

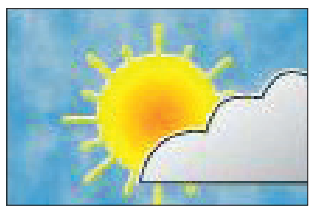
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BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY
 JANUARY 2, 2011



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The top 10 of '10



The Garden City Bearkats celebrate their second consecutive state six-man football title in December. HERALD file photo

School bond success year's No. 1 story

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

In a year where money was tight — not just for individuals, but for businesses, organizations, governments, you name it — local school district taxpayers decided to open wide their wallets. Big Spring Independent School District voters' deci-

sion to approve more than \$60 million in school construction projects was the top story of the year in the Crossroads area.

There was plenty going on in the past year — a Republican landslide swept through Howard County in November, a new mayor was elected in May, a contentious water park issue passed City Council muster and the area produced a pair of state champions and Howard College won a national title in basketball, just to name a few of the stories that dominated the headlines.

Here are the top 10 area stories of the year, as selected by the *Herald* editorial staff:

No. 1 — School bond passes

Draw a 200-mile circle around Big Spring, and you could count nine school districts that held bond elections in 2010.

All of them failed — with one exception.

And not only did the BSISD bond pass, it did so in convincing manner, with 60 percent of the voters supporting the issue.

"We put a lot of work into this ... and put forth a plan that would meet the educational needs of this district," BSISD Superintendent Steven

Saldivar said. "Of course, the facility needs were apparent, but this was all about what was best for the educational needs of our students and teachers."

Projects the bond will finance include:

- \$42 million to replace existing campuses at Washington, Goliad and Marcy, \$7 million to renovate Moss and \$1 million for infrastructure work at Kentwood.

The district will then have four elementary campuses (Washington, Goliad, Marcy and Moss) housing students in grades kindergarten through 5, with Kentwood eventually being turned into a pre-kindergarten center.

Existing campuses at Washington and Marcy will be demolished, while the main building at Bauer Elementary, which was constructed almost 80 years ago, will be converted for use in staff training. Classroom wings at that campus will be torn down, officials said.

- \$2.5 million to add 11 classrooms at Big Spring Junior High to accommodate the district's sixth graders, who will join seventh and eighth graders at the facility.
- \$12 million for renovation at Big Spring High School, including roof replacement, new science labs and installation of a fire suppression

system.

- \$2.5 million for improvements to grounds, parking and driveways.

Groundbreaking on the new schools is scheduled for early May 2011.

No. 2 — New mayor elected

There was a change at the top of Big Spring's municipal government in 2010, with Tommy Duncan unseating long-time Mayor Russ McEwen in the May 8 elections.

Duncan earned 55 percent

of the vote, compared to 37 percent for McEwen. The remaining ballots were split among challengers Shannon Thomason and Oscar Velasco.

Duncan attributed his win to the will of the citizens.

"I think the citizens of Big Spring came out in record numbers and are sending a clear signal to the council what direction they want to see us move in," said Duncan. "I also want to make sure I recognize Mayor McEwen's

See **YEAR**, Page 3A

INDEX

Business	6-7B
Classified	8-11B
Life	1-2C
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	3-5B

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Newly elected Big Spring Mayor Tommy Duncan takes the oath of office in May. HERALD file photo

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Obituaries

Dorothy 'Gene' Hensley

Dorothy "Gene" Hensley celebrated 93 years with her friends and family before passing on Nov. 27, 2010. The last survivor of nine siblings, she left a rich legacy of family, including two daughters, Cray "Duchess" Hernandez of Needles, Calif., and Camellia "Mia" Riegel of Fountain Valley, Calif., and a son, Chad "Rocky" Hensley of Henderson, Nev. Fifteen grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren were all blessed by her life.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Chad N. Hensley, and her eldest son, Charles D. Borden, of Ridgecrest, Calif.

Her and her siblings were descendants of early Texas pioneers. In 1926 and during the Depression, there was no money for dance lessons. For years, she happily traded house cleaning for Irene Jay of Irene's School of Dance for her lessons. In 1930, at 14, Gene had to drop out of school to help her mother care for Gene's younger siblings. At 15, Gene began her own dance studio. Irene helped Gene and her mother, Billie Gill, set up their own studio in Big Spring — The Frost School of Dance. From Gene's recent published memoirs, "... Mama exchanged one of her oil paintings for dental work, a baker traded bread for dancing lessons for his daughter, a beautician gave weekly hair-dos for painting and dancing lessons, and the mother of one of my students played the piano for most of my classes in exchange for her daughter's lessons. The Depression taught us a new way to do business..." One of the students she taught was Jean Porter of (1940s-50s) movie fame.

In 1934, Gene went on the professional dance circuit with Franchon and Marco and later sang and danced with Bob Sny-



der's Orchestra. After marriage to her dance partner, Gene moved to California. Always a writer, in 1960 she took beginning creative writing. Gene and her second husband moved to Oceano until his death and in 2003 she moved to Fountain Valley to live with her daughter, Mia, and son-in-law, Gene.

Gene then began to write in earnest. She joined a memoir writing class, refined stories she wrote in previous years and wrote new stories. Her story about the day she learned she needed to go on hospice, "Six Months to live — and Laugh," was published on beliefnet.org. Always humble, she questioned her writing ability, and was amazed when she received thousands of e-mails from readers who were touched by the story.

Gene's memoir writing instructor has a blog on her website, "Memoir Mentor.com," that speaks of Gene's writing contribution. She lived a full and memorable 5 1/2 years after that May 2005 hospice referral. At 93, Nov. 27, 2010, Gene passed away at her daughter's home, leaving a wonderful legacy in her published memoirs, one to be donated to the Big Spring Library.

A celebration of her life will be



held Saturday, Jan. 8, at noon, at Forest Lawn, Glendale, Calif. Following the service, the burial will be at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills. Gene left many loving memories through her book, but the greatest memories are those we who knew her, carry in our hearts. She was an amazing woman. Contact the publisher about Gene's Memoirs at Creative Continuum, Inc., (714) 630-2960. Contact the family at Geineandmia@sbcglobal.net.

Paid obituary

Eva M. 'Mimi' Andrews



FORT WORTH — Eva M. "Mimi" Andrews, 90, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2010.

Funeral: 9:30 a.m. Monday in Greenwood Chapel. Interment: A family graveside service will be held at Eastlawn Memorial Park in Early. Visitation: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday at Greenwood Funeral Home.

Eva was born Jan. 23, 1920, to Velma and Harve Thomas in Glen Rose. She grew up in Brownwood where she graduated from Brownwood High School. In 1938, Eva married Robert William Andrews. They were married for 67 years, until he passed away in 2005. Eva was a devoted wife, mother and homemaker, as well as business partner with her husband. She was an avid fan of football and baseball, enjoying games from Little League Baseball with her sons to professional football with the Dallas Cowboys. In later years, she delighted in her four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, as their much-loved "Mimi." Above all, Eva loved the Lord. She was a Christian and a member of the Castleberry church of Christ in River Oaks.

Her family is grateful to Broadway Plaza Cityview and LifeCare Center of Haltom, and especially thankful to the nurses and their assistants in the Palliative Care Unit at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth for their skilled and loving care of Eva in the last days of her life.

Her parents and her brother, Jack Thomas, preceded her in death.

Survivors: Sons and daughters-in-law, Bob and Diana Andrews, of Colleyville, and Bill and Mary Andrews, of Fort Worth; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brother, Charles Thomas; and her sister-in-law, Kathryn Thomas.

Paid obituary

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Mon 1/3	Tue 1/4	Wed 1/5	Thu 1/6	Fri 1/7
65/35 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	66/38 Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	71/39 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	68/39 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	65/31 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:55 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:56 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:57 PM

Maxine Hinsley



Maxine Hinsley, 85, of Coahoma, died Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2010 at Meadow Creek Nursing Home in San Angelo. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 2, 2011 at Coahoma Cemetery.

She was born June 7, 1925 to Helen and Pete Ellis. She married Jimmy Hinsley Sept. 14, 1945 and he died July 27, 2010. She was employed at Coahoma Independent School District for many years

as a bookkeeper and secretary to the superintendent, retiring in 1980. She was a resident of Howard County for more than 50 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Coahoma.

She is survived by one daughter: Debbie Millsap and her husband Wade of San Angelo; two sons: Lynn Hinsley and his wife Susan of Aledo and Mike Hinsley and his wife Nancy of Midland; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

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

Take Note

1003 E. FM 700 in Big Spring.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Bring this note when you join and receive a box of Weight Watchers snacks through Oct. 31. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- Big Spring Band Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the BSHS Band Hall. All band parents are welcome.

- Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.

- Big Spring's own Charley Johnson will be inducted as a member of the 2010 Class into the Texas Sports Hall Of Fame on Feb. 7, 2011, in Waco. If you can't attend but would like to list your name in an official program ad that congratulates Charley for this momentous achievement, contact Ken Johnson at 940-325-4366 for details or e-mail at kenrocknj@suddenlink.net. If you want to attend the ceremonies, contact Ken about discount tickets.

- An account has been set up to help Bob and Jeanine Fishback with Bob's medical and travel expenses: Bob Fishback Medical Account 915967, Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720. For more information, call 263-8393.

- Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone's life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it visiting a patient, or working in the office, or helping with a craft, you can make a difference. We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Michelle Coutermarsh, at Compass Hospice, 263-5999 or apply in person at

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YEAR

Continued from Page 1A

long service to this community and congratulate him for the things he accomplished. I think the city of Big Spring owes him a great deal."

No. 3 — Hawks national champions

Less than 12 months after Howard College's baseball team won a national championship in 2009, the Hawks' basketball team followed suit in March, claiming its first-ever National Junior College Athletic Association national title with a 85-80 victory over Three Rivers (Mo.) Community College in Hutchinson, Kan.

The Hawks were led by national tournament MVP Josh Watkins, who scored 26 points, and All-American Jae Crowder, who added 27 points.

Head Coach Mark Adams said the Hawks (who finished the season with a 35-2 won-loss record) just kept finding ways to win during their championship season.

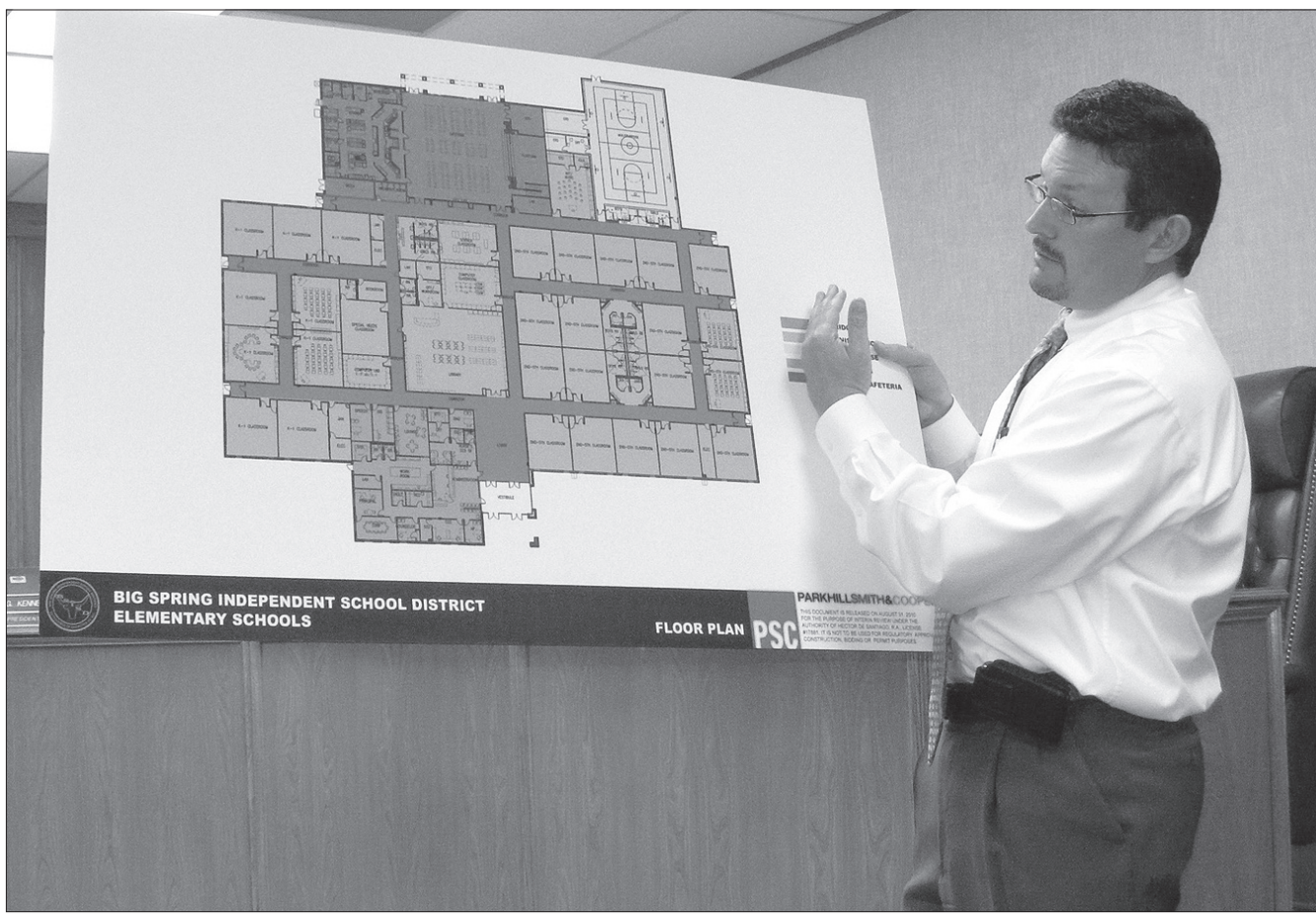
"We've just really shown that this team has character to go ahead and find ways to get the job done," Adams said.

No. 4 — A pair of state titles

A pair of area sports teams apparently enjoyed winning state titles so much, they decided to come back for seconds in 2010.

The Forsan Lady Bufaloes won their second consecutive Class 1A softball title in June by blanking Blue Ridge, 5-0. Pitcher Amanda Longorio was named state tournament MVP.

In football, the Garden City Bearkats apparently decided that one state six-man state title



Architect Jay Edwards displays proposed floor plans for new Big Spring elementary campuses to be constructed beginning in 2011.

HERALD file photo

wasn't enough, as they claimed their second consecutive state crown with an 82-68 victory over Throckmorton at Abilene in December.

No. 5 — Water park issue passes

An issue that was fraught with contention came to conclusion in June when the Big Spring City Council voted to authorize the construction of a water park at Comanche Trail Park.

After accessibility and maintenance concerns forced the closure of the city swimming pool, city leaders began advocating for the construction of a \$4.2 million water park. The price tag of the park, however, drew plenty of fire from local taxpayers and was considered a leading factor in the May electoral defeat of McEwen and District 5 councilman Troy Tompkins.

After a proposal to

scale back the park design failed, however, the council voted 6-1 to go ahead with the project. Councilman Craig Olson, who unseated Tompkins in May, was the only person to vote against the proposal.

No. 6 — A GOP landslide

Democrats became an endangered species in Howard County this past November, as the general election swept a wave of Republicans into office.

The only Democrat to win re-election was Howard County Judge Mark Barr — and he was unopposed. Otherwise, if you were a Republican, you were happy.

Republican loyalists "pulled the lever" for their party in November — 1,836 voters cast straight-ticket ballots for the GOP, while only 720 cast straight-ticket Democratic ballots.

Among the GOP candidates who won were Donnie Baker in the race for Precinct 2 commissioner race; John Cline, who defeated incumbent Gary Simer in the Precinct 4 commissioner election and Kathryn Wiseman in the Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2 vote.

Also, strong GOP support from Howard County was a major factor in Republican challenger Jim Landroop unseating Democratic incumbent Joe Heflin in the

District 85 State House election.

No. 7 — State aid to schools drying up?

The year started with Howard College having to deal with reduced state financial aid and ended with area public school facing the same fate.

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks reported in January that Texas community colleges had been requested to cut their budgets by 5 percent in order to help the state weather the current economic downturn. An additional 10 percent budget cut is likely, Sparks noted in mid-year.

On the public school front, school districts are bracing for a massive cut in state financial aid during the next session of the Texas Legislature, which convenes this month. Salazar estimated BSISD could lose as much as \$2 million in state revenue this coming fiscal year.

No. 8 — Crime

It was a more-or-less quiet year on the crime front in Big Spring, as the rate of serious crimes dropped. However, two incidents garnered a lot of local interest.

In early June, several suspects brandishing firearms burst into a residence in the 400

block of State, terrorizing a local family. A man was pistol-whipped during the home invasion, while other family members, including two small children, were threatened at gunpoint.

Later in the year, two of the suspects, Clifford Leon Anglin, 26, and Felix Lee Jaramillo, each received 60-year prison sentences following trials in 118th District Court. Other cases connected to the incident were pending at year's end.

Also in 2010, John Alan Conroy of Big Spring, who had been indicted by a federal grand jury on child pornography charges earlier in the year, pleaded guilty in December to one count of receipt of a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct and one count of producing child pornography. He faces a statutory sentence of 15 to 50 years in prison, a \$500,000 fine and a lifetime of supervised release.

Sentencing is scheduled for the near future.

No. 9 — Rain fizzles Pops in the Park

The annual Pops in

the Park July 4 celebration, one of the hallmark summer attractions in Big Spring, was a victim of Mother Nature this year.

Rain, and lots of it, forced postponement of the event. The musical concert portion of the event was moved to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, while the fireworks display went off without a hitch a few weeks later.

No. 10 — A good harvest

It wasn't 2007 all over again, but it was a good year nonetheless for area cotton producers.

A crop that's been called "better than average" and is bringing in record prices was winding its way through area cotton gins, meaning that area producers could soon put a bow on their 2010 efforts.

Officials were saying that, with a few more timely rains, the harvest could have approached the record yield of 2007. However, few were complaining at year's end.

"Things are still quite a bit better than they've been in the past," Howard County Extension Agent Tommy Yeater said. "The best I can tell, the overall yield for the county will about .85 bales per acre. That's above-average for this area ... Any time you can get close to a bale per acre, that's pretty good."

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

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Members of the Howard College basketball team celebrate their NJCAA national title game victory in March.

We sincerely thank all our kind friends, neighbors, and relatives for the many prayers, expressions of kindness, sympathy and beautiful floral tributes that were offered during the loss of our loved one, Eulalio B. Rodriguez.

Special thanks to
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The Knights of Columbus &
St. Vincent DePaul Society.

The Family of Eulalio B. Rodriguez

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Big Spring Travel Show Thursday, January 6 2:00 PM Dora Roberts Com. Center Comanche Trail Park 100 Whipkey Drive Big Spring, Texas	Abilene Travel Show Saturday, January 8 1:00 PM Southern Hills Church of Christ 3666 Buffalo Gap Road Abilene, Texas **Fellowship Hall; use front entrances**

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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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."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

We wish you all happy New Year, now that it's 2011

As we enter a new year, it is time to take a few minutes to take stock of where we want to go both individually and collectively during the next 12 months. It's a point we've made before in this space and it remains as true as ever.

If we haven't already taken personal stock, now is the time to ask ourselves what we want to change in our lives and what needs to be done to effect those changes.

Certainly, many of us seek better health and will make resolutions to change our diets and exercise routines. The important thing is to follow through — to make lifestyle changes.

And many more of us will seek to improve our spiritual lives. That is an area in each of our lives in which there is always room for improvement.

Others will more than likely seek to be more loving or caring with regard to family members and friends.

Community-wide, we believe the outlook for Big Spring remains a positive one. And, although it seems as if we're somewhat challenged as a nation right now, we're convinced the same holds true for both our state and nation for the long run.

And we're very excited about the renovation of the Settles Hotel building downtown.

There are encouraging signs in many areas. Yes, we're all challenged to some extent, but it's good to see the ongoing Settles project making progress, there's been a little building in the past year and the street and highway improvement projects that were completed in the past year are certainly progress.

What's more, the price of oil is still climbing. While it seems to cost us all a bunch when we fill up our vehicles with gasoline, that's not all bad, because it means oil prices are at a point where the industry can thrive.

Once again this year, we feel our city's appeal as a regional center for arts and recreation continues to grow, as evidenced by exhibitions at the Heritage Museum, the Big Spring Symphony's concert schedule for the current year and the United States Hang Gliding Association's continuing commitment to hold competitions here.

All of those projects, events and activities translate to jobs, income from visitors and — perhaps even more important — a better quality of life for all of us.

Several announcements about the year's upcoming events will be made soon we're sure and we can't help but look forward to what's on tap in 2011.

As we delve into the new year, we do admit feeling a bit tentative about some things less under our overall control. That's simply human nature.

One thing we can say with certainty though. We continue to be blessed by the "can-do" spirit of our fellow citizens — men and women who work together to get things done. And so, it's time to look ahead again and look ahead with optimism.

Happy New Year, Big Spring.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

The Texas commission on low-level radioactive waste disposal must reject the new proposal to increase importation of nuclear waste. This proposal would allow the toxic waste of 36 states to be transported, imported and stored in Texas.

Potential routes would take waste from the Gulf Coast on Interstate 10 through Houston and

San Antonio; waste from southern states would be trucked on I-20 and I-30 though Dallas and Fort Worth; Midwestern and Northeastern waste would be driven on I-40 and I-27 though Lubbock and Amarillo; and waste from Western states would be driven through the cities of El Paso and Odessa taking I-10 and I-20.

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we walk with You, Lord, our actions speak louder than words.

Amen

FCC overreach threatens Internet

The Internet has grown and flourished for more than 20 years without burdensome federal regulations. Absent government roadblocks that could hold up progress, the Internet has been able to evolve and rapidly advance as technology develops. Along with it, business development and job creation, spurred by web-based innovation, have been strengthened by a free market-oriented environment.

Unfortunately, this could soon change because of new Internet regulations issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in a three-to-two party line vote on Dec. 21.

The new rules represent an unprecedented power-grab by the unelected members of the FCC, to whom Congress has delegated very limited authority to act in the area of broadband services.

This unaccountable group of regulators is creating authority to intervene in an area that represents one-sixth of the nation's economy. The move installs a government arbiter to force their idea of how the Internet should be run on users and the companies that are trying to make broadband access available to Americans throughout the nation.

The public is largely happy with the way the Internet currently works — as a private resource. The FCC action is a solution in search of a problem.

The FCC's proposed regulations are particularly concerning because they would impose new directives onto communica-

tions companies that will stifle the Internet's well-known and successful spirit of innovation.

Heavy-handed regulations threaten investment in broadband Internet services, which could place valuable American jobs at risk. And any downturn in investment will limit the next evolution of this technology.

Businesses would be less likely to build out advanced next generation wireless broadband networks or to bring high-speed Internet services to rural communities because they cannot be certain their investments would be successful.

Investment could further languish because businesses will constantly fear violating vague and fluctuating Internet regulations.

One of those murky rules under the FCC's new regulations states that providers may not "unreasonably discriminate" against lawful internet traffic. On its face, that sounds like a laudable goal — but, as with most government regulations, the devil is in the details. The term is ambiguously defined in the order, and how the FCC interprets and enforces what is "reasonable" will determine how limiting this restriction is.

The "unreasonable discrimination" order would in effect establish that the FCC would have an approval portal that companies must pass through just to manage their day-to-day operations.

For instance, if a provider notices that a small number of users are sharing huge file dumps that are leading to congestion on the network, it should have the right to slow down those connections in order to relieve the congestion for the vast majority of users.

But under the FCC's new regulations, unelected govern-

ment regulators could determine that such an action is "unreasonable." By diminishing companies' flexibility in managing their own networks, the regulation could also undermine Internet providers' ability to guarantee subscribers high quality service.

The FCC's primary argument for these new rules is to ensure that Internet customers are not blocked by service providers from viewing or sending lawful content of their choice.

Again, on the surface, this seems perfectly reasonable. However, this is already the reality of today's open Internet environment. Broadband providers currently support consumers accessing the content of their choice and using devices and applications they desire. This is because the free market system has worked. Burdensome government meddling is not needed.

The FCC has not provided any evidence to justify this regulatory overreach. In fact, the Internet has developed and thrived precisely because it has not been weighed down with oppressive government regulations.

We must preserve the openness of the Internet as a platform for innovation and economic growth without a preemptive regulatory intervention by the government. Government regulation of the Internet is in not in anyone's interest.

Fighting this overreach will be one of my top priorities in the coming year. I will work to halt these regulatory burdens and explore other efforts to reform the FCC in the 112th Congress.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.



**KAY
BAILEY
HUTCHISON**



ADDRESSES

• **BARACK OBAMA**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
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• **JOHN CORNYN**
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Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

To corporate powers: I feel your pain

Guess who's whining the loudest these days, wailing that they're getting a raw deal from Barack Obama.

Not the unemployed and barely employed — even though the White House has blithely ignored their critical need for a national jobs program. Not the poor, even though their ranks are swelling as millions of Americans fall out of the middle class.

No, no, the most insistent demand for attention is coming from way above the poor and the middle class.

Believe it or not, it's the CEOs of America's biggest corporations and the top bankers of Wall Street who're stamping their little Gucci-clad feet, bawling that they should be getting more love and support from the president.

It seems that the feelings of these precious ones have been hurt by Obama's occasional condemnation of the stupefying greed that's been shown by the likes of health insurance executives and Wall Street bankers. As one CEO put it, Obama's attitude "felt too much like we were the bad guys."

Yoo-hoo, Mr. Multimillionaire Executive, YOU ARE! Corporate chieftains are ruthlessly downsizing the middle class, carelessly polluting our air and

water, gleefully destroying our democracy by using their corrupting corporate money to buy our government and generally feeling entitled to run roughshod over everyone — all while pocketing obscene levels of wealth for themselves. Yet they're the ones crying?

Those guys are pathetic — they're a bunch of narcissists with a sense of entitlement. Obama ought to send each of them a box of Kleenex and tell 'em to go to hell. But unfortunately, he's no Harry Truman. So instead, he's giving in to them!

"(I intend) to make clear to the business community," he recently announced, "that the most important thing we can do is to boost and encourage our business sector." Hello ... they're doing fine. The most important thing you can do is boost America's middle class.

Obama's helping not only multimillionaire corporate CEOs. He's also helping their friends at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Of all the groups in America that need the president of the U.S. on its side, you'd think the last to win a pledge of support would be the Chamber.

After all, this outfit, which is largely funded and run by a handful of America's biggest corporations, has become the most powerful lobbying force in Washington — and one of the richest front groups funneling secret corporate cash into our elections. Indeed, it poured tens of millions of those dollars into campaign ads this fall to demon-

ize the president and turn the U.S. House over to anti-Obama Republicans.

Yet, the day after the election, the Chamber found itself being wooed by the White House. The president even dispatched his treasury secretary to the Chamber's opulent headquarters to eat crow and promise that, henceforth, Obama and Team would be more corporate friendly.

Good grief! Friendlier than Obama's Wall Street reform that coddled the big banksters, or his health care reform that further entrenches profiteering insurance giants inside the system? Or the tax bill cave-in that needlessly awards billions of dollars in special breaks for corporations and rich CEOs?

Yes. So friendly that Obama is now holding an ongoing series of closed-door policy meetings with assorted CEOs. So friendly that he's already delayed regulations to strengthen anti-pollution rules. So friendly that his deficit-reduction panel proposes cutting the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 26 percent. So friendly that he's planning to put a high-powered CEO right inside the White House with him, as demanded by the whining corporate powers who say they're not getting enough love from the president.

Why do they get a special presidential slot? Why not one for labor, small farmers, consumers, the unemployed? Remind me again — is this guy a Democrat?

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Millions gather worldwide to ring in 2011

NEW YORK (AP) — Revelers smooched and cheered the famous ball drop in New York's Times Square as the largest New Year's Eve celebration in the U.S. ushered in 2011. Most tried to set aside concerns about the worldwide economic downturn as partiers from New Zealand to Asia to Europe toasted to hopes of a more prosperous year to come.

In New York, a sea of people stretching for blocks braved tight security and cool temperatures Friday night to take part in the storied Times Square New Year's celebration, first begun in 1904. Crowds counted down to midnight as the glowing 6-ton Waterford Crystal ball descended the flagpole at the top of One Times Square to mark the new year's arrival.

City authorities don't give crowd estimates.

Chris Tulloch, 48, a computer engineer who came from upstate New York with his wife Sherine to experience Times Square for the first time, said the celebration was a good start for the new year.

"The amount of people in the crowd, the friendships that we formed, made us realize so many people have the same hopes and dreams for 2011 as we do," he said.

New York was the city in the spotlight as it coped with the lingering effects of a debilitating Dec. 26 snowfall, which hadn't been entirely cleared even as visitors were arriving for

the New Year's celebration. Security in Times Square was tighter than usual, eight months after a would-be terrorist attempted to detonate a car bomb there.

Wendell Belt, 42, a retail worker from Philadelphia, came to New York to celebrate in Times Square with family. But he said he couldn't look past the troubled economy and feared 2011 wouldn't be any better than 2010.

"If the jobs don't come back, if the economy doesn't improve, if so many people are still looking for work, then we'll just have another bad year," Belt said.

In Las Vegas, thousands braved temperatures that dipped into the low 30s to watch an eight-minute fireworks show launched from the roofs of seven casinos. Jay-Z and Coldplay counted down the clock with crowds watching on the marquee of the \$3.9 billion Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas.

In Honolulu, President Barack Obama was expected to ring in 2011 with friendly competition at his family's annual New Year's Eve talent show. The White House kept keeping Obama's talent a closely guarded secret. Several friends and family members were to join the Obamas at their rented oceanfront home in Kailua.

In Santa Fe, New Mexico, Republican Susana Martinez formally became governor at the stroke of midnight, becoming the state's fe-

male chief executive. She replaced Bill Richardson.

More than 26,000 people turned out for a New Year's Eve rave at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. The police presence was strong to try to prevent drug and other problems sometimes associated with the music events.

Festivities began hours earlier in the South Pacific, as Australians and New Zealanders were among the first to celebrate at midnight. In New Zealand's Auckland, explosions of red, gold and white burst over the Sky Tower, while tens of thousands danced and sang in the streets below. In Christchurch, revelers shrugged off a minor 3.3 earthquake that struck just before 10 p.m.

Multicolored starbursts and gigantic sparklers lit the midnight sky over Sydney Harbor in a pyrotechnics show witnessed by some 1.5 million spectators.

"This has got to be the best place to be in the world tonight," Marc Wilson said.

In Europe, Greeks, Irish and Spaniards were partying through the night to help put a year of economic woe behind them.

As rain clouds cleared, around 50,000 people, many sporting large, brightly colored wigs, gathered in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol square to take part in Las Uvas, or The Grapes, a tradition in which people eat a grape for each of the 12 chimes

of midnight.

2010 was a grim year for the European Union, with Greece and Ireland needing bailouts and countries such as Spain and Portugal finding themselves in financial trouble as well.

"Before, we used to go out, celebrate in a restaurant, but the last two years we have had to stay at home," said Madrid florist Ernestina Blasco, whose husband, a construction worker, is out of work.

In Greece, thousands of people spent the last day of 2010 standing in line at tax offices to pay their road tax or sign up for tax amnesty.

"We can see that the quality of life is being degraded every day," Athens resident Giorgos Karantzios said. "What can I say? I don't see the light at the end of the tunnel."

In Asia, thousands gathered along Hong Kong's Victoria Harbor to watch fireworks explode from the roofs of the city's most famous buildings.

In Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, an estimated 55,000 people packed a square in front of the city's elegant French colonial-style opera house for their first New Year's countdown blowout, complete with dizzying strobe lights and thumping techno music spun by international DJs.

Vietnamese typically save their biggest cel-

ebrations for Tet, the lunar new year that begins on Feb. 3. But in recent years, Western influence has started seeping into Vietnamese culture among teens, who have no memory of war or poverty and are eager to find a new reason to party.

At Japan's Zojoji temple in Tokyo, monks chanted and revelers marked the arrival of the new year by releasing silver balloons with notes inside. The temple's giant 15-ton bell rang in the background.

In Seoul, South Korea, more than 80,000 people celebrated by watching a traditional bell ringing ceremony and fireworks, while North Korea on Saturday welcomed the new year with a push for better

ties with its neighbor, warning that war "will bring nothing but a nuclear holocaust."

At the stroke of midnight in Cuba, state television broadcast images of troops at Havana's Morro Castle fort firing 21 salvos of a cannon in honor of the 52d anniversary of former President Fidel Castro's 1959 revolution. The live broadcast from the fort was interspersed with images of Castro throughout his decades at the helm of the communist island and some of his brother and current president, Raul Castro. After the brief broadcast, state television resumed its string of holiday salsa programs as some Havana residents fired small firecrackers outside.

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LETTERS

Continue from Page 4A

What's worse, the Class "A" nuclear waste can be shipped in barrels that don't require integrity tests. Ten percent of these barrels have failed in accidents — 90 percent of which have released their contents. This proposal is simply too dangerous for Texas families. Contact your legislator to stop the commission from passing it.

LEA FAULK
 BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing as a concerned citizen. There are serious problems with the management of the Senior Citizens Center.

I have observed unacceptable, insulting, discriminatory behavior from management personnel toward paying customers. I have seen senior citizens turned away in an embarrassing, insulting, incompassionate manner at events, even though there were

empty places at the table. To add insult to injury, the "leftover" food is then "sold" to customers to take home after the event.

I wonder how the governmental agencies subsidizing the center would regard such practices.

The building is not properly maintained and janitorial services are sadly lacking. Volunteers are doing jobs that paid employees should be responsible for.

The city-appointed director and coordinator are not held accountable for expenses, maintenance, nor the planning and supporting of events. Neither entity listens to our concerns, nor out ideas.

Should the senior citizens boycott the center, these employees would be out of a job. Is this the manager/coordinator's goal?

The city of Big Spring would lose governmental monies set aside for senior citizen programs.

Are senior citizens not important to the economy of Big Spring?

MARY GRESSETT
 BIG SPRING

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Mead, drink of vikings, comes out of the Dark Ages

ALLEN G. BREED

AP National Writer
PITTSBORO, N.C. — Mead, that drink of viking saga and medieval verse, is making a comeback. But this ain't your ancestors' honey wine.

"It's not just for the Renaissance fair anymore," says Becky Starr, co-owner of Starrlight Mead, which recently opened in an old woven label mill in this little North Carolina town.

In fact, this most ancient of alcoholic libations hasn't been this hot since Beowulf slew Grendel's dam and Geoffrey Chaucer fell in with the Canterbury pilgrims at the Tabard.

In the past decade, the number of "meaderies" in the United States has tripled to around 150, says Vicky Rowe, owner of Gotmead.com, which describes itself as "the Internet's premier resource for everything to do with mead."

"I literally get new notifications of meaderies at least every couple of weeks," says Rowe, who runs the website from her home in the woods north of Raleigh. "So they're just popping up all over. And a lot of those are wineries that have decided to add mead to their mainstream product lines, which is just incredible."

Traditional mead is made with three ingredients — honey, water and yeast. The biggest hurdle has been overcoming that centuries-old misconception that



AP photo

Variations on the basic recipe, including mead made with fruit such as apples or pears, have proved particularly popular.

something made from honey HAS to be sweet.

But, as Rowe is quick to point out, grapes can be pretty sweet, too.

"And just like wine, mead can be as dry as a bone or it can be so sweet it makes your fillings hurt," she says. "And it depends on how it's made."

The honey, water and yeast are just the base. There are fruit-flavored meads, called melomels. There are methyglyns made with herbs and spices. And then there are what Rowe calls "weirdomels, which is mead made with lots of other things."

The wine rack in Rowe's basement holds bottles from mead makers in nearly every state — from a New Jersey man who makes authentic Tej with Ethiopian gesho, a hops-like

bittering agent, to a guy in Anchorage, Alaska, who flavors his meads with everything from locally picked currants to coriander, Indonesian Koryntje cinnamon and hot peppers.

There are even veggie meads.

"I had a beet mead that was screaming pink, like, fluorescent pink, and actually was quite tasty," says Rowe. "I've had mead made with nuts, with exotic honeys you've never heard of. You know, pretty much anything you can throw into a liquid and ferment."

Because it requires no human intervention, many believe mead is the world's oldest alcoholic beverage. Traces of a mead-like substance were found in a 9,000-year-old Chinese burial chamber.

Until about 1500, mead was THE alcoholic beverage of choice, Rowe says.

"Because cultivated grapes were only for the rich, and at that point in time the poor folks, they couldn't get it," says Rowe, who earned the nickname "Mead Wench" after years of wandering Renaissance fairs laden with wineskins full of her own homemade meads. "They had thin beer that they could make at home or they had mead, because honey was readily available to anybody."

In "Beowulf," the Old English epic heroic poem, the great mead-hall Heorot is the scene of most of the action. It is where King Hrothgar "with fair courtesy quaffed many a bowl of mead," and where the "fell monster" Grendel slaughtered 30 thanes passed out "after the drinking of the mead." Chaucer's 14th-centu-

ry "Canterbury Tales" contain several references to mead or "methe." But with the opening of the New World and its sugar plantations, Rowe says, "mead began a slow decline ... and by the 1700s was almost nonexistent."

That began to change in the 1960s, when the hippie culture rediscovered the joys of mead. Then, with the spread of Renaissance fairs and re-enactment groups like the Society for Creative Anachronism, and the growth of the craft beer industry, this musty old drink was suddenly seen as a "new and interesting and potentially wonderful thing," says Rowe.

"It's just like skirt lengths, you know? They're long, they're short, they're long, they're short. It's that kind of thing."

Picking up where Chaucer left off, J.K. Rowling has introduced a whole new generation of readers to the honey wine. Devotees will no doubt recall how Ron Weasley was nearly done in by a poisoned bottle of Madame Rosmerta's oak-matured mead in "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince."

Wine and beer makers are aiming for a slightly older demographic.

Dogfish Head Craft Brewery in Delaware markets a mead-like ale called The Midas Touch. Based on the residue from drinking vessels discovered inside the golden king's 2,700-year-old tomb, the concoction is described as "biscuity" and "succulent," with hints of honey, saffron, papaya and melon.

Mead producers are riding the craft-beer wave and taking advantage of the "locovore"

Poor man's guide to mead making

There are all kinds of ways to make mead, and you'll find all you need to know on the Internet or at the Howard County Library.

Here is just a quick, simple run through to get you started.

Ingredients

- 1 gal. spring water, room temperature
- 3 lbs. honey — pure unprocessed
- 1 bag of balloons big enough to stretch over the mouth of the spring water jug
- 1 package of Fleischmann's Yeast
- 1 box of raisins
- 1 orange

Make the mead

Pour about half of the water into a clean container, slice the orange into eighths and put the slices, honey, 25 raisins and the yeast into the jug. Pour some water back into the jug so the level is a couple of inches from the top then put the cap on it and shake it up well. Shake it for five minutes.

Poke a pinhole in the top of the balloon, remove the cap from the jug and put the balloon over the mouth of the jug. Stretch the open end of the balloon over the jug so that as the gases form inside the jug they will inflate the balloon. Put a rubber band or tape around the neck to keep it in place.

Sometime between an hour and 24 hours later the balloon will start to inflate. This is a great sign. This setup insures gases escape but no contaminants get into your brew. If the balloon is getting

big, poke another hole or two in it. You don't want it to burst. Once you are satisfied that the gases are escaping and the balloon is not under unusual stress you can set the jug in a cool dry place like a kitchen cabinet or closet shelf.

After two to three weeks the major portion of the ferment will be done and the balloon will be limp.

At this point you can taste a little bit to see how it is coming along but it isn't really a tasty wine at this point. It will need another couple of months to start to get delicious. Over time, as you check on it you will notice that the cloudiness disappears and it slowly clarifies and transforms into wine.

Finally

Be patient and taste your mead every few weeks. It should be really clear and delicious after a few months. It will continue to age and improve over a long period of time so the longer you wait the better it will get. If you are struggling with this then you should probably make another batch! Try to wait six months if you can!

Don't forget to sanitize

What you want is to make sure no outside yeast or cells develop other than the yeast you pitch. This means you should sanitize everything that comes in contact with your new batch of mead including the jug, spoons and measuring cups.

craze. Jon Hamilton's White Winter Winery in Iron River, Wis., did a bourbon barrel-aged cyser, but that's about as exotic as it gets.

"You won't see an orange-blossom mead coming out of our shop, because we don't grow oranges up here," says Hamilton, a former psychotherapist who runs the business with his wife, Kim, a former teacher. "We use black currants. We use strawberries. We use raspberries. We use apples and apple cider — all those kinds of things that are found here in our neck of the woods."

No one keeps tabs on how much mead is made or sold. The U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco

Tax and Trade Bureau's wine statistical releases do not list honey wine as a separate product.

But Mike Faul, founder of Rabbit's Foot Meadery outside San Francisco, says his production is growing about 30 percent a year. He distributed 6,000 cases last year to customers as far away as Japan and Ireland.

"In fact, in this bad economy, this year may turn out to be my best year ever," he says. "In good times or bad, people drink. But in bad, they seem to drink even more."

But this is still a far cry from mead's heyday in the Middle Ages.

"Your average mead-

See **MEAD**, Page 7A

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Menus

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Holiday
Tuesday: Breakfast - Breakfast pocket, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Pizza, baby carrots, rosy applesauce, fresh fruit, milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast - Baked cheese sticks, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken spaghetti, garden salad, corn,

apricots, roll, milk.
Thursday: Breakfast - Pizza bagel, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Beef taco, border beans, lettuce and tomato salad, mandarin oranges, salsa, milk.
Friday: Breakfast - Cinnamon breakfast pastry, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Hot dog on bun, mac and cheese, fruit cocktail, fresh fruit, milk.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Holiday
Tuesday: Breakfast - Cheese

omelet, toast, juice, milk. Lunch - Grilled chicken sandwich, veggies, tater tots, baby carrots, peaches and cream, milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast - French toast, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch - Beef tips and noodles, green beans, apple and orange smiles, spice cake, milk.
Thursday: Breakfast - Breakfast pizza, juice, milk. Lunch - Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli with cheese, garlic toast, frozen fruit cup, milk.
Friday: Breakfast - Cereal vari-

ety, juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, hot roll, fruit variety, milk.
Coahoma ISD
Monday: Breakfast - Pop Tarts, sausage, apple juice, milk. Lunch - Pizza, corn, apples, milk.
Tuesday: Breakfast - Waffles, sausage, apple juice, milk. Lunch - Smothered steak, gravy, potatoes, peaches, bread, milk. Corn dog.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Sweetened rice, ham, juice, milk. Lunch - Cheeseburger, tomato, lettuce, chips, oranges, milk.
Thursday: Breakfast - Pancake sausage on a stick, orange juice, milk. Lunch - Cheeseburger pockets, potatoes, salad, mixed fruit, milk. Hot Pockets.
Friday: Breakfast - Oatmeal, sausage, grape juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken and dumplings, sweet peas, strawberry cups, milk. Burritos.

MEAD

Continued from Page 6A

ery is a couple of guys or a couple or a single person who all their buddies said, 'Wow! That stuff that you make is really good. You should SELL that,' says Rowe, who currently has a 5-gallon glass carboy of dark spiced mead fermenting on her kitchen counter. "I know a lot of people that started out in their garage or their basement, and now have tasting rooms and a whole meadery. And they're just kicking butt and taking names."

That would describe Ben and Becky Starr. The North Carolina couple got into mead a few years ago after tasting it at — where else? — a Renaissance fair. After about two years of experimentation and rave reviews from friends, the Starrs decided to take it to the next level.

In 2006, they traveled to Boulder, Colo., and entered their spiced cyser (mead made with apples) in the International Mead Festival's home mead-maker competition. They brought home the wooden mazer (goblet) for best in show.

"And that was the point where we realized we were doing something pretty good — that it wasn't just that we had friends that liked free booze," says Ben Starr, who sports a ponytail that reaches halfway down his back.

Labor Day Weekend, Starrlight Mead opened up shop in a little cinderblock office building in back of the former Chatham Mills label factory.

When drafting their business plan, the Starrs asked several area wineries about their first-year sales. Since mead was such an unknown, they decided to take those numbers and halve them "to be a little more conservative, a little more realistic," Ben Starr says.

They made about 40 cases of their award-winning spiced apple, thinking they'd last through the end of the year. It sold out in about two months. Same

for their semisweet mead. "We ended up more than doubling those numbers in the first few months that we've been open," says Starr, who's already added two more stainless steel fermentation tanks to meet the unexpected demand.

During a recent wine-tasting tour, Mallory Radcliffe and her family stopped by Starrlight. The Fuquay-Varina woman had tried mead before, but she was surprised by the range of the Starrs' offerings — from the almost clear semisweet to a deep red blackberry.

A golden peach was the clear favorite. "When they add the fruit, you have a different vibe," she said. "Real light. Real enjoyable. Real easy to drink."

"We've seen a big increase in the number of people that know actually what mead IS, which is surprising to us," says Becky Starr, who is wearing a black T-shirt emblazoned with the words "Got Mead?" in ancient Norse runes.

But there are still plenty of visitors wanting to know where they grow their grapes. The Starrs are working on them.

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2010 Ford Focus SES - Medium Red w/Gray Leather, Power Sunroof, Factory Wheels, Ford Sync System, All Power.
Was \$18,995 **NOW \$17,995**

2010 Ford Fusion SE - V-6, Factory Wheels, Silver w/Gray Cloth, Ford Sync System, 15,000 Miles.
Was \$20,995 **NOW \$19,995**

2010 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - White w/Tan Leather, All Power, Program Car w/9,700 Miles. Stk# 5074FP.
Was \$34,995 **NOW \$32,995**

2007 Chrysler Sebring Limited - Blue w/TanLeather, Local One Owner w/27,000 Mile. Stk# 2587A.
Was \$16,995 **NOW \$14,995**

2007 Honda Civic LX 2-DR Coupe - Gold w/Cloth, One Owner w/43,000 Miles. Stk# 26450A.
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$12,995**

2006 Nissan Maxima SL - Blue w/Tan Leather, Moonroof, All Power, Local One Owner w/52,000 Miles. Stk# 2655A.
Was \$19,995 **NOW \$17,995**

2004 Ford Mustang GT - Silver, Black Leather, 4.6 V-8, Manual Transmission, 66,000 Miles. Stk# 2692A.
Was \$13,995 **NOW \$11,995**

2004 Volkswagon Jetta GLS - Red w/Leather, Manual Transmission. Stk# 2648A.
Was \$8,995 **NOW \$6,995**

2004 Mazda 6 4-DR i - White w/Tan Leather, All Power, 59,000 Miles. Stk# 2648A.
Was \$10,995 **NOW \$8,995**

2004 Nissans Maxima SL - Black w/Gray Leather, Moonroof, All Power, Local One Owner w/73,000 Miles. Stk# 2530A.
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$12,995**

2003 Mustang GT - Black w/Black Leather, Manual Trans., 4.6 V-8, Local One Owner, w/65,000 Miles. Stk# 5071FPA.
Was \$12,995 **NOW \$10,995**

2001 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - White w/Leather, All Power, Nice Car. Stk#2565B.
Was \$9,995 **NOW \$8,995**

★★★ **SUV'S** ★★★

2003 GMC Envoy SLT - White With Gray Leather, Chrome Wheels, Excellent Condition. Stk# 2679A.
Was \$12,995 **NOW \$11,995**

2007 Ford Expedition EL Limited - Pearl White With Leather, DVD, Power Third Row Seats, Local One Owner. Stk# 2689A.
Was \$30,995 **NOW \$29,995**

2010 Ford Explorer XLT - Silver w/Cloth, Dual Air, 3rd Row Seat, Program Unit w/21,000 Miles. Stk# 5066F.
Was \$26,995 **NOW \$24,995**

2010 Ford Escape XLT - Gray w/Cloth, All Power, V-6, Program Unit w/17,000 Miles.
Was \$23,995 **NOW \$21,995**

2008 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Pewter w/Leather, Dual Air, All Power, One Owner w/42,000 Miles. Stk# 2706A.
Was \$31,995 **NOW \$29,995**

2006 Ford Freestyle SE - White w/Tan Trim, All Power, One Owner w/66,000 Miles. Stk# 2623A.
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$12,995**

2006 Nissan Pathfinder LE - Black w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/60,000 Miles. Stk# 1629A.
Was \$24,995 **NOW \$19,995**

2005 Ford Freestyle SEL - Black w/Gray Sweep, All Power, Local One Owner w/73,000 Miles. Stk# 2529A.
Was \$12,995 **NOW \$10,995**

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS 4X4 - White w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/51,000 Miles. Stk# 2383C .
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$12,995**

2004 Nissan Murano SE - White, All Power, Stk# 1798A.
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$8,995**

2004 Freestar Mini Van Limited - White w/Tan Sweep, Leather, All Power, 84,000 Miles. Stk# 5051FPA.
Was \$11,995 **NOW \$9,995**

2004 GMC Yukon XL SEL - Maroon w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner. Stk# 1377A.
Was \$14,995 **NOW \$11,995**

2008 Chrysler Aspen Limited - Black, All Power, Local One Owner w/83,000 Miles.
Was \$19,995 **NOW \$16,995**

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What's Your Financial Personality?



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Understanding it could help your retirement nest egg grow

FAMILY FEATURES

More than 90 percent of people aged 44 to 75 feel the United States is facing a retirement crisis, yet most have a limited understanding of how much money they'll need and fear they'll outlive their income, according to a 2010 survey from Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America (Allianz Life).

The study, "Reclaiming the Future: Challenging Retirement Income Perceptions," found that although 61 percent of these people fear outliving their money in retirement more than death, nearly one third (31 percent) say they are not too clear about what their expenses will be in retirement, and 36 percent have no idea if their income will last.

"These results are troubling not only because people are fearful about retirement income, but also because of how little they know about how much money they'll need," said Gary C. Bhojwani, president and CEO of Allianz Life. "We hope that this study will shed some light on the issue and inspire Americans to take control of their retirement planning today."

Your Financial Personality

Nearly half (47.2 percent) of baby boomers aged 56 to 62 could be at risk of not having sufficient retirement income to pay for basic retirement expenditures as well as uninsured health care costs, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

Understanding your financial personality can help you take the appropriate steps to start building a better financial future.

Retirement Resources

- Retirement Nest Egg Calculator — www.aarp.org
- Guidebook to Help Late Savers Prepare for Retirement — National Endowment for Financial Education — www.smartaboutmoney.org
- Saving on a Tight Budget — www.americasaves.org
- Advice on Getting Out of Debt — National Foundation for Credit Counseling — www.debtadvice.org

Overwhelmed

- Tends to be in financial survival mode.
- Has high credit card debt and meager assets.
- Feels unprepared for retirement.

The overwhelmed personality is unsure when — or if — they'll be able to retire. And when they do, they expect to significantly reduce their living expenses and possibly to continue working.

What to do:

- **Get control of spending.**

Keep track of your spending during the next month — everything from rent or mortgage to your morning coffee at the café down the street. Looking at those expenses will show you how extra spending begins to add up. A \$5 lunch every weekday can cost you nearly \$1,300 over the course of a year. That \$1,300 could help you get closer to your financial goals — if you stop spending it. You can find helpful expense tracking and spending worksheets at www.smartaboutmoney.org.

- **Reduce debt.**

The National Foundation for Credit Counseling recommends paying at least double the minimum required credit card payment. High interest rates and only paying the minimum due will cause you to pay more in interest and extend the term of your debt. For example, if you have a credit card balance of \$3,000, with a 17 percent APR, it will take you 126 months to pay it off, and you will pay \$2,241 in interest charges alone. Calculate the true cost of paying just the minimum at www.creditcard.com.

- **Strategize savings and investment.**

The National Endowment for Financial Education recommends saving money in three categories — money for an emergency fund, money for short-term purchases, and money for long-term goals, such as retirement. Emergency fund and short-term spending money should be kept in a savings or money market account that is easily accessible. Long-term funds can be invested in mutual funds, stocks or bonds. Paying yourself first — putting money aside before you spend any — is one of the best ways to start a strong retirement planning program.

Resilient

- Still working.
- Moderate income, moderate assets.
- Concerned about outliving income.

The resilient personality tends to be in their late 50s and is worried that the U.S. is entering a major economic depression. They know they need to invest for retirement, but might not have time to save enough.

What to do:

- **Reduce spending.**

Here again, examining your spending habits can pay off. Look at what you're spending, particularly on bigger ticket items. Having that money automatically deducted from your paycheck and put into a retirement, savings or investment account now will help you build your nest egg for the future. The American Institute of CPAs has a Benefits of Spending Less Calculator that shows you how much your budget reductions could be worth (www.360financialliteracy.org).

- **Delay Social Security benefits.**

If you start receiving benefits before your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced. For example, according to the Social Security Administration, if you choose to retire at age 62, it could result in a reduction as much as 30 percent. You'll get your largest benefits at age 70. Calculate your benefits at www.ssa.gov.

- **Invest now.**

Are you contributing as much as you can to your 401(k) at work? Do you have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)? If you are 50 or older before 2011, you can contribute up to \$6,000 to your IRA account each year. Consulting with a financial planner is a good way to navigate your options and figure out a solid investment strategy. Get tips on choosing a financial planner from the Financial Planning Association at www.fpaforfinancialplanning.org.

Distracted

- Has the highest income, but net worth has dropped.
- Has cut back spending, but not changed retirement or investment strategies.
- Does not have a plan for growing savings.

This group is the youngest (40s to 50s), generally counts on receiving full Social Security benefits and is relying on 401(k)s more than any other group. While they are worried that their savings won't be adequate for the future, they are content to live for today.

What to do:

- **Evaluate your retirement plans.**

Do you have realistic expectations for your retirement lifestyle? It's time to get a better handle on how much you'll really need to retire, especially if you don't take inflation into account. Use the Ball Park Estimate at www.choosetosave.org to see if your plans fit your budget, or if you need to adjust your plans.

- **Reexamine investments.**

Give your 401(k) a checkup. Is it growing enough? The site www.morningstar.com tracks mutual fund growth and can show you how well yours are performing. Look at all your investments and make sure they are growing. If not, it may be time for a change.

- **Make changes to secure retirement income.**

Living longer than expected, unforeseen health problems, job loss, more market downturns, and inflation can all drain away retirement funds before you know it. Protecting your assets and guarding against outliving them needs to be a priority. "In our study," said Bhojwani, "the majority of respondents said that the safety of their money matters more now than it did a few years ago. The attributes people are looking for now in investments are the ability to create a stable, predictable standard of living, and the ability to provide a guaranteed income stream for life — one that won't lose value. Without realizing it, they described an annuity-like solution."

An annuity is a contract between you and an insurance company. In exchange for your purchase payment, the insurance company provides you income, either immediately or sometime in the future. To find out more about annuities and whether they are a good fit for you, visit www.allianzlife.com.

Whatever your age, whatever your financial personality, it's time to give your retirement plans a checkup and take action to secure the nest egg you've worked so hard for.

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▶ Weddings



Mr. and Mrs. William Mark Warrington

Chapman and Warrington

Kaitlin Amarys Lisette Chapman of Amarillo and William Mark Warrington of Big Spring were married Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010, at the First Baptist Church in Amarillo. B.J. Ramon, the couple's Baptist Student Ministry director, officiated.

The bride is the daughter of De Ann and Gerry Chapman of Amarillo and the granddaughter of Lucille and Dorsey Schad of Gruver and Ethel and Ray Chapman of Dumas.

The groom is the son of Teresa and Dennis Warrington of Big Spring and the grandson of Nancy Warrington and the late Forrest Warrington of Palestine and Wanda Moore and the late Bill Moore of Denton.

The maid of honor was Blythe Chapman, the bride's sister. Bridal attendants were Kelli Warrington, Rebekah Law, Sara Esch and Sarah Norris.

The best man was Ryan Vela, the groom's best friend. The groom's attendants were Cody Mahan, Johnathan Makovicka, Brandon Touchstone and Anne Smith.

The house party included Kelsey Chapman, Jennifer Christy, Mela-

nie Hess, Jessie Jones, Trupti Kale, Jessica Nichols, Emily Smith, Christy Troutman, Beth Vela and Faith Webster.

Ushers were Asher Day, Kasey Gammons, James Richards and Derrick Thomas.

The bride wore a white taffeta draped A-line gown with a chapel-length train. The dress was ornamented with rouching and beaded lace appliques on the bodice and waist.

The color theme for the wedding was hot pink, orange and teal. The bride chose hot pink and orange gerber daisies, roses, Asiatic lilies and wax flower, as well as green hydrangeas, bells of Ireland, peacock feathers and birch twigs for her bridal bouquet and other floral arrangements for the wedding. The bride's bouquet was wrapped in scrapes from her wedding gown.

Following the ceremony, a wedding reception was held on the patio at the church.

The groom's cake was turtle cheesecake. The bride's cake was a three-tiered, square vanilla and strawberry cake made by the bride's aunt. The cake's white icing was highlighted by accents of teal ribbon and flowers to match the bride's bouquet. The cakes were surrounded by photographs of the bride and groom's parents and grandparents on their wedding day.

The bride graduated with a degree in public relations from Texas Tech University. She works as a news writer for Texas Baptists in Dallas.

The groom graduated with a degree in biochemistry from Angelo State University and is currently working on a master of theology degree at the Dallas Theological Seminary. He also works as the college minister at the First Baptist Church of Richardson.

The couple took a honeymoon cruise to the Grand Cayman Islands and Cozumel. They now reside in Richardson.



Mr. and Mrs. Ray Valencia III

Strain and Valencia

Katie Strain and Ray Valencia III were married Oct. 30, 2010, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Big Spring.

The bride is the daughter of Tim and Robin Strain of Big Spring and the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lon A. Strain of Big Spring and the late Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Padgett of West Union, W. Va.

She received a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin and is currently employed with Murchison Oil & Gas Inc.

The groom is the son of Ray and Lisa Valencia Jr. of Big Spring and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Valencia Sr., Linda Paredez and the late Alfredo Paredez Sr., all of Big Spring.

He received his associate's degree in science from Howard College in 2007 and is currently employed by ATMOS Energy in Midland.

Savannah Porter of Odessa served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Kayla Cook of Midland, Melissa Strain of San Angelo, the bride's sister, and Jackie Valencia, the groom's sister.

Mikayla Paredez, the groom's cousin, served as flower girl.

Dustin Higgins of Big Spring was the best man. Groomsmen included Jonathan Gomez of Midland; Joey Herrera of Big Spring, the groom's uncle; and Kasey Huckabee of Menasha, Wis.

Nathaniel Whitmore, the bride's cousin, served as ring bearer.

Following the wedding, a reception was held in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

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▶ 95th birthday

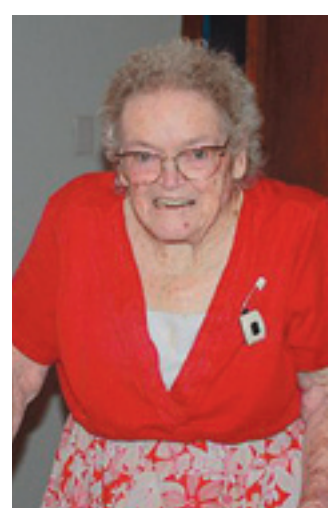
Marietta Wilson Harris of Big Spring celebrated her 95th birthday Tuesday, Dec. 28, when a surprise party hosted by her children and grandchildren.

Mrs. Harris was born Dec. 28, 1915, and went to school in Big Lake where she graduated from high school in 1936. She married J.B. Harris of Cisco on June 26, 1937.

Mrs. Harris, who has lived in Big Spring for more than 30 years, said the party was completely a surprise and that she hadn't known her children were coming until they started arriving.

Her children arrived from San Angelo, Hobbs, N.M., and Big Spring. She has six children, 15 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren, most of whom were in attendance at the celebration. She also had family members — a niece and grand nieces — from Oklahoma present for the party.

Mrs. Harris said it was her best birthday, because all her family came to see her at once.



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Playoff scenarios heading into Week 17

AFC CLINCHED: New England, AFC East and homefield advantage; Kansas City, AFC West; Baltimore, playoff spot; N.Y. Jets, playoff spot; Pittsburgh, playoff spot.

ELIMINATED: Buffalo, Cincinnati, Denver, Cleveland, Houston, Miami, Oakland, San Diego, Tennessee.

PITTSBURGH — Clinches AFC North and a first-round bye with:

1) Win OR
2) Tie and Baltimore loss or tie OR

3) Baltimore loss
BALTIMORE

— Clinches AFC North and a first-round bye with:

1) Win and Pittsburgh loss or tie OR

2) Tie and Pittsburgh loss

INDIANAPOLIS — Clinches AFC South with:

1) Win or tie OR

2) Jacksonville loss or tie

JACKSONVILLE

— Clinches AFC South with:

1) Win and Indianapolis loss

NFC CLINCHED: Chicago, NFC North and Philadelphia, NFC East; Atlanta, playoff spot; New Orleans, playoff spot.

ELIMINATED: Arizona, Carolina, Dallas, Detroit, Minnesota, San Francisco, Washington.

ATLANTA — Clinches NFC South and a first-round bye with:

1) Win or tie OR

2) New Orleans loss or tie

— Clinches homefield advantage with:

1) Win or tie OR

2) New Orleans loss or

tie and Chicago loss or tie

CHICAGO

— Clinches the NFC North and a first-round bye and clinches homefield advantage with:

1) Win and Atlanta loss and New Orleans loss or tie

NEW ORLEANS

— Clinches the NFC South and homefield advantage with:

1) Win and Atlanta loss

GREEN BAY

— Clinches a playoff spot with:

1) Win OR

2) Tie and N.Y. Giants loss or tie and Tampa Bay loss or tie OR

3) N.Y. Giants loss and Tampa Bay loss

NEW YORK GIANTS

— Clinch a playoff spot with:

1) Win and Green Bay loss or tie OR

3) Tie and Green Bay loss and Tampa Bay loss or tie

TAMPA BAY

— Clinches a playoff spot with:

3) Win and N.Y. Giants loss or tie and Green Bay loss or tie OR

4) Tie and N.Y. Giants loss and Green Bay loss

ST. LOUIS

— Clinches NFC West with:

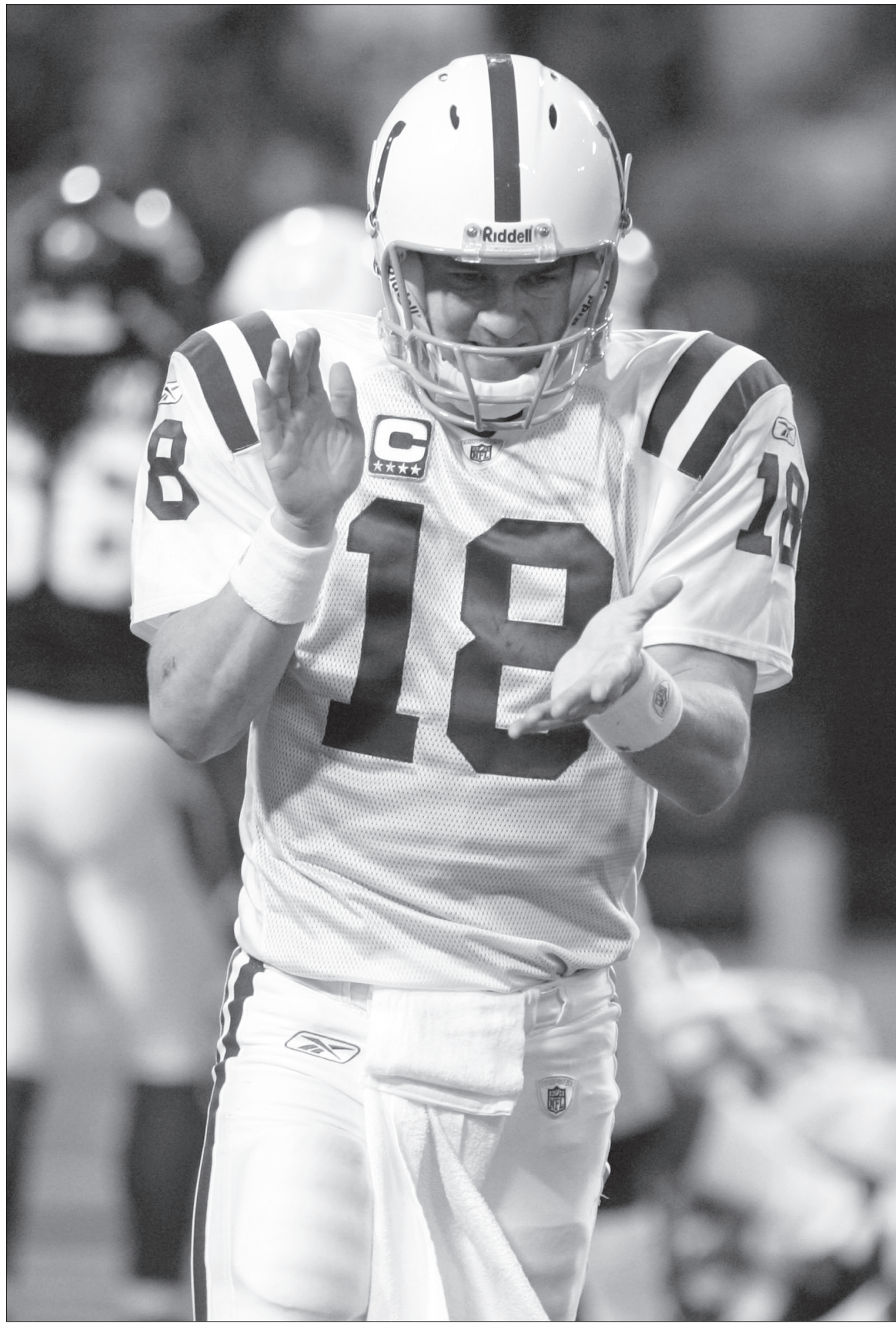
1) Win or tie

SEATTLE

— Clinches NFC West with:

1) Win

Compiled by The Associated Press



Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts will try to lock up the AFC South today. A win would put them in the playoffs.

AP File Photo

Texans WR Johnson to have right ankle surgery



AP File Photo

Houston Texans' wideout Andre Johnson has been battling an ankle injury all season. The Texans are 5-10 heading into Week 17.

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texans Pro Bowl receiver Andre Johnson will miss Houston's season finale against Jacksonville and will have arthroscopic surgery on his right ankle next week.

Johnson sprained the ankle in Week 2, and the injury has never healed. He sat out Sunday's 24-23 loss to Denver and hasn't practiced this week.

"The biggest thing was just being smart about the situation," Johnson said Friday. "The best thing they felt was for me not to be out there to have something else bad happen, or me to re-injure the ankle, like I've been doing the whole season."

The Texans (5-10) have lost eight of nine, and Johnson says he would try to play Sunday if the team had more on the line.

"It's not something I'm

happy about," he said. "But at the same time, we have to think about the future, and not about right now. I think it's the best move."

Johnson was named to the Pro Bowl for the fifth time this week, but he's leaning toward sitting it out this time to protect the ankle. Doctors have told Johnson that he'll need "a couple weeks" to recover from the surgery.

He ranks fourth in yards receiving (1,216) and receptions (86) this season. He would've become only the eighth receiver in league history to reach 1,300 yards receiving in three consecutive years.

"I just appreciate what he did throughout the season," Houston coach Gary Kubiak said. "A really special player and a special person. He just needs to get healthy, he's got a lot of great years ahead of him."

Sports in brief

Big Spring Fall Banquet for athletics

Big Spring High School will host its athletic banquet for fall sports at 6 p.m. Jan. 8 in the high school cafeteria. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the door. Football players, volleyball players and

cross country runners will be recognized at the annual event. If there are any questions, call Denise Carillo at 432-816-1685.

Men's city bowling tournament

This tournament takes place Jan. 23rd and 24 at Bowl-A-Rama in Big Spring. The entry forms are to

be turned in by Jan. 17. Entry forms can be picked up at the Bowl-A-Rama. The local USBC Chapter is donating \$150 to the prize fund. For more information contact Diana Ewing at 432-816-7631, Claud Fryar at 432-517-0475, or Sheila Armstrong at 432-270-7596.

James says 2010 was memorable

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Given the opportunity, LeBron James would change countless things about 2010.

Losing to Boston in the playoffs. How his infamous 'Decision' to leave Cleveland was executed. The fraying of some long relationships with the Cavaliers.

But regrets? None, the two-time MVP said while looking back on the year unlike any other in his life — and looking ahead to 2011, a year the Miami forward hopes to have defined by championship instead of controversy.

"It absolutely was a good year," James said in an interview with The Associated Press on Friday while relaxing alongside the Heat practice court. "I don't regret any decision that I've made and I'm happy where I am now. I think my family, my friends, they're all excited with my new beginning. And I definitely am."

He meant that in many different ways.

Business-wise, while studies suggested his "Q Score" — the measure of how something or someone appeals to a broad audience — took a big hit

over the offseason, sales of his new Miami jersey and his latest line of Nike sneakers are booming. Personally, some of those who have known him best say he's as happy as he's been in years. And on the basketball court, the Heat are soaring.

Winners in 16 of their last 17 games, the Heat will take a 25-9 record into 2011, and have more than a few people around the NBA saying they're playing as well as any team in the league, maybe better. All the negativity after a 9-8 start seems long forgotten.

"Overall, where we're at now is what I envisioned," James said. "Did I envision our tough times early on? Not to that extent. I knew we would have some bumps along the road, but to the extent where we were at? I don't think any of us expected that. No one here in Miami or no one in the league expected us to have these trials and tribulations. But it made us who we are today, going into 2011."

So in other words, the Heat have collectively taken a similar road as James did personally over the past 12 months.

A year ago, he was still expecting to deliver on his promise of bringing a title to Cleveland, even as non-

stop speculation swirled about his plans for free agency on July 1. The opinions and predictions were everywhere — he was going to New York, to Chicago, to the Clippers, staying home in Cleveland.

Everyone, it seemed, "knew" what he was going to do. Everyone, that is, except James himself.

While many suspect otherwise, James still says he didn't make his decision until the morning of July 8, announcing it to the world about 12 hours later in a televised special that raised \$4 million for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America — along with the ire of millions who watched it live.

"He can take this year, for the rest of his life and the rest of his career, and look at it as a stepping stone for him as a basketball player and as a man," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said. "He was on a team projected to win a championship, was the MVP and then everything came crashing down real fast. So he had to make a tough decision, and he made it based on what was best for him as a man."

James grew tired long ago of discussing 'The Decision,' even though he's still asked about it almost daily.

He says he prefers to look ahead, not

back.

"I'll set goals for the year, but I'm not a resolutions guy," James said. "My New Year's resolution would be the same as going into every NBA season, just to be productive every day, as a basketball player, as a father and friend on and off the court, and do the things that need to be done to help us win a championship. So if I had to have one, my resolution would be the same as my preseason goals."

Just about everyone in the Heat locker room had some sort of relationship with James before this season, but even those who were closest to him — Wade in particular — didn't have a complete picture of him while largely watching from afar.

Wade marvels at James' basketball talent.

He also marvels just as much about James' personality, something few people get a chance to fully learn about.

"LeBron is known as being one of the top-paid athletes, he's known for his business savvy, he's known for being wise beyond his years," Wade said. "So people would be surprised to know that he's the silliest, goofiest person in the world."

Favre listed as doubtful for likely his last game

The Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Brett Favre's name has appeared frequently on the NFL's weekly injury report over 20 seasons of sprains, strains and painful hits.

This might be the last time: The Minnesota Vikings declared the 41-year-old doubtful to play at Detroit, due to the lingering effects of a concussion.

Favre wore his red quarterback jersey, but he didn't have a helmet on and didn't participate in any drills during Friday's practice. Interim coach Leslie Frazier declined to address whether Favre has passed the post-concussion testing required by the league to return to action.

Favre suffered the head injury against Chicago on Dec. 20 and missed the last game at Philadelphia because of it, the second time in three weeks he sat out after his all-time record consecutive starts streak ended.

"I'm going to just leave it as doubtful for now, without going into any detail about it," Frazier said, adding: "If we leave him doubtful, it should cover things with him. Never rule him out."

As of Thursday morning, Favre hadn't passed the tests.

Favre didn't speak to reporters this week, but Frazier described his attitude as positive. While teammates stretched and warmed up before practice, Favre did a little dancing on the side while music by Michael Jackson and Vanilla Ice blared on the speakers.

Running back Adrian Peterson (knee) was listed as probable, but wide receiver Sidney Rice hadn't yet passed his post-concussion tests and was listed as doubtful to face Detroit. He took a helmet-to-helmet hit during Tuesday's game against the Eagles.

Rice is one of several high-profile players with expiring contracts and thus uncertain futures, with the labor dispute and the possibility of a lockout looming.

"Whatever happens after Sunday, I have no idea what it's going to

be," Rice said. "I'm just going to be sitting back listening to the feedback from my agent and the guys here."

Frazier has pushed a stay-focused mentality to his players since taking over the job when Brad Childress was fired in late November.

"I think it's gone as well as could be expected, considering the circumstances that I inherited and just knowing how things were," Frazier said. "It was not the most enviable position to step into. There were more things going on beyond just football that

had to be dealt with in order to bring our team together. ... Just makes me so proud of our players."

Notes: Frazier said starting safety Madiou Williams (concussion) will be placed on injured reserve and cornerback Marcus Sherels will be promoted from the practice squad for extra depth if starter Asher Allen (abdomen) can't play. ... Cornerback Cedric Griffin was voted the team's winner of the annual Ed Block Courage Award, for coming back from a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

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Notre Dame beats Miami in Sun Bowl

The Associated Press

EL PASO — Freshman Tommy Rees passed for 201 yards and two touchdowns to Michael Floyd as Notre Dame beat Miami 33-17 in the Sun Bowl on Friday, making Brian Kelly the first Fighting Irish coach to win a bowl game in his first season.

After a 20-year break, it was all Irish in the latest installment of a storied rivalry that became known during the 1980s as Catholics versus Convicts.

Notre Dame (8-5) reached the end zone on three of its first four possessions. Rees tossed TD passes of 3 and 34 yards to Floyd and Cierre Wood broke free on a 34-yard scoring run before David Ruffer added field goals from 40, 50 and 19 yards.

The Irish closed with four victories to cap an up-and-down season under Kelly. After a 1-3 start, they endured the death of the team's student videographer and the loss of quarterback Dayne Crist to a season-ending injury during a stunning 28-27 loss to

Tulsa in South Bend, Ind.

The Irish recovered to beat Utah, Army and USC down the stretch, then handled Miami (7-6) easily for Notre Dame's second straight postseason victory.

The Hurricanes trailed 30-3 going into the fourth quarter, completing a season in which their coach was fired with an ugly loss.

Notre Dame's 30th bowl appearance was a New Year's Eve fiesta in El Paso, a predominantly Roman Catholic city on the Mexican border that embraced the Irish with huge cheers from the first glimpse of a golden helmet coming from the locker rooms.

Rees hardly looked like a freshman, completing 15 of 29 attempts without an interception. His performance marked the first time a first-year starting quarterback at Notre Dame won a bowl game.

Floyd had a big day, too, with six catches for 109 yards receiving, and his numbers would have been even better if he'd brought in what would have been two more TD catches.

The game sold out in 21 hours, the fastest in the Sun Bowl's 77-year history, and the crowd of 54,021 set a bowl attendance record. Many fans wore Notre Dame jackets to ward off the 34-degree weather as a round of overnight snow dusted the Franklin Mountains.

Hurricanes — many wearing head covers under their helmets — struggled much of the afternoon to get anything going.

Miami scored twice in the fourth quarter when Stephen Morris threw a 6-yard TD pass to Leonard Hankerson and a 42-yard scoring play to Tommy Streater, but it was too late by then.

The Canes trailed 27-0 late in the first half and the player with the most catches from a Hurricanes quarterback was Irish safety Harrison Smith, who intercepted three passes. Robert Blanton also had an interception during Miami's turnover binge.

Not everything went perfectly for Notre Dame. Ruffer was wide right a 36-yard try late in the third quarter, his first miss on 24 career attempts.

Still, it was a rough finish to a tough season for the Hurricanes, who saw coach Randy Shannon fired in November. With interim coach Jeff Stoutland working the game for Miami from the sideline, newly hired coach Al Golden watched from a Sun Bowl suite.

Jacory Harris started at quarterback for the Canes after Morris sprained an ankle in practice this week. Harris couldn't get anything going, completing just 4 of 7 with three interceptions. Morris took over the second quarter and finished.



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

UConn looks ahead after Stanford loss

The Associated Press

Coach Geno Auriemma always preached that championships are what his Connecticut Huskies chase, not streaks.

With UConn's NCAA-record 90-game run over, Auriemma can get back to his primary goal — winning a third straight national title.

"It's where we go from here that will define this team more than the 90 wins," Auriemma said. "How we play going forward will be this team's defining moment. The 90 wins just belonged to a few of these guys. What happens for the rest of the season will belong to them. And I am excited about that."

Star Maya Moore, who has been the constant for UConn throughout the streak, looked ordinary for one of the rare times in her career. The school's all-time scoring leader was held to just 14 points by Stanford's suffocating defense in Thursday night's 71-59 loss. She settled to shoot 3-pointers —

taking 11 of them — even when Auriemma pleaded with her to take it to the basket.

With her team trailing by six late in the game, Moore finally got to the free throw line for the first time and came up short — missing her only attempt. The normally poised senior was visibly upset after the game, losing for only the third time in her stellar career.

No doubt she'll use this as motivation, just as she did the last time her team was beaten — 998 days ago in the NCAA semifinals by Stanford.

After a cross-country flight home, the Huskies will have six days to prepare for their next opponent — Villanova. The Wildcats will attempt to end two more UConn streaks on Jan. 5. The Huskies haven't lost at home in 69 straight games and not lost consecutive games in nearly 17 years.

Auriemma was disappointed by the loss, but hardly distraught, cracking jokes in the post game press conference.

"This losing stuff is getting old, I hate it," he said. "I just wish we could catch a break every once in a while so these kids can have some success."

He will have ample time to break down the Stanford game and point out to his players every error they made.

"When we show the mistakes to them again, it will mean a lot more this time because now they'll know what the result can be," Auriemma said. "I've used this example before: You tell a kid don't touch a hot stove and they don't listen until they burn themselves. Now, they won't touch it. You can tell kids all you want about problems, but if they never get beat."

"But now they will feel different at practice. I'm happy they'll get to experience that and they'll get to show a different side."

The numbers during the unprecedented run were staggering. The Huskies won by nearly 34 points a game while allowing two teams to come within single digits. They beat ranked opponents 31 times and trailed for just

134 minutes during the 90 wins.

"I think you get a better appreciation for it today, tomorrow, the next day or the next day after that," Auriemma said. "You saw how easily it happened tonight. It's unimaginable for it to go that long without it happening more than once."

The schedule doesn't get any easier after the New Year, when the Big East season kicks into full gear. The conference has seven teams in the Top 25. January also brings a trip to No. 10 North Carolina and a home game on Jan. 31 against third-ranked Duke.

As UConn approached UCLA's vaunted 88-game winning streak over the last few weeks, more and more people compared the two programs. The Huskies share a similar fate with the Bruins (whose streak ended to Notre Dame), losing to the last team to beat them.

UConn hopes for a better end to its season than UCLA. The Bruins lost to N.C. State in the Final Four.

Reid says it would be 'stretch' for Vick to play

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Eagles quarterback Michael Vick is unlikely to play against the Dallas Cowboys after he missed a second straight day of practice Friday.

"I think it will be a stretch for him to play in this game," Philadelphia coach Andy Reid said.

The Eagles listed Vick as questionable on their official injury report. Sunday's home game has no significance to Philadelphia's playoff status.

Vick bruised his right leg on the first play of the Eagles' 24-14 loss to the Vikings Tuesday night, a loss that eliminated the Eagles from contention for a first-round playoff bye and locked them into the No. 3 seed in the NFC playoffs as the East division champions.

The Eagles (10-5) will open postseason against either the Packers, Giants or Buccaneers.

Kevin Kolb, who has started four games, would start if Vick can't go. The Eagles are 8-3 this year when Vick starts and 2-2 with Kolb, who was the opening-day starter.

Reid said Kolb took all the practice reps with the starting offense Thursday and Friday.

Vick, who missed the 2007 and 2008 seasons while in prison after pleading guilty to federal dogfighting charges, was selected to the Pro Bowl for the first time in five years after leading the Eagles to their first NFC East title since

2006.

He's thrown 21 touchdowns and six interceptions, passed for 3,018 yards and rushed for 676.

"He's been in with (trainer) Rick (Burkholder) and getting everything done that needs to be done," Reid said.

Vick missed three games in October with a rib injury. Both of Vick's injuries came on running plays.

Reid said he's not concerned that Vick is putting himself at risk by scrambling too much.

"This did happen on a run, (but) this was a little different," Reid said. "This wasn't a big hit or any of that. Actually, it was just somebody's elbow caught him ... between the slide pad and the knee pad so kind of a freak deal."

"I think he's been doing better at getting down, and he's been working on getting out of bounds, doing those things so this wouldn't happen. This one, actually, he was diving down and he got out of the way of a big hit."

Kolb hasn't played since the Eagles lost to the Titans in Nashville on Oct. 24.

"The more reps you get, the more comfortable you feel, especially for a guy like me who hasn't played in a while," Kolb said. "We have to make sure that we're right for the playoffs, and it starts with us as backups doing the right thing on Sunday."

UCF wins 1st bowl, beats Georgia

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Central Florida wants to be in a BCS automatic-qualifying conference some day. A program that didn't start playing football until 1979 just burnished its resume in a big way by beating a team from one of those power leagues.

Latavius Murray scored on a 10-yard touchdown run with 9:01 left, and UCF held on to beat Georgia 10-6 Friday in the Liberty Bowl and cap the best season in school history with the program's first postseason victory.

The Knights (11-3) had never won more than 10 games in a season and had lost their first three bowl games, including their last visit here in 2007. The Conference USA champs made this win even sweeter by knocking off a Southeastern Conference team in the process, just their second win over that league. The Knights had been 1-13 with the lone win over Alabama in 2000.

"It takes time to get a program going, but I think the depth is there now, and I think we'll be a solid program next year," coach George O'Leary said. "It doesn't happen unless the school makes a commitment."

Georgia (6-7) snapped a four-game bowl winning streak with its first loss since the 2006 Sugar Bowl. Worse for the Bulldogs is notching their first losing season since going 5-6 in 1996. Georgia coach Mark Richt didn't accept the runner's up trophy, instead telling an official to get it to him later.

"We're all disappointed," Richt said. "We didn't want to finish with a loss. We didn't want to finish with a losing record. ... There are reasons why we ended up the way we did. We've got to make change. We've got to make sure it doesn't happen again in the future."

The Bulldogs had the ball longer and last, converting two fourth

downs before Kemal Ishmael knocked down Aaron Murray's final long throw into the end zone as time expired.

And in an ending reminiscent of Thursday night's Music City Bowl finish to regulation, the game seemed to be over before it actually was. Murray's first deep throw into the end zone landed incomplete and the clock appeared to run out. But replay officials reviewed the play and ruled the clock should have stopped with 2 seconds left.

Players from both teams went back to their sideline.

"All of the seniors just stuck together and did our part to get the victory," UCF linebacker Josh Linam said.

The Bulldogs had one more shot to pull out the win. Murray rolled to his left and heaved the ball into the end zone, but Ishmael knocked it to the ground with one hand to start the Knights' celebration.

New Pitt coach jailed on domestic violence charge

The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — New Pittsburgh coach Mike Haywood was jailed Friday on a domestic violence charge after an incident at his South Bend home.

Assistant St. Joseph County State Chief Bill Redman said Haywood was arrested about 3 p.m. Friday after a custody issue developed with a woman with whom Haywood has a child.

The unidentified

woman told police that Haywood grabbed her by the arm and neck and pushed her as she tried to leave.

Redman said the woman had marks on her neck, arms and back.

"The University of Pittsburgh is aware of an alleged incident involving head football coach Michael Haywood today in South Bend, Indiana," the school said in an e-mailed statement.

San Francisco gets 2013 America's Cup

The Associated Press

The next America's Cup will be sailed in 2013 on San Francisco Bay, with a spectacular backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz and the Coit Tower.

San Francisco beat out Newport, R.I., on Friday in the bidding to hold sailing's marquee regatta.

Sailing in San Francisco in a new class of fast, wing-sailed 72-foot catamarans on TV-friendly courses could reinvigorate the competition for the oldest trophy in international sports. The image of the America's Cup was badly damaged during a 2½-year court fight preceding the 33rd America's Cup in February.

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Highly Imaginative Defense

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 9
♥ Q 9
♦ K Q 10 9 8
♣ K 9 7

WEST
♠ 6 2
♥ 8 5
♦ J 6
♣ Q 10 8 6 5 4 2

EAST
♠ A K 3
♥ A K J 10 7
♦ 5 4 3 2
♣ 3

SOUTH
♠ J 8 7 5 4
♥ 6 4 3 2
♦ A 7
♣ A J

The bidding:
East 1♥ South 2♠ West Pass North Dble
Pass 2♠ Pass

Opening lead — eight of hearts.

Partic hands might lack the dramatic impact of game or slam hands, but they give rise to many ingenious forms of play.

Consider this deal where South winds up in two spades on the bidding shown. North's double is a bit light by ordinary standards, but it is perfectly acceptable in the balancing seat after East's opening heart bid is passed out. South's jump to two spades is similarly justified by his

holding of five spades and 10 high-card points, suggesting game if North has a sound double.

East wins the heart lead with the ten, and the outcome rests on his next move. Actually, there is only one card East can return at this point to defeat the contract, and that card is the three of spades!

Declarer is helpless against this return. If he plays a heart at trick three, East wins and cashes the A-K of trumps and two more hearts to put the contract down one.

If declarer instead plays three rounds of diamonds after the low trump return, discarding a heart on the third round of diamonds, West ruffs and returns a heart to sink the contract in a slightly different way.

The three-of-spades return is not as difficult a play as it might seem. East can tell from the bidding that South has both minor-suit aces and that the defense is therefore sure to fail unless East can win four heart tricks in addition to his A-K of trumps.

Once this thought occurs to East, he must proceed on the basis that what he hopes is the case is actually the case. Accordingly, he returns a low trump at trick two and goes to the head of the class!

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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USDA-NRCS wants proposals for conservation projects

Special to the Herald

TEMPLE — The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is seeking proposals for projects under two NRCS programs that will bring partners together to help farmers, ranchers and private nonindustrial forest landowners implement beneficial water and land conservation practices.

Project proposals can be submitted under the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) and the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) programs. Project requirements can be viewed at www.regulations.gov.

The NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance to eligible producers in approved project areas.

“These voluntary conservation initiatives pro-

vide farmers and ranchers the opportunity to receive financial and technical assistance to improve water conditions on their agriculture land,” said Salvador Salinas, acting NRCS state conservationist for Texas. “Our goal is to support projects that will improve the health of the natural resources on their land and bring the environmental and economic benefits of conservation to their local communities.”

Through AWEP, NRCS provides support for projects that conserve and improve water quality, use irrigation water efficiently, mitigate the effects of drought and climate change and take other actions that benefit water resources.

NRCS enters into partnership agreements with federally recognized Indian Tribes, state and local

units of government, agricultural and forestland associations and nongovernmental organizations to help landowners plan and implement conservation practices in designated project areas.

Three projects approved for AWEP funding in Fiscal Year 2010 are supporting water conservation efforts in Texas. For example, the Ogallala Aquifer project, sponsored by the Texas Water Development Board, received \$4 million in funding to address water quantity issues in the 49 Panhandle counties within the aquifer area.

Through CCPI, NRCS and partners assist producers in implementing conservation practices on agricultural and nonindustrial private forest lands.

See **PROJECTS**, Page 7B

Grocery prices to climb

Florida agriculture loses \$273 million in December freeze

TAMARA LUSH

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — December’s wave of unusually cold weather has destroyed much of Florida’s green beans and sweet corn, which means shoppers will pay more at the grocery store and see more imports on the shelves.

Florida is the nation’s largest producer of green beans and sweet corn — the kind of corn we eat, not the kind we put in our gas tanks.

According to the Florida Department of Agriculture, the state lost \$273 million from the December freezes alone — including nearly 9,000 acres of crops. The statistics are compiled only through Dec. 20, which means they don’t even account for the problems caused by this week’s cold.

2010 dealt a one-two punch for the state’s farms. An 11-day spell in January was one of the area’s coldest periods on record, and December has had an unprecedented trio of cold fronts.

Sam Accursio lost nearly all of his pickling cucumbers at his Homestead farm last January. Eleven months later, about half of his new crop has been wiped out.

“It’s crazy,” Accursio said. “I’ve never experienced a growing season where we’ve had four frosts in one year.”

Gov. Charlie Crist extended the state of emergency for Florida’s agricultural community this week. The order eliminates all weight restrictions on trucks carrying agricultural products so farmers can harvest and ship as much produce as possible before more damage is done.

But if any Florida corn, cucumbers or beans find their way onto grocery store shelves in coming weeks, prices will be higher.



J.D. Poole, the vice president and sales manager of Pioneer Growers Cooperative in Belle Glade, said corn was selling at \$8 a box at the beginning of December. Now it’s selling for \$30 a box (there are 48 ears of corn in a box).

About 80 percent of the crop in western Palm Beach County — where most Florida sweet corn is grown — was destroyed during the first cold snap in December. Corn farmers farther south in Homestead are still trying to determine what, if any, damage was done to their young plants by this week’s weather.

“Obviously the supply has dwindled down to nothing,” Poole said. “Everybody’s cupboards are bare.”

Until Florida’s farmers can replant and grow another crop, families in the U.S. will be getting much of their produce from overseas.

“You’re going to see product being sourced out of Mexico,” said Brad Bergmann, the co-owner of Hugh H. Branch, Inc., a Belle Glade company that stores, ships and markets corn, beans and romaine lettuce grown by farmers near Florida’s Everglades. “As far as Florida product, it’s still

going to take some time to see the full effects of this. But you’re going to see higher pricing.”

While strawberry and citrus farmers can use sprinklers and other irrigation methods to coat fruit with insulating water during a freeze, that doesn’t work with vegetables. Those growing beans and corn have turned to another, more expensive, line of defense: helicopters.

Farmers pay about \$2,500 an hour to fly a helicopter back and forth over the crops, pushing warm air 50 feet above the plants onto the cold ground. The warmer air prevents cold and frost from settling on the plants.

But the technique can be used only when there is no wind. And it’s dangerous; three helicopters crashed in separate accidents while trying to warm crops in Palm Beach County in early December. One of the pilots suffered serious injuries, the other two had minor scrapes and bruises.

It’s not just corn that has suffered. Florida’s agriculture department released a list of losses this week:

- The eggplant crop is down by 80 percent, with the total

See **FREEZE**, Page 7B

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wachovia Securities Midland office.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior registered client associate and the senior associate to the branch manager.



Flanked by Republicans, President Obama signed the tax bill into law last Friday. One might have had the impression that a new sense of cooperation and compromise has settled into Washington.

While this important piece of legislation, which we have discussed since the beginning of 2010, is a vital element to sustain the bull market, we are not naïve. And we won’t be holding our breath for such spirited cooperation as Congress moves forward next year to tackle many more pieces of important legislation.

The president said that while the legislation is not perfect, he was absolutely certain it will aid the U.S. economy, lead to hiring and help lower the current 9.8 percent unemployment rate.

Many economists agree that it will aid the economy many of them seem more enthused about the payroll-tax holiday — that is, the cutting of the Social Security tax rate by 2 percent for 2011 for most workers and the immediate 100 percent write-off of new equipment purchased by businesses.

The change voters signaled they wanted in the mid-term elections received another nod from Congress last week as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid pulled a \$1 trillion plus spending package full of more pork than a pig farm. The stock market liked what it saw.

Stocks worked higher last week, but the slower holiday mode has definitely kicked in. The major stock indices rose by fractional percentages, but the most important aspect to trading, in our view, is that the bears have been only able to generate on 7 percent pullback since early summer and, more recently, since the late August to early November 17 percent S&P 500 rally, only one just shy of 4 percent.

The month of December started with a bang as the market rose more than 5 percent in the first eight trading days and then quietly churned modestly higher as the bears were unable to generate any sustained selling.

This is how strong bull markets act. Investors continue to buy the dips while professional money managers keep a floor under the market as they chase performance into year-end reporting time to their clients.

Certainly, the 800-pound gorilla in the room, and what the financial media and many professional market watchers have dubbed the biggest current threat to stocks, has been the recent relentless rise in bond yields. Commentators predict this may soon pose stiff competition for stocks.

The 10-year U.S. Treasury yield rose as high as 3.57 percent last week, its high since May 2010, which is a sharp move of nearly 1.5 percent in just over two months. In the same two month time period, the 30-year Treasury rose to 4.62 percent, a 1 percent increase. In our opinion, this is more of a short term, knee jerk reaction than a longer term threat to stocks.

We don’t believe the general perception of an imminent inflation spike or economic slowing deserves much airtime, and this view was supported by economic data last week.

Nobody knows at what level interest rates would ultimately cause a heavy outflow from stocks into bonds, but we do not believe that the market is there yet and do not believe that this recent rise in yields is sustainable.

We have commented in the past that the third year of a presidential cycle is the strongest of the four years for the stock market and even stronger if one measures from the low in the second year to the high in the third year.

There are other competing cycles, which present more sobering data as we enter the third year of economic recovery in March 2011.

See **WATCH**, Page 7B

Unemployment applications drop sharply

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The number of people applying for unemployment benefits fell to its lowest point in nearly two and a half years, a sign that the job market is slowly improving.

Applications dropped by 34,000 to 388,000, the fewest since July 2008, the Labor Department said Thursday. The number of applications has either fallen or remained unchanged in five of the past six weeks.

Fewer than 425,000 people seeking unemployment benefits signal modest job growth. But economists say applications need to fall consistently to 375,000 or below to bring down the unemployment rate. Applications for unemployment benefits peaked during the recession at 651,000 in March 2009.

The latest report, which covers the week with the Christmas holiday, is considered by some economists to be less reliable than

most. One reason is that many state offices close for at least one day. Other seasonal factors make the report more volatile.

Still, a department analyst said there were no unusual factors affecting the report. The department takes into consideration the impact of the holiday.

Analysts said what matters most is the downward trend.

“If we can continue this improving trend, we’ll likely see stronger job growth in 2011,” said Benjamin Reitzes, an economist at BMO Capital Markets.

Applications are the closest thing to a real-time snapshot of the job market. They reflect the level of layoffs but can also indicate whether companies are willing to add workers.

The four-week average, a less-volatile measure, dropped by 12,500 to 414,000 in the week ending Dec. 25. That’s the lowest level since late July 2008.

For most of the year applications hovered around 450,000

before dropping below that number in November. The four-week average has fallen by more than 40,000 in the past two months — a sign that hiring could accelerate in the coming months.

Employers added a net total of only 39,000 jobs in November, the Labor Department said earlier this month, and the unemployment rose to 9.8 percent.

Most economists expect the December jobs report will show larger job gains on Jan. 7.

The total number of people receiving unemployment benefits rose in the week ending Dec. 18 to 4.13 million.

That doesn’t include millions of unemployed workers receiving extended benefits under an emergency program set up during the recession. About 4.5 million people are receiving extended benefits for up to 99 weeks. All told, nearly 8.9 million people obtained unemployment benefits in the week ending Dec. 11, the latest data available.

► **Public Records**

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:
Gregory Aguilar Jr., 1508 Sunset Ave., Big Spring
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80, Abilene
Javier N. Alcantar, 1513 Scurry, Big Spring
David Alcorn, Fort Jackson, S.C.
Bryan Layton Allison, 1100 College Circle, Ranger
Aleman, Lisa Beth, 201 N. Beaugard, Stanton.
Demetrio Alva, 11520 Arrow Rock, El Paso
Terica Alvarado, 1100 E. 61st St., Odessa
Anthony G. Anderson, 3401 Cammelia Dr., Temple
Daniel Antrim, 120 N. 22nd Pl., Lamesa
Mark A. Antu, 1212 Mulberry, Big Spring
Mardell Arney, Rt. 1, Box 746, Braggs, Okla.
Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 1, Big Spring
Christine Avalos Bara, of 1405 N. Sixth, Lamesa
Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring
Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock
Christopher Martin Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big Spring
Samantha Ann Barrera, 606 La-Mar, Sweetwater
Daniel B. Barron, 507 N. Ave. F, Lamesa
Jill Bass, 8301 N. Golder, Odessa
Tammy L. Baucum, 1910 Conover, Odessa
Amy Benavides, 3001 N. Midland Dr., Big Spring
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
Kerrie Lea Bhuiyan, 538 Westover No. 257, Big Spring
Mary Gonzales Biehl, 1 Cedar Hills, Merkel
Crystal Biles, 15885 S. Quartz, Odessa
Vern Black, 329 W. Tennessee, Floydada
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Ave. L, Lamesa
Edward Bourland, 229 Edgewood Dr., San Angelo
Alexis A. Bowie, 2811 Lawton, Amarillo
Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd St., Lubbock
David Bressard, Box 3334, Fort Bliss
Chad Wayne Brown, 2901 Ave. Q, Snyder
Douglas Brown, 205 W. 14th, Mohanahs
Johnny William Brown, 507 E. Sixth, Big Spring
Mary Brown, 3241 Franklin, Midland
Wanda Heron Brown, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 113, Big Spring
Richard Henry Burk, P.O. Box 171933, Arlington
Melinda Burns, 2218 Carlton Way, San Angelo
Aaron Ramiro Bustamante, 1744 Purdue, Big Spring
Michelle Ann Bustamante, 1744 Purdue, Big Spring
Cristal Cabello, 1314 65th Drive Apt. C, Lubbock
Melissa Camargo, 2100 Ave. N, Tahoka
Latonya Campbell, 7549 Ashcroft Circle, Fort Worth
Maria Campos, 751 Agua Pesada, El Paso
Donna J. Abbott Cantwell, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 101, Big Spring
Wayne V. Carpenter, 3766 Patriot Dr. No. 10, Abilene
Lenard Carson Jr., 102 S. Peach, Pecos
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring
Antonia Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford
Chona Castillo, 105 Sprayberry, Midland
Kendra Caston, 700 Lancaster, Big Spring
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder
Randy Clark, 322 Ave. C, Goodfellow AFB
Jared Kendero Coby, 901 S. High Street # 802, Longview
Cynthia Colene Cole, 2603 Lynn Dr., Big Spring
Vanessa Conatser, 3218 Fordham, Big Spring
Tilone Cooper, 4113 Deer Trail, Temple
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
Charles Curfman, 3307 E. 11th, Big Spring
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio

Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
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Lizeth Deanda, 1541 N. Philemon, Odessa
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Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle
Kristi L. Elliott, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Colby Elliott, 1821 S. Jackson No. 36, San Angelo
Alfredo Flores Jr., PO Box 272, Laredo
E.C. Flores, 2424 N. Treadaway, Abilene
Irene Paredes Flores, 1000 E. 20th St., Big Spring
Shannon Marie Fonda, 10321 E. Llano Dr.
Candy Foot, 944 E. 16th, Colorado City
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Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown
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Jacob Fuentes, 606 24th, Snyder
Ruby Gaitan, P.O. Box 783, Lamesa
Aldo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa
Kenneth Galindo, 6830 El Paso Dr., El Paso
Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield
James Randal Gardner, P.O. Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Joseph Garza Jr., 418 Ryon St., Big Spring
Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm No. 10, Laredo
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Christopher George, 215 S. Third No. 30, Laramie, Wyo.
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James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden City
Myrna Gonzalez, 2514 Redbud, Odessa
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Zack Green, 315 23rd, Big Spring
Gabriel Guerrero, 411 NE 10th Street, Big Spring
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood
Timothy Hansen, 1310 Park, Big Spring
Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring
Clifford Arvin Hart Jr., 3234 Drexel, Big Spring
Nicholas Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams, Breckenridge
Dana Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct., Arlington
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Veronica Cervantes Hernandez, 1005 N. 17th St., Lamesa
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Robert Stephen Hoback, 1516 Cumberland, Odessa
Gerald Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston
Allen Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 No. 1502, Big Spring
Hermon Hokes, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
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Vanessa Dawn Hollis, 800 E. 13th St., Big Spring
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Regina Jones, 2230 Mount, Groveton
Luz Martinez Juarez, 602 N.W. Seventh St., Big Spring
Katie Lynn Junkin, 1410 Lancaster, Big Spring
Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City
Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring
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Robert Landrum, 310 Palace, Hobbs, N.M.
Kayle R. Lane, P.O. Box 83965, Waco
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Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th, Big Spring
Alana Lee, 2711 66th, Lubbock
Lindsey Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring
Laura Lea Leon, 319 Rocky Lane Dr., Midland
Mark Lewis, 3011 Park Row Ave., Dallas
Jill Livingston, 2200 St. Francis Ct., Portales, N.M.
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Adam Lopez, 3105 Delano, Midland
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Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
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Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo
Margarita Martinez, 4328 ½ Titanic, El Paso
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Rodolfo Martinez, 706 N. First, Lamesa
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Karen McCalister, 5925 Raton No. 154, Fort Worth
Roger McDonald, 3853 E. Hobson Rd., Big Spring
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa
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Brian Lee Mendez, 503 56th, Lubbock
Ebaline Mendoza, P.O. Box 291, Mertzon
James Menezes, 1200 Grafa, Big Spring
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Brandy A. Molina, 1906 S. Alabama, Big Spring
Jessica Morales, 2060 N. Center, Mesa Ariz.
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
Esiquieo Moreno, 709 Parker, Andrews
Brandy Munoz, 1312 Park, Big Spring
Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
Angel Nabarrette, 4100 Brick Plant Rd., Snyder

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Christopher Orr, 1200 Frazier, Big Spring
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Lisa Gail Page, 6109 Ratliff, Big Spring
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Snookie Darlene Poe, 524 Wilson, Cleburne
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Abelina Tercero, 127 Arthur, Longview
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Mandy Shae Wilson, 210 10th St., Sterling City
Brandi Woodard, 642 Westview Dr., Abilene
Ricahrd Wren, 3303 91st, Lubbock
Chad Matthew Wright, 211 E. Robinson, Big Spring
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Rd., Fort Worth
Lorenzo Ferrera Yanez, 211 Channing St., Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring
Shuang Cheng Zhang, 1201 Gregg, Big Spring
County Court Decisions:
Judgment and sentence, Shane Eddie Anderson, driving while license invalid/previous conviction, 30 days in jail, \$500 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Juan Miguel Lerma, harassment; 30 days in jail, \$500 fine.
Revocation of probation, Leona Ann Johnson, theft over \$50 and under \$500; 60 days in jail, \$1,500 fine.
Probated judgment, Corey Dancer, criminal mischief over \$50 and under \$500; six months probation, \$500 fine.
Probated judgment, Betye McWilliams, theft of service over \$20 and under \$500; 12 months probation, \$100 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Juan Lerma, theft by check over \$20 and under \$500; 180 days in jail.
Probated judgment, Jimmy Ray Melchor, driving while intoxicated/second offense; 24 months probation/\$1,500 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Otis James Porter, driving while license invalid/previous conviction; \$748.05 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Robert Luis Salazar, false report to police officer; 30 days in jail, \$500 fine.
Deferred adjudication, David Kilgore, possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces; six months probation, \$750 fine.
Probated judgment, Robert Castaneda, accident involving damage to vehicle over \$200; 12 months probation, \$750 fine.
Probated judgment, Megan Lavell

Kimmel, driving while intoxicated/second offense; 12 months probation, \$250 fine.
Deferred adjudication, Jacob Daniel Petrowski, theft of property over \$500 and less than \$1,500; 12 months probation, \$500 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Freddy Cano Rodriguez Jr., resisting arrest, search or transport; 24 days in jail.
Probated judgment, Michael Shawn Thompson, driving while intoxicated; 12 months probation, \$750 fine.
Probated judgment, Christopher Carter, possession of marijuana under two ounces; six months probation, \$500 fine.
Probated judgment, Erlinda Evette Fios, assault causing bodily injury; 24 months probation, \$2,000 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Juan Manuel Lara-Reyna, driving while intoxicated; 30 days in jail, \$500 fine.
Judgment and sentence, Raymond Charles Strayhan, driving while intoxicated; 25 days in jail.
Marriage Licenses:
Jose Humberto Carillo Jr., 19, Spring, and Kassie Renee Ramirez, 18, Big Spring.
Michael Earnest McCormick, 38, and Shelley Lee Norman, 35, both of Big Spring.
Roy Wayne Hunt, 38, and Shannon Deann Aldrich, 39, both of Big Spring.
Dustin Gene Reel, 30, El Paso, and Jessica Anne Ellison, 27, Big Spring.
District Court Filings:
Vernell McKinney vs. Carletta McKinney, divorce.
Citibank vs. Jesus Lopez, accounts, notes and contracts.
Jose Olivarez vs. John Liedecke, injuries involving automobile.
Francisco Arteaga vs. Barbara Arteaga, divorce.
Kristie Lanea Raspe vs. John Adrian Raspe, divorce.
Warranty Deeds:
Grantor: Antonio Chavez et al
Grantee: Kelly McBee
Property: Lot 5, block 6, Tennyson's addition
Date: Nov. 15, 2010
Grantor: Estate of Tommie Ray Fleeman
Grantee: Daniel Fleeman and Nancy Donovan
Property: East part of section 46, block 27, T&TC RR survey
Date: Dec. 17, 2010
Grantor: Charlotte Holcomb
Grantee: Charlotte Holcomb Revocable Living Trust
Property: Lots 1 and 2, subdivision B, and lot 6, subdivision A, block 18, Fairview Heights Addition
Date: Dec. 22, 2010
Grantor: Cheryl Isaacs
Grantee: Ronnie Harold Jones Jr.
Property: Southeast quarter of section 43, block 31, Howard County
Date: Nov. 11, 2010
Grantor: Louis Casillas
Grantee: Ernesto Rodriguez
Property: Lot 9, block 6, Lakeview Addition
Date: Dec. 20, 2010
Grantor: Richard Hirzel
Grantee: Debra Quimby
Property: Lot 38, block 13, Duglass Addition
Date: Dec. 29, 2010
Grantor: Phillip and Mandy Anderson
Grantee: Randy and Margie Vaughn
Property: Tract out of northern half of section 17, block 31, T-1-S, T&P RR survey
Date: Dec. 29, 2010
Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Toby and Cassie Clayton
Grantee: Rowdy and Kelly Taron
Property: Lot 7, block 5, Highland South Addition
Date: Dec. 21, 2010
Grantor: Shawn and Casie Jones Romine
Grantee: Bryan and Margaret Bailey
Property: Tract out of northwest quarter of section 40, block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR survey
Date: Dec. 21, 2010
Grantor: Eugene and Barbara Bryant
Grantee: Robert Neil Williams
Property: Tract out of section 43, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Dec. 22, 2010

FREEZE

Continued from Page 4C

U.S. market down 8.5 percent — nearly all attributed to Florida's losses.
• Shipments of bell peppers from Florida are down some 50 percent, while pepper shipments from the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Nicaragua are up.

• Green beans were heavily affected by the freeze — prices have skyrocketed from about \$8.85 a bushel around Thanksgiving to about \$35 now. Meanwhile, imports from Guatemala are up by 75 percent.
• Lettuces also took a hit. Endive and escarole harvests are down 40 percent, and Bergmann said about 6,000 acres of Romaine have “gone kaput.”
One bright spot: strawberries. The

fruit on the vine survived, and farmers' only worry is that coming weeks' crops will be delayed because the cold weather slowed plants' growth.
It's still unknown how citrus, the state's biggest crop, was affected by December's weather. About 90 percent of Florida's orange crop is used for juice, and processors won't tally deliveries and the amount of juice until June. Damage to trees also is slow to reveal itself.

The state's kumquat crop definitely suffered. Kumquats, which look like tiny oranges but taste slightly more bitter, are highly susceptible to cold weather and freeze at 26 degrees.
Kumquat Growers, Inc. in Dade City, said they've lost 20 percent of the crop this year, after losing 50 percent in January.
“It has been one of the coldest years we've ever dealt with,” Gude said.

WATCH

Continued from Page 4C

The Advisory Services Group's (ASG) Equity Strategy team has pointed out that since World War II, the third year of recovery has translated to an average return of 10 percent.
Another historical fact that comes

into play is that 2010 is on course for the second year in a row of double digit returns. Since 1950, there have been only three periods when the S&P 500 has strung together three years in a row of double digit returns: 1949-1951, 1950-1952 and 1963-1965.
And then came the extraordinary 1990s when we say five straight years of double digit returns between 1995 and 1999. While past performance is no guarantee of future results, this

is consistent with Wells Fargo Advisor's muted outlook for stock market returns in 2011.
Momentum indicators are creeping up to overbought readings and investor sentiment continues to show a high degree of complacency. In spite of this, we believe momentum remains on the bull's side.
Enjoy the expected rise.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced on Dec. 21, 2010, by Scott Marcouiller, Wells Fargo Advisors' chief market strategist. The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Well Fargo or its affiliates. Additional information is available upon request at 432-684-7335.

PROJECTS

Continued from Page 4C

NRCS leverages financial and technical assistance with partners' resources to install soil erosion practices, manage grazing lands, improve forestlands, establish cover crops, reduce on-farm energy usage and other conservation measures.
CCPI is open to federally recognized tribes, state and local units of government, producer associations, farmer cooperatives, institutions of higher

education and nongovernmental organizations that work with producers.
Proposals for AWEP and CCPI projects must be received by NRCS by Jan. 28, 2011. Visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/awep and www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ccpi web pages to learn more.
Since its inception in 1935, NRCS has advanced a unique partnership with state and local governments and private landowners delivering conservation based on specific, local conservation needs, while accommodating state and national interests.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Glasscock County Independent School District will receive sealed bids for General Construction Work for the Bus Barn Addition. Sealed bids (prepared according to the Instructions to Bidders) may be sent to Mr. Steve Long, Superintendent, Glasscock Co. ISD, P O Box 9, Garden City, TX 79739. The bid opening location will be held in the Glasscock Co. ISD Administration Bldg., 240 W. Bearkat, Garden City, TX at 3:30 P.M., local time, January 10, 2011. Bids received prior to this time will be securely kept, unopened. Bids received after this time will not be considered. Bid Documents will be available beginning December 20, 2010 for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 per set and may be secured from Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Engineers-Architects-Planners, 1700 W. Wall, Ste 100., Midland, Texas 79701, 432-697-1447. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on January 5, 2011 at the project site at 4:00 PM. #6818 December 26, 2010 and January 2, 2011

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Tyrrell Wayne Davis, Deceased, were issued on December 21, 2010, in Cause No. P-13917, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Shirley Lynn Davis.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o Shirley Lynn Davis, Executrix Estate of Tyrrell Wayne Davis 2322 Brent Drive Big Spring, Texas 79720 DATED the 27th day of December, 2010. R. Shane Seaton Attorney for Shirley Davis State Bar No.: 24060918 P.O. Box 2211 Big Spring, TX 79721 Telephone: (432)264-1800 Facsimile: (432)264-0785. #6820 January 2, 2011

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Eric Harlon Walker, Deceased, were issued on December 21, 2010, in Cause No. P-13916, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Toni Walker.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o Toni Walker, Executrix Estate of Eric Harlon Walker 2508 Central Big Spring, Texas 79720 DATED the 27th day of December, 2010. R. Shane Seaton Attorney for Toni Walker State Bar No.: 24060918 P.O. Box 2211 Big Spring, TX 79721 Telephone: (432)264-1800 Facsimile: (432)264-0785. #6821 January 2, 2011

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ray Franklin White, Deceased, were issued on December 21, 2010, in Cause No. P-13915, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Marilyn White. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o Marilyn White Estate of Ray Franklin White P.O. Box 3783 Big Spring, Texas 79721 DATED the 27th day of December, 2010. R. Shane Seaton Attorney for Marilyn White State Bar No.: 24060918 P.O. Box 2211 Big Spring, TX 79721 Telephone: (432)264-1800 Facsimile: (432)264-0785. #6822 January 2, 2011

Legals

Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit Linn Operating, Inc., 600 Travis, Suite 5100, Houston, TX, 77002, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Glorieta formation, TL&M B Lease, Well Number 16. The proposed injection well is located 3 miles Southeast of Coahoma, in the latan, East Howard Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,790'-2,912'. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #6823 January 2, 2011

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The waning moon in Sagittarius opens your eyes and curiosity to what is going on outside of your little corner of the world. Answer the call of adventure. Maybe life is no more lively "over there" than it is "in here," but it doesn't hurt to find out. Whether it's another country or two doors down, investigate, engage and enjoy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Motivating yourself is more a matter of planning than discipline. If you have a plan that's easy to follow, you'll follow it. If you don't, you won't. Keep simplifying your life as you go.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Loosen up on the self-discipline. It won't give you total control of your time like the so-called experts suggest. Anyway, if you could control your time totally, you'd be extremely bored with life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're not in the mood to simply do a good job; you want the results to be nothing short of greatness. The trick is to give yourself enough time to bring your project to the realm of excellence.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Do everything you can to prepare yourself for an upcoming presentation. Take twice the time you think you'll need. Preparation is the most important element and will determine to a great extent the outcome.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are impressionable. Fill your eyes and mind with the loveliest of visions over the next few days. Gazing at beauty makes you even more beautiful than you already are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Within this day, there will be the imperative to move quickly, as well as the need to slow down and reduce your actions considerably. Be aware of what speed is needed. You're learning the art of shifting gears.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be faced with a creative task. You do not need an editor or a censor to do well in this regard. Your brain will do the appropriate work without your needing to interfere. Tell your inner critic to take a break.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's better if you don't worry so much. Here's a simple yoga exercise to reduce your anxiety: Hold one thumb with the other hand for three minutes and then switch.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In the past, fear blinded you to some of your options. Now your eyes are open. You will see more clearly the range of your choices and the particulars of what your choices are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your mind seems to have an agenda of its own today, as it takes you places you may or may not want to go. Meditate to get back into balance. If you don't know how, this is a fantastic time to learn.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-

Feb. 18). There is just too much stimulation in your life right now. Get to a quiet place for an hour — maybe a church or a library. You will be amazed at how one hour of silence will transform your mood.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your mind is so creative, and it will give you many different answers to the problems that life and business set before you — so many, in fact, that it will be challenging to know which solution is the best.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 2). You live fully,

each day taking in as much of life as you can and letting the rest go. Something changes in you this month. New resolutions drive you. As you practice being worry-free, you will make it so. February brings a financial bonus. A big project is completed in April. June brings a happy family occasion. Leo and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 21, 14 and 16.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: For centuries, mankind has considered the solar eclipse to be an overwhelmingly bad sign

— a logical assumption when one considers that the sun keeps life going on earth. What could possibly be good about it disappearing and sending us into the complete dark in the middle of what was otherwise a perfectly good day? And what exactly could cause such a dark omen? The Chinese thought it was a dragon eating the sun. The Greeks thought Zeus was hiding the sun, just to be spiteful. The Chippewa Indians tried to reignite the dark sun by shooting fire into the sky. And though most 21st century people find the eclipse more fascinating than fear inspiring, there

is still some deep-rooted primal sense that reserves the right to find the whole idea unsettling. This year brings six eclipses, four solar and two lunar. The first one will be on January 4 as the sun and the moon are in Capricorn, the sign of tradition. There will be customs that come under scrutiny. Whether they should be upheld, amended or dropped in favor of creating new traditions will be the decision to address this week

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HOLIDAY MATHS

DEAR MARGO: by Margo Howard

A 6-Year-Old Terrorist

Dear Margo: My 4-year-old son was recently invited to a sleepover at his 6-year-old cousin, "Josh's," house.

My sister-in-law, "Ella," arranged the sleepover to cheer Josh up, as he's currently suspended from school for bringing rocks into the classroom and throwing them at other children.

My husband and I are not going to let our son go, and we don't have any plans to let our kids spend unsupervised time with Ella's kids, or with Ella.



MARGO HOWARD

I know that we can get out of this sleepover, but I also know that these invitations are going to keep coming.

My husband and I want to be a positive influence on our nephews and nieces, but we see their behavioral problems getting worse every year, and we don't want them to influence or put peer pressure on our kids.

When Ella or one of her kids eventually confronts us about not letting our

kids attend their events, what should we say? — *Not Gonna Budge*

Dear Not: A 6-year-old is bringing rocks to school and throwing them at the other children?

This kid sounds like a very short thug. You are right that there is clearly a behavioral issue, and these actions are not "normal."

Even kids who scratch and bite are in need of a little help. And it sounds like he has sibs who are just as harmfully aggressive.

I wouldn't beat around the bush, because, really, how many times can you say that a 4-year-old has a previous engagement?

You and/or your husband, in the spirit of helpfulness, should tell your sister-in-law and her husband that you find their children's behavior outside the norm, and you strongly recommend they all see a child specialist.

Then you might add that you are not comfortable having your children visit until the junior members of their household conform to what you deem appropriate and safe behavior.

Be warned that they

may take offense and drop you like a hot rock. Oh, sorry, didn't mean to bring that up again. Be strong. Good luck. — *Margo, safely*

When the Timetables Are Different

Dear Margo: I am 25 years old, and my boyfriend is 37. We've been dating for a year and a half.

I want to move in with him so we can take the relationship to the next level, but I think he is afraid of commitment. He says he wants marriage and kids one day, but he's already 37 and doesn't seem to be making any moves in those directions.

He wants me to wait six more months and then revisit the topic. I love him and want to be with him, but six months is a long time to wait when there isn't even a guarantee that he would be willing to let me move in then.

Also, I am not from this state and would not stay here if it weren't for him. What should I do? — *Antsy Regarding my Future*

Dear Ants: What is the hurry, my dear? It is never in anyone's interest

to push things along, especially when there is resistance.

"Marry in haste, repent at leisure" is an old saying, but you could easily substitute "move in in haste..."

The ideal situation (for you) would be for him to be the one wishing to hurry things up.

His reluctance may be uncertainty, a desire to live alone or some foreknowledge that you are not "the one."

If his timetable does not jibe with yours, take yourself back home and find out whether he misses you.

Or not. I'm never in favor of games, so I won't say play hard to get, but I will say, in this instance, let the timing be his, and if it doesn't suit you, say au revoir. — *Margo, spontaneously*

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.

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Answer to previous puzzle

Grid of words: SWAT, CABAL, POET, UHUH, AROSE, ACRE, NITE, STOKE, ZEUS, GROWTH, SPURT, APT, EMI, PARENTS, JUGBANDS, TARS, APU, NORAD, YIPES, IDLE, NOWIN, ERIQ, LOFTS, PERES, ANY, SALE, DEWYEYED, ACTSOUT, SNL, BAR, TRAFFICFLOW, AMER, EXILE, MINE, SPAM, KITES, AMEN, HYMN, ASSET, NEST

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Back, 11 Effortless pace, 15 Town named for a Penobscot chief, 16 Thought, 17 Much, 18 Put up, 19 Some Siberians, 20 Bouncy step, 22 Dirt trapper, 23 Dimwit on a 1944 Time cover, 24 Approver of 200+ US stamp designs, 25 Star of the Rear Window remake, 27 Judge of the underworld, in Michelangelo's Last Judgment, 29 One up, 30 Play date, 33 Stats, 34 Scale models?, 35 Steams, 37 Give less than one's all, 38 Domineer harshly over, 39 K ration, e.g., 40 Amb. approver, 41 Early scenes of The Wizard of Oz, 42 Frequent, 44 Hot spots, 45 "All ___ are liars": Psalms, 46 CNN departure of 2009, 50 Tony winner as Sweeney, 51 Literature Nobelist who cofounded the London School of Economics, 53 World leader, 54 Dismiss, with "out", 56 Like the French motto, 58 Start of Idaho's motto, 59 "The King of Latin Music", 60 Leftovers, 61 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award recipient of '93, 7 Trace, 8 Puts into action, 9 ___ personality, 10 Governor of Connecticut, 11 Cut away, 12 GPS functions, 13 Subject of a Ken Burns 2009 miniseries, 14 In the Name of Honor author, 21 Proven, 24 Only Best Director Oscar/Tony/Emmy winner in the same year, 26 Sermon ender, 28 Choral repertoire, 29 Typical Indian, 30 Ages, 31 Out of order, in a way, 32 Doubly misnamed edible, 34 Boxing great from Panama, 36 '70s head of the Organization of African Unity, 42 Girlfriend in the Garfield films, 43 On the nose, 45 Victor___ Hugo, 47 Latter-day geggaws, 48 German 101 word, 49 Part of the Elvis persona, 52 Address abbreviation, 53 Drains, 55 Quip, 57 Gothic giant

Crossword grid with numbers 1 through 61 indicating starting positions for clues.

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► Anniversary



Isidoro and Manuela Galan

Isidoro and Manuela Galan 62nd anniversary

Isidoro and Manuela Galan celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on New Year's Day.

Maurice and Vivian Griffith 69th anniversary

Maurice and Vivian Griffith of Big Spring celebrate their 69th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011.

► Engagements

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Jennifer Ann Davidson and Brady Alexander Hedges

Davidson and Hedges

Scott and Kathy Davidson of Big Spring have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Jennifer Ann Davidson, to Brady Alexander Hedges of Wills Point, the son of Jim and Sasha Hedges of Edgewood.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Big Spring High School and is expected to graduate in May 2011 with a bachelor's degree in organizational management from Lubbock Christian University. She is currently an employee of the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

The prospective groom is a 2000 graduate of Wills Point High School and is self-employed.

The couple plan a Jan. 3, 2011, wedding, but will have a formal ceremony and reception at the Cacharel Grand Ballroom in Arlington on June 4, 2011.

HATS welcomes your support

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.



Isidoro and Manuela Galan

► Births



Isabella Mia Mendoza

Isabella Mia Mendoza, a girl, was born Dec. 20, 2010, at Las Palmas Medical Center in El Paso, weighing 5 pounds, 9 ounces and was 16-1/2 inches long.

She is the daughter of Anthony and Leticia Mendoza of El Paso. Grandparents are Elaine and Ricky Martinez, Victor and Yolanda Mendoza and Oscar and Eva Garcia, all of Big Spring.

Arianna Gabriella Mendoza welcomed her little sister home.

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