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FRIDAY

DECEMBER 4, 2009



50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



An upper-level storm system passed through this area early today, depositing snow and ice on much of West Texas. Slick road conditions were listed as the cause of several minor traffic accidents and forced the closure of area schools.

Icy weather locks down schools, has emergency crews scrambling

By STEVE REAGAN

Old Man Winter decided to pay an early visit to Howard County and he was quite the rude guest.

Frigid temperatures had people bundling up and snow and ice turned local streets into skating rinks, which resulted in schools and several businesses being closed throughout the area.

ing the effects of a cold front that of snow and ice on several cities. moved through the area several

days ago, but that was compounded by a low-pressure system that arrived last night, said Eric Platt, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Midland. "An upper-level storm system

moved out of the Rockies and brought all this snow and ice with it," Platt said. Much of West Texas was hit by

The most immediate effect of See WEATHER, Page 3

motorists, who were forced to contend with slick, snow-covered roads this morning. Conditions caused officials to first postpone, then cancel classes at Howard College and Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan schools. "The roads were just too icy,"

the storm system was felt by area

Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy the storm system, which depos- Johnson said. "We were very con-This area had already been feel- ited between one and three inches cerned about getting buses into

PD clears additional robberies

Suspect responsible for multiple offenses, according to police

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the Big Spring Police Department say they have solved several more of the aggravated robberies that plagued the city in November, as the recent arrest of

a Big Spring man continues to uncover evidence. Ricardo Castillo, 31, was arrested

at his home Nov. 23 in the 800 block of E. 14th Street and charged with several counts of aggravated robbery including the gunpoint robbery of a local woman in a church parking lot Nov. 22.



According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the BSPD, Castillo was

See CASTILLO, Page 3

Juvenile, **HC** students are arrested

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A Big Spring youth remains in custody after confessing to a pair of burglaries at the local YMCA, while two Howard College students have been arrested after being linked to a series of vehicle burglaries near the community college's dorms.

See JUVENILE, Page 3

KEEP YOUR EYES TOWARD THE SKY IN DOWNTOWN BIG Spring for a holiday SURPRISE.

Celebrating Christmas Full weekend of activities planned

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Jolly ol' St. Nick will be much in evidence this weekend as a cornucopia of events signal the start of the Christmas season in Howard

Santa Claus is coming to town.

VA lights the lights The Big Spring VA Medical Center will kick-start a weekend full of

Christmas activities when it holds its annual "Lighting of the Lights" ceremony. The event, which will conclude with the lighting of thousands of lights decorating the hospital, will begin at 6 p.m. today. "Holiday carols will be led by

veterans, refreshments will be served and, last but certainly not least, Santa will visit with all children," said Lauri Phillips, acting public affairs officer for the medi-

VAMC Director Daniel Marsh,

assisted by children in the audience, will light the lights on the indoor Christmas tree, simultaneously illuminating the display of outdoor lights. "We invite the community to

join in this festive occasion," Phillips said.

Howard College luminaria lighting cancelled Howard College's annual

Christmas Luminaria ceremony, which was to feature a visit from Santa Claus, was an unfortunate victim of the storm system that moved through the area this morning. College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said the

event, which has long been

described as the college's

Christmas gift to the com-

munity, was cancelled be-

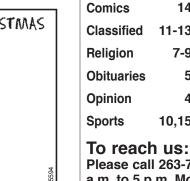
Canterbury Christmas

cause of weather.

Bazaar Saturday People looking for good arts and crafts goods will want to be at Can-

terbury Retirement Community for its annual Christmas Bazaar Saturday. See **CELEBRATE**, Page 3





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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.

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m.

- MARK CLINTON ROBERSON, 19, of Plano, was arrested Thursday on a charge of theft – more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000.
- ASHLEY DAWN SMITH, 24, of 1710 Young, was arrested Thursday on two local warrants.
- MICHAEL PAUL HOGAN, 38, of 1710 Young, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while license • MARCUS LANCE HATTENBACH, 37, of 1806 E.
- 15th St., was arrested Thursday on charges of criminal trespass, evading arrest and resisting arrest. • ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69, transient, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- LAQUANTHUS LAMAR RANDALL, 19, of Dallas, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- HOWARD BRANDON JOHNSON, 25, of 1206 E. 15th St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of evading
- TERRENCE ALI YOUNG, 20, of 109 N.E. 10th St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- TEREL DEVON HOUSTON, 17, of 2609 Hunter, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JOHN PETER GORDON JR., 21, of 803 Lorilla, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a con-
- CHARLES RENE LANDRY, 18, of 610 Goliad. was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- KENNETH DWAYNE NEWSOME, 18, of 2609 Hunter, was arrested Thursday on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest.
- THEFT was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700.
- ARREST. RESISTING SEARCH TRANSPORTATION was reported in the 300 block of
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 300 block of Fourth • MANUFACTURE/DELIVERY OF A CONTROLLED
- SUBSTANCE IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported (no location given). INTERFERING WITH AN EMERGENCY PHONE
- CALL was reported in the 1100 block of 13th Street. • CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 100
- block of 13th Street. CRIMINAL MICHIEF was reported:
- in the 1000 block of 16th Street.
- In the 1100 block of 13th Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the
- 1000 block of Hearn. · ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY was report-
- d in the 2000 block of Goliad.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported: in the 1000 block of 16th Street.

In the 600 block of Tulane.

202 Scurry

Sheriff

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

- Note A jail count was not available at press
- MICHAEL NEAL BIRMELIN, 29, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child under age
- DAVID CANALES, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled sub-
- ERNEST LEE CHANCE, 53, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- ROBERT RAY COBLE, 21, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a chage of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
- WELDON BRYANT DANIELS, 45, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of credit card • RUBEN DOMINGUEZ, 23, was arrested Friday by
- the HCSO on a probation violation for driving while intoxicated. • NORA ANN FLORES, 38, was arrested Thursday
- by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping failure to ALBERTO JOSE GALLEGOS, 20, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a proba-
- tion violation for possession of marijuana two ounces or less and a charge of possession of mariiuana - two ounces or less. • JOHN PETER GORDON, 21, was transferred to
- the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. • MARCUS LANCE HATTENBACH, 37, was trans-
- ferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of criminal trespass, evading arrest or detention and resisting arrest, search or transportation. • MICHAEL HOGAN, 38, was transferred to the
- county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension. TEREL D. HOUSTON, 17, was transferred to the
- county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. • HOWARD BRANDON JOHNSON, 25, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a
- charge of evading arrest or detention. CHARLES RENE LANDRY, 18, was transferred to
- the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. RANDALL LAMAR LAQUANTHUS, 19, was
- transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance WILLIAM RYAN LOCKE, 35, was arrested
- Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a

controlled substance.

 ABILENE RENE MOJICA, 27, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

BIG SPRING HERALD

- GARY LEE MOORE, 55, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- KENNETH DEWAYNE NEWSOME, 18, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance, evading arrest or detention and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.
- AMADOR RIOS, 28, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of bond/protective order.
- MARK ROBERSON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of ASHLEY SMITH, 23, was transferred to the coun-
- ty jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia (two counts). · MARCUS EMORY STURGILL, 20, was arrested
- Thursday by the HCSO on a probation violation for evading arrest or detention with a vehicle. • CLAYTON WILLIAM WIGINGTON, 23, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a contempt
- charge for minor in possession of alcohol and charges of burglary of a habitation (two counts) and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. TERRANCE ALI YOUNG, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of
- possession of a controlled substance. · LEROY ZUBIATE, 25, was transferred to the
- county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 3000 block of Piper Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Cherokee. One person was transported to SMMC. TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of Tulane.
- Service refused. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N
- Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 5000 block of
- Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC. DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the area of
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 400 block

See Page 5 for obituaries







Where All Of West Texas Comes To Save On Their New Furniture

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JUVENILE

Continued from Page 1

with

According to Sgt. Tony

Everett, a 16-year-old Big

Spring juvenile was arrest-

ed Wednesday and charged

YMCA Nov. 23 and Nov. 24.

old Big Spring juvenile –

was arrested and charged

with both burglaries,"

said Everett. "Detectives

received a tip through

Crimestoppers, and while

following up on that tip the

suspect was questioned and

confessed to both cases.

Some of the stolen property

has been recovered and the

juvenile remains in the cus-

tody of the juvenile deten-

tion center. The investiga-

Everett declined to release

the name of the suspect due

Investigators with the

BSPD also made arrests this

week in a series of vehicle

burglaries reported near

the Howard College dorms,

Wednesday patrol officers

were investigating a series

of vehicle burglaries at the

Howard College dorms,"

said Everett. "Several vehi-

cles in the parking lot had

been vandalized. During

the investigation officers

arrested three students,

after

midnight

tion is still under wav."

to him being a minor.

according to Everett.

"Just

burglarizing

"The suspect — a 16-year-

two males who were in pos-

session of stolen property

and a female subject on an

Arrested were Anthony J.

Maldonado, 18, of Illinois,

charged with 13 counts of

burglary of a vehicle and

one count of theft; and

Nicholas R. Bolleter, 18, of

San Antonio, who was also

charged with 13 counts of

burglary of a vehicle and

"During the course of the

morning 11 vehicle burglar-

ies were reported in the

east part of the city, includ-

ing Howard College," said

Everett. "As of now, officers

believe the vehicle burglar-

ies are all related. The in-

vestigation is ongoing and

officers expect to file more

charges. Also, more arrests

are possible as suspects are

located. Some property has

been recovered and officers

are hoping to recover more

before the investigation is

Everett said a third arrest

has been made in the case,

as 19-year-old Mark Clinton

Roberson of Plano was tak-

en into custody and charged

with theft – more than

Law enforcement officials

said more charges against

Roberson, who denied tak-

ing part in the burglaries

but was in possession of

stolen items, are likely to

\$1,500, less than \$20,000.

unrelated charge."

one count of theft.

CASTILLO

Continued from Page 1

charged with the Nov. 13

aggravated robbery at the

Camlot Inn, located in the 2900

block of E. Interstate Highway

20; the Nov. 13 aggravated rob-

bery at the Motel 6, located in

the 600 block of W. Interstate

Highway 20; the Nov. 22 aggra-

vated robbery of the Shell

Station in Stanton; and the

May beating and robbery of

"Following his arrest on

several charges of aggravated

robbery last week, detectives

continued to investigate Cas-

tillo," said Everett. "In all,

detectives have charged him

with seven counts of aggra-

Castillo was charged in

several aggravated robberies

an elderly veteran.

vated robbery."

The suspect knocked on the victim's door and claimed he was having car problems and needed to use a telephone. The victim turned to get the telephone and the suspect put a handgun to his chest and demanded money. The suspect fled the scene on foot.

• Nov. 22, in the 2100 block of Lancaster (Iglesia Bautista Church). A man matching Castillo's description attempted to take the 54-year-old woman's purse at gunpoint in the parking lot of the Iglesia Bautista Central church. The woman began frantically honking her car's horn, drawing a pair of men from the church to her rescue. The two men chased the suspect to a tan-colored, small-size pickup believed to be a Ford Ranger parked nearby. Everett said there are still

several aggravated robbery cases detectives are investigating, as the law enforcement agency looks to clear up the rash of robberies that began Oct. 31 and racked up nearly a dozen incidents in less than three weeks.

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

duced staff levels.

Big Spring city offices were open but officials were eyeing road conditions before deciding whether to disperse trash collection crews today. A final decision will be made by early afternoon, officials said.

Platt said there was a slight chance for more snow or ice today and temperatures are expected to remain below freezing until Saturday, when a high of 47 is forecast.

Sunday calls for temperatures in the mid-50s, he added. No precipitation is forecast for either Saturday or Sunday.

 Nov. 16, a residence in the 2300 block of Old Highway 80.

springherald.com on Interstate 20, where an

WEATHER

Continued from Page 1

and out of some of the side roads in our area."

In addition, icy conditions forced Howard College to cancel its annual luminaria lighting ceremony, scheduled for tonight.

Road conditions proved to be hazardous for most motorists as area law enforcement officials were kept busy investigating accidents through the morning hours. The most significant accident occurred

have attended before,

the program is tweaked

every year to provide

something new. Aside

from long-time classics,

newer holiday standards

will be performed.

Forest

The

Christmas Tree

third

est will debut Saturday

and run through Jan.

5 at Heritage Museum,

Director Nancy Raney

Homespun Christmas'

this year," Raney said.

"We'll have quilts on

display throughout the

museum and the vari-

ous Christmas trees on

display will be decorat-

ed with that theme in

Also Saturday, the mu-

seum will hold "Break-

fast With Santa," in

which local youngsters

will get a chance to meet

"Each year, when

we do our Christmas

program, we try to add

something new or make

some changes," said

Tammy Schrecengost,

Heritage Museum cura-

tor. "This year we were

looking for something

new and just asked our-

selves, how much fun

would it be for the chil-

dren to be able to have

breakfast with Mr. And

and other breakfast fin-

ger foods, and we'll also

have coffee and refresh-

ments for the parents. I

think it will be a lot of

Schrecengost said the

fun for everyone."

"We'll have doughnuts

Mrs. Claus?

St. Nick.

"We're calling it 'A

Christmas Tree

annual

For-

overturned tractor-trailer rig forced the temporary closure of a three-mile section of the highway near the west entrance to Big Spring. The highway was expected to be reopened by late morning. No serious injuries have

ous accidents as of 9 a.m., officials announced. At least one governmental

been reported from the vari-

agency was reducing its services because of the weather. Howard County Judge Mark Barr said county offices were open but operating with reguy in red in 30-minute

revive the display and

CELEBRATE

Continued from Page 1

Canterbury South (1700 Lancaster) will host the bazaar from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday, organizers said.

Approximately 30 vendors will be on hand, selling a large variety of arts and crafts, including handmade jewelry, home décor items and Christmas decorations.

The Canterbury auxiliary also will be on hand, selling homemade brisket burritos for \$1.50 each.

Admission is free.

Christmas Parade Saturday Preparations are al-

most complete for the 24th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, which will take a different route this year because of road renovations on Gregg Street.

Plans call for the route

to begin lining up south

on Scurry Street at the intersection of Seventh Street. The procession will actually begin at Scurry and Seventh, proceed north on Scurry to Fourth Street, turn east and proceed to Benton before turning north for one block and then proceeding west on Third Street and ending at Scurry Street. Parade-goers are ad-

vised to stake out a spot early, as thousands of people generally line up to view the long-running event. For those who cannot attend the parade but have Internet access, the event will be shown live on the Herald's Web site at www. bigspringherald.com. More than 60 entries

have been received to date. "This is going to be one of the best Christ-

mas parades the Herald has ever put on," Herald Advertising Director Rick Nunez said. "The route for this year's parade may be different, but we promise it will be as exciting as ever." The theme for this year's event is "A Cotton Pickin' Christmas.'

Grand Marshal will be Kathryn Wiseman. Entrants are eligible

come.

for three cash prizes – \$100 for the Best of Show Award (for best interpretation of theme); \$75 Mayor's Award (for best use of lighting); and \$50 Grand Marshal's Award (for best costuming). In addition, first-place

plaques will be awarded in the following categories — individual or family; civic group, school or church; commercial; and industrial. Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry. Only entries that were

received prior to the deadline will be considered for prizes, but additional participants will be welcomed right up to the start of the parade. Nunez said persons wishing to participate need to show up in the vicinity of 12th and Scurry streets by 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Officials promise com-

munity residents a colorful start to the holiday "We are very excited

to once again be hosting the Community Christmas Parade," Herald Publisher Ron Midkiff. "This is our Christmas gift to Howard County and we're hoping for another successful event." For more information,

contact Nunez at 263-

Christmas Tree The 31st annual Liv-

Living

Christmas Tree will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at First United Methodist Church, located at Fourth and Scurry. It is free to the public, but tickets must be obtained the public.

at the church office. A dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. Saturday also is open to The Living Christmas Tree, for the uninitiated, is exactly that -a

2,000-pound Christmas tree populated by more than 70 singers dressed as ornaments. While the event will

be familiar to those who

children will allowed to break bread with the big

Cordially Invite You to **Attend our Services**

of the blues: Go out and do something for someone else, and



Sunday School......10:00 a.m.

intervals, beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 11 a.m. And while there's

admission being charged to participate, Schrecengost said they are suggesting donations be made. "We're asking for a donation of either a new

toy, which will go to Spring Tabernacles annual toy giveaway, or a non-perishable food item to go to the Isaiah 58 food drive," she said. "We're not going to turn any children away, but we're hoping we can use this opportunity to help out both local charities that are big parts of the holiday season for many local families."

Schrecengost said local baking expert Gale Pittman will also be on hand to help children design a special treat for the holiday season between 11 a.m. and 1 "They are going to be

making gingerbread men," she said. "There is a \$3 charge to cover material costs, and the kids will get the chance

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APARTMENTS §

TERRACE

to decorate their own large holiday cookie. It's always a lot of fun and Gale is so good at working with the kids. And what could be better than being able to take home your own gingerbread man for the holiday? Parents need to call ahead and reserve a spot for their child for this activity."

Also during the daylong event, kids will get the chance to have their picture taken with Santa, said Schrecengost. Throughout the days

leading up to to Christmas, the museum will host a variety of holiday events, including a visit from Santa Claus and his missus and classes to teach children the finer points of decorating a gingerbread man cookie.

The event, which Raney and other organizers call a huge success, was actually started by local baker Gale Pittman in the 1990s. After a hiatus of several years, he suggested to Raney and Curator Shrecengost Tammy that the museum could

the two women readily agreed. "We always did some-

thing around Christmas, but nothing to this extent," Raney said. "We thought it would be a great project for the museum and a great partnership between us

and Gale." Raney said the best thing about the exhibit is that it serves as kind of a kick-start for the holiday season.

"I feel like we kind of kick off Christmas here in Big Spring," she said. "It works out really well. You have the Community Christmas Parade and the Living Christmas Tree on that same weekend, and here we are in the middle of those two events."

Contact Staff Writer

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Carol Jean Lightfoot, 57, died Wednesday. No services are planned.



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EDITORIAL

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

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

Ron Midkiff

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Workers' rights: It's just another U.S. oxymoron

classic American saying asserts, "The rich are different from the rest of us." So are the poor. While the rich enjoy rights, privileges and legal protections that the middle class can only envy, the poor suffer from weak and ill-enforced labor laws that the middle class need seldom fear.

And since media owners often generate their own fierce disputes with labor, battles over worker rights frequently go unpublicized.

Take the National Labor Relations Board. That healthy New Deal innovation has in recent times run afoul of big money politics, though the press has precious little interest in it anyway. Although its ostensible job is to adjudicate labor disputes, budget starvation and political pressure have instead converted it into a tar pit for burying signifi-

Senate Republicans won't approve any pro-labor appointees and the Democrats seem unwilling to force the issue. That would anger their own bigbusiness campaign contributors.

Much the same fear has stymied the proposed Employee Free Choice Act, aimed at making it easier to form a union. That bill has gone nowhere because many Democrats listen cheerfully to the rustle of business dollars raining into their re-election coffers. Thus it remains enormously difficult today for workers to organize, even with a president nominally on their side.

Fortunately, the Labor Department has improved a bit since the last election, but undoing eight years of hostility to workers takes time. This is especially true since some of its career civil service positions were filled with pro-employer officials by President

George W. Bush just before he left.

The results of this paralysis of labor enforcement are tragic for the lunch-pail set. Bosses can get away with almost anything, like pressuring injured staff not to claim workers' compensation or to file actions over short pay. They're dealing with toilers living on the econom-

ic edge, who panic at the thought of being fired. Not only would their pay be gone, but health insurance as well, if they're lucky enough to have any. With adjudication taking years, they simply can't afford the risk of complaining.

And there's plenty to complain about. The Government Accountability Office recently performed an undercover investigation of the Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division. It found that the division mishandled 9 of the 10 cases that investigators presented. There was little effective enforcement against threats, short pay, or even child la-

U.S. Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.), the House Labor Committee chairman, observed, "It's clear that under the existing system, employers feel they can both keeps us off steal workers' wages with impunity."

Unfortunately, the problem is only getting worse. Illegal immigrants are especially reluctant to file complaints. That reality hovers over Americanborn workers too, fearing that they will simply be supplanted by even more vulnerable foreign replacements if they gripe.

The recession further undermines the status of workers by increasing the pool of their desperate unemployed colleagues. So does the steady outflow of jobs abroad to nations where employees are treat-

ed more like chattel than human beings. Employers love that fear, and many have found

that even if they can't export their jobs, they can often import grisly working conditions.

Creating more unions and passing stronger laws would be the normal response to such abuse, but our government is too much under corporate influence to allow such cures.

Consequently, the United States is developing an underclass the likes of which we haven't seen since

Minuteman Media columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Today may we enjoy the blessings, Lord, that you have given us.

Thanks-living is paramount

y Thanksgiving was really nice this year. My son came home from his internship at The Honor Academy and brought a half dozen young men home with him, so our house was a really fun

mess. On top of that, I was hosting a missionary pastor from Rwanda, East Africa, and he still finds it hard to believe human beings can eat this much. My brother and

BREWER sisters all made an appearance and I actually spanked all of them in our family's annual Texas Hold'em competition.

thumping, column writing, conference speaking, world traveling, guitar playing, card dealing shark. As Davy Crocket once said. "I'm a screamer." So here it is after Thanksgiv-

Yes, the Brewer is a Bible

ing and the parade is over. You have survived the ballgame and the spandex wearing mayhem at

Walmart. Black Friday has come and gone and hopefully without a black eye, but don't you dare let go of being thankful.

This week's sip from the Master's cup comes served with leftovers from our last holiday.

For you and I, Thanksgiving is not just a day on the calendar but an actual lifestyle we get better and better at. The good book says in Colossians 2:7 that we are to "abound in thanksgiving." It means we are supposed to overflow with thankfulness and actually upgrade in being thankful people.

That same pesky book which Paul wrote concerning those nasty 'gnostics, also says in chapter four, we as Christians should be devoted or sold out in commitment to, three different

The first is prayer because God wants us with him more than anything else. The second is "being watchful" which means paying attention to spiritual things because we are all residents of heaven living in Texas.

Finally, the third thing we are supposed to be devoted to is indeed thanksgiving. Dedicated, devoted, purposely intentional about being more thankful today than we were yesterday. If you are thankful, it means you love your life.

People who are not devoted to being thankful tend to be committed to being critical. They live life identifying with the bitter beer face commercials and generally are very comfortable being unhappy.

If that is you, let me say on behalf of everyone within your general proximity, you're no fun to be around!

Thankfulness doesn't just come from good things happening to you.

Thankfulness is something you practice. It is a skill which must be developed. It's an intentional position of your heart and something we can all get better

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: Psalms 91:1

The Rev. Troy Brewer can be contacted through his websites at www.troybrewer.com or at www.freshfromthebrewer.com



Uncle Mort on oxygen

ncle Mort, my 96-yearold kin down in the thicket, may have the largest "alibi collection" on the planet.

"I've banked on alibis to wiggle out of predicaments since Hector

was a pup," he laughed. "The way I figure it, alibis and fibs are first cousins. Liberal dependence on the slippery slope of outright lies.'

I felt yawns coming on as Mort rambled. My eyes widened, though, when he offered an alibi for the Dallas Cowboys' 7-6 foot-

Don NEWBURY

DR.

ball win over the Washington Redskins. I had heard him offer alibis

on thousands of subjects over the years, but this was the first time in memory that he'd made excuses for a win.

He blamed the 'Boys' poor offensive showing on oxygen deprivation.

"If they had lost, they could'a blamed it on a bunch of school kids determined to make the Guinness Book of World Records," my uncle maintained.

My curiosity aroused, I was determined to hear him out. He was happy to oblige, ex-

plaining that earlier in the week, a crowd of 4,626 Arlington eighth-graders gathered 'round the giant screen to learn the techniques of administering

Guinness officials have con-

topping the old record by almost

"Those kids dang nigh pumped all the oxygen out of the place, causing the Boys' offense to be light-headed," Mort surmised. "I'm shore 'nuff glad that their defense sucked it up.'

I attended a high school football playoff game at the stadium. Add me to the list of people overwhelmed by this \$1.2 billion venue which is billed as the largest covered athletic facility in the world.

It is surreal. The huge screen had a \$40 million price tag, more than the total construction figure for the old Texas Stadium. It gets more attention than play on the field. Game action and ever-changing ads lighting up virtually all usable space on stadium walls seem to compete for attention. People-watching, with glances at the big screen that provides frequent shots of smiling, hand-waving fans, is big, too. Some things never change, but even though the crowd shots shown on the big screen span but a few seconds, most of the "subjects" are eager to "ham it up" in what well may be their "15 seconds of fame."

The old claim is that you "can't know the players without a program;" at Cowboys' Stadium, you can't know the score without binoculars.

The stadium indeed has four scoreboards - one in each corner. Surely they sent the wrong ones; these seem better suited for a junior high school field. The long and the short of it is

"away." And even the strongest squints fail to lock in on an American flag permanently displayed inside the stadium. Critics of the current "bring your own flag" policy are having a field day, protesting that "America's team should have

America's flag." Still, the impressive facility is alive with movement, color and excitement.

CPR training or not, this wonder of the sports world takes the breath away.

Everyone should eventually see this magnificent facility. If the thought of donning football pads or band uniforms doesn't compute, maybe you can sign up for CPR training.

Coming to mind is the story of the leather-lunged Texan, on a crowded airplane. Nudging the man next to him, he asked, "Where you from, son?" The man answered "Chicago." The Texan, acknowledging the "great lakes up there," boasted that if we had these lakes in the Metroplex, "we'd be a whole lot bigger'n Chicago.'

The vexed "victim" responded: "Why don't you move them?" Admitting that he didn't know how to get the job done, the Texan was advised to "get a straw." A straw?

The Chicagoan closed out the conversation with this response "If you can suck half as hard as you can blow, you'll have 'em there in 30 minutes."

Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and author living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Send inquiries/ comments: newbury@speakerdoc. com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web

that they are tiny in a cavernous place where "big" reigns. Eyes squint to locate the firmed this to be the largest Amen CPR training session ever held. 'boards marked as "home" and site: www.speakerdoc.com.

7:34 AM

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Take Note

- T&P Federal Credit Union has set up an account for Arthur Hernandez Jr. for medical expenses. Arthur has had numerous medical problems the past couple of years. He has had several surgeries on his stomach, the last one a few weeks ago. After the surgery he developed a staph infection. He is still in the hospital. The out-of-pocket expenses, the travel and expenses for his wife and many other numerous expenses are mounting up.
- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.
- The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded

West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.
- HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

Obituaries

Carol Jean Lightfoot

Carol Jean Lightfoot, 57, of Stanton and formerly of Arlington, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, at the Stanton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. No services are planned.

She was born April 11, 1952, in Perryton to Patsy and Jefferson Hyatt. She was a homemaker and a longtime resident of Arlington before moving to Stanton recently.

She is survived by one daughter, Christy Brorman and her husband Jeff of Big Spring; and three grandsons, Chance Urias, Taylor Brorman, and Luke Brorman, all of Big Spring; one sister-in-law, Donna Hyatt of Dallas; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lonnie Lightfoot; one son, Patrick Lightfoot; one brother, Sidney Hyatt; and one sister, Prissy Hyatt.

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

Paid obituary

Teresa Barber

Teresa Barber, 54, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, 2009, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Robert Turner, minister of Anderson Street Church of Christ, officiating.

She was born July 9, 1955, in Big Spring and married Jackie Barber Feb. 12, 1977, in Paint Rock. He preceded her in death July 20, 2008.

Teresa was a lifetime resident of Big Spring, graduating from Big Spring High School in 1974. She was a Baptist and a homemaker.

Survivors include two sons, Kaman Barber of Kalamazoo, Mich. and Donovan Barber of Big Spring; her mother, Verlene Atkinson of Big Spring; one brother, Roger Atkinson and wife Mary Ellen of Big Spring; a niece; a nephew; and two greatnephews.

She was also preceded in death by her father, Vernon Atkinson.

Memorials can be made to the American Cancer

npwelch.com

Society, in care of Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big

Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.

Erma Gene Brown

Funeral services for Erma Gene Brown of Stanton will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at Stanton Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Alexander officiating.

Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. Mrs. Brown was born in Stanton on Nov. 10, 1952, and passed away Nov. 29, 2009, in Louisville, Ky.

Funeral services are under the direction of Stanton Memorial Funeral Home & Chapel.

Lawrence 'Larry' Carpenter SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Lawrence P. "Larry"

Carpenter, 59, of Big Spring, formerly of Sioux City, died Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, in Colorado City. Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at Morningside Chapel, Christy-Smith Funeral Home in Sioux City, with the Rev. Michael Erpelding officiating. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery, Jackson, Neb.

Larry was born Sept. 22, 1950, to Francis and Louise (Brady) Carpenter. He was raised in the Sioux City area and attended Sioux City schools. He later moved to the Minneapolis area and started working for Honeywell Industries. Later, he worked for Toro and at several various manufacturing companies in the Minneapolis area until his retirement. He later moved to the Big Spring area about three years ago. Because of health reasons, he moved to Colorado City six months ago. He was of the Catholic faith.

Survivors include his siblings, Joe Carpenter of Moville, Iowa, Mary Louise and Jerry Owings of Sioux City, David and Darlene Carpenter of Prescott, Ariz., and Patty Youngstrom of Milford, Iowa; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Condolences may be sent online to christysmith.

O.T. Teague

O.T. Teague, 89, of Big Spring died Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

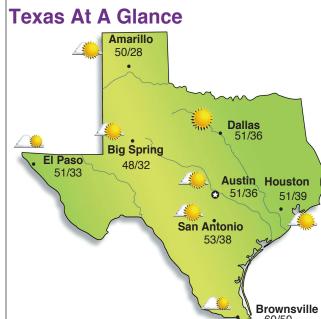
Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast 12/5 12/7 48/32 61/29 52/36 Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 50s and lows Mix of sun and clouds. Generally sunny de-Highs in the low 60s spite a few afternoon clouds. High 48F in the mid 30s. and lows in the upper Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph.

7:33 AM

7:33 AM

American Profile

Sunset:



				DIOWIISVIIIE									
Area Cities 60/50													
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.						
Abilene	50	37	mst sunny	Kingsville	57	44	mst sunny						
Amarillo	50	28	mst sunny	Livingston	51	33	sunny						
Austin	51	36	mst sunny	Longview	51	34	sunny						
Beaumont	50	37	sunny	Lubbock	50	28	mst sunny						
Brownsville	60	50	pt sunny	Lufkin	52	33	sunny						
Brownwood	52	37	mst sunny	Midland	49	34	mst sunny						
Corpus Christi	54	45	mst sunny	Raymondville	59	46	mst sunny						
Corsicana	51	35	sunny	Rosenberg	51	39	mst sunny						
Dallas	51	36	sunny	San Antonio	53	38	mst sunny						
Del Rio	52	37	pt sunny	San Marcos	52	35	mst sunny						
El Paso	51	33	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	52	35	sunny						
Fort Stockton	56	39	pt sunny	Sweetwater	50	36	mst sunny						
Gainesville	50	34	sunny	Tyler	52	34	sunny						
Greenville	50	33	sunny	Weatherford	50	34	sunny						
Houston	51	39	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	52	34	sunny						
		_											

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night: Winning numbers drawn: 18-19-25-28-29. Number matching five of five: 0.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday

Winning numbers drawn: 11-12-19-34. Bonus Ball:

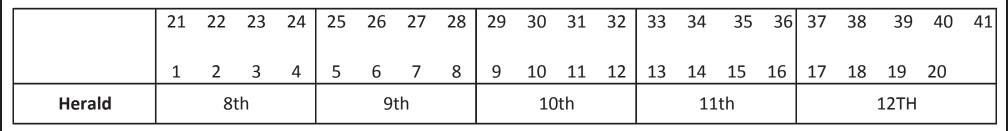
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball:

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-1-0-9.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:6-1-9. Sum It Up: 16

www.bigspringherald.com

Big Spring Herald 2009 Parade Route Saturday • December 5, 2009 • 5:30 pm



Thank you for taking part in the 2009. Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade. The parade route will start at 8th & Scurry heading north on Scurry to 4th, turning right on 4th St., and proceeding East on 4th to Benton, turning left for 1 block then left on 3rd, proceeding West on 3rd ending at Scurry & Main Street. Please Do not Block driveways, and please **DO NOT LITTER.** All entries must be ready to go by 4:50 pm at which time we will tighten up the procession. If you are late or not ready at this time, you will be asked to move to the side and re-enter at the end of the parade. Judges have a list of the order or the floats so please be on time and ready so that we have no confusion.

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(Philippians 4:7)

"If God is for us, who can ever be against us?" The presence of God tilts the scales of security forever in our direction.

(Romans 8:31)

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Baker's Chapel AME Methodist Church



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Church News

Baptist Temple

This Sunday during our 11 a.m. worship service, our children will be presenting "Remedy." It's a musical about the coming of Jesus Christ into our world to save humanity. Afterwards, we will be having our Christmas dinner in the fellowship hall. Sunday evening's message will be from 1 Corinthians 5:1-13.

Our weight-loss support group SPEED (Shedding Pounds Eagerly Every Day) meets at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Baptist Temple fellowship hall. There is no cost and it is open to anyone interested in attending.

We are temporarily postponing our 12-Step Recovery group that meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays due to Dean Thomas's (director of the group) surgery, but will start this group again after the New Year.

We have Sunday school classes for all ages and they meet at 9:45 a.m. Sunday. Our worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. We also have activities for all ages on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

For more information, call us at 267-8287 or check us out on the Web at btcbigspring.org.

First United Methodist

paper the preparation for The Living Christmas Tree goes into high gear. The tree is up, the decorations are done, the actors and choir members have practiced their parts and tonight those two parts of the production come together. Tomorrow morning the orchestra comes on the scene with an all-morning practice and then at 2 p.m. we have the official dress rehearsal which requires no ticket for attendance. Regular performances will be at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. On the front line of all this preparation you will find Linda Lindell, Don Turner, Eddie Vandewalker and Laurie Churchwell who all have a role in the performances plus those who took on the momentous task of erecting the tree, led by Ray Alexander. Thanks to them and the dozens of others whom we have not mentioned. We know who you are and we thank you from our hearts. Job well done, good and faithful servants.

This coming week the Prison Fellowship Angel gifts are due. Those bringing their gifts this Sunday should take them to the special tree in Garrett Hall. Wednesday the 9th is the deadline for those gifts to be delivered to the church in preparation for the party to be held for the angels Dec.

our service men and women to Joyce Willis or Holly Moore soon in order that they receive our church's Christ-

Dates to remember: March to the in Christ.

First Presbyterian,

The friendly folks at First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma invite any-

Making room for Christ in Christmas

nce again it's time for children of all ages to start reading those holiday favorites — "The Night before Christmas,"

"The Gift of the Magi," and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer." It's time for all of us to start singing "Jingle Bells," " Deck the Halls," and "Silent Night.'



WHEAT

It might also be a good time to watch a few old movies such as "How the Grinch Stole Christmas,' "Scrooge," or "It's a Wonderful Life."

Yes, the literature of

Christmas is filled with nuggets of enchantment and wisdom for all ages. Both heroes and villains are eager to step from the pages of the classics to remind us that the magic of Christmas is more than shiny tinsel and blinking lights.

In the biographical realm, perhaps no Christmas character has ever been demeaned more than the poor innkeeper of Bethlehem who did not have a place for Mary and Joseph to sleep. The writers of Christmas

plays have for generations made him the villain of their scripts, and the song composers have also tried to make him responsible for Jesus' humble birth. Tradition has credited the innkeeper with an event that was part of God's

Devine plan foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament.

The innkeeper was just the messenger who delivered the news that he had no place for Mary and Joseph to spend the night in his inn.

Yet we, like the busy innkeeper often find that our lives are too busy and our schedules are too crowded to make room for Jesus at Christmas. We criticize the innkeeper for his shortsightedness while we overlook our own lack of vision.

Jesus gave his disciples some advice about judging other people that might help us keep a right perspective on the innkeeper: "And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in

your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:3-5 NASB).

This Christmas season, before we laugh at the Rudolphs for the way they look, blame the Grinches for stealing our Christmas joy, or ridicule the Scrooges for their humbug spirits, maybe we should examine ourselves.

Perhaps we should look deeply into our hearts to see if we have left room for Christ in Christmas or if we have just filled all of the available space with tinsel and lights.

Just as you are opening your Friday

This second Sunday in Advent our pastor, the Rev. Sharon Wiese, will bring a sermon entitled "A Gift Worth Understanding" with scripture readings from Malachi, Luke and Hebrews. Services of worship are held at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. Snack supper and activities for all ages begin at 5:30

Be sure to turn in your order for poinsettias as soon as possible. They will be placed in the sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones soon after the Living Tree comes down.

Remember to get those addresses of

Manger Dec. 13 and Eddie Vandewalker's first Christmas music program here at First Methodist Dec. 20. And, of course, there is that very special service Christmas Eve. It's all at the corner of Fourth and Scurry, in the heart of downtown Big Spring. First Methodist, where families grow

Coahoma

one to come and worship with us. We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom

Tom continues to lead a Bible study, along with Big Spring's new pastor, Craig Holstedt, on the week's lectionary in the library of First Presbyterian, Big Spring, on Wednesday at 5:17 p.m.; however, the Bible study did not meet Nov. 25.

The Session will have its monthly meeting Thursday, Dec. 3, at 5:57 p.m. in the church social hall.

Sunday, Dec. 13, Jerry Gahr, CLP from Midland, will preach in Tom's

The lectionary for the second Sunday of Advent is Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6. The sacrament of communion will be celebrated during the worship service. Following worship, everyone is invited to join in our annual holiday potluck meal.

First Presbyterian, Big Spring

Presbyterian Women met Tuesday in the fellowship hall to make Christmas gifts for the students.

The Lectionary Bible Study met Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. and choir practice was at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 8, all women of First Presbyterian Church Big Spring are invited to celebrate Christmas from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the home of Claudie and Rip Patterson.

The Working Women's Bible Study group will have a very special meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 8 at Janie Conley's home. We are having a baked potato supper followed by a DVD "Crossing the Jordan." Please RSVP at 267-2035. The offering will go toward the Christmas Adopt a Family project sponsored by the Service and Church Life Committees.

Lisa Harwood will provide refreshments for "Take Ten" Sunday morning. Jamie Walker is liturgist. Communion servers for December are Helen and Lynn Glass and Dick and Janie Conley. Ushers for the month are Louise Hitch, Sue Carter, Patti and Joe Horton.

Sunday is Communion Sunday and Stewardship Commitment Day. That afternoon at 3 p.m. we will have a Christmas Family Event, making tabletop nativity scenes in the fellowship hall. At 5 p.m. we will go caroling and return to the church for a soup and cornbread supper at 6:30. Please plan to come and join in the fun.

The lectionary for the second Sunday of Advent is Malachi 3:1-4; Luke

church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our Web site: www.fpcbs.

St. Paul Lutheran Sunday services are at 9 a.m. with Sunday school for all at 10:15 a.m. We are located at 810 Scurry and the office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday. You can call at 267-7163. Our e-mail address is stpaullc@ sbcglobal.net. Our worship service is led by Pastor Wayne K. Frost.

1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6.

The choir will offer "A Child of Hope"

by Lani Smith as the anthem; "Arise,

Shine; for Your Light Has Come" by

Mark Bender is the offertory anthem.

in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at

11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed

bulletin for Sunday services, call the

If you cannot attend worship, listen

A very special thanks goes to evervone who helped make our Nov. 21 garage and bake sale a success. All proceeds from the sales will benefit LWML projects.

The December LWML meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday the 9th in the parish hall. A small gift exchange, fun and worship is planned

At 5 p.m. Dec. 13, the congregation will be having a pot luck Christmas dinner. Everyone is invited to bring a friend and join us. Remember, the next trip to the or-

phanage, Casa Hogar in Mexico, will be leaving the weekend of Dec. 11-13. For more information, contact Richard Sanders at 816-1631.

Friends of Unity House

During December, meetings will be at Unity House, 303 E. Fifth St.

We will be encouraging people to participate in World Healing Day, Dec. 31, 2009. This is becoming known as World Day of Prayer Super Bowl.

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8



Grand Opening Dec. 15

ack In Motion Chiropractic Center

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For More Information CALL 432-263-7331



The Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, prepares to cut a ribbon at the ceremony marking the church's new membership with the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7

Birdwell Lane Baptist

Our church is in the community to help you in the spiritual needs that you may have. We would count it a privilege to be acquainted with you, to be able to help you when and where the need should arise. Our pastor, Steve King, is just as close as the telephone. We are located at 1512 Birdwell Lane and Sunday

services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. with children's church during the morning worship for ages 4-12. A nursery is provided for your little ones. Midweek service is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. For a ride, call 264-9924 or 267-7157.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church is a Bible-believing, Bible-preaching, Bible-teaching, missionaryminded Baptist Church — for the winning of souls to Christ, to the edifying of the saints, and for the glory of God — where you are always welcome.

Come worship the Lord and hear God's word with We will be working on our lighted Christmas float

this Friday and saturday. For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First Church

of the Nazarene

Our 23rd Annual Live Drive-Through Nativity is Dec. 11-13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the First Church of the Nazarene parking lot,1400 S. Lancaster. This event has become a Christmas tradition in Big Spring and surrounding areas. Make plans to attend this year's presentation.

We hope you will join us for coffee and donuts at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday morning fellowship followed by worship service at 10 a.m. Ahoy Mates! "Adventure Bay! sets sail Sundays at 10 a.m. for ages 4 - 11.

Wednesdays, our Naz Family classes begin at 6:30 p.m. for all ages. There are classes that not only feed you spiritually but also allow you to kick back and relax.

Adults can choose one of the following options: The Coffee Class is studying Joy Comes in the Morning from Max Lucado's book, "He Still Moves Stones." Another is the study of the Nazarene Holiness movement and how it relates to our lives today. Or, you may be a part of a study of The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith by Timothy Keller.

Also on Wednesday nights at 6:30, NazKidz (ages 4 years through third grade) meets in the classrooms at the north end of the fellowship hall for Bible class. NazWhiz (fourth grade through sixth grade) meets in the fellowship hall to become Bible "whizzes!"

Youth Explosion with Pastor Cal, for seventh through 12th graders, is also at 6:30 p.m. Wednes-

days. We wish you an awesomely blessed week.

If you have any questions about the Church of the Nazarene, call at 267-7015 or e-mail us at church@ nazfamily.org. Also look us up on our Facebook page under Big Spring First Church of the Naza-

Alive in Christ Lutheran LCMS

Our motto is "Celebrating and sharing God's love and grace in our lives."

We are located at 2805 Lynn Street in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring. Our phone numansonline.com/aliveinchristbstx. We would love to have you join us for church on Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15. Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching this Sun-

ber is (432) 264-7818. Our Web site is www.luther-

day. Angela Newton is our organist. This week's acolyte will be Alex Byrd. Our elders are Richard von Hassell and Richard Knocke. Thank you to Karen Thibeault for playing for the Thanksgiving The flowers on the altar were given in honor of

God's glory by Phyllis Graumann. We also thank Daniel Budke for the lovely Thanksgiving arrangement on the altar last week. This week, the liturgy will be read by Bobby Ro-

ever. The readings for this week are Malachi 3:1-7b, Psalms 66:1-12, Philippians 1:2-11, and Luke 3:1-14 (5-20) Last Sunday, the Advent season began. Our second Advent service was this past Wednesday evening. The last two Advent services will be held Dec.

fellowship/meal and stay for the service at 7 p.m. Boards will present their 2010 budgets at the Dec. 13 Voters' meeting directly after Sunday school.

9 and 16 at 7 p.m. Meals will be provided at 5:30 p.m.

prior to Mid Week School at 6 p.m. Join us for the

Our Thanksgiving meal was well attended. Thank you to all who brought the desserts. A special thank you goes to Jeanie Knocke for all the time, planning, organizing, and effort behind making this a time to remember and cherish.

We are still accepting clothing and toys for the "Home Town Christmas." If interested, either bring your items to church or take them to Jeanie Knocke at Wells Fargo. During this season of giving, remember that Jesus encourages us to remember all of His children.

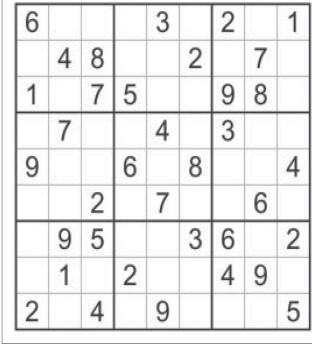
The Board of Education will meet Tuesday.

The LWML will have their Christmas Ornament Salad Dinner Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m. Our hostess, Leighrene Kohl, will be opening her home to us for this wonderful and fun meeting.

Our traditional Christmas Children and Congre-

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.



gational program will be Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 6:30 p.m. and the Christmas Day service at 9 a.m. Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching both

Our church will be responsible for the lights on the four bridges at the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park. If you are interested in working on this project, contact Kent Ivey.

If you are interested in beginning or attending a new Men's or Women's Bible study, please contact any member of the Board of Education. These Bible studies could be any day or evening of the week and could be held either at church or in a home. December 14, the LWML will serve refreshments

at the VA. The LWML will meet Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Leighrene Kohl's home. The Elders meet Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at the church.

St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. Holy communion is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. We have Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. CNC Class met at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Sunday, St. Mary's youth will provide a soup meal after church. We will have our much-loved Santa Fe Soup with bread and dessert, prepared ad served by the youth and parents, who will also set up and clean up for the meal. Please join us for this youth fund-raiser.

St. Mary's Needlepoint Class is held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in the library.

Noon Holy Eucharist Service is held every Wednesday in the chapel.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our Web site at www. stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Go-

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community meets at Hillcrest Baptist Church, 2000 W. FM 700 on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Babe Chick meeting is at 6:30 p.m.

At this month's meeting we will celebrate the 1998 Walks, Women's Walk 8 LD Natalie McDonald, Men's Walk 9, LD Gary Tucker, Women's Walk 10, LD Phyllis Martin and Men's Walk 11, LD Chris Wingert.

Bring a dish and join us at 6 p.m. for a potluck

January 14 we will honor the 1999 Women's Walk 12, LD Kay Simpson, Men's Walk 13, LD Gary Reid, Women's Walk 14, LD Terry Tucker and Men's Walk 15, LD Mike Moates. Please plan to attend. Signal Mountain Emmaus Community will meet

at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane in

For more information, see our Web site www. signal-emmaus.org

Spring Creek Fellowship

Christmas is a special time at Spring Creek Fellowship and we hope and pray it is a wonderful

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 9



By Steve Becker

Test Your Play

Amusing incidents occasionally occur in major tournaments. For example, there was the time some years ago when a young Polish pair, representing their country for the first time in the annual world championship, arrived at a dreadful grandslam contract. After the opening lead was made and dummy appeared, declarer could see that his partner had overbid his values by at least two tricks. Declarer looked at the dummy, then looked at his partner and said: "That dummy is an insult to Poland!"

If you were West on the following layout, you might have similar feelings if you reached Six Spades due to partner's overoptimism after you opened two notrump. However, they don't allow you to back up and change the contract, so the question is how to proceed after North leads the ten of clubs (assume the missing trumps divide 3-1 or 2-2).

↑ K Q 10 9 **♥** A K 3 **↑** A J 8 7 6 **♥** 7 6 ♦ A 10 2 **♣**A 3 2 **♣**J 6 5 4 The only genuine chance for the

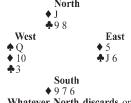
slam is to find South with the doubleton K-Q of clubs, as well as the king of diamonds. Accordingly, you play a low club from dummy, and South, luckily for you, produces the

You next cash three rounds of

trumps (South turns up with three of them) and continue with the A-K and another heart, ruffing in dummy. Now you play the club five, taken by South with the king. You hope South will return a diamond away from the king, which would hand you the slam, but he smartly exits with a heart instead.

After discarding a diamond from your hand and ruffing the heart with dummy's last trump, you return the queen of diamonds, covered by the king and ace. Miraculously, you are now on the verge of making the contract if North holds the jack of diamonds. You hope he started with a

♦ 5 ♥ Q1082 **♦** J843 **♣** 10987 If that's what he was dealt, he will be a dead duck when you next play the queen of spades in this posi-



Whatever North discards on the spade queen, you make the slam. Of course, you must also be sure to congratulate your brilliant partner on his sagacity in contracting for such a dreadful slam!

Tomorrow: Protecting your investment. ©2009 King Features Syndicate Inc

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In pursuit of the creator

here is never a more appropriate time to pursue and give thanks to our Creator for His glorious blessings than during this Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday

People everywhere seek to achieve goals and obtain more success in life, but we seldom see those who chase after

more of God's favor and goodness. Even in adverse times, many strive to reach their

dreams in all the wrong places, yet they want their lives to count, be full, enjoyable, and successful. By the same token, their

first priority is to achieve the desires of their heart, rather than pursuing their Creator first, Who can cause all their goals to become successful

and their priorities less apt to be misdirected.

Oftentimes when our priorities are out of sync, our lives are in disarray.

God's Word demands that our attention be centered on Him. Giving God our full allegiance takes the burden off our shoulders and gives Him the freedom to allow us to achieve our goals.

When we let other things become first place in our lives, in essence we are telling God, "I know how to order my life. I know what's right for me." But when things begin to fall apart, we often learn our lessons a bit too late and feel that God has forsaken us, even though He was there all along waiting for us to give our attention fully to Him.

First and foremost, we must chase after God and develop a craving for a deep, strong relationship with

When this happens, we have the assurance that God will be a closer friend than any earthly person is capable of being.

God's words must be special to us, not just a passing afterthought.

Though many do not fully understand how very special they are, God's words truly enhance our lives and set us apart from non-productivity. When we line our lives up with His priorities, we find ourselves more fulfilled and we allow Him to invest more of Himself into our hearts.

Realizing how valuable God's strength is in our weakness and understanding that He is the light in our darkest hours puts us in a position for His medicine to heal our wounds and hurts. It is then that He becomes a shelter from the storms we

By His Word and our faith in His Word, we can override any impossibility that we face. The enemy is defeated and God is revealed through

In today's uncertain times. where can we turn but to our Creator, the giver of life, the God who transforms our hearts? His truth alters our attitudes, changes our bad habits, and gives us more insight into His Word, which is all truth, all light, all joy, and all peace, and it electrifies our being with who we truly are in Him. Most often, adversities drive us to our knees, but God wants our allegiance in the good times,

When we accept the Bible as the authoritative Word of God, it becomes personal to each of us. His Word is a sword, a flame of fire, a love letter that we devour, yet can never contain its fullness.

There may be times when we don't know where to turn, but God is always there, ever ready to intervene on our behalf, encourage us, and gently correct our errors. He gives us new hope to face the future and all the while, He patiently waits for us to call

out to Him.

No other book or relationship will change our lives as the Bible will when we crave after Him and pursue Him as

God desires that kind of closeness with His family. God's Word is an inexhaustible spiritual storehouse of wisdom, riches, counsel, truth, and answers to all of life's questions.

Joshua 1:8 reminds us that, "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. Then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." When we develop a deep desire for our lives to be abundantly blessed, our pursuits will automatically be in search of our Creator first.

God bless.

Send your comments to jjstocks1@suddenlink.net

Religion in the news

Christian group to pay off \$10K in strangers' parking tickets BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A Christian group will once

again camp out in front of City Hall and offer to pay off up to \$10,000 dollars in parking tickets for any

JERRIE

STOCKS

Organizers say the Dec. 12 event is an example of how easy it is to receive God's grace.

The Grace Gift Parable giveaway was first held in 2004, when Treasure Valley church leaders doled out nearly \$7,500 to delinquent parkers, including one woman who arrived with more than a dozen

Montie Ralstin, Jr., the pastor at Boise Valley

Christian Communion, says the event is to help people understand that even though they've made mistakes, forgiveness is available.

The \$10,000 for this year's event was donated by area businesses and the Christian Churches of the Treasure Valley.

Court sides with district in Plano candy cane suit

DALLAS (AP) — A suburban Dallas school district's rules regulating when students can hand out religious materials are constitutional, a federal appeals court has ruled.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Or-

leans said on its Web site that it upheld the 2005 Plano school district regulations in its decision Tuesday.

The most recent rules allow students to distribute materials before and after school, at three annual parties, during recess and at designated tables during school hours. Middle and high schoolers can also hand out items during lunch periods.

Those rules were adopted after four families with students at Plano schools sued, saying their children had been banned from handing out pencils saying "Jesus is the reason for the season," candy canes with cards describing their Christian origin, and other religious materials.

at 10:45. Sunday evening worship begins at 6 p.m. SCF is located in the

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 8

time for you and your family. We will be having special Christmas celebrations for every age group and Sunday school class.

December 20, we will have a Spring Creek Christmas for our 6 p.m. worship service. We will have members of SCF who will be sharing with us in song, poetry, testimony, stories and instrumentally. This will be followed by a church-wide fellowship of food and fun. We have a place for you and your family where you can connect with the Body of Christ at Spring Creek Fellowship. Christmas and the New Year would be a good time to get involved with a church that wants to make a difference in people's lives.

Why not come check us out?

Spring Creek Fellowship is a ministry minded church. Manna House is our food pantry from which we have dopted about 50 families in need of food. Manna to Go is our outreach to the homeless of our community.

We also have a ministry of collecting hats and lap blankets for patients who are undergoing chemotherapy. One of our newest ministries is a socks and underwear drive for school-aged kids. There are many kids who do not have enough of these byasic necessities and we want to help supply their needs. We will be donating these items to the schools and they will get them where they need to go.

We want to be Jesus' hands and feet and praise Him for being able to min-

ister where He leads us. Our pastor, Dennis Teeters, will be preaching a series of sermons on

the sounds of Christmas. This week's sermon is "Christmas Sounds ... the Prophet's Voice," based on Isaiah 9:1-7. Our youth pastor, Chris Tucker, will be preaching Sunday night. Meet with us at 9:30 a.m. Sunday for Sunday school, followed by worship

College Park Shopping Center. Come experience why we say Spring Creek Fellowship, where you make connections for life!



JANNIE

LINNEY

ost of us have heard the story of Joseph and Mary and the fact that because of a census, they had to travel from Galilee to

Bethlehem. As I read the Christmas story, I saw so much God did to make it legal for Jesus to buy back what Adam and Eve lost when they rebelled that day in the garden. There is not room to share it all in this article, so I will talk about the manger.

Mary was with child. "So it was that

while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:6-7). Now, God wasn't up in heaven chewing his nails saying "Oh, No! My Son is about to be born in a dirty old stable. What am I gonna do?" No, all this didn't catch Him off guard or by surprise. Everything was well planed. Everything had a special purpose. God had it all planed. He had it prophesied in the Old Testament. His

ways are higher than our ways. Read Is.55:9. The stable represented humility, a

humble birth and the fact that Jesus came as Savior for all mankind, not just the elite or those who think they are better than others. He was sending us a message much deeper than the surface knowledge of the black and white word, that Satan could understand. The Word is spiritually discerned, the natural mind cannot understand spiritual things.

There was something much bigger than the people of that day understood and more than many today understand. There was a purpose for Jesus to be laid in a manger. The manger was the feeding trough for the animals in the stable. Spiritually, Jesus being laid in the manger was representing that He was, and is, our spiritual food.

You have read "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps.34:8). Also, when the Lord gave the last supper, when He broke the bread He said, "Take eat this is my body of the new covenant." He took the cup and said, "Drink, this is my blood of the new covenant (Read Matt.26:26-28). He said "I am the Bread of Life." The word says "Desire the milk of the word, that you may grow" (1 Peter 2:2-3). Jesus is the Word, our spiritual food. Only by feasting on Him can we grow spiritually. The manger being the feeding trough of the stable, we can see why Jesus was laid there. God was showing us that the Word, Jesus, truly is our spiritual food.



SPRING HERALD

story idea? Call Joe Zigtema at 263-7331, Ext. 237. E-mail results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Do you have an interesting sports item or

Page 10 Friday, December 4, 2009

Abernathy downs Lady Steers in tournament

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

ANDREWS — The Big Spring Lady Steers were frustrated by the Abernathy Lady Lopes Thursday afternoon in Andrews.

A second quarter in which the Lady Steers were outscored 20-4 helped Abernathy open up a big lead on the way to a 61-28 win in the first round of the Kristen Corbin Classic.

The Lady Steers turned the ball over 25 times in the game. Several came in the second quarter.

"We just lost our composure a little

bit," head coach Mike Warren said. "We're still young enough to where based on how we do, we start forgetting plays and we get flustered."

Big Spring hung in with the Lady Lopes through the first quarter, when the score was 14-9. But the Lady Steers never topped 10 points in a quarter, and second-chance opportunities for Abernathy made for a runaway win. "We started playing zone defense,

and we ran that the first quarter and I thought that helped us a little bit," Warren said. "So we'll work on some things and try to get it straight."

Steers on the afternoon. Abernathy's cause was helped by seven three-pointers in the contest, three of them from junior guard Maecee Mclenny. She finished with a game-high 16 points.

Warren said he's looking for his team to put together a full game.

"We showed that we would go through periods of playing with them in that first quarter," he said, "kind of like the last game, when we did that for a half. We just have to play like that through three quarters or four quarters."

Tournament games were canceled Valerie Ross' eight points paced the Friday. They will resume Saturday.



Logan Yarbar fires a shot against Abernathy in Andrews Thursday.

POINT BLANK



HERALD File Photo/Joe Zigtema

Tyler Tannehill goes up for a shot over a Lamesa defender Thursday in Andrews. The Steers overtook the Golden Tornadoes in the fourth quarter on the way to a 60-55 victory.

Steers overtake Lamesa late in win

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

ANDREWS — Big Spring in double figures with 10. coach Marcus Morris said it after the Steers' 60-55 victory over Lamesa in the first round of the Andrews Tournament on Thursday.

"We're starting to come

together," he said. The Steers turned a 12-point

deficit in the third quarter into a come-from-behind win in the final frame at Mustang Arena to put together their first win since the end of football sea-

Jerrell Williams led the Steers with 22 points, connecting on four three-pointers, despite being held scoreless in the second quarter and and scoring only two in the third. Xavian Parnell was the only other Steer

"When he catches fire, he's going to make some shots," Morris said of Williams. "He shot a lot last year, and we hope to see a lot more this year. He's a fun player to coach, and what can you do when they guy's shooting the ball? Everybody recognizes it."

After scoring 25 points in the first quarter to grab a 25-15 lead, the Steers scored just seven in the second quarter and fell behind at halftime 32-27.

"In the first quarter, we seemed to have practice fresh in our minds, and we were moving the ball well," Morris said.

"(In) the second quarter, we had a little lull, but it's exactly what we thought it was. And we found a way to win."

Lamesa opened up its widest lead with a 7-0 run to start the third quarter, but the Steers responded with a run of their own to cut the lead to three heading into the final frame.

With Williams out for much of the third quarter, Morris turned to his bench for a boost. Micheal Menefield scored six points for the Steers off the pine in the third quarter, and Tevian Parnell added four in the frame to set up Big Spring's fourth quarter comeback.

"Those guys made some shots, and it was fun to see them get

See **STEERS**, Page 16

Coahoma boys, girls coast to easy wins

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogettes have been lighting up the scoreboard recently in record fashion.

The Bulldogettes tied the Coahoma invitational record for most points scored in a game in their 86-51 win over Sands on Thursday.

Joanna Gonzales scored a game-high 22 points, hitting five of the team's nine threepointers on the night.

"She kind of caught fire and got everybody else involved," head coach Derek Faught said. "Everybody was penetrating and kicking it out for threes, and we started hitting, and we got some steals on our press and really started rolling."

Kylie Gee scored 20 points for the Bulldogettes, K'Leigh Fowler put in 13 and Jennifer Castilaw added 12. Coahoma's fast-paced offense has worked well this season, keeping opposing defenses on their heels.

"If you can get a quick outlet and go, usually you can catch the defense out of position, and we've been working on that all year long," Faught said. "So far, so good."

Coahoma jumped out of the gate with 21 points in the first quarter, allowing just 10. They poured on 23 more in

the second quarter, and the rout was on.

While the Bulldogettes' offense has been clicking so far this season, Faught said the team needs some work on the defensive end.

"We have to really concentrate more on defense and blocking out," Faught said. "That's what going to win us some tough games, not our offense."

The secret to good defense, Faught said, is hustling on every play.

"I just want to keep the effort up," he said. "They'redoing a good job so far with their effort, and that's all defense is. We're just trying to get them to play hard every single night."

Coahoma boys 83 Sands 36

COAHOMA — The Bulldogs knew they had a size advantage heading into Thursday's matchup with Sands.

They used that size to overpower a quick but small Mustang lineup in a 83-36 win Thursday night at the Coahoma

Invitational. The Bulldogs grabbed 20 offensive rebounds and ran the floor all night in the win. Martin Leija led the Bulldogs with 14 points, followed by Lane Douglass and Isaac Garcia with 13 each. Tanner Ruiz was the other Bulldog in

double figures with 11. "We played better

See COAHOMA, Page 16

Forsan splits two games in Garden City Tournament; Girls win big

Herald Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — The Forsan Buffaloes may have been conserving their energy in the first game of the Garden City tournament against Christoval.

But they made sure to bring it in the second game.

Forsan split the first two games of the Garden City Tournament Thursday, falling 50-31 before winning the night cap 58-42 over El Paso Jesus Chapel.

As it turns out, these are the only games they will play. The tournament was canceled Friday due to weather

The Buffaloes found themselves in a 16-3 hole after the first quarter against the Cougars, and they never recovered that deficit.

"We came out real flat," head coach Brad Batla said. "The last three quarters we played a lot better, but that first quarter killed us."

Forsan made just 11 field goals in the

contest and five free throws.

"We were just off," Batla said. "They played decent defense, but we missed a lot of baskets we should have made."

However, Forsan decided in its second game against the Chargers to turn the tables, running out to a 23-10 lead after the first frame.

"We came out in that second game and got after them," Batla said. "We forced some turnovers, and it was just kind of a total reverse from the first game."

The Buffaloes shot 12 of 17 from the free throw line to help buoy their lead throughout the game.

"We didn't turn it over as many times in that second game, we got to the free throw line and we made our free throws. That always helps," he

Forsan girls 57, Christoval 18

GARDEN CITY -It was another game, and another big win for the

See **FORSAN**, Page 16

Sports in brief

Howard College game vs. Dyess AFB cancelled

The Howard College Hawks' game against Dyess Air Force Base scheduled for tonight has been can-

The team is off until after Christmas, when it will travel to Phoenix for four games over New Year holiday weekend. The next home game is scheduled for Jan. 14 against New Mexico Junior College.

The Hawks are 12-0 to start the season and currently atop the WJCAC Region 5 standings.

Area Tournaments battle wintry weather

Area teams competing in tournaments have had to juggle schedules due to the frosty weather in West Texas.

Garden City's Booster Club Klassic has been canceled. The Coahoma Invitational cancelled all of its Friday games and will make them up Saturday.

The Andrews tournament will also resume Saturday. The Steers will take on Greenwood at 10:30 a.m, a team they lost to in four overtimes Nov. 26.

Several Steer netters make All-District squad

Kristina Chang, C.J Burleson and the doubles team of Jonathan Ray and Mikael Gonzalez made the second-team all-district list released Thursday.

Steer netters that received honorable mention were: Mikael Gonzales, No. 1 singles; Jeremy Langford, No. 2 singles; Jonathan Womack, No. 3 singles; Matt Garza, No. 5 singles; Tyler McKinley, No. 6 singles; Jessica Womack; No. 2 girls singles, Langford/Womack, No. 1 doubles; and C.J. Burleson, Anna Scott and Seth Yarbar; Mixed Doubles.

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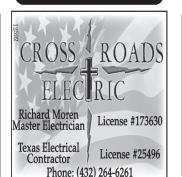
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Margo HOWADD

The only place could find work was at a grocery store —

had before I went to college. I live in an expensive area, and my wages are low. Because of this I've had a hard time paying

which is the same job I

my bills. I've resorted to eating expired food at work and forgoing

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She wants us to focus on

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and pets) under that

roof that makes it feel

21-April 19). In your

book, it's no fun to mere-

ly beat the competition

you must also crush

them. It will be a fun

day for you because

your opposition is well

matched and many are

counting on you to win.

20-May 20). You have an

unusual interest, so it's

TAURUS

like we belong there.

for

expenses like fixing my

My entire savings has been spent on medical bills after developing some health problems this year. I am uninsured and

worry about what would happen if I got sick again. I've tried to apply for government assistance, but was denied food stamps because I make \$20 too much per month. I've been told I don't

qualify for medical assistance, either. Asking my parents to help is not an option.

To make ends meet, I've had to make some moral compromises. Namely, I've started shoplifting — a lot. At first I stole food from work occasionally, but now it's become a daily occurrence.

I've also started stealing from other places (I steal my medications

all the more fantastic to

find someone who

shares it. Talk about

that rare activity or

study you so enjoy, and

you'll be surprised by

who chimes in with

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). You've been called

an overachiever, though

you have no clue what

that means. How can a

person possibly achieve

too much? You won't be

surprised at your high

level of productivity

today, though others

22-July 22). Make what-

ever plans you have

more special by giving

them more of your atten-

tion. Assume that every

little detail will matter

to the others involved.

Dress up for dinner. You

won't regret devoting

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

There are givers, and

there are takers. You're

definitely a giver,

though it benefits you

the extra effort.

(June

enthusiasm.

might be.

CANCER

from pharmacies). I am "smart" about it, so I've never been caught, but I know that eventually I will get caught. It will make my life much worse, but I can't seem I feel like I'm getting

what I deserve in the absence of better opportunities. I know I sound crazy, but I can't afford counseling. How can I stop? — Confused in California

Dear Con: You are very aware, which is a start, and you are also right that your "luck" will run out. Shoplifting, one kind of kleptomania, is thought by some to be a type of mental illness. Here are my concrete

suggestions: Consider moving from the expensive area you are in

Ask your employer to knock off \$20 from your pay. Hunt up free mental health care in your community.

This can be done through your local hospital. What is called for is behavior modification. You might also get some information by Googling this subject.

You do not sound crazy at all, but you are troubled, and I think your situation can be "fixed." I wish you the best of luck in tackling this problem. — Margo, supportively

How To Keep On Keeping On

Dear Margo: I am 55 and have treasured the close friendships I've maintained over the

My husband died six years ago; my best friend, three years ago. I've joined a community service group (Order of the Eastern Star) to keep myself active and have continued to be active in my house of wor-

I have three sons one in the service, one in aerospace, living in another state, and the

youngest in college.

I miss my friends from the past and long for the conversations we shared about our common interests. What would you do? — Maureen

Dear Maur: You're a little young to have lost those closest to you, but this does become a fact of life for everyone who is older. While you cannot

rebuild a common history with new friends, you can begin new chap-

I had the nutty idea when I was younger that by the time one reached middle age, you didn't make new good friends ... because you already

had delight,

I was wrong, and have made wonderful and close friends despite having crossed the 50-year line. Getting out and about as you are is

the thing to do. If you pursue things that interest you, you will meet others who share that interest. I'm betting you have some wonderful decades ahead of you with new people in your life. – Margo, optimistically

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

MARGO 2009 HOWARDDISTRIBUTED BY

able and amenable to a

Though it's fun, laugh-

ter and adventure from

the start, there comes a

point when these two

lead.

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Sagittarian's

Tomorrow's Horoscope

today to do a little of both. People will be flattered by your enjoyment of their offerings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Like a wool sweater on a cool autumn evening, you are the perfect complement to your surroundings. You blend in without disappearing and are present without needing too much attention. Your quiet confidence attracts follow-

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will break down the walls that divide people. You didn't sign up for this, but it's something you're good at. Very few people can create peace like you can. Your talents will be heralded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's like you're in a raft on a quiet stream, but you're just starting to hear the rushing sound from the waters around the bend. Class-four rapids lie ahead. Brace yourself for the excitement to come this weekend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A personal victory precedes a public victory. Right now you're proud of yourself and give yourself credit for all of your hard work. Next, others in your circle will pay attention. Then the whole world will see your success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Troublemakers exist in every workplace, but you needn't do anything about the one in your circle. Just keep a cool head and do your work well. He will prove to be his own undoing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Blazing a new trail is a job for the brave. That's why you were chosen and not someone else. Your intuition is well suited to finding the best way forward, and your confidence is strong.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Thinking on vour feet is a task that can't really be taught. Thankfully, you never needed the lesson. You seem to come up with the right response or answer without a worry. T O D A Y 'S

BIRTHDAY (Dec. 4). Your tenacity is trumped only by your optimism. You focus on solutions this year and will find them -- not just for yourself but for family and organizations, too. A personal triumph happens in March. Much time, energy and planning will go into a fantastic June event. Your work will bring in big money in August. Aquarius and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 22, 5 and 17.

COUPLE OF THE **WEEKEND:** Sagittarius and Pisces usually hit it immediately. Sagittarius is a friendly sort, and Pisces is adaptmust work to really understand each other. It's lucky for Pisces to occasionally be bold. Sagittarius does well to listen closely and let Pisces be in charge, too. If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a

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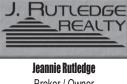
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	:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Seinfeld Office	In Touch-Dr	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Ghostbusters II, Sigourney	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10	Suite Life Suite Life	College Soccer	SportsCenter
6	:PM :30	News Entertain	Jeopardy! Fortune	Gancho	Two Men Two Men	News Entertain	12 Cora- zones	News Millionaire	Name Name	Scrivner House	News-Lehrer	Dirty Jobs	Weaver	UFC Un- leashed	Bones	Live	Suite Life Suite Life	Football	NBA
7	:PM :30		Supernanny	Nombre- Amor	Dollhouse	Ghost Whis- perer	Más Sabe el Diablo	Law & Order	Movie: Dan in Real Life,	Door-Wis- dom	Wash Wk NOW	Dirty Jobs	National Lampoon's	UFC Un- leashed	Bones	The Unit	Wizards Suite Life	College Foot- ball: Mara-	ball: Bulls at
	:PM :30	Ugly Betty	Ugly Betty	Sortilegio		Medium	Pobres	Dateline NBC	Dane Cook	Light of the Southwest	Bill Moyers Journal	Lobstermen	Christmas Vacation	UFC Un- leashed	Movie: War of the	The Unit	Phineas Phineas	thon MAC Champion- ship: Teams	Cavaliers
	:PM :30	20/20	20/20	Rosa	Simpsons Friends	NUMB3RS	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Movie: Dan in Real Life,		Jazz for Young	Lobstermen	(:15) Movie: National	UFC Un- leashed	Worlds, Mi- randa Otto	The Unit	Wizards Montana	TBA.	NBA Basket-
10	:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Dane Cook	Church	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs	Lampoon's Christmas	UFC Un-		The Mo'Nigue	Phineas	SportsCenter	ball: Miami Heat at Los
10	:30 :PM	Nightline Insider	Nightline Jimmy Kim-	Noticiero Desmadru-	TMZ Law & Order.	Late Show	Boxeo	Tonight Show	Movie: Four	Cortes Sanchez	BBC	Lobstermen	Vacation	Ieashed The Ultimate	Movie: 300, David	W. Williams	So Raven Suite Life	NFL Live	Angeles Lakers.
11	:30	Jimmy Kim-	mel Live	gados	SVU	Late Late		Late Night-	Weddings and a Fu-	McGee	T. Smiley		Movie:	Fighter	Wenham		Cory	Rodeo:	
12	:AM :30	mel Live Cathedral	Extra Paid	Madre	Paid Faith	Insider	Camara Pagado	Jim News	neral	Mark CCM	(Off Air)	Lobstermen	Ghostbusters II, Sigourney		Movie: Mis-	The Unit	Replace Kim	Wrangler National	SportsCenter
	:AM	Paid	Paid	Mujer	Paid	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After		Best of		Cash Cab	Weaver			The Unit	Emperor	Finals	SportsCenter
	:30	Paid	Paid	Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	Dark	Movie:	Light of the		Cash Cab			Rhames		Dragon	NBA Basket-	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I LIKE COLD WEATHER 'CAUSE CHOCK-LIT DON'T MELT IN MY POCKET."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



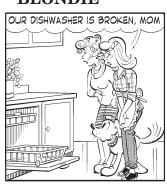
"Boy, we're lucky! We've got a LOT of people to kiss good night!"

HAGAR





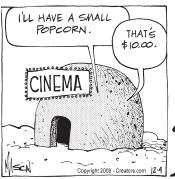
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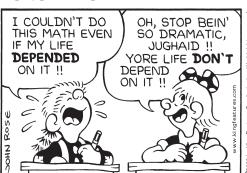




THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 4, the 338th day of 2009. There are 27 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight History:

On Dec. 4, 1619, settlers from Bristol, England, arrived at Berkeley Hundred in presentday Charles City County, Va., where they held a service thanking God for their safe arrival. (Some suggest that this was America's true first Thanksgiving.)

On this date:

In 1783, Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York.

In 1816, James Monroe of Virginia was elected the fifth president of the United States.

In 1875, William Marcy Tweed, the "Boss" of New York City's Tammany Hall political organization, escaped from jail and fled the country.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson left Washington on a trip to France to attend the Versailles Peace Conference. In 1942, U.S. bombers struck

the Italian mainland for the first time in World War II. President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the dismantling of the Works Progress Administration, which had been created to provide jobs during the Depression. In 1965, the United States

launched Gemini 7 with Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman and Navy Cmdr. James A. Lovell aboard. In 1978, San Francisco got its

first female mayor as City Supervisor Dianne Feinstein was named to replace the assassinated George Moscone. In 1984, a five-day hijack

drama began as four armed men seized a Kuwaiti airliner en route to Pakistan and forced it to land in Tehran, where the hijackers killed American passenger Charles Hegna.

In 1991, the original Pan American World Airways ceased operations.

In 1996, the Mars Pathfinder lifted off from Cape Canaveral and began speeding toward Mars on an odyssey of 310 million miles. (It arrived on Mars

in July 1997.) Today's Birthdays: Actress-

singer Deanna Durbin is 88. Game show host Wink Martindale is 76. Pop singer Freddy Cannon is 73. Actorproducer Max Baer Jr. is 72. Actress Gemma Jones is 67. Rock musician Bob Mosley (Moby Grape) is 67. Singermusician Chris Hillman is 65. Musician Terry Woods (The Pogues) is 62. Rock singer Southside Johnny Lyon is 61. Actor Jeff Bridges is 60. Rock musician Gary Rossington (Lynyrd Skynyrd; Rossington Collins Band) is 58. Actor Tony Todd is 55. Jazz singer Cassandra Wilson is 54. Country musician Brian Prout (Diamond Rio) is 54. Rock musician Bob Griffin (The BoDeans) is 50.

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Newsday Crossword

64 Rankle

65 View from

66 Sow chow

DOWN

1 Color-full

bottles

2 Roof part

Jackson

struggle

6 Pet pests

attachment

8 Out of control

9 Nailing work?

12 UK sports cars

breathe

4 Impart

5 Rough

7 Gate

3 Country singer

Innsbruck

67 Weather word

ACROSS

- 1 Handed out
- **6** Deception 10 "Cured" cold
- cuts **14** Jodie Foster's
- sch.
- 15 Himalavan
- priest
- 16 Inner drive
- 17 The Horse Whisperer author
- **18** Venerable prep school
- **19** Twiggy digs
- 20 Helps out?
- 23 Eyelid
- attachment
- character 28 Walk unsteadily 11 Live and

24 Johnny Carson

- 32 Creator of Kim and Mowgli
- 33 Sighed
- comment 34 Actress
- Belafonte
- **36** Den taper
- 37 Helps out? 41 Brink
- 42 Stadium levels 43 Reedlike
- 44 Blissful state
- 46 Rancher's loops
- 48 Breakfast
- sweet 49 Letters of
- urgency
- 51 Helps out?
- 57 La Bohème
- heroine **60** Long-handled tool
- 61 Ballroom dance 62 Dry with a paper towel

63 Evening, in ads

17 20

- **13** Decide upon **21** Links standard
- 22 Gymnast Comaneci
- **25** Features of
- some oranges
- **26** Comics teen
- since the '40s
- 27 Computer
- parts 28 Last bit
- 29 Twelfth Night
- heiress 30 Watering hole
- 31 Cats
- monogram
- **32** Encouraging
- words
- 34 Former Big Apple ballpark
- 10 Very ambitious 35 What to call a catamaran
 - 38 Squirreledaway supply

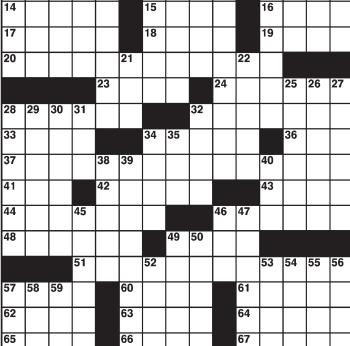
Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

HELPING OUT by Bruce Venzke

- 39 Small-time gamblers 40 Brandy label
- letters 45 Looks in on
- **46** "I don't
- wanna'
- 47 22 Mozart works
- 49 Invite for
- 50 Not gradual **52** Make a big
- noise 53 Basketball
- shot 54 It means
- **55** Wind-quintet member

"everything"

- 56 Beams that are light
- 57 Wall St. hire **58** Unkindly
- **59** Unruly hair
- 10 11 12 13



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2009 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/4/09

Texas Tech stuns No. 20 Washington in 2OT at home

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Knight wanted his Texas Tech team to go into a zone defense out as it came out of a timeout by No. 12 Washington with the Red Raiders leading by two points in over-

John Roberson told his coach he thought man-toman would be better.

"That's how he got the steal," Knight said. "The kid steps up."

Roberson, who scored a season-high 25 points, turned the steal into a layup with 44 seconds remaining to seal the undefeated Red Raiders' 99-92 victory.

Texas Tech is 8-0 to start a season for the first time since 1929. Knight isn't focused on the his-

"This means a lot to us," he said. "This gets us ready for the rest of the nonconference, but it really prepares us for the Big 12."

Texas Tech withstood an official review at the end of regulation that took away a 3-pointer that would have given Tech the win in the matchup of unbeaten teams.

Elston Turner of the Huskies missed two free throws with 4.8 seconds left in regulation and the score tied at 80.

Mike Singletary of Texas Tech brought the ball up and appeared to have won the game on a running 3-pointer as time expired but officials determined he did not get the shot off before the

The crowd swarmed the court, thinking the game was over. The fans, and the debris they left behind, had to be cleared from the court before the overtime could begin.

Knight said he suspected Singletary's basket might be negated although he believed he shot it in time.

"I just stood there and waited for the worst," Knight said. "We ended up winning twice, I guess."

Roberson said he's surprised how well he and his teammates are playing. But he knows the season is still young and one big win is just that, one win.

"I don't want to start praising yet," the junior said. "We have a lot of basketball to play. For us to come along this quickly, I'm shocked, to be honest. I'm just going to keep telling them, 'Don't be satisfied."

Texas Tech, which had five players in double figures, outscored the Huskies 19-12 in overtime.

Quincy Pondexter scored a career-high 31 points for the Huskies (5-1), the only ranked team from the Pac-10, a conference that is struggling early in the sea-

"It took us a half maybe to understand how to play basketball, both ends of the floor," Washington coach Lorenzo Romar said. "We made some careless efforts rotating and getting back on defense and gave them some easy baskets in the first half."

He had high praise for Roberson.

"He really ran his team and took his opportunities when they were there," Romar said. "He was an outstanding lead guard out there tonight and was probably the difference in the ball game."

Down nine points at halftime, the Huskies used a 10-2 run to tie it at 60 when Darnell Gant hit a jump shot with about 13 minutes remaining. There were nine lead changes over the next 8 minutes.

A double technical foul was called with 3:49 remaining in regulation after D'walyn Roberts Washington's fouled Isaiah Thomas and the two got entangled going for the rebound under the Huskies basket. Thomas hit the first of his two free throws to put Washington 76-74. The technicals canceled each other out and no free throws were taken.

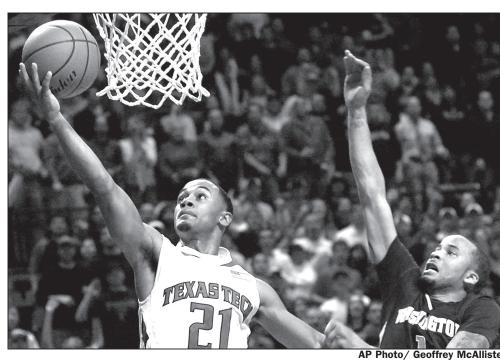
Tech went up 78-77 on a free throw by Roberson before Thomas missed a jumper with 2:31 remaining. Roberts missed a dunk and Thomas came back with a 3 to put Washington up 80-78.

Singletary hit a jumper in the lane to tie it at 80 with 1:17 remaining.

That's when Brad Reese, who scored a career-high 17 points, fouled Turner with 4.8 seconds remaining in regulation.

Reese, a reserve, was 3 of 5 from 3-point range, his last capping a 10-4 run by Texas Tech to go up 38-32 with 4:51 remaining in the first half. Texas Tech led 50-41 at halftime.

"Brad was good; he was on fire," Knight said. "I thought he did the best job of all our guys" who guarded Thomas, who finished with 18 points on 4-of-15 shooting.



Texas Tech's John Roberson, left, scores in front of Washington's Venoy Overton in the second half in Lubbock Thursday. Roberson had 25 points.

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With Love, Sam

Nebraska-Texas roles switched from '96 upset game

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska is trying to ruin unbeaten and thirdranked Texas' chance to play for the national championship. It'd only be payback for the 1996 Cornhuskers.

Even so, such an upset would be hard-pressed to match the magnitude of the 1996 game in St. Louis, where 20-pointunderdog Texas stunned the Huskers 37-27 and ended their hopes of winning a third straight national title.

Jason Peter, who played defensive tackle on Nebraska's 1994-95 consensus and '97 coaches' national championship teams, said he remembers that loss to Texas more than any of the 49 wins he was part of during the Huskers' domination of college football in the mid

"There was a big emptiness in everyone's stomach knowing what we just let slip from our fingers, our grasp," Peter recalled. "You can chalk it up to a bunch of things — looking ahead, guys coming off the flu after that Colorado game in the snow — or you can chalk it up to Texas having our number. We just couldn't get the job done."

The setup for Saturday's game at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, is similar to the situation in '96. The Longhorns (12-0),

led by Heisman Trophy front-runner Colt McCoy, have a quickstrike offense averaging 43 points a game and a defense and special teams that rank among the nation's best. All they need is a win over Nebraska to play in the

national championship game in Pasadena, Calif., almost surely against Florida or Alabama.

The 21st-ranked Huskers (9-3), like the Longhorns in '96, are playing their best football late in the season and have nothing to lose. If they win, they will have overachieved by earning a BCS bowl bid. If they lose, they'll likely play in the Holiday Bowl and meet preseason expectations for coach Bo Pelini's second year.

"Texas is the favorite, but if you ask those fellas from the '96 Nebraska team, that doesn't mean that much," said John Mackovic, who coached the Longhorns from 1992-97.

Texas entered the 1996 Big 12 championship game 7-4 and unranked. The Longhorns had gotten off to a 3-4 start but won their last four regular-season games to take the South Division.

Nebraska, which had a 26-game win streak end with a 19-0 loss at Arizona State in the second game of the season, was 10-1 and ranked No. 3. With a win over the Longhorns, the Huskers would have played Florida State in the Sugar Bowl for the national title.

Mackovic's gutsy fourth-down call that all but finished off the Huskers. Leading 30-27, Texas

faced fourth-and-1 at its 28 with 2:38 left. Instead of punting, Mackovic had quarterback James Brown roll to his left. Brown could have run for the first down, but he passed to tight end Derek Lewis. The play went for 61 yards to the Nebraska 11, and the Longhorns scored to put the game out of reach.

would work. I had no question in my mind," Mackovic said. "Had we given the ball to Ricky Williams, we would have had a 3-yard loss.

"I firmly believed it But we never intended to give him the ball. We intended to fake it to him and for James to roll out and have the option to run or pass."

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 10

we have played," head coach Kim Nichols said, "a little quicker. We didn't have to set up too long in the half court offense. Our guards can run, our big guys can run, and they were really moving down the floor."

The Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead with a 23-9 first quarter, and kept their foot on the gas the entire way. The Mustangs didn't top 10 points in a quarter the entire night as the Bulldogs used the fast break to score quickly

and often on Sands. "That's the way we

like to play, but who we're playing dictates how we do that sometimes," Nichols said. Johnny Rogers led

Sands with 16 points, including four threepointers. He was the only Mustang in double figures. advances Coahoma

Sweetwater to play Saturday at the Coahoma Elementary Gym.

"They're athletic, and hopefully we can play with them," Nichols said. "I think there are some things we can take advantage of if we're smart about it."

Continued from Page 10 verizonwireless

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FORSAN

Forsan Lady Buffs.

Forsancruised to a 57-18 win over Christoval in its first and only Garden City Booster Club Klassic game Thursday. The tournament was canceled Friday morning due to weather concerns. The Lady Buffs defense

never allowed more than seven points in a quarter, and the team committed just seven fouls throughout the game. "We played pretty good

man defense today," Forsan head coach Robert Hillger said. "We didn't get in foul trouble, and we played man the whole time We caused some turnovers with the man pressure as well, so that helped us."

The Lady Buffs connected on 25 field goals in the game, one of their best shooting performances of the season.

"We shot the ball pretty well, and we were good decision makers with the ball," Hillger said. The team only had to

shoot six free throws during the game. "We made more shots tonight, and we didn't have a tendency to have

to get to the line to get points, which is uncharacteristic for us," Hillger said. Forsan 31, Christoval 50 3 12 8 8 -- 31

Forsan Christoval 16 13 8 14 -- 50

Forsan 58, EP Jesus Chapel 42

EPJC 10 10 10 12 -- 42 Lady Buffs 58, Christoval 17 Forsan 15 22 9 11 -- 58

Forsan 23 10 11 14 -- 58

Christovall 7 2 4 5 -- 17 Forsan- Amber Hill 14, Kelsey Jones 14, Shelby Jones 9, Morgan Forshee 8, Megan Crane

6, Brittany roemer 5, Casey

Stanley 1

Continued from Page 10

out there and compete," Morris said. "They're a big reason we won the game."

Williams came back fresh in the final period, and he gave the Steers the lead back with a three-pointer at the six minute mark to make it 51-49.

From there, Pavel Plakhotny hit a threepointer, and the Steers never looked back.

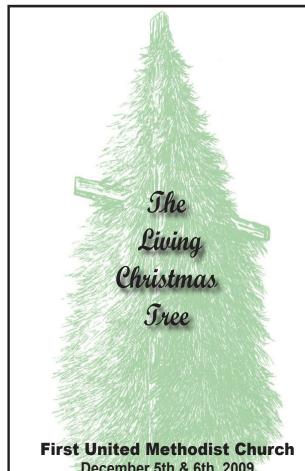
Williams made four free throws in the last minute to ice the game for Big Spring.

The Steers will get a rematch with GreenwoodonSaturday, a team they lost to in four overtimes Nov. 26.

Big Spring 60, Lamesa 55 Big Spring 25 7 14 14 -- 60 Lamesa 15 12 12 6 -- 55

Big Spring- Williams 22, X. Parnell 10, Menefield 8, T. Parnell 7, Clay 6, Plakhotny 5, Tannehill 2

Lamesa- Demetri 11, Aaron 11, Kolt 9, Iszeal 6, Auyk 6, Ethan 5, Kelton 4, Deveonn 2, Brody 1



December 5th & 6th, 2009 8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

Dress Rehearsal Open To Public Saturday, December 5th at 2:00 P.M.

(FREE) Limited Seating

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE Nursery available

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