

# TRAGEDY STRIKES AGAIN

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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We're Always There

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

SUNDAY

February 2, 2003

## WEATHER

Today:



TODAY 81°-83° TONIGHT 44°-46°

## INSIDE



### A CONDUCTOR'S STORY

Keith Graumann's musical talent lifted him from the rugged oil fields of West Texas to the rustic Italian landscape before his dreams came crashing down.

Page 1B



### FIGHTING CRIME

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, week in and week out, they're there, solving crimes, apprehending criminals and maintaining order on our streets. In its Community Impact Series, the Big Spring Herald begins a four-week salute to law enforcement and emergency responders today with a layout on the Big Spring Police Department.

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# Shuttle Columbia explodes on return



Riding piggyback on a 747, NASA space shuttle Columbia takes a pit stop at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene on March 3, 2001, while en route from California to Florida.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Columbia broke apart in flames 200,000 feet over Texas on Saturday, killing all seven astronauts just minutes before they were to glide to a landing in Florida.

"Columbia is lost, there are no survivors," President Bush announced to a stunned nation.

Bill Readdy, NASA's associate administrator for space flight and a former shuttle commander, said it was too early to speculate about what had destroyed Columbia. A senior U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was no immediate indication of terrorism.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe, his voice breaking at times, said Bush had talked to the

## MORE ON 6-7A

- Witnesses tell of 'fire in the sky'
- Debris scattered across wide area
- Health officials warn of exposure
- Texas mourns loss of native sons
- Rep. Hall grieves over friends' deaths

families of the astronauts who had been waiting at Kennedy Space Center for the crew's return.

"We trust the prayers of the nation will be with them and with their families," O'Keefe said. "A more courageous group of

See TRAGEDY Page 1A

## Counselors: Feelings of grief and depression normal

By ROGER CLINE  
Staff Writer

With a national tragedy like the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster, people far removed from the actual event may find themselves experiencing strong emotions of grief and depression.

Such reactions are understandable and

normal, said Janet Payne and Shannon Nabors, counselors with the West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation in Big Spring.

"I think any event that affects the nation as a whole can have an affect on the citizens or any part of the communi-

"It's like most things. If children ask questions, one can be open and honest and supportive. The supportive part is very, very important"

Janet Payne

MHMR counselor



ty," Nabors said. "A lot of times it depends on how that person's life at that time, it will be a little harder on them. For some people this has been a real tragic couple of years, what with 9-11, and then the fact that we're probably going to war, a lot of bad things happening. Then when something like this happens, it just kind of gets to them more."

The event was a blow to our national pride in much the same way the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, but that attack included an added element of personal fear, Nabors said.

"Sept. 11 was very See GRIEF Page 5A

## Movie Gallery robbed a second time

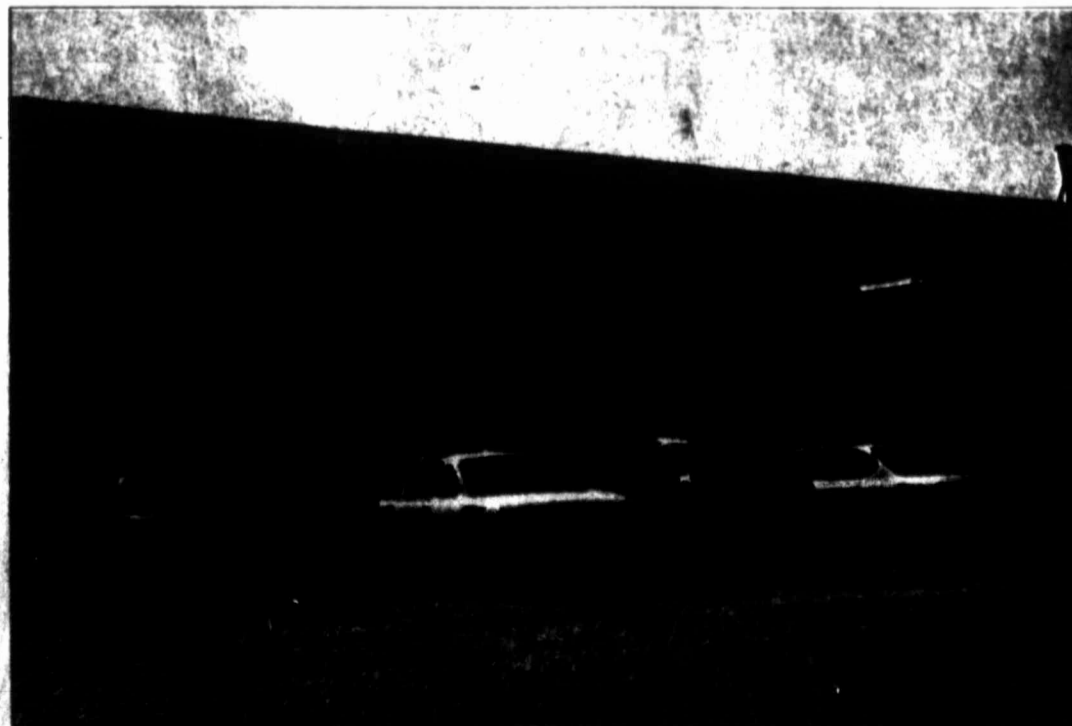
By ROGER CLINE  
Staff Writer

Big Spring's Movie Gallery video shop was struck by a robber Friday, the second time in three days.

In the latest incident, a man allegedly robbed the store about noon Friday, said Big Spring Police Sgt. Roger Sweatt. "He demanded money and showed the woman what she believed was a handgun," Sweatt said. "She didn't know if it was a revolver or an automatic. He just raised his shirt and had it stuck down in his waistband. She wasn't sure whether it was a real gun or whatever."

The clerk gave the man an undetermined amount of money and he fled the scene.

"He was last seen running north and then across FM 700, in that



For the second time in three days, the Movie Gallery was robbed on Friday. The suspect was last seen wearing gray overalls with blue stripes and a blue cap.

direction," Sweatt said. "He was last seen wearing gray coveralls with blue stripes and a blue

cap. That's about it." Witnesses couldn't provide a more detailed description, he added.

"They were pretty shook," he said. "This

See ROBBERY, Page 3A

## Teen to go on trial for man's death

By ROGER CLINE  
Staff Writer

Big Spring teen Melanie Castaneda is scheduled to stand trial this week for her suspected part in the July 30 killing of Harlan Jene Patton.

Castaneda, 18 — 17 when she was arrested — was scheduled to stand trial Jan. 21 but that trial date was postponed until Tuesday to allow the defense time to examine newly-disclosed evidence.

"It was necessary in order to give Wayne Frost, the defense lawyer, enough time to examine a video tape that might be a central part of the case," said Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr shortly after the postponement. "In

See TRIAL, Page 3A

FEBRUARY 2003

# A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

## Obituaries

### Elaine McNorton



Elaine McNorton, 67, of Big Spring, died at 11:47 a.m. Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Memorial services were at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers and Smith Chapel with the Rev. Roy Roberson officiating.

She was born Aug. 22, 1935, in New York. She married William "Mac" McNorton, May 6, 1976, in Big Spring. Mrs. McNorton had been a resident of Big Spring for 30 years, coming from Philadelphia, Pa. She was a Jehovah's Witness. Mrs. McNorton was a nurse's aid, having worked at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Big Spring State Hospital, Cowper Hospital and Nurses Unlimited. She was also a seamstress.

She is survived by her husband, William McNorton of Big Spring; three sons: Kearney Littlejohn and his wife Diane of Morrisville, Charles Littlejohn and his wife Carolyn of Jacksonville, Fla., and Morris "Ricky" Littlejohn of Philadelphia, Pa.; three sisters: Kay Christian of Tampa, Fla., Julia Moore of Tampa, Fla., and Ida Cruz of New York; three brothers: Morris Broddus, of Wichita Falls, Richard Broddus, of St. Louis, Mo., and Henry Broddus, of Tampa, Fla.

She was preceded in death by her husband: Kearney Littlejohn; her father: Morris Broddus; her mother: Mabel Cooper Broddus; and one sister: Melvina Hopper.

Arrangements were by Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

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She is survived by her husband, William McNorton of Big Spring; three sons: Kearney Littlejohn and his wife Diane of Morrisville, Charles Littlejohn and his wife Carolyn of Jacksonville, Fla., and Morris "Ricky" Littlejohn of Philadelphia, Pa.; three sisters: Kay Christian of Tampa, Fla., Julia Moore of Tampa, Fla., and Ida Cruz of New York; three brothers: Morris Broddus, of Wichita Falls, Richard Broddus, of St. Louis, Mo., and Henry Broddus, of Tampa, Fla.

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Arrangements were by Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

### Daniel "Camote" Marquez Jr.

Daniel "Camote" Marquez Jr., 45, of Big Spring, died at 1:05 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a sudden illness. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Sunday at Myers and Smith. Graveside services will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday at Mount Olive Memorial Park with Rev. James Plagens officiating.

He was born May 5, 1957, in Big Spring and was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He was employed at Dolphin Pools for many years and later at Solitaire Homes.

He is survived by his wife, Felicia Marquez of Big Spring; four sons: Ramiro Marquez, Christopher Marquez, David Hernandez, all of Big Spring, and Zachary Martinez of Dallas; three daughters, Apolonia Valencia, Clarissa Valencia, and Anastasia Marquez, all of Big Spring; his parents, Benita Marquez and Daniel Marquez Sr., both of Big Spring; four sisters, Betty Muniz and Lupe Diaz, both of Fort Worth, Irene Lara of Lubbock and Yolanda Vela of Big Spring; six brothers, Ted Diaz Sr., Andrew Marquez, David Marquez and Carlos Marquez, all of Big Spring, Martin Diaz of Waco and Benito Diaz of Midland, Mich.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Felipe and Gomezdio Diaz.

Burials are David Marquez, Ernesto Muniz, James Castillo, Lynn Fernal, Frank Rosales and Raymond Gutierrez.

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### Lester Crawford

Lester Crawford, 71, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at the Hospice House Facility in Odessa. Graveside funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, at Brown Ranch Cemetery in Coleman County with Elwin Collom, chaplain with Home Hospice of Big Spring, officiating.

He was born on April 7, 1928, in Coleman County. Mr. Crawford lived in Big Spring for the past 20 years. He worked in the oilfield most of his life as a tool dresser, mechanic and also as a driller. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include three sons, Don Crawford and wife Melinda and Ron Crawford and wife Onie all of Moscow, Idaho, and Lester D. Crawford of Poulosbo, Wash.; one daughter, Connie Crawford of Powell, Wyo.; one brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Irene Crawford of Big Spring; five sisters, Bernice Couch of Plainview, Mildred Bennett of Eules, Nadine Faulks of Sulphur Springs, Shirley Hintner and husband Bernard of Stephenville and Billie Freeman and husband Bill of Eules; five grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Lester was preceded in death by his parents, M. N. (Bud) & Amy Morgan Crawford, his twin brother Vester Crawford and one grandson.

The family suggests memorials be made to Home Hospice, 600 S. Gregg St., Big Spring, 79720.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

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## Support groups

**SUNDAY**  
 □ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

□ Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

**MONDAY**  
 □ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Open meeting on fourth floor at VA Medical Center from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

□ TOPS Club TX 21 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), weigh in at 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m. at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 West Third.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Friday until noon Saturday:

- **JUAN LUIZ VALBUENA**, 25, of 618 Caylor was arrested on a charge of driving with a suspended license.
- **CHARLES KILLCREASE**, 36, of 538 Westover Road was arrested on 10 local warrants.
- **THOMAS LAWRENCE HORTON**, 29, of 1619 Harding was arrested on a charge of driving with an invalid license.
- **LISA MARIE YANEZ**, 20, of 1504 Wood was arrested on six local warrants.
- **STARLA MARIE MENDOZA**, 24, of 901 E. Sixth St. was arrested on three local warrants.
- **JOSEPH IAN SEELY**, 24, of 1321 Tucson was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated — open container.
- **PAUL GRAY DAVIS**, 41, of 107 W. Ninth St. was arrested on a Howard County Sheriff's Office warrant.
- **ELEX CALVIN MARION**, 30, of 411 N.E. 10th St. was arrested on four local warrants.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1000 block of East FM 700, the 1200 block of South Goliad Street, the 300 block of South Owens and the 1500 block of South Gregg Street.
- **DISTURBANCE OR FIGHT** was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Place.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 600 block of McEwen Street, the 1100 block of Blackmon and the 500 block of North Johnson.
- **SHOTS FIRED** was reported in the 800 block of East 18th Street.
- **DRAGRACING/RECKLESS DRIVING** was reported in the 1900 block of Apron Drive.
- **ANIMAL PROBLEM** was reported in the 1300 block of Wood.

## Lottery

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon by the Texas Lottery, in order:

- 1-8-2
- Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:  
 Winning numbers drawn: 9-19-28-30. Bonus Ball: 30.  
 Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 2.  
 Prize: \$212,500.  
 Winning ticket(s) sold in: San Antonio, Arlington  
 Number matching four of four: 12. Prize: \$1,608.  
 Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 45.  
 Prize: \$55.  
 Number matching three of four: 1,797. Prize: \$19.  
 Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1,084.  
 Prize: \$21.  
 Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 6,930.  
 Prize: \$7.  
 Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 11,580. Prize: \$5.  
 Estimated jackpot for Tuesday night drawing: \$200,000.
- Results of the Cash Five drawing Friday night:  
 Winning numbers drawn: 4-21-29-32-35  
 Number matching five of five: 1.  
 Prize per winner: \$63,267.  
 Winning tickets sold in: San Antonio.  
 Matching four of five: 169. Prize: \$169  
 Matching three of five: 5,576. Prize: \$11.  
 Matching two of five: 59,120. Prize: \$2.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:  
 0-3-7

## Weather

Today... Windy and warm. Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. Southwest winds 20 to 30 mph.  
 Sunday night... Windy. Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s.  
 Monday... Windy and colder. Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 50s.  
 Tuesday... Partly cloudy. Lows around 30. Highs in the upper 50s.  
 Wednesday... Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the lower 60s.  
 Thursday... Mostly cloudy and colder. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs in the upper 40s.  
 Friday... Mostly cloudy and cold. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the lower 40s.

## Take note

- **SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH**, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy. Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.
- **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM**, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.  
 If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you.  
 About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.  
 If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.
- **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused and neglected.  
 For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

## Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald Features Desk at 263-7331, ext. 239 or email [jmcseely@cscom.net](mailto:jmcseely@cscom.net).

**SUNDAY**  
 Hangar 25 Air Museum, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**MONDAY**  
 District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring, noon, 610 Scurry.

Senior Circle, Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics, 4 p.m., SMMC. People 50 years of age and older are invited to participate, call 268-4721.

Concerned Citizens, 7 p.m., Fiberflex Conference Room, Bethel St. in the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. Everyone is invited.

Howard County ARC, Bingo Hall, 806 E. Third, call 264-0674.

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

**TUESDAY**  
 Intermediate Line Dance class, 9 a.m., Spring City Senior Center, 267-1628.

Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Evening Lions Club, noon, Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park.

Alzheimer's Association, Greater West Texas Chapter, 2 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. The chapter will be presenting as part of its caregiver series "Emotions of Alzheimer's Disease."

VFW Post 2013, 7 p.m., VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

Sheriff's Posse, 7 p.m., Clubhouse on Andrews Highway.

Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

American Red Cross, 7 p.m. Canterbury South, 1609 Lancaster.

**WEDNESDAY**  
 Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard County Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Senior Circle, Stretch and Tone, 9:30 a.m., SMMC classroom.

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Line Dancing, 1 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park, 267-6966 or 267-1628.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 203 W. Third.

**THURSDAY**  
 Gideon International, Big Spring Camp, U42060, 7 a.m., Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg St.

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1706 E. FM-700.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 267-6479.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

Masonic Lodge 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

**FRIDAY**  
 AMBUCS, noon, Brandin Iron Inn, 3101 S. Highway 87.

Greater Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College, HC Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Spring City Senior Citizen's Country and Western Dance, 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park. All area seniors are invited.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**  
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 Reflecting A Proud Community

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**TRAGEDY**  
 Continued from...

people you hoped to know families of members, a nary, ex group of astr gave their liv Neither he took reporter The six Am one Israeli, th first astronau aboard Colum minutes fro when the sh apart. They expected to Florida at 9: a.m., Missi abruptly lost voice contac shuttle and same time, Texas, Ark Louisiana re ing "a big ba ing flames in The final mission betw Control and gave no indic trouble. Mission radioed: Houston, we pressure me we did not last." Columbia's Rick Husba responds: "R Then the t goes silent fo onds, follow Military sa infrared dete ed several Columbia b according to official who s condition of a was unclesa those "spike indicated ar the burning debris re-e atmosphere c else. Television showed a bra lowed by sm streaking th sky. Debris break off ir balls of light ued downwar In Nacogd dents found strewn acro Dentist Jeff F a metal bra foot long h through his c "It's a Nacogdoches ber shop of Milford. "Th al little piece of machiner been a lot of 3 feet wide." Hours after had been l and, the gla the front Control show the Southw States and have been flight path. next to the ce down clock to half-staff. "A contin space shutt declared," Control som ed over an Houston. At Kenn Center, O'Ke the astronau Six of the nauts were five of them NASA off while, warn the ground from any debris. EPA Joe Martyak

BY THE MONTH Events and monthly; \$99.95 10% discount to MAJ. SUB \$12.00 monthly. Circulation: 813.2 The Herald is Associated Press Circulation, An Association of Periodicals in Spring, Texas.

POSTMASTER: If address to: P.O. Box 1431, 79721.

TRAGEDY

Continued from Page 1A

people you could not have hoped to know than the families of these crew members, an extraordinary, extraordinary group of astronauts who gave their lives."

Neither he nor Readdy took reporters' questions.

The six Americans and one Israeli, that country's first astronaut, who were aboard Columbia were 16 minutes from landing when the shuttle broke apart. They had been expected to touch down in Florida at 9:16 a.m. At 9 a.m., Mission Control abruptly lost all data and voice contact with the shuttle and crew: At the same time, residents of Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana reported hearing "a big bang" and seeing flames in the sky.

The final radio transmission between Mission Control and the shuttle gave no indication of any trouble.

Mission Control radioed: "Columbia, Houston, we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last."

Columbia's commander, Rick Husband, calmly responds: "Roger, huh..." Then the transmission goes silent for several seconds, followed by static.

Military satellites with infrared detectors recorded several flashes as Columbia broke apart, according to a defense official who spoke only on condition of anonymity. It was unclear whether those "spikes" of heat indicated an explosion, the burning of pieces of debris re-entering the atmosphere or something else.

Television footage showed a bright light followed by smoke plumes streaking through the sky. Debris appeared to break off into separate balls of light as it continued downward.

In Nacogdoches, residents found bits of metal strewn across the city. Dentist Jeff Hancock said a metal bracket about a foot long had crashed through his office roof.

"It's all over Nacogdoches," said barber shop owner James Milford. "There are several little pieces, some parts of machinery ... there's been a lot of pieces about 3 feet wide."

Hours after the shuttle had been expected to land, the giant screen at the front of Mission Control showed a map of the Southwest United States and what should have been Columbia's flight path. The U.S. flag next to the center's countdown clock was lowered to half-staff.

"A contingency for the space shuttle has been declared," Mission Control somberly repeated over and over from Houston.

At Kennedy Space Center, O'Keefe met with the astronauts' families. Six of the seven astronauts were married, and five of them had children.

NASA officials, meanwhile, warned people on the ground to stay away from any fallen shuttle debris. EPA spokesman Joe Martyak said he did-

n't know what toxic chemicals could be amid the debris because the shuttle can undergo reactions from the intense heat of reentry.

The shuttle flight was the 113th in the shuttle program's 22 years and the 28th flight for Columbia, NASA's oldest shuttle.

In 42 years of U.S. human space flight, there had never been an accident during the descent to Earth or landing. On Jan. 28, 1986, space shuttle Challenger exploded shortly after liftoff.

The shuttle is essentially a glider during the hour-long decent from orbit toward the landing strip. It is covered by about 20,000 thermal tiles to protect against temperatures as high as 3,000 degrees.

On Jan. 16, shortly after Columbia lifted off, a piece of insulating foam on its external fuel tank came off and was believed to have hit the left wing of the shuttle. Leroy Cain, the lead flight director in Mission Control, assured reporters Friday that engineers had concluded that any damage to the wing was considered minor and posed no safety hazard.

The shuttle was at an altitude of about 203,000 feet over north-central Texas, traveling at 12,500 mph, when Mission Control lost all contact and tracking data. Readdy said the speed was equivalent to Mach 18, or 18 times the speed of sound.

Gary Hunziker in Plano said he saw the shuttle flying overhead.

"I could see two bright objects flying off each side of it," he told The Associated Press. "I just assumed they were chase jets."

"The barn started shaking and we ran out and started looking around," said Benjamin Laster of Kemp. "I saw a puff of vapor and smoke and saw big chunk of material fall."

Former astronaut John Glenn and his wife were watching on television at their home in Maryland.

"Anytime you lose contact like that, there's some big problem. Of course, once you went for several minutes without any contact, you knew something was terribly wrong," Glenn said.

The Columbia crew was relatively inexperienced. Only three of the seven had flown in space before: the shuttle's commander, Husband; Michael Anderson; and Kalpana Chawla. The other four were rookies: pilot William McCool, David Brown, Laurel Clark and Ilan Ramon.

Security had been extra-

ordinarily tight for their 16-day scientific research mission because of the presence of Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut.

Ramon, 48, a colonel in Israel's air force and former fighter pilot, had survived two wars. He became the first man from his country to fly in space, and his presence resulted in an increase in security, not only for Columbia's launch, but also for its planned landing. Space agency officials feared his presence might make the shuttle more of a terrorist target.

"The state of Israel and its citizens are as one at this difficult time," Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office said in a statement.

A senior U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said no specific threats had been made against the shuttle and that it would have been out of range of a surface-to-air missile at the time.

Dr. Yael Barr of the Israeli Aerospace Medicine Institute was waiting at the landing strip for the astronauts' return.

"When the countdown clock, when it got to zero and then started going, instead of counting down, counting up and they were still not there, I told my friend, 'I have a bad feeling. I think they are gone.' And I was in tears," Barr said.

Columbia's crew had completed 80-plus scientific research experiments during their time in orbit.

Just in the past week, NASA observed the anniversary of its only two other space tragedies, the Challenger explosion, which killed all seven astronauts on board, and the Apollo spacecraft fire that killed three on Jan. 27, 1967.

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

order for the tape to be possibly admitted into evidence we had to give him that tape 20 days in advance of trial. Due to the way things worked out that wasn't possible with the prior trial setting. So the judge (Robert Moore III) reset the case for Feb. 4, which will allow Mr. Frost to have the trial for at least 20 days."

District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson will prosecute the case, while Frost, whose office is in Midland, will defend Castaneda. July selection is to begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday.

Patton's body was discovered in a field off Rock House Road July 30. Autopsy results indicated the cause of death was asphyxiation by strangulation.

Tommy Rodriguez, 16,

has also been charged with capital murder for Patton's slaying and has been certified to stand trial as an adult for the crime. Rodriguez will be prosecuted separately from Castaneda. His trial is scheduled for Feb. 18.

Three other Big Spring teens will face first-degree murder charges in connection with the killing of Lennon Lane, 16, of Big Spring.

Michael Scott Jackman, 16, and Pedro Castillo, 16, have both been certified to stand trial as adults in the case. Jackman's brother, Terrell L. Jackman, 19, of Big Spring is also charged with the murder.

The three teens will stand trial together March 3.

Lane's body was discovered Aug. 5 in a field north of the intersection of 19th and State streets.

Autopsy results determined Lane died of blunt force trauma.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

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**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Daniel Marquez, Jr., 45, died Thursday. Visitation will be at Myers and Smith from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM Sunday. Vigil Services will be at 7:00 PM Sunday at Myers and Smith Chapel. Graveside Services will be at 11:30 AM Monday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.  
Elaine McNorton, 67, died Monday. Memorial Services were at 2:00 PM Saturday at Myers and Smith Chapel.

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Anyone with information about either of these crimes should call the Big Spring Police Department at 264-2550.

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ROBBERY

Continued from Page 1A

was their second one (robbery) in a couple of days."

The other robbery occurred about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday.

"A suspect came into the store and tried to walk out with a couple of Playstation games," Sweat said. "He was confronted and he became combative and struck a couple of witnesses a couple of times. Then he went out the door, broke (the door) and ran, followed by one of the witnesses. Officers caught him about a block away and arrested him."

The suspect, Randall Scott Adams, 44, was charged with robbery. He was later transferred from city jail to the Howard County Jail, where he is being held in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

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Perhaps you sang a lovely song, or sat quietly in a chair; Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers. If so, we saw them there. Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words As any friend could say; Perhaps you prepared some tasty food. Or maybe furnished a car; Perhaps you rendered a service unseen. Near at hand or from afar; Whatever you did to console the heart We thank you so much. Whatever the part. Special thanks to the Wal-Mart employees Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The Family of Isabel (Elizabeth) Rodriguez

**END OF GAME NOTICE**  
These games will be closing on March 2, 2003. You have until August 29, 2003, to redeem any winning tickets for these games.  
Cash Vault (Game #176)  
Wild Card Cash (Game #183)  
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You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at any one of the 22 Texas Lottery Claim Centers or by mail. Questions? Call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-377-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Hank Bond  
Publisher

BH McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# Tears will dry, but it will take plenty of time

The following editorial was written Saturday morning by Bill Morgan, publisher of the Jacksonville Daily Progress, a sister CNHI newspaper. Morgan was previously publisher of the Sweetwater Reporter.

Suddenly all else becomes remote. All our thoughts of possible war with Iraq, the worrisome economy, North Korea's nukes — it all moves to the back of our minds as we try to comprehend a tragedy like Saturday's Columbia disaster. It's a different emotion than we felt on that Sept. 11, as we watched the towers of the World Trade Center fall. Then, we felt so much anger toward the terrorists and it mixed strongly with all other emotions — our sorrow, disbelief and confusion — that it left us numb. Perhaps the numbness was our grief and disbelief masked by the strong anger.

But today we have no terrorists to blame for the tragedy that left shuttle debris lying on our highways, in our yards, our piney woods and the fields we farm for food. We may never know exactly what happened Saturday — how it came to be those seven astronauts, space travelers so close to home after a long journey, lost their lives. And if we do, it will bring no solace.

With the World Trade Center attack, we were at least able to gain some satisfaction, some small sense of closure as we watched our bombs fall on and around those in Afghanistan we are comfortably sure were at least in some sense responsible. We were able to wipe away the tears as our military went about its work.

For Saturday's Columbia tragedy, there will be no closure. There will be nothing but time to slowly erase what we've seen and what we feel today, the loss of life and the terrible blow to our pride for a space program this country has excelled in since it beat the Russians to the moon in the late 1960s.

And today, the tears run along the same path so recently cleared. Only this time, there will be no anger to help brush away the tears.

This time, they will have to dry with time.

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to [jmoseley@crcom.net](mailto:jmoseley@crcom.net) or to [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

By K. Rae Anderson

"Help us, Lord, during this time of sorrow. Send us strength through your grace and love."

Amen.

# We're getting the French kiss-off

Do the French owe the United States for saving its bacon in World War II? Mais oui. They at least owe us some respect, and the same benefit of the doubt that they are so happy to bestow on Saddam Hussein.

French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin's declaration that France would fight against a U.N. Security Council resolution to wage war on Iraq shows why many Americans don't see France as a true ally.

First, de Villepin's remarks have made war more likely, in that he eased international pressure on Saddam Hussein to step down. As The Washington Post reported, de Villepin looked down his nez at the notion of granting Hussein asylum outside Iraq. "Let us not be diverted from our objective," de Villepin sniffed. "It is the disarmament of Iraq."

As if Iraq is more likely to disarm with Hussein — a man who kills critics, tortures their children and gasses entire villages — in charge.

Saddam-ites such as de Villepin and U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix don't even pretend that Iraq is seriously complying with U.N.

Resolution 1441. How could they, when no weapons have been turned over? How could they, when U.N. inspectors discovered warheads for chemical weapons this month?

So the new argument, voiced by de Villepin in The Washington Post, is that "Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs are being largely blocked, even frozen." "Largely blocked?" That tells me de Villepin realizes that, even with inspectors, Iraq continues to upgrade its deadly arsenal when possible.

De Villepin told a reporter that France's Iraq policy is guided by four principles: justice, solidarity, morality and the law.

All four ideals are missing in action. Justice demands that Hussein, who has killed his own people, be driven from office. Solidarity was what the United Nations had when France and other nations voted unanimously to send inspectors to disarm Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction. Morality dictates that France stand by that vote.

The law? In November, the U.N. Security Council voted that if Iraq doesn't comply with Resolution 1441 to deliver its weapons of mass destruction, there will be "serious consequences."

What is France's idea of serious consequences for Hussein? Not being invited to Maxim's for din-

ner? Are serious consequences allowing Hussein to stall the inspectors? Or to bask in the pleasure of watching them make excuses for him? Or to enjoy the leisure of choosing the moment to shoo U.N. inspectors out of Iraq — and then get away with it?

An enemy couldn't concoct a more perfect formula for helping Iraq become as menacing as North Korea than our ally, France.

If "serious consequences" means more delays and opportunities to stonewall, then the United Nations is irrelevant as a peace-keeping body. It is an entity capable of nothing but half-measures, and thus incapable of battling leaders who kill en masse.

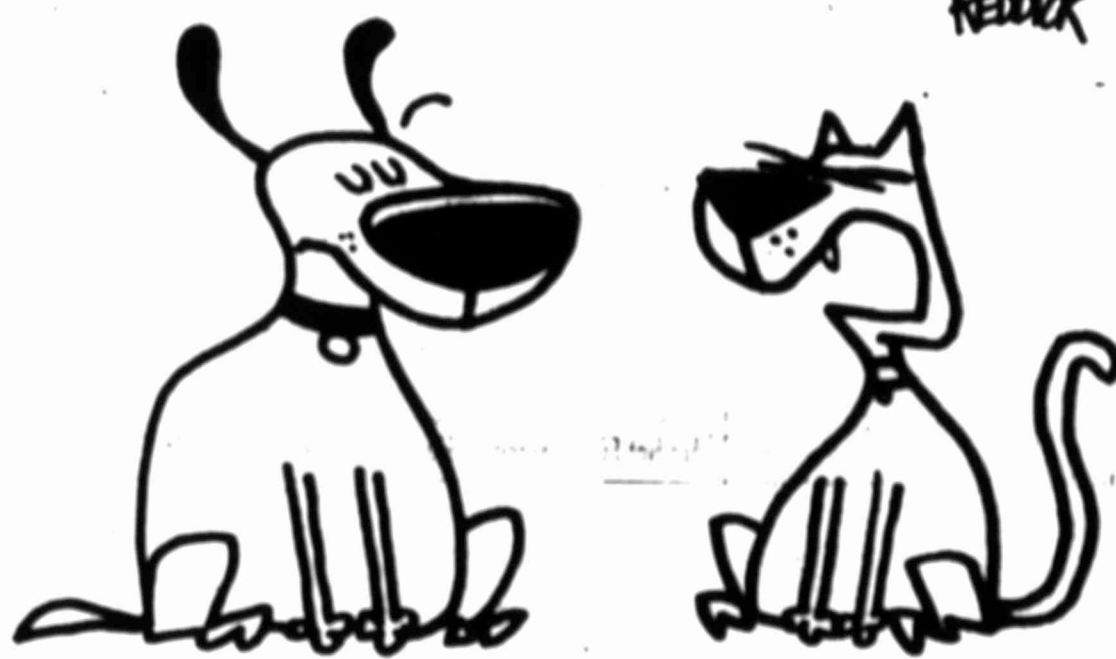
President Bush is right in his contention that America can wage this war, not alone, but with a smaller set of allies who will act on the threat of "serious consequences."

The sad part is that de Villepin's drivel helps Americans to forget the sacrifices and contributions — such as sending 4,500 troops to Afghanistan — the French have made.

That's a choice France is free to make. If the French and the United Nations want to prove they are irrelevant, that second-rate thugs can violate their inspectors with impunity and that the United States can win a war without them, well, so be it.



DEBRA SAUNDERS



"So dog is God spelled backward. Get over it!!!"

# When people are around us

Did you hear about the conceited nurse? She always subtracted 10 beats from the pulse count of each of her patients to compensate for the effects of her personality. In relation to this, here is a question that may be worth thinking about. When it comes to your personality, do you have a good one or does your personality have a way of turning other people off? You probably know he answer to this question and if you feel your personality could stand a little improvement, I would like to invite you to take the following personality self-rating scale. Since it is self-rating, be totally honest with yourself, because no one needs to see it but you.

There are 23 questions in this exercise, so please take a moment and rate yourself 1, 2, 3, or 4 on

each one. As you answer each question, give yourself 1 for poor, 2 for average, 3 for above average and 4 for superior. 1) Do I maintain a well groomed appearance? 2) Do I have a pleasing voice? 3) Is my posture alert and poised? 4) Is my disposition cheerful? 5) Do I make friends easily? 6) Do I exert positive leadership? 7) Am I generally thoughtful of the feelings of others? 8) Is my enthusiasm sincere and contagious? 9) Do I persevere until I achieve success? 10) Am I sincere in my interest in other people? 11) Am I ambitious to get ahead? 12) Do I get along well with others? 13) Do I react constructively to criticism? 14) Do I remember names and faces? 15) Am I punctual on all occasions? 16) Do I have and evidence a spirit of cooperation? 17) Am I free from prejudice? 18) Do I know how people react in most situations? 19) Am I generally a good listener? 20) Do I refuse to allow what other people say to hurt me? 21) Can I criticize without giving offense?

22) Am I reliable? 23) Can I adapt myself to all situations?

When you total up your answers, if your score was 70 or more, your personality rating is superior, 60 to 70 is above average, 50 to 60 is average and anything under 50 definitely shows some room for improvement. This is one of those personal development tools that I picked up at an education conference and I don't know who developed it, but it sure "hits the nail on the head." According to my large Funk & Wagnell Dictionary, the word personality means "distinctive qualities or characteristics of a person." In other words, it's what distinguishes or sets us apart from every other person, it's what makes us totally unique, unlike any other human being in the world.

If you will go back and re-read each of the 23 questions in this exercise, you will see many of these characteristics such as your appearance, your voice, your posture, your disposition, your thoughtfulness, your

memory, your enthusiasm, your listening skills, plus many others. This should make it easy to see why your personality is so very important.

A good example of this came the other day when I was talking to the manager of our local Chamber of Commerce. He was telling me about filling a position on his staff and he had two applicants with outstanding credentials. Both were highly qualified, but he gave the job to a young lady who has a great personality, in addition to her education, experience and personal appearance.

Until our next visit, here is a statement that I hope you will think about. When we combine a great personality, excellent character, creativity and a genuine love of work we have a winning combination. Obviously, we can have the first three and be lazy and still fail as a person. Our personality is what we are when people are around, the rest is what we are when everybody else goes home.

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Austin, 78768  
Phone: (512) 463-0604

# Junior

By LYNDEL M...

More than 50 Junior High School students participated in the All-Region High Band Competition Saturday at High School.

Big Spring earned 53 of 112 chairs available in try-outs held ago. Andrews students placed a had eight.

BSJHS students were:

- Flute, Crystal Miranda Cassidy;
- Richards, 4; Chris
- 6; Morgan Metcal
- Worley, 9; and De
- B-flat Clarinet

# GRIEF

Continued from

different because time people we their safety."

"(The Columbian is not an incident people worry safety. People their country something to their country, and now with to war, people for their cot they're patriot have a lot of space progr something bad that, there's loss that some gone right for Payne agreee

"This reminds powerlessness 9-11, a nation where people families are with tremendo said.

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# Shocked witnesses tell of 'fire in the sky'

By TOM EMBREY  
and ANGIE ALVARADO  
CNHI News Service

EAST TEXAS — For Oakwood resident Leslie Bunch, watching the flight of the space shuttle re-entering the earth's atmosphere was a usual event from his Oakwood home, which is a mile off the Trinity River, but Saturday morning, he saw something different when he witnessed NASA's space shuttle Columbia fly through the sky.

"We always go out and watch when the shuttle comes in so I was anticipating it," Bunch said. "I stepped outside at 8 in the morning and it was beautiful coming in."

But then the view changed.

"All of a sudden it started to smoke and by that time it was going due east and more vapor trails were coming off," Bunch explained. "Right before it got out on my site it started to sparkle, I knew there was something wrong. When it left my sight I heard an horrific boom."

"It was very intense. My dog tried to run into the house and every animal in the area started bawling."

Bunch estimated from the time he first saw the shuttle to the time he heard the explosion was about two minutes.

Bunch was one of the many East Texas residents who gathered outside on warm day under a brilliant blue sky to watch the space shuttle Columbia pass over east

**"At first you are inquisitive ... You want to know what happened, and then when you realize what it is, you are kinda in awe ... and then it hits you, and you say to yourself, 'this can't be happening.'"**

Bob Multer,  
Palestine resident

Texas on its way to Cape Canaveral in Florida to conclude its mission that began on Jan. 16.

But what Bunch and many others experienced at about 8 a.m. Saturday when the shuttle broke apart — was unexpected.

"I walked outside this morning when my house started to shake," said Bob Multer of Palestine.

Multer said he first thought the shaking, which he described as feeling like "being in a tornado," was a train derailment. Then he glanced skyward and saw a "giant plume that spiraled and then zigzagged right over my head," Multer said. "It was then that I knew there was a problem."

NASA declared an emergency shortly after 8 a.m. CST after losing communication with Columbia as the ship soared across Texas at an altitude of about 200,000 feet while traveling at six times the speed of sound.

Anderson County Sheriff John Hobson said that that officials are

tracking a debris field from northwest Anderson County to southeast Anderson County.

Officials have been working in coordination with a command post in Nacogdoches.

Hobson noted that it was important not to touch the debris, and that NASA officials have instructed anyone who has touched the debris to report to the emergency room.

Authorities ordered people to stay 100 yards away from the debris because of contamination fears.

"Nobody has been hurt, but there have been reports of people touching the debris," Hobson said.

The sheriff's office had been "inundated with calls," according to Hobson, but he added that the county had been getting assistance from both state authorities, and the governor's office. Confirmed debris from the destroyed shuttle was scattered across East Texas, including Rusk, Nacogdoches, Athens and



Elmwood (Texas) Volunteer Firefighter David Blackmon keeps traffic away from a piece of debris, supposedly ceramic tile, which landed on FM 321 approximately eight miles north of Palestine.

Lufkin. Robert Gore, who lives on Anderson County Road 435, saw a large piece of debris on Texas 155 near his home at 11:40 a.m.

"It looked like a round cylinder," Gore said. "Like it was a section of a tank or something... It was about 4 feet long and about 5 feet wide... It had a squared off edge and a

jagged edge like it had been ripped loose."

Gore further described the debris as "gunmetal steel blue" that was "burnt as if it had been under tremendous heat."

Gore said the large piece of debris was located in the median of Texas 155, closer to the southbound lane of the state highway "about 50 feet

from the intersection with Anderson County Road 436.

Helen Hooper was out for her morning walk when she noticed a "frightening sight" that she first thought was a balloon from the National Scientific Balloon Facility near Palestine.

See FIRE, Page 7A



Spectators look at a piece of debris roped off behind Cason Monk Furniture Store in downtown Nacogdoches Saturday afternoon.

## Health officials warn of exposure; decontamination stations set up

By WAYNE STEWART  
CNHI News Service

Health officials were urging anyone who had been within 200 feet of a piece of suspected debris from the shuttle Columbia to come to the hospital for decontamination.

Emergency crews from the Fire Department set up a decontamination station behind Palestine Regional Medical Center. A handful of people had been through and been scrubbed down with soap and water in response to fears of exposure to toxic fuels.

PRMC Director of Marketing Lynn Scribner said emergency medical technicians were posted at every driveway entrance to the hos-

**"We are advising anyone who has touched debris to go to the hospital for observation, as a precaution."**

Cary McKinney,  
Anderson County judge

pital, directing people to the cleanup station.

"We're trying to get all the people coming into the hospital in one place so we'll know where to direct them," Scribner said Saturday afternoon. "Those who have come within 200 feet of any material are asked to come to the hospital where they can be treated by emergency person-

nel."

Sheriff's officials said NASA will be in the area within the next 24 hours to collect debris.

"We are advising anyone who has touched debris to go to the hospital for observation, as a precaution," Anderson County Judge Cary McKinney said.

Palestine Fire Department Emergency Management Coordinator Randall Shoulders said firefighters are scrubbing people down in a makeshift station and then bagging their clothes.

"We have the personnel and the equipment out here in case someone has been contaminated," Shoulders said. "We even have a Geiger

See HEALTH, Page 7A

## Debris scattered across wide area

### Emergency lines flooded as people report sightings

By WAYNE STEWART,  
ANGIE ALVARADO  
and MILES SMITH  
CNHI News Service

EAST TEXAS — Debris from the space shuttle Columbia has been found scattered across Anderson County, with unconfirmed reports citing up to 55 pieces found along highways, in fields and on homeowners' lawns.

Wayne Shults, an Anderson County resident living on Anderson County Road 442, had an approximately 3-foot piece of rubber land in his yard just minutes after the shuttle broke apart.

"I was filling up my bird feeder and I could hear something coming down, like a whistling noise," Shults said. "It just landed with a thud, I thought it may have been a tree limb."

Shults was standing approximately 30 feet from where the debris landed. After seeing it, Shults said he turned it over to see what it was, then figured it was something from the shuttle. "I called the sheriff's office and they came out here and taped it off," Shults added.

Approximately four miles from Shults' residence, another piece of shuttle debris was found along FM 321, about one-quarter mile from the FM 315 intersection.

Elmwood volunteer firefighter David Blackmon was told to keep an eye on the 6-inch-by-6-inch



A three-foot long rubber strip from NASA's Space Shuttle Columbia sits in the yard of Anderson County resident Wayne Shults. Shults was in his yard when the debris landed.

piece of ceramic tile.

"We don't know a lot right now," Blackmon said, "but we've heard there are pieces all over Anderson County."

For other East Texas residents, it was a sight in the sky or booming sound that alerted them to the tragedy.

Timothy Austin thought he had witnessed an airliner exploding Saturday morning.

"I heard this sonic boom that shook the building I was sitting in, and then there were about 15 or 20 more explosions," Austin described. "It looked like fireworks were coming down."

Timothy Austin, 17, the son of Palestine Municipal Airport's fixed base operator Jim Austin, didn't know what he was seeing at the time, but was one of the first to alert Texas authorities.

"I called Fort Worth about it, and I guess I was one of the first people to call in what I had seen, because they knew nothing about the explosion," Timothy Austin said. "We called it in thinking it was an airliner."

"But then I turned on the news,

See DEBRIS, Page 7A

## Tex

By MICHAEL V.

CNHI News Service  
BORGER — Columbia and in the Texas Amarillo region particular the Cmdr. Rick Hobson, and the remembered McCool, pilot flight.

In all, six Air and the first died in the exile headed to Florida.

Husband, who lives in Amarillo, a graduate of School. He was STS-107 mission old. His first in 1999. At the pilot of the sh

## Rep Ranking

By BRAD KEL

CNHI News Service  
ROCKWALL — Rep. Ralph destruction of the Columbia than another space program championed. "I had some there, too," representative for Congress on Texas. Hall kept the Columbia personally: Anderson, D and Kalpana

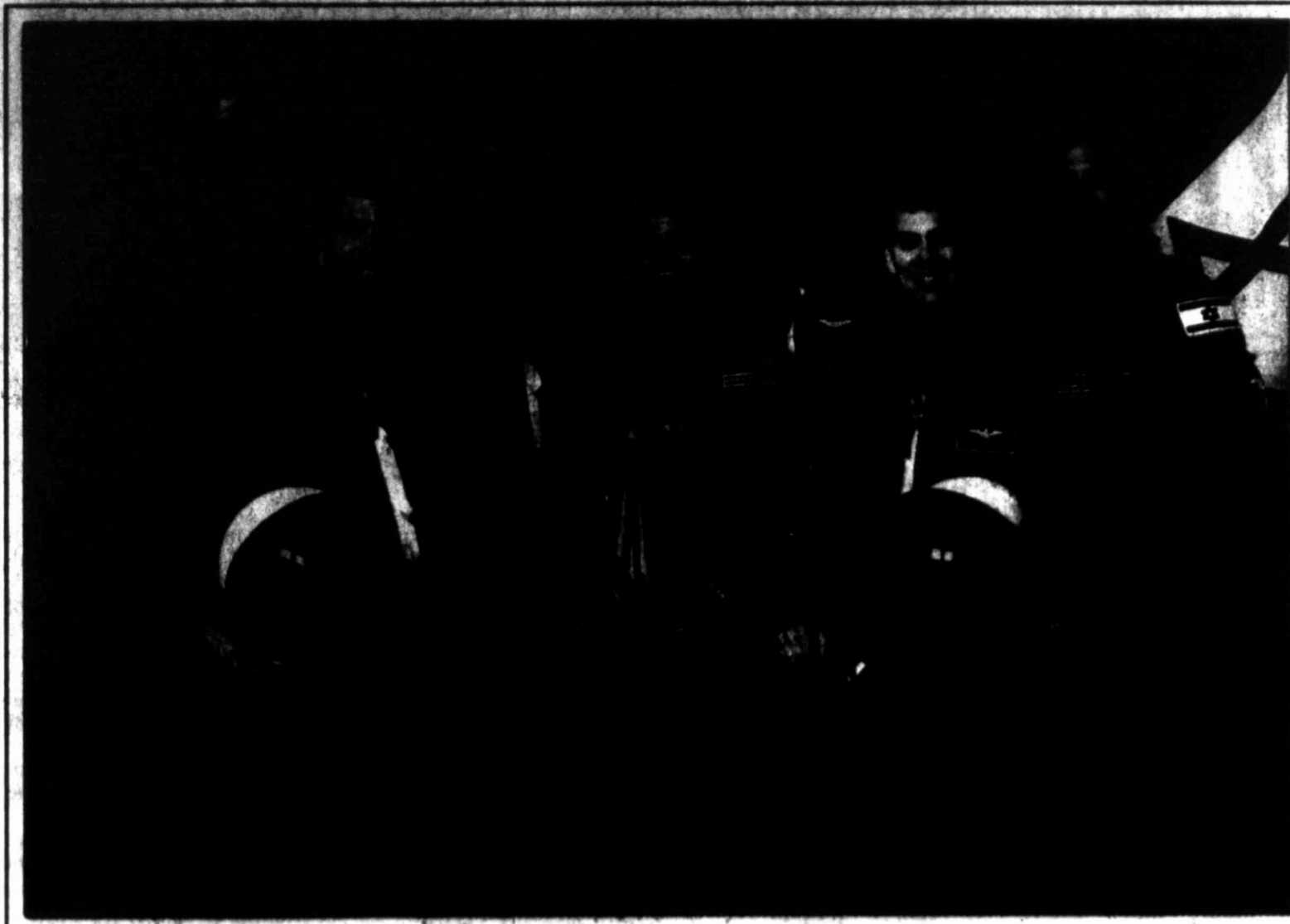
As the Democrat on Representative Committee chairman of subcommittee followed the many of the and mission who have be

## HEALTH

Continued from

counter read Anderson. Sheriff John knew of four had gone to decontamination station. For those who have come with the Shoulders department to wash people and water.

The writer the Palestine, Crislin Ro Jacksonville Progress also to this story.



The seven STS-107 crew members aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia were all killed in Saturday's explosion over East Texas. Seated in front are astronauts Rick D. Husband (left), mission commander; Kalpana Chawla, mission specialist; and William C. McCool, pilot. Standing are (from the left) astronauts David M. Brown, Laurel B. Clark and Michael P. Anderson, all mission specialists; and Ilan Ramon, payload specialist representing the Israeli Space Agency. Photo courtesy NASA

DEBRIS

Continued from Page 6A

and I saw that the shuttle was missing." The teen-ager is part of the U.S. Air Force Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary that trains youths in search and rescue, and in aerospace matters.

Dallas resident Stacy Logan, in Anderson County visiting relatives, was shaken out of bed by the sound of an explosion and she also thought it was a plane.

"I thought it may have been one of those big Air Force transport planes blowing up," Logan described. "It felt like an earthquake; that's when we got up and found out what was happening."

Jim Austin heard the explosion and immediately went outside his airport terminal to see what had happened.

"The whole building rumbled for about 30 seconds and we rushed outside and saw the contrails," Austin explained. "I knew right then it was really bad."

Mobile home resident Reymundo Tamez said the rumbling shook his home.

"I heard a big, loud boom. It shook my mobile home," Tamez said.

Tamez said he immediately went outside his home and felt what he described as "mist" falling.

The writers are on the staff of the Palestine Herald-Press, a sister newspaper within Community Newspaper Holdings Inc.

FIRE

Continued from Page 6A

"It was like little sparks ... like little pieces scattering everywhere," said Hooper of the scene she saw about 8:10 a.m. Saturday on Palmer Street near Gillespie.

Jim Austin, fixed base operator at the Palestine Municipal Airport located off of U.S. 287 North, said "the whole terminal building vibrated. It sounded like an airliner exploded."

Patricia Hernandez was in her vehicle on Interstate 21 between Madisonville and Crockett, traveling back to Palestine from a funeral in Houston when she noticed a "fire in the sky ... like the sky was falling."

"It sounded like someone running on the roof," said Brian Coon an employee of the Palestine Herald-Press.

He and co-worker Marilyn Bailey were at the newspaper office when shortly after 8 a.m., a loud roaring sound startled them.

"Marilyn thought it was the press running," Coon added, trying to describe the booming sound.

Soon after, the newspaper office was inundated with calls from area residents wanting to know what the sound was.

Multer, who had watched the space shuttle Challenger disaster and the Sept. 11 attacks on television, said seeing this morning incident was surreal.

"At first you are inquisitive ... You want to know what happened, and then when you realize what it is, you are kinda in awe ... and then it hits you, and you say to yourself, 'this can't be happening.'"

The writers are staffers at The Palestine Herald-Press, a sister newspaper within Community Newspaper Holdings Inc.

# Texas mourns loss of native sons

By MICHAEL WRIGHT  
CNHI News Service

BORGER — News of the loss of Columbia and its crew hit hard in the Texas Panhandle as Amarillo residents mourned in particular the death of shuttle Cmdr. Rick Husband, a native son, and the city of Lubbock remembered native William McCool, pilot of the doomed flight.

In all, six American astronauts and the first Israeli astronaut died in the explosion as the shuttle headed toward a landing in Florida.

Husband, whose mother still lives in Amarillo, was a 1975 graduate of Amarillo High School. He was commanding the STS-107 mission. He was 45 years old. His first trip into space was in 1999. At that time he was the pilot of the shuttle.

Amarillo Mayor Trent Sisemore recalled Husband's good humor and his Christian faith. "We in Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle are proud of Cmdr. Rick Husband," he said. Every time he saw Husband he was always happy and smiling from ear to ear, the mayor said. "He loved the Lord and shared his testimony at the Franklin Graham crusade in Amarillo," said Sisemore.

Sisemore said Husband had lived in Houston since joining the NASA program but he had spoken with Husband's wife, Evelyn, two to three times during the past week. "She was so proud of him."

The mayor was invited to the launch of Columbia by Husband and said he was more than happy to accept the invitation. "I watched with enthusiasm with his family and friends. He and

the rest of the crew were in our prayers the whole time."

He said it "broke my heart" when he heard the news. "My wife told me as I was working out this morning."

Lubbock Mayor Marc McDougal issued a statement expressing condolences. "Lubbock has been deeply touched by the tragic loss of the seven brave astronauts on the Space Shuttle Columbia," McDougal said. "Shuttle Commander Rick Husband was a Texas Tech University graduate and pilot Willie McCool was a graduate of Lubbock Coronado High. They left footprints in Lubbock, and have friends and family here."

Borger Chamber of Commerce's Mickey Blackmon called the playing out of the news on Saturday morning as unreal and said the fact that two shuttle

officers were from west Texas "brings this tragedy even closer to home."

Borger resident H.H. Barrett said the television coverage brought back memories from the Challenger crash of 1986. "I wonder why it happened the way it did," he said.

"Things like this usually happen at takeoff."

It has been just over 17 years since the U.S. space program was devastated by the loss of space shuttle Challenger and 36 years since the launch pad fire aboard Apollo 1.

The writer is on the staff of the Borger News Herald, a sister newspaper within Community Newspaper Holdings Inc. News Herald staffers Judy Allen, Melissa Stroud and Amie Wright also contributed to this report.

# Rep. Hall grieves over friends' deaths

Ranking Democrat on Science Committee says he will continue to fight for space program

By BRAD KELLAR  
CNHI News Service

ROCKWALL — For U.S. Rep. Ralph Hall, the destruction of space shuttle Columbia meant more than another blow to the space program he has championed for years.

"I had some friends on there, too," said the representative for the 4th Congressional District of Texas. Hall knew three of the Columbia crew personally: Michael Anderson, David Brown and Kalpana Chawla.

As the ranking Democrat on the House of Representatives Science Committee and former chairman of the Space Subcommittee, Hall has followed the careers of many of the astronauts and mission specialists who have been a part of

the space shuttle program.

"It is kind of like a family," Hall said.

He was especially close to Chawla, whom he recently asked to appear before school students in Cantop to speak about the space program.

"She has been in my office lots of times," Hall said.

Saturday's accident underscored the danger behind the missions in which the astronauts were involved, Hall said, risks which they gladly and bravely accepted.

"We get to see them go up and come down, having the receptions and decorating them, but they know and everybody else knows that it is dangerous when you are going 12,000 miles an hour with the heat at the degree that



Rep. Ralph Hall, D-Rockwall

it is," Hall said. "It just brings back to us that it is dangerous and that it is a fragile mission."

Hall said that despite two lost shuttles, including the disaster which befell Challenger in 1986, "we still don't have a bad safety record; but it is bad when we lose one person."

Just as occurred following the last shuttle acci-

dent, Hall expects a fight in Congress over whether shuttle flights should continue, or whether there should be a space program at all.

"This will ground it for a while," Hall said, adding the shuttle fleet remained earthbound for more than two years after the Challenger explosion.

Hall believes much of the debate will center on how shortly after Columbia lifted off Jan. 16, a piece of insulating foam on its external fuel tank came off and was believed to have hit the left wing of the shuttle.

"They'll war game the heck out of that fact," Hall said. "The first effort will be to try to not have any more manned space flights."

Hall vowed to defend the space program, as he

repeatedly has in the past.

"We came within one vote of losing the space program on the House floor," Hall recalled of one battle.

He still believes the potential benefits far outweigh the risks.

Hall pointed to experiments currently under way on Space Station Freedom, which officials hope could lead to new breakthroughs in treating cancer and diabetes, as the latest in a long line of scientific achievements linked directly to the space program.

"There are so many good things that have happened," Hall said.

Brad Kellar is a staffer at The Greenville Herald Banner, a sister newspaper within Community Newspaper Holdings Inc.

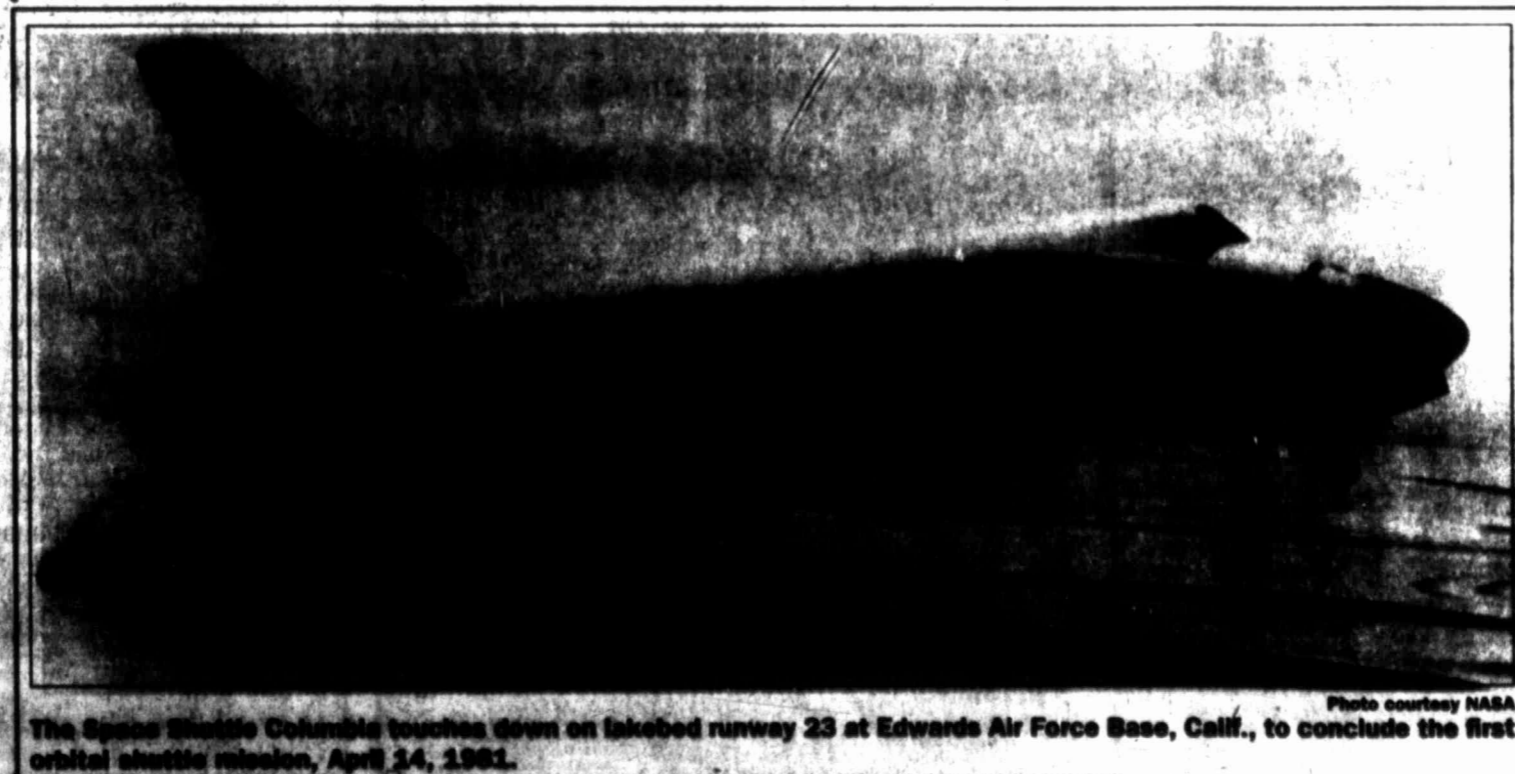
HEALTH

Continued from Page 6A

counter ready." Anderson County Sheriff John Hobson knew of four people who had gone through the decontamination unit by mid-afternoon.

For those who may have come in contact with the substance, Shoulders said his department has been told to wash people with soap and water.

The writer is a staffer at the Palestine News-Press. Cristin Ross of the Jacksonville Daily Progress also contributed to this story.



The Space Shuttle Columbia touches down on inkbed runway 23 at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., to conclude the first orbital shuttle mission, April 24, 1981. Photo courtesy NASA

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### Administrative Division



**Chief Lonnie Smith**  
Date of Hire: 10/23/77  
  
Chief of Police



**Lt. Terry Chamness**  
Date of Hire: 7/21/86  
  
Administrative Lieutenant



**Ann Reid**  
Date of Hire: 10/16/95  
  
Administrative Staff Secretary



Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Week in and week out, they're there, solving crimes, apprehending criminals and maintaining order on our streets.

Those monumental tasks would be worthy enough of praise, but the Big Spring Police Department goes above and beyond, educating our city's children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, escorting our departed loved ones to their final rest, rounding up stray animals and spearheading the county's emergency management efforts.

The 64 men and women who work for the police department are divided into three main divisions: Patrol, the largest, with 32 officers; Criminal Investigations, comprised of five detectives and a supervising sergeant; and Support Services, which employs a mix of peace officers and civilian employees to keep records, run the City Jail, manage the city's stray animals and other important tasks.

After Capt. Pam Jordan retired in 2001, the department reorganized, eliminating the captain's position. The divisions are led these days by four lieutenants under Chief Lonnie Smith.

As the administrative lieutenant, Terry Chamness handles a lot of the department's paperwork, writing grants, developing policy and procedure and assisting with the budget. Chamness also oversees the Criminal Investigations Division and assists Smith with emergency management duties.

Patrol lieutenants Drew Bavin and Robert Fitzgibbons rotate their schedules to provide high-level supervision for the Patrol Division as many hours as possible throughout the day. In addition to preparing work schedules and duty assignments for Patrol Division, the Bavin and Fitzgibbons assist officers on the street when necessary and are available to make tough calls 24 hours a day.

Support Services Lieutenant Stan Parker oversees the operations of Animal Control, Records and Communications services for the department. He also assists the school resource officer and fills in as a dispatcher when necessary.

Over the upcoming year, the Big Spring Police Department hopes to get some major crimefighting and emergency management technology in place to enhance their service to the city's people, said Police Chief Lonnie Smith.

"Hopefully this year we're going to be able to finish getting all the in-car videos installed in all our vehicles," he said. "We applied for the same grant the sheriff's office did, and we were allotted some cameras out of that. Along with what the city has bought we will be able to have all our cars outfitted."

The grant will provide 17 in-car video units for the department, while the city will kick in for video cameras in the five new police cars the PD is getting this year, Smith said. The department has some cameras in police cruisers already, he added. The new units will completely outfit the department's police car fleet.

"It's working good," Smith said. "The city has been generous to buy some when we buy the cars, and we've also applied for other grants and we've obtained some videos from them. On some when we've split our grants between laptop computers and in-car videos. Knowing that this was coming, we started trying to work it in so we wouldn't get hit all at once having to buy 30-something cameras."

The cameras will not only provide evidence during police calls and traffic stops, it will be a helpful training tool for officers, Smith said.

"It will both help us resolve any complaints we may have on officers' conduct or officers' contact, as well as for training purposes," he said. "Once we have a critical situation, we'll have video evidence or video of the actual deal where we can go back, critique it and try to learn from it. So I think the in-car video is going to be good."

The sudden emphasis on video units is because of State Senate Bill 1074, which addresses racial profiling. The bill requires stringent recordkeeping to allow checks on the traffic stop statistics with regards to race.

"You can have all your cars that routinely make traffic stops outfitted with in-car video, or they have the criteria for documented information that you're supposed to maintain on all stops," Smith said. "That's why at the first of last year we quit giving out verbal warnings. We went to either written warnings or citations. So that we could get used to the documentation, we eliminated the verbal warnings and went to written warnings. Even though we're going to have the in-car videos we're going to continue to maintain the documentation to back up the videos."

The department has also contracted with a consultant

See POLICE, Page 9A

### Patrol Division



**Lt. Drew Bavin**  
Date of Hire: 10/17/83  
  
Patrol Supervisor



**Lt. Bob Fitzgibbons**  
Date of Hire: 5/29/84  
  
Patrol Supervisor



**Sgt. David Sellers**  
Date of Hire: 10/6/86  
  
Patrol Sergeant



**Sgt. Tony Everett**  
Date of Hire: 3/23/87  
  
Patrol Sergeant



**Sgt. Ralph Rollins**  
Date of Hire: 1/3/89  
  
Patrol Sergeant



**Sgt. Chad Williams**  
Date of Hire: 5/4/95  
  
Patrol Sergeant



**Cpl. Gilbert Barraza**  
Date of Hire: 8/1/78  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Wayne Wright**  
Date of Hire: 11/7/89  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Art Dehlinger**  
Date of Hire: 10/25/92  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Kip Patterson**  
Date of Hire: 11/1/93  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Brian Gordon**  
Date of Hire: 5/27/95  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Mark Daily**  
Date of Hire: 4/27/98  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Phillip J. Whitten**  
Date of Hire: 11/3/97  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Nathan Londenberg**  
Date of Hire: 9/14/98  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Joel Garza**  
Date of Hire: 10/20/98  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. George Oliver**  
Date of Hire: 1/7/01  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Cpl. Sid Brunson**  
Date of Hire: 6/2/02  
  
Patrol Corporal



**Ofc. Matt Coates**  
Date of Hire: 10/11/99  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Gregg Williams**  
Date of Hire: 5/1/00  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Cody Tredaway**  
Date of Hire: 5/1/2000  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Richard Robertson**  
Date of Hire: 5/23/00  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Chris Mahurin**  
Date of Hire: 12/27/00  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Jason York**  
Date of Hire: 2/5/01  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Joe Bob Morales**  
Date of Hire: 2/23/01  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Steve Evrard**  
Date of Hire: 5/21/01  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Adam Binnix**  
Date of Hire: 2/3/02  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Will Miller**  
Date of Hire: 3/11/02  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Steve Barker**  
Date of Hire: 6/2/02  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Brian Albertson**  
Date of Hire: 11/4/02  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Scott Welch**  
Date of Hire: 1/19/03  
  
Patrol Officer



**Ofc. Mike Elliott**  
Date of Hire: 1/19/03  
  
Patrol Officer

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Above, Cpl. Phil...  
Laptop computer...  
Police Officer of...  
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Emergency Man...

### POLICE

Continued from P...

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Above, Cpl. Phil Whitten demonstrates new technology available to Big Spring Police Patrol Division officers. Laptop computers and in-car video units are making patrol officers' jobs easier. Whitten was voted Big Spring Police Officer of the Year for 2002. Below, Administrative Lt. Terry Chamness displays the department's state-of-the-art hazardous materials equipment. Chamness assists Chief Lonnie Smith with his duties as Howard County Emergency Management Coordinator.

**POLICE**

Continued from Page 8A

from the University of Texas at Arlington to help compile the data into a report to be released in March.

The department has also received a grant from Texas A&M University for emergency management equipment. Smith is Howard County's emergency management coordinator and Lt. Terry Chamness serves as his assistant in that capacity.

"Terry's been working diligently to find funds for equipment that emergency management needs," Smith said. "This year we were notified that we were able to obtain a \$46,000 grant from the emergency management people out at Texas A&M. It's not cash money but it's \$46,000 worth of equipment."

The equipment is starting to trickle in, he added. "We just received right at \$5,000 worth of gas meters yesterday, so the equipment is starting to come in," he said. "By the end of this year, hopefully we will have all of that equipment in hand and be able to enhance our emergency management first responders."

Other than the handheld airborne chemical detection meters, the equipment in the package includes haz-mat suits, breathing apparatuses and masks and some laptop computers, Smith said.

The department is also in the bid process to purchase new servers for its computer system, he said.



"Over the past few years we've been trying to upgrade our information systems," he said. "We're fixing to go out for bids on servers which will be a further enhancement of our information system."

The commitment to computerization is starting to pay off for the PD, Smith said.


"We're starting to reach that point where we're starting to see some of the cost savings," he said. "With the computerization that we've done, we've been able to eliminate a clerical position. There's also other expenses associated that we're able to eliminate. The paper, the supplies, things like that."



**Criminal Investigations Division**

	<b>Sgt. Roger Sweatt</b> Date of Hire: 6/23/85 Criminal Investigation Supervisor		<b>Det. James Rider</b> Date of Hire: 3/15/88 Criminal Investigator
---	--	---	---

	<b>Det. Lupe Liedecke</b> Date of Hire: 12/13/88 Criminal Investigator		<b>Det. Robert Williams</b> Date of Hire: 6/13/96 Criminal Investigator
---	--	---	---



	<b>Det. Milton Horton</b> Date of Hire: 5/21/97 Criminal Investigator		<b>Det. Thad Thomas</b> Date of Hire: 6/30/97 Criminal Investigator
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**West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force**

	<b>Agent Mike Campos</b> Date of Hire: 2/5/01 West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force		<b>Agent Scott Knight</b> Date of Hire: 7/9/01 West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force
---	---	---	--

**Support Services Division**

	<b>Lt. Stan Parker</b> Date of Hire: 5/3/88 Support Services Supervisor		<b>Sgt. Lance Telchik</b> Date of Hire: 11/15/93 Communications/Records Supervisor
---	---	---	--



	<b>Sgt. John Leubner</b> Date of Hire: 2/23/84 School Resource Officer		<b>Johnny Anchondo</b> Date of Hire: 5/4/01 Animal Warden
---	--	---	---

	<b>Ed Sternadel</b> Date of Hire: 10/8/01 Animal-Warden		<b>David Hodges</b> Date of Hire: 11/24/02 Animal Warden
---	---	---	--



	<b>Marie Wilson</b> Date of Hire: 8/1/78 Records Secretary		<b>Judy Westbrook</b> Date of Hire: 4/26/96 Records Secretary
---	--	---	---


	<b>Christina Galloway</b> Date of Hire: 9/14/98 Records Secretary		<b>Christopher Guynn</b> Date of Hire: 12/9/02 Information Technology Specialist
---	---	---	--

**Crime Scene Unit**

	<b>Wayne Jones</b> Date of Hire: 9/23/92 I.D. Technician/Crime Scene Unit		<b>Robert Moore</b> Date of Hire: 8/7/96 I.D. Technician/Crime Scene Unit
---	---	---	---

**City Jail**

	<b>Melanie Dees</b> Date of Hire: 10/25/02 Jailer		<b>Stephen Oliver</b> Date of Hire: 9/2/01 Jailer
---	---	---	---

	<b>Tim Ward</b> Date of Hire: 3/25/02 Jailer
---	--


Story and Layout by Roger Cline, Herald Staff Writer


Pictures courtesy Big Spring Police Department

	<b>Chavonna Patterson</b> Date of Hire: 6/10/96 Dispatcher
---	--


	<b>Lynn Creswell</b> Date of Hire: 12/16/96 Dispatcher
--	--

	<b>Leslie Yarbar</b> Date of Hire: 11/22/98 Dispatcher
---	--

	<b>Traci Myrick</b> Date of Hire: 11/22/98 Dispatcher
--	---

	<b>Toby Clanton</b> Date of Hire: 3/4/00 Dispatcher
---	---

	<b>Daniel Andrews</b> Date of Hire: 11/13/00 Dispatcher
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	<b>Cerissa Gonzales</b> Date of Hire: 1/24/03 Dispatcher
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Sands senior Heath Webb was one of five Mustangs named to the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association's all-state team. Webb was the second-leading tackler in the state this past fall.

## Five Mustangs earn all-state accolades

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

On the field, the Sands Mustangs were pretty impressive this past season as they raced to the state six-man football semifinals. They aren't too bad on paper, either.

Sands had five starters placed on the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association's 2002 all-state team recently,

matching the highest number of players selected to the roster by state champion Calvert.

Senior Heath Webb highlighted the Mustang nominations. He earned his second-straight first-team all-state selection on defense. As Sands' middle linebacker, Webb was the second-leading tackler in

See ALL-STATE, Page 12A

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## Mustangs' Webb invited to play in all-star game

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

Over the past two years, Sands' Heath Webb has been among the best linebackers in the state. Come July 19, he'll get the chance to join up with the rest of the state's best at the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association All-Star Game.

Webb was one of 30 six-man players from throughout the state invited to participate in the game, which will be played in Lubbock this summer. Coaches choose two players from each district and divided them into an East-West format.

Webb was a standout for the Mustangs this past season. He helped Sands advance to within a game of the state finals with a dominating effort on both sides of the line of scrimmage. As a linebacker, Webb racked up 171 tackles. A preseason all-America pick, his total was the second-highest in the state.

Offensively, Webb powered the Mustangs' short-yardage game. He scored seven touchdowns in Sands' four playoff games. Overall, he rushed for more than 600 yards for the year.

Joining Webb in representing District 6 on the West roster will be Borden County's Talin Pepper.

A powerfull running back, he helped the Coyotes reach the playoffs for the first time since 2000 this past fall.

Other key players that will be playing in the

### TSMCA All-Stars

Here is the list of players who have qualified for the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association all-star game this summer in Lubbock.

#### WEST

Larry Lee Horn, Fort Elliott  
Jason Hathaway, Ft. Elliott  
Derrick Cruise, Valley  
Red Ivory, Silverton  
Brandon Hoskins, Whitetail

Rocky Reyna, Whitetail  
Chris Cruz, Ropes  
Kyle Pate, Wellman-Union  
Heath Webb, Sands  
T.J. Sharp, Borden County  
Paul Green, Sanderson  
Eric Sanchez, Sanderson  
Tommy Dan Hill, Aspermont  
J. Don Hinson, Spur  
Josh Gutierrez, Ira  
Eric Bickerhoff, Ira

#### EAST

Zack Daniel, Guthrie  
Bubba Benson, Benjamin  
Jake Popham, Strawn  
Rick Jordan, Newcastle  
A.J. Monroe, Blackwell  
John Turney, Panther Creek  
Jason Sharp, Richland Springs  
Anthony Garza, Richland Springs  
Steven Taylor, Star  
John Paul Massingill, Jonesboro  
Justin Proffitt, Iredell  
Bryce Dean, Blum  
Swish Washington, Milford  
Josh Nors, Abbott  
Jake Lockett, Aquilla

game include 2003 Texas Football Six-Man Player of the Year Brandon Hoskins and Sanderson standout Paul Green.

Abbott's Josh Nors and Strawn's Jake Popham will lead the East. Popham racked up over

2,300 yards this past year for the Greyhounds, including more than 1,800 yards and 34 touchdowns rushing.

No player from state champion Calvert was selected to the 2003 roster.

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<p>2002 GMC Yukon - 2 WD. White In Color. Beige Leather. All Power. 25,000 Miles. \$32,900</p>	<p>2002 Olds Bravada - 2 WD. White W/Grey Leather. 24,000 Miles. One Owner. \$24,995</p>
<p>2002 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab - 2 WD. Red W/Grey Cloth. One Owner. 14,000 Miles. All Power. \$24,995</p>	<p>2001 GMC Sierra Crew Cab - 21,000 Miles. One Owner. All Power. Polyester Cloth. \$24,995</p>
<p>2001 Pontiac Firebird - White W/Graphite Cloth. T Tops. Performance V6. All Power. 18,000 Miles. \$13,995</p>	<p>2001 Pontiac Grand AM SE - White W/Grey Cloth. 19,000 Miles. V6. Auto. All Power. One Owner. \$13,995</p>
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FEB 22 2003

# Big Spring's 'Bubba' Franks named to spot on NFL Alumni honor squad

HERALD Staff Report

Former Big Spring High School standout Daniel "Bubba" Franks continues to make a name for himself in the National Football League.

A tight end for the Green Bay Packers,

Franks was recently named as one of only 10 elite players on the 2002 NFL Alumni Player of the Year honor list.

Former NFL players voted 10 current players and one coach as 2002 NFL Alumni Player of the Year honorees. This is

the 21st year the NFL Alumni has held balloting for its Player of the Year awards.

The players were honored by a voting process in which former players cast ballots for their modern counterparts. Former pros vote only for the

positions they once played themselves. Players who played both ways — one each for the offensive and defensive position they played.

Now in his third season in the NFL, Franks has 121 pass receptions and 16 touchdowns. In 15 games this season, he had a

career-high 51 catches for 407 yards.

Franks was a second-team all-state selection his senior year at Big Spring under head coach Dwight Butler. After graduation, he spent three years at the University of Miami, where he started 2 1/2 seasons. Franks finished at Miami as the

school's all-time leader in touchdown receptions by a tight end, with 12.

He was an NFL all-rookie pick in 2000, and a Pro Bowl starter last season.

The 2002 award winners were honored at the 21st annual Player of the Year Awards Dinner Jan. 25 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego.

## ALL-STATE

Continued from Page 11A

the state this past fall. In the Mustangs' 14 games, he racked up 156 tackles. Only Strawn's Jonathan Parsons made more stops in 2002, recording 171 tackles.

Webb wasn't the only Sands standout to earn first-team accolades. Jeremy Renteria was named to the first unit at quarterback after turning in a stellar senior campaign. En route to leading Sands to its second-ever trip to the state semifinals, Renteria passed for 1,818 yards and 34 touchdowns by completing 106-of-195 attempts.

His total yards passing and TDs thrown statistics were among the top three in the United States this fall. Only Wellman's Chris Gibson and Ft. Elliott's Jason Hathaway, respectively, had more yards throwing and more touchdowns.

Sands, which averaged almost 400 yards a game this past fall under head coach Larry Reid, had three players named to the second-team, including running back Nate Looney, end Brandon Woods and center Catlin Barraza.

Looney carried the SHS offense for much of the year. He rolled up 1,765 and a team-high 21 rushing on only 174 carries. He also caught 20 passes for 461 yards and six

more TDs. Woods, the only underclassman starter at Sands this fall, was a second-team pick at end. As a junior, the 6-foot-1 stand-out led the team in receiving, hauling in 633 yards and 12 receiving TDs. His receiving totals were the sixth-highest in the state in 2002.

Calvert, which rallied from a 32-point halftime deficit to win its first state title in December, placed two on the first-team offensive squad, including running backs Darius Smith and Greg Ford. Smith scored five touchdowns in Calvert's win over Sanderson in the finals, including the game-winner on a 50-yard

pass play with less than a minute to play.

Other players named to the first-team were spreadback Jason Tharp of Richland Springs, running back Derrick Cruse of Valley, running back Josh Nors of Abbott, Guthrie end Zack Daniel, receivers Dayton Scott of Sanderson and Junior Newman of Fort Elliott and center Lupe Ramirez of Abbott.

Ira's Eric Dickerhoff was a first-team pick defensively. He led the state interceptions over the past two years, racking up 19 picks.

Ira's Jake Barnes and Wes Kellner were second-team selections.

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**li**  
**R**

**Hon**

Keith Graumann from the Texas to the before his death. The son of a business owner, Graumann was up in the oil industry.

"My sister lessons as a high school senior. After his death, Graumann had a University of Oklahoma scholarship to study music. Graumann was a professional church musician directed a performance of "Messiah."

"That was music," he said. "I wanted to study music. I had a lofty goal of only 1,200 professional orchestra positions for the country," Graumann said. "I became one of the few who had a passion for music."

As a graduate of Oklahoma State University, Graumann was a member of the church choir and the Oklahoma State University choir. "I felt like I was in what I was doing. Graumann was a few days away from real insatiable learning."

Earning a distinguished Fulbright Scholarship, Graumann was a 110-week research scholar at the University of Virginia for his dissertation.

"That was cool," he said. "When you are presented as a scholar, it is anywhere in the world and that includes libraries. I have a priceless work."

While in Italy, something happened — a young boy became his friend.

Upon earning his doctorate in music, Graumann returned to Big Spring. By the 1990s, his life changed dramatically. "It was a painful year, when I was diagnosed with cancer. Several surgeries were performed. They told me because of a simply find conducting. And suddenly...

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April 12, Municipal Auditorium  
July 3, "P"

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# Reviving a passion ...

## Hometown boy returned to conducting after 10-year absence

Keith Graumann's musical talent lifted him from the rugged oil fields of West Texas to the rustic Italian landscape before his dreams came crashing down.

The son of Howard County oil pumping business owners, the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus conductor grew up in the oil field but music engrossed his life.

"My sister and I were afforded music lessons as children, piano and organ lessons," Graumann said. "In junior high, I became interested in choir."

After high school graduation, Graumann headed to Texas Christian University where music consumed his life.

"A music major commits his life to music," Graumann said. "He barely has time for anything else."

After transferring to the University of Oklahoma, Graumann earned his first professional job by the age of 20 as a church music director and ambitiously directed a performance of Mendelssohn's "Messiah."

"That was the first taste of orchestral music," he said. "It was my first inclination I wanted to pursue orchestral music, also."

A lofty goal, Graumann admitted, since only 1,200 positions for conductors of professional orchestras exist in the United States.

"There are very few conducting positions for professional orchestras in this country," Graumann said. "To set out to become one — it's not realistic."

Yet, Graumann did exactly that and his passion took an even stronger hold of his life.

As a graduate student, Graumann was the assistant director of the University of Oklahoma's orchestra while continuing his position as the church choir director and working with the Oklahoma Youth Orchestra.

"I felt like I was totally immersed in what I wanted to do," Graumann said. "I had very few distractions. I had a real insatiable appetite for learning."

Earning a distinguished Fulbright Scholarship to Italy allowed Graumann to research original works of Vivaldi for his doctoral dissertation.

"That was pretty cool," he said. "When you're presented as a Fulbright Scholar it opens doors anywhere in the country and that includes the Vatican, libraries. I was able to view priceless works of art."

While in Italy, Graumann finally found something to compete with his passion for music — a young blond Scottish woman named Ann, who would later become his wife.

Upon earning his doctorate, Graumann was hired at Brazosport College in Lake Jackson as the director of choral activities and then at Livingston University in Alabama.

By the 1990s, his career was in full bloom and then one day his life changed when Graumann suffered shooting, totally incapacitating pain. Tests revealed he suffered from two ruptured discs.

"It was an injury that could have happened years before," he said.

Surgery corrected the situation, he thought, until the next year, when the pain returned.

Several surgical techniques failed to correct the problem. "They told me I was not a candidate for further surgery because of all the scar tissue," he said. "They encouraged me to simply find something else with my life because I would not be conducting again."

And suddenly his life in music was at an end, or so he thought.



"It was so difficult for me. I sought refuse in my hometown and family," Graumann said.

Graumann was hired as a sales manager for the family business and he and Ann began a new life. Music was left behind but the pain in his back continued.

"Sometimes I would go through periods where the pain was so great I would have to lay on the floor for two or three weeks at a time," he said.

For the next eight years, Graumann had more than dozen injections to treat his constant pain until an answer turned up close to home.

"My sister in Dallas had been to the Texas Back Institute for her neck problems," he said. "She suggested I go there. They maintain a clinic in Midland-Odessa. I went there, and the surgeon looked at all my MRIs and asked 'Well, do you want to keep going like this or do you want me to fix it?' Ann and I stared at him. 'You can fix it?' I asked."

Graumann underwent surgery that put titanium implants in his lower back.

"I was forewarned the surgery was so severe it would take me a full year to recover," he said.

And suffer he did, but the surgery worked.

"The pain will never be gone but it is so much better than years before," he said. "I'm 80 percent handicapped."

As Graumann began to feel better, his thoughts turned back to his first love.

"I learned the Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale was looking for an interim conductor," he said. "I thought about it for several months before I applied. I wasn't sure my body could physi-

cally conduct for a period of time and worried that that my music skills would not return."

He took the chance and it proved a success.

"It was so exciting returning to music," he said. "The first day of rehearsal the pain was almost gone because of the adrenaline and excitement."

In 2002, Graumann was invited to become the conductor of the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus. "I hope my continued good health enables me to continue for years to come," he said.



From top, Keith Graumann poses for a professional picture, at left he conducts the Big Spring Symphony during the Pops in the Park concert held on July 3, in the Comanche Trail Park. At bottom, Graumann leads the music before a crowd of thousands for the 2002 Pops concert.

Photos provided by Keith Graumann and the Herald.

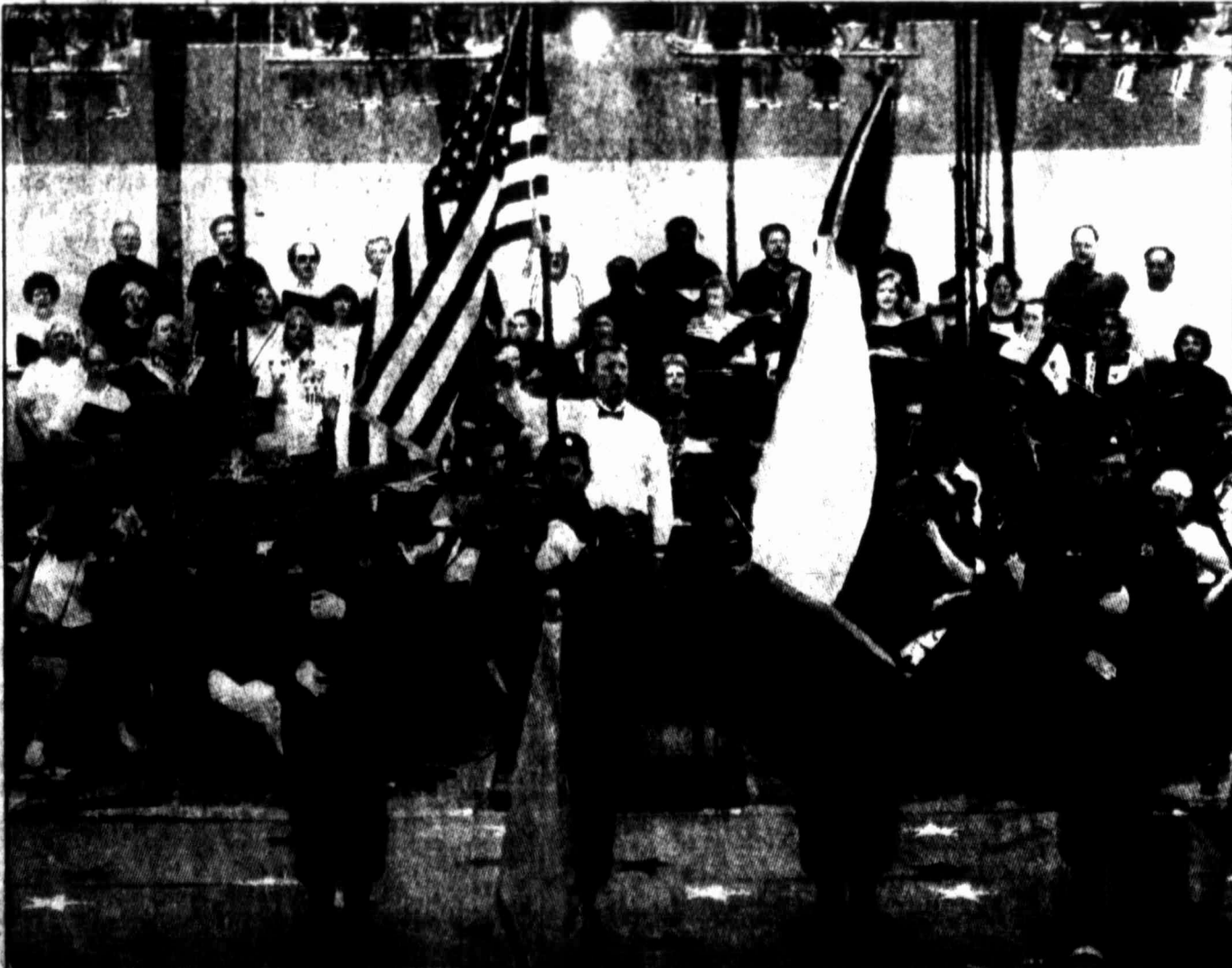
Story by Staff Writer Lyndel Moody

### Big Spring Symphony schedule

Feb. 8, "A Choral Extravaganza, 8 p.m., Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.  
April 12, "A Night in Vienna," 8 p.m., Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.  
July 3, "Pops in the Park," Comanche Trail Amphitheater.

### Ticket information

Tickets are available at the following businesses: Big Spring Symphony and Guild office, 808 Scurry; the Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry; Blum's Jewelers, inside the Big Spring Mall; Dunlaps, 111 E. Marcy; First Bank of West Texas, 1810 FM 700; and Fay's Flowers, 1013 Gregg St.  
Tickets price \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students.



FEB 2 2003

WEDDING



THIXTON-NICHOLS

Kristen Dawn Thixton and John Paul Nichols exchanged wedding vows on Jan. 24, 2003, at 14th & Main Street Church of Christ with Pat Ray officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Wesley and Betty Thixton and the granddaughter of Garner and Eunice Thixton and Nona and the late Alfred J. Stanley.

The groom is the son of Bob and Pam Nichols and the grandson of Melba Nichols and the John and Eulene Jones.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Wesley Thixton, and wore a gown of ivory organza and satin from the designers of Jasmine. The strapless gown featured a fitted bodice that was adorned with beaded Venice lace further embellished with pearls and crystal beads. The a-line skirt swept into a chapel length train. The organza overlay of the gown formed a split apron back revealing the satin layer underneath appliqued with Venice lace. She wore an ivory organza chapel length veil and carried 18 red roses with white stephanotis.

Maid of honor was Penni Kothmann. Bridesmaids were Andrea Gillespie and Amanda Breyman. Flowergirls

Church News and Club News should be turned in by Wednesday noon before the Friday they are to appear, are subject to editing and will run as space allows.



We're Always There

were Charlene Stanley and Kay C Stanley. Ringbearer was Kaleb Stanley.

Best man was Shawn Branham. Groomsmen were Johnny Garcia and Bill Barnes. Candlelighter was Clinton Stanley. Ushers were Derek Wash, Jim Bob Nichols and Clay Thixton. Guests were registered by Rachel Clinton, Aarika Thixton and Kaylor Stanley.

A reception was held at the fellowship hall of 14th & Main Street Church of Christ.

The bride's cake was a three-tier wedding cake with roses and stephanotis surrounding each layer.

The groom's cake was a chocolate sheet cake depicting a cotton farm scene complete with red barn and tractors.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Forsan High School and a Junior at UTPB, Odessa.

The groom is a 1996 graduate of Big Spring High School and 2001 graduate of Tarleton State University.

The couple are owners of Klasic Kleaners.

Following a wedding trip to Fredericksburg, the couple will make their home in Big Spring.

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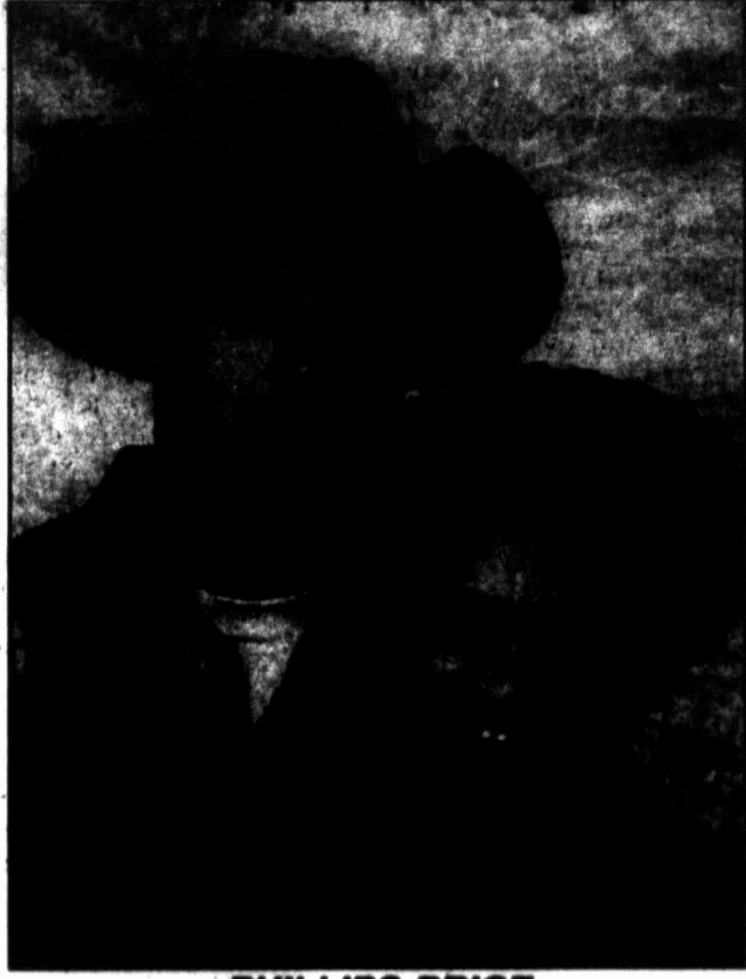
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ENGAGEMENT



PHILLIPS-PRICE

Chanda Phillips and Jason Price, both of Channing, will exchange wedding vows on Mar. 8, 2003, at 14th & Main Street Church of Christ with James Kinnaid, of 12th Street Church of

Christ of Seagraves, officiating.

She is the daughter of Bill and Sharon Phillips of Dumas.

He is the son of Steve and Jennifer Price.

ENGAGEMENT



MUMME-SMITH

Julie Diane Mumma of Gail and Gerry Edward Smith of Amarillo will exchange wedding vows on April 5, 2003, at First United Methodist Church in Slaton with the Rev. Steve Campbell officiat-

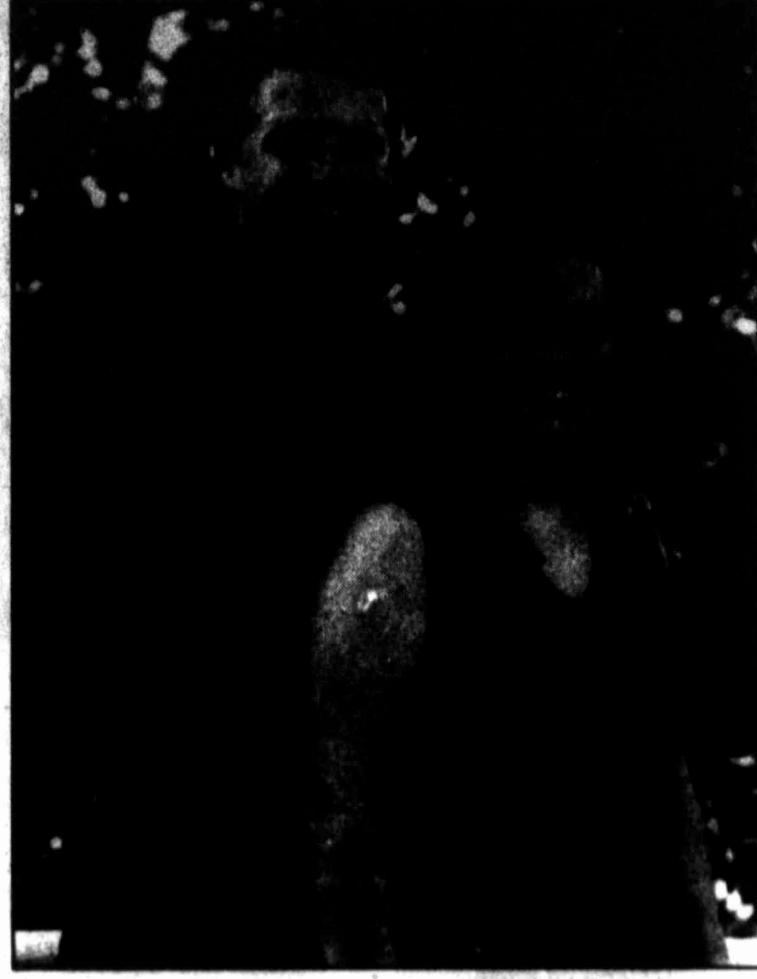
ing. She is the daughter of Bill and Debbie Mumme of Fredericksburg and Lubbock.

He is the son of Terry and the late Edward Smith of Gail.

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ENGAGEMENT



SHEPPARD-WOMACK

Dan and June Sheppard of Belton announce the engagement of their daughter, Mindi Sheppard, to Jerod Womack, son of Brent and Martha of Brady. The bride-elect graduated from Midland Christian High School and is a senior nursing school student at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. The prospective groom gradu-

ated from Midland Christian High School and the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. He attended graduate school at Texas Christian University. He is a teacher and a coach at Salado High School. The couple plans a 4 p.m. wedding ceremony June 14 at Abilene Christian University's "Chapel on the Hill."

STORKS

Jasmine Marie Ontiveros, girl, born Jan. 14, 2003, at 1:31 p.m. weighing 5 pounds, 1 ounce and was 18 inches long. Parents are Emily Holguin and A. J. Ontiveros. Grandparents are Maria Holguin, Albert Chavarria, Ruth Ontiveros and Joel Ontiveros.
Marie Alonzo Joel Ontiveros, boy, born Jan. 14, 2003, at 1:30 p.m. weighing 5 pounds, 1 ounce and was 18 1/2 inches long. Parents are Emily Holguin and A. J. Ontiveros. Grandparents are Maria Holguin, Albert Chavarria; Ruth Ontiveros and Joel Ontiveros.

See STORKS, Page 38

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Big Spring Herald Sunday, Feb... Take For this column to go a of Big Spring. My uncle, Charles Ray Settles, sent this to me the other day and I wanted to share this with all of you. The was in his e-n Thought you this interesting sent to me by Cordill. I recall Overton's and ranchers in th

SENIOR CENTER MONDAY - rice, broccoli salad, milk/rot TUESDAY - rot salad, milk, pie. WEDNESDAY - Smothered s roni & tomato cucumber milk/rolls, fru THURSDAY - French fries sprouts, milk/cornbre FRIDAY - rice casserole, etables, spin rolls, milk, fr BIG SPRING MONDAY - rings, mashe California rosy applesau TUESDAY - salad, pin Spanish rice cake. WEDNESDAY - Pancake, sa cheese bites, fruit juice. THURSDAY - Spaghetti w/ breaded o w/mixed fruit FRIDAY - Cheeseburger French frie beans, chocol

COAHOMA BREAKFAST MONDAY - sausage, juic TUESDAY

HUMAN SOCIETY



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SUNDAY ANY 2 RE FOOT SANDW NO COUPON SUB 10th & GR 267-SUBS

# Taking a trip a little south of Big Spring

For this month's column I am going to go a little South of Big Spring. My uncle, Charles Ray Settles, sent this to me the other day and I wanted to share this with all of you. The following was in his e-mail to me: Thought you might find this interesting. It was sent to me by Susan Cordill. I recall the Overton's and Tates were ranchers in the area and



BURR LEA  
SETTLES

were neighbors of W.R. and B.H. Settles families. **THE GOOD OLD DAYS** Franklin Carl Tate Jr. May 5, 1958  
If you have a moment let us look back a few years over the last part of the roaring 20s. There is not too much we can learn about the state of government or about the world's problems. I have talked to a few of these people that lived back there in that age, known as the good old days. They remember most about their school, towns and where they were then. They were on the move looking for a better job.  
We find this condition even around Big Spring because oil had just been found. First a little town

of Chalk sprang up. Then another town called Ross City a little to the west and another named Forsan.  
There was a big ranch owned by W.R. Settles. As the oil was discovered on his ranch and people came from every which way. Mr. Settles knew the need of a school and set aside 10 acres of land for it. The land was in the southwest corner of the ranch on the San Angelo Highway. In 1926 the school was built. It was a two room school building with two teachers. The school was named after the creek which ran near by. It was Panther Draw. The school grew a little until 1929 and 30 when it had its biggest enrollment.

The school had a student in every grade and had a total of about 30 students if they were all present. The school had its hard times which was just about all the time. Sometimes the teachers went without pay for a while. They were always paid in the end. The boys of the school carried the wood in and built the fire everyday. The boys had another job, too. The only way to get to school was by horseback or walk. Those boys were just about like some of today. They loved to miss class. No one will ever know how many times they missed trying to catch the horses.  
These two teachers have already been forgotten, but what they taught

will never be forgotten. We owe a lot of thanks to these teachers who helped train 30 of the best citizens you can find.  
Let us take a little walk north on the highway which never saw payment. This is only about a half mile until we come to the little town of Drumright.  
It has two stations, two stores and one boarding house. This town grew overnight. It started in 1929 and was just about gone in 1935. This was one of the nicer towns that sprung up. They never had a killing. This town was said to have a bootlegger. There was a place called Dad's Place. There was something always funny about this

place. Dad ran it and wouldn't tell anyone his real name. Boy, he had the best 7 Ups in that town. No one ever got drunk from beer but many a person did from Dad's 7 Up. The work fell off and the town went down as fast as it was built.  
Let us go on north on the highway about three miles and we found a town called Midway. It had three stations and a store. This didn't turn into much of a town.  
Today you can find an old stone station still standing. You know when the moon is in full and at night you can still see cars pull up and stop. I just hope they have more luck buying gaso-

## MENUS

**SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**  
**MONDAY** — Chicken, rice, broccoli & cheese salad, milk/rolls, fruit.  
**TUESDAY** — Stew, carrot salad, cornbread, milk, pie.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Smothered steak, macaroni & tomatoes, spinach, cucumber salad, milk/rolls, fruit.  
**THURSDAY** — Catfish, French fries, Brussels sprouts, coleslaw, milk/cornbread, cobbler.  
**FRIDAY** — Chicken & rice casserole, mixed vegetables, spinach salad, rolls, milk, fruit.  
**BIG SPRING ISD**  
**MONDAY** — Chicken rings, mashed potatoes, California vegetables, rosy applesauce, roll.  
**TUESDAY** — Beef taco, salad, pinto beans, Spanish rice, blooming cake.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Pancake, sausage link, cheese bites, hashbrown, fruit juice.  
**THURSDAY** — Spaghetti w/meat sauce, breaded okra, jello w/mixed fruit, roll.  
**FRIDAY** — Cheeseburger, salad, French fries, pork & beans, chocolate pie.

toast, sausage juice, syrup, milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Biscuits, sausage, juice, milk.  
**THURSDAY** — Donuts, sausage, juice, milk.  
**FRIDAY** — Sweetened rice, sausage, fruit, milk.  
**LUNCH**  
**MONDAY** — BBQ sausage (burritos), corn, macaroni & cheese, peaches, bread, milk.  
**TUESDAY** — Chicken spaghetti (BBQ on bun & chips), carrot sticks, peas, bread, milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Homemade burritos (corndogs), ranch beans, peaches, milk.  
**THURSDAY** — Chicken nuggets, gravy, breaded okra, mashed potato, rolls, milk.  
**FRIDAY** — Hamburgers, spicey fries, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, milk.  
**ELBOW ELEMENTARY**

**BREAKFAST**  
**MONDAY** — Biscuits, sausage, juice, milk.  
**TUESDAY** — Muffins for Mom, donuts for Dad, juice, milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Muffins for Mom, donuts for Dad, juice, milk.  
**THURSDAY** — Muffins for Mom, donuts for Dad, juice, milk.  
**FRIDAY** — Cereal, Nutri-grain bar, juice, milk.  
**LUNCH**  
**MONDAY** — Ravioli, garlic toast, green beans, fruit, milk.  
**TUESDAY** — Enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fruit, milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Hamburgers, waffle fries, pickle, Rice Krispie treat, fruit/milk.  
**THURSDAY** — Chicken salad sandwich, chips, pickle spears, fruit, milk.  
**FRIDAY** — Steak frites, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas, fruit, rolls/milk.

**SANDS CISD**  
**BREAKFAST**  
**MONDAY** — Pancake on a stick, milk, juice  
**TUESDAY** — Potato and egg burritos, milk, juice  
**WEDNESDAY** — Breakfast pizza, milk, juice  
**THURSDAY** — Donuts, milk, juice.  
**FRIDAY** — cereal, milk, juice  
**LUNCH**  
**MONDAY** — BBQ on bun, ranch style beans, fruit or cake, milk.  
**TUESDAY** — Chicken strips w/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot roll, applesauce, milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** — Nacho grande, chips, salad, pinto beans, cornbread, cake, milk.  
**THURSDAY** — Steak fingers w/gravy, black-eyed peas, sliced potatoes, hot roll, pudding, milk.  
**FRIDAY** — Spaghetti w/meat, salad, corn, butterbread, fruit, milk.

## STORKS

Continued from Page 2B  
Ontiveros.  
...  
Orlando Sanchez III, boy, born Dec. 26, 2002, at 3:56 weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. Parents are Tiffany Dawson and Orlando Sanchez, Jr. Grandparents are Estella and Orlando Sanchez, Irma Cano and Donnell Dawson of Seattle WA.  
...  
Kevin Gamez, boy, born Jan. 17, 2003, at 11:41 weighing 9 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. Parents are Katherine and Eduardo Gamez. Grandparents are Katy and Esequiel Hernandez, Isbella and Magdaleno Gamez of Mexico and Nora and Valentin Garica of Auroura Co.  
...  
Hannah Kate Williams, girl, born Jan. 19, 2003, at

1:18 p.m. weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. Parents are Chad and Angie Williams. Grandparents are Robert and Rhonda Hayes, Tony Jackson and Clarence Williams of Forsan.  
...  
Kevin Mathew Rodriguez, boy, born Jan. 26, 2003, at 10:10 a.m. weighing 7 pounds, 8 1/2 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. Parent is Crystal Rodriguez. Grandparent is Marie Morena Rodriguez.  
...  
Alyssa Nicole Martinez, girl, born Jan. 22, 2003, at 12:52 p.m. weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long. Parents are Stephanie Lucio and Cesar Martinez. Grandparents are Sam and Lisa Rodriguez and Baltazar and Rosa Martinez of Ackerly.

**COAHOMA ISD**  
**BREAKFAST**  
**MONDAY** — Oatmeal, sausage, juice, milk.  
**TUESDAY** — French

**HUMANE SOCIETY**



Hi, my name is Alexander. I am a domestic long hair. I am solid white with big yellow eyes. I am a neutered male. My first birthday will be soon and I have all my shots. I love to play. I get along well with other cats, so come adopt me or of my other four-legged friends.

**JACK & JILL DAYCARE**  
Open 7 days a Week 5 am-Midnight  
Birth to 12 years old  
1708 S. Nolag 267-

**SUNDAY SPECIAL**  
ANY 2 REGULAR FOOT LONG SANDWICHES \$6.99  
NO COUPON NECESSARY  
**SUB**  
10th & GREGG ONLY  
267-SUBS (267-7927)

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*Now Open In Midland!*  
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Midland, TX. 79750  
915-520-5500  
3100 Andrews Hwy, Suite 16  
Odessa, TX. 79762  
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No Long Wait  
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Open 6 Days A Week  
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Accepting New Patients  
All Insurance, Including  
Medicare & Medicaid  
INTERNAL MEDICINE ANTI-AGING

**Bringing Up Boys**  
Six-Week Video Seminar  
Produced by  
**Focus on the Family Ministries**  
and **Dr. James Dobson**  
Free to the Community  
Calling all Parents, Grandparents, Youth Workers, Pastors, Teachers - Don't Miss This Seminar - Help in Raising Responsible Young Men in Today's Culture  
Sponsored by  
**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
9th and Gregg  
Thursdays at 7 p.m.  
Beginning February 6th in the Fellowship Hall  
Child Care Provided  
Call 267-7163 to register

The Big Spring Symphony Association presents  
**The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra**  
performing  
**Mozart Così fan tutte**  
**Mendelssohn Symphony #4 'The Italian'**  
Featuring  
The Big Spring Symphony Chorus  
The Meistersingers of Big Spring High School  
and  
The All-City Childrens' Honor Choir  
in a  
**"Choral Extravaganza"**  
Rutter, Bach & Purcell  
**Keith Graumann, Conductor**  
**Saturday, February 8, 2003**  
**8:00 pm**  
**Big Spring Municipal Auditorium**  
Tickets - \$10 • Sr. Citizens - \$8.00 • Students - \$5.00  
- TICKETS AVAILABLE -  
Big Spring Symphony Office • 808 Scurry Street • 264-7223  
Blum's Jewelers • Big Spring Chamber of Commerce  
Dunlap's • First Bank of West Texas • Heritage Museum • Faye's Flowers

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PUBLIC RECORDS

At the County Clerk's Office... 
Adams, Ray Anthony, 1218 E. FM 700, Big Spring
Alexander, Christopher Michael, 900 Boury St. No. D, Big Spring
Almon, David, 200329 AS-SM, Fort Jackson, B.C.

Knobles, Joseph Michael, 801 E. 18th St., Big Spring
Kotke, Kellisa, 606 Dallas St., Big Spring
Krypin, Susan L., 10801 Quail Valley Drive, Lasler

141, Dallas
Peacock, Sanjuana (Janie), Box 42, Achary
Pearson, James Christophe, 408 S. Ave., Coahoma

CROPS

Continued from Page 48
fication and management. Wade Polk and Bill Thompson of the Texas Cooperative Extension on risk management/farm assistance and the Farm Bill.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 48
to make a brief presentation on the possibilities of terrorist attacks on pipelines and underground utilities, as well as answer questions regarding the Department of Homeland Security.

WORK

Continued from Page 48
"The staff in this office have received extensive training and are currently preparing and practicing for this new method of assisting our clients," said added.

crops.
- Dr. Calvin Trostle on alternative crops.
- Dr. Charles Allen, who heads the Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, will also give an update on that program.

Pipelines, El Paso Field Services, El Paso Natural Gas Co., EOTT Energy Pipeline Limited Partnership, Kinder Morgan CO2 Co., Navajo Pipeline, Northern Natural Gas Co., ONEOK WestTex Transmission, Seminole Pipeline, Shell Pipeline Co., Sunoco Pipeline, Teppco Crude Oil, TXU Fuel co./TXU Lone Star Pipeline and Western Gas Resources.

vidual users when ever they can come to our office, or if they will call us, we can assist them at their place of business," said Belew.
"This is not the only method by which we will provide services," Belew said.

Advertisement for Valentine's Greeting. Features images of children holding Valentine's cards. Text includes: 'Show your loved ones how much you care with a special Valentine on our Valentine's Greeting Page', 'Friday, February 14', 'Come to the Big Spring Herald office by Wednesday, February 12 by 5 p.m.', '1x3 Valentine's Greeting Only \$15', and 'We're Always There'.





