment and Sentence: Christoval Moreno, theft of property - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$250 fine, \$311 court costs, 90 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Andy Lee Cuellar, driving while license suspended, \$500 fine, \$374 court costs, 90 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Robert Coble, pos-

session of marijuana - two ounces or less

in a drug free zone, \$1,000 fine, \$324 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Kenneth Wayne banks, theft by check - more than \$20 less than \$500, \$1,500 fine, \$320 court costs, 180 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Andy Lee Cuellar, driving while license suspended, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 90 days in jail

Judgment and Sentence: Enrique Sabedra Jr., driving while intoxicated - second offense, \$1,500 fine, \$493 court costs, 180 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Daphne Michelle Crane, theft - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$20 fine, \$253 court costs.

Judgment and Sentence: Dennis Edward Ausbie, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$408 court costs, 90

days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Paul Viera Jr., burglary of a vehicle, \$500 fine, \$328 court

costs, 45 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Dennis Edward Ausbie, criminal trespass of a habitation, \$1,500 fine, \$278 court costs, 90 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Preston Wayne

Savell, evading arrest, \$200 fine, \$228 court costs, 90 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Christopher Lee Strother, driving while intoxicated - second offense, \$2,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 365

days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation) Probated Judgment: Adalberto Eddie Deleon, evading arrest or detention, \$1,500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time

Probated Judgment: Christina Jean Diaz, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation)

suspended, 12 months probation).

Probated Judgment: Reynaldo Hernandez Jr., possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Probated Judgment: Juliana Renee Juarez, theft - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Probated Judgment: Koriana Garcia Juarez, theft - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$500 fine. \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: Elias Sol Ledesma,

possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: Carla E. Moslev. theft

- more than \$50 less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Probated Judgment: Jonathan A. Arrendondo, accident involving damages to a vehicle, \$100 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 6 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Tammy Jo Bradford, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,250 fine, \$303 court costs.

Probated Judgment: Ashley Dawn Smith, possession of a controlled substance - more than 3 grams less than 28 grams, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Matthew W. Vanderpool, failure to identify - giving false information, \$100 fine, \$228 court costs.

Judgment and Sentence: Jonathan Michael Paul, driving while license suspended with previous conviction or suspension, \$770 fine, \$228 court costs.

Judgment and Sentence: David M. Rodriguez, evading arrest or detention, \$100 fine,

Probated Judgment: John Anthony Pantoja, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1.500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Justin Ramirez, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$500 fine, \$328 court costs, 60 days

Judgment and Sentence: Enrique Sabedra Jr., evading arrest or detention, \$1,500 fine, \$278 court costs, 90 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Quincy Lamar

Henry, theft - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$328 court costs, 90 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Olivia Ballin,

failure to identify as a fugitive from justice giving false information, \$278 court costs, 30 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Joe Guadalupe

Garcia-Martinez, tampering with governmental records, \$2,500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Elias E. Olguin,

possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days Judgment and Sentence: Joe Guadalune Garcia-Martinez, criminal mischief - more

than \$50 less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$278

court costs, 60 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Jesse Lendell Woodruff Jr., possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 90 days in jail.

District Court Filings:

Belinda Garcia Chavarria vs. Tommy Justin Chavarria, divorce.

Eagle Remediation Services Inc. vs. Carter & Burgess Inc., civil suit. State Farm Mutual Automobile Ins. Co. vs.

Timothy Jason Bland, injury or damages with Misti Kay Harland vs. Aaron Heath Har-

land, divorce.

Gary Rodriguez vs. Michelle Rodriguez, divorce.

Marriage Licenses: James Marcus Baker, 31, and Sandy Kay

Miller, 31, both of Big Spring. William Dale Stewart, 44, and Angela Kath-

leen Lord, 46, both of Big Spring. Matthew Leo Towne, 25, and Michelle Lynn Richardson, 30, both of Big Spring. Steven Robles, 28, and Melinda Leigh Cervantes, 28, both of Big Spring.

Warranty Deeds:

Grantor: Rayford H. Gillihan Grantee: Lonnie Gillihan and Christie Gil-

Property: A .5-acre tract out of Section 12, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 10, 2009

Grantor: Chase Home Finance LLC Grantee: The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Property: A 10-acre tract out of Section 36, Block 31. T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 11, 2009

Grantor: Louise C. Arnett Grantee: Louise C. Arnett Trust Agreement Property: A 1/10 interested in a 65.5 acre tract out of Section 46, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 11, 2009

Grantor: Garry L. Sikes Grantee: Johnny Mize and Jill Mize

Property: The S/47 feet of Lot 7, Block 2, Wright's Second Addition Date: Feb. 11, 2009

Grantor: Gloria Hernandez Grantee: Dora Hernandez Property: A tract out of Section 42. Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 12, 2009

Grantor: Canuto Ramirez Jr. Grantee: Richard S. Martinez

Property: The middle 50 feet of the SE/4 of Block 27, Government Heights to Bauer Addition

Date: Feb. 12, 2009

Grantor: Leohono Herrara Grantee: Leonard Glen Herrara Property: The SW/4 of Section 26, Block 33, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 12, 2009

Grantee: B&E Roustabout

Property: A tract out of Section 45, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 12, 2009

Grantor: James P. Reid and Shyrlee Reid

Grantor: Paul Belyeu Grantee: Sherry P. Gillette Property: Lot 10, Block 1, Mesa Addition Date: Feb. 13, 2009

Grantor: Interstate TD Investments LLC Grantee: Charles D. Rosenbaum Property: A 1-acre tract out of Section 14, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co, Survey Date: Feb. 13, 2009

Grantor: Cynthia Dea Fritzler, Robert D. Reagan and Valerie McCutchan Grantee: Drew G. Bavin Property: Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, Nathan

Hughes Addition Date: Feb. 18, 2009

Grantor: Mike Parker and Brenda Parker Grantee: Michael Earnest McCutchan and Valerie McCutchan

Property: The E/100 feet of Lot 2, Block 1, East Coahoma Addition Date: Feb. 18, 2009

Grantor: Cindy Brown Grantee: Ben Gonzales and Joann Gonzales

Property: Lot 12, Block 24, Cole & Strayhorn Addition Date: Feb. 19, 2009

Grantor: Jeffrey M. Casbeer and Jodie Casbeer

Grantee: Kenneth W. Darlin Property: Tract 1, Country Livin' Subdivi-Date: Feb. 20, 2009

Grantor: Gary Bradley and Brenda Bradley Grantee: A.C. Mize and Billie Mize Property: A tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 20, 2009

Grantor: Docoto Management Corp. Grantee: Shannon Smithie Property: Lot 23, Block 1, Bates Addition Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Three R Properties Inc. Grantee: Timary Rosenbaum Property: Lot 16, Block 2, W.J. Gordon Addition

Average wind

(19 kph) and

speeds of 12 mph

Date: Feb. 23, 2009 Grantor: Doyce Reed

Grantee: Chuck Rosenbaum Property: A 1-acre tract out of Section 14, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Eva Chappell Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lots 1-4, Block 18, Jones Valley

Grantor: Terry Montgomery and Shirley

Cross Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lot 1, Block 5, Piner Heights

Grantor: Glenda Williams Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lot 9, Block 9, Cole & Strayhorn Addition

Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Robert Marquez Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lot 13, Block 17, College Park Estates Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Vanessa Martinez Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lot 4, Block 8, Earles Addition Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Doyle Fincher Grantee: Big Spring ISD Property: Lots 5 and 6, Block 2, Wright's Second Addition Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Ping Ching Inc. Grantee: Dan Earl Lusk and A. Katharine Lusk

Property: Part of Block 98, Original Town of Big Spring Date: Feb. 25, 2009

> Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien: Grantor: Barbara Enos

Grantee: Esther F. Teichchroeb Property: Lots 35-40, Balch Subdivision Date: Feb. 6, 2009 Grantor: Harold H. Raney Jr. and Nancy

Petty-Raney Grantee: Michael Mendez and Angela Mendez Property: Lots 4 and 5, Block 12, South

Haven Addition Date: Feb. 9, 2009 Grantor: Jesse D. Mendoza

Property: Part of Lot 2 and Lot 3, Block 6,

Grantee: Craig Dunnam

Highland South No. 2

Date: Feb. 10, 2009 Grantor: Jo Posey Grantee: Robert Creelman Property: Two tracts out of Section 41, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey

Date: Feb. 11, 2009 Grantor: Timary Rosenbaum Grantee: Efren Torres Chavez Jr. and Alexandria Chavez

Property: Lot 16, Block 2, W.J. Gordon Date: Feb. 23, 2009

Grantor: Bobby Dale Barber and Cheryll Barber

Grantee: Candido L. Otero and Aixa Garcia Property: A 2.7 acre tract out of Section 8, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 24, 2009

Rotor

Citigroup reaches aid deal with government

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON — The U.S. government will exchange up to \$25 billion in emergency bailout money it provided Citigroup Inc. for as much as a 36 percent equity stake in the struggling bank, greatly increasing the risks to taxpayers as voter unhappiness about the broader bailout pro-

The deal announced Friday by the company and the Treasury Department represents the third rescue attempt for Citigroup in the past five months. It's contingent on private investors agreeing to a similar swap.

gram rises.

The administration decided to restructure the bailout package for Citigroup again in the hopes that converting \$25 billion of preferred shares into common stock would give investors more confidence the bank has sufficient capital reserves to withstand mounting losses on its holdings of mortgages and other loans. While the conversion to common stock will dilute current shareholders' investments, a wider equity base could calm investors since there would be more reserves in place to guard against further losses as the economy sours.

Besides a stronger capital base, the company is getting a critical boost to its cash flow as it forgoes its 4 cent annual dividend on its common shares. That is giving Citi an additional \$2.18 billion a year. The bank will also no longer pay the 5 percent dividend it owed on the government's preferred shares that have converted to common stock.

But the deal doesn't affect one of Citi's greatest problems, the billions of dollars in failed mortgage-backed securities that still sit on its books. As those investments have fallen in value, they have exacerbated Citi's losses.

Residential wind power Small wind turbines designed for back

Utility grid Meter Inverter/ box switch Electricity is carried box to the house through an underground Inside 220-volt line breake box Inverter box will switch to utility grid during low wind From wind conditions

preferable yards can lower electric bills up to 90 percent, but they're not for everybody. Generator/alternator The cost including installation can range from \$9,000 to \$15,000, with a return of investment taking up to 15 years. 2 Wind turns a turbine whose motion the alternator/generator converts to electricity Wind speed increases with height Turbines need to be higher than all other structures in the area. utility grid At least a half-acre of free space is needed to make it feasible Source: Texas Energy Conservation Office, windpoweri U.S. Department of Energy, Dallas area wind turbine de Graphic: Tim Bedison, Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Continued from Page 4C

going to be a Katrina for us." Robert Eisenstadt, an associate professor of economics at the University of Louisiana at Monroe who studies the region's economy, said there will be ripples throughout the regional economy. The plant generates about \$85 million in household income

Union Parish not being affected by this," said Farmerville Mayor Stein Baughman. According to the Louisiana Workforce Commission,

residents, had an unemployment rate of 7 percent in December, up from 4.6 percent in December 2007. "Equivalent, alternative

employment for Pilgrim's Pride employees, as well as those tied to the plant, will be difficult to come by in northeastern Louisiana, at least for the foreseeable future," Eisenstadt said. In a statement, Gov. Bobby

Jindal, who made a last-ditch appeal Thursday to keep the plant open, said he would visit Farmerville on Monday. displaced employees.

The state, he said, will work on assistance programs for "Pilgrim's Pride said that the difficult market condicompany to overcome, even with state assistance," Jindal said. "We have offered them help to restart the facility," he said. The closing is another big

employment hit for northeastern Louisiana. Last fall, 550 workers lost their jobs when International Paper Co. closed its Bastrop mill. A regional operations center for State Farm Insurance closed in 2005, cutting 1,150 jobs. Guide Corp., which made headlights for the auto industry, shuttered its Monroe plant in 2007, eliminating about 800 jobs.

Jindal has said he intends to reject about \$98 million in federal stimulus money that could provide unemployment

aid to 4,000 to 6,000 more Louisiana residents. But acceptance would force businesses to pay higher unemployment taxes once the federal money runs out, hampering efforts to retain business in the state, Jindal said. Jindal said he supports using federal money to give

unemployment recipients an extra \$25 a week. The governor's spokesman, Kyle Plotkin, said Jindal has

not altered his stand in light of the Pilgrim's Pride clo-"Especially not during a national economic downturn,'

Plotkin said. "The provision would require the state to make a permanent change in law that would result in a tax

increase on Louisiana's business."

Pilgrim's Pride's action also comes as the fate of General Motors Corp. plant in Shreveport is up in the air. Once employing nearly 3,000, that plant has been cut to fewer than 800 jobs — and GM is proposing the closing of five, yet-to-be disclosed plants as it seeks federal money to stay in business. Pilgrim's Pride, the nation's

largest poultry processor, filed for reorganization Dec. 1, 2008, under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The company has been saddled by debt, including its \$1.1 billion acquisition of Gold Kist Inc. in 2007.

annually, he said. "I don't see a household in

tions were too great for the Union Parish, with 22,000

News in brief

In choosing 19-month withdrawal in Iraq, Obama leaned heavily toward commanders' preferences

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama leaned heavily toward field commanders' preferences in settling a time frame for ending the war in Iraq, as he weighed the fervent desires of the anti-war community that propelled him into office and the equally strong worries of the generals commanding troops in the war zone.

"To this very day, there are some Americans who want to stay in Iraq longer, and some who want to leave faster," Obama said in making the announcement Friday, summing up a debate that has divided the country like no other since the former President George W. Bush launched the U.S. invasion six years ago.

Obama's description suggests he arrived at a split-down-the-middle compromise with one of the first and most important tasks of his young presi-

But accounts of the process from officials in the White House, at the Pentagon and across the administration, who all requested anonymity so they could speak more candidly about behind-thescenes discussions, show otherwise.

At stake was the promise that most defined and drove Obama's successful presidential bid: to bring all combat troops home — effectively, to end the war — 16 months after taking office. The details he unveiled in an appearance Friday before hundreds of Marines at Camp Lejeune, N.C., depart from that pledge in several ways.

Clinton heading to Mideast and **Europe to weigh peace prospects** and renew weathered alliances

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is using her second overseas trip as the nation's top diplomat to assess peace prospects in the Middle East, reconnect with European allies and remind her Russian counterpart that U.S. efforts to rebuild relations with Moscow has

The former first lady and former U.S. senator from New York is kicking off a weeklong journey by attending an international conference in Egypt where she will announce on Monday a U.S. government pledge of up to \$900 million in humanitarian assistance for the rebuilding of the war-shaken Gaza Strip.

The Palestinians are seeking \$2.8 billion dollars for Gaza. A key complication is that the United States does not recognize the Hamas movement that rules Gaza and will not allow aid money to flow through Hamas.

The pledge conference for Gaza reflects in part a U.S. effort to move quickly to influence events there, where the Islamic militants of Hamas are aligned with Iran and opposed to peace talks with Israel. Hamas is at odds with the other key Palestinian faction, Fatah, which takes a more moderate approach to Israel.

Clinton also will visit Israel to underscore President Barack Obama's commitment to finding "two-state solution" to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that establishes a sovereign Palestinian state at peace with Israel.

Gloves off, game on, Obama tells powerful lobbies, as budget battle starts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama challenged the nation's vested interests to a legislative duel Saturday, saying he will fight to change health care, energy and education in dramatic ways that will upset the status quo.

"The system we have now might work for the powerful and well-connected interests that have run Washington for far too long," Obama said in his weekly radio and video address. "But I don't. I work for the American people."

He said his ambitious budget plan, unveiled Thursday, will help millions of Americans, but only if Congress overcomes resistance from deeppocket lobbies.

"I know these steps won't sit well with the special interests and lobbyists who are invested in the old way of doing business, and I know they're gearing up for a fight," Obama said, using tough-guy language reminiscent of his predecessor, George W. Bush. "My message to them is this: So am I."

Some analysts say Obama's proposals are almost radical. But he said all of them were included in his campaign promises. "It is the change the American people voted for in November," he said.

Nonetheless, he said, well-financed interest groups will fight back furiously.

After years of bitter debate on whether to set date to end Iraq war, Congress agrees to one

WASHINGTON (AP) — After years of bitterly debating whether to set a timetable for troop withdrawals in Iraq, Congress has agreed to one.

The general consensus came Friday in the form of statements endorsing President Barack Obama's plan to bring home roughly two-thirds of the U.S. military force in Iraq by August 2010.

It was a compromise of sorts for the Democratic president, who campaigned on the promise of bringing every soldier and Marine home from Iraq within 16 months of taking office. His plan paves the way for some 100,000 troops to come home and as many as 50,000 troops to remain behind to train

Iraqi forces and protect U.S. interests. Not everyone was happy. Democratic leaders

have suggested the 50,000 figure was too high and their more liberal rank-and-file swiftly rejected it. Republican leaders demanded assurances the plan would be abandoned if security conditions worsened. At least one hardline conservative cast the timeline as arbitrary and dangerous.

But in the end, the Congress that could never agree on how to win the Iraq war found common

Grimfaced jury in Las Vegas views graphic homemade video in toddler molestation trial

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Jurors grimly viewed key evidence in the trial of a man accused of sexually assaulting two little girls in separate incidents in

Several jurors dabbed their eyes with tissues in

a hushed courtroom late Friday as they watched a video showing the defendant, Chester Arthur Stiles, whisper to a 2-year-old while he repositioned her on a bed for various sex acts. "Do you like that? Does it feel good?" Stiles asks

the girl near the end of the 15-minute video, which the judge deemed so disturbing that she closed the courtroom to all but a few news reporters, security officers and court officials during the viewing.

Clark County District Judge Jennifer Togliatti also banned cameras, cell phones and recorders after granting access to five reporters who filed written applications to watch what she called outside the jury's presence — "as graphic a child pornography video that anyone has ever observed."

Stiles, 38, kept his eyes on notes he wrote on a yellow legal pad and passed to one of his two defense lawyers while jurors watched the video.

Plane carrying 51 lands safely in Romania after landing gear gets stuck; all safe

TIMISOARA, Romania (AP) — A Romanian plane carrying 51 people made a safe emergency landing in western Romania on Saturday and all the occupants escaped, officials said.

Part of the Carpatair flight's landing gear became stuck and the aircraft circled Timisoara International Airport for almost two hours, using up its fuel to avoid a potential fire, officials said, before it landed nose-down on a bed of foam laid out by firefighters.

The Saab 2000 aircraft was carrying 47 passengers and four crew members on its flight from the Moldovan capital, Chisinau, to Timisoara, airport spokeswoman Carmen Stoica said. The Emergency Inspectorate said at least 10

ambulances and three fire engines were waiting for the stricken plane. "The plane ... crash-landed on the foam carpet

spread by firefighters on the airstrip. All passengers are fine," said inspectorate spokeswoman Sindia Vlaia. The airport's runway is about 2 miles (3.5 kilo-

meters) long.

The Romanian Transportation Ministry has sent a team to Timisoara to investigate the incident.

Union leaders seek to heal rifts, unify divided labor movement under 1 federation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly four years after a nasty breakup split organized labor, union leaders are again talking about reuniting under a single, more powerful federation, possibly this year.

Leaders from 12 of the nation's largest unions, along with rival federations AFL-CIO and Change to Win, have held three meetings since January aimed at setting aside differences and taking advantage of the most favorable political climate for unions in 15 years. "We've had very positive discussions and we've

reached some significant agreements," said David Bonior, the former Michigan congressman who is brokering the discussions.

But Bonior stressed that significant hurdles remain as leaders work out how a unified labor federation would be structured and what its goals

Seven unions, led by the Service Employees International Union, bolted from the AFL-CIO in 2005. They complained the federation focused too much on political campaigns and not enough on recruiting new members. The break reflected frustration with steadily declining union membership,

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432-599-8018 www.themediaco.net from a peak of 35 percent of the work force in the 1950s to about 12 percent today.

Focus in Lebanon assassination probe shifts as international tribunal opens in Netherlands

evidence for four years — a human tooth found at the bombing site, a suicide truck that was stolen in Japan and made its way to Lebanon, reams of phone records and hundreds of interviews. Now the focus in one of the Mideast's most dramatic political assassinations is shifting to pros-

BEIRUT (AP) — Investigators have pored over

tional tribunal on the slaying of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. Despite the start of proceedings in the Netherlands, it is still not known who will be accused in the suicide truck bombing that killed Hariri and 22 other people on a seaside street in Beirut on Feb.

ecution, with the convening Sunday of an interna-

Also unknown is the most politically explosive question — whether the proceedings will implicate Syria's government, which many Lebanese believe was behind the murder of a man who led opposition to the long Syrian military occupation

Syria has denied any involvement.

Most likely the first defendants before the court will be four pro-Syria generals who led Lebanon's police, intelligence service and an elite army unit at the time of the assassination.

They are the only people in custody, though they have not been formally charged.

Video shows King Co. deputy kicking teen girl

SEATTLE (AP) — A King County sheriff's deputy kicks a 15-year-old girl, slams her to the floor of a jail cell, strikes her and pulls her hair in violence captured on videotape.

Prosecutors released the surveillance video Friday in the assault case against Deputy Paul Schene, who is accused of using excessive force on the girl.

The footage shows the attack beginning after the girl enters the cell at suburban SeaTac City Hall and kicks off one of her shoes toward the deputy.

Schene, 31, pleaded not guilty to fourth-degree assault in Superior Court on Thursday.

The incident last November began after the girl was brought in for an auto theft investigation, according to court documents.

"We believe this case is beyond just police misconduct, it's criminal misconduct," King County Prosecutor Daniel Satterberg said.

"This is clearly excessive force."

Satterberg added the case is uncommon because cameras captured the entire incident.



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very. Salary \$8.20-8.75 hr (\$17,052.00-18,192.00 annually). Benefits.

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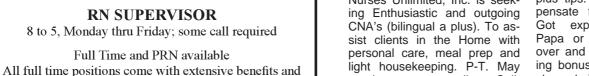
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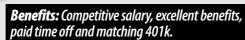
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National Guard pulling out of New Orleans

- Three and a half years after Hurricane Katrina, the National Guard is pulling the last of its troops out of New Orleans this weekend, leaving behind a city still desperate and dangerous.

Residents long distrustful of the city's police force are worried they will have to fend for themselves.

"I don't know if crime will go up after these guys leave. But I know a lot more of us will be packing our own pieces now to make sure we're protected," said Calvin Stewart, owner of a restaurant and store.

New Orleans Police Superintendent Warren Riley said his rebuilt police department is up to the job of protecting the city. "I think we're ready to handle things," he said.

The National Guardsmen were welcomed as liberators when they arrived in force in a big convoy more than four days after Katrina struck

NEW ORLEANS (AP) New Orleans in August 2005 and plunged the city into anarchy. The force was eventually 15,000 strong.

The last of the troops were removed January 2006 as civil authority returned, but then, after a surge in bloodshed, 360 were sent back in beginning in mid-2006 to help police keep order. As of February, only about 100 troops were left in the city.

With Louisiana facing a \$341 million budget deficit, state lawmakers were reluctant to keep the Guard in place any

The Guard was used to patrol the less populated sections of the city where Katrina's floodwaters left most houses uninhabitable. That included the woeful Ninth Ward, where renovated houses are outnumbered by moldy, boarded-up wrecks and weed-choked vacant

In their camouflage uniforms and Humvees, the troops were often a welcome sight.

"We don't enough cops. It's not that they're bad, it's just that there's not enough of them. These guys are Johnny-onthe-spot when you need them," said 57-year-old Tom Hightower, who is still trying to get the mold out of his house. He added: "This is still a spooky place after dark."

The troops had full arrest powers but were required to call New Orleans police on serious matters. In their time on the streets, Guard troops were involved in only one shooting, and the district attorney ruled it justified.

Guardsmen The answered lots of calls involving domestic violence, reported to be up in New Orleans since the hurricane, and handled car wrecks, house and business alarms and other problems.

"One of the biggest things we did was keep those places safe so people could rebuild,'

said Sgt. Wayne Lewis, ing it the murder capia New Orleans native who has been patrolling the streets since January 2007.

"People would put the things to rebuild in their houses and thieves would come along and take them right out again. We stopped a lot of that."

New Orleans had 210 murders in 2007, maktal of America, with the highest per-capita rate in the country. That number dropped to 179 in 2008.

Nevertheless, "crime continues to be this community's No. 1 concern. Even with the lower numbers it is still unacceptably high," said Rafael Goyeneche, executive director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission.

Before the hurricane, the police force had more than 1,600 officers. But its ranks were reduced after the storm by more than 30 percent because of desertions, dismissals, retirements and suicides. (New Orleans has only about 70 percent of its pre-Katrina population of 455,000.)



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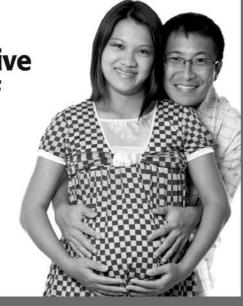
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Legals

City of Big Spring, Howard County,

Howard County, et al vs. Glen S.

Lts 12-20, Bk 59 Original Town of

Howard County, et al vs. Glen S.

Lts 12-15, Bk 58, Original Town of

Howard County, et al vs. Glen S.

Lts 16-22, Bk 58, Original Town of

Howard County, et al vs. Luis Pena

Lt 10, Bk 33, Cole & Strayhorn

Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard

Howard County, et al vs. Dora C.

Velesquez aka Dora C. Velasquez

Lt 8, Bk 8, Suburban Heights Addn,

City of Big Spring, Howard County,

Howard County, et al vs. Pedro

Lt 17, Bk 14, Monticello Addn., City

of Big Spring, Howard County,

Howard County, et al vs. R. L.

West Five feet (W/5') of Lt 11, and

all of Lt 12, Bk 10, Jones Valley

Addn, City of Big Spring, Howard

Howard County, et al vs. Jose An-

S/25' of Lt 4 and all of Lt 5, Bk 10.

Wright's Airport Addn., City of Big

Howard County, et al vs. Roger

Lt 9, Bk 20, Cole & Strayhorn

Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard

tonio Hernandez Rodriguez

Spring, Howard County, Texas

Jaenz and Agustina Jaenz

Forsan, Howard County, Texas

Forsan, Howard County, Texas

Forsan, Howard County, Texas

Moore

Murphy

Murphy

T-5189

and Margarita Pena

County, Texas

T-5211

Texas

T-5369

T-5398

County, Texas

T-5494

T-5536

Lee Edwards

County, Texas

Fields

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY STATE OF 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 <u>January</u>, <u>2009</u>, at 10:00 a.m., levy upon and will proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder at public auction on the 3rd day of March, 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, towit:

CAUSE NO. 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 Rodriquez, aka Isela M. Rodriquez, Individually and dba Alberto's #2 and Alberto's Crystal Cafe

Lots 5-8, Blk 106, Original Town, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas

Howard County, et al vs. Howard County, et al vs. Isela Rodriquez, aka Isela M. Rodriquez, Individually and dba Alberto's #2 and Alberto's Crystal Cafe

E/90' of Lt 1, Blk 13, Original Town, City of Big Spring, Howard County, T-5066

Howard County, et al vs. Gary L. Howard County, et al vs. Mark Edwards All of Lt 4, Bk 2, Hayden Addn., Lt 8, Bk 20, Cole & Strayhorn

Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas Howard County, et al vs. Henry

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 Howard County, et al vs. Denver

Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas T-5551 Howard County, et al vs. Vickie

Lt 6, Bk 7, Monticello Addn., City of

Elkins Ledesma

Lts 23 & 24, Bk 1, J. T. Price

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

March 1, 2009

#6021 February 8, 10, 22, and

Legals

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE (REAL ESTATE)

The State of Texas

To any Sheriff or any Constable Within The State of Texas-Greet-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

Newsday Crossword

\$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 S2612J11 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

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

mark

ACROSS 1 Salt shakers

10 Reunion attendees

15 Unenviable position

16 Croesus contemporary

17 Data format

18 Mass

19 Roof with removable

panels 20 Down 21 Intimidate,

with "down"

22 End of a Caesarean quote

23 Seer's

certification

school

27 Obscure 28 Home of the

Engineers 29 Malcolm in the Middle

grandma 30 Stretches, in a way

33 Keokuk, for one

34 Rural rejection **35** Philosophy, in

36 Something from the oven

brief

38 Icing decider

39 Betray excitement

42 Who's first 44 Old welcome

45 Joey's mom 46 Hit-list items

47 Warp 48 Act as

50 Harbors 53 Run off pages

55 Evidence of inspiration

SATURDAY STUMPER by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

6 Great Britain's Archie Bunker

8 Sparkle

a chair **62** Rats' relative

63 Place of

64 TV character introduced in '69

1 Clean 2 Orients

neighbor 4 "The Ultimate

Beauty Tool"

DOWN

 Something to Very slow Ferdinand and his father

58 Kennedy Center honoree of '84

61 Create, as

business

5 Name in the news

9 Broadcasting

devices **10** Emulating

Mencken 11 Advanced

12 Turkey portion 13 Where

Napoleon was crowned 14 Go guickly

23 Oscar-

of '50 **3** Windsor Castle **24** King before

Lou **25** Facial spot

27 Spoiled **30** Goes quickly 31 The rule

32 Things to vote on

37 They may be human: Abbr. **40** Certain show of

affection 41 Touts

42 Treasure of the Sierra Madre setting

drama **50** Engaged **51** Fourth-month

nominated role

43 One of Ptolemy's 48

49 Erstwhile teen

test 52 Mind **54** Onetime

Aldous Huxley employer

56 Smart **59** Earlier **60** Rounded pin

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2/28/09

What To Do When Everything's Out of Whack

been married for 21 years to a man who's a member of a cult posing as a religion.

It attracts a lot of rich celebrities, but

people who really can't afford what it costs. My husband has given them tens of thousands of dollars over

the years. When my parents died, paid off \$30,000 credit

his debt from my card inheritance. We have a child with a very expensive health problem, and because we're both self-employed, we have terrible health insurance.

Margo

Howard

For the past three years my hubby has not wanted to have sex. He confessed six years ago to going to strip clubs, but I thought he'd kicked the habit.

He never says "I love you" or displays any affection. I have kept myself thin and attractive, but recently put on 15 pounds.

I am 49 years old and have a lot to offer, but feel I need to stay married for the sake of the kids. The youngest is If you anything about religious cults, you know they are a weird bunch of moneyhungry kooks, and his particular group badgers him to come to "events'

Dear Margo: I have and buy expensive books and tapes.

All of it is a crock. They call at all hours of the day and night. By the way, he has an addiction to online computer games and plays them whenever he is home — ignoring the family. I'm not getting any younger. — Lonely

Dear Lone: Let us make a list. On the negative side you are married to a man whose "religion" requires money he cannot afford to give — and which does not seem to be improving his life.

You have used some of your inheritance to clean up his credit card bills. Your child has expensive health care needs and lousy insurance, but your husband still supports his "religion" — and strip clubs.

For three years (!) there has been neither sex nor affection. Furthermore, he ignores the family because he is addicted to computer games.

Now, on the positive side ... well, there is no positive side. I am not a in staying believer hitched, like two mules, for the sake of the children.

They benefit not at all from a loveless home with least at one extremely unhappy parent, probably two. And you are right about not getting any younger. – Margo, correctively

The Dog Ate His Homework and the **Hurricane Wrecked** **Your Romance**

Dear Margo: I have been "dating" a man for the past three months, and he constantly uses his job as an excuse not

to see me: "Too busy."
Granted, he owns his own business, and after Hurricane Ike I can understand that he has to fix things up, but this is ridiculous.

We barely have any contact at this point; whereas, we used to at least e-mail and talk on the phone. Now we don't even have that. Am I being stupid for staying with him and continually accepting his excuses and giving him chances? — Stupid in Houston

Dear Stu: Honey, you are dating ... he is trying to extricate himself. I always look at someone's behavior. It is one thing to be super-busy and quite another to be incommunicado.

I would chalk this up to experience — and not a great one, at that. Too bad this man could not have handled things in a more direct fashion. — Margo, resignedly

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via edearmargo@creators.com.

e-mail, not all letters will be answered. 2009 MARGO HOWARD DISTRIBUTED BY

CREATORS SYNDICATE,

Due to a high volume of

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING SECTION 00020 ADVERTISEMENT AND

INVITATION FOR BIDS Sealed proposals addressed to the Honorable Mayor and City Commission of the City of Big Spring, Texas, will be received at the office of the Director of Public Works, 310 Nolan, 2nd Floor, until 2:00 p.m. March 5, 2009. Immediately following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened. Bids will be tabulated and presented to the

City Commission for award at a later date. Improvements to the Big Spring Wastewater Treatment Plant include renovations to the final clari-

fier and to the trickling filter. Bidders must submit a Cashier's or Certified Check issued by a bank satisfactory to the Owner, or a Proposal Bond from a reliable Surety Company, payable without recourse to the order of the City of Big Spring, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible bid submitted as a guaranty that the Bidder will enter into a contract and execute bonds in the forms provided within fifteen (15) days after notice of award of contract to him. Bids without the required check or Proposal Bond will not be considered.

The successful Bidder must furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, from a Surety Company holding a permit from the State of Texas, to act as a Surety or other Surety or Sureties satisfactory to the Owner. If the total bid is less than \$25,000. Performance and Payment Bonds will not be re-

auired. Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local con-

ditions. Information for bidders, proposal forms, specifications and plans are on file in the office of the Assistant City Manager, City of Big Spring, Texas, and at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 4222 85th Street, Lub-

bock, Texas, 79423. Copies of the plans, specifications and contract documents may be secured at the office of Parkhill,

Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 4222 85th Street, Lub-Texas 79423 (Phone (806)473-2200) for a price of Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00) for each set of plans and specifications. Upon return (of each set of documents) in good condition and within 15 days after the bids have been opened, the entire deposit will be refunded.

Attention is called to the fact that there must be paid on this project not less than the general prevailing rates of wages which have been established by the Secretary of La-

Equal Opportunity in Employ ment: All qualified applicants will receive considerations for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex ,or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11256, as amended. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS Russ McEwen, Mayor #6066 February 23 and March 1, 2009

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE The Klondike Independent School District, in Lamesa, Texas is accepting bids for individual trades for

the following: Year 2009 Improvements -Additions and Renovations Phase I for Klondike ISD Bids will be received through

5:00p.m. local time, Thursday March 19th, 2009 and addressed to or faxed to: Steve McLaren, Superintendent Klondike ISD c/o Grimes and Associates-

CM Department

21103 FM 179

Wolfforth, TX 79382

PO Box 65

Fax: (806)863-2479 Fax: (806)963-3350 Plans and Specifications are available and may be acquired from the Construction Manager:

Consulting Engineers, L.P. PO Box 65 Wolfforth, TX 79382 806-863-2462 www.grimesengineering.com If your bid does not cover the bid package and requirements,

Grimes and Associates,

faxed to Grimes and Associates two days before the stated bid date with all exclusions listed or your bid may be rejected. It is intended to award complete bid

Legals

an advance notification must be

packages, and breakdowns are included only to verify that pricing for the complete package has been in-

A Pre-Bid Conference will be changed from 10:30 a.m., local time, Thursday, February 26th, to Thursday, March 5th, 2009 @ 10:30 a.m., local time. All interested parties should meet at the Superintendent's Office, 2911 County Road H, Lames, Texas. The Klondike Independent School

District Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and waive all formalities.

#6060 February 22 and March 1,

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, TX 79720-2657 432-264-2513 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY

AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING

THE CITY MANAGER TO DESIG-

TEXAS.

BIG SPRING,

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, TX 79720-2657 432-264-2513

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COLLIE ENID IKE
GREATDIVIDE NIX
STOP GRETA AGRA
SHEARS CLEAN
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UNIONS SARI SSN
NARROWS RUNINTO
OTS VACA MISAD
TEENAGE COPSE NATE THE PLACEMENT OF STOP SIGNS ON 22ST STREET YIELDING TO NOLAN, CREAT-ING A TWO WAY STOP INTER-SECTION (RECOGNIZING THAT DISREGARDING SUCH A STOP SIGNAL IS A MISDEMEANOR OF-FENSE UNDER STATE LAW

PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF UP TO \$200.00 UPON CONVICTION); AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICA-TION. TAMI L. DAVIS ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

#6072 February 27 & March 1,

Legals

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY

OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 18 OF THE BIG SPRING CITY CODE BY

AMENDING ARTICEL 3, SEC-TION18-75 BY ADDING SUBSEC-TION (H) DESIGNATING AND MAINTAINING MERRILY STREET "ONE-WAY ONLY" FROM CENTRAL TO THE CITY LIMITS DATE, PROVIDING FOR A PEN-ALTY OF UP TO \$200.00 UPON CONVICTION; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION.

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, TX 79720-2657 432-264-2513

IN AN EASTBOUND DIRECTION;

ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DESIG-NATE THE PLACEMENT OF STOP SIGNS ON NOLAN STREET YIELDING TO 21ST, CREATING A TWO WAY STOP

TAMI L. DAVIS ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #6071 February 27 & March 1,

Legals

2009

INTERSECTION (RECOGNIZING THAT DISREGARDING SUCH A SIGNAL IS A MISDE-MEANOR OFFENSE STATE LAW PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF UP TO \$200.00 UPON CONVICTION); AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION. TAMI L. DAVIS ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

#6070 February 27 & March 1,



(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

Digit is a 3-year-old Portuguese water dog from Charlotte, N.C., waiting to compete during the 133rd annual Westminster Kennel Club dog show at Madison Square Garden in New York. First lady Michelle Obama has told People magazine the family is considering getting a Portuguese water dog, possibly

Portuguese water dog owners worry about the Obama effect

By MEGAN K. SCOTT

NEW YORK (AP) — It's nothing against the Obamas. But some Portuguese water dog owners aren't thrilled the breed is a front-runner for the first family.

The choice could mean a spike in the dogs' popularity — and that could mean a rise in shady breeders and fickle owners who don't understand the dogs and eventually abandon them, owners of Portuguese water dogs say.

"There's always the danger of something like that," said Stu Freeman, president of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America. "It's '101 Dalmatians' syndrome."

After that movie came out, "everyone thought, 'aren't they cute,'" ran out and bought the dogs and found out they were not quite as adorable as the ones in the movie, Freeman said.

First lady Michelle Obama told People magazine that the family is looking to rescue a Portuguese water dog in April, though her press secretary said Thursday that the decision isn't final. President Barack Obama had also mentioned a Labradoodle as an appealing choice.

"Obviously they have their favorites that the president and first lady have outlined before with of course the Portuguese water dog being a top contender — but there hasn't been a selection yet," Katie McCormick Lelyveld

Portuguese water dogs were bred centuries ago to help fishermen along the Portugal coast, working as couriers, retrieving nets and diving for fish.

Even before Obamas, the dogs' star was rising — Sen. Ted Kennedy has two.

In 1998, the breed ranked 82nd in popularity, according American Kennel Club registration statistics. Ten years later, they were ranked 62nd.

Elena Gretch, a dog trainer and owner of two Portuguese water dogs, attributes some of that to the fact that the dog is good for allergy sufferers. Malia Obama, 10, has allergies.

Michelle Obama also praised the dogs' personality and size in the People magazine interview.

they're supposed to be pretty good," Mrs. Obama said. "From the size perspective, they're sort of middle of the road — it's not small, but it's not a huge dog. And the folks that we know who own them have raved about them. So that's where we're

leaning."

Gretch worries that if the Obamas choose the breed, puppy mills will sprout up. The dogs cost \$1,800 to \$2,500 and aren't as common as other popular breeds. They're prone to hip dysplasia, so finding a good breeder is important, she said, and the dogs don't often end up in shelters for adoption.

The dogs also require a lot of attention, grooming and outdoor exercise. "It's agile, it's a great swimmer, it loves to be outdoors," said Gretch, founder of the pet care and training service It's A Dog's Life in New York City.

But Portuguese water dogs are usually not great for first time dog owners, said Freeman, because it takes experience to train them.

"These are dogs that if you don't keep them

"Temperamentally busy, they will be busy and do something you don't want them to do," he said.

> Steve Brooks, a dog trainer who works with celebrities, said he's already training more Labradors, which may be the result of "Marley & Me."

After Dalmatians," the shelter where Daphna Nachminovitch worked flooded with was Dalmatians. Parents broke down and bought the puppies, she said. As the puppies got older and harder to manage, the kids lost interest and the dogs ended up in shelters.

The Obamas have said they plan to adopt from a shelter, something Nachminovitch, now vice president of cruelty investigations for PETA, hopes others will keep in mind.

"With the way the economy is now, animal shelters are seeing a dramatic increase in the number of abandoned animals. It's certainly not a time to make more dogs," she said. "We have plenty of dogs in animal shelters who need a home."

Annie's Mailbox ®

Annie: My youngest son, "Scott," recently turned 3, and I looked into preschool programs. Our local YMCA had a few openings and I signed him

When I met with the woman who would be Scott's teacher, I told her my son has spina bifida and has to wear diapers until he can gain enough control to be potty-trained.

After explaining this to the teacher, she turned us away, saying Scott could not attend the program because of his disability.

Annie, I cried all the way home. Now I wonder what will happen in August when I sign Scott up for the preschool program at our local school. Will they turn him down because they have to change a diaper? Do these schools have the right not to accept him because he is disabled? — TRB from Illinois

TRB: Each YMCA has its own policy, and although any organization receives federal funding should not be discriminating against disabled children, this likely isn't about his disability.

Many preschools refuse to accept children who are not toilettrained because they do not have the facilities and staff to handle them.

We contacted Sherry L. Arvin, information and referral coordinator "101 at the Spina Bifida Association (spinabifidaassociation.org), who suggested you speak to a director at your YMCA about modifying the preschool program, and also contact your local spina bifida clinic to request that a clinic nurse meet with the YMCA to answer any questions or concerns the staff may

As for the public school preschool, your son should qualify for special education services. You also can look into the Head Start Program in your area. Be your child's advocate. He needs you.

Dear Annie: I just received a wedding invitation. The last line states: "Wear something you love."

What exactly does that mean? — Confused in New Hampshire

Dear Confused: It means wear whatever you like and, apparent-

ly, the bridal couple doesn't care if it's jeans, a ball gown or the Halloween costume you wore last October. Have a good time. Bring a camera.

Dear Annie: I have been married to an incredible woman for over 25 years. Our two sons are almost finished with college. Every aspect of our marriage is amazing except our sex life, which is worse than dismal. I can count on one hand the number of times we have made love each year of our marriage.

I am a very healthy 52-year-old man with a strong libido. I have tried countless times to talk this issue over with my wife, but she clams up and will not participate in any discussion on the subject. Annie, I've tried every-

thing. I am clean. I am in great shape. I have asked her until I am blue in the face to accompany me to therapy. Unfortunately, she is a therapist and not inter-

She will not budge, and I know now things will never change. I confess at times I have been so desperate I have taken comfort with professional women. I am at the end of my rope, questioning whether I can remain married. I try to convince myself sex is not that important, but my hormones override my objectives.

Stupid question I am sure, but is there anything else I can do? — Desperate for Help in *Massachusetts*

Dear Desperate: If your wife has been like this your entire marriage, one possibility is a hormonal imbalance. Naturally, this imbalance feels normal to her so she isn't likely to believe any adjustment is required.

And if she is past menopause, it may not help anyway, but she might be more amenable to getting a checkup than to seeing a therapist. We know you want more intimacy and your wife should be willing to deal with the problem, but if your marriage is otherwise as great as you say, please try to find a way through this.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the

Ann Landers column. CREATORS 2009 SYNDICATE, INC.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Mars come together and it's goodbye, mild and friendly mood; hello, passion. Tempestuous connections are seductive. For those who choose to air their emotions there might be a positive outcome. Do remember, though, that words have power. If you are unsure of what you need to say,

wait for calmer times. ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are reticent to look back because you believe the best is yet to come. However, reminiscing about the past with a loved one will help keep the good memories alive and strengthen your bond.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be applying all you know about creating a mood. You will address all of the five senses as you create the perfect atmosphere for a pleasant encounter with those you enjoy being around.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Gossip is so seductive. Everybody needs to feel important and one easy way to get there is in putting other people down. Recognize petty conversations for what they are and stay out of them and you'll be successful.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No need to drop hints. You know what you want and the best way to get it is just to come out and say it. People

prefer you to deal frankly and will do their best to please you when you do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll enjoy the game of selling. You love the adrenaline rush that comes when you present your offer and persuade others to take it. You are favored to close all kinds of deals, financial and otherwise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are moderate by nature, and yet there are some things you simply can't do in small. Like love, for instance. The more you invest in a person, the more adoration you feel. Today you might delight in going to the extreme.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Many will be speculating on the lives of others. You have so much going on in your own life that you scarcely have the time to wonder or chat about the neighbors. You will be respected for staying out of it. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your

heart yearns, though no one can tell this by looking at you. You project an air of satisfaction, as if to say your needs have all been taken care of. Dare to let one special person know what you long for.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't have to talk about anything profound to make a meaningful connection. In fact, trying to speak with great intellect and wisdom will make it harder for others to relate to you. Keep it simple and loving.

Neptune's part of the sky to cover the CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Your competitive spirit emerges. What you say to yourself inside the privacy of your mind about the competition may not be pretty and probably shouldn't be shared. Focus on doing your best with your own performance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are tempted to purchase a service that you don't technically need. Maybe the splurge is not so selfish after all. If it improves your mood and it doesn't put anyone else out, then go for it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Social conveniences abound. You will capture the interest of people whom you will also find interesting and it all happens without a commute. It's all a sign that you are truly in the mix of

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK **AHEAD**: Mercury is a major player in the goings on of this zesty week. It's as though the communication planet is bent on doing mischief as he mingles, stirring the action in the

direction of high drama intrigue. He starts by lining up with Mars. Suddenly the words that would usually be omitted in polite conversation get said, and not in hushed tones. Loud and proud becomes Mercury's motto. For those who prefer non-con-

frontation, the conflict — though it is seductive — is optional. Next, Mercury heads over to

other topics that the social etiquette books list as taboo — namely religion and politics. Even if you don't set out to share your beliefs, it happens acci-

dentally. One thing leads to another and you find yourself talking about ethereal matters and that which cannot be easily proven. Each person has a different truth, and yet they are all valid points of view.

On Friday, Venus changes direction in Aries and the way we show that we love someone will change, too. New feelings may emerge, only to be kept private. And even for mature individuals, love feels sweet and young.

CELEBRITYPROFILES: Academy Award-winning actor Javier Bardem delivers powerful performances in both Spanish and English, including a chilling characterization in "No Country for Old Men."

Pisces' insatiable curiosity inspires actors of this sign to lose themselves in a role. Bardem's natal chart has very little earth-sign energy so his Taurus girlfriend, Penelope Cruz, naturally makes him feel more grounded.

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FDIC raising fees on banks, adds emergency fee

WASHINGTON — Facing a cascade of bank failures depleting the deposit insurance fund, federal regulators on Friday raised the fees paid by U.S. financial institutions and levied an emergency premium in a bid to collect \$27 billion this year.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. now expects that bank failures will cost the insurance fund around \$65 billion through 2013, up from

an earlier estimate of \$40 billion. The bank failures, 14 already this year following 25 last year, reflect the ravages of rising unemployment and falling home prices that have sent loan defaults soaring.

The FDIC board said the economic crisis, which has caused the insurance fund to drop to its lowest level in nearly a quarter-century, also warranted extending the plan to rebuild the insurance fund

from five years to seven.

"We're taking steps today to ensure that the deposit insurance system remains sound," FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair said at a meeting to vote on the changes. "These steps are necessary because banks and not taxpayers — are expected to fund the system."

But the head of the Office of Thrift Supervision, who is one of the board members, voted against the fee increases. John Reich said the fees would unfairly burden smaller banks that didn't contribute to the financial crisis with reckless lending.

Bair said the plan protects bank depositors — by safeguarding the fund that insures regular accounts up to \$250,000. Taxpayers also are protected because it likely means the FDIC will not have to go to the Treasury Department and tap public money to

creases. John Reich said the replenish the insurance fund, fees would unfairly burden she added.

Bair has not ruled out that possibility for a short-term loan, but said she doesn't expect to take the more drastic action of using its \$30 billion long-term credit line with the Treasury — something that has ever been done.

"Treasury exists for contingencies and should not be relied upon for planning purposes," Bair said Friday.

Food manager certification training course offered

Statistics indicate that foodborne illness continues to be a health issue in the United States. Each year, one in four Americans will become sick, one in 1,000 will become hospitalized, and 5,000 will die due to a foodborne illness

During a past legislative session, a statute was amended that allowed the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to require each food establishment to have one certified food manager.

Recently, the Texas Board of Health adopted rules to implement this statute. Many of you

have already received a letter from the Texas Department of State Health Services regarding this. Under these new rules, each food establishment permitted by the Texas Department of State Health Services must have one certified food manager. New food manager certificates will be valid for five years.

Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Howard County, is offering a food manager certification training course. This program will be offered for \$110 March 18-19 at Howard County Library, 500 S. Main Street in Big Spring. Cost includes training, materials and the state food manager certification examination. Registration deadline is March 4.

This program is designed to not only prepare food service managers to pass the certification examination; it will provide valuable education regarding the safe handling of food. Almost 50 cents of every dollar Americans spend on food is spent on meals prepared away from home.

Therefore, careful attention to food safety will help keep customers safe and satisfied.

Foodborne illnesses are estimated to cost thousands of dollars in lost wages, insurance, and medical bills. With these statistics, knowledge of how to prevent foodborne illness is essential. The benefits of improved food safety include:

- Increased customer satisfaction • Improved relationships with health
- Prevention of bad publicity and law suits due to foodborne illness

By attending the course, foodservice managers will learn about:

• Identifying potentially hazardous foods and common errors in food handling

- Preventing contamination and cross-contamination of food
- Teaching and encouraging person-
- al hygiene for employeesComplying with government regu-
- lations
- Maintaining clean utensils, equipment and surroundings
- Montrolling pests

Foodborne illnesses can be prevented by following simple food safety practices. For more information about the Food Manager Certification Training course of the Texas AgriL-IFE Extension Service, called "Food Safety: It's Our Business," call Kandy K. McWhorter at (432) 264-2237.

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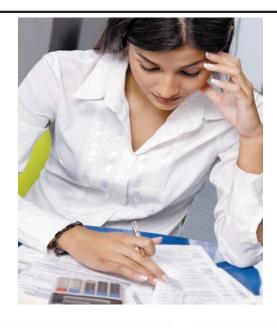
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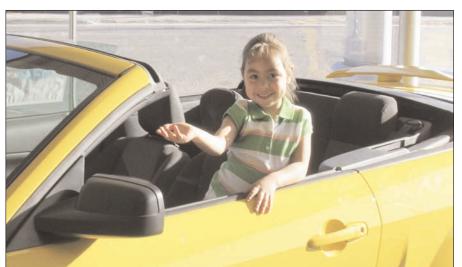
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