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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**  
 DECEMBER 7, 2010



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



Motorcycles thunder down Gregg Street during the Lighted Community Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Big Spring Herald. The parade was held Saturday.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## Man broke child's leg, police say

*ER workers suspicious, contact local authorities*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

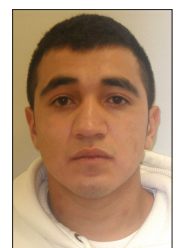
A Big Spring man was arrested late last week on a charge of injury to a child – serious bodily injury after a 2-year-old victim was taken to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center with a broken leg.

Joseph Contreras, 20, was arrested Friday at a relative's home in the 1600 block of Virginia after officials with the SMMC emergency room became suspicious of the child's injuries and called law enforcement officers.

"Officers responded to the emergency room in reference to an injured child. The hospital staff had found the injuries to be suspicious," Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, said in a press release issued Monday afternoon. "Officers discovered a 2-year-old male had suffered a broken leg. The child also had some bruising in his facial area, as well."

"The child's mother had brought him to the emergency and told officers she had left the child with her boyfriend, Contreras, at her apartment at 1002 N. Main St. while she took her oldest child to school. When she returned home she found the 2-year-old had been injured and took him to the hospital."

See **ARREST**, Page 3A



Contreras

## Guerra trial date set for January 10

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

The trial date for a Big Spring man accused of possessing a "rape kit" with intent to commit aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault has been set for mid-January, according to officials with the 385th District Court in Midland.

Juan Jose Guerra, 49, of 1 Courtney Place, was arrested April 28 in Midland after law enforcement officials were notified the suspect

was acting suspicious. According to officials, the area in which Guerra was arrested – the 1500 block of Idlewild – is frequented by children, with several dance and gymnastics academies nearby.

According to police officials, Guerra was taken into custody by off-duty U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement Senior Special Agent Tim Stone, who was aided by Midland Police Department officers.

Guerra remains in the custody

of the Midland County Central Detention Center, where his bond was set at approximately \$626,000 soon after his arrest. According to officials with the 385th District Court, Guerra is scheduled to go to trial Jan. 10.

The Big Spring man was indicted May 19 by a Midland grand jury on four counts of possession of a criminal instrument with the intent to commit aggravated kidnapping

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## Fort Hood soldier getting 'Extreme Makeover' home

By **SONYA CAMPBELL**  
 Killeen Daily Herald

**SALADO** — A soldier who was severely wounded in the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting at Fort Hood and his fiancée are getting the house of their dreams, courtesy of the ABC television show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" and an army of volunteers working this week.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler, who returned home from Iraq two weeks prior to the shooting, was hit four times in last year's attack and suffered a nearly fatal wound to his head.

He spent the next 10 months battling for his life with his fiancée, Jessica Hansen, by his side. Han-

sen, a neuropsychology major, put her college degree on hold to aid Zeigler in his recovery, according to information from the show.

Zeigler was at Temple's Scott & White Hospital for six to seven weeks as he received treatment for his injuries, which included gunshots to the right side of his head, left shoulder, forearm and hip. He was later moved to a rehabilitation clinic in the Austin area where he lived six to seven months for a series of operations.

A bullet shattered the right side of his skull, pushing in his brain and sending fragments of metal and bone into the tissue. The pieces were so small doctors couldn't re-

move them, he said in mid-October. Instead they had to take out 18 to 20 percent of his brain.

Zeigler said then he had to learn to walk again. His entire left side was paralyzed and he had very little control of his extremities.

Despite his severe injuries, Zeigler is exceeding doctors' expectations, according to information from the show. Not only is he walking with the aid of a cane, he returned to work Sept. 8.

Zeigler is a cavalry scout and deployed twice to Iraq with Alpha Troop, 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat

See **MAKEOVER**, Page 3A

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? THE JINGLE BELL TWIST IS SWEEPING THE NATION.

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# “Dandy” Don Meredith dies at 72

JAIME ARON

AP Pro Football Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Don Meredith was the happiest, most fun-loving guy wherever he went, whether crooning country tunes in the huddle as quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys or jawing with Howard Cosell on the broadcast booth as analyst on the groundbreaking “Monday Night Football.”

His irreverent personality made him one of the most beloved figures in sports and entertainment in the 1970s and 1980s, helping turn the Cowboys and “Monday Night Football” into national sensations.

“Dandy Don” died Sunday after suffering a brain hemorrhage and lapsing into a coma in Santa Fe, N.M., where he lived out of the limelight with his wife, Susan, for the last 25 years. He was 72.

A folksy foil to Cosell’s tell-it-like-it-is pomposity, Meredith was at his best with unscripted one-liners — often aimed at his broadcast partners. His trademark, though, came when one team had the game locked up. Meredith would warble, “Turn out the lights, the party’s over” — from a song by his pal Willie Nelson.

Meredith played for the Cowboys from 1960-68, taking them from winless expansion team to the brink of a championship. He was only 31 when he retired before training camp in 1969, and a year later wound up alongside Cosell in the broadcast booth for the oddity of a prime-time, weeknight NFL game.

The league pitched the idea to ABC, the lowest-rated network, after CBS and NBC tried occasional games on Monday nights and didn’t think it

would click. It became a hit largely because of how much viewers enjoyed the contrast of Meredith’s Texas flair and Cosell’s East Coast braggadocio.

Friends in real life, they took opposite stances to liven up broadcasts with their bickering. Meredith usually took the majority opinion, Cosell the minority. Cosell was playing a role, while Meredith was just being himself.

“Watching him on TV was like being in the huddle with Don again,” former teammate Dan Reeves said. “He just made the game fun.”

Blowouts were their playground. Folks kept watching because of them.

In a 1970 game from Dallas, the Cowboys were headed to a 38-0 loss to St. Louis when fans chanted, “We Want Meredith!” Said Meredith, “No way

you’re getting me down there.”

The Houston Oilers were on their way to a 34-0 loss to the Oakland Raiders in 1972 when a camera zoomed in on a disgruntled fan at the Astrodome. He made a one-finger salute and Meredith quipped, “He thinks they’re No. 1.”

Meredith was the life of the party in the “Monday Night” booth from 1970 through 1984, except for a three-year stint playing a detective on NBC’s “Police Story.” He spent 11 of those years teamed with another former star player, Frank Gifford, a friend before they became broadcast partners.

“To say that Don was an instant success would be a gross understatement,” Gifford said in a statement.

See **DON**, Page 2B



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Garden City’s Aaron Long holds up the trophy after the Bearkats defeated Follett in the UIL Six-Man Division I semifinal game Saturday night. They move on to face Throckmorton in the state championship game at 7 p.m. Saturday at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene. Tickets for the game at Shotwell Stadium will be available for purchase at the stadium the day of the game.

## Texans hoping for another strong finish

CHRIS DUNCAN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans are in their usual position with one month left in the season — 5-7 and clinging to playoff hopes.

Of course, since Gary Kubiak became the coach in 2006, this has also become the time of year when the Texans start playing their best.

The Texans have gone 10-4 overall and 7-0 at home in December games over the previous three seasons. Last year, they won their last four games to go 9-7, the franchise’s first winning record. In 2008, Houston won five of its last six to go 8-8.

“Hopefully, we’ll find it again. We don’t do anything differently,” Kubiak said Monday. “We just play a little better at the end.”

It will take another December run, and some help from Jacksonville’s opponents, for Houston to even have a shot at its first postseason berth. The Texans have lost five of six, but they’re still only two games behind the Jaguars in the AFC South.

The remaining schedule starts with Monday’s game against Baltimore (8-4), followed by road games at Tennessee (Dec. 19) and Denver (Dec. 26). Houston wraps up the regular season against the Jaguars at home on Jan.

2. While a playoff appearance seems like a long shot, the Texans gather hope from how they responded when they were in this exact situation last year. They matched the New York Jets’ final record, but missed the postseason when the Jets won their last game.

“It was pretty much the scenario that it is right now — backs against the wall, still got a shot to make the playoffs,” second-year cornerback Glover Quin said. “You want to finish strong. You get to the point where you just want to win, by any means necessary, to where you don’t leave any regrets heading into the offseason.”

Kubiak can’t pinpoint what’s kick-started his teams in past Decembers. He hasn’t mentioned the trend to his players, or talked about where the Texans sit in the standings.

“I don’t have to tell them that,” he said. “They know that, they see that.” Kubiak’s focus during Monday’s team meeting was trying to resolve his team’s pattern of fourth-quarter breakdowns. The Texans have led or been tied in the final quarter of their last four losses, including last Thursday’s 34-24 defeat in Philadelphia.

“The concerning part is watching

See **TEXANS**, Page 2B

## Newton, James among 4 Heisman Trophy finalists

(AP) — Auburn quarterback Cam Newton and Oregon running back LaMichael James, two of the nation’s most dynamic players, will meet in the national championship game next month.

First, a stop in New York. Newton and James were named finalists for the Heisman Trophy on Monday, and will be joined by Stanford’s Andrew Luck and Kellen Moore of Boise State for Saturday’s announcement in Times Square.

Newton overcame a pay-to-play scandal with a superb season on the field, piling up nearly 4,000 combined yards and 49 touchdowns in leading the top-ranked Tigers into the Jan. 10 national championship game.

James and the Ducks will be there waiting for them in the desert after he piled up more yards and touchdowns than anyone else in FBS, helping the second-ranked Ducks into their first national title game.

“Since I was a young boy, playing the game of football has been a pure joy and this season has been a very special one for my teammates and for me,” Newton said in a statement. “I know as a team we’re excited to get back on the field on January 10 against a great Oregon team.”

Newton is the front-runner, but the big question is whether voters will

look past the scandal involving his father.

Newton was unparalleled on the field.

He threw for 2,589 yards and 28 touchdowns while running for 1,409 yards and 20 more scores — adding another on a reception — to join Florida quarterback and 2007 Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow and Nevada’s Colin Kaepernick (this season) as the only FBS players to have 20 touchdowns rushing and passing in a season.

In his final regular-season game, he threw four TD passes and scored two more on the ground in Auburn’s 56-17 rout of 18th-ranked South Carolina that earned Auburn the SEC championship and a shot at its first national title since 1957.

The knock against Newton is the shenanigans by his father, Cecil.

The elder Newton was accused of working with the owner of a scouting service to get up to \$180,000 for his son to play for at Mississippi State while the quarterback was being recruited out of junior college last year.

The NCAA cleared Cam, saying neither he nor Auburn knew anything about it, but Heisman voters might be leery of another Reggie Bush-type

See **HEISMAN**, Page 2B