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Children line up their animals for judging during the Howard County Junior Livestock show, which concluded its 2013 run Saturday. See show results on Page 12B.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Road closure on commissioners agenda

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 A resolution to permanently close a portion of a county road in the Tubbs Addition will highlight a routine meeting of Howard County Commissioners Court at 10 a.m. Monday.

The road dead-ends in front of two homes and both owners have petitioned the county to close the road to through traffic.
 "it's pretty simple, really," county Judge Mark barr said. "Both property owners are in agreement over this. All it takes is a resolution."

Also Monday, commissioners will hear a report from Sheriff Stan Parker on the ethnic profile of county jail prisoners during 2012.
 Barr said Parker is annually required to give such a report to show if minorities make up a disproportionate number of arrestees within

the county.
 In other business, commissioners will consider:
 • The monthly financial report and invoices, purchase requests and budget amendments.
 • Personnel matters.
 • Permission to the road and bridge department to adver-

tise bids for equipment.
 The meeting will be held in the commissioners' courtroom on the third floor of the Howard County courthouse.
 Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

FISD wants to suspend controversial grading rule

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 FORSAN —School trustees here are expected to join the majority of Texas school districts in suspending a controversial grading rule when they hold their month-

ly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the administration wing board room.
 The board will consider a resolution suspending the "15 percent rule." Under the rule, a student's score on the State of Texas Assessments

of Academic Readiness (STAAR) end of course exams would account for 15 percent of the student's final grade in each tested subject area.
 State education officials have twice delayed implementation of the rule and

Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy Johnson is on the record with his hopes that the rule will be permanently dropped.
 "I think the 15 percent rule sounded really good on the surface," Johnson said in De-

cember. "It was designed to give students motivation to perform better in the classroom, but as with everything else, the devil is in the details and things descended into
 See FISD, Page 3A

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Texas Lt. Gov. Dewhurst: Fund weapons training for teachers

JIM VERTUNO
 Associated Press
 AUSTIN, Texas — Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst called Friday for state-funded, specialized firearms training for teachers and administrators to guard against school shootings.
 Dewhurst, a Republican, said school districts would nominate who they wanted to carry weapons on campus. The training would be more extensive than what is currently required for a Texas concealed handgun license

"Teachers sign up to teach, not to be armed security guards in their classrooms. Even well-trained security guards with pistols are going to be at a disadvantage to a suicidal maniac with an assault rifle."



—Clay Robison, TSTA spokesman

and include how to react in an active shooter situation.
 "God forbid we should have an active shooter crisis in our schools," Dewhurst said.
 His proposal came in the af-

termath of last month's mass shooting at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn., where a gunman slaughtered 20 children and six adults before killing himself. Vice

President Joe Biden has been meeting with groups this week to develop policy recommendations on how to prevent such tragedies.
 The National Rifle Association has called for armed guards in every school in America and rejected any further restrictions on gun purchases or ownership.
 Dewhurst said the eight hours of class instruction and two hours of shooting training for a concealed handgun
 See TEACHERS, Page 3A

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3 injured in bomb blast at South Texas home

CHRIS SHERMAN

Associated Press

BROWNSVILLE, Texas — A young girl and her parents were seriously injured Friday when a package they found outside their South Texas home exploded as they opened it inside, police said.

Their neighbor, Richard Solis, said he was drinking a cup of coffee in his driveway two doors down when he heard a loud "boom." He ran toward the two-story stucco home as flames and a plume of smoke poured out.

Solis heard a woman screaming and saw a badly burned man and little girl run out the front door. He said the man held what appeared to be a ball of fire in one hand and threw it out the door, Solis said.

"The guy yelled, 'the

package said to the addressee,'" Solis recounted. Solis said he seemed in shock.

Brownsville police spokesman J.J. Trevino said the family found the package outside their home and opened it early Friday morning.

Trevino identified the three victims as Jesus Juarez, 26, Iviz Machado, 30, and their 5-year-old daughter, Andrea Juarez. All three suffered serious burns, police said.

Additional explosive devices in the package that did not explode were later detonated by the bomb squad.

"This hit too close to home," said Solis, a postal worker, adding that he did not know the family.

The motive or whether the family had received earlier threats was un-

known, Trevino said. He said there was extensive damage inside the home and police were working closely with the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The Brownsville Herald reports the girl was airlifted to Shriners Hospital for Children in Galveston. Her parents were airlifted to Brooke Army Medical Center burn unit in San Antonio.

Court-martial set for airman

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — A Dyess Air Force Base commander says a senior airman accused of neglecting a toddler who later died will be tried in military court.

Dyess officials announced Friday Senior Airman Christopher Perez's court-martial

is set for March 4. He's charged with child endangerment, failure to report child abuse and adultery.

He was living with Tiffany Klapheke when her 22-month-old daughter died in August from malnutrition and dehydration. Klapheke, a civilian, will be tried in Abilene on injury to a child charges.

After her arrest, Klapheke said her husband's deployment made her too stressed to take care of their three young children. Her husband, Thomas Klapheke, has since filed for divorce.

Perez's attorneys say he had little access to the children and didn't want to criticize how they were being raised.

George P. Bush weighing run

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)

— George Prescott Bush is gearing up to run for a little-known but powerful office in a state where his family already is a political dynasty and where his Hispanic roots could help extend a stranglehold on power. Republicans have enjoyed for two decades.

The 36-year-old Fort Worth attorney says he is close to settling on campaigning for Texas land commissioner next year. He doesn't expect to make up his mind until he knows what Texas Gov. Rick Perry, a fellow Republican, decides to do.

"We for sure are running, the question is the office," Bush told.

Bush's father is former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, his grandfather is former President George H.W. Bush and his uncle is former Pres-

ident and Texas Gov. George W. Bush. Perry has been governor since George W. left for the White House.

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Corene Schaffner, 77, died Tuesday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Baptist Temple Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Clifford Hale, Jr., 85, died Saturday, November 24, 2012. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 12, 2013, at First United Methodist Church.

Florencio Garza, Jr., 67, died Wednesday. Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Walton "Mudd" Burchell, 78, died Thursday. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Marion Bozarth, 96, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Rubie Gibbs, 91, died Thursday. Memorial Services will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

FISD

Continued from Page 1A

chaos."

One of the biggest objections educators had to the rule is that state test results would not be known until months after exams were taken.

Under that scenario, students could end the school year believing they had passed a

course, only to learn during the summer they had failed the test, thus lowering their overall class grade.

Johnson said the rule will not be missed if it is eliminated.

"The general idea behind the rule was a good one. It just didn't work out," he said. "We continue to appreciate the Legislature's efforts to motivate students, but we're relieved this plan

has been postponed and hope it will be put away permanently."

Also Monday, trustees will continue a series of meetings with architects as FISD continues laying the groundwork for a bond election sometime this year. School officials want district voters to approve construction of a new campus to replace Elbow Elementary, which first opened in 1930 and is

the oldest public school building still in active use in Howard County.

Other items on Monday's agenda include:

- Superintendent's evaluation and possible contract extension.
- School safety discussions.
- Auditors for 2012-2013.

Reports on revenue and expenditures and investments.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com



TEACHERS

Continued from Page 1A

license is "not sufficient" for school employees.

"It doesn't teach how to respond emotionally and technically" to a potentially chaotic situation where young lives could be at stake, he said.

Dewhurst has a concealed handgun license and made his comments in a speech to the conservative Texas Public Policy Foundation.

He didn't provide any other details of his plan or specifics on what the training should include. He said the amount of state funding needed would depend on the number of school districts that participate and how many people want the training. School districts would not be required to participate.

Clay Robison, spokesman for the Texas State Teachers Association, said the state should spend more money on classroom instruction, not firearm instruction for teachers. The money Dewhurst is talking about would be better spent on equipping armed school security guards, he said.

"Teachers sign up to teach, not to be armed security guards in their classrooms," Robison said. "Even well-trained security guards with pistols are going to be at a disadvantage to a suicidal maniac with an assault rifle."

The prospects for his proposal weren't immediately clear. A spokesman for Sen. Joan Huffman, of Houston, leader of the Senate Re-

publican Caucus, said she could not comment on Dewhurst's plan and its chances of passing the GOP-dominated chamber until the caucus meets next week.

Texas is a state where gun ownership is typically embraced. Concealed handgun license holders are allowed to bring weapons into the state Capitol and don't have to pass through security metal detectors.

Although state law generally bans guns from schools, school districts may grant teachers and staff permission to carry weapons on to campus if they are licensed.

But lawmakers don't pass every gun bill that gets proposed. In 2011, most of the state's lawmakers signed on in support of a bill allowing concealed weapons into college classrooms, but the bill failed without a final vote in the Republican-majority House.

Dewhurst said his plan would not be a mandate for more guns in schools, but would allow school districts to seek the state's help in guarding against a mass shooter.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry has said concealed handgun license holders should be allowed to carry their weapons wherever they want. Perry has a concealed handgun license.

Perry spokeswoman Catherine Frazier said Perry has called on schools to review emergency plans and "supports having a conversation during the legislative session about what we can do to strengthen school safety."

The Harrold Independent School District near the Oklahoma border is one of the few in Texas that allows school personnel with concealed handgun licenses to carry their weapons to school. The teachers and staff must first be approved by the school board and also take additional training on shooting accuracy, hostage situations and how to clear a classroom in a program designed for the school district.

Harrold schools Su-

perintendent David Thweatt said he's heard from many Texas school districts about his program since the Newtown shootings. He said the program is cheaper than paying for an armed security guard.

"I'm getting a lot of calls from around the state," said Thweatt, who created his district's Guardian Plan in 2007.

"I think it's a good idea," Thweatt said of Dewhurst's idea. "One of the biggest objections to firearms in society is that some don't want people with that tool without some kind of extra training."

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RFK children speak on uncle's assassination

DALLAS (AP) — Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is convinced that a lone gunman wasn't solely responsible for the assassination of his uncle, President John F. Kennedy, and said his father believed the Warren Commission report was a "shoddy piece of craftsmanship."

Kennedy and his sister, Rory, spoke about their family Friday night while being interviewed in front of an audience by Charlie Rose at the Winspear Opera House in Dallas. The event comes as a year of observances begins for the 50th anniversary of the president's death.

Their uncle was killed on Nov. 22, 1963, while riding in a motorcade through Dallas. Five years later, their father was assassinated in a Los Angeles hotel while

celebrating his win in the California Democratic presidential primary.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said his father spent a year trying to come to grips with his brother's death, reading the work of Greek philosophers, Catholic scholars, Henry David Thoreau, poets and others "trying to figure out kind of the existential implications of why a just God would allow injustice to happen of the magnitude he was seeing."

He said his father thought the Warren Commission, which concluded Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing the president, was a "shoddy piece of craftsmanship." He said that he, too, questioned the report.

"The evidence at this point I think is very,

very convincing that it was not a lone gunman," he said, but he didn't say what he believed may have happened.

Rose asked if he believed his father, the U.S. attorney general at the time of his brother's death, felt "some sense of guilt because he thought there might have been a link between his very aggressive efforts against organized crime."

Kennedy replied: "I think that's true. He talked about that. He publicly supported the Warren Commission report but privately he was dismissive of it."

He said his father had investigators do research into the assassination and found that phone records of Oswald and nightclub owner Jack Ruby, who killed Oswald two days

after the president's assassination, "were like an inventory" of mafia leaders the government had been investigating.

He said his father, later elected U.S. senator in New York, was "fairly convinced" that others were involved in the shooting.

The attorney and well-known environmentalist also told the audience light-hearted stories Friday about memories of his uncle. As a young child with an interest in the environment, he said, he made an appointment with his uncle to speak

with him in the Oval Office about pollution.

He'd even caught a salamander to present to the president, which unfortunately died before the meeting.

"He kept saying to me, 'It doesn't look well,'" he recalled.

Rory Kennedy, a documentary filmmaker whose recent film "Ethel" looks at the life of her mother, also focused on the happier memories. She said she and her siblings grew up in a culture where it was important to give back.

"In all of the tragedy and challenge, when

you try to make sense of it and understand it, it's very difficult to fully make sense of it," she said. "But I do feel that in everything that I've experienced that has been difficult and that has been hard and that has been loss, that I've gained something in it."

"We were kind of lucky because we lost our members of our family when they were involved in a great endeavor," her brother added. "And that endeavor is to make this country live up to her ideals."

Boot camp investigated for workers' stun gun use

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — Three drill sergeants at a West Texas boot camp for children are being investigated for their use of force, including reportedly using a stun gun on a 4-year-old who disobeyed his parent, a police chief said Friday.

No one involved with Reality Invasion Boot Camp has been arrested, but the Taylor County District Attorney's Office is reviewing the case, Abilene Police Chief Stan Standridge said.

All parents must sign waivers allowing the staff to tackle their children and use handcuffs and stun guns, but police have "grave concerns" about some of the force used by boot camp workers, Standridge said.

While his department's Tasers use 50,000 volts of electricity, the camp's stun guns use 1.2 million volts. It is sold commercially as a device for personal protection and as being effective against an attacker.

"Therein is our concern and the impetus for this criminal investigation," Standridge said in a news release issued Friday after he spoke with the media.

Paul Huntington, the boot camp's founder and chief executive, has denied abuse allegations. Handcuffs and

The investigation started earlier this month after a child told Child Protective Services that she had been shocked numerous times by an electronic device — the same day that Abilene police made an emergency welfare check after a report that a 14-year old had been repeatedly shocked with a stun gun.

stun guns are used only under extreme circumstances, he has said. The nonprofit camp has been operating about four years and holds a 30-week course at a city park in which parents can attend.

The investigation started earlier this month after a child told Child Protective Services that she had been shocked numerous times by an electronic device — the same day that Abilene police made an emergency welfare check after a report that a 14-year old had been repeatedly shocked with a stun gun.

Standridge said five victims have been identified, including a 12-year-old boy who was reportedly stunned after crawling too slowly during an exercise.

Drill sergeants reportedly used a stun gun on a 4-year old because he didn't obey his parent,

Standridge said.

He said a 14-year-old girl was forced to the ground and shocked in her home after she didn't clean her room fast enough, got upset and "balled up her fists" — but that her mother gave verbal permission for drill sergeants to use the stun gun.

The mother later told investigators that her children were stunned with the device because they were "acting up and not behaving," Standridge said. The teen's two siblings had been shocked during one of several home visits, he said.

Huntington has said that drill sergeants used a stun gun on a 14-year-old girl after she assaulted them during a home visit.

Many parents say they support the camp's discipline methods, and some teens say the camp changed their lives.

Hometown Christmas was a huge success, helping 400 needy Big Spring residents. Thanks to all who helped as donors, shoppers, wrappers & deliverers.

Special thanks to the Big Spring Herald and Steve Reagan and KBST for all the coverage, and the Chamber of Commerce Toy Drive.

**Jeanie Knocke
& Kathy Johnson**

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News in brief

Mali official says Islamists being driven out of Konna, as French forces launch operations

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — Islamist militants have been driven out of Konna, a city the extremists captured earlier this week, as French forces have launched military operations in north Mali, a Mali military official said Saturday.

Lt. Col. Diarran Kone said the military does not yet control the city of Konna and are still searching for any hidden Islamist extremist elements there.

"The Islamists have been chased out of the city of Konna. We are doing sweeps of the city to find any hidden Islamist extremist elements," said Lt. Col. Kone. "The full recover of the city is too early to determine as we do not yet control the city, and we remain vigilant."

Sanda Abu Mohammed, spokesman for Islamist group Ansar Dine, told The Associated Press he could not confirm if his fighters were still in Konna because communication networks have been down since late Friday.

"I cannot tell you if our fighters are still in the city of Konna or if they are not, because since yesterday afternoon I have not had contact with them as the telephone network has been down in this zone," Mohammed said.

Ex-Mass. Sen. Scott Brown faces dramatic shifts as he considers chance to return to Washington

BOSTON (AP) — Three years ago, Scott Brown was a little-known Republican state senator from Massachusetts who shocked Democrats by winning a U.S. Senate seat in a special election that became a national rallying cry for the nascent tea party

movement.

Much has changed since then for Brown. In the Senate, he compiled a voting record more moderate than his one-time tea party allies would have liked. Just two months ago, voters said a resounding "no" to giving him a full term.

Now Brown is considering whether to seize a chance to return to the Senate — in yet another special election — to take the place of Democratic Sen. John Kerry if he is confirmed as secretary of state. Democrats will be more than ready for Brown this time if he does run.

"The atmosphere would be completely different," said the state Democratic Party chairman, John Walsh. He acknowledged making "unforgivable mistakes" by taking for granted the race in which Brown won the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's seat.

"We are not asleep at the switch anymore," Walsh said.

NY commission formed in wake of Superstorm Sandy urges subway flood walls, coastal barriers

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A commission formed to examine ways to guard against storms like Sandy released a report Friday that calls for flood walls in subways, water pumps at airports and sea barriers along the coast.

The final report was first obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press. The findings were officially released Friday by the office of Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who formed the commission.

The report recommends short- and long-term protections in transportation and with building codes. It suggests improvements in insurance coverage and ways to finance those improvements.

Some of the specific recommendations involve using natural barriers to protect New York Harbor and Long Island. Others include roll-down gates and inflatable barriers to keep floodwaters out of subways.

"I thank the Rockefeller Foundation and the extraordinary members of the Commission for their hard work in developing these preliminary recommendations on a short timeline, and applaud their comprehensiveness and the vision they lay out for the future of New York State," Cuomo said Friday in a statement. "We will be reviewing them as part of our efforts to harden our critical infrastructure and to make New York State a leader in creating a more resilient, more effective infrastructure."

Beauty queens from across country vie for Miss America title in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Beauties from every state are competing for the Miss America crown Saturday night, an honor that carries with it a \$50,000 scholarship and a yearlong run as an advocate and role model.

The winner will go on tour, speaking to groups around the country and raising money for the Children's Miracle Network, the organization's official charity.

The competition at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on the Las Vegas Strip is the culmination of a week of preliminary competitions and months of preparations for the titleholders from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each one has already proven her poise, charm and volubility by winning her state crown.

The queens have been staying at Planet Hollywood, but the humming slot machines and flashing marquees have been little more than a blurry backdrop for a tight schedule of rehearsals, media events and one-on-one interviews with the judges.

Among the preliminary winners were Miss Maryland and Miss Oklahoma. Miss Alabama won the \$6,000 Quality of Life Scholarship for her commitment to community service.

Artist paints portraits of Tibetan self-immolators to break silence among China's majority

BEIJING (AP) — Beijing-based artist Liu Yi is working on a series of black-and-white portraits he knows will never be shown in a Chinese gallery. His varied subjects — men and women, young and old, smiling and pensive — have one thing in common: They are Tibetans who have set themselves on fire to protest repressive Chinese rule.

Liu wants to paint a portrait of each of the hundred-or-so Tibetans who have self-immolated over the past three years, as a way of bearing witness to one of the biggest waves of fiery protests in recent history. With each brushstroke, Liu is making a heartfelt plea: The burning must end.

"When I'm painting, I'm thinking: 'Enough, enough, don't do this anymore. Stop,'" said the soft-spoken artist who has completed 40 so far. "That's enough."

Liu is rare among his contemporaries for addressing the largely taboo topic. Only a tiny handful of activists from the Han Chinese majority have spoken out, among them the prominent

legal scholar Xu Zhiyong.

At the heart of the silence is Han Chinese indifference or even hostility to the Tibetan cause, despite some overlap with liberal Han activists who chafe at authoritarian controls. "We are victims ourselves," Xu wrote in a recent op-ed piece in which he apologized for

the silence.

Obama White House nixes calls for \$850 quadrillion 'Death Star' super-weapon

WASHINGTON (AP) — A "Death Star" won't be a part of the U.S. military's arsenal any time soon.

More than 34,000 people have signed an online petition calling on the Obama administration to build the "Star Wars" inspired super-weapon to spur job growth and bolster national defense.

But in a posting Friday on the White House website, Paul Shawcross, an administration adviser on science and space, says a Death Star would cost too much to build — an estimated \$850 quadrillion — at a time the White House is working to reduce the federal budget.

Besides, Shawcross says, the Obama administration "does not support blowing up planets."

The U.S., Shawcross points out, is already involved in several out-of-this-world projects, including the International Space Station, which is currently orbiting Earth with a half-dozen astronauts.

Californians brace for nights of freezing temps

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Californians are bundling up with sweaters and gloves and stocking up on firewood as they brace for several nights of very unseasonable freezing temperatures.

The National Weather Service is forecasting morning frost on San Diego beaches. Big Sur, on the central coast, prepared for daytime highs almost 20 degrees below Boston's. Even the snowbird haven of Palm Springs faced the possibility of freezing temperatures at night.

In addition, San Diego zookeepers turned up the heat for chimpanzees, tourists covered their hands on Hollywood walking tours, and some farmers broke out wind machines and took other steps to protect crops from freezing.

Freeze warnings were in effect in San Diego County valleys and deserts Saturday morning with lows in the 20s and 30s, the weather service said.

In Sonoma County, homeless shelters started handing out extra warm clothes on Friday to protect people from freezing overnight temperatures.

Morning temps fell into the 20s and 30s in many areas, and much lower in the mountains. A low of 12 degrees was recorded in the Big Bear mountain resort east of Los Angeles.

Some customers drove more than an hour to buy firewood.

"It's crazy busy here," said Renea Teasdale, office manager at The Woodshed in Orange, south of Los Angeles.

Thugs rob LA store, take workers hostage, escape

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police were searching for two armed robbers who escaped after storming into a Southern California department store, taking 14 employees hostage and attacking two of the captives.

One employee was stabbed and another was sexually assaulted before the three-hour ordeal ended early Friday at the Nordstrom Rack store at a shopping center near Los Angeles International Airport.

Nordstrom spokeswoman Tara Darrow said the gunmen committed a robbery before fleeing, but declined to describe what was stolen.

The hostage drama began about 11 p.m. Thursday, when a man reported his girlfriend had called to say gunmen were in the store, Los Angeles police Lt. Andy Neiman said.

"She told him: 'Call 911. Two guys with guns just came into our store,'" Neiman said.

Police officers and SWAT team members swarmed the shopping center that also has restaurants and a movie theater.

The officers saw a man leave the second-floor store, but he ran back in, Neiman said.

Moments later, another man came out with a woman, but when he saw the police he grabbed her and pushed her back inside, Neiman said.

SWAT members surrounded the store. They later rushed in. Officers found most of the hostages locked in a storage room and two others in a bathroom, police said.

Officers searched the store but didn't find the robbers.

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Forsan boys beat Plains, BSHS squads fall to Wylie on road

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Forsan Boys

FORSAN — The Buffaloes evened their district record to 1-1 (11-8 overall) with a 57-46 win over visiting Plains on Friday. Dillon Bagnall led FHS with 14 points, while Kade Fannin had 10, Aric Hernandez nine and Tyler Evans eight.

“The guys came back from an early deficit by staying focused,” Forsan Head Coach Gary Huckabee said. “We had some really good support from the bench. It was a very important win for us, it got us back on track in district play.”

The Buffs will travel to Seagraves on Tuesday.

Forsan Girls

FORSAN — The Plains girl’s squad is ranked No. 4 in the state, so Forsan Head Coach Lindsey Schmidt expected her team to have their hands full Friday. She was correct.

The Lady Buffs had a hard time keeping up with PHS, despite a solid effort and lost 64-41.

“We had a rough night,” Schmidt said. “I thought we broke down defensively. We weren’t blocking out, but we went out and competed. The girls played very hard as always, especially in the first two and a half quarters. I was proud of their effort.”

Next up for the Lady Buffaloes (15-8, 1-2) will be a road trip to Seagraves on Tuesday.

“Seagraves is a must-win for us,” Schmidt added. “Then we have Tahoka. If we can win those two, we are right back in the district race.”

Big Spring Boys

ABILENE — Big Spring’s

struggles on the court continued Friday, but considering they were on the road against No. 2 ranked Wylie, they had their work cut out for them. The Bulldogs pulled ahead early and kept the Steers (6-16, 0-1) at bay throughout the game, winning 77-35.

BSHS will be hosting Monahans on Tuesday at Steer Gym. Game time is slated for 7:30 p.m.

Girls

ABILENE — The Lady Steers (11-11, 1-2) also found themselves stymied by Wylie (ranked No. 18) on Friday. The two-time defending state champion Lady Bulldogs defeated BSHS 56-26.

The intimidation factor of playing the defending champs in a hostile environment may have played a role in the slow start, but even against such adversity, BSHS didn’t give up.

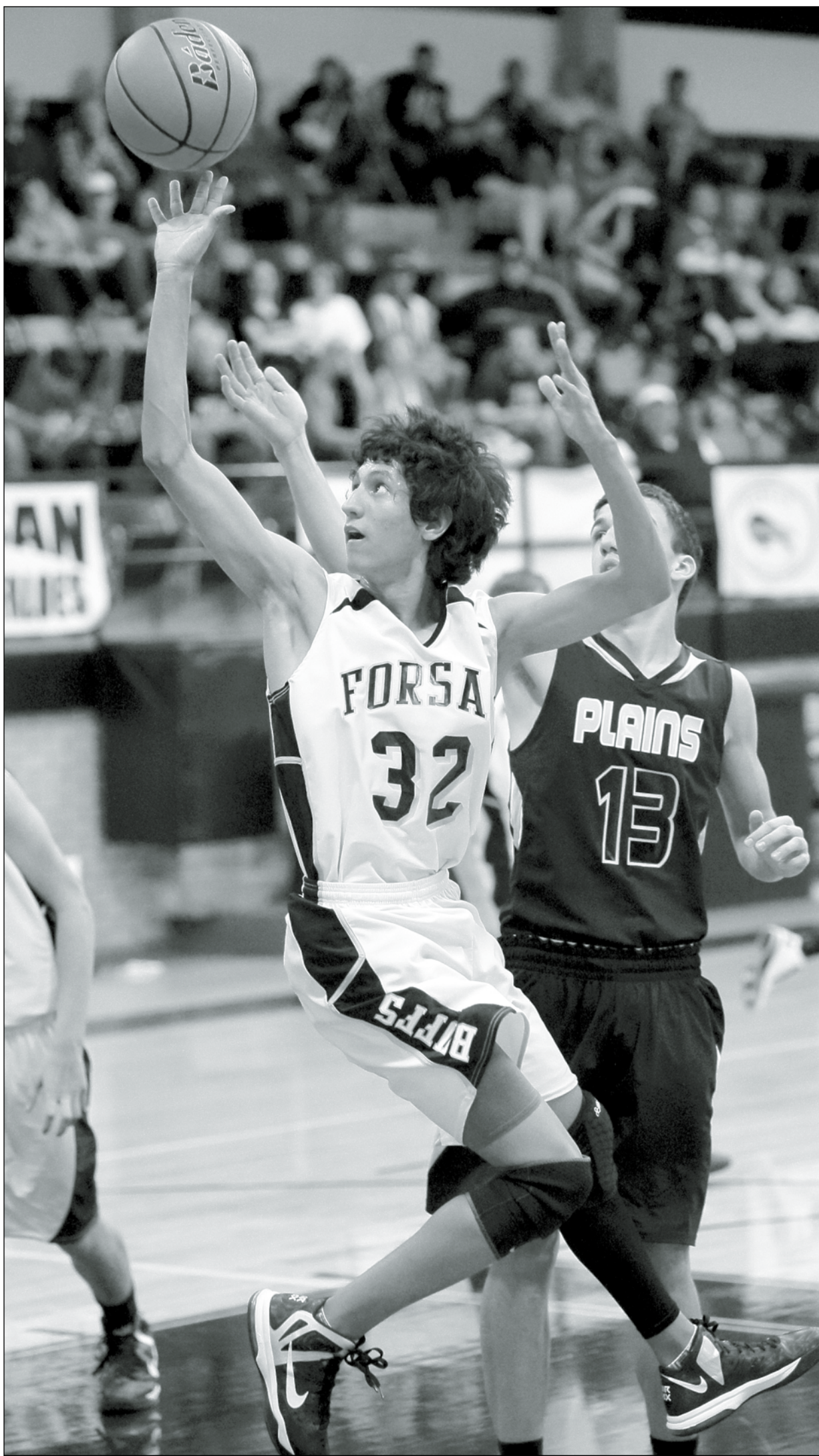
“Wylie — being who they are — has some seasoned players who are used to big games,” BSHS Head Coach Mike Warren said. “We’re almost the opposite, we’re young and just learning how to compete and handle the pressure.”

The trouble started early for the Lady Steers, but they fought hard throughout affair.

“They put their defense on us,” Warren explained. “We turned the ball over and got down early, while they ran the floor and got easy baskets. But in the third quarter, we played well, we played even with them. They had to call time out a couple of times. The second half was a lot better. Logan Yarbar played well. She got hot during the third quarter and helped us make it a respectable game.

Yarbar put up 11

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 8A



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Forsan’s Aric Hernandez takes a shot in the paint during the Buffs’ 57-46 win over visiting Plains on Friday. The Lady Buffs were defeated by No. 4 Plains, 64-41. Forsan will be on the road against Seagraves on Tuesday.

Watt, Peterson are unanimous All-Pro

NEW YORK (AP) — It’s unanimous, on both sides of the ball.

Vikings 2,000-yard man Adrian Peterson and Texans pass-swatting end J.J. Watt were unanimous choices for The Associated Press All-Pro team announced Saturday.

Peterson, who came within 9 yards of breaking Eric Dickerson’s single-season rushing record, and Watt, who led the NFL with 20 1-2 sacks, were selected by all 50 members of a nationwide panel of media members who cover the league.

Peterson is a three-time All-Pro, while Watt represents lots of new blood. He’s among 17 players making their All-Pro debuts.

“Obviously it’s a huge honor, especially for being such a young guy,” said Watt, a second-year pro. “It’s crazy to even think about. It’s very humbling and very motivating. It makes me want to do it again and again.”

Peyton Manning made his sixth team, the previous five while quarterbacking Indianapolis. He led Denver to the AFC’s best record, 13-3.

Also chosen for the sixth time was Atlanta tight end Tony Gonzalez, who this season moved into second place on the career receptions list. San Francisco linebacker Patrick Willis made it for the fifth time in his six pro seasons.

The 49ers had the most All-Pro, six: Willis, fellow LBs NaVorro Bowman and Aldon Smith, guard Mike Iupati, safety Dashon Goldson and punter Andy Lee.

Seattle was next with RB Marshawn Lynch, center Max Unger, cornerback Richard Sherman and safety Earl Thomas. All were selected for the first time.

Sherman was incensed when he didn’t make the Pro Bowl. He was thrilled with the news he made the All-Pro team “because

that’s comparing the whole league.”

“That is taking individuals and saying they are the best in the NFL at that position and that’s what I wanted to be,” Sherman said.

Denver had three All-Pro: LB Von Miller, tackle Ryan Clady and Manning. No other team had more than two.

The NFC had 17 players and only 10 made it from the AFC.

One rookie, Minnesota kicker Blair Walsh, was chosen.

Also on offense were Baltimore fullback Vonta Leach, making it for the third straight year; Detroit WR Calvin Johnson and Chicago WR Brandon Marshall; Houston tackle Duane Brown; New Orleans guard Jahri Evans, making his fourth consecutive appearance; Baltimore kick returner Jacoby Jones; Miami DE Cameron Wake; Cincinnati DT Geno Atkins and New England DT Vince Wilfork; and Chicago CB Charles Tillman.

Area sports briefs

Chicano Golf Association to hold member meeting

Louis Porras, President of the Chicano Golf Association, has called a member meeting which will take place Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Comanche Trail Golf Course club house. All members are asked to attend.

BSHS Mini Cheer Camp slated for Jan. 27-29

The Big Spring High School will be holding a mini cheer camp from Jan. 27-28 at Steer Gym.

Participants will practice a routine which will be performed Jan. 29 during halftime of the BSHS varsity boy’s basketball game.

Signups are going on now through Jan. 21. at all elementary schools and at the front office at the high school.

The cost of the camp will be \$50 per child. Fee will include a T-shirt.

For more information, contact the high school at 264-3641 and ask for Ashley Phinney or Meredith Skaggs.

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Westhoff: Jets' handling of Tebow was a 'mess'

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Westhoff, the Jets' recently retired special teams coordinator, tells a Florida radio station that the way the team handled Tim Tebow was "an absolute mess."

Westhoff tells WQAM in south Florida on Friday that he was "very, very disappointed" in the Jets' lack of use of Tebow,

the popular backup quarterback acquired last March to be a key part of the offense.

Instead, Tebow barely got on the field in most games and never started at quarterback — even after Mark Sanchez was benched.

Westhoff adds that he's "still waiting for the unveiling" of the

game plan that included lots of Tebow.

The quarterback tried to hide his frustration throughout the season, but Westhoff says he could see a change in his demeanor and "that swagger that got out of him a little bit."

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 7A

points for BSHS and Dyrshae Vanderbilt added seven.

The Lady Steers will try to break even in District 4-3A play Tuesday when they welcome Monahans, whom Big Spring beat in pre-district play.

"I think if we can get a win over Monahans next week, we will be OK," Warren added. "And then Friday, it will

be like a playoff game against Greenwood, who I think is probably the team to beat, aside from Wylie."

Coahoma-Stanton Boys

STANTON — The Buffaloes (18-3, 1-0) edged the Bulldogs (10-10, 0-1) on Friday's District 3-2A opener, 50-44, on the strength of Scott Smith's 15 points, Jonathan Ramos' 14 and K.J. Glaspie's 10.

Tanner Ruiz had a game-high 16 points for

the Bulldogs.

Coahoma will be in action on the road Tuesday as they travel to Colorado City. Tipoff is slated for 8 p.m.

Girls

STANTON — Four Bulldogettes — Savannah Neff, Julia Castilaw, Kyla Clanton and Kaeli Yaeger — scored in double digits against rival Stanton on Friday, but it wasn't enough, as the Lady Buffaloes pulled out a 60-50 win to leave CHS 0-3 in District 3-2A action.

Stanton's Jennifer Henley put up 13 points and McKenzie Allred chipped in 10 in the win.

Coahoma Head Coach Paul Hartman said the focus this week will be on playing consistently for the entire game.

"We started slow, but we got back in the game and cut their lead to four," Hartman said. "We played well the second quarter, we just have to put four quarters together."

The Bulldogettes will be on the road Tuesday against the Lady Wolves of Colorado City — a game that Hartman hopes will get them back on track.

"Colorado City is 1-2 in district," Hartman added. "It's a big game. We can get right back into it if we do well next week."

Grady

LENORAH — The Wildcats (14-4, 5-0) remained perfect in District 6A, D-II on Friday as they steamrolled Dawson, 69-42.

Grady (No. 18), was led by Brandon Lucas' 15 points, while Dillon Polson, Taylor Polson and Brett Glaze each added eight.

Grady will face its first real district test when the 'Cats meet the No. 2 Sands Mustangs on Tuesday at 8 p.m. at home.

Girls

LENORAH — Ellyn Avery's game-high 25 points guided Grady's convincing 87-34 rout of Dawson on Friday to stay unbeaten in district action.

Cayley Opegard and Ariel Arnold each added 11 points for The Lady Wildcats (17-4, 6-0).

Grady will host rival Sands on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Garden City Boys

GARDENCITY — Four Bearkats hit double digits during Friday's 82-36 shellacking of Paint Rock, bringing Garden City's season record to 13-6 (4-1 in district).

Corbin Davis led the Bearkats with 23 points, Sam Miller had 20. Braden Jones put up 13 and Austin Odom added 10.

Garden City will host Sterling City on Tuesday, with game time set for 8 p.m.

Girls

GARDENCITY — The girls also turned in an impressive performance over visiting Paint Rock on Friday, taking the ball game 72-30 to notch their sixth district win.

The Ladykats (18-4), were led by Holly Halfmann's game-high 26 points. Kamie Halfmann chipped in 14.

Garden City will welcome Sterling City on Tuesday. Tipoff will be at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@big-springherald.com



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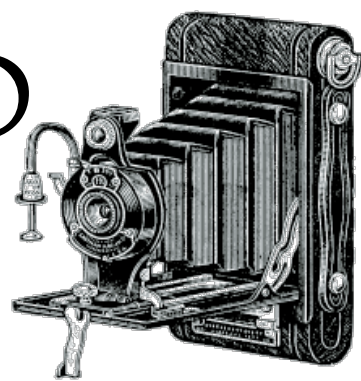
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Longtime photo studio is changing its ways



The photo industry is changing, and a local business is changing with it.

GreenHouse Photography, has been a “brick and mortar” business in Big Spring for a quarter of a century, but that will be changing in late May as its owners, Zina Wood and Carla Harrold will continue the company, but without a physical retail location.

They say it is a reaction to changing technology and industry trends as well as the health of one of the owners.

“We aren’t quitting, but we are changing the way we will do business,” said Wood. “It is just time for a change. For years, Carla has worked two careers, coming in take portraits and do artwork, while I kept the doors open and took care of the day-to-day business activities.”

That is getting more difficult for Wood, as an auto-immune illness makes it hard for her to work on site every day.

“Carla is a professor of economics at Howard College and it was too much for her to cover my responsibilities,” Wood continued. “Without a retail location to oversee, I will be able to do the computer side of the business from home and we can both keep doing what we love.”

And, health isn’t the only reason for the change. While the number of photography businesses is growing rapidly, Wood said the trend is away from location businesses an internet-based industry.

“Working from home and using the internet is the new way to avoid the utilities and upkeep of a formal business location.” Wood and Harrold plan to take the business in that new direction.

Increased competition from amateurs-turned-pro and a lower perceived value for portraits has kept most traditional studios from raising prices even in the face of rising costs. Photography has become “de-val-

ued”, according to Harrold. “It is as common as the phone everyone carries, and consumers view photographs as something less valuable than a few years ago. We have used

if originals were lost or damaged” Harrold continued, “but that is another of the industry changes.”

She said it is common for photographers to do the “service” and then walk away, leaving the images with the client to be printed at an amateur lab.

Wood says GreenHouse Photography isn’t going out of business, but sadly, they must go out of the image storage business.

“Carla and I are so traditional that this may be one of the more emotional parts of the process for us,” Wood said. “We are going to sell our old images to clients and, come June 1, will begin disposing of the rest, as hard as

future work.

“We have photographed babies, countless football, baseball and soccer players, families, commercial jobs, weddings and high school sports and seniors for several generations of families in Howard and surrounding counties.” Harrold said with a smile. “It was important to us that people knew we would give them quality work and that they could count on us to save and preserve their memories.”

Looking back, they say they still cherish the many wonderful professional relationships with clients and co-workers who were so much more than “just employees.”

Zina’s husband, David, her mom, Bobbie Easterling and children Casie and Brent have all worked in the business over the past 24 years. Others have left lasting impressions.

“Most will remain our life-long friends, like Geri York,” Zina said. “Kristi Hines Wright and Amanda Charlton are almost like daughters.”

She added that Charlton would probably continue to have both a personal and professional role in their lives.

Wood says the business has changed a lot.

“When we started, weddings or important family sessions were high pressure,” she said. “You couldn’t see

the results for a week or more, so the photographer’s camera skills and abilities had to be second nature. To stay in business and keep a good reputation, you had to know those wedding negatives would be perfectly exposed, that the lighting would be right and that customers

would be pleased. Technically and artistically, there weren’t any ‘do-overs’. You didn’t see it instantly on the back of the camera to correct problems and artwork was very expensive.”

Digital cameras and PhotoShop have changed much of that, but Wood says that even though most cameras are point-and-shoot, there is more to it.

“Carla is excellent and her portraits show it. She can work with natural lighting or studio strobes. She uses composition and selective focus to produce something more than a properly exposed snapshot. When people see what a real artist can do, they usually recognize the difference,” Wood said.

“For about 25 years, I have used real bookcases as well as studio backdrops for our portraits. I will miss so many things about the studio and that beautiful historic house,” Harrold said of their business location, built in 1906 by C.W. Cunningham of Cunningham & Phillips Drugstore. But, she adds that the change will bring a new freedom to their photography.

The friends say they considered many different options as they knew change was on the horizon.

“To paraphrase an old adage, ‘the only constant thing in life is change.’ and we had to move forward,” Harrold said. “Our working partnership has lasted so long because we are like



the savings of digital – which has no film to purchase or process – to avoid price increases for about 10 years, but we have come to the end of that business model. To continue working at a profit in the art I love, we have to find new ways to reduce our costs,” Harrold noted.

“I am very proud of the way we have always pursued the art of photography and insisted on prints that were more stable and true to color than those from amateur labs,” Harrold said. “We use PhotoShop skills to produce gently-flattering portraits but retain a natural look. PhotoShop is a wonderful tool that should be used to enhance the positive or produce something artistic, not to hide technical problems. It saddens me to say it, but I believe that in only a few years, there will not be many traditional studios left.”

Traditional studios typically charged very little for the session and their primary income and profit was from the sale of prints. The value for the client was in the quality, longevity and stability of the images.

“We have always been that local studio safeguarding our clients’ precious memories with the negatives or digital images safely on file to reprint

that will be.”

GreenHouse has more than 35 years of stored images. “It is such an honor to provide portraits that saved and preserved the stories of their lives,” Harrold said. “I began photographing weddings out of my home in 1977 and took every opportunity to get professional photographic training along the way. I started Harrold Photography, and then in 1984, it became Photo Magic, a minilab and studio located at 701 Gregg Street. Zina bought into Photo Magic Studio as a business partner in 1989” Harrold related. “In 1995, we moved to our present location and changed the name to GreenHouse Photography.”

They later incorporated and will retain that business identity, GreenHouse Photography, LLC, for their



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Brush symposium April 25

Special to the Herald

A Brush Control Symposium will be held Thursday, April 25, in Abilene, Texas, at the Taylor County Expo Center.

For those pre-registered, cost of attending is \$10, which includes a luncheon and a copy of the symposium proceedings. Those planning on attending can pay by cash or check at the door. Late registration cost will be \$20 and includes the meal and symposium proceedings.

Symposium theme, "Brush Control: What's New Since 2002?" will showcase what advancements have been made in the last decade. University representatives, Texas Agri-Life Extension Service and chemical companies

will highlight new technology and innovations within the field.

Event hosts include Dow AgroSciences, Dupont, The Texas Section Society for Range Management (TSSRM), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)-Grazing Lands Conservation Institute (GLCI), Angelo State University and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Topics include new rangeland herbicides developed by both Dow Agrosciences and Dupont. In addition, there will be presentations on drift control, new acid-based formulations, biological control of unwanted brush, new regulations for herbicide use, prescribed burning, and new web-based/smart phone technology for rangeland planning.

Those interested in attending the meeting can contact Joe Franklin at 325-944-0147 or Cody Scott at 325-486-6744 for registration packets. In addition, registration forms will be available at your local USDA Service Centers in the NRCS office. CEUs for those with a private applicator's license will be offered.

Sponsorships and exhibitor spaces are still available. Those interested in sponsoring the meeting or reserving space for a commercial exhibit should contact Grant Teplicek at 325-655-3521, ext. 3 or Scott.

Booth spaces can be reserved for the one-day symposium for \$100. Additional sponsorships

See BRUSH, Page 5B

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wells Fargo Advisors Midland office.

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



Just about any way you cut it, 2012 was a great year for the stock market. The S&P 500 Index finished up more than 13 percent. Tack on a couple of percentage points for dividends, and the total return last year for this broad measure of stock market performance was nearly 16 percent. It was a very impressive year, indeed, and in line with our expectations.

But last year is history. We need to look ahead to the New Year. Based on the results of the "fiscal cliff" negotiations, taxes are going up on everybody who holds a job, since the Social Security payroll tax returns to the previous 6.2 percent rate from last year's 4.2 percent. So, the vast majority of Americans will see less money in their paychecks this year, all else being equal. Any decisions involving potential spending cuts have been put off for two months. We do not believe the effects on the economy will be substantial at this point, but the debate on the debt ceiling promises to be quite contentious. Economic growth should continue to be modest. It appears that most of the effects of the cliff have been avoided.

Investors are in celebration mode at the time of this writing, and that makes sense. While our longer-term debt and deficit issues were not addressed in this round of negotiations, the stock market usually gets back to focusing on the near-term rather quickly. With tax increases somewhat minimal and spending cuts unlikely to be drastic this year, the headwinds for the economy could have been much worse. We viewed the move in the market on the first trading day of 2013 as mostly a relief rally.

While the market is trading strongly to the upside presently, we do not expect the major indices to continue moving positively at this pace for very long. We do not want to put a damper on the party, but we do want to inject a dose of reality. The reality is that, in less than two month's time, Congress will be engaged in another round of negotiations involving the debt ceiling. We would expect that spending cuts will be the source of big-time friction for our elected officials. Investors now know the tax side of the equation and will be waiting to see what, if any, spending cuts can be agreed upon. These will not be easy decisions for our elected officials.

Still, despite all of the uncertainties likely to affect the stock market this year, we are comfortable with the fundamentals and feel good about our 2013 year-end 1525 to 1575 target range for the S&P 500 Index. From current levels, we believe the stock market offers attractive returns over the next twelve months, especially when taking dividends into account.

Volatility in the market will likely be higher in the first half of this year compared to the last month or so. The fiscal debate in Congress will garner much of the headlines over this time frame, as will developments in Europe, the Middle East, and the developing world. We continue to believe that pullbacks offer opportunities to add to equity positions in sectors sensitive to a continuation of the economic recovery in the U.S. and abroad. We do believe 2013 will be a happy year for investors.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced Jan. 2 by Scott Wren, Wells Fargo Advisors senior equity strategist and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director/branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at 432-684-7335.

SNB honors top employee

Special to the Herald

State National Bank officials announced that their 2012 Employee of the Year is Melissa Sanchez, as voted by her fellow workers. She works in the bookkeeping department.

"I really appreciate my co-workers nominating me for this honor," said Melissa. "I think they liked the way I helped customers get set up with our new internet banking system."

Melissa was born and raised in Big Spring. In high school, she was a member of Business Professionals of America (BPA).

She won state honors in interscholastic competition and represented Texas at the national finals in San Francisco,



Courtesy photo

Melissa Sanchez is shown with State National Bank President Richard Steel after she was named the bank's employee of the year for 2012.

where she placed fifth in the nation in business letter writing and office management.

Melissa is married

to William Sanchez, who works as a correctional officer at GEO. They have two children, 17-year-old Jamen and

14-year-old Abigail. Abigail is a member of the Spanish Club and plays bass clarinet in the Coahoma High School marching band. She has a cat named Muffin and a hamster named Blueberry.

Jamen is a power lifter, baseball player and plays trombone in the marching band. He has two cats named Xbox and Nintendo.

"Our favorite thing to do is hang out with our kids," said Melissa. "We love to go football games and see them march with the band. We play games a lot."

Melissa has been with State National for six years. She was chosen among employees from all three of the bank's locations — Big Spring, Lamesa and O'Donnell.

U.S. trade gap widens

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. trade deficit expanded in November to its widest point in seven months, driven by a surge in imports that outpaced only modest growth in exports.

The Commerce Department report Friday suggests trade will drag on economic growth in the October-December quarter. A wider trade gap slows growth because it means Americans spent more on foreign products while U.S. businesses earned less in overseas sales.

Still, the report showed consumers have maintained an appetite for spending. They kept buying iPhones and other imported goods in November, despite high unemployment and

low wage growth.

"A strong rebound in imports is not necessarily all bad for the U.S. economy because it indicates that consumers are spending. It shows the private sector is not dead," said Gregory Daco, senior economist at HIS Global Insight.

The trade gap widened 15.8 percent to \$48.7 billion in November from October, the report noted. Imports grew 3.8 percent, led by gains in shipments of cell phones, including Apple's new iPhone.

Exports increased only 1 percent. And exports to Europe fell 1.3 percent, further evidence of the prolonged debt crisis that has gripped the region.

Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics, predicts trade trimmed growth by about 0.5 percentage point in the final three months of the year. He expects fourth-quarter growth to be no more than an annual rate of 1.5 percent. That would be nearly half the 3.1 percent rate reported for the July-September quarter, which was helped by healthy growth in exports.

Martin Schwerdtfeger, senior economist at TD Bank, also expects the trade deficit to subtract from October-December growth. But he said the flood of imports could be signaling stronger consumer spending and business investment.

Microsoft may have exited gadget show prematurely

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Microsoft may have relinquished its starring role in America's gaudiest gadget show a year too early.

After 13 straight years in the spotlight, Microsoft's decision to scale back its presence at the International CES deprived the software maker of a prime opportunity to explain and promote a new generation of redesigned computers running its radically remade Windows operating system.

The missed chance comes at a time when Microsoft Corp. could use a bully pulpit to counter perceptions that Windows 8 isn't

compelling enough to turn the technological tide away from smartphones and tablets running software made by Apple Inc. and Google Inc.

"They needed to be at this show in a very big way to show the progress they have made and what is it about 2013 that is going to make consumers really gravitate toward a Windows 8 machine," said technology industry analyst Patrick Moorhead.

Since Windows 8 went on sale in late October, there has been little evidence to suggest the operating system will lift the personal computer industry out of a deepening downturn. Worldwide PC shipments

during the final three months of last year dropped 6 percent from the same period in 2011, according to the research firm International Data Corp. The dip occurred despite the bevy of Windows 8 laptops and desktop machines that were on sale during the holiday shopping season.

Microsoft, though, insists things worked out at just fine during CES, even though it didn't have a booth and only had a smattering of executives at the sprawling trade show, which drew some 156,000 people to Las Vegas.

The company, which is based in Redmond, Wash., decided it no longer makes

sense to invest as much time and money in CES as it once did. The company says the show's early January slot doesn't mesh with the timing of its major product releases. Windows 8, for instance, was still more than nine months away from hitting the market when Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer kicked off last year's CES with a keynote address that was billed as the company's swan song at the show.

"We are very comfortable with our decision," Microsoft spokesman Frank Shaw said. "It has been a productive show for us this year."

Microsoft's retreat from

CES puzzled some attendees curious about Windows 8. For instance, when Michael Sullivan showed up at computer maker Asus' booth, which was stocked with Windows 8 computers, there was no one around to discuss the machines or the software.

"This is unusual," said Sullivan, CEO of computer sales firm Spec 4 International Inc. "I don't understand why a successful company isn't bringing executives here."

Asus invited some CES attendees to learn more about Windows 8 at a nearby hotel,

See GADGET, Page 5B

RISE & DINE

*Breakfast dishes for any
springtime celebration*

FAMILY FEATURES

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or just want to make breakfast more special, gather friends and family around the table to make some new memories together. These recipes are full of flavor and, best of all, easy to make, so you have more time to spend enjoying a delicious meal with the people you love.

- **Olé Tortilla Cups** — Zesty bites made with Johnsonville Hot & Spicy Breakfast Sausage Links can be prepped ahead of time and baked when you're ready.
- **Cornbread with Spicy Sausage and Red Peppers** — A colorful side that pairs great with a tasty skillet dish.
- **Breakfast Sausage Skillet with Sautéed Tomatoes and Basil** — Have all the ingredients prepped and ready to go to make cooking this restaurant-style breakfast skillet really easy.
- **Crustless Mini Quiches** — Make these bite-sized beauties ahead of time and serve at room temperature.

For more delicious reasons to rise and dine, visit www.johnsonville.com.

Cornbread with Spicy Sausage and Red Peppers

Servings: 8
Prep Time: 25 minutes
Bake Time: 20 minutes

- 1 12-ounce package Johnsonville Hot & Spicy or Original Recipe Breakfast Sausage
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 3/4 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 425°F.

Remove sausage links from casings. (Slice casing with knife and peel to remove.)

In skillet, cook and crumble sausage until no longer pink; drain and set aside.

In bowl, combine cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder and salt.

In another bowl, combine eggs, milk and butter; stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.

Fold in sausage, red bell pepper and cheese.

Pour into a greased 8-inch square baking pan. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

Crustless Mini Quiches

Yield: 7 servings (3 quiches each)
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 10 minutes

- Nonstick oven spray
- 1 sleeve whole wheat crackers, crushed
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
- 1 package Johnsonville Original Recipe Breakfast Sausage
- 1 package frozen broccoli florets, thawed, drained
- 1 cup frozen corn
- 8 ounces reduced fat cheddar cheese
- 32 ounces liquid egg whites
- Kosher salt and fresh pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Generously spray 21 mini muffin cups with cooking spray. Set aside.

In small bowl, mix crushed crackers and Parmesan. Distribute evenly between muffin cups.

Cook sausage according to package instructions. Cut into 1/2-inch pieces. Evenly distribute sausage into muffin cups.

Chop broccoli into small pieces.

Microwave for 1 minute on high; drain well. Spoon broccoli evenly into muffin cups. Top evenly with corn and cheddar cheese.

Pour egg whites over each of the muffin cups.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes, or until mini quiches are set. Let rest for 2 minutes prior to unmolding.



Olé Tortilla Cups

Servings: 12
Prep Time: 30 minutes
Bake Time: 18 minutes

- 1 12-ounce package Johnsonville Hot & Spicy or Original Recipe Breakfast Sausage
- 9 flour tortillas (6 inches), at room temperature (thicker, home-style tortillas work best)
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded Mexican blend cheese
- 6 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup finely chopped red bell pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- Salsa

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Cook sausage according to package directions; cut into small pieces and set aside.

Coat muffin pan and both sides of tortillas with cooking spray. Cut tortillas into quarters. Arrange three tortilla pieces in each muffin cup, overlapping to fit. Press tortillas gently and firmly into muffin pan. (Tortillas should stick up higher than muffin cup sides.)

Arrange half of the cheese in tortilla-lined muffin cups. Top with sausage and the remaining cheese.

In a bowl, combine the eggs, milk, bell pepper, cilantro, salt and pepper. Carefully pour into cups.

Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until eggs are set. Serve with salsa if desired.

Breakfast Sausage Skillet with Sautéed Tomatoes and Basil

Servings: 3 to 4
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 25 minutes

- 2 medium red skinned potatoes, (about 3/4 pound) cut into thin wedges
- 1 small onion, sliced
- 1 teaspoon rosemary, dried or fresh
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 12-ounce package Johnsonville Original Recipe Breakfast Sausage, divided
- 1/2 pint grape tomatoes, (about 1 cup)
- 1/3 cup shredded Gouda cheese
- 2 to 4 large eggs, poached, fried or scrambled
- 1/4 cup slivered fresh basil leaves
- Salt and pepper to taste

In bowl, combine potato wedges, onion slices, rosemary and olive oil. Toss together.

In large skillet over medium heat, add potato mixture and cook for 5 minutes. Add half the sausages to pan and continue cooking another 10 to 12 minutes, turning occasionally to evenly brown ingredients.

Add tomatoes, stir to combine and heat through allowing the tomatoes to brown slightly and burst, about 3 minutes.

Remove from heat and sprinkle with shredded Gouda cheese, and top with eggs and a sprinkling of fresh basil.



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Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas, by calling (432) 267-6341 or www.crmwd.org

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County Junior Livestock Show early results

Emilee Custer, representing Coahoma FFA, walked home with the grand champion goat during the Howard County Junior Livestock show, held this weekend at the county fair barns.

Lukas Grantham, representing Howard County 4-H, had the top lamb in the competition.

Below are results of those two shows.

GOATS

Grand Champion: Emilee Custer, Coahoma FFA.

Reserve Grand Champion: Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA.

Light Weight Division, Class 1

1. Emilee Custer, Coahoma FFA; 2. Yanci Yeater, Howard County 4-H; 3. Brance Workman, HC 4-H; 4. Kimberly Ogle, HC 4-H; 5. Dalton Oble, HC 4-H; 6. Micah Worley, HC 4-H; 7. Aubrey Parum, HC 4-H; 8. Dalton Ogle, HC 4-H.

Light Weight Divi-

sion, Class 2

1. Bryce Hamilton, Sands FFA; 2. Sam King, Coahoma FFA; 3. Kimberly Ogle, Howard County 4-H; 4. Riley Jenkins, HC 4-H; 5. Blaze Yeater, HC 4-H; 6. Morgan Pierce, Coahoma FFA; 7. Dalton Ogle, HC 4-H; 8. Haylee Jo Grant, HC 4-H.

Lt. Wt. Division Champion: Emilee Custer, Coahoma FFA.

Lt. Wt. Division Reserve Champion: Bryce Hamlin, Sands FFA.

Medium Weight Division, Class 3

1. Ashley Luce, Coahoma FFA; 2. Jayden Holt, Coahoma FFA; 3. Aubrey Parum, Howard County 4-H; 4. Ashley Luce, Coahoma FFA; 5. Faith Parum, HC 4-H; 6. Micah Worley, HC 4-H; 7. Philip Bacon, Coahoma FFA; 8. Taylon Kincaid, Coahoma FFA.

Medium Weight Division, Class 4

1. Emilee Custer, Coahoma FFA; 2. Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA; 3. Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA; 4. Jayden Holt, Coahoma FFA; 5. Kelsey

Allen, Coahoma FFA; 6. Faith Parum, Howard County 4-H; 7. Brayden Worley, HC 4-H; 8. Bracy Bacon, Coahoma FFA.

Med. Wt. Division Champion: Emilee Custer, Coahoma FFA.

Med. Wt. Division Reserve Champion: Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA.

Heavy Weight Division, Class 5

1. Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA; 2. Bryce Hamlin, Sands FFA; 3. Riley Jenkins, Howard County 4-H; 4. Brayden Worley, HC 4-H; 5. Micah Worley, HC 4-H; 6. Landyn Young, Coahoma FFA; 7. Kacey Allen, Coahoma FFA; 8. Jessica Privett, Coahoma FFA.

Heavy Weight Division, Class 6

1. Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA; 2. Sam King, Coahoma FFA; 3. Landyn Young, Coahoma FFA; 4. Trevor Blagrove, Sands FFA; 5. Nathan Feamster, Howard County 4-H.

Hvy. Wt. Division Champion: Reagan Hamilton, Sands FFA.

Hvy. Wt. Division Reserve Champion: Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA.

LAMBS

Grand Champion: Lukas Grantham, Howard County 4-H.

Reserve Grand Champion: Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA.

Light Southdown

1. Brynn Workman, Coahoma FFA; 2. Brance Workman, Howard County 4-H; 3. Haylee Jo Grant, HC 4-H; 4. Landyn Young, Coahoma FFA.

Heavy Southdown

1. Landyn Young, Coahoma FFA; 2. Landyn Young, Coahoma FFA; 3. Nathan Feamster, HC 4-H.

Champion Southdown: Brynn Workman, Coahoma FFA.

Reserve Champion Southdown: Brance Workman, Howard County 4-H.

Light Finewool

1. Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA; 2. Bryce

Hamlin, Sands FFA; 3. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 4. Caleb Gillespie, Sands FFA.

Heavy Finewool

1. Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA; 2. Brynn Workman, Howard County 4-H; 3. Bryce Hamlin, Sands FFA.

Champion Finewool: Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA.

Reserve Champion Finewool: Brynn Workman, Coahoma FFA.

Light Finewool Cross

1. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 2. Bryce Hamlin, Sands FFA; 3. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 4. Caleb Gillespie, Sands FFA; 5. Caleb Gillespie, Sands FFA.

Heavy Finewool Cross

1. Brance Workman, Coahoma FFA; 2. Reagan Hamlin, Howard County 4-H; 3. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 4. Ashley Luce, Coahoma FFA.

Champion Finewool Cross: Brance Workman, Coahoma FFA.

Reserve Champion Finewool Cross: Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA.

Light Medium Wool

1. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 2. Brance Workman, Coahoma FFA; 3. Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA; 4. Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA; 5. Ashley Luce, Coahoma FFA; 6. Daniel Lane Smith, Howard County 4-H.

Light Heavy Medium Wool

1. Lukas Grantham, Howard County 4-H; 2. Brynn Workman, Coahoma FFA; 3. Reagan Hamlin, Sands FFA; 4. Marcus Dylan Smith, HC 4-H; 5. Lukas Grantham, HC 4-H.

MD Medium Wool

1. Lukas Grantham, HC 4-H; 2. Kobyn Ramey, Sands FFA; 3. Morgan Luce, Coahoma FFA; 4. Lukas Grantham, Sands FFA; 5. Lukas Grantham, Sands FFA.

Heavy Medium Wool

1. Lukas Grantham, HC 4-H; 2. Kaleb Denton, HC 4-H; 3. Kaleb Denton, HC 4-H.

Champion Medium Wool, Lukas Grantham, Howard County 4-H.

Reserve Champion Medium Wool, Lukas Grantham, HC 4-H.



Courtesy photo

Max Pappajohn, center with plaque, was named Rotary Student of the Month for December.

Births



Dylan Violet Kilgore

Dylan Violet Kilgore, a girl, was born at 9:53 a.m. Dec. 5, 2012, weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Ben and Janet Kilgore of Big Spring. Maternal grandparents are Helen and Ronnie Richardson and the late Omer Sherman. Paternal grandparent is Dr. J. Gale and Sue Kilgore.

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4

9

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