

BIG SPRING HERALD

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SUNDAY

December 5, 1999

WEATHER

Today:

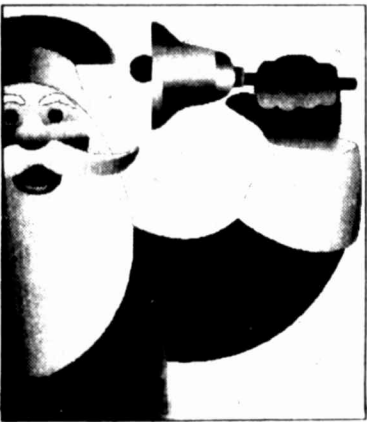


PARTLY CLOUDY
TODAY 54°-57° TONIGHT 26°-30°

HELPING OTHERS...

Each day through the holiday season, the Herald will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate, including Salvation Army Angel Trees and Salvation Army kettles.

If your organization has an established program to help others and you would like to be included in this list, call Marsha Sturdivant at 263-7331, ext. 234.



Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Herald (seniors)
- Big Spring Mall
- Al's and Son B-B-Q
- Wal-Mart
- Cosden Credit Union
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center
- Rip Griffin's Gift Shop
- Gale's Sweet Shoppe

Salvation Army Kettles:

- Wal-Mart
- Rip Griffin's
- Big Spring Post Office
- Bealls For Her
- Cinema IV

Toys For Tots:

- Cellular One in the

See **HELPING**, Page 2A

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20 shopping days 'til Christmas
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Vol. 97, No. 33

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Nativity will come to life beginning Thursday night

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Congregation members of the First Church of Nazarene are preparing to brave the weather and round up the livestock in order to remind the community of the true meaning of Christmas.

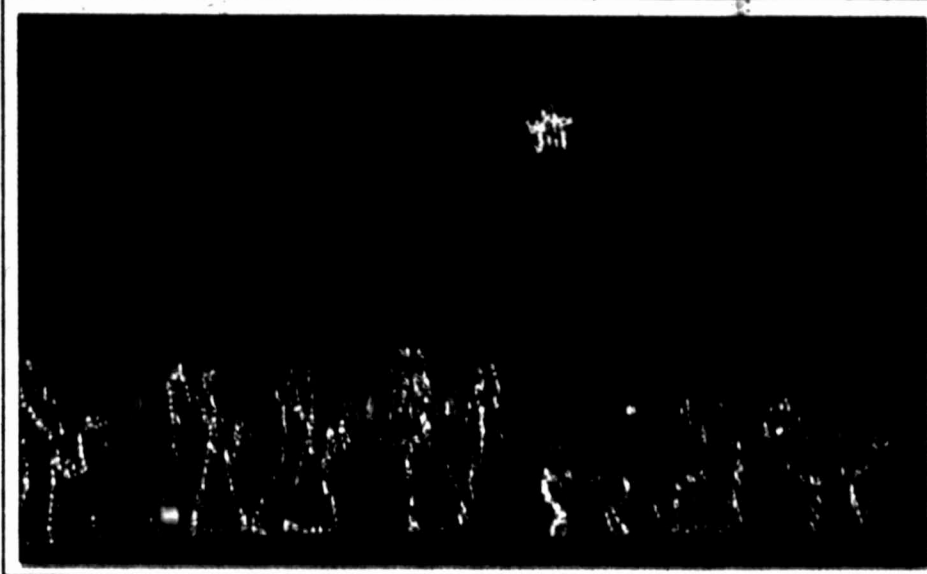
The First Church of the Nazarene will present its 13th annual live, Drive-thru Nativity on Thursday, Friday, Saturday

and Sunday, Dec. 12, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

"There are not many voices proclaiming the true meaning of Christmas because we become so overwhelmed by all the commercialism. The nativity is a reminder there would not be a Christmas season without the birth of Christ," said Roger Huff, pastor of the church.

First consisting of seven

See **NATIVITY**, Page 3A



The three kings approach from the left to see the Christ child in this scene at the Comanche Trail Park Festival of Lights. A quarter-million lights shine in displays across the park, most of which can be seen in a driving tour. More lights are visible to those who walk the various trails.

HERALD photo: Bill McClellan

Despite the cold, thousands turn out for annual parade

By JOHN H. WALKER
Editor

Upwards of 20,000 persons braved gusty winds and falling temperatures Saturday to "ooh" and "aah" as the 13th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade rolled by.

The parade stretched more than 24 blocks and lasted for just over 90 minutes. An estimated 2,500 persons participated in the parade itself.

"We think this was one of the best parades ever," said Chuck Williams, Herald publisher. "While we would have preferred not to have the wind, the cooler temperatures helped it feel like Christmas and the overcast skies made the lights easier to see."

All but six of the 90-plus vehicles in the parade were lighted, adding to the aura surrounding the parade.

In addition, bandmen from both Big Spring and Forsan got in the Christmas spirit and wore Christmas sweatshirts, Santa hats and lights, among other holiday-related items.

The parade, as always, was

paced by the Color Guard of the Big Spring Police Department, with parade Grand Marshal Pat Simmons next in line in a green Mustang convertible provided by Bob Brock Ford.

Spectators came earlier than normal on Saturday, with most trying to stake out the best possible parking spot so that they might watch the parade pass by from the comfort of their vehicle.

But try as they might, the lure of the lighted entries and the spirited Christmas music provided by bands from Big Spring High School, Big Spring Junior High, Forsan High School and Forsan Junior was too much, drawing them to the sidewalk.

"From a quick tally, this parade had the most lighted units ever," Williams said. "Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves."

One youngster who did was 4-year-old Andrew Sanders, who started out riding in the Puddle

See **PARADE**, Page 3A



Three of four entries defend their titles

By JOHN H. WALKER
Editor

Three of four category champions were able to defend their titles Saturday during the 13th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade.

Boy Scout Troop 25 of Sand Springs became the first organization to win a category championship four times in a row Saturday, when the Scouts successfully defended their title in the Civic Division.

"Alright," an excited Donna Mansfield exclaimed when notified the group had successfully defended its title. When asked if they would enter next year, she said, "You bet, we've got to

defend this title then."

Also successfully defending titles were Western Container in the Commercial/Manufacturing Division and Sacred Heart Catholic Church in the Church/School Division.

The lone newcomer to the winner's circle was AG Services, which dethroned defending champion Norwest Bank in the Lighted Category.

AG Services has consistently finished toward the top of its division.

The judging this year was some of the tightest ever, with Sacred Heart coming out on top over Latter Day Saints on a tiebreaker.

See **WINNERS**, Page 3A

PARADE WINNERS

LIGHTED

1. AG Services
2. Fina
3. McDonald's

COMMERCIAL/MANUFACTURING

1. Western Container
2. HEB
3. Butcher Block/Skateland

CIVIC

1. Troop 25
2. Harley Owners Group
3. VFW Post 2013

CHURCH/SCHOOL

1. Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
3. Church of God of Prophecy

Saturday's Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade

was full of color and music,

with the VFW, above, providing

one of the more striking scenes; Santa and Mrs.

Clubs, at far left, bringing up

the end; below that, the Big

Spring Police Department Color

Guard leading it off; and at bottom

right, the Harley Owners Group,

revving up some holiday spirit. An

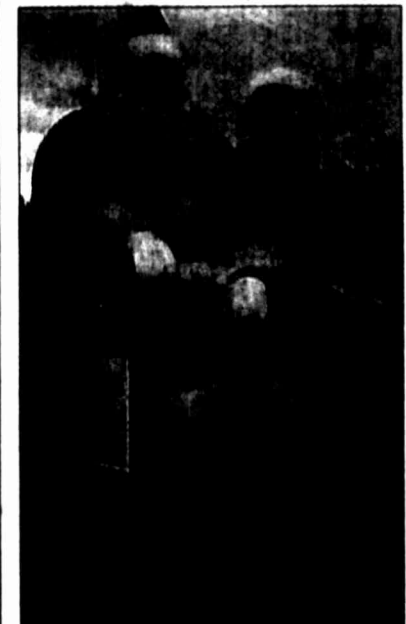
estimated 20,000 people lined

Gregg Street, Sixth Street and

Main to see the 13th edition of the

annual event.

HERALD photos: Marsha Sturdivant



GOP incumbents line up as filing for March primaries begins

By JOHN H. WALKER
Editor

What could become a busy political campaign got under way Friday, as at least five incumbents filed papers with their respective county political chairmen.

Precinct 3 county commissioner Bill Crooker, county tax assessor/collector Kathy Sayles, sheriff Bill Jennings, auditor Teresa Thomas and precinct 1, place 1 peace justice Bennie Green all filed their documents

with Howard County Republican chairman Dwain Fox Friday morning.

Crooker, Sayles, Jennings and Thomas filed their papers at 8:30 while Green filed later in the morning.

At press time, Democratic county chairman Rey Villarreal had not notified the Herald of any filings, although on Friday



CROOKER



SAYLES



JENNINGS



THOMAS



GREEN

he said he expected some candidates to file.

County primaries will be held on March 17 with the victors advancing to the general elec-

tion on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

All indications are that the turnout for the 2000 elections will be large.

"They (secretary of state's

office) are predicting March 2000 elections to be a close race. They told us to be sure to order plenty of ballots, hope they're right," county clerk Donna Wright said in an earlier story.

Local offices up for election include the county sheriff's seat, held by Jennings; the district attorney's seat, held by Hardy Wilkerson; county tax assessor-collector, held by Sayles; county attorney, held by Mike Thomas; and the unex-

See **FILING**, Page 2A

OBITUARIES

Robbie Townsend

Robbie Townsend, 81, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Dec. 3, 1999, in a local hospital.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, 1999, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Claude Craven, retired Baptist minister, and Rev. Tim Dunn, associate minister at Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



TOWNSEND

She was born on Oct. 27, 1918, in Hunt County, Texas, and married W.L. "Shake" Townsend on June 26, 1942, in Big Spring, Texas.

Mrs. Townsend was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She had worked at Jack and Jill Day Care Center as a cook for many years. She loved visiting friends and never met a stranger.

She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, W.L. "Shake" Townsend of Big Spring; two nieces, Shirley White of Big Spring and Joyce Romine of Midland; one nephew, Billy Hammack of Wimberley; and numerous relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and two sisters.

The family suggests memorials to: Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1448, Big Spring, Texas, 79721-1448.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

FILING

Continued from Page 1A

pired term of county treasurer, currently held by Thomas.

Two commissioner's seats are up: Precinct 1, occupied by Emma Brown, and Precinct 3, held by Crooker. Also up for election is Green's justice of the peace seat. All constables are on the ballot as well.

Three other races that will also affect Howard County involve the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and Texas House of Representatives.

Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison holds the Senate seat while Charlie Stenholm and David Counts hold the two representative seats, respectively.

Both Stenholm and Counts have had strong challenges recently.

Stenholm defeated Phil Boone six years ago and Rudy Izzard the past two elections, while Counts turned back bids by Big Spring resident Scott McLaughlin the last two elections.

Candidate filing ends Jan. 3. The primary is March 14.

Crooker, who was first elected in 1968, said he wanted to con-

MYERS & SMITH
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& CHAPEL

21th & Johnson 267-8288

Violet Johnson, 70, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be 10:30 AM Monday, at Trinity Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE
& WELCH
Funeral Home

Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory



906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331

Robbie Townsend, 81, died Friday. Services will be 2:00 PM Monday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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tinue his ongoing work.
"I feel like I've done a good job and I've worked hard to represent not just the residents of Precinct 3, but of the entire county," Crooker said.

Crooker represents Howard County on the Ports-to-Plains advisory board as well as the Texas, Mexico and Asia Corridor board and said he felt the future is bright for Howard County.

"Sitting at the Crossroads, I think we're both poised and positioned for an exciting time. We're perfectly positioned to take advantage of Ports-to-Plains and I think there could be some promise in the Texas, Mexico and Asia alliance," he said.

Sayles, who has been a county employee for 20 years, was first appointed to her current position in Sept. 1988. She was elected in 1992 and reelected in 1996.

Sayles said she enjoys working with the public and enjoys the challenges that come with that.

"I want the public to feel comfortable when they come in here because it is a difficult place to have to come with the fees and all," she said.

Sayles' office collects state fees as well as for the county. In addition, she collects the taxes for the county and eight entities within the county.

Other fees collected by her office includes sales tax for autos, registration fees for vehicles and boats and liquor fees and taxes.

In addition, she collects taxes for eight county entities and dispenses the funds to those entities. It is also the voter registration office.

During her tenure in office, Howard County has gone online with the state in both the area of voter registration and vehicle registration.

"We've upgraded both areas," she said. "Within 36 to 48 hours, anything that comes in is on the computer in Austin. Law enforcement officials will know that a vehicle is registered here."

Jennings, a former Department of Public Safety (DPS) trooper, is completing his first term.

"I want to finish the job we got started," he said, explaining why he was seeking reelection. "I want to continue to develop this into a professional agency that folks are proud of."

During his first term, Jennings has updated the computer system as well as the firearms and vehicles used by the department. He has also placed the department in a standard uniform, easily identifiable by both citizens and other law enforcement agencies.

Jennings said both he and Big Spring Police Chief Lonnie

Smith work well together.
"I've worked hard with Chief Smith to open the lines of communication and cooperation between the two departments and I feel we have an excellent working relationship."

Jennings also worked to get the drug task force active once again in Howard County and cited Operation Purple Cow as a success of those efforts.

Thomas was appointed last May to fill the unexpired term of Bonnie Franklin, who retired. She has been with the county 20 years, working in the auditor's office, and is in her first election.

The auditor's office mails out the county's statements and oversees everything involving personnel-related issues.

Since being appointed to her post, Thomas has updated the employee's manual to standards approved by both the commissioner's court and the Texas Association of Counties.

"I intend to continue to run a professional, competent office and intend to continue to be available to assist employees with personnel-related problems," she said.

Green, who was appointed to his post at about the same time as Thomas, serves as the court of record for persons issued citations by the DPS, handles committal hearings for the state hospitals and is called to rule on cause of death.

The JP can also marry persons and issues warrants for hot checks, among other duties. Green was unavailable for comment.

Persons seeking office must designate a campaign treasurer with the county clerk before filing to run with either Fox or Villarreal.

Fox has an office at 1101 Main St. and can be reached at 263-2199. Villarreal can be reached at 263-5322.

BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

HELPING

Continued from Page 1A

College Park Shopping through Dec. 14.

Other efforts:

- H-E-B Food Stores "Ring In A Miracle" to benefit the Salvation Army. Tell your cashier what you want to give and either \$1 or \$2 will be added to your grocery total.
- Church of the Nazarene will collect canned food for the Salvation Army during the drive-through nativity scene, Dec. 9-12.
- Pizza Inn, Goliad Elementary, St. Mary's Episcopal School, Forsan ISD, Moss Elementary and Big Spring Junior High are all holding canned food drives through Dec. 8.
- Norwest Bank is sponsoring The Giving Tree, which aids foster children. Come by and select an ornament and bring a gift back to the bank by Dec. 17.
- Parks Convenience Center, 311 Gregg, is having a canned food drive for the Salvation Army. For four cans of food you get "The Works" car wash, a \$6 value, free through Dec. 10.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Lotto: 15,20,24,27,29,37

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

SUPPORT GROUPS

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting.
• NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

MONDAY

• TOPS Club (Take off pound sensibly), weigh-in 5 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., College Heights Christian church, 21st and Goliad.
• Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates/times of upcoming groups.
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.
• Alzheimer's support group, 7 p.m., Canterbury South, 1700 N. Lancaster, first Mondays of each month. Call Galynn Gamble at 263-1271.
• Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).
• Alzheimer's support group, 6:30 p.m., Marcy House, 2301 Wason. Call 268-9041.
• Association of Retarded Citizens of Howard County meet 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month at 806 E. Third Street, the HARC bingo building. Call 264-0674 for more information.

• Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at 409 Rannels, Clyde Alsup Building. AMI meeting to follow. For more information call 263-0027 or 267-7220.

• Encourager's Support Group (for widows) will meet Monday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. at Cowboy's Restaurant. They will also meet Monday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Rannels (enter through the north door), for a Christmas dinner and fun gift-exchange. The ham will be furnished. Bring any covered dish and an inexpensive wrapped gift (not to exceed \$10). Diane Brown will be the speaker. For more information call 398-5522.

• Survivors of Suicide support group will meet 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, at Memorial Hospital, Midland. The theme

will be "Getting Through the Holidays when Grieving."

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

POLICE

Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Friday and noon Saturday:

- JEFFREY COX, 18, was arrested for driving while license invalid.
- FRED TURNER, 26, was arrested for disorderly conduct/language.
- JAIME TORRES, 39, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.
- LORENZO VALBIENA, 49, was arrested for Class C assault/family violence.
- SHOTS FIRED was reported in the 1200 block of Scurry.
- CLASS B THEFT was reported in the 2700 block of Old Highway 80.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1100 block of Mulberry.
- ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg, the 1100 block of Scurry and Fourth Street and Gregg.
- LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 800 block of Kent and the 1500 block of Chanute.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 530 block of Westover.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Scurry.
- THEFT was reported in the 1500 block of SUNSET.
- DOMESTIC FIGHT was reported in the 1000 block of E. 16th.



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
Farley, Adam and Joey Lloyd enjoyed a bowl of warm stew with cornbread at the Party after the Parade in the Settles Building.



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
The 21st annual Living Christmas Tree got under way Saturday with a dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. The first performance was 8 p.m. Saturday and the final performance is tonight at 8 p.m.

BIG SPRING MOVIE
HOTLINE
For showtimes call
263-2479

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Announces his Candidacy for
Re-Election to the Office of
Sheriff of Howard County
For continued Proven Leadership
for ALL Citizens of Howard County
(Pd. Pol. Adv., W. B. Jennings, Treasurer, P. O. Box 2422, Big Spring, Texas 79721)

NATIV

Continued

scenes 13 ty has not 17 scenes. the story to his re such as st keys will the nativii For Bob gation m volunteer working v proclaim Christ. Ar will parti nativity. The nat largest in Huff. "I have ple, some have not through bi said. Visitors Oklahoma viewed the last year. The lir Lancaster reaches t Martin Lu and Lanca Martin Lu Congregat helping to "Visitors up around Huff said. For tho lines, Goo ing arou there is le: tors come bring thei children i early," sai Greeters offer visit to play the of every sc New thi

WINN

Continued f

In categor ed, the scor ing was use Both finis with 46 of but Sacred

NATIVITY

Continued from Page 1A

scenes 13 years ago, the nativity has now grown to a total of 17 scenes. The scenes portray the story of the birth of Christ to his return. Live animals such as sheep, goats, and donkeys will again play a part of the nativity.

For Bob Goodwin, a congregation member and nativity volunteer, the nativity is a working witness and helps to proclaim the words of Jesus Christ. Around 150 volunteers will participate in this year's nativity.

The nativity is one of the largest in Texas, according to Huff.

"I have talked to many people, some out of state, and they have not heard of any drive-through bigger than this," Huff said.

Visitors from New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Arkansas viewed the Nazarene's nativity last year.

The line will start on Lancaster going south. When it reaches the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Lancaster it turns west on Martin Luther King Boulevard. Congregation members will be helping to direct traffic.

"Visitors usually start to line up around 5:30 or 5:45 p.m.," Huff said.

For those who dread long lines, Goodwin suggests coming around 9 p.m. because there is less traffic. "Most visitors come early because they bring their children, and the children need to be in bed early," said Goodwin.

Greeters at the entrance will offer visitors a CD or cassette to play that gives a description of every scene of the play.

New this year, greeters will



Roger Huff, Dell McGuire, and Bob Goodwin prepare for the First Church of the Nazarene's Drive-thru Nativity. The nativity is one of the largest in Texas.

hand out coloring books to the kids. The coloring books consist of all the scenes in the nativity.

Greeters will also be accepting canned food donations for any one who would like to contribute to the Salvation Army canned food drive.

No fee is required to view the nativity. Cash donations will

be accepted at the end of the exhibit.

"All donations are used to maintain the nativity scenes," Huff said. "The church does not use any donations collected from the nativity for any other purposes."

Huff expects the nativity will cost between \$1,500 to \$2,000 to present.

Block/Skateland with 36. Church of God of Prophecy took third with 44 points.

In the Lighted Division, AG Service scored 57 points to finish ahead of Fina's 50 and McDonald's 44.

In the Commercial/Manufacturing Division, Western Container scored 56, followed by HEB with 37 and Butcher

In the Civic Division, Troop 25 scored 47 points, followed by Harley Owner's Group with 40.

Placing third was VFW Post 2013 with 34 points. The Lighted Division had the largest number of entries — 26 — although all but six vehicles in the parade were lighted.



Members of the Big Spring High School band, above, the Big Spring Junior High band, and the Forsan High School and Junior High bands provided holiday music during the Herald Community Christmas Parade Saturday.

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

Ducks Day Care float, then rode his dad, Lyle's, shoulders to about Eighth Street.

"It was fun," he said, giggling. "I saw Santa Claus."

And while the elves walking alongside floats to hand out candy were popular, no entry was as popular as the last one in the parade — occupied by jolly old Saint Nick himself, along with Mrs. Claus.

Puddle Ducks was one of a number of first-time entries, including McDonald's Restau-

ant, Alberto's, Max-L Tire, Howard County Red Cross and Hangar 25 Air Museum.

The parade began at the corner of the FM 700 north service road and Gregg Street and proceeded north on Gregg until Sixth Street, where it turned to the east to Main Street. It then headed north again to Second, where the parade ended.

On several occasions, the parade was backed up well past the judge's stand as entries made their way into downtown — where spectators crowded along the sidewalks and courthouse lawn.

One group of youngsters who took advantage of the huge

crowd was from St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

"Hot cocoa, popcorn ... hot cocoa, popcorn," Sara Haney called out to spectators as she walked up and down Gregg Street.

Williams said planning for next year's parade, scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 2, gets under way Tuesday.

"We'll have a parade post mortem to discuss how things went and what we might change or adjust for next year," Williams said.

"We were very pleased with the number of lighted entries and look forward to even more next year."

Carol of Lights set Monday at state hospital

Special to the Herald

Big Spring State Hospital will hold its Carol of Lights Monday night, and the public is invited.

The event begins at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Activities Therapy Department building.

"This gives the patients an opportunity to have this activity to prepare for the Christmas Season and gives them an opportunity to interact with the staff and the community in a social setting," said Billie Russworm, director of community relations.

"The patients really enjoy singing."

Patients at the state hospital begin the holiday season with their annual tree-lighting ceremony during the Carol of Lights.

Choral groups from throughout the community will help patients and employees kick off a month of Christmas activities by lending their voices. Refreshments will be served following an hour of caroling.

Patients will begin supervised Christmas shopping for family and friends last week in Big

Spring at various retail outlets.

A hospital-wide party for patients and staff is set for Dec. 16.

Sandwiches and cake will be served, and the West Texas family band, "The Williams Family," will lend their musical talents, Russworm said.

Gifts will be distributed to patients Christmas morning.

Anyone who would like to donate to the Christmas fund or assist the volunteers in wrapping packages is asked to call the community relations office at 281-7535.

WINNERS

Continued from Page 1A

In category's where a tie existed, the scores in the theme judging was used as the tiebreaker.

Both finished the competition with 46 (of a possible 60) points, but Sacred Heart held a 13-12

92% IS AN A IN ANYONE'S BOOK.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center receives high marks from leading independent accreditation organization, again.

Scenic Mountain has just received a 92% score from JCAHO, the Joint Commission of Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations. The JCAHO score recognizes the quality and professionalism offered right here in Big Spring at Scenic Mountain.

JCAHO is the nation's oldest and most distinguished accreditation organization. They conduct on-site reviews of hospital operations and procedures to determine if a hospital meets their accreditation standards. The score is a way to compare healthcare facilities on an equal apples-to-apples basis.

We at Scenic Mountain Medical Center are proud to have received such a superior score from JCAHO. The high ranking supports what more and more of our patients and their family members are telling us — that quality health care is right here, close to home at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

The next time you or a loved one needs healthcare services, try Scenic Mountain. We'd like to show you our recent improvements to both our facility and services in emergency, surgical, diagnostic, maternity and all the other services in the hospital.



JOINT COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS (JCAHO) JCAHO is an independent, not-for-profit organization whose members include the American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association. They conduct on-site surveys looking at all aspects of a healthcare organizations operation and care giving before they award an accreditation score.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER 1601 West Eleventh Place / Big Spring, TX

EDITORIAL

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

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

Charles C. Williams Publisher John H. Walker Editor John A. Moseley Sports Editor Debbie Jensen Features Editor Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

What a great holiday kickoff we had Saturday

Spectacular, Big Spring. What a wondrous beginning to a great holiday season. Saturday's activities in our community were something to see. More importantly, they were down right fun.

From the dress rehearsal of the Living Christmas Tree at First United Methodist Church until the lights were turned out at the Party After the Parade at the Settles Building, it was a day of enchantment, color, pageantry and music.

Some 15,000 to 20,000 of you braved the cold and wind for the 13th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, which by our estimates had about 2,000 participants. The smiles on the faces of the spectators — young, old and in between — was wonderful to see.

Another large group made it over to the spring, site of the Festival of Lights, which — as promised — was bigger, better and brighter. If you didn't have the opportunity to make it out Saturday, be sure you do this holiday season.

Other ceremonies and after-the-parade receptions were held at the First Baptist Church, Hangar 25 Air Museum and the Settles Building, offering lots of fellowship, snacks and some much-needed hot chocolate, cider and coffee.

Fortunately, Saturday's marvelous activities aren't the end of the gaiety and tradition. Today at 8 p.m., the final performance of the Living Christmas Tree will be held. We hope you obtained your free tickets in advance for this typically standing-room-only event.

And don't forget to add to your "must-do" list the First Church of the Nazarene's Drive-thru Nativity, which begins Thursday and runs through Dec. 12.

All in all, these community events bring thousands of visitors to our city. We know they go away with a good feeling and a promise to return next year.

Happy holidays, Big Spring! May they continue to be merry and bright.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

On behalf of myself, the RAT Group, Elbow Elementary Staff, parents and children, we would like to thank all the businesses and individuals of Big Spring who graciously and generously donated items or made contributions to the success of our Fall Festival.

The proceeds from our Fall Festival are used to supplement the wonderful school we have.

We have purchased books for our Accelerated Reading program, playground equipment, and much more. Without the donations we receive from the generous merchants of Big Spring, we would not be able to have such a great Fall Festival.

Thank you once again for supporting us and our children.

Theresa Marlow Fall Festival Chair Big Spring

As a citizen of Big Spring, it behooves me to take this opportunity to publicly thank Kent Sharp of the Moore Development board for his work and dedication in the bringing of StarTek to the city of Big Spring.

It is so refreshing to have a person that has such vision for the future of Big Spring.

Kent deserves a big thank you from all the citizens of Big Spring for his work.

The job he has done will benefit the community for years to come.

I know that the StarTek deal was long and drawn out and probably denied Kent of many a good night's sleep, so it is a very deserved and heartfelt thanks that I give him for a job well done.

I know that he will continue to work for us, and we, the citizens of Big Spring, will reap the benefits for many years to come.

Keep up the good work, Kent. Marlon Hale Big Spring

How To Contact Us

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us: In person at 710 Scurry St. By telephone at 263-7331 By fax at 264-7205 By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalk@xroadstx.com. By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721 Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

The Writer's Art: For a writer's Christmas

The Yuletide is upon us, and a seasonal question recurs: Could I recommend some books for a writer's Christmas? You bet.

The New York Times has just published a greatly expanded edition of its Manual of Style and Usage.

Prepare for bad news and good news. The 1976 edition contained a single succinct line. It read: "data (pl., datum (sing., but rare))."

In the 1999 edition we find, regrettably: "data" is acceptable as a singular term. "The data was persuasive." In its traditional sense, meaning a collection of facts and figures, the noun can still be plural: "They tabulate the data, which arrive from bookstores nationwide."

Those of us who write for newspapers are bound by the Stylebook of The Associated Press. Its 1993 edition says: "DATA. A plural noun, it normally takes plural verbs and pronouns." Inadvertently the AP adds, in an entry on collective

nouns, that when "data" refers to a discrete unit, it is acceptable to write, "The data is sound." When the reference is to individual items, it is right to say, "The data HAVE been carefully collected."

My own thought is to cling to Latin and Greek formulations until their usage becomes a matter of gaudy affectation. In my book the data ARE always sound. The Supreme Court continues to speak of "fora" instead of "forums," but I suspect "fora" is a lost cause. I would hang on to alumna/alumnae, phenomenon/phenomena and criterion/criteria, but I probably would yield on "cacti" and "croci" as the plural of cactus and crocus.

The new Times manual offers an ominous comment on "media." In deference to its grammatically exacting readership, the Times will keep it plural "for now." In this column, "media" will remain forever plural!

Despite its apostasy on the matter of "data," and despite its simplistic advice on the placement of adverbs, the revised Times manual is a valuable reference work. The manual is also in error when it condemns "absolutely necessary" as a redundancy. The editors should recur to John Marshall's opinion in McCulloch v. Maryland, construing the "necessary and

proper" clause of the Constitution. The great chief justice had it right. Necessity comes in degrees.

Back to Christmas books. William Safire, the Times' word maven, offers "Spread the Word," the 11th collection of his popular columns. Like its predecessors, this volume is great reading for an exceptionally literate houseguest. Safire examines such words and phrases as "cover-up," "dead on arrival" and "tough sell." In a typical column, he turns around engagingly on "maid," a medieval term that has become unsexed. The old "maidservant" has morphed into "housekeeper," but a few derivatives survive: maid of honor, maiden voyage, maiden speech. A horse that has yet to win its first race remains a maiden.

In another column, Safire looks at "Get a life!" The imperative carries a mildly scolding connotation of "get out of a rut" or "stop being so stodgy." He traces it to teen-aged slang in 1983.

One of his readers dates the phrase from a Star Trek convention in 1986. It became the title of a Fox Broadcasting sitcom in 1990. As a vogue phrase, Safire comments, it can be derided, "but as a waker-upper, 'Get a life!' is conservative, constructive advice. Don't knock it."

Every writer, I suppose, now

and then feels the tug of foreign phrases. Nine times out of 10 the tug should be firmly resisted. When it is absolutely necessary to shift into another language, let us be certain we have the alien phrase on a leash. Toward that end, two new dictionaries promise to be useful. Oxford has put out a softcover edition of its "Dictionary of Foreign Words and Phrases." The "World Dictionary of Foreign Expressions" comes from Bolchazy-Carducci, 1000 Brown St., Wauconda, Ill. 60084. Both compilations appear to be far more comprehensive than the Mawson-Berlitz dictionary of 1975 or the Barnes & Noble dictionary of 1992.

The latter volume is the work of two African scholars, one of them a professor of ancient history in Nigeria, the other a judge and Latinist in Botswana. Oxford's new entry in the field was edited by Jennifer Speake. I checked entries under the letter "L." The Africans won, 370-178.

At the top of every book list for writers, of course, is the Strunk-White "Elements of Style."

It is the "little book" that both teaches and inspires.

If your writer already owns Strunk-White, give him or her the New Fowler's from Oxford — but hang onto the old Fowler's for the sheer fun of reading its enduring advice.

ADDRESSES

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Clinton's legacy will likely be assimilation

Rating a president while he's still in office is risky because unseen events can alter the outcome. Historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. acknowledged as much when he ranked President Clinton as a low-average leader in a comparative scale with other presidents in a 1996 article in The New York Times Sunday Magazine.

Clinton's considerable intelligence and political skills make him a formidable figure on the world stage, but he's not a fighter on issues and he is scandal-prone. "Who can tell how this combination of talents and infirmities will play out?" Schlesinger concluded.

Once Schlesinger rendered his judgment, Clinton became the first elected president to be impeached, a devastating

assault on his reputation that will always be in the first paragraph of any historical rendering of his presidency. Yet Schlesinger would rate Clinton higher today than he did before the Lewinsky scandal.

The reason for the better grade is foreign policy, an area Clinton knew little about when he first took office, and ostentatiously avoided. Remember "It's the economy, stupid," Clinton's compact with the country that he would focus on domestic bread-and-butter issues. "His main interest is not foreign affairs, but he's rather effective dealing with foreign leaders," says Schlesinger. "He is well-respected and he is responsible."

The implementation of the "Good Friday" Irish accord is the direct result of U.S. intervention, and the extraordinary patience shown by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell who acted as chief negotiator, middle-man and hand holder. Appointing Mitchell was "a stroke of genius," says Schlesinger.

Settling ethnic conflicts by bringing people together is a novel concept in much of the

world, where at the first sign of trouble, dissidents want to form a new country. The theme that runs through Clinton's intervention in Kosovo, Bosnia and Northern Ireland is assimilation, encouraging people of diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds to live harmoniously, or at least tolerate each other without resorting to violence and civil war.

The homogenous populations of the 21st century cannot build walls high enough to keep out those who are different. On his recent visit to Kosovo, Clinton pleaded with the Albanian majority to not seek vengeance against their Serbian neighbors, who may or may not have been complicit in the crimes against them. The thirst for revenge is strong, and it wasn't a message they wanted to hear.

Clinton has taken a similar activist stance in promoting peace in the Middle East, where the election of Prime Minister Ehud Barak earlier this year put the peace process on a more solid footing. Barak won office with the help of an American campaign team that included Clinton adviser James Carville and former Clinton

pollster Stanley Greenberg. The same theme of bringing people together is evident in Clinton's approach to domestic issues. Through word and deed, he has won the loyalty of African-Americans to the point where writer Toni Morrison calls him "the first black president." He has altered the dialogue on tobacco and guns and gays, three hot-button issues where partisan lines have begun to blur as majorities in both parties move toward common-sense solutions and tolerance.

Clinton's approval ratings remain high, higher than President Reagan's at a similar point, yet Clinton is also the most hated president since Richard Nixon and maybe since FDR.

Granted, he has given his detractors plenty to work with. Yet impeaching Clinton was deeply unpopular in the country.

Prosperity has eased some of the animosity against Clinton. With the stock market up, welfare rolls cut in half and crime down, no Republican running for president will dare ask: Are you better off today than you were eight years ago?



JACK ANDERSON

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Two killed in Texas A&M bonfire collapse were drunk, report finds

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Revelations that two of 12 people killed in the Texas A&M University bonfire collapse were legally drunk have triggered Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission officials to start their own investigation.

Toxicology reports released Friday show the blood-alcohol level of Jerry Don Self, 20, of Arlington, Texas, was .161 — twice the legal limit. The blood-alcohol level of Jeremy Richard Frampton, 22, of Turlock, Calif., was .316 — almost four times the legal limit.

Under state law, the definition of intoxication is .08 and higher. But school officials stress that no evidence has come out to suggest that student misconduct

was a factor in the Nov. 18 collapse, which injured 27 people.

Bob Wiatt, director of security at A&M, said "A few students drinking could not have caused that accident. That would have had to have been a massive show of force to cause those logs to topple the way they did."

Wiatt, in Saturday's Bryan-College Station Eagle and The Dallas Morning News, said so far none of the students who have been interviewed as part of the investigation has indicated that bonfire workers were drinking or were intoxicated at the time of the accident.

Tests show that eight other students who died had no alcohol in their systems; a former student had a small amount;

and the results on a 12th student were not available late Friday.

Leo E. Linbeck, a Houston construction executive who is leading a five-member investigative committee, said the toxicology reports will be added to the data already under review.

"Nobody knows right now what caused the bonfire to come down, but every single bit of information will be thoroughly examined," he said.

The committee met for the first time Friday. Among other things, the committee is looking into how students were selected and trained to work on bonfire, who in the A&M administration was responsible for ensuring safety on the site and whether

structural designs were used to build towering structure.

Randy Field, a Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission agent in the Bryan field office, said his office plans to request the toxicology reports and start a so-called source investigation.

Agents will trace the alcohol back to the source to determine whether any state laws were violated. Source investigations are standard in accident cases where alcohol has been consumed.

The chairman of the three-member alcoholic beverage commission is Allan Shivers Jr., who also is a member of the commission investigating the accident.

"This has been a great tragedy and, unfortunately, this issue might come up in the course of our investigation. We just don't know yet," Shivers told the Eagle.

Alcohol-related arrests long have been associated with the lighting of the bonfire, rather than the weeks leading up to the event, said Wiatt.

But in the past decade, law enforcement agencies cracked down on drinkers and student leaders urged other not to shatter the tradition with drinking, he said.

Those who worked on bonfire signed pledge cards promising they would not drink and get on the stack.

"We wanted to make bonfire

enjoyable for kids on up to grandparents," Wiatt said. "And that's really what it evolved into. Families could come and not get bushwhacked by rowdy drunks. We would still get the drunks, but we arrest them with no remorse."

Will Hurd, student body president at A&M, said he was unaware of information about bonfire workers drinking alcohol the night of the accident. "I do know that the safety and integrity of bonfire was preserved that night," he said.

An A&M police report released earlier this week revealed that one of the crane operators was an Aggie student who was not licensed to operate a crane.

Refurbished museum aims to preserve Texas history

AUSTIN (AP) — Miniature wax models recreating Texas' first 100 years and a painting of the woman known as the "Mother of Texas" were two of the new exhibits unveiled Friday during the re-opening of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Museum.

U.S. Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and Phil Gramm, both Republicans, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the museum, which recently underwent a three-month facelift.

"This place is home to two centuries of rich Texas history," said Mrs. Hutchison, a member of the organization for more than 20 years. "This unique heritage of ours must be preserved and passed to future generations."

The featured exhibits include historical dioramas that highlight dramatic events of Texas' first 100 years, including the Alamo and the establishment of the Spanish missions. The tiny wax figurines were originally created for centennial celebrations in 1936.

"These tell the story of Texas history in a way children can identify with unlike any textbook," said Carl R. McQueary, museum director.

The original 14 dioramas were displayed during centennial celebrations in Dallas and then moved to the Texas Memorial Museum in Austin before being placed in storage in the 1970s. The eight remaining figurines were given to the Republic of Texas Museum and painstakingly restored this year.

The exhibit and re-opening ceremony draws attention to the organization's mission to bring Texas history into the lives of all citizens, especially children, McQueary said.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas was founded in 1891 by Betty Ballinger and Hally Bryan Perry. The pair wanted to organize women who were direct descendants of those who established the republic.

The group, which currently has 6,500 members nationwide, maintains and oversees the Alamo, the French Legation in Austin, the Cradle in Galveston and the DRT Library in San Antonio.

The portrait of Rebecca Jane Fisher is another example of the group's work, McQueary said.

In 1840, Mrs. Fisher's parents were killed at their Refugio County ranch and a 9-year-old Mrs. Fisher and her brother were kidnapped by Comanche Indians. The children were rescued by a detachment of Texas soldiers and raised by an aunt in Galveston.

Mrs. Fisher married a Methodist minister and helped him found churches in California and Oregon, where the couple founded Carroll College.

The Fishers eventually returned home where Mrs. Fisher was dubbed the "Mother of Texas" because of her interest in the state's education, politics and religion. She also was instrumental in helping save the Alamo from destruction.

Elvis impersonator goes to jailhouse in murder plot

HOUSTON (AP) — A 42-year-old Elvis Presley impersonator has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for trying to arrange the murder of his wife.

William Keen Perry, also known as "The Big E," was sentenced Friday and fined \$5,000. He must spend at least one-fourth of the sentence behind bars before becoming eligible for parole.

Sporting prominent sideburns, a pompadour and a belt buckle emblazoned with the "Big E," Perry was arrested Oct. 31, 1998, on a charge of

solicitation of capital murder.

Prosecutor Ted Wilson said Perry and Joan Collin were married in 1992 and separated in October 1998.

Perry went to a friend and told him he wanted to have Ms. Collin killed, Wilson said.

The friend contacted a police officer and a meeting was set up with Sgt. H.L. Mayer, an investigator in HPD's homicide unit, Wilson said. Mayer, posing as a hitman, met Perry at a Denny's on Oct. 30, 1998.

Perry was caught on tape offering Mayer \$5,000 to kill her

— \$2,500 down and \$2,500 when Ms. Collin was dead.

Another meeting was set up and an arrest warrant for Perry was obtained, Wilson said. But in the meantime, Perry contacted Mayer and told him he didn't have the money.

Instead, Perry offered a knife and promised to pay him the \$5,000 after Ms. Collin was dead.

He also told Mayer that after she was dead he could take a \$13,000 diamond engagement ring off her hand and keep it.

Defense attorney Anthony Osso's defense and Perry's testi-

mony centered on the contention that he was never really serious about killing his wife but was only a "big talker" who was forced into meeting the hitman and became too scared to back out of it.

Osso also tried to show that Perry's wife verbally abused him. He said Perry's identification with Elvis helped his defense.

"I think it helped the jury understand the type of marriage these two had and that it was somewhat of a fantasy world they lived in," Osso said.

Remains identified as missing UT student

MIDLAND (AP) — Medical examiners confirmed Friday that a body found in Shackelford County was that of Jeffrey Randolph Lea, a University of Texas student who was reported missing in late September.

Lea died of exposure to the weather after breaking his left leg and right foot during a fall in the rugged terrain of Shackelford County a preliminary autopsy report revealed Friday.

The 22-year-old University of Texas student from Midland was reported missing Sept. 27 by his father after he failed to attend classes in Austin. A Hamby-area resident told police, the day before, about a suspicious car, later determined to be Lea's, parked on county Road 152, about four miles north of Texas Highway 351. Officials searched for Lea for five days on foot, horseback and in vehicles, even scouting from helicopter.

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WTO stumbles, protesters dance in streets, Seattle's glad it's over

SEATTLE (AP) — As World Trade Organization protesters swarmed the streets of Seattle last week, a spray-painted message blossomed on the wall of a downtown building: "We're winning — Don't forget."

Prophetic? Demonstrators said so. By Friday night, with the WTO's meeting in total collapse, jubilant protesters took credit for stopping what they see as a tool of unbridled corporate power.

By Saturday morning, however, WTO delegates could find no evidence in another sign as they rushed to catch flights home. The graffiti on that downtown building was gone, hidden by a coat of whitewash, and the only message remaining was a card

reading "Fresh Paint."

Who won the "Battle in Seattle," as the WTO's ministerial meeting so unfortunately came to be known?

Everyone involved — WTO leaders, protest organizers, city officials — claimed at least partial victory. The meeting went on despite the disturbances, but delegates accomplished virtually nothing. And all suffered substantial losses, too, as an event that started calmly and close to the script quickly spun out of control.

Seattle officials, hoping for a civic boost as hosts to the biggest international trade talks ever in the United States, were left defending themselves against criticism that they over-

reacted to protesters with tear gas, rubber bullets and mass arrests.

Thousands of peaceful demonstrators, trying to draw attention to issues of human rights, labor standards and environmental protection, saw their moment in the spotlight co-opted by some bad apples intent on vandalism. Merchants expecting a boom of business got a bust instead: Curfews and riot-gear police kept shoppers away, costing downtown stores at least \$9 million in lost sales on top of \$2 million in damage by protesters.

President Clinton, expecting a trade-relations coup, suffered a jarring defeat.

He invited the WTO to Seattle

in his State of the Union address last January, a tactic to show skeptical Americans the advantages of free trade. As recently as last month, the president professed no worries about protesters.

Last week, after his motorcade rolled past boarded-up windows and buildings marred by graffiti, Clinton turned to Seattle Mayor Paul Schell and said, according to Schell, "You know, there's an old saw that says, 'Be careful what you wish for. You might get it.'"

Clinton fared little better inside the conference center. Delegates unable to agree on a basic agenda failed to produce a new round of global trade talks. If the president wanted more

focus on trade, he got it. But more in the fashion described by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney: "Workers rights, human rights, discrimination, environmental and public health concerns are on the WTO radar screen now."

Coming to Seattle, U.S. negotiators already had angered poor countries by saying the WTO should study basic labor standards such as child labor and unions. Clinton further provoked them when he told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer he favors a system that not only sets core labor standards but also sanctions violators.

Many developing countries saw that as an attack on one of their few economic advantages,

lower wages. U.S. negotiators spent the rest of the week backtracking, but it was too late.

Clinton's comments inflamed Third World worries that the WTO show is run by the rich and powerful.

"If it's a culture of the old-boy network, it will not work," Nokokure Murangi, a delegate from Namibia, said after the talks failed. "It must be an inclusive process."

Outside the convention center where WTO delegates were holed up, Mayor Schell dealt with his own problems. He was criticized both for going too easy on troublemakers who smashed windows and for coming down too hard on peaceful protesters.

Clinton awards states that excel in welfare to work

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton on Saturday awarded \$200 million in bonus money to 27 states that not only cut their welfare rolls but where people were most likely to find jobs, keep them and increase their pay.

Clinton regularly hails the falling welfare rolls, and Saturday was no exception, as he announced that public assistance totals have been more than cut in half since peaking in 1994. Fewer than 6.9 million people — or about 2.5 million families — collected aid in June.

But the welfare bonus contest, created by the 1996 welfare overhaul law, rewarded states that moved the most welfare recipients into jobs, whether or not they left the rolls. States were also rewarded when clients kept jobs for at least three months and increased their wages.

Clinton also announced rules for next year's welfare bonus competition, with new criteria aimed at encouraging states to keep eligible families in food stamp and health insurance programs.

States will also be rewarded if they increase the portion of low-income children living in married-couple households.

Nationally, 1.3 million people on welfare went to work in 1998, according to state reports to the federal government, with 80 percent of them still holding jobs three months later. On average, their wages increased from \$8,352 to \$10,284 per year, still short well of the poverty line for the typical family but more than they were getting from welfare.

Winners will share the \$200 million, with each state's piece determined by the size of its annual welfare appropriation from Washington. The money is

added to other welfare funds, and it is subject to the same restrictions. None of the bonus money may be used to cut taxes or build stadiums, for example. It could be used to increase welfare benefits or provide more child care.

The amount being given to each state was not immediately available, but with 27 winners, the average bonus will be about \$7.4 million.

The money is given to the top 10 states in four categories, based on data from 1998, with 12 states qualifying in more than one category. Indiana was No. 1 in placing the most people into jobs.

Minnesota had the most people keep jobs and increase earnings, dubbed "job success." Washington state saw the most improvement in job placement from 1997 to 1998. And Florida saw the most improvement in job success.

Other states winning a piece of the bonus are: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming.

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Six firefighters feared dead in Mass. fire

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — Six firefighters were missing and feared dead Saturday after becoming trapped as a five-story blaze roared through an abandoned industrial building.

The fire was still burning at midmorning and Fire Chief Dennis Bodd said firefighters could not yet enter the gutted building to search for the cause or the missing firefighters.

"This morning, the sun didn't

rise. It didn't rise because last night we lost six members of our family," Mayor Ray Mariano said at a news conference. "They were firefighters, but more importantly they were members of our family."

Two of the firefighters had entered the building, brick structure shortly after the fire began at 6 p.m. on Friday to scout out flames and search for two homeless people who

reportedly lived there, authorities said.

Those two firefighters radioed for help after becoming disoriented, and four members of a rescue team sent after them failed to reappear after the team was ordered out, said Deputy Fire Chief Gerard Dio.

Someone radioed "Mayday, Mayday, we're running out of air," said District Fire Chief Michael McNamee.

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Clinton says Navy will resume limited training on Vieques in spring

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton said Friday that Navy bombing practice on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques would resume next spring at a sharply reduced level and only with dummy bombs. He offered Puerto Rico \$40 million to go along with the plan, which includes phasing out all training on the island within five years.

Puerto Rican Gov. Pedro Rossello quickly rejected the plan, leaving the Navy with no

assurance it will ever regain full use of its "crown jewel" of training ranges. Rossello's resistance also raised questions about what Clinton would do if protesters who are camped out on the bombing range refuse to leave next spring.

Clinton's plan would mean that for the next five years the Navy and Marines would train only with "inert," or dummy, bombs on Vieques instead of the live ammunition that is part of advanced combat training.

After that, the Navy would get out of Vieques altogether. But even those concessions were too little, Rossello said.

A visibly disappointed Rossello told reporters in San Juan, "Personally I feel deceived with the position that's been taken because it doesn't faithfully reflect what we have been discussing with the president."

The standoff raised the possibility that the Pentagon might reduce or eliminate its presence

elsewhere in Puerto Rico — in particular the Roosevelt Roads naval station — unless the Puerto Ricans changed their minds about Vieques, Defense Secretary William Cohen said in a report to Clinton on Friday.

In the short term, it means the next aircraft carrier battle group to deploy abroad from the East Coast, led by the USS Eisenhower and the USS Wasp, will leave their home station of Norfolk, Va., in February in a reduced state of combat readi-

ness, officials said.

The battle group, which got under way this week for final pre-deployment training, will skip the usual live-fire training session on Vieques, officials said.

The decision not to send the Eisenhower battle group to Vieques this week was based largely on a judgment by Attorney General Janet Reno and FBI Director Louis Freeh that it would encounter "a very difficult and unmanageable sit-

uation" with Puerto Rican protesters camped out on the bombing range, a senior administration official said. The official discussed the matter on condition he not be identified by name.

As an alternative, some ships in the battle group will conduct naval gunfire exercises in Scotland on their way to the Mediterranean, officials said, and other live-fire training will be done after the battle group arrives in the Mediterranean.

Arizona plans to pioneer Internet voting in presidential primary

PHOENIX (AP) — Hoping to appeal to young computer-savvy voters and raise interest in their party's presidential primary, Arizona Democrats plan to hold what elections experts say will be the first binding Internet balloting for public office.

Choosing candidates from home with a simple click of a computer mouse could boost turnout for the March 11 primary, though some worry about the potential for fraud.

"This will be the first thing to come along to motivate people to vote since the repeal of the poll tax," said state Democratic Chairman Mark Fleisher.

But Deborah Phillips, president of the Voting Integrity Project in Arlington, Va., has

concerns.

"Anyone who's spent an hour on the Internet knows the potential for things to go wrong," said Phillips, a frequent Internet user. She cited potential problems as hackers, people trying to cast someone else's ballot, loss of voting privacy and a lack of access to computers in some communities that might skew results.

Party officials in Arizona are still working out details of how the election will be run. But to vote online from home, voters would complete a form printed from the party's Web site, choose a personal identification code, sign it and mail it to the party. Once the signature is verified, confirmation would be

sent to the voter by e-mail.

To vote, the individual would go to the Web site and enter the identification code.

Democratic officials also plan to have several dozen voting locations with a computer at each site for individuals who don't have one at home. Paper ballots also would be available for those who prefer the traditional method of voting.

Arizona's Democratic primary would be the first election for public office to use the Internet, said Doug Lewis, executive director of The Election Center in Houston.

Fleisher said he expects 25,000 to 40,000 people to vote in the party-run primary.

Arizona will hold a state-run

presidential primary Feb. 22, in which Republicans will vote using paper ballots at hundreds of traditional polling places.

Vote Here Inc. of Kirkland, Wash., is one of several companies Arizona Democrats have talked with about running the computer side of their election.

Jim Adler, the company's chief executive officer, said the key to successful Internet voting is to give it as many anti-fraud protections as with the popular absentee ballot.

His company requires a written signature before allowing someone to vote online, encrypts all transmissions to prevent them from being intercepted, operates backup network servers to avoid system

crashes, stores all votes on CD-ROM and sends a confirmation message once a vote has been recorded.

Among its advantages, Adler said, the Internet allows voters to obtain information about candidates at the same place they vote, creates the convenience of a limitless number of

polling places and may connect better with 18- to 24-year-olds, who are some of the most disenfranchised voters. All of those factors could mean increased participation, he said.

Young adults' participation in elections has been declining at a greater rate than participation by the rest of the population.

Van slams into tractor-trailer rig in N.M., killing 13

EDGEWOOD, N.M. (AP) — A van slammed into a tractor-trailer rig on icy Interstate 40 in central New Mexico early Saturday, killing 13 people in the van.

The van, carrying 17 people, was headed east on I-40 at about 2 a.m. The driver did not notice traffic ahead and stopped and the van "under-rod the back end of a tractor-trailer," Santa

Fe County Undersheriff Benjie Montano said.

"There didn't appear to be any signs of braking" by the van, he said.

Thirteen people in the van died — 11 at the scene — while four others were hospitalized, Montano said.

All the occupants of the van were believed to be Mexican nationals, he said.

The crash occurred between Edgewood and Moriarty, roughly 35 miles east of Albuquerque. Although the road was icy, visibility was clear, he said.

A storm had left 3 inches of snow at Moriarty and 2 inches of snow at Edgewood — where wind-blown snow drifted to depths of 16 inches.

The tractor-trailer rig had been stopped behind other traf-

fic that had been backed up because of another crash, Montano said.

One person died en route and one died shortly after arrival at University Hospital, where two others were in satisfactory condition, spokeswoman Cindy Foster said.

Another two people were in critical condition at Presbyterian Hospital.

Actress Madeline Kahn dies of ovarian cancer at 57

NEW YORK (AP) — From Jewish matron to saloon singer, Madeline Kahn's spirited portrayals of daffy and lusty characters won her Oscar nominations, a Tony Award and the admiration of fellow actors.

"She is one of the most talented people that ever lived," Mr. Brooks once said. "I mean, either in stand-up comedy, or acting, or whatever you want, you can't beat Madeline Kahn."

Ms. Kahn died of ovarian cancer at a hospital in Manhattan on Friday. She was 57.

The actress-comedian, who first acknowledged the disease publicly last month had been undergoing aggressive treatment for the illness, said Jeff Schneider, a spokesman for the William Morris agency.

"Madeline was a performer of brilliance and a loyal and trusted friend to everyone she encountered," said her husband, John Hansbury.

A trained opera singer, Ms. Kahn was born in Boston and graduated from Hofstra University on Long Island on a drama scholarship.

She went on to win nominations for best supporting actress Academy Awards two years in a row: for her portrayal of a floozy named Trixie Delight in

the 1973 film "Paper Moon" and for her role a year later as a saloon singer in the Brooks farce "Blazing Saddles."

Ms. Kahn won a Tony Award for best actress in 1993 with her role as ditsy Jewish matron Gorgious Teitelbaum in "The Sisters Rosensweig." She received three other Tony nominations: for "In the Boom

Room" in 1973; "On the 20th Century" in 1978; and "Born Yesterday" in 1989.

In "Blazing Saddles," Ms. Kahn used her classically trained voice in her amusing portrayal of a singer in the Wild West who helps Gene Wilder foil Harvey Korman's evil plan to do in the new sheriff in town. In addition to "Blazing

Saddles," Ms. Kahn also made notable performances in Brooks' "Young Frankenstein," "High Anxiety" and "History of the World: Part 1."

Actor Ryan O'Neal, who starred with Ms. Kahn in "Paper Moon," called the actress "a wonderful woman." "I loved her very much," O'Neal said.

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IN BRIEF

Steers football banquet slated for Monday night

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its annual Steers Football Banquet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Dora Roberts Community Center. The banquet's meal will be catered by Al's and Son Barbecue. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at Athletic Supply, Al's and Son Barbecue and at the high school. They will also be available at the door.

Jackalopes players will meet fans Wednesday

Players from the Odessa Jackalopes hockey team will meet fans and autograph pictures from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the H.E.B. store in Big Spring. The store will also hold a drawing for Jackalopes game tickets, as well as other prizes that will be given away.

YMCA registering players for its basketball program

The Big Spring YMCA is now registering girls and boys in kindergarten through the sixth grade for its youth basketball program. The program fee includes a T-shirt, individual player award and a full service YMCA youth membership for January and February. YMCA full members may register for the program for \$15. Basic program members will pay \$25 and non-members will pay \$32. For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Odessa Jackalopes slate 'Howard County Night'

The Odessa Jackalopes have scheduled Saturday, Dec. 11, as "Howard County Night" at the Ector County Coliseum where they'll take on the El Paso Buzzards at 7 p.m. Tickets for the game are priced at \$3, \$5 and \$7, and team officials say they hope to have 200 or more Howard County fans on hand for the game. To purchase tickets or for more information, call Carroll Jennings at 267-5201.

Cancer Society offering Texas Golf Pass again

The Howard County unit of the American Cancer Society is encouraging golfers to take advantage of the society's 2000 Texas Golf Pass. The pass, which provides golfers with more than 450 rounds of golf at 273 Texas courses, is now available for a \$35 donation. Both the Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club are participating in the program, as is the Stanton Country Club. Those wanting to order the pass can do so by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or online at www.acs-tx.org. Details are also available at all three local courses.

ON THE AIR

Radio NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

6:45 p.m. — Dallas Cowboys at New England Patriots, KBST-AM 1490 and KBST-FM 95.9.

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Women
3 p.m. — Oklahoma at Stephen F. Austin, FXS, Ch. 29.

NBA
6 p.m. — Dallas Mavericks at Milwaukee Bucks, FXS, Ch. 29.

FIGURE SKATING
3 p.m. — Nation's Cup, ABC, Ch. 2 and Ch. 8.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Noon — NFC regional coverage, FOX, Ch. 3.

Noon — Indianapolis Colts at Miami Dolphins, CBS, Ch. 7.

3 p.m. — Seattle Seahawks at Oakland Raiders, CBS, Ch. 7.

7 p.m. — Dallas Cowboys at New England Patriots, ESPN, Ch. 30.

GOLF
1 p.m. — Father/Son Challenge, NBC, Ch. 9.

1 p.m. — Sun City Million Dollar Challenge, final round, FXS, Ch. 29.

3 p.m. — JCPenney Classic, final round, NBC, Ch. 9.

Steers upend Tahoka for consolation title at Brownfield

By VALERY AVERY
Herald Correspondent

BROWNFIELD — The Big Spring Steers ended their run in the 10-team 1999 Brownfield Rotary and Lions Basketball Tournament with three straight wins, including a thrilling 59-57 win Saturday against Tahoka in the consolation championship game. "It was the best game we've had all year," Steers head coach Jimmy Avery said. "It was very exciting for us."

The Steers improved to 4-5 with the three wins and are on a roll for Tuesday night's rematch with Lamesa. That game is set for a 7:30 start in the Big Spring Junior High gymnasium. Big Spring was sent to the consolation

round following a 57-45 defeat at the hands of New Deal, which shot 75 percent compared to the Steers' miserable 28 percent Thursday. But Big Spring rebounded with a 63-32 victory over Ozona Friday and an early Saturday morning win against Morton. The Steers cruised to a 71-48 win over the Indians, subbing frequently to save their energy for the important afternoon consolation title game with Tahoka, the state's No. 2-ranked Class 2A team. The lead in that game with the Bulldogs changed more than a dozen times. Big Spring managed to extend its lead to eight points with four minutes to play, only to see Tahoka make a determined comeback bid. "We were trying to milk it (lead)," Avery said following the game. "We

weren't stalling. I just told them to take good shots. I told them the clock was Tahoka's enemy, not ours." "They were forced to foul us at the end," he added, noting that the Bulldogs didn't oblige him by fouling guard John Purcell. "I wanted the ball in John's hands, but they wouldn't foul him." "We were 3-of-9 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter and that gave them a chance to get back in," Avery continued. "Luckily, we played good enough defense to keep them from catching us." Tahoka shot a desperation three-pointer after the buzzer that would have won it for the Bulldogs, but officials waved off the shot. Lance Brock, who was elected to the all-tournament team, paced the Steers

with 18 points, while Blair Nutting had 13 points and provided tremendous defensive play. Junior Jason Woodruff battled off a case of the flu to add 11 points for the Steers. "Blair guarded their best player (Brad Pewsword) and did a good job on him," Avery said. "Jason was really sick and sucked it up ... so did John. He twisted his ankle this morning and played phenomenally." "We outrebounded them and hit the boards really well," the Steers coach added. "It was some of the best defense we've played all year. Tahoka put on a press for four quarters and we handled that really well, too."

See STEERS, page 9A

Lady Coyotes retain title

Deal Bulldogettes frustrating 57-39 setback in finale

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Borden County's Lady Coyotes successfully defended their girls' championship at the Coahoma Invitational Basketball Tournament on Saturday, literally pounding the host Bulldogettes, 57-39. The loss was clearly disappointing for first-year Coahoma coach David Musick not so much that the Bulldogettes had lost, but in the way they'd lost.

"Borden County has a really good basketball team ... there's no question about that," Musick said following the loss. "But I really felt like we were going to play with them and we didn't." "We really just stood around ... didn't shoot the ball well ... nothing," he added. "There was one point where we'd been down by 20 or so and then cut it to 13 that I thought we might have something going, but they stopped us cold."

The Lady Coyotes' ability to take control in the title game was made even more impressive, because they were forced into four overtimes before knocking Class 4A Sweetwater's Lady Mustangs out in the semifinals. In Saturday night's boys' championship game, Merkel's Badgers improved their record to 8-0 on the season with an 89-48 win over Monahans' Lobos.

The Bulldogettes reached Saturday's title game with a hard-earned 57-51 win over Lubbock Cooper's Lady Pirates on Friday. At the outset of Friday's game, however, it looked as if the Bulldogettes might not get their opportunity to play for the tournament's championship for a seventh consecutive year.

The Lady Pirates opened with an extremely hot hand, as 5-foot-7 senior guard Lindy Becker and 5-foot-5 sophomore backcourt mate Shannon Henderson sparked Cooper to a 22-13 lead at the first quarter's close. In fact, the Lady Pirates owned as much as a 12-point lead in the first eight minutes before the Bulldogettes began getting the ball inside to senior Jayci Roberts and sophomore Crystal Atkinson.

The second quarter was a complete turnaround, however, as Coahoma's defense limited the Lady Pirates to just six points, allowing the Bulldogettes to pull within two, 28-26, at halftime. When Atkinson hit a pair of free throws to open the third quarter, the Bulldogettes were back even for the first time since the first minute of the game.

Just as quickly, however, Henderson nailed a three-point shot and sandwiched a jumper from the lane around a field goal by senior post Hollie Beard, expanding the Lady Pirates' lead back to seven. A pair of technical fouls — one charged to the Bulldogettes bench and the other against Roberts for throwing an elbow under the backboards — looked as if they



Coahoma junior Brandi Hart (21) pulls the ball out of the reach of Lubbock Cooper's Shannon Henderson (30) during the first half of the Bulldogettes' 57-51 win during Friday's semifinals of the Coahoma Invitational Basketball Tournament.

would allow Cooper to take a five-point lead or better into the final eight minutes. But junior Brandi Hart came off the bench to hit two jumpers from the paint and nailed a buzzer-beating trey to pull Coahoma to within one, 38-37. "They were hitting everything they put up in the first quarter and that left us with a pretty tough hill to climb," Musick noted. "But we eventually began getting some shots to fall for us and created some turnovers ... that made the difference." The Bulldogettes finally took the lead for good midway through the fourth period when Kenni Kay Buchanan nailed a three-pointer and Kortney Kemper added another couple of minutes later. A Suzanna Wood score from inside with 1:34 left put Cooper in position where it had to foul. Kemper hit three of six freebies down the stretch to finish with 10 points and seal the Lady Pirates' fate. While Becker finished with a game-high 15 points, Henderson's 11 was the only double-digit support the Lady Pirates could muster, while the Bulldogettes were paced by Roberts' 12 points and Atkinson added another 11.

In Friday's other girls' games, Anson advanced to the consolation finals with Crane, taking a 69-32 win over Grape Creek, while the Lady Cranes advanced with a 62-50 win over San Elizario. The winner's bracket saw Lubbock Cooper knock off Fort Stockton, 73-28, before losing in the semifinals.

Boys' division games on Friday saw Coahoma's host Bulldogs suffer a 68-52 loss to Monahans, which had advanced to the semifinals with a 60-32 win over Grape Creek. Abilene Wylie knocked off Stanton 58-55 before losing to Merkel in the semifinals, 74-46. And in consolation play, Borden County took a 45-35 win over Snyder's junior varsity, while Crane was a 57-41 winner over Seminole's JV.

In Friday's loss to Monahans, the Bulldogs simply couldn't match the Lobos' depth, nor effectively deal with their defensive pressure. "They just had too many good athletes and we didn't handle the press very well," Bulldogs head coach Kim Nichols said following the game.

See TOURNEY, page 9A

Hawks post wild victory over Westark

HERALD Staff Report

TULSA, Okla. — Howard College's Hawks opened the Region II-Region V Junior College Shoot-Out with a wild 94-93 win over Westark Community College on Friday. Sophomore forward Derrick Franklin nailed a last-second three-point shot to give Howard the win in overtime.

The 6-foot-3 Sweetwater product's game winner was just one of several crucial shots the Hawks managed late in the game, as Hawks head coach Tommy Collins noted that sophomore point guard Darryl Martin also hit a crucial trey in the extra period that gave Howard a chance to win. "This was a great win for us," Collins said after seeing the Hawks improve to 5-4 going into Saturday night's final game of the Shoot-Out against Northeastern Oklahoma. "We had to overcome so many obstacles to win this one, that it gives us a big boost."

Much of the credit for the win, Collins added, belongs to sophomore post Donald "Yogi" Ceasar, who poured in a team-topping 22 points. "Yogi carried us in the first half ... that was absolutely crucial," Collins noted. "It's very important for our team that Yogi be a take-charge kind of player."

"Derrick and Darryl did a great job for us late, too," Collins added. "Those three-pointers in overtime were absolutely huge."

What's more, Collins noted that freshmen posts Richard Manning, a 6-foot-8 Fresno, Calif., product, and 6-foot-9 Kresimir Tomorad from Zagreb, Croatia, continue to become more comfortable in the Hawks' fast-paced offensive scheme.

In addition to Ceasar's 22 points, the Hawks got double-digit scoring from Martin, Franklin and Tomorad. Martin finished the night with 17 points, while Franklin had 10 and Tomorad chipped in 11 more.

Friday night's other games saw Midland College's Chaparrals chalk up a win over Aikin College, while Seminole defeated Odessa College's Wranglers and Northeast Oklahoma knocked off South Plains' Texans.

Results from the game against Northeastern Oklahoma were not available as the Herald went to press Saturday night. The eighth-grade "A" team took a 39-12 win behind Leina Braxton's 14-point showing, while Kim Green added eight and Karissa Magers added six more. Cierra Butler and Jeanine Richards scored six points apiece in leading the Lady Steers' eighth-grade "B" to a 38-7 victory. In addition, Kimmi Blackshear and Ashley Johnson added five points apiece to the lopsided score. Sweetwater got its revenge in the seventh-grade games, however, taking a 19-17 win in the "A" game and a 23-15 decision in the "B" team's outing. Cindy Padron and Kendall Adams scored six points each, and Padron added six steals, in the Lady Steers' loss in the "B" game. Heather Vassar's eight points paced the seventh-grade "A" team in its loss to the Lady Mustangs.

Lady Bearkats take unbeaten string into finals of tourney

HERALD Staff Reports

HIGHLAND — Garden City's Lady Bearkats continued their unbeaten ways Friday night, advancing to the championship round of the Highland Hilltop Classic basketball tournament with a 48-43 win over Roby. Kyndra Batla paced the Lady Bearkats with 12 points and dished out eight assists in leading Garden City into Saturday night's title game against Trent's Lady Gorillas. Summer Eoff added 11 points for Garden City, while M'Lynn Niehues had 10 and Deidra Hirt narrowly missed double figures with nine.

Garden City was not as fortunate in the tournament's boys division, as the Bearkats opened with a 41-39 loss to Blackwell. The Bearkats did rebound nicely, how-

ever, knocking off Highland's host squad in the consolation semifinals, 58-43. The Lady Bearkats junior varsity squad was also taking part in tournament play over the weekend, finishing third at the Grape Creek Invitational. Dendra Maxie scored 11 points, eight of them coming in the fourth quarter, and chalked up seven steals in leading the young Lady Bearkats to a 30-18 win over San Angelo Central's sophomore squad. Michelle Fuchs added seven points and has three steals of her own, as the Lady Bearkat JV improved to 3-3 on the year.

Forsan suffers losses at Irion County tourney

MERTZON — Forsan's Buffaloes ran into trouble from the start here Thursday in the Irion County Invitational basketball tournament.

The Buffs, despite getting 10 points from Logan Stanley, dropped a 47-32 decision to Robert Lee's Steers in the tournament's opening round and then were eliminated in the consolation semifinals when Water Valley's Wildcats dealt them a 56-45 defeat. In girls' division play, however, Forsan proved to be a little luckier. While the Queens dropped their opener to Robert Lee 45-31, they rebounded for a 57-31 win over Reagan County's junior varsity in the consolation semifinals and were slated to take on Ozona's Lady Lion JV in Saturday's consolation championship game.

Junior high Lady Steers split with Lady Mustangs

SWEETWATER — Big Spring Junior High's seventh- and eighth-grade Lady Steers had mixed success Thursday in

BIG SPRING HERALD
Sunday, Dec. 5, 1999

SPORTS

Top 25 - Football

1. Florida St. (64)
2. Virginia Tech (6)
3. Nebraska
4. Wisconsin
5. Florida
6. Tennessee
7. Alabama
8. Kansas St.
9. Michigan
10. Michigan St.
11. Marshall
12. Texas
13. Minnesota
14. Penn St.
15. Southern Miss.
16. Mississippi St.
17. Georgia Tech
18. Texas A&M
19. Purdue
20. East Carolina
21. Georgia
22. Stanford
23. Miami
24. Arkansas
25. Boston College

Top 25 - Basketball

The top 25 teams in the Press' men's college basketball with first-place votes in polls and records through Nov. 2

1. Cincinnati (55)
2. North Carolina (7)
3. Stanford (4)
4. Arizona (2)
5. Connecticut
6. Kansas
7. Auburn
8. Michigan St.
9. Texas
10. Temple
11. Florida (3)
12. UCLA
13. Kentucky
14. Syracuse
15. Ohio St.
16. Illinois
17. Duke
18. Tennessee
19. Purdue
20. Utah
21. Oklahoma St.
22. DePaul
23. Indiana
24. Maryland
25. Gonzaga

Top 25 - Women

The top 25 teams in the Press' women's college basketball with first-place votes in polls and records through Nov. 2

1. Connecticut (40)
2. Georgia (3)
3. Tennessee (1)
4. Louisiana Tech (1)
5. UCLA
6. N.C. State
7. Rutgers
8. Auburn
9. North Carolina
10. Illinois
11. Notre Dame
12. Iowa St.
13. Oregon
14. Penn St.
15. UC Santa Barbara
16. Texas Tech
17. Purdue
18. Kansas
19. Old Dominion
20. Stanford
21. Arizona
22. Duke
23. LSU
24. Boston College
25. Virginia Tech
26. Wisconsin

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE — Orioles' Sammy Ellis pitching coach Graham first-base coach Newman bench coach
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Brian Barber to a minor-league
DETROIT TIGERS — Na Madlock hitting coach, E bench coach, Doug Mans base coach and Luis Me American liaison.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Pr Arward to executive vice business operations, and K to executive vice president, ballpark operations.
CINCINNATI REDS — Na Hughes director of professional and special assistant to manager.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Re Butch Henry to a one-year contract.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NEW JERSEY NETS — A Kendall Gill from the injured F.C. Michael Cage on the injured PHILADELPHIA 76ERS — Matt Geiger from the injured C. Nazr Mohammed on the injured Continental Basketball Association FORT WAYNE FURY — Flac Vander Velden on the released F. Stephen Jackson (DAN STAMPER) — An resignation of George Barnor general manager.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
NFL — Fred Carolina Pi Kevin Greene \$7,500 for a to the head of Atlanta Falcons Chandler in a Nov. 28 game
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Si Damon Huard to a two-year extension.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Charles Johnson on injured SAN DIEGO CHARGERS — Robert Reed from the practice Released DL Chris Mims.
WASHINGTON — R Announced they purchased Football League franchise, t

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SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - FOOTBALL

Table listing top 25 college football teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TOP 25 - BASKETBALL

Table listing top 25 college basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table listing top 25 women's college basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL American League BALTIMORE Orioles - Named Sammi Ellis pitching coach...

NFL STANDINGS

Table showing NFL standings for American and National Conferences.

THURSDAY'S GAME

Thursday, Dec. 5 Jacksonville 20, Pittsburgh 6... Green Bay at Chicago, Noon...

HOCKEY

National Hockey League ATLANTA Thrashers - Activated G Norm MacIver from the injured list...

NBA

Friday's Games Toronto 95, Washington 93... Boston 84, Miami 84...

NHL

Friday's Games N.Y. Rangers 3, Montreal 2... Atlanta 7, Florida 3...

LOCAL BOWLING

WEDNESDAY NITE TRIO WEEK 11 RESULTS American State Bank over...

SCHOOLBOY PLAYOFFS

Results of this week's high school football playoff games, and pairings for next week.

CLASS 4A

Division I Semifinals Hereford def. Waco Midway, 32-17... Championship Hereford (13-1) vs. Texas City (13-0)...

CLASS 3A

Division I Semifinals Schertz def. Stephenville winner vs. Ennis (13-1) TBA... Championship Schertz (14-0) TBA...

CLASS 2A

Division I Semifinals Boyd (13-0) vs. Canadian (12-1), late Saturday... Championship Boyd (13-0) winner vs. Mart (12-1)...

CLASS 1A

Quarterfinals Wheeler def. Rankin 21-7... Region II Aspermont def. Paducah 33-0...

NCAA SCORES

EAST Illinois St. 37, Hofstra 20... SOUTH Florida A&M 17, Troy St. 10...

Bledsoe hopes to revitalize Pats' hopes

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP) — The New England Patriots' playoff chances seem to be fading faster than the time it takes Drew Bledsoe to release a pass.

TOURNEY

Continued from page 8A... lowing the loss. "We broke it a few times, but they got more turnovers than we had easy scores."

STEERS

Continued from page 8A... The Steers had no problem with Morton, rolling to an 18-7 lead in the first quarter and pushing it to 35-16 at halftime before coasting to a 71-48 win.

Part of the problem, he said, is that receivers are hit at the line of scrimmage, disrupting the timing of pass patterns and forcing him to hold the ball longer.

When the Bulldogs did break the Loboes' press or halfcourt trap, the results were impressive. As a result, Brett Bennett paced Coahoma with 12 points, while Chase Ward added 11 and Tyler Marshall added 10 more.

Big Spring Auto Glass advertisement featuring a car image and text: "BIG SPRING AUTO GLASS would like to say THANK YOU BY OFFERING YOU \$20 OFF ALL OF YOUR WINDOW TINTING NEEDS!"

"Best buys of the year" Final Sale advertisement for cars, featuring images of a truck and a car, and text: "Rates as low as 0.0%/36 mo. All 1999 Models Priced To Move!"

YMCA Membership advertisement with a cartoon character and text: "YMCA Membership 'What A Great Gift Idea!' There's something for everyone on your gift list at the Y!"

A. R. Baluch, M.D. advertisement for a Diplomat American Board of Internal Medicine, listing various medical services and office location.

Jack Sherman Mazda advertisement for a 1999 Mazda Protege, listing features like 626, Miata, B-Series Truck, and financing options.

Large vertical text on the right side of the page: "D E C E M B E R 5 1 9 9 9"

Lady Steers fourth, Steers fifth at Odessa Invitational swim meet

HERALD Staff Report

ODESSA — Big Spring's Steers and Lady Steers turned in strong performances Saturday during the Odessa Invitational swimming and diving meet.

While Class 5A schools, particularly San Angelo Central's Bobcats and Lady Cats, dominated the top of the standings, the Lady Steers finished fourth in the field of nine teams, while the Steers were fifth in the boys' division.

Central took the team championship in both divisions, the Bobcats racking up a whopping 474 points to easily outdistance Odessa Permian's runner-up host squad by 303 points.

Midland Lee finished third in the boys' division with 165 points, while Monahans was fourth a 144 and the Steers were 10 points back.

The Lady Cats' margin was not quite as dominating, but their 414 points was enough for a more-than-comfortable win over runner-up Midland Lee's 253.

Monahans finished third in the girls' division with 164 points, while the Lady Steers managed 150.

Much Big Spring's point production in both division came from strong relay showings, particularly for the Lady Steers, as they managed to place two teams in each of the three relays.

The Lady Steers' 10th-place finish in the 200 medley relay was provided by Vanessa Yanez, Amanda Chapman, Nadia Torres and Daniell Bartlett with a 2:43.34 clocking. In addition, the foursome of Stefanie Pointon, Lauren

Bradley, Maranda Clark and Katie Strain finished 13th.

The Steers' 200 medley team of Doug Willberg, Cody Clark, Wolfgang Robinson and Josh Pike finished fifth in their race with a 2:08.33 clocking.

The Steers best relay finish came in the final event of the day, as Robinson, Michael Carrasco, Patric Beltran and Willberg posted a 3:54.91 time for third place in the 400 freestyle relay.

The Steers also finished seventh in the 200 freestyle relay with Beltran, Pike, Clark and Carrasco posting a 1:54.25.

The Lady Steers foursome of Heidi Robinson, Tz Marsch, Michelle Stokes and Melissa Sheedy finished fourth in the 200 freestyle relay with a 1:59.30 clocking and matched that finish in the 400 freestyle relay with a time of 4:21.34.

Strain, Torres, Clark and Bartlett gave the Lady Steers a 15th-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay, while Pointon, Bradley, Chapman and Yanez chipped in 14th-place points in the 400 freestyle relay.

Sheedy had the best individual performance by a Big Spring swimmer, adding a second-place finish in the 200 freestyle and a fifth in the 100 butterfly to her legs on the two relays.

Marsch was fourth in the 500 freestyle and seventh in the 100 backstroke, while Torres finished sixth in both the 200 individual medley and the 100 breaststroke.

Heidi Robinson also doubled up individually, finishing fifth in the 200 individual medley and 12th in the 100 freestyle, while Yanez was ninth in the 200 freestyle and 12th in the 500 freestyle.

Chapman rounded out the Lady Steers double finishes in individual events, finishing 10th in the 200 individual medley and 15th in the 100 breaststroke.

In addition, Bradley finished sixth in the 100 butterfly, Maranda Clark was seventh in that race and Michelle Stokes added a ninth-place finish in the 50 freestyle.

Wolfgang Robinson had the best overall individual finishes for the Steers, finishing sixth in

both the 100 butterfly and 100 breaststroke races.

However, Carrasco provided a fifth in the 100 freestyle, Cody Clark was fifth in the 100 backstroke and Clark taking 10th in the same race.

All three added other placing finishes — Carrasco taking 12th place in the 200 freestyle, Pike finishing ninth in the 100 backstroke and Clark taking 10th in the same race.

Willberg added a seventh-place finish in the 500 freestyle and was eighth in the 200 freestyle, while Beltran rounded out the individual production for the Steers with ninth-place finishes in both the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle.

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Tech

LUBBOCK coordinat... to become Tech.

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BOW

Saturday, Dec. Las Vegas Bow At Las Vegas Payout: \$1.2 m Utah (8-3) vs Heritage Bowl At Atlanta MEAC vs SV

Wednesday, Dec. Mobile Alabama Payout: \$750,000 Texas Christ p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, Dec. Blue-Gray Class At Montgomery Gray vs Blue Aloha Bowl At Honolulu Payout: \$800,000 Arizona State p.m. (ABC) Oahu Bowl At Honolulu Payout: \$800,000 Oregon St. (

Monday, Dec. 1 Motor City Bowl At Pontiac, Mi Payout: \$750,000 Marshall vs.

Alamo Bowl At San Antonio Payout: \$1.2 m Big 12 No. 1 (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. Music City Bowl At Nashville, Tenn Payout: \$750,000 SEC vs. Syra Holiday Bowl At San Diego Payout: \$1.8 m Big 12 No. 3

Thursday, Dec. Humanitarian B At Boise, Idaho Payout: \$750,000 Boise State (ESPN2) Microcap.com I At Miami Payout: \$750,000 Virginia (7-4) Peach Bowl At Atlanta Payout: \$1.8 m SEC vs. Cien

Friday, Dec. 31 Insight.com Bow At Tucson, Ariz Payout: \$750,000 Big East vs.

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PHILAD Roger Sta help; he lo Brian Mac less quar much assi

Madden 177 yards o as Navy b 100th gar academies

It was o of the '90s (5-7), who came by a Army stil in the ser 1890.

Madden, version o uniforms from Stau game, ra touchdow possessor ived four series re snuffed o comeback 8).

Army co season's h back from start of th victory. J last year's rushing y for 95 yar tion.

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starting : at Cal 20

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Tech reportedly will hire Clemson's Rodriguez on Tuesday

LUBBOCK (AP) — Clemson offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez is expected to become the next head coach at Texas Tech.

Quoting unidentified sources, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported Saturday that Rodriguez will be offered the job unless something unexpected happens before 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Tech athletic director Gerald Myers and chancellor John Montford have confirmed Rodriguez, 36, is the leading candidate, but won't go beyond that because state law won't let them make

an offer before 5 p.m. Tuesday — 10 days after Spike Dykes announced his resignation.

Myers has said the three frontrunners for the job were Rodriguez, Oklahoma offensive coordinator Mike Leach and New Mexico State head coach Tony Samuel.

But Samuel said Friday that he's withdrawn from contention, and Leach said he hasn't been interviewed and doesn't expect to be.

Meanwhile, Rodriguez was interviewed once in Dallas and has visited

Lubbock twice, once with his wife.

"I'm personally impressed with Rich Rodriguez, and he certainly is the leading candidate," Montford told the newspaper.

Rodriguez, Leach and Samuel are three of nine candidates who "applied for and expressed interest in discussing" the open position, according to information obtained through an open records request filed by the newspaper.

The others were Dallas Cowboys assistant head coach Jim Bates, Miami

Dolphins receivers coach Robert Ford, former Cowboys defensive back Charlie Waters, Troy State head coach Larry Blakeney, Navy offensive coordinator Mike Vaught and Navy assistant head coach Sammy Steinmark.

Rodriguez is serving his first-year at Clemson under head coach Tommy Bowden. He had been the offensive coordinator at Tulane under Bowden from 1997-98. He has eight years of head coaching experience in West Virginia at Salem and Glenville State. Rodriguez is an innovative offensive

coach who emphasizes the passing game — something Texas Tech was looking for.

Rodriguez, a West Virginia graduate, runs a "two-minute," no-huddle offense throughout the game.

During Rodriguez's tenure at Tulane, his offense set 26 school records in 1997.

One year later, Tulane went 12-0 while quarterback Shaun King became the seventh straight first-team all-conference quarterback to be coached by Rodriguez.

BOWL GAME SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 18 Las Vegas Bowl At Las Vegas Payoff: \$1.2 million Utah (8-3) vs. Fresno State (8-4), 5 p.m. (ESPN)	Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas Payoff: \$1 million Oregon (8-3) vs. Minnesota (8-3), 1:15 p.m. (CBS)
Heritage Bowl At Atlanta MEAC vs. SWAC, 11:30 p.m. (NBC)	Liberty Bowl At Memphis, Tenn. Payoff: \$1.2 million Colorado State (8-3) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-3), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 22 Mobile Alabama Bowl Payoff: \$750,000 Texas Christian (7-4) vs. East Carolina (9-2), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN2)	Independence Bowl At Shreveport, La. Payoff: \$1 million SEC vs. Big 12, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Dec. 25 Blue-Gray Classic At Montgomery, Ala. Gray vs. Blue, 11 a.m. (ABC)	Saturday, Jan. 1 Outback Bowl At Tampa, Fla. Payoff: \$1.9 million SEC vs. Purdue (7-4), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Aloha Bowl At Honolulu Payoff: \$800,000 Arizona State (6-5) vs. Wake Forest (6-5), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)	Cotton Bowl At Dallas Payoff: \$2.5 million Texas vs. SEC, 10 a.m. (FOX)
Oahu Bowl At Honolulu Payoff: \$800,000 Oregon St. (7-4) vs. Hawaii (8-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Gator Bowl At Jacksonville, Fla. Payoff: \$1.4 million Georgia Tech (8-3) vs. Big East No. 2, 11:30 a.m. (NBC)
Monday, Dec. 27 Motor City Bowl At Pontiac, Mich. Payoff: \$750,000 Marshall vs. BYU (8-3), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)	CFRUS Bowl At Orlando, Fla. Payoff: \$3.6 million Florida Alabama (SEC title game) loser vs. Michigan State (9-2), Noon (ABC)
Tuesday, Dec. 28 Alamo Bowl At San Antonio Payoff: \$1.2 million Big 12 No. 4 vs. Penn State (9-3), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Rose Bowl At Pasadena, Calif. Payoff: \$12 million Stanford (11-0) vs. Wisconsin (9-2), 3:30 p.m. (ABC)
Wednesday, Dec. 29 Music City Bowl At Nashville, Tenn. Payoff: \$750,000 SEC vs. Syracuse (6-5), 3 p.m. (ESPN)	Orange Bowl At Miami Payoff: \$11.3 million Michigan (9-2) vs. BCS, 7:30 p.m. (ABC)
Holiday Bowl At San Diego Payoff: \$1.8 million Big 12 No. 3 vs. Washington (7-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)	Sunday, Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl At Tempe, Ariz. Payoff: \$13.3 million BCS vs. BCS, 7 p.m. (ABC)
Thursday, Dec. 30 Humanitarian Bowl At Boise, Idaho Payoff: \$750,000 Boise State (9-3) vs. Louisville (7-4), 2 p.m. (ESPN2)	Tuesday, Jan. 4 Sugar Bowl At New Orleans Payoff: \$11.3 million Florida State (11-0) vs. BCS No. 2, 7 p.m. (ABC)
Micropc.com Bowl At Miami Payoff: \$750,000 Virginia (7-4) vs. Illinois (7-4), 6 p.m. (TBS)	All-Star Games
Peach Bowl At Atlanta Payoff: \$1.6 million SEC vs. Clemson (6-5), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Saturday, Jan. 15 East-West Shrine Classic At Stanford, Calif. East All-Stars vs. West All-Stars, 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Dec. 31 Insight.com Bowl At Tucson, Ariz. Payoff: \$750,000 Big East vs. Big 12 No. 5, 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Saturday, Jan. 22 Senior Bowl At Mobile, Ala. North All-Stars vs. South All-Stars, 1:30 p.m. (TBS)
	Hula Bowl At Kahului, Hawaii 3 p.m. (ESPN)
	Saturday, Jan. 29 Gridiron Classic At Orlando, Fla. 1 p.m. (ESPN2)

Cornhuskers end Texas hex with 22-6 win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Nebraska's Texas hex is over.

Eric Crouch ran for two touchdowns as the No. 3 Cornhuskers took out three losses worth of frustration against the No. 12 Longhorns for a 22-6 victory in the Big 12 championship Saturday.

Nebraska (11-1) secured a spot in a BCS bowl and kept alive long-shot hopes of playing No. 1 Florida State in the Sugar Bowl. Realistically, the Cornhuskers will play No. 6 Tennessee (9-2) in the Fiesta Bowl.

Texas (9-4) is headed to a second straight Cotton Bowl, where the Longhorns are expected to renew their once-intense rivalry against No. 24 Arkansas (7-4).

The Cornhuskers, who also won the Big 12 title in 1997, avenged three straight losses to Texas, including their only defeat this season. They also avoided a second-half collapse like the one last week against Colorado that all but ended their national championship hopes.

Nebraska's "blackshirt" defense refused to let that happen again.

The Cornhuskers sacked Texas quarterback Major Applewhite seven times, intercepted him three times — including his final pass, in the Nebraska end zone — and recovered a fumble. They were even credited with a safety when a shotgun snap flew past Applewhite and bounced out of the end zone.

The Cornhuskers got a career-long 42-yard field goal from Josh Brown to take an early

lead, then went up 10-0 on their next drive when a great fake by Crouch turned into a 31-yard touchdown run on fourth-and-1. Another field goal by Brown and the safety gave Nebraska a 15-0 halftime lead.

Crouch struck again on his first drive of the third quarter, plunging in for a 4-yard touchdown two plays after a 55-yard run by Correll Buckhalter.

The Cornhuskers didn't score again, but they didn't need to. Applewhite brought the Longhorns back from a 13-3 halftime deficit against the Cornhuskers two months ago, but he didn't have a chance this time.

He finished 15-of-42 for 164 yards. It was the first time in 22 starts that he's been held below 200 yards.

Crouch, who had a career-high 202 yards passing but just 35 yards rushing against Texas in October, had 72 yards rushing and 55 passing. He was intercepted once, but Nebraska intercepted Applewhite on the next play, leading to Brown's second field goal.

The Cornhuskers would have had a bigger blowout if their season-long fumble problem hadn't returned in the fourth quarter.

Dahrran Diedrick fumbled at the Texas 20 and defensive back Ahmad Brooks returned it for a touchdown with 13:26 left. Crouch lost a snap at the Texas 6 with 5:27 left.

The Cornhuskers insisted all week they weren't out for revenge, but the losses to Texas obviously bothered them. Nebraska had won 68 of its pre-

vious 75 games and Texas had accounted for three of the seven losses. The Longhorns were trying to become the first team since Florida State (1987, '89, '92, '93) to beat the Cornhuskers four straight times.

Although the Huskers were considered the home team, only about 25 percent of the fans wore red. The rest of the

Alamodome-record crowd of 65,035 was pro-Texas.

The Cornhuskers played the whole game without tight end Tracey Wistrom, who hurt a knee last week, and lost leading rusher Dan Alexander to a hand injury in the first half.

Texas running back Hodges Mitchell injured his right ankle returning the opening kickoff.

Staubach of little help, but Midshipmen still too much for Army, 19-9

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Roger Staubach wasn't much help; he lost the coin toss. But Brian Madden, Navy's new fearless quarterback, didn't need much assistance from anybody.

Madden ran for a career-high 177 yards on 41 carries Saturday as Navy beat Army 19-9 in the 100th game between the rival academies.

It was only the third victory of the '90s for the Midshipmen (5-7), whose other two wins came by a landslide of 53 points. Army still holds a 48-45-7 edge in the series, which began in 1890.

Madden, wearing the No. 8 version of Navy's throwback uniforms that were revived from Staubach's era for the game, ran for Navy's only touchdown on the Middies' first possession. Tim Shubzda provided four field goals, tying the series record, and the Navy snuffed out a fourth-quarter comeback try by the Cadets (3-8).

Army couldn't duplicate last season's heroics, when it came back from a 30-19 deficit at the start of the fourth for a 34-30 victory. Joe Gerena, MVP of last year's game, was held to 28 rushing yards and was 7-for-19 for 95 yards and an interception.

Navy, the top-ranked rushing team in the nation, amassed a relatively modest 216 yards. In all five starts for injured Brian Broadwater, Madden topped 100

yards. The Middies also got a huge lift from lineman Gino Marchetti, who recovered two fumbles, including a crucial one at the Navy 15 in the third.

The teams wore throwback uniforms to commemorate the 100th game of the storied Army-Navy series.

Trinity eliminates Hardin-Simmons

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Michael Burton threw three touchdown passes and Andy Peoples ran 84 yards with a fumble, leading Trinity University past Hardin-Simmons 40-33 on Saturday in an NCAA Division III playoff battle between undefeated teams.

Trinity won its 12th straight game since falling to Mount Union in last year's playoff

semifinals and ended Hardin-Simmons' winning streak at 21. The Cowboys were 12-0 this season going into the game, but the Cowboys lost three fumbles and were intercepted four times.

Burton's TD passes were for 3 yards to Bo Edwards, 22 yards for Canaan Factor and 80 yards to Damond Garza. Burton scored another touchdown on a 1-yard run.

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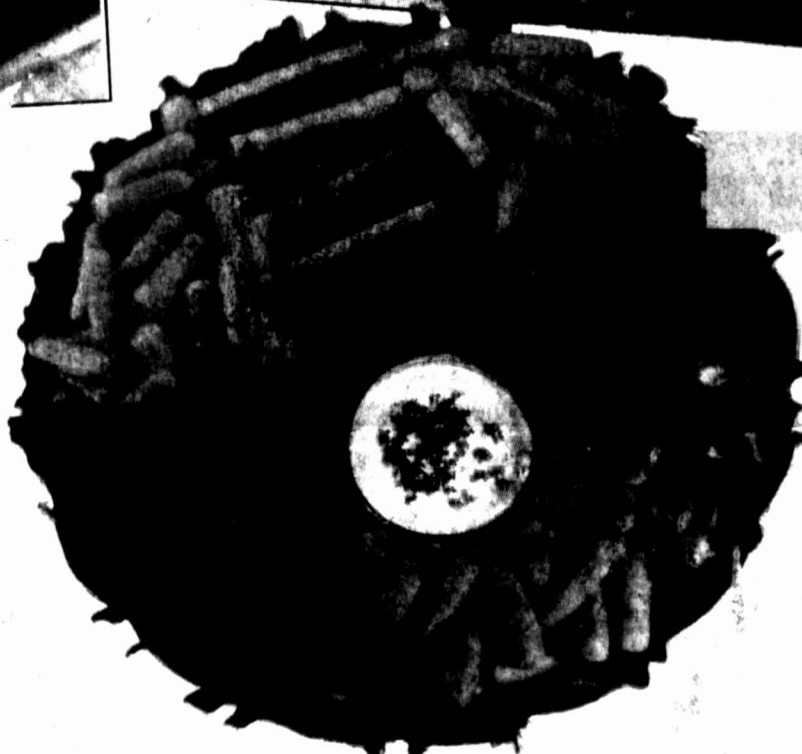
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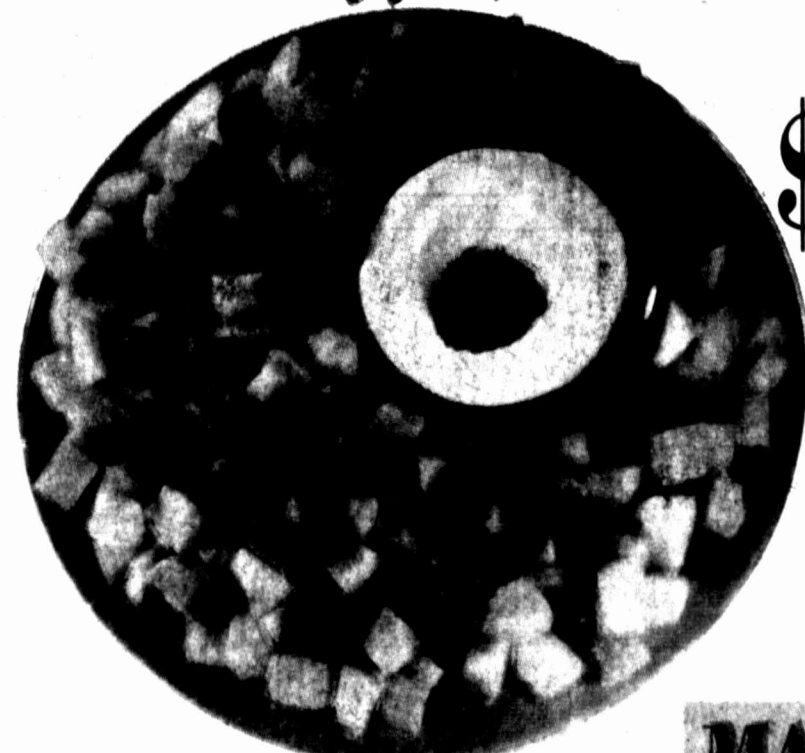


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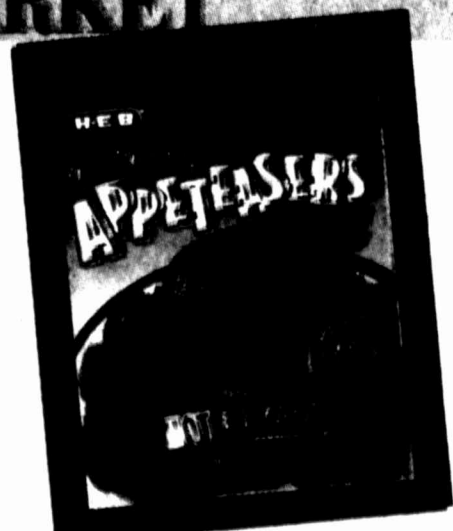
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QUICK TRIVIA

◆ In Denmark, the Christmas door decorations known as kloccastrangs also have windows and doors to pop open, and serve as an Advent calendar.

◆ Ohio's official beverage is tomato juice.

Got an item?

Do you have a story idea for the *life!* section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 236.



The power of pets



For residents and friends of Canterbury, every other Thursday is a special night: It's time for pet therapy, with animals brought by volunteers with the Big Spring Humane Society. On that night, the senior citizens get to pat a cat, pet a dog and occasionally hold a ferret or even an iguana.

The value of "pet therapy," as it is commonly called, is recognized by hospitals, retirement centers and nursing homes across the country. Locally, it has been valuable at the Big Spring State Hospital and the VA Medical Center as well as Canterbury, an apartment home for retirees and people with disabilities.

At last week's pet therapy night, residents gathered in the arts and crafts room at Canterbury South where they were greeted by two small, rambunctious dogs; a large, gentle Doberman pinscher; a gray cat named Winslow; and a white wolf.

The wolf, owned by Wilson Money, was the silliest of all the pets on hand. Named Shawnee, the 5-year-old female rolled on her back for a belly rub, and lay contentedly while Money demonstrated her gentleness by resting his head on her body.

Patches, the Shi-Tzu, sniffed delicately at the wolf, never going to close, while the Chihuahua, Boo Boo, stayed on her owner's lap most of the time.

"I enjoy having her," said Jean O'Neal, a resident of Canterbury who brings the Chihuahua to pet therapy to share her with others.

"I wouldn't get out and walk as much as I do unless I had her. She insists on it."

Fancy, the Doberman rescued by animal lover Phoebe Limon, stood obediently at her owner's side while they traveled from person to person at the gathering.

Margaret Lloyd, a longtime volunteer with the Big Spring Humane Society, said the group has been organizing the pet night for two years. In that time, she said, they have encountered many pet lovers who no longer can enjoy the everyday companionship of an animal.

"They love it," said Lloyd, who occasionally brings a blind cat to the pet therapy night. "And we love to do it."

Visiting with the animals brings back memories for some of the Canterbury residents, such as Cindy Middleton, who has a cat in her apartment.

"Seeing these big dogs reminds me of the Irish Setter that taught me to walk," she said, recalling stories of herself as a toddler, holding on to the red back while she waddled and practiced her steps.

Money's Shawnee was a top attraction, however, as she rolled on the floor, or stopped to seek attention from each person sitting around the table. Money owns two of the animals, and says they are 98.5 percent wild animal, but as gentle as rabbits with other pets and children at his home.



In the photos, clockwise from top left: Cindy Middleton gets a visit from pet wolf, Shawnee, while her owner, Wilson Money, looks on; Money lays on the belly of his white wolf pet while Shi-Tzu Patches sniffs curiously at them; Jean O'Neal holds her Chihuahua, Boo Boo, who lives with her at Canterbury; Patsy Rowe of Canterbury enjoys a moment with the gray cat, Winslow; Barbara Tarpley gets a kiss from her Shi-Tzu, Patches; and Phoebe Limon, with her Doberman, Fancy, talks to Canterbury resident Adelle Hughston.

— By Vebbie L. Jensen



WEDDINGS

Viasana-Olivarez

Amy Viasana and Louis Frank Olivarez were united in marriage on Nov. 18, 1999, at the Howard County Courthouse with Justice of the Peace Bennie Green officiating.

She is the daughter of Mary Galan of Big Spring, and Teddy Galan of Midland.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Heredia of Big Spring, and the grandson of Herminia Olivarez of Big Spring.



MR. AND MRS. LOUIS OLIVAREZ

ANNIVERSARIES

Thompson

Mr. and Mrs. W.L. "Squeaky" Thompson will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a family vacation.

The Thompsons were married Dec. 3, 1939, in Brownwood. She is the former Marguerite Parker. They have one son, Bill Thompson and wife Cookie of Stephenville, and a daughter, Martha Simmons and her husband Marvin of Houston. They have two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The Thompsons are retired from Thompson Furniture and



MR. AND MRS. W. L. THOMPSON

Carpet Co. They have lived in Big Spring 57 years.

Tragic cases can bring tears to Santa helpers

NEW YORK (AP) — The letters were addressed to the jolly old elf himself, but for those reading Santa's mail, it was hard to keep a joyous face.

"Some of these just break your heart," said Jean Shaw, her eyes misty as she read a letter from a child in Garnerville, N.Y. "He says he and his family just want toys and they don't care if they're used, because his mother has no money."

"If every person in New York took one letter, everyone could have a merry Christmas."

Shaw is among the volunteers for Operation Santa Claus — the U.S. Postal Service's annual version of a holiday miracle. The campaign to bring holiday cheer to less fortunate children kicked off Wednesday, as some of Santa's "elves" began reading 100,000 Christmas wishes mailed by children who possess little but hope.

The tradition started some 70 years ago, when money order clerks at the New York City post office dug into their own pockets to buy food and toys for children who faced empty Christmas stockings just because their letters addressed to Santa Claus were undeliverable.

Today, about a third of the letters are "adopted" by volunteers who answer the letters, deliver gifts or raise money

for a charity.

"Food, clothing, shoes, ... some of the 'Dear Santa' letters make you weep, others are really amusing," said Pete Fontana, who is coordinating this year's effort at New York City's main post office.

"One child asked Santa for a million dollars in cash and one of every toy he makes," he said, laughing.

Others letters are more serious. "One kid, his father passed away and his mother is in a hospital with cancer, and he asked for something for his sister — he didn't even want anything for himself," Fontana said.

Postal officials expect 250,000 letters from post offices around the world this year, a record total.

"There's an incredible increase in volume this year," Fontana said, noting the receipt of 100,000 letters already. That's "about 40,000 letters above last year," he said.

Although some states now have their own programs, Fontana said the New York post office handles the bulk of the letters from the East Coast region — and many from around the nation and the world.

Volunteers at computers punch in the return addresses of letters that have been adopted, to make sure only one letter per family is answered.

Thanksgiving: A time to get together with family and friends

I hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving. I ate too much of my best friend's dressing, but not enough to cause problems. Everything seemed better than usual.

There were 14 at the tables, ranging in age from 2 to 77, and I'm not sure who had the most fun. The grandchildren, now grown up, making me feel as if I were in a forest of trees, much taller than I.

When we arrived with our food, there was a spirited game of football in the front yard, I guess they were working up their appetites, because after all, the large quantity of food on the table; there wasn't a lot left.

Just enough for leftovers the next day, everybody's goal.

As I sat at the table looking at parents, children, grandchildren and their friends, I remembered all the many years we had shared this holiday with them and their family.

So many that the mothers of the tall young men and women used to pull down pillows and take their afternoon nap on our living room floor.

I heard something rather interesting about this holiday. It is the only one we share with all other Americans, a time to be with family.

It came to this country as a celebration of the harvest. So the fact that we do little on this day except eat, visit, watch football, and eat again shouldn't be a surprise.

As we see on television, it brings more people home to be with their family and loved ones than any other time, as well as some they may not be too fond of, but whatever?

I've often wondered why we eat turkey. When I was growing up, we ate chicken and dressing. There were turkey farms nearby, but those were for the "city people."

We must do a marvelous job of food production in this country. Remember when there were all those hurricanes, floods, tornadoes and the droughts we are still enduring? Still, when we go to the store there is an abundance, so we worry only about how much we can afford either in money or calories.

This is the time to be grateful for our blessings, we do live in a country where you can speak your mind and get ahead by hard work. I'll admit, we are a little beaten up around the edges, perhaps the new millennium will bring less violence and more caring for our fellow man.

I saw a page in a magazine that caught my attention: things to be thankful for included a high utility bill because that means we are warm. A parking place away from the store because we are able to walk. I can appreciate that!

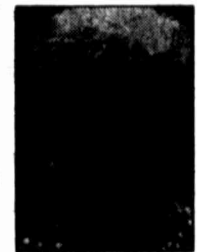
My Durango cousin and I were reminiscing about disagreements between our mothers about how certain holiday foods should be prepared. Each lady, a wonderful cook in her own right, maintaining her recipe the best for the dish being prepared. It seems funny to us now, but it was very serious then, enough to send all the kids outdoors to play until time to eat.

I think we who live where snow on winter holidays is rare, wish for snow the most, and get almost never. At least it wasn't 85 degrees on Thanksgiving, but I can't promise snow for Christmas. I was looking at the commercial just now, horsedrawn sleighs moving through deep snow, bells ringing, our dream for Christmas; it's 62 degrees here.

Oh well, we don't have many floods either.

All in all, I'd rather be in West Texas and Big Spring than anywhere I know, especially at Thanksgiving. Maybe it's so warm because the people are so friendly and full of love.

Now on to Christmas, a time of memory and anticipation. Happy Holidays!



MARY RANDLE

WHO'S WHO

The following are a list of students who are featured in the 3rd Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1998-99.

Marianne Mullins, Jessica L. Pope, Jarred L. Rowden and Talie Uranga, all of Coahoma.

Lance Bodine and Brandi Taylor of Coahoma.

Adkins, Lacey Anderson, Scarlet D. Ashley, Christina R. Atkinson, Jonathan C. Bagwell, Cory J. Baker, Javier Becerra Jr., William G. Beckworth, Traci Beltran, Jason J. Birdwell, Shane R. Blackshear, Marlana N. Balir, Joshua Bodine, Brandi L. Brackeen, Guillermo Bravo Jr., Lorie M. Broussard, Tiffany M. Brown, Brittany Bryant, Joseph E. Bumbulis, Lynsey Bunn, Haley Burks, Ashley M. Burson, Callie A. Burt, Heather Burt, Bowe C. Butler, Albert Carrillo, Stephanie Castaneda, Kenna Cathey, Jay Chadwell, Chris O. Chavez, Monica Chen, Jason M. Choate, Merri E. Christian, Amanda D. Christy, James D. Clements, Cheryl A. Coates, Tara Cooper.

Also Jennifer Davidson, Kimberly L. Davis, Laura K. Davis, Erica DeLeon, Angelica M. DeLaCruz, Teri L. Denton, Luis G. Diaz, Robin L. Dickens, Colby B. Ditto, Brad W. Dugan, Alex Edgemon, Jennifer Evans, Glenna L. Evans, Tanya Byerett, Stephanie Fitzgerald, Melissa Flenniken, Jacob Flores, Renee L. Flores, Bobby Franco, Lauren Fraser, Tisha S. Fulgham, Sandra D. GAiney, Gabriel Garcia, Thomas H. Garza, Autumn George, Heather D. Gibbs, April L. Gibson, Arthur Gonzales, Jodi A. Gonzales, Krystal A. Gonzales, Smanatha L. Granado, Codi M. Graves, Julie E. Gross, Tammie Gross, Ryan A. Gunn, Kristie R. Gunselman, Joe J. Gutierrez,

Zachary H. Hall, Sarah R. Harrison, Hamilton M. Hartfield, Tim Hatcher, Monty Hendricks, David E. Higginbotham, Jessica J. Hogg, Matthew T. Holt, Starr Hopper, Josh L. Howell, Michael J. Hughes, Jana K. Hull, Lindsay Hull, Scott A. Hyatt.

Also Catherine D. Jaure, Kara Jeffcoat, Laura C. Johnson, Lacey M. Knight, Hayley Knox, Isaac J. Kermisky, Cindy Landin, Aaron S. Langford, Annie M. Lara, Corrina Lara, Enchantra Lara, Amanda Larson, Eloy C. Leal Jr., Kate J. Leannah, Yuching Li, Samantha Loper, Eric A. Lopez, Sabrina J. Lopez, Daniel R. Makowsky, Tzitzitlini Marsch, Kirstin Marshall, Christopher M. Martinez, Frances Martinez, Leticia M. Martinez, Michael J. Martinez, Tommy J. Martinez, Megan L. McDiffitt, Drew B. McKimney, Christine Medellin, Amanda L. Miller, Andrew J. Mireles, Lindsay D. Moates, Tobias D. Molina, Anna M. Moore, Brent D. Moore, David C. Moore, Fred E. Morales, Andrea C. Moreno, Evelyn M. Munoz, Andrew S. Neel, Kristina Nelson, John M. Newton, Natalie Nichols.

Also Zachary R. O'Dell, Vanessa C. Olivias, Angelica M. Ortiz, Arisela Ossorio, Jordan G. Partee, Keely R. Patterson, Josh Paul, Britania I. Perez, Elsa E. Perez, Autumn Phernetton, Brandi L. Plantt, John M. Purcell, Rosanna Quintero, Ashley D. RAINS, Steven C. Rains, James E. Rawls, Rachel Ray, Annette Richardson, Brittany Robertson.

Vanessa Rodriguez, Stacey Rodriguez, Chrsitina R. Roemer, Sylvia M. Roy, Amanda N. Rubio, Cody S. Rubio, Monica L. Rubio, Cindy D. Rudinger, Jessica R. Salazar, Amanda L. Sanchez, Leandro Sanchez, P. scilla L. Sa...ez,

Sarah Sanghavi, Aaron B. Schooler, Cynthia N. Shipman, Chelsea D. Shults, Olga I. Sifuentes, Ashlie D. Simmons, Matthew J. Simon, Kelleigh J. Smith, Lyndsey N. Smith, Nicole Smith, Ricky L. Smith, Sarah C. Smith, Christopher M. Spence, Stephanie S. Stewart, Steve B. Stokes, Erin Stovall, Sisto F. Subja, Elizabeth Sutton, Jennie J. Tedford, Jason E. Thomas, Jonathan B. Tolcher, Guido E. Toscano, Christopher L. Trevino, Kimberly L. Tubbs, Sharita Tuitt, Amanda N. Turney.

Also Nick R. Valencia, Kevin D. Walker, Meredith L. Ware, Jessica A. Way, Drew R. Wegman, Courtney N. Wegner, D. Mechelle Whittenburg, Heddy L. Wiginington, Brandi N. Wilkerson, Heather R. Wilks, Douglas F. Willberg, Amy D. Wilson, Dustin Wilson, Karissa D. Wilson, Jamie M. Womble, Alison D. Woodall, Joseph D. Yanez, Ricky R. Yanez, Vanessa Yanez and Erica Ybarra.

Also from Big Spring are Krystal N. Cline, Josi ua T. Hadley, Clinton W. Kessler, Kirstin N. Lujan, Amanda G. Morris, Bobbi-Leigh Spiller, Misty M. Trevino, Derek Wash and Brian F. Watt.

From Forsan, Kimberley G. Cain, Jarred K. Drummond, Ronda Fryar, Blaine Roman and Michael L. Rowden.

Christie A. Brown, Deidra D. Hirt, Jill Hoelscher, Steven HOelscher, Tracey J. Machicek, Julio B. Talamantes and Amy B. Weishuhn, all of Garden City.

Julie Adams, Rebekah E. Adams, Melissa L. Audringer, Cody Bird, Joey Davis, Shawn Franklin, Kristyn Hambleton, Kyle Herm, Meagan Mims, Casey R. Ramirez, Cody Rankin and Ashley Turner, all of Stanton.

GETTING ENGAGED

Lorie Ann Galan and Jose Manuel Avina will exchange wedding vows on Dec. 11, 1999, at La Vadera with Justice of the Peace China Long officiating.

She is the daughter of Telesforo R. Galan and Isabel O. Alfred, both of Big Spring, and the granddaughter of Emeteria Munoz of Big Spring and the late Luciano Originaldez.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Avina of Chicago, Ill.

Hey kids!
Are you making a list? Send your letter to Santa to the Herald by Dec. 13 to be published in a special section Dec. 22.

Letters can be mailed to:
P.O. Box 1431,
Big Spring,
or e-mailed to:
jwalker@crcom.net

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Pizza Hut

\$3.49

Buffet

Expires 12-31-99. Not valid with any other offer. 1/20 cent cash redemption value. One coupon per party per visit at participating units owned and operated by subsidiaries of Pizza Hut, Inc. © 1999 Pizza Hut, Inc.

SENIOR MONI squash, ies.

TUESI macaron bles, gel fruit.

WEDN dles, car milk.

THURS salad, co FRIDA green milk/roll

FORSA MOND green be ter cooki

TUESI style bea crackers wafers, m

WEDN french fr onions, id

THURS pork & b cake and

FRIDA beans, sa

STANT MONDA cheese, p sticks, m drink.

TUESD pot pie, n coli/chee milk, fruit

WEDNE en & dun tossed s milk, fruit

THURS corndog, buttered french br

FRIDA hamburger burger sa milk, fruit

SANDS MONDA tard, pork carrot stic

TUESD sauce, sea salad, ba

IN MIL

Air For Flores gradua from b military tr ing

Lackland Force B San Antonio Flores is son of M Flores and stepson M a r e i a Gracia of Spring.

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ON THE MENU

SENIOR CITIZENS CITIZENS
MONDAY-Chicken, rice, squash, salad, milk/rolls, cookies.

TUESDAY-Smothered steak, macaroni/cheese, mixed vegetables, gelatin salad, milk/rolls, fruit.

WEDNESDAY-Meatloaf, noodles, carrots, salad, milk/roll, milk.

THURSDAY-Stew, broccoli, salad, cornbread, milk, cake.

FRIDAY-Pork roast, potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, milk/rolls, fruit.

FORSAN SCHOOLS

MONDAY-Ravioli and cheese, green beans, salad, peanut butter cookies, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY-Frito pie, ranch style beans, salad, cheese and crackers, pudding and vanilla wafers, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Hamburgers, french fries, salad, pickles and onions, ice cream, milk.

THURSDAY-Hot dogs, chips, pork & beans, salad, chocolate cake and applesauce, milk.

FRIDAY-Fajitas, ranch style beans, salad, fruit jello, milk.

STANTON SCHOOLS

MONDAY-Sloppy joe or grill cheese, potato rounds, veggie sticks, mixed fruit, milk, fruit drink.

TUESDAY-Steak fingers or pot pie, mashed potatoes, broccoli/cheese, peaches, hot roll, milk, fruit drink.

WEDNESDAY-Pizza or chicken & dumplings, green beans, tossed salad, apple wedges, milk, fruit drink.

THURSDAY-Baked fish or corn dog, macaroni & cheese, buttered carrots, fruit gelatin, french bread, milk, fruit drink.

FRIDAY-Cheeseburger or hamburger, french fries, hamburger salad, applesauce cake, milk, fruit drink.

SANDS SCHOOLS

MONDAY-Corndogs w/mustard, pork & beans, broccoli & carrot sticks cake, milk.

TUESDAY-Fish w/tarter sauce, scalloped potatoes, pea salad, batter bread, cake & fruit.

fruit, milk.
WEDNESDAY-Beef & cheese chalupa, salad, slice potatoes, cobbler, milk.

THURSDAY-Baked ham, potato salad, green salad, pineapple, hot rolls, milk.

FRIDAY-Spaghetti w/meat sauce, salad, corn, batter bread, fruit milk.

COAHOMA SCHOOLS

MONDAY-BBQ beef on bun (burritos), chips, baked beans, peaches, milk.

TUESDAY-Homemade burritos (corndogs), fries, fresh fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Frito pie (sub sandwiches & salad), corn, pineapple, milk.

THURSDAY-Spaghetti w/meat (chili dogs), carrots, rolls, pears, milk.

FRIDAY-Hamburgers, spicy fries, tomatoes, lettuce, pickles, fresh fruit, milk.

BIG SPRING SCHOOLS

MONDAY-Rib sandwich, dinosaur tots, celery sticks, mixed fruit, milk.

TUESDAY-Steak fingers, mashed potatoes, english peas, pear halves, hot roll, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Chicken spaghetti, broccoli w/cheese sauce, corn, strawberry banana bar, hot roll, milk.

THURSDAY-Pancakes, sausage pattie, hashbrown, blueberry muffin square, apple juice, milk.

FRIDAY-Cheeseburger, salad, french fries, ranch style beans, chocolate cake, milk.

ELBOW SCHOOL

MONDAY-Beef & bean chalupa, corn, salad, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY-Steak, mashed potatoes, peas, fruit, hot roll, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Spaghetti w/meat sauce, salad, fruit, garlic bread, milk.

THURSDAY-Corn dog, pinto beans, spinach, fruit, cornbread, milk.

FRIDAY-Chicken strips, green beans, mashed potatoes, peach halves, milk.



HERALD photo/Debbie L. Jensen
Leo Welch of VFW Post 2013 poses with, left, Shelli Blagrove and April Ward. Ward, a Big Spring High School 10th grader won the group's essay contest, Voice of Democracy and Blagrove, a junior from Sands, took third. Shown at right, Melissa Sheedy, a BSHS senior was second place in the contest. Ward's essay goes to district competition Dec. 15.



BEST SELLERS

Billboard Hot 100

1. "Smooth," Santana (feat. Rob Thomas). Arista. (Platinum)
2. "Back At One," Brian McKnight. Motown.
3. "I Wanna Love You Forever," Jessica Simpson. Columbia. (Gold)
4. "I Need To Know," Marc Anthony. Columbia. (Gold)
5. "My Love Is Your Love," Whitney Houston. Arista. (Gold)
6. "I Knew I Loved You," Savage Garden. Columbia.
7. "U Know What's Up," Donell Jones. LaFace.
8. "Mambo No. 5 (A Little Bit of Mambo)," Lou Bega. RCA.
9. "Waiting For Tonight," Jennifer Lopez. WORK.
10. "Girl On TV," LFO. Arista.

The Billboard 200 Albums

- (Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)
1. "All The Way... A Decade Of Song," Celine Dion. 550 Music.
 2. "S&M," Metallica. Elektra.
 3. "Dr. Dre - 2001," Dr. Dre. Aftermath.
 4. "Millennium," Backstreet Boys. Jive. (Platinum)
 5. "Issues," Korn. Immortal.
 6. "...Baby One More Time," Britney Spears. Jive. (Platinum)
 7. "Nastradamus," NAS. Columbia.
 8. "Supernatural," Santana. Arista. (Platinum)
 9. "Willennium," Will Smith. Columbia.
 10. "Christina Aguilera," Christina Aguilera. RCA. (Platinum)

Hot Adult Contemporary

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "I Want It That Way," Backstreet Boys. Jive.
2. "Music Of My Heart," N Sync & Gloria Estefan. Miramax.
3. "I Knew I Loved You," Savage Garden. Columbia.
4. "That's The Way It Is," Celine Dion. 550 Music.
5. "She's All I Ever Had," Ricky Martin. C2.
6. "I Do (Cherish You)," 98 Degrees. Universal.
7. "I Could Not Ask For More," Edwin McCain. Lava.
8. "You'll Be In My Heart," Phil Collins. Walt Disney.
9. "Amazed," Lonestar. BNA.
10. "The Hardest Thing," 98 Degrees. Universal.

Mainstream Rock Tracks

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Higher," Creed. Wind-up.
2. "Learn To Fly," Foo Fighters. Roswell.
3. "The Chemicals Between Us," Bush. Trauma.
4. "No Leaf Clover," Metallica. Elektra.
5. "The Dolphin's Cry," Live. Radioactive.
6. "In 2 Deep," Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band. Giant.
7. "Down," Stone Temple Pilots. Atlantic.
8. "Take A Picture," Filter. Reprise.
9. "Put Your Lights On," Santana (feat. Everlast). Arista.
10. "Re-arranged," Limp Bizkit. Flip.

Modern Rock Tracks

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Higher," Creed. Wind-up.
2. "The Chemicals Between Us," Bush. Trauma.
3. "Learn To Fly," Foo Fighters. Roswell.
4. "Re-arranged," Limp Bizkit. Flip.
5. "All The Small Things," Blink 182. MCA.
6. "Take A Picture," Filter. Reprise.
7. "Guerrilla Radio," Rage Against The Machine. Epic.
8. "Around The World," Red Hot Chili Peppers. Warner Bros.
9. "The Dolphin's Cry," Live. Radioactive.
10. "Falling Away From Me," Korn. Immortal.

HUMANE SOCIETY

Chow Girl - Black Chow Chow, a sweetie, 4 years old plus female, spayed.

Special Note: All dogs and cats presently available for adoption at the shelter have received their vaccinations, including rabies.

Bob - Large mixed breed, white and black male, 2 years old plus, neutered.

Roscoe - Rottie mix, black and tan male, shy and loves women, 1 year old plus, neutered.

Lucy - Bassett and Beagle mix, black and tan with white female, 3 years old plus.

Mickey - Dalmatian mix, tri-colored female, 2 years old plus, spayed.

Sugar Bear - Chow mix, very loving male, 4 years old plus, neutered.

Bugle Boy - Hound mix, black and brown playful male, 2 years old plus, neutered.

Pretty Bow - Chow mix, golden colored female, loves kids, 4 years old plus, spayed.

Waylong - Rottie mix, black and tan male, 1 year old plus, neutered.

Sissie - Large mix breed, black, docked tail loving female, 4 years old plus, spayed.

These, plus many more dogs and cats are awaiting adoption. Adoption fees for dogs are just \$60 and cats are \$50. This includes spaying or neutering, vaccinations, wormings and rabies shots. Also covers feline leukemia tests for cats. All pets come with a two-week trial period. Call the shelter at 267-7832 for more information.

SPORTS & More Sports
in the Big Spring Herald daily

IN THE MILITARY

Air Force Airman Jacob Q. Flores has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

Flores is the son of Mary Flores and the stepson of Mareiano Gracia of Big Spring.

He is a 1999 graduate of Big Spring High School.

Army Pvt. James Beck has graduated from the water treatment specialist course at Fort Lee, Petersburg, Va.

The student was instructed to assist in water reconnaissance, site preparation, and the setup of a water treatment facility.

Beck is the son of Sandra E. Kercheval of Big Spring.



FLORES

STORK CLUB

Brayden Michael Sizenbach, boy, Nov. 21, 1999, 6:13 p.m., five pounds 9 1/4 ounces and 19 inches long; parents are Brandi and Michael Sizenbach.

Grandparents are Don and Roxy Belew and Mike and Sue Sizenbach, all of Big Spring.

Great-grandparents are Carrie Belew of Big Spring, Ken and Katy Campbell of Bronte, Johnnie and Mary Rodgers and Donna and Arlie Knight, all of Big Spring.

Paid announcement

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January 13th-16th
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ODDS-N-ENDS

Study: Vacuum, forceps deliveries as safe as Caesarean sections

SAN DIEGO (AP) — It's not a moniker found in any of those baby name books, but Hua Mei fits fine for the giant panda cub at the San Diego Zoo.

Chinese for "China USA," Hua Mei was officially named Wednesday, 102 days after her birth to Bai Yun and Shi Shi, who are on a 12-year research loan from China.

Hua Mei was conceived with the help of artificial insemination. She is the first giant panda born in the Western Hemisphere since 1990, and the first in the United States to survive past four days.

The name was selected by the Chinese State Forestry Administration and approved by China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Her name, however, has more meanings than "China USA." "Hua" also can be interpreted as "magnificent" or "splendid." "Mei" signifies "pretty" or "beautiful."

Hua Mei likely won't go on public display until January.

"The cub's progress reads like any infant's baby book," said Dr. Don Lindburg, leader of the zoo's panda research team. "She's gained about 11 pounds since her birth weight of approximately 4 ounces. She's teething, vocalizing and sitting up by herself. And, she's had her first vaccination — for canine distemper — without a whimper."

SUMMERVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Police say they have the culprit in the smash-and-grab theft of \$1,500 worth of Pokemon trading cards: a 14-year-old boy.

The boy was arrested this week after reportedly bragging to friends about his weekend heist, said Dave Wernet, the owner of Raw Coins.

The shop's glass window was smashed with a shopping cart. Wernet said the thief was able to sneak in and move below the range of the motion detector that would have set off the burglar alarm.

Left untouched were thousands of dollars worth of rare coins.

"It just amazes me that with \$20,000 in rare coins sitting here, they take off with the cards," Wernet said.

Police have recovered about \$250 in stolen cards, but the rarest cards, worth \$5 to \$30 each, were still missing, Wernet said Tuesday.

AMHERST, Mass. (AP) — University of Massachusetts basketball coach Bruiser Flint can be a tough disciplinarian — even on himself.

Flint said Wednesday he has suspended himself for one game for using profanity on Monday's post-game radio show after the Minutemen lost to Marshall 65-55.

"I always tell my players that when they do something wrong, there is a price to pay," he said. "Obviously, my language on the radio the other night was inappropriate."

CLARK, Pa. (AP) — Not only did Gary Peidle lose his buck to a thief, but he can't buy a hunting license for another one.

The deer hunter stopped into the Clark House for a drink Monday after spending two hours hauling the 130-pound animal to his truck from nearby woods. While he was inside, someone stole the deer and the hunting tag.

"Who would steal a deer?" Peidle asked. "That's a sacred thing. I couldn't believe it."

Peidle probably has no chance of getting the deer back and cannot buy another tag, game warden Jim Donatelli said. Hunters get one tag, or license, per season.

"Once a hunter kills a deer, it is their responsibility to safeguard the property," Donatelli said. "Each year a few deer are stolen. A lot of them are from bars."

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fears that expectant mothers may have over the use of vacuum extractors and forceps during delivery should be eased in the wake of a new study showing the devices have proven as safe as Caesarean sections.

The study, which appears in Wednesday's New England Journal of Medicine, suggests difficult labor itself, as much as the method of delivery, may lead to brain injuries and deaths in babies.

"It's not always easy to get a

baby's head out of the pelvis once it gets jammed in there, even if it's a Caesarean section," said Dr. Michael Greene, chairman of the Obstetrical Practice Committee for the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and an associate editor of the Journal.

"So whether you dig it out from up above or pull it out from down below, there's always some risk of injury," he said.

Additionally, vacuum extraction is generally safer for the

mother than the use of forceps or Caesarean section, said Dr. Dena Towner of the University of California at Davis, the study's lead author.

The study comes more than a year after the Food and Drug Administration warned of a tiny but growing number of head injuries and deaths among infants delivered with vacuum extractors. In May 1998, the FDA advised doctors to exercise caution when using the devices.

Caesarean sections typically are performed when labor stalls

in the early stages or if the baby is in an awkward position. Vacuum extraction or forceps should be used only during the last stage — when the mother's cervix is fully dilated — and if the baby's head is in the proper position, Towner said.

Most vacuum extractions "are done for maternal exhaustion — Mom just can't push any more," Towner said.

"Most babies that are in the right position, one or two little pulls and they're out."

Vacuum extractors use a soft

plastic cup placed on top of the baby's head to pull when the mother has a contraction. Doctors use rounded forceps to grasp the baby's head on either side, then pull.

Some injuries and deaths occur because forceps or the extractor are misapplied to the baby's head, or used when labor is not far enough along, Towner said.

The study examined 583,340 live births to first-time mothers in California from 1992 through 1994.

On January one,
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What will it be this year? Eat better? Exercise? Well, while you're worrying about what sort of commitment to make for the new year, you should know that we made a commitment to the new century a long time ago.

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While no one knows exactly what will happen when we start ringing in the new year, rest easy, *We're Ready for Y2K*. And with us safeguarding your interests into the next century, you can get back to worrying about your resolutions.

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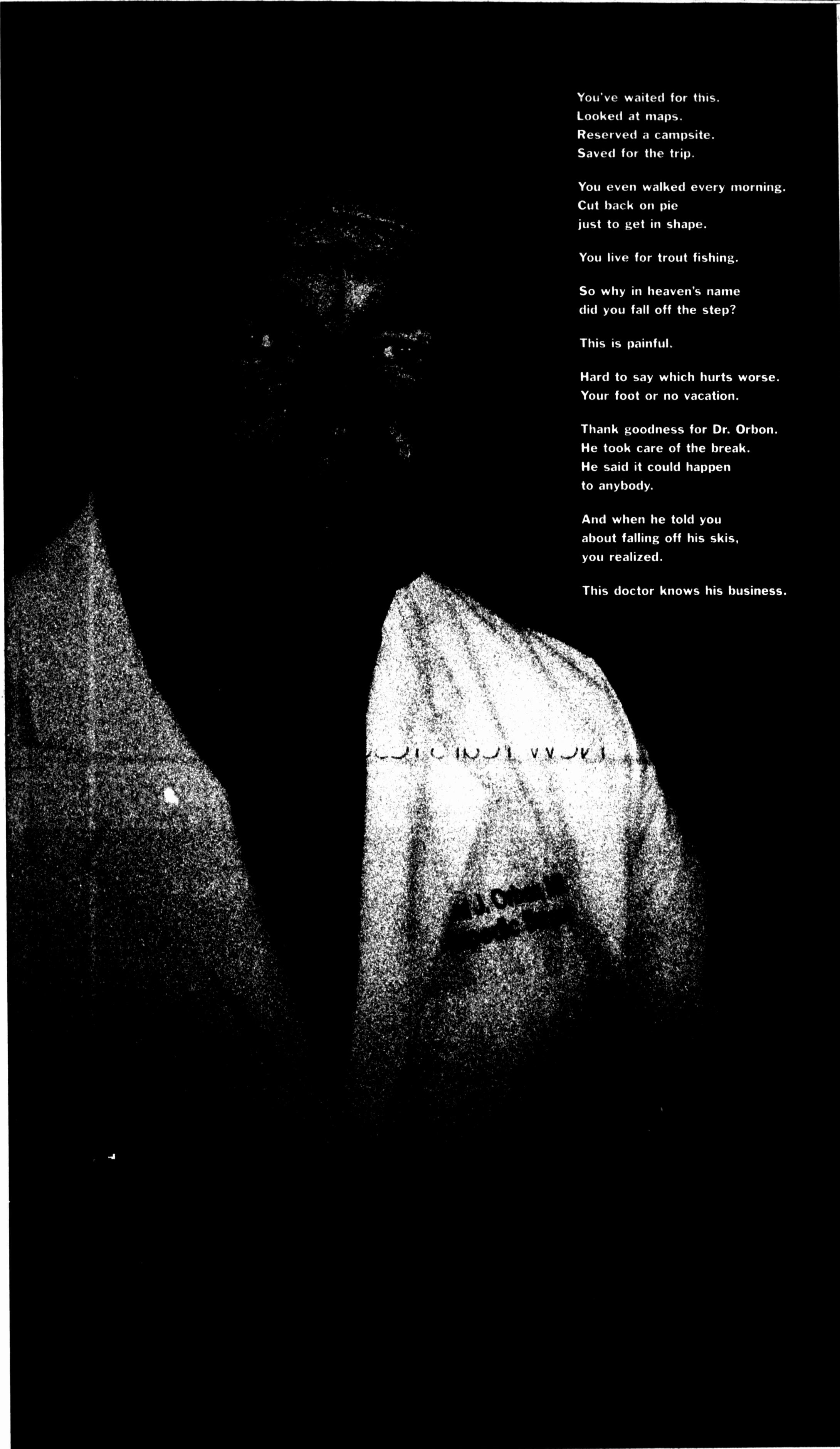
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You've waited for this.
Looked at maps.
Reserved a campsite.
Saved for the trip.

You even walked every morning.
Cut back on pie
just to get in shape.

You live for trout fishing.

So why in heaven's name
did you fall off the step?

This is painful.

Hard to say which hurts worse.
Your foot or no vacation.

Thank goodness for Dr. Orbon.
He took care of the break.
He said it could happen
to anybody.

And when he told you
about falling off his skis,
you realized.

This doctor knows his business.

Between them, Dr. Orbon,
his wife and his two
sons have broken ankles,
feet and wrists. He knows
how important it is
to find a good orthoped.

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• A youth-re option set up account. Pare that R-rated fames or products can through the ac
• A commun tion, which pro rentals on vari as Y2K. "As an going to be d with the cens next year, and something in services se Dickerson.
While Blockb movies in all of lars its not-ne

State Farm Insurance settles multi-million-dollar suit on auto coverage

DALLAS (AP) — State Farm Insurance has agreed to settle a multi-million-dollar lawsuit claiming the company misled customers about certain auto coverages for years. Attorneys for the plaintiffs told The Dallas Morning News Friday that total payments could add up to at least \$60 million. The settlement, which still must be approved by a state judge, could make nearly 2 million drivers eligible for minimum payments of \$1,500 for vehicle damage and \$5,000 for personal injuries. State Farm, which insures about 3.9 million vehicles in Texas, is the largest auto insurer in the state.

The settlement would also require the company to give policyholders increased uninsured-underinsured motorist protection at no additional cost until the next renewal date on each driver's policy. State Farm spokesman Keith Androff said the company will send notices to all current and former policyholders who are potentially affected by the settlement. Plaintiffs' attorneys said the lawsuit was filed after they discovered that the company had routinely denied certain claims involving uninsured and underinsured motorists despite a state Supreme Court decision ordering payment of such claims.

Two other major insurers, Allstate and GEICO, also have similar lawsuits pending against them. "State Farm continued to deny these claims for years after the Supreme Court decision in 1989," said attorney Stephen Woodfin, citing the case of his original client, Gary Gibson of Kilgore. After Gibson's son, Michael, was killed in a 1998 accident involving an underinsured driver, he filed a claim with State Farm, which rejected the claim. Gibson had earlier declined uninsured-underinsured motorist coverage based on a company policy that was ruled illegal by the state Supreme Court in 1989.

The policy stated that if a State Farm driver was involved in an accident with an underinsured driver, he could not collect under his uninsured-underinsured coverage unless its limits were more than the liability coverage of the at-fault driver. That policy caused many drivers to forgo uninsured-underinsured coverage, Woodfin said. After the Supreme Court decision, State Farm altered its payment policy to comply with the ruling but did not correct the forms it sent out to customers explaining what was and was not covered by uninsured-underinsured motorist until January 1995.

"It was unintentional on our part, but it was done and we don't feel very good about it," Androff told the Morning News. "So we now want to give every customer who may have rejected uninsured-underinsured coverage an opportunity to present their claims so we can compensate them." Under the settlement, State Farm will have to spend about \$6 million to provide expanded uninsured-underinsured motorist coverage for 1.7 million current policyholders — those who originally bought policies before January 1995. The settlement also includes about \$12 million in attorney fees.

Time is ripe for planting trees, shrubs

Fall is an excellent time for planting trees and shrubs in the home landscape. Careful planning and some basic knowledge of plants and their requirements is necessary to have a desirable landscape. Most homeowners have a good idea of what they want to achieve in their landscape. Once a plan has been established, then the next step is to select and plant the trees and shrubs to achieve the desired outcome.



DAVID KNIGHT

Listed below are trees and shrubs that I have identified as well-suited for planting in Howard County. I have also listed some characteristics of each species. Hopefully this will help you get started with your home landscape plans.

Trees:
Catclaw acacia — yellow fragrant flowers, 10'; Pecan — high water requirements, 30-50'; Hackberry — drought resistant, 50'; Desert willow — summer flowers, 25'; Texas persimmon — evergreen except in extreme cold, 15'; Golden raintree — light shade, flowers and fruit, 30'; Chinese pistache — drought resistant, 30'; Purple leaf plum — purple foliage, 20'; Texas red oak — fall color, 35'; Bur oak — little disease problems, 50'; Chinquapin oak — drought resistant, 50'; Black locust — white flowers, 30'; Common jujube — edible fruit, 20'.

Evergreens:
Arizona cypress — green all year, 30'; Italian cypress — columnar shape, 60'; Red cedar — evergreen, 40'; Mexican pinyon pine — evergreen, 35'; Mondell pine — evergreen 40'; Live oak tree — broad leaf tree, 60'.

Shrubs:
Glossy abelia — evergreen, 4'; Four wing saltbush — evergreen, 8'; Dwarf coyote bush — deciduous, 5'; Butterfly bush — 8'; Bird of paradise — Diceros, 8'; Contoneaster — evergreen, 6'; Gregg Dalea — evergreen 1'; Box leaf Euonymus, 2'; Golden Euonymus, 6'; Lavender cotton — evergreen, 2'; Texas mountain laurel — evergreen, 12' to 15'.

Vines:
Common trumpet creeper — deciduous, 20'; English ivy — evergreen 20'; Virginia creeper — deciduous, 20'; Boston ivy — deciduous, 20'; Chisos rosewood — evergreen, 15'; Arizona Rosewood — evergreen, 15'.



Blockbuster hopes to open its Big Spring location at 1915 Gregg toward the end of the week. The business will employ 15 people and be open 10 a.m. to midnight seven days a week.

Blockbuster hopes to open in a week

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Blockbuster is tentatively scheduled to open in a week, offering its customers video rental and sales, games and related items. "We are extremely excited about coming to Big Spring," said Blockbuster regional manager Carl Bottenus. "We have a store in Sweetwater, and now this one in Big Spring. We are

looking to expand in West Texas." The 4,000 square foot store is located at 1915 Gregg, and should employ about 15 people, said Bottenus. Hours will be 10 a.m. to midnight, each day. "We'll be in Big Spring Monday or Tuesday and hopefully we should have the store set up by Wednesday," said Bottenus, who hopes to open the store that weekend. No exact date has been set for the opening.

The store will carry between 7,000 and 10,000 videos. "We feel like we carry more copies of new releases than anyone," said Kelly Dickerson, with Blockbuster corporate communications in Dallas. "We have guaranteed titles and if someone wants a video and we run out of it, we'll issue them a raincheck." The store will offer numerous features.

See BLOCKBUSTER, Page 7B

Going public

Texas Railroad Commission establishes Office of Public Assistance to aid consumers

Special to the HERALD

AUSTIN — Chairman Michael L. Williams, Commissioner Matthew, and Commissioner Tony Garza announced last week that the Railroad Commission of Texas is among the first state agencies to formally establish an Office of Public Assistance (OPA).



MATTHEWS

As part of SB 1563 passed during the 76th Legislature, the newly created OPA will serve as an agency ombudsman and is charged with assisting with inquiries from the general public, other governmental agencies and representatives from industry or their organizations in a knowledgeable, courteous and expedient manner. "Customer service has always been a priority at the Railroad Commission," Williams said. "The Office of Public Assistance simply provides Texans with another tool to ensure accessibility and responsiveness." "It's no secret that anyone calling the Railroad Commission for information gets a response in a timely fashion," Matthews said. "The Office of Public Assistance is just another resource for the public to contact us for infor-

mation." Williams, Matthews and Garza named Bobby Heith to carry out the day-to-day responsibilities of the Office of Public Assistance. Heith, a 29-year veteran of the oil and gas industry, has been with the Railroad Commission for the past three years. Most recently, Heith had served as head of the commission's Texas Experimental Research and Recovery Activity (TERRA) program. "The experience and knowledge Bobby Heith brings to this position truly benefits those seeking assistance from the Railroad Commission," Garza added. "The establishment of the Office of Public Assistance confirms this agency's ongoing commitment to being accessible to the public we serve." A toll-free telephone number and public e-mail address have been set up to ease the accessibility to information and assistance by the OPA staff. OPA welcomes all inquiries, requests, ideas and concerns relating to the Railroad Commission of Texas and how it conducts business. Those seeking help through the Railroad Commission of Texas' Office of Public Assistance can call toll-free (877) 228-5740 or e-mail OPA staff at publicassist@rrc.state.tx.us. The Office of Public Assistance is also responsible for developing a central system to track complaints and solu-

See OPA, Page 7B

Greyhound updating terminals and ticketing

DALLAS (AP) — Greyhound, pushed into bankruptcy by a bitter labor strike nearly a decade ago, is taking strides to compete again by updating its terminals and changing the way it sells tickets. About 18 million Americans ride Greyhound every year, but many passengers complain about crowded, aging bus stations and slow travel. "I hate riding Greyhound," said Raphael Santos, en route from Temple to Chicago. "The food is OK. But the buses stop at every little town." Backed by its new parent company Laidlaw Inc., Dallas-based Greyhound Lines Inc. is setting out to change minds of passengers like Santos with a major modernization campaign. In March 1990, about 5,900 Greyhound drivers walked off their jobs in a dispute over pay and benefits. Greyhound got by with replacement drivers, but it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

protection three months later. It took two years to settle the strike, but the company nearly went bankrupt again in 1994-95. Last year, the company earned its first profit since 1993. Management plans to make its service more attractive by embarking on a 5-year program to remodel or build new bus stations. About a third of its 300 terminals will be replaced with facilities linking Greyhound with local bus and Amtrak passenger train service. "We have hundreds of bus stations, and many of them are very old," said chief executive Craig Lentzsch. The company also plans to automate 20 percent of the locations where tickets are still sold by hand. It is considering letting customers buy tickets further in advance of their trips and buying over the Internet. "We need to make our tickets simpler and easier to get," said Lentzsch.



Sid Clark helps unload Christmas trees for the Big Spring Morning Optimist Club's lot, located at Gregg and 10th Street. The club has more than 100 trees, ranging in price from \$12 to \$80. Hours are 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Howard County approved for Livestock Assistance Program; signup to be announced

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Howard, Martin and Sterling are among 128 Texas counties which have been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for the Livestock Assistance Program. "We've received official notice that we have been approved," said Rick Liles, Howard County Farm Service Agency executive director. "We're not exactly

sure of the signup process at this point, but it will begin within the next week or two and we'll be getting the word out about it." The Livestock Assistance Program, or LAP, provides direct payments to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to natural disasters in 1999. "It's based on April 1 through Dec. 1, a four-month time period," said Liles. "The idea being that the drought brought the

grazing availability down so low by Aug. 1 that there were heavy losses sustained in available grazing." Nationwide, some \$200 million was allocated for livestock producers as part of the \$8.7 billion farm assistance package approved in October. An additional \$10 million in funding was approved in the recently passed HR 3194, which provides \$576 million in additional emergency funding. "We don't know what the allo-

cations will be yet, because it is nationwide," said Liles. "It depends on how many producers file for the assistance." Eligible producers must have suffered a 40 percent or greater loss of grazing. Eligible livestock include beef and dairy cattle, buffalo or beefalo maintained on the same basis as beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine and equine animals used commercially for human food or kept for the production of food or fiber on the owner's farm or

ranch. LAP benefits are made available to counties where precipitation was 40 percent or more below normal for at least four months and where there was at least a 40 percent loss of available grazing during a 90-day period due to drought. Other area counties already approved include Concho, Kent, Nolan, Reagan, Scurry and Tom Green. Liles said he has also received basic information related to the

1999 Crop Disaster Program (CDP). "Signup will begin Dec. 13 and continue through March 31," he said. "We hope to have policy and procedure for the 1999 CDP in the office soon. We have not received it yet." Final payments are scheduled for April 24. Producers who wish to receive advance payments in 2000 should wait until after Jan. 1 to file the application, Liles said.

Meat

WASHINGTON — Texas meatpacker supplies the 1 lunch program salmonella test down by the go a judge allowed decision that pi Friday.

Public

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Aguilar, John C., No. 303, Odessa
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Belvin, Calvin, 130
Brackeen, Barbara
Lamesa
Brown, Robbie
Lamesa
Cansino, Andrea
Spring
Cansino, Virginia
869, Big Spring
Crow, Cindy, 1910
Cruz, Caesar Sa
Van Horn
Diaz, Joe P. Jr., Spring
Flores, Tony Jr., Spring
Frale, Trent, P. Spring
Garcia, Ricky, 500
Greco, Benjamin, 38, Big Spring
Griggs, Pink, P.O. Guevara, Yvette, Spring
Harris, Ruby, 907
Lubbock
Hataway, Bobby
Ave. Snyder
Hicks, Jeremy, 2
No. 8, Big Spring
Hogg, Christopher
14 C, Big Spring
Hunter, Fredlee J. Spring
Irvin, Suzanne
Monticello, Big Spring
Isidro, Victor, 114
Kerrville
Jackson, Thomas, Big Spring or 900 Se
Kennedy, Charles St., Joplin, Mo.
King, Ginger, 1605
Lathers, Glen, Colorado City
Lindsey, Katrina H. HC 61 Box 3, Big Sp
Lopez, Michael, 52
Loveless, Nancy, Spring
Martinez, Victoria
Lancaster, Big Spring
McCandless, Andi
Place, No. 413, Big
Mendez, Michael 291, Coahoma or 101
Moland, Todd, 330
Lakes, Ill.
Morris, Patricia An
Big Spring or Rt. 3
City
Morris, Quinton I
Loraine
Moyers, Russell D
Amarillo
Murray, Phillip L., Spring
Padron, Abram, 92
76, Brownfield
Palmer, Reeda Car
#135, Odessa
Peoples, Robert E.
Spring
Polling, Ann S., Spring
Pond, Henry C.
Amarillo
Ramirez, Trinidad,
Big Spring
Rivera, Isabel, 2
Spring
Robbins, Brad, 311
Robertson, Caleb T.
101, Sweetwater
Rosales, Chris,
Odonnell
Salgado, Viola, 121
Wood, Big Spring
Salinas, Elizabeth,
Lamesa
Sanchez, Debbie, 260, Big Spring
Sena, Jeannine,
Roswell, N.M.
Simpson, Patricia
Lubbock
Smith, Michael J. J.

BLOCKBUSTER

Continued from Page 6B

Among them:
• A rewards program, which earns customers free rentals and other benefits, based on the number of videos they rent.
• A youth-restricted viewing option set up on a family account. Parents can ensure that R-rated movies, M-rated fables or other youth-restricted products cannot be rented through the account.
• A community services section, which provides free movie rentals on various topics such as Y2K. "As an example, we are going to be doing something with the census count early next year, and that will be a something in our community services section," said Dickerson.
While Blockbuster offers new movies in all of its stores, it tailors its not-new rentals to the

community, taking into account its ethnic makeup and other factors, Dickerson said.

OPA

Continued from Page 6B

tions at the Railroad Commission of Texas. Data from this tracking system, as well as results from other customer service surveys, will be reported to the legislature and the governor's office every two years.
Established in 1891, the Railroad Commission of Texas is the oldest regulatory agency in the state and one of the oldest of its kind in the nation.
The Commission has four regulatory divisions that oversee the Texas oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline and rail safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry, and the surface mining of coal, uranium, and iron ore gavel.

Farmers seen sticking with biotech crops

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two months ago, Minnesota farmer Mark Ufer was ready to swear off genetically engineered crops. He figured the growing controversy over biotech food would make it easier to sell conventional corn and soybeans next year.
Now that it is time to order next year's seed, he has changed his mind.
"The genetically enhanced movement is so widespread that I don't think a person can realistically not be a part of it," he said.
Farmers have been switching in droves to genetically engineered corn and soybeans over the past three years.
There is growing evidence that they plan to stick with the crops next year despite backlashes against biotechnology in Europe and Japan and producers' lingering worries about the

industry's future.
Two-thirds of the corn seed and three-quarters of the soybean seed that farmers have ordered from Novartis Seeds Inc. for next year are genetically engineered, a slight increase over this time a year ago.
Novartis is among the nation's largest seed suppliers. About 70 percent of the corn seed and half the soybean seed that Novartis expects to sell for the 2000 crop had been ordered as of Dec. 1.
The demand for biotech seed "is as strong as it's been at any time since we introduced it," said Jack Bernens, the company's vice president of marketing.
The government estimates that 57 percent of the soybeans that farmers grew this year contain a gene that allows it to tolerate use of the popular Roundup weed killer.

Another 30 percent of the corn grown this year was biotech, engineered to make it toxic to the European corn borer, a chronic problem for farmers.
In a Nov. 22 letter to investment analysts, Monsanto Co. acknowledged that there was more indecision than usual among farmers as to their planting intentions for next year. But Monsanto's market research indicates the demand for biotech seed will be "on par with the 1999 season," the letter said.
Monsanto has a lot at stake. Along with holding patents in the technology, Monsanto sells seed through its Asgrow and DeKalb subsidiaries, and also makes the Roundup herbicide.
The American Soybean Association, which is holding a series of seminars in the Midwest to sound out farmers and address their misgivings

about biotechnology, also is not expecting any wholesale shift to conventional varieties.
"We have no reason to believe that the adoption of the technology will not continue," spokesman Bob Callanan said.
"We still think there's strong interest from the growers. ... The growers like and have embraced the technology," he added.
A series of developments caught farmers by surprise this summer and early this fall, which led to fears they would have trouble selling their biotech crops.
That in turn would make it difficult to recover the seeds' higher costs.
Amid the growing controversy over biotech crops, baby-food makers Gerber and Heinz announced they no longer would use genetically modified ingredients.

Meatpacker that supplies school program failed salmonella testing

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Texas meatpacking plant that supplies the national school-lunch program failed a series of salmonella tests and was shut down by the government before a judge allowed it to reopen, a decision that prompted protests Friday.
The Agriculture Department withdrew its inspectors from the Supreme Beef Processors Inc. plant in Dallas on Tuesday morning because the plant failed to pass new microbial tests for foodborne pathogens.

Meat cannot be sold across state lines unless it is federally inspected, so yanking inspectors effectively closes a plant.
But U.S. District Judge A. Joe Fish in Dallas issued an order later that day requiring the inspectors to return to the plant pending a Dec. 10 hearing.
"This is just unbelievable that a plant that failed so badly is being allowed to operate. We are very troubled by this," Caroline Smith DeWaal of Center for Science in the Public Interest said Friday.

The department issued a statement saying it had stopped buying ground beef from the plant as of Tuesday. USDA officials said the plant supplies about 15 percent of the ground beef that the department purchases annually for schools. Of the 90 million pounds of beef USDA has purchased since July, 14 million has come from the Dallas facility.
Thomas Billy, administrator of USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, said he was confident the judge would

uphold his agency's actions against the plant as well as USDA's critical pathogen reduction requirements.
Supreme Beef failed the testing on three separate occasions beginning this summer. Under USDA rules, no more than 7.5 percent of the samples taken in one testing can be positive for salmonella.
The company challenged the testing program's fairness, calling the standards arbitrary, and it disputed USDA's sampling results.

"Meat shipments from our facilities are safe and wholesome and have been since the day we started making beef products 30 years ago," said Steven Spiritas, company president and chief executive officer, adding that he hoped to work out a settlement with USDA.
Carol Tucker Foreman of Consumers Federation of America said USDA was justified in attempting to close the plant.
Although the pathogen is destroyed by cooking, consumers who handle meat conta-

minated with salmonella risk spreading the pathogen to other food, she said.
"Why should a company be allowed to have a seal that says USDA inspected and approved as wholesome when you know it's got something in it that causes people to become sick? When people read that seal, they think it's safe," she said.
Salmonella kills an estimated 550 people and causes 1.4 million illnesses a year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

PUBLIC RECORDS

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Altsbaugh, Donald Ray, 600 Runnels or 4202 Muir, Big Spring
Belvin, Calvin, 1305 Nolan, Big Spring
Brackeen, Barbara, 1101 N. Ave. G, Lamesa
Brown, Robbie D., 515 N. 10th, Lamesa
Cansino, Andrea, 1906 Runnels, Big Spring
Cansino, Virginia Louisa, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring
Crow, Cindy, 1910 Tucson, Big Spring
Cruz, Caesar Santa, P.O. Box 344, Van Horn
Diaz, Joe P. Jr., 1102 E. 12th, Big Spring
Flores, Tony Jr., 2000 Runnels, Big Spring
Fraleigh, Trent, P.O. Box 2322, Big Spring
Garcia, Ricky, 500 25th St., Snyder
Greco, Benjamin, 2609 Wasson No. 38, Big Spring
Griggs, Pink, P.O. Box 706, Coahoma
Guevara, Yvette, 405 E. 11th, Big Spring
Harris, Ruby, 907 Ave. S. Apt. 502, Lubbock
Hataway, Bobby G. Jr., 3012 Austin Ave., Snyder
Hicks, Jeremy, 2609 Wasson Road No. 8, Big Spring
Hogg, Christopher Lee, HC 77m Box 14 C, Big Spring
Hunter, Fredlee Jr., 3605 Dixon, Big Spring
Irvin, Suzanne Marie, 2208 S. Monticello, Big Spring
Isidro, Victor, 114 Sleepy Mountain, Kerrville
Jackson, Thomas Jeremy, 908 E. 14th, Big Spring or 900 Second, Breckenridge
Kennedy, Charles Dean, 4824 E. 20th St., Joplin, Mo.
King, Ginger, 1609 Osage, Big Spring
Lathers, Glen, 2074 LCR 252, Colorado City
Lindsey, Katrina Kay, 1606 Robin or HC 61 Box 3, Big Spring
Lopez, Michael, 520 N. Ave. A, Kermit
Lovelsess, Nancy, 3611 Dixon, Big Spring
Martinez, Victoria Josephine, 1509 Lancaster, Big Spring
McCandless, Andrea, No. 1 Courtney Place, No. 413, Big Spring
Mendez, Michael David, Rt. 1, Box 291, Coahoma or 109 Goliad, Big Spring
Moland, Todd, 3301 Indiana St., Great Lakes, Ill.
Morris, Patricia Ann Davis, 803 Lorilla Big Spring or Rt. 3, box 43, Colorado City
Morris, Quinton D., P.O. Box 183, Lorraine
Moyers, Russell D., 166 W. Colorado, Amarillo
Murray, Phillip L., 1313 E. Sixth, Big Spring
Padron, Abram, 927 N. A or Hcr 3, box 76, Brownfield
Palmer, Reeda Castillo, 2735 E. Eighth #135, Odessa
Peoples, Robert E., 4203 Wasson, Big Spring
Polling, Ann S., 1501 FM 818, Big Spring
Pond, Henry C. Jr., 840 Western, Amarillo
Ramirez, Trinidad, 605 San Antonio, Big Spring
Rivera, Isabel, 2521 Albrook, Big Spring
Robbins, Brad, 3101 41st St., Snyder
Robertson, Caleb L., 1715 Hailey, Apt. 101, Sweetwater
Rosales, Chris, P.O. Box 216, Odonnell
Salgado, Viola, 1207 Mulberry or 1402 Wood, Big Spring
Salinas, Elizabeth, 1303 N. First St., Lamesa
Sanchez, Debbie, 538 Westover No. 260, Big Spring
Sena, Jeannine, 6 Eagle Place, Roswell, N.M.
Simpson, Patricia, 3527 102nd St. Lubbock
Smith, Michael J. Jr., 1404 E. 11th, Big

Spring
Smith, Rosemary, 711 E. 15th, Big Spring
Solando, Cindy, P.O. Box 163, Ackerly
Solis, Sallie, 538 Westover No. 215, Big Spring
Stapledon, Germane S., 3225 Auburn, Big Spring
Thornin, Jeanette, 120 Airbase Road No. 155, Big Spring
Trevino, Cynthia, Rt. 5, Box 166a, Kilgore
Vidales, Shawn, 1205 N. Lincoln, Odessa
Wagner, Cynthia, 1406 Anson Ave., Abilene
Waldie, Eilene, 4503 Versailles Dr., Midland
Waldo, Dwight, 3405 East Highway 350, Big Spring
Walker, Dan A., P.O. Box 672, Forsan
Walker, Dorothy Faye, 4625 Crockett Ave., Midland
Webb, Shelli D., 2402 E. Marcy Dr., Big Spring
Williams, Joe, 2409 S. Ong, Amarillo
Williamson, Shelley D., 1800 S. Hwy 87, Big Spring
Woodfin, Anna E., 2609 Wasson No. 38, Big Spring
Yanez, Eva Carrasco, 1408 Oriole or 1616 Mesquite, Big Spring
Yanez, Lucia C., P.O. Box 1393, Lamesa

Howard County Clerk's Office:
Marriage Licenses:
Mitchell C. Holt, 37, and Shelly Dee Tate, 34
Mark Wayne Miller, 21, and De Anna Layne Paly, 20
Joshua Charles Preston, 23, and Yvette Rodriguez Cortez, 26
Charlie Anthony Crisp, 25, and Meredith Dawn Baker, 24
Elvis Eugene Lang, 24, and Lisa Jean Chavarria, 24

Court Records:
Revocation of probation & imposition of sentence: Andy Rodriguez, Thomas Derrick Dunnam, Johnny Green
Order of dismissal: Vicki Marie Green, Christopher Ornelas, Juan Juarez
Probated judgment DWLS: Henry Rodriguez \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment display fictitious motor vehicle inspection certificate: Luis R. Lozano \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment DWI: Jose Ines Luna \$750 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment make alcoholic beverages available to minor: Andrea Schneider \$250 fine and 180 days in jail, Armando Saucedo \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment perjury: Shajarkei Hammock \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment theft by check over \$50/under \$500: Carolyn Sue Hale \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Probated judgment DWLI: Jose Ines Luna \$250 fine and 180 days in jail, Ricardo Uranga \$250 fine and 180 days in jail, Luis Lozano \$250 fine and 180 days in jail
Judgment & sentence DWLS: Andy E. Rodriguez \$250 fine, \$234.25 court cost and 60 days in jail
Probated judgment deferred adjudication: Heather D. McNew
Judgment & sentence theft over \$50/under \$500: Stephen Daniel Foster \$500 fine, \$234.25 court cost and 90 days in jail
Judgment & sentence criminal mischief/utility: Stephen D. Foster \$500 fine, \$292 court cost and 90 days in jail

Deeds:
Warranty deed with vendor's lien: grantor: Jack Wolf Buchanan and Mildred Buchanan
grantee: Eddy and Donnell Herm property: a 3.462 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the southwest part of a 312.3 acre tract out of the north part of section 13, blk. 32
filed: Nov. 15, 1999
Warranty Deed: grantor: Gary W. and Martha A. Payne grantee: Duncan Family Trust property: all of lot 17 and the north 4' of lot 18, blk. 5, Coronado Hills Addition filed: Nov. 15, 1999
grantor: Mike and Sheree Moates grantee: Bennie J. Blissard

property: the north 12' of lot 10, blk. 44, Original Town of Big Spring filed: Nov. 15, 1999

118th District Court:
Filings:
Family:
Rebecca Stride vs. John Campos

Divorce:
Jennifer Diann Lopez vs. Daniel Paul Lopez
Sunny Noble vs. Charles R. Noble
Tern Jo Newton vs. Larry Allan Newton

Accounts, notes & contracts:
Cain Electrical Supply Corp. vs. Fidel

Cardona, d/b/a Diamond T Contracting Palex-Texas, L.P. vs. Thermo-Serv. Inc.
Palex-Texas, L.P. vs. Koch Trucklines, Inc.

Other:
Leasecomm Corporation vs. Big

Spring State Hospital Federal Credit Union
Leasecomm Corporation vs. Henry Roach
Estate of Katherine Braun McNallen

BANK On a Merrier Christmas...
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YOUR HOMETOWN MERCHANTS ARE READY FOR CHRISTMAS!
The city's a great place to visit, but you know that every shopping dollar you spend at home comes back to you in the form of better schools, improved roads and community programs? And best of all, your local merchants often offer the same merchandise at lower prices without all of the hassles. So be smart and support your hometown this holiday season!

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Borrow up to \$1200.00 for 12 months at
8.9% APR
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DECEMBER 5, 1999

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Great X-Mas gift. 1990 Nissan Starza GXE excellent condition, new transmission, clean. \$3500. 264-0744 after 6pm.

Come By & See The New 2000 Ford Focus A Fun car to drive!
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✓ HONDA'S FROM \$200. Police impounds. All Makes and Models. Call Now! 1-800-772-7470, EXT 6336.
1974 El Camino* Recently rebuilt 400ci engine* New tires* Runs great* \$2500/OBO* 267-4650

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1997 Ext.cab Silverado PU. V8,3rd dr, loaded, auto, 28K,under warranty. \$18,500, 263-3519.

PICKUPS

1994 1 ton GMC flat bed, 4 wheel drive pickup. Call 8-5pm. 264-6600.

1998 Ford F 150 Supercab XL. 3 door, 5 speed, AC, cruise. 17,000 miles. \$16,900. Call 263-1631

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1989 Grand Wagoneer. Nice. \$4,000 Call 915-263-6202.

SUV'S

1998 Jeep Wrangler Sahara. Low miles, hard & soft top, stereo/CD player, alarm system, every factory option. 267-2907

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PERSONAL

NEED CASH NOW OPEN E-Z CASH of Big Spring Checking Acct. Required 263-4315

BUSINESS OPPT.

✓ MEDICAL BILLER \$15 - \$45/hr Medical Billing Software company needs people to process medical claims from home. Training provided. Must own computer. 1-800-434-5518 ext. 667

BUSINESS OPPT.

COKE/PEPSINE/STEAK ROUTE 15 high profit locations Earnings up to \$1,000/wk Free Video 1-800-627-9519

Fully equipped restaurant for sale. Turn key operation. Call 915-268-3845 for more information.

Great Business Opportunity!!! Neighbors T & Western agent. Excellent Location at 3315 E. FM700 If interested call after 6PM 915-263-7508

CHILD CARE

Hillcrest Child Development Center now has openings for children that were 3 and 4 years of age before Sept. 1, 1999. Rates are \$55.00 a week. For more info., call or come by 2000 W. FM 700 (915) 267-8449.

HELP WANTED

BURGER KING/ Part time help wanted. Apply in person. 800 W. 120.

HELP WANTED

AIM HIGH Great career opportunities are available for high school grads, ages 17-27. We provide training in more than 150 job skills and enlistment bonuses up to \$12,000 for those who qualify. For a free information packet, call 1-900-423-USA or visit www.airforce.com.

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Odessa College and International Schools offer a Four Week Semi-Driver Training Course in ODESSA



All qualified applicants preferred prior to class start. Call (915) 580-0860 or (800) 681-8105 618 North Grant Ave. #115 Odessa, Texas 79761

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HELP WANTED

Established retail shop needs self-confident, motivated, personable and well groomed store manager. Pleasant work environment. Non-Smoker. References required with resume. Salary & hours negotiable. Send resume to: P O Box 1431/2525 Big Spring, Tx. 79720.

Can you sing 'I'll be home for Christmas'? Plus \$6 for all miles over 18,000 in a month \$1,000 Sign on Bonus for Exp. Company Drivers

Owner Operators Teams \$84k \$83k Lease Purchase Program Available Experienced Drivers and Owner Operators 1-800-441-4394 Graduate Students 1-800-338-6428 COVENANT TRANSPORT

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| '86 Chevrolet Conversion Van | '93 Jeep Cherokee 5 Speed |
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| '94 Hyundai 2-Dr. | '91 Ford Fiesta |
| '89 Ford Fiesta | '89 Ford Escort 2-Dr. |
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Truckdrivers needed for oil field work. Prefer ex-Dowell, ex-BJ, ex-Halliburton hands. No need to relocate. Class A CDL, clear driving record, 2 years truck driving experience a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. No calls after 5pm.

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GARAGE SALES

□ Sale @ 1602 Settles. Sat. & Sun. 8:30-5pm. Quilts, yo yo bedspreads and lots of misc.
□ Yard Sale: 6714 Ranch Rd. (Garden City Hwy.) Sat. & Sun. 9-7. Baby crib exc. condition. Lots of miscellaneous.

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REWARD
Lost in the vicinity of Kent Morgan Ranch, 2 year old Golden Retriever. Missing since 11/10/99. Call 267-8657

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Grand Opening
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120 days same as cash!
SPECIAL
10 free weeks on long term contract, or \$50 OFF-120 Namebrand TV's, VCR's, furniture, appliances, etc. 263-4315

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In Bedroom, livingroom suites, dinette, sofa sets, computer desk, bunk and canopy beds, mattresses, futons, vanities and new appliances

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2004 W. 4th

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Want to buy a standard guitar. Please call after 4:00PM, 263-7030.

PORTABLE BUILDINGS

New 5 to 6 person spa/hot tubs - No payments 'til May, 2000. \$59.00 a month. Delivery available. 563-3108 or 552-6878 after 5:00PM.

SIERRA MERCANTILE

For all your building needs.
Portable
On sight - Carpets 1-20 East - 263-1460
Unclaimed order! 12' x 20' barn, red with white trim. Delivery and financing available. 563-3108 or 552-6878 after 5:00PM.

Why pay rent? 10' x 16' storage buildings \$42.00 a month 'til Christmas - No payments 'til May, 2000. Delivery available. 563-3108 or 552-6878 after 5:00PM.

ACREAGE FOR SALE

8 acres w/trailer house & lg metal storage bldg., due N. of old Dairy Queen near Coahoma on Swinney St. 263-4410.

BUILDINGS FOR RENT

FOR LEASE: 5600 sq ft. warehouse with 3 offices on 2 acres. fenced land. Hwy 350 1 1/2 mile N. 1-20. \$600 + dep. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.
FOR LEASE: building on Snyder Highway. Approx. 1800 square feet with office on 1 acre. \$250 per month 100 deposit. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

PUBLIC AUCTION

SALE TIME 10 A.M. SAT. DEC. 11, 1999
HAPPINESS IS HALLMARK GIFT STORE
128 E. Main Post, TX
DIRECTIONS: FROM HWY 84 Go East on Main (HWY 380 E.) Approx. 1/2 Blk. Auction Site on N. Side of Street. INSPECTION TIME 8:30 A.M. SALE DAY. FOOD ON SITE.
A LG. INVENTORY PLUS DISPLAYS, WORK TABLES & ETC. LISTED BELOW ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE GIFTS, STOCKING, STUFFERS & COLLECTIBLES TO BE SOLD. FOR MORE INFO CALL: 915-728-4292.
PARTIAL LISTING ONLY!!!!
Approx. 50 Hallmark Ornaments. Over 100 Precious Moments Ornaments & Figurines (SOME RETIRED). Sisters & Friends Figurines. 1996 Hallmark Olympic Figurines. ENESCO NATIVITY Scene W/ Lighted & Musical Manger. Cute As A Button Figurines. Limited Ed. Kim Anderson Items. Iron Wood Animal Figurines. Capodimonte Flowers. Figurals Banks. 5 Pk. BRASS COFFEE SERVICE includes COFFEE & TEAPOT. CHEAMER & SUGAR W/ Tray. Lg. Press Glass (SMITH) Punch Bowl (Damaged) W/ Approx. 84 Cups. Super Nice Wood, Brass & Glass Displays. Check Out Counter. Royal 48' CV Cash Register. Pine Bench. Work Tables. Gift Bags. Party Favors. Pewter. Brass & Silver Jewelry. MANY HALLMARK CARDS, Candles, Baskets, Paper Cutters Plus Much, Much More.
AUCTIONEER: GRADY W. MORRIS TX-6785

FARMS & RANCHES

Irrigated farm, 200 ac., pasture 213 ac., 20 mi. S. of Big Spring on Garden City Hwy. Gov't allotment, deer, quail, turkey, dove, Bunkhouse, windmill, stock tank. Irrigation well + 4 smaller wells. \$195,000. (817) 279-9915

HOUSES FOR SALE

2200 + sq. ft. New electrical, plumbing, windows, roof and doors. You finish remodel. Make reasonable offer. 267-2833 and ask for Jennifer.

STOP RENTING!!! OWN FOR LESS! NO MONEY DOWN! Credit Needed! Guaranteed Approval! CALL NOW! 1-800-355-0029 ext.8117

ABANDONED HOMES in Big Spring.

Take up payments w/nothing down. Local 264-0510

EXECUTIVE HOME.

4400 sq. ft. 5Br, 4 bath Parkhill, \$235,000 By owner. 267-3601

For Sale By Owner: 3 bdr. 2 bath, 2 car garage, carport, fireplace, & more.

505 Highland Drive, Call Tom @ 263-3916. office 263-2300

For sale by owner: Brick 3 Br, 2bth, Den w/fireplace, large DR, CH/A, city & well water, 1 ac w/trees.

lots of extras, Coahoma I.S.D. \$10,000 below appraisal. 267-2033.

I'M MAD ... at banks who don't give real estate loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgage, (254) 947-4475.

Northside: 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on 2.75 acres.

Wooded lot, horse stalls, needs work. \$22,500. Call 522-1030 or 557-1927.

OWNER FINANCE

3Br, 1bth. Large storage/shop. Completely remodeled including new carpet, floors, counters & paint. 1107 Stanford. Payments around \$385/mo. Down payment required. 263-1792 or 264-6006

OWNER WILL FINANCE

1610 Bluebird 2 bdr, 1 bath, excellent condition. Low down, low monthly. Call Andrew (day) 915-425-9999

Seller will help with closing costs so you can move in the immaculate recently remodeled 3 bdr home, cent h/w, carport tile fence, storage bldg, new carpet, fresh paint. Payment approx \$350/mo in cost approx \$1,000. Owner/agent 263-6892.

Very good 3 br 2 bath home on a super lot.

Double (drive thru) garage. Lots of built-in storage and RV parking. \$100,000.
Boosie Weaver
Real Estate 267-8840

Real Estate, Hunting/Ranching Property

320 Acres: Near Coahoma, 2 mi. from Interstate, new fences & gates, half in pasture; working pen with headgate; excellent water, tank with trough. Bird & deer hunting. 3/4 mineral rights just brought in a well 1/2 mi. from property. Scenic \$130,000. (915) 944-9194.

HOUSES FOR SALE

House for sale by owner. 2 bdr, 1 bth, carport, corner lot, lots of storage. Call 263-7437.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

3 bdr, 2 bth, house in Kentwood - 2100 Monthly
Assumable Loan at 7%. Low move in cost. Call 263-4922

MOBILE HOMES

\$239/mo!! 1997 3/2 set-up skirting, and a/c. Call now 653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. 5% dn., 13.75% a.p.r., 8 pt buy dn, 360 mos. (w.a.c.)

\$3000+ Holiday shopping spree! With every new Palm Harbor in Dec. Call for appt. 653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. (* 1500 per section)

BIG SCREEN TV, gourmet kitchen, sliding patio door, glamour bath.

Only \$750 gets you in. 653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003 (w.a.c.)
Cute 2+2. (915) 520-2179.

EXTENDED!! Pack-rat special!! 42 cabinets and drawers just in the kitchen. This 3/2 home with fireplace is a dream come true @ \$399 per mo. Call 653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003 for appt. 10% dn, 360 mos. @ 8.25 a.p.r. (w.a.c.)

SAVE \$2000-\$7500 this weekend and USA will buy your holiday presents. Details @ USA HOMES, 4608 West Wall, Midland - (800) 520-2177

Owner Transferred - MUST SELL! Lender willing to work on easy terms. Call T. J. (915) 520-4411.

RETIRED or STARTING OUT?? 2 bedroom mobile home. Very Affordable!! 1-800-698-8003. Local 653-7800.

SAVE \$7500 & GET A \$750 GIFT CERTIFICATE! 28'X62' Luxury Home as low as \$366/mo. Only December 4th OR 5th at USA HOMES, 4608 West Wall, Midland - (800) 520-2177

or 520-2177 SE HABLA ESPANOL!

10% down, 10.50%, 360 months, with approved credit.

THREE BEDROOM HOME

www.222.500 - now \$17,999! 520-2177 or (800) 520-2177 Se Habla Espanol

FURNISHED APTS.

2/1 Apts. - 263-7821
Furnished or Unfur.
\$275-\$350
monthly plus electric

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX

Swimming Pool
Carpets,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished

KENTWOOD APARTMENTS

1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD

Swimming Pool
Private Patios
Carpets
Appliances
Most Utilities Paid
Senior Citizens Discount
1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
801 W. Marcy Drive
263-5555 263-5000

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES

Rent or Purchase
Owner Financing
2 & 3 Bedrooms
MOVE IN SPECIAL
Recreational Area
Basketball & Volleyball
Pool
263-3461

FURNISHED APTS.

Apartments, Unfurnished houses, Mobile Home. References required. Call 263-6844, 263-2341.

Rooms

Inn at Big Spring
Lobby Hours 6 am - 2 am
\$154 wkly. \$29.95 daily + tax.
Doc Holidays Sealon 263-7821

UNFURNISHED APTS.

\$99 MOVE IN plus deposit.
1,2,3 bdr. Partially furn.
263-7811 a.m.
393-5240 evenings

ALL BILLS PAID RENT BASED ON INCOME

1-2-3 Bedroom Apartments
Marcy Elementary 267-6421

PARK VILLAGE APTS

1905 Wesson Drive
Free Rent
Central heat & app.
2 bdr. \$275
1 bdr. \$235
Eff. \$200
On site maintenance
Call 915-267-4217

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

1 br, 1 bath, 1102 Sycamore. No Pets !!
Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

1313 Settles

Like new inside w/new CH/A, for this 3 bdr, 2 bth, double car garage w/ electric door opener and fenced backyard, ceiling fans, near all schools. \$500/mo. \$500/dep. Call 263-8569, 267-4090 & 267-2358. No Pets.

1409 E. 18th, 3 Br, 2bth, carport, fenced yard, cellar. \$535/mo water paid. \$295/dep. References required. Call 263-3689.

2 bdr mobile home 1407 B Mesquite \$265/mn. \$150/dep. Also: 2 bdr mobile 1410 rear Harding \$265/mn. \$150/dep. water paid. Call 267-6667.

2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 304 E. 5th. No pets. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. \$350/mo, \$200/dep. Call 264-9522.

2405 Alabama

Nice 3 bdr 1 3/4 bath, 2 living areas or 4 bdr. \$475/mn. \$200/dep. Call 557-5507.

2510 Carlton. Good neighborhood. Nice, clean 3BR, 2bth, CH/A, 2 living areas, fenced backyard, double carport. \$550/mo, \$250/dep, 267-1543.

3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath mobile home in Coahoma. 210 Rancier. Call 363-5380.

3210 Drexel: 3br, 2 bth, C/H/A, Clean, Single garage Fenced yard. Also: 3617 Hamilton clean, 3 bdr. C/H/A, fenced yard. Call 263-3350

FOR RENT: Nice farm house. Available now. 2 mi. north Coahoma. Garage, free water. \$300/mo. \$200/dep. 394-4284

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

Your Choice
\$99
Move In Special
w/6 month lease
OR
Sign a 13 Month lease and get
\$99 Move-in & 13th Mo. FREE.
WATER & GAS PAID
Check the Competition then call
263-1252
for the best deal in town.
538 Westover Rd

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

RENT - SALE - LEASE: \$650 a month. For more information call 263-6743.

Unique and nice ranch style 2 bdr, 1 bth, central air, carport, detached workshop, Hillside view over city park/golf course. References/ground maintenance required. McDonald Realty 263-7616

3BR, 2bth, appliances, carport, covered patio, fenced yard. Water & cable paid. CH/A. Nice & clean. References. \$475/mo + \$275/dep. 267-2177 & leave message.

405 W. 5th 2 bdr. \$200/mn. \$100/dep. Sorry no pets 263-4922

603 W. 16th 2 Br - 1bth CH/A \$425/mo - \$200/dep 263-1792 or 264-6006

FOR RENT

2111 Runnels 3 bdr, 1 bth. HUD ok!
205 E. 22nd (upstairs) utilities pd. \$150/dep. \$300/mn. 915-263-8243

For Rent: 3/2/2, 2 LA, CH/A, FP, RV Port. Lg. Sun rm. 4201 Bilger. \$700/mo. Call 264-1801

For rent, 3Br/2bth Mobile home on 10 ac. good water well, outside city limits. \$480/mo, \$300/dep 267-2737

House for lease in Kentwood 3 bdr, 2 bath 1 block from school. \$550/mn. Call 263-5802.

House For Rent, 606 N. Gregg, 1 br, \$250/mo., \$150/dep. Call 263-2242.

One, two and three bedroom houses. Call 263-4410.

Unique and nice ranch style 2 bdr, 1 bth, central air, carport, detached workshop, Hillside view over city park/golf course. \$350 No Pets Please. References/ground maintenance required. McDonald Realty 263-7616

TOO LATES

□ Garage Sale, Monday 9-2pm. 602 Wren. Clothes, toys, miscellaneous items.
Maintenance man needed FT/PT, salary based on experience. Send resume to Box 304 C/O Big Spring Herald.

2/1 \$350/mo + dep. 3/1 \$450/mo. + dep. 3/1 \$550/mo. + dep. 3/2 \$600/mo. + dep. Call 264-9907.

Home owners wanted, that need trees removed. For more info, or free estimate. Call Paul @ 264-7752.

3 bdr 2 b. on Ritchie Road \$75,000

Boosie Weaver Real Estate 267-8840

***HOWARD County, 5 Acres**

In Big Spring on I-20 Service Rd., Reduce to 4% Interest. \$66/Mo., Owner Finance
Forest America Group
1-800-275-7376

TOO LATES

2 bdr. trailer North of town, storage bldg., water furnished. \$250/mn \$150/dep. Call 263-0260.

4 bdr. 2 bath completely redone inside. Washer/dryer connections, stove & re. furnished. References will be required. \$325/mn. \$50/dep. 1516 Sycamore. 270-0703, 263-0703 after 5pm.

Sonic Now Hiring! All Positions! Comp. salary - Apply in person only. No Phone Calls please.

PIZZA INN

Now hiring delivery drivers. Apply in person, 1702 Gregg. No phone calls please. 263-1381

Gills Fried Chicken has immediate openings for day & evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 1101 Gregg St.

Express Medical Supply has a full-time position available for a medical equipment service technician. Candidates must be a high school graduate or have a GED. Must be 21 years of age and have a clean driving record. Must be able to perform medical equipment deliveries and perform minor equipment repairs and maintenance. Position requires weekend and evening on-call duties. Good benefits and salary depends on experience. Applications accepted; Express Medical Supply 1210 S. Gregg Big Spring, Tx. 79720 1915-267-6994 or 1-800-829-1408 or fax to 915-267-6997. Monday - Friday 8-5pm.

WEST TEXAS CENTERS for MHMR has opening for Accounting Clerk. High school graduation or GED plus (20 years of experience performing bookkeeping and accounting functions. Typing and Excel test will be required. Performs moderately complex bookkeeping and clerical work in accounting and fiscal record keeping. Must meet requirements for operating agency vehicles. Salary \$655.85 biweekly 9-2pm. \$17.052 annually. Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels. E.O.E.

FOR RENT

407 1/2 East 8th 2 - 1 bdrm Eff Apt. Stove + Ref. \$250 + Deposit.

710 Nolan

3 bdrm - 2 bath, Central HVAC, Stove + Ref, Washer & Dryer Conn. Very Clean! \$450 + deposit.

NO HUD You Pay Bills 267-2296

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission (PBPRC) is soliciting proposals for ESL (English as a second language) classes. To request a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) call the PBPRC at (915) 563-1061, or write to PBPRC, P.O. Box 60660, Midland, Texas, 79711. Attn: Donna Harrison 2554 December 5, 1999

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SUNDAY, DEC. 5:

You easily read between the lines this year. Be just as wise about yourself and your feelings. Go within to think and center. Your mind is filled with constant chatter and activity. You clearly gain another perspective by stopping and reflecting. Others find you unpredictable. If you are single, you are likely to encounter someone who is mysterious and alluring. You'll feel that you can talk to this person. Love could happen this summer. If attached, you need private time together to center and share your feelings. These periods build your relationship. SCORPIO reads you cold.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

****Mull over unexpected developments, with an eye to what could be. Try again with a partner, and you'll get a whole new set of reactions. Communication finally flourishes. You can make peace where there has been war. Tonight: Close the emotional gap.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

****Step back and let others talk about what ails them. You could be surprised by what you hear. You'll feel renewed, with a new sense of direction. Another's smile melts barriers and brings the two of you closer. Listen to the other side of a story. Tonight: Defer to another.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

****Get into a project. Make a decision about your next course of action. Pace yourself. Understand others' ways of thinking. Initiate conversations. Someone you work with is most appealing. Talk about your feelings in a clear, direct manner. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

****Your creativity is high; your gentle side emerges when dealing with a child or loved one. Allow caring to flow; let conversations happen. You gain a renewed sense of direction. A relationship sizzles. You'll like what another offers. Tonight: Enjoy loved ones.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)