

**MONDAY**

**November 5, 2001**

**WEATHER**

**Tonight:**



**PARTLY CLOUDY**

**TONIGHT TOMORROW**  
**50°-52° 70°-75°**

**Early voting continues in recall election**

Early voting in the city-wide recall election of Mayor Russ McEwen continues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Tuesday at the office of City Secretary Tom Ferguson.

Only registered voters who are residents of Big Spring may vote in this election.

The election will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday in the City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth St.

For more information call Ferguson's office at 264-2513.

**New Coahoma Park group to hold meeting**

The newly-forming Coahoma Park Improvement Committee will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Coahoma's First Bank of West Texas meeting room.

The committee is looking for citizens interested in improving Coahoma's City Park.

If you cannot attend but would like to be involved, or for more information, call Irene at 394-4424 or Lori at the bank, 394-4256.

**WHAT'S UP...**

**TODAY**

Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m., at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics.

Gospel singing, 7 p.m., Kentwood Center, 2805 Lynn.

Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third at the Bingo hall.

Big Spring Chapter and Council RAM meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Building, 221 1/2 Main.

District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

**TUESDAY**

Intermediate Line Dance class, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center.

Coahoma Senior Citizens luncheon at 11 a.m., Coahoma Community Center.

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## Polls open all day Tuesday for amendments election

**HERALD Staff Report**

Polls open at 7 a.m. Tuesday in six Howard County locations for an election to determine the fate of 19 proposed amendments to the state constitution.

The polls will remain open until 7 p.m.

Citizens should check their voter registration cards for the precinct number in order to determine the correct voting location.

In one change from a previously released list of polling places, the Howard County clerk's office reported today that those residents within precinct 405 will vote at the Coahoma Community Center instead of the fire station at 11th Street and Birdwell in Big Spring.

Among the amendments are Proposition 8, which supporters contend would benefit Big Spring State Hospital and the state park system, and Proposition 7, which would allow the Veterans' Land Board to issue bonds for veterans' housing assistance and to use assets to provide for cemeteries for veterans.

Proposition 15 would provide additional financing for the construction and reconstruction of state highways while Proposition 19 would provide funds to develop water resources.

There are 18,592 registered voters in Howard County. Some 609 ballots were cast in the early voting period, which ended Friday.

Precincts 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112 — Northside Fire Station

**POLLING PLACES**

Precincts 202, 203, 204, 205 — Goliad Middle School

Precincts 207, 405, 407, 408, 409 — Coahoma Community Center

Precincts 208, 304 — Elbow School

Precincts 301, 302, 303, 305, 306 — Wasson Road Fire Station

Precincts 401, 402, 403, 404, 406, 410 — 11th Street and Birdwell Fire Station

## Light display gets \$7,000 boost

### Committee seeks some extra help

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

The Comanche Trail Festival of Lights committee will add approximately \$7,000 in electrical supply upgrades to the Comanche Trail Park dam area for this year's event.

According to Gloria McDonald, publicity chair for the Festival of Lights, an electrical pole and transformer will be added to the dam area to provide electrical access for the lighted displays.

"In the past, it has been difficult and often in some cases impossible to light certain areas due to no power source in that area," McDonald said.

The committee has continuously upgraded the electrical supply to improve the more than 250,000-light display that decorates the park each Christmas season, she said.

Each year's upgrade comes from the donations of those who tour the Festival of Lights, an event that draws thousands of people to Big Spring.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
**Pat Simmons, left, and Gloria McDonald, both of the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights, check to make sure the light strings on this display is in working order. The Festival of Lights will be adding approximately \$7,000 in electrical upgrades at Comanche Trail Park.**

"This is a gift back to the community," she said. "People from 33 states and several countries visited us last year."

McDonald said the Festival of Lights illuminates the natural beauty of

the spring and the park as a whole.

"We, in Big Spring, are emulating the tradition of a great European city, which has long used elegant lighting to show off its rich architectural heritage," McDonald said.

"Big

Spring, in so doing, further establishes a newborn local tradition to attract regional and state neighbors and tourists to make our city a part of their Christmas seasonal travel destination."

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## Local residents to help put on opry in Odessa

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Several Big Spring residents are set to show off their talents at the Grand New Odessa Opry in Odessa for its third annual



Thanksgiving **THIBEAULT** Special.  
Big Spring residents

Linda Lindell, Carol Boyd, Kathleen Tedesco and Jackie Henry, along with the Big Spring Gospel Group whose members are Donell Hendrickson, Raford Dunagan, Johnny Moore, Ned Crandall and Lawrence Thibeault, are scheduled to perform for the event.

These entertainers performed in the variety concert West Texas Musical Revue held on Aug. 18 in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

"This event is a variety concert again," said

Thibeault. "We perform a little bit of everything from country, rock n' roll, gospel and show tunes."

The event begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Globe Theatre located on the Odessa Community College campus. Admission is \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door.

The three-hour show is a popular one, drawing hundreds to the Globe Theatre.

"People really pack the auditorium," he said. "It always gets a good crowd."

According to Thibeault, the Grand New Odessa Opry began as a way of supporting the Globe Theatre productions and has drawn musicians from around the state and outside.

"People from all over Texas and New Mexico have performed at the Grand New Odessa Opry," he said.

The love of music and entertaining brings performers back every year, Thibeault said.

"All the performers are strictly volunteer. They do

## 'Art Smart' designed to raise children's creativity

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**  
Herald Correspondent

Is your child the next Picasso or Rembrandt?

Maybe not, but it never hurts to let them flex their creativity a little.

The Heritage Museum can help, with "Get Art Smart," a free art class for children ages 3-12.



**PURCELL**

As a tie-in with a watercolor exhibit on display through the end of this month, the museum will host the class on Saturday from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

"We want to do some more educational kinds of things," said curator Beth Purcell. "An art exhibit is educational in itself, but we want to bring more to it."

The class will allow young artists to explore their creative side, said teacher Garon Wennik.

All those who participate will make a "faux watercolor" all their own.

"This is a collage medium," explained Wennik.

Children will cut or tear pieces of tissue paper and glue them onto a paper canvas. When they add water using a paintbrush, the tissue paper colors meld, creating a watercolor look.

While they're creating a design unique to their vision, these new art-smart youngsters can also look around at the exhibit of paintings by local artists.

The Caboose Watercolor Society show hangs at the Heritage Museum until

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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
**Forsan High School band students race towards the charter buses on Sunday to find a seat for the trip to Waco and the state marching contest. Pictured are front to back Becky Zubiate, Megan Knight, Ashley Pierce and Karissa Reed. The band performed its show at 12:56 p.m. today at Waco ISD Stadium.**



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
**Big Spring High School Band students Victoria Zermeno, left and Tanya Aduemilli carry their luggage to a charter bus on Sunday. Band members left around 11 a.m. for state marching contest in Waco with several supporters following the buses. The band took the field for contest preliminaries at 10:15 a.m. today.**

# N O V 0 5 2 0 0 1



# U.S. bombing Taliban front lines, sending in more special forces

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. aircraft dropped bombs on Taliban front lines close to four key cities in northern Afghanistan, including Mazar-e-Sharif, where the anti-Taliban northern alliance says it has launched a major offensive. The bombing focuses on targets near Bagram, Taloan and Kunduz, in addition to Mazar-e-Sharif, the Pentagon said Sunday. The Taliban militia have forces arrayed against the northern alliance in all of those areas. Caves and tunnels suspected as hide-outs for the Taliban and the al-Qaida terror network also

were targeted by U.S. aircraft. Mazar-e-Sharif was lost by the rebels to the Taliban in 1998. Retaking it would open a major supply route for the northern alliance from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. To aid the rebels, more U.S. special forces also have entered Afghanistan in the last few days, Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "The more teams we get on the ground, the more effectively we'll bring (opposition rebels) power to bear on the Taliban lines,"

Myers said. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said last week he hoped to at least triple the number of special forces troops inside Afghanistan, now believed to number between 100 and 200. The general commanding U.S. operations in Afghanistan said their purpose is "to provide an advantage to opposition leaders with whom we share a common objective." "We synchronize our activities with their activities," Army Gen. Tommy Franks, head of the U.S. Central Command, said on ABC's "This Week."

The Taliban government is weakening but still controls substantial troops that will take time to thin out and conquer, top U.S. commanders said. "We're setting in for the long haul," Myers said. Through the winter, the United States will supply the rebels with ammunition, food and cold-weather fighting gear, he said. "We think that they have every chance of prevailing." During a visit to India on Monday, Rumsfeld said that with more U.S. military teams on the ground in Afghanistan to direct aircraft, "the effectiveness of

bombing is improving every day." He also said he didn't think the operation would take years and that it would be completed in "the least possible time." Myers said the United States has taken out Taliban air defenses, transportation for resupplying their troops and their communications. "They have a substantial force left, but at this point that's exactly what we expected," he said. The generals declined to say whether it would take a major deployment of U.S. ground forces to topple the Taliban. Franks said he

would not rule out the use of large numbers of troops. He also said the United States would listen to its allies on whether to conduct the war during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins around Nov. 17. "I think we'd be awfully foolish to not listen to people who have joined with us in this campaign," Franks said. President Bush indicated last week the campaign would not ease during Ramadan. "The enemy won't rest during Ramadan and neither will we," he said.

## Hurricane Michelle spares Florida after causing 12 deaths elsewhere

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — The outer edges of Hurricane Michelle brushed Florida today as the storm headed toward the Bahamas, sparing the state from the havoc and destruction it produced in Cuba. "The good news is this: It looks like Michelle is just giving us a fringe effect. I would not expect any significant damage," said Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Early this morning, Michelle was centered about 175 miles southeast of Miami or 70 miles southwest of Nassau, the Bahamas. It was moving toward the northeast at 17

mph with maximum sustained wind of 80 mph. A tropical storm warning was lifted for the middle and lower Keys and Dry Tortugas early today, but remained in effect for the Atlantic coast of Florida from the upper Keys north to Jupiter Inlet. A gale warning was posted from Jupiter Inlet north to Cocoa Beach, just south of Cape Canaveral. Miami Beach reported sustained wind of 43 mph — above the minimum tropical storm force, 39 mph — with higher gusts early Monday. Gusts to 45 mph were reported at Marathon in the Keys. "This is not really any-

thing big for us," Key West bartender Patrick Winters said early Monday as he waded barefoot in foot-deep water while light rain fell. Rain fell along the Atlantic shore from the Miami area north past West Palm Beach, and showers were scattered over the Keys. When the storm hit Cuba on Sunday, its sustained wind was clocked at 135 mph. Authorities evacuated 750,000 people as the storm knocked out communications and electricity. There were no immediate reports of casualties. The storm was blamed for 12 deaths last week in Honduras, Nicaragua and Jamaica.

## Bus rolls after passenger attacks; 33 hurt

CASA GRANDE, Ariz. (AP) — A Greyhound bus passenger apparently frustrated that he couldn't smoke tried to wrest control of the steering wheel away from the driver, sending the bus careening out of control at 70 mph. The bus rolled over on a freeway, injuring 33 people, one critically. It was the third time in a month that a passenger tried to commandeer one of the Dallas-based company's buses. Charles George, of Phoenix, faces 37 counts of aggravated assault for the incident on a Florida-bound bus outside Phoenix early Sunday.

"We believe there was some mental instability we were dealing with," said Steve Volden, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Public Safety. George, who was not armed, was treated for facial cuts at Casa Grande Regional Hospital and taken into custody. No other vehicles were involved. Authorities said George apparently became angry at the driver after he was told to extinguish his cigarette. George, who is about 40 years old, lit up a cigarette as the bus was about 50 miles south of Phoenix. He became upset when two off-duty bus drivers riding in

the vehicle told him that he couldn't smoke, Volden said. He went to the front of the bus and banged on the door of the vehicle. Unable to open the door, the man grabbed the steering wheel and tried to take control of the bus, Volden said. The bus went off the pavement. The driver tried to steer it back onto the highway but the vehicle rolled over onto its side, Volden said. The driver, whose identity was not immediately available, was hospitalized in stable condition. One of the injured passengers was listed in critical condition.

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