

BIG SPRING

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THURSDAY.

November 20, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



TOMORROW TONIGHT 75°-77° 46°-48°

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Helen Barnes founded Meals on Wheels in Lehigh County, Penn., three decades ago. Now, at age 88, she still drives two routes a week.

BRIEFLY

Salute to military

The salute to the military shown during the 2003 Pops in the Park celebration is available for those who would like a copy.

Available in DVD and

FIXING A FEAST

Salvation Army seeks volunteers to assist with Thanksgiving meal

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

How will you give thanks a week from today?

For the Big Spring Salvation Army that's an easy question to answer, but a giant task to complete, as Corps personnel get ready to prepare Thanksgiving meals for the needy. Armed with spatulas and cooking tongs,

little bit of

their time,

especially

morning,

because

Wednesday

"We need volunteers

to come in and give a

that's going to be our

really big work day."

Linda Keeney,

Salvation Army captain

Salvation Army Linda Capt. Keeney and her crew of staff and volunteers will tackle the holiday meal head-on.

"This week we'll purchase the food and get all of the supplies we'll need for Thanks-giving Day," said Keeney. "Wednesday will be our big day. That's when we'll be doing our big push preparation wise. We have 140 pounds of potatoes we

have to peel and 14 turkeys that have to be deboned as well. "There's lots of prep work to get done including setting up the room and making sure all of the food is ready. The dressing has

to be cooked and prepared. There's going to be a lot of work to get done on Wednesday." Keeney said they will need as many volun-

teers as possible to make the meal successful, not to mention some sweets to help brighten the holiday for those less fortunate.

"The biggest thing right now is we really

See FEAST, Page 3A

At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins Big Spring Refinery Manager Joe Concienne introduces the facility's 75th anniversary logo to a crowd of employees and local officials during a special unveiling ceremony Wednesday. The unveiling was followed by a luncheon where Concienne and Alon USA President and CEO Jeff Morris

video, copies of the salute can be purchased for \$20 by contacting Lane Bond at 263-4033, the Big Spring Chamber Area of Commerce at 215 W. Third or the Big Spring Symphony office at 808 Scurry. Proceeds go to the symphony.

Democratic Party

The Howard County Democratic Party will meet at 7 tonight in the county courtroom.

All Democrats and any other interested persons are invited.

Business After Hours

Business After Hours will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. today at Coldwell Banker Ellen Phillips Real Estate, 406 E. Marcy Drive.

The program. designed to acquaint local business' owners, is sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

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Vol. 100, No. 9

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



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Todd Darden, director of public works for the city of Big Spring, right, and Michael Sizenbach, on loan from Airpark Maintenance, fasten holiday banners to the light poles along Gregg Street Wednesday morning.

gave those in attendance a sneak peak into next year's anniversary events

Refinery places emphasis on community, employees

By THOMAS JENKINS

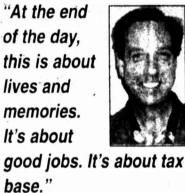
Staff Writer It's not the Cosden Refinery. It's not the Fina Refinery. It's not the Alon USA Refinery. It's the Big Spring Refinery.

That was the message Wednesday afternoon as the Big Spring Refinery unveiled its 75th anniversary logo and celebratory plans for the coming year in front of more than 100 employees and local officials.

Refinery Manager Joe Concienne told the crowd gathered in front of the freshly painted logo the event was designed to help mark the progress of the facility, which has become an inseparable part of the Big Spring community during the past 75 years.

"If you'll notice, our logo doesn't say anything about

Cosden, Fina or Alon," he the refinery, and what we're said. "What it says is this is the Big Spring Refinery. It's part of the community.



which also featured a barbecue luncheon, were also

sary logo.'

designed to give those in attendance a sneak peak into the coming year, and the plans Alon USA has to celebrate the 75-year milestone, including bringing **Big Spring Refinery history** and facts to the local schools.

doing today specifically is

unveiling our 75th anniver-

The day's festivities,

"We're excited to officially announce plans for our year-long anniversary celebration today and to discuss the details with our employees," Concienne said. "Throughout 2004 we will use this opportunity to highlight the contributions that refinery employees and

time to mark the progress of See REFINERY, Page 3A

Nevada woman jailed after leading law authorities on pursuit along I-20

Special to the Herald

A 19-year-old Las Vegas, Nev., woman who led officers on a brief automobile chase along Interstate 20 on Tuesday has been charged with felony evading arrest.

Bond was set at \$2,500 for Marilyn Kay Intlekofer, who was to be transported to the Dickens County Jail today.

The chase, which reached speeds of 90 to 95 miles per hour, began shortly before 7:30 p.m. at mile marker 165. Department of Public Safety Trooper Ben Muller of Martin County began following an eastbound vehicle after the driver committed a minor traffic violation.

"The vehicle began to speed up," said Trooper Marc Couch, who assisted in the chase. "The vehicle would not yield" (to the trooper's attempts to get the driver to pull over.)

Troopers Couch and Mike Dawson, Howard County sheriff's deputies and Big Spring police joined in. Couch deployed a stinger spike, which flattened three of the vehicle's tires. The driver continued ahead at speeds of 20 to 25 miles an hour and was stopped after taking the Refinery Road exit.

apprehended Officers

See PURSUIT, Page 2A

CISD board to consider joining investigation into oil companies

Jeff Morris.

Alon USA president and CEO

"The refinery has been

here 75 years. In 1929 Mr.

Cosden opened the refinery

and it's been in continuous

operation ever since. We

thought 75 years was a good

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer Coahoma Independent School District trustees plan to consider hiring a San Antonio law firm to investigate and possibly pursue claims against various major oil companies and their affiliates for allegedly understating their values.

Attorneys with Perry & Kellogg LLP will meet with trustees at 7 tonight to discuss the issue. The meeting will be held in the CISD board room, 600 Main Street in Coahoma.

"It is listed on the agenda as an

See CISD, Page 3A

Wash takes vacant spot on Forsan board By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A new face joined the Forsan Independent School District Board on Monday night and trustees indicated they were inclined to decline an opportunity to join public schools trying to put pressure on the state to change the school finance system.

Beckie Wash was appointed

See FISD, Page 2A

Obituaries

Billy Gene Overton



Billy Gene Overton of Odessa died Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2003, at his home. Services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday Nov. 21, 2003, at First Baptist Church in Monahans, located at 504 S. Alice. He was born June 1, 1934, to John R.

Overton Sr. and Eula Fannin Overton of Big Spring. He operated an independent oilfield

equipment and service company.

He is survived by his wife Melodee Overton of the home; two children, Wyatt Lynn Overton of Lewisville and Donna Overton of Mesa, Ariz.; one sister, Ruth Connally of Monahans; three brothers, J.R. Overton of Denton, Lewis Overton of Crane and Fred Overton of Carthage; and two grand children.

Evelyn Cindella Delatour



Evelyn Cindella Delatour, 73, of Big Spring, died on Monday, Nov. 17, 2003, in a local hospital. Graveside services will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, 2003, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Darrell Hendrickson, pastor of First Church of God, officiating.

She was born on July 15, 1930, in Iraan. She was a longtime resident of Howard County. She loved spending time with

her grandchildren and playing dominoes with friends. She was a member of the First Church of God.

Survivors include her son, Ray Delatour of Big Spring; one grandson and two granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her parents. The family suggests memorials to First Church of

God, 2009 Main, Big Spring, 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

From Page One PURSUIT

Continued from Page 1A

Intlekofer at 7:43 p.m., less than 20 minutes after the pursuit began.

"Fortunately, it went well," said Couch. "The common stinger spike has proven to be reliable. No units were damaged and no one was injured."

Couch said it was unknown why the woman didn't pull over.

Apparently, the vehicle had run out of gas near Monahans earlier in the day. Authorities there, concerned about the woman's welfare, contacted mental health officials. After speaking with a representative

LOCAL

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday until 8 a.m. Tuesday:

• ALLEN GENE COCHRANE, 48, of 1426 E. Sixth Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended.

• GREGORY ROBERSON, 20, of 2603 Hunter, was arrested Wednesday on capias warrants for five traffic violations.

• RANDY RAMIREZ, 20, of 1511 Sunset, was arrested Wednesday on two local traffic warrants.

• ROBERT SANCHEZ, 39, of Colorado City, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• THEFT was reported:

- in the 900 block of Willia.
- in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- in the 1700 block of FM 700.
- in the 400 block of Birdwell.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1400 block of US Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

• PATRICIA ANN PRIMIANO, 41, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

 TRICIA DIANE CASTILLO, 28, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of bailsman off of bond for delivery of cocaine, evading arrest and a motion to revoke probation for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

 MINOR ACCIDENT was reported on Highway 669 outside of Borden County. Deputies responded along with DPS.

• LOOSE HORSES were reported in the 600 block of Vickie. Deputy was dispatched, owner was located and will bring animal information to dispatch. No report.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 5300 block of Opal Lane. Deputies responded to report of criminal mischief to a vehicle, report to follow.

From Page One

FISD

Continued from Page 1A

to fill the position left by former board President Debbie Burt, who resigned at the October meeting. Burt resigned because her family moved from the district

"Being a new board member, I'm just eager to learn my what responsibilities will be, what's going on inside the board and what I can do to help," Wash said.

A candidate in the 2003 board elections, Wash with drew shortly after filing her intent to run due to a conflict of interest. A family member was in consideration for employment and later was hired by the district. According to Superintendent Wayne Rotan, the appointment poses no conflict of interest since the related employee has worked with the district more than 30 days. Wash will continue to serve in the position at least until May, when the seat will come up for election. With the absence of a president, trustees reorganized the board and approved Allan McDowell to serve in that role. Dale Humphreys was chosen as vice president and Marty Whestel will serve as secretary. After a 15-minute discussion on joining the Alvarado Intervenors, a group of property-poor districts participating as intervenors in the West Orange-Cove case. Rotan said the board was in favor of declining. "I don't think we plan to pursue this at this time," he said. "At this point, the group has several plaintiffs on their side forcing the issue. We would have to spend school district money, and if Forsan joined at this point, it wouldn't change the decision one way or another." The Alvarado Intervenors are a separate group from the West Orange-Cove plaintiffs, which began as a group of property-rich schools that filed a lawsuit in 2000 to challenge the constitutionality of the Texas public school financing system. In other business, trustees approved:

BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

40

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

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gales Sweet Shoppe, 1712 E FM 700.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane, 267-6479.

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

Citizen's Police Academy Alumni, 5:30 p.m., RSVP office, 501 Runnels.

American Legion Post 506, 6 p.m., call 263-2084 for more information.

Rackley-Sword 379, Vietnam Veterans of America, 7 p.m., 309 S. Main.

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

FRIDAY

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

AMBUCS, noon, La Posada, 206 NW Fourth St.

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

Spring City Senior Citizens Center Country & Western Dance, 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., 1901 Simler. All area seniors or invited.

Eagles Lodge Enchilada Supper, 6:00-8:00 p.m. \$6.00 per plate, 703 W. 3rd.

SATURDAY

Howard Country Scottish Rite club, 7:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21st St. and Lancaster.

Free eye glasses, 9 a.m.-noon, Bob's Custom Woodwork, 409 E. Third St.

Hangar 25 Air Museum, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historical home, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

SUNDAY

Alon U CEO J spoke d ny, e impact had on the com "This very im

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of MHMR, the woman was released.

Howard County Chief Deputy Gary Pritchett said the woman had no outstanding warrants and a limited criminal history.

"She used poor judgment," Pritchett said. "It's not a case where she was trying to hurt herself."

"The Howard County Sheriff's Office, Big Spring police and the dispatcher all worked hand in hand to stop this vehicle. Everybody did their job," said Couch. "Everyone worked together to bring an end to what was a dangerous situation."

Take note

A FUND HAS BEEN set at State National Bank to help defray medical costs for Elsie Hinojosa of Stanton, a cancer patient. She is a relative of Patsy Padilla of Big Spring..

□ 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, you are needed.

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.

□ ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED.

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

□ SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy.

Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.



· A memorandum of understanding with Big Spring ISD for alternative education services.

• Presented certificates of recognition to the high school cross country regional qualifiers and the band state finalists.

· Casting 714 ballots all for Humphreys in the Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors election.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

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

Weather

Tonight – Clear. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 5 to 15 mph.

Friday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night – Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s.

Saturday — Breezy, Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.

Sunday — Partly cloudy. Breezy. Lows in the lower 50s. Highs in the upper 50s.

Monday through Wednesday — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs near 60.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-20-23-26-33. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$21,113.

Winning tickets sold in: Chappell Hill and Monahans.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-8-19-21-25. Bonus Ball: 21. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$8 million.

... The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night: 5-1-3



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BY THE MONTH HCHIE DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 'early) ionthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 else

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retirees have made to our community and to the industry.

extremely "We're pleased that the Big Independent Spring School District will join us in this celebration by engaging students to help mark this important milestone next year. The refinery has partnered with BSISD to develop an interdisciplinary curriculum project in the schools focused on the refinery's history and its impact on the local economy."

Alon USA President and CEO Jeff Morris also spoke during the ceremony, emphasizing the impact the refinery has had on its employees and the community. "This refinery had a

very important impact on

their lives," said Morris. nized by the Texas Workforce Commission, "It created very good jobs for numbers and numbers as Concienne noted the of years, and continues to refinery had received a

do so now. It creates a tax recent award from the base to support our state agency. schools. The charitable "The Texas Workforce Commission has a local organizations in Big Spring depend on the office in Big Spring, headed by Virginia Belew," he refinery to support them, said. "She nominated us as we are the largest givers to the United Way for this Texas Workforce in the community by far. Development "At the end of the day, award, and we won the this is about lives and award for the Permian memories. It's about good Basin section, which is jobs. It's about tax base. about a 10-county section

It's about contractors that in West Texas. "Basically the award is about that vacation folks for an employer who has can take that they might used workforce developnot have been able to othment, and basically what erwise. It's about that we've done is use Howard mortgage that was paid College to help in our certification program in safeoff... That is what this next year is about, and ty training, which has that is the kinds of lives been a wonderful joint has effort."

looked back on the history of the facility during

times. Board

As refinery officials the ceremony, Concienne

changed immensely over the years and serves as a testament to the Big Spring facility's ability to survive tough economic 'There are less refiner-

ies in the United States,' said Concienne. "When I first got into the business in 1974, there were 450 refineries in the United States, and now there's 150 here in the U.S. I think that really shows the competitiveness of this refinery. It's very competitive and has an excellent workforce, and that's attributed to the interaction with the community. You see the people here today, and most of them are either retirees, friends or employees, and I think that's what makes the refinery work here.

"That's what makes this refinery a survivor. It has the support of the com-

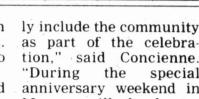
to set up a meal delivery, contact the Big Spring Salvation Army at 267-

said the industry has munity and it has an excellent work ethic. That's what we want to celebrate here today." Concienne explained

the major event for the anniversary will be held during an action-packed weekend celebration scheduled for May 21-22, when the facility will host a special reception for employees, legislators and local dignitaries at the Heritage Museum. Those in attendance will get the chance to preview the newly commissioned Big Spring Refinery 75th Anniversary Exhibit, which will be followed by a recognition ceremony and tour of the refinery.

Also scheduled for the weekend will be a golf tournament and dinner reception for past and present leaders of the refin-"Although erv. our anniversary will highlight our employees and retirees, we will definite-

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



tion," said Concienne. "During the special anniversary weekend in May we will also host a community festival with free food and family activities at Howard College, followed by a free community concert at the coliseum, featuring a great musical entertainment line-up for everyone to enjoy.

Plans were also announced for community functions such as the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, the Howard County Fair, Big Spring Rodeo and the Howard-**Glasscock Old Settlers** Reunion.

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

Newspaper In Education Each Tuesday SPRING HERALD



FEAST

Continued from Page 1A

need help," she said. "We need volunteers to come in and give a little bit of their time, especially on Wednesday morning, because that's going to be our really big work day. On Thanksgiving Day we need people to come in at about 10 a.m. to start getting the meals ready to go and start getting the room ready for the walk-ins. We'll also need people to stay until after 1 p.m. and help us wash all of these dishes. "We need lots of volun-

teers. We also need people to make pumpkin pies or pecan pies and other types of deserts and bring them next week.'

According to Keeney, a Thanksgiving meal is merely a phone call away, complete with delivery. "If people need meals for Thanksgiving, they need to call our office and give

phone number and how

many meals they need,"

she said.

for us.

those people in the community that come to our building."

this

changed."

we work out here. It's

refinery

The impact the local

refinery has had over the

years has also been recog-

As for volunteers, Keeney said no reservation is necessary to help sling turkey and dressing during the meal.

"You can call our office, or just show up," said Keeney. "We'll get started at 10 a.m. on Wednesday with the preparations and getting the meal ready. Delores Albert heads up our Thanksgiving, and we're so thankful for her. She spearheads everything for us and gets the volunteers organized into the areas they need to be.

"We'll keep working Wednesday until all of the work is completed. Then on Thursday, Delores will come in at about 7 a.m. to get cooking and preparing. We usually wrap things up between 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Thursday afternoon."

While volunteering may seem like an adult job, us their address, tele- Keeney said she hopes people will get their families involved as well. "The Thanksgiving "Then on Thanksgiving Day we meal is a wonderful way for families to realize have people that volunteer their time come in there are those out there and deliver those meals that are much less fortunate than they are," she said. "This gives them a "We start delivering the chance to give back to meals between 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., and after we those that don't have as get the delivery done we much, and it's great to do start serving the meals to it as a family... to get your

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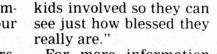
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For more information on how you can help, or



FRIDAY THRU MONDAY ONLY! BEALLS Pre-Thanksgiving Savings Spreel ent of 16 entry m

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business, In other trustees will:

• Consider the 2002-2003 audit report by outside auditor Don McKee of the San Angelo-based Reed and Mckee.



-888-829-3962

CISD

Continued from Page 1A

item," action said Howard County Appraisal Superintendent Dr. Bill District Kingston. "We did it that Directors. way so after the meeting with the attorneys, the ment with the General trustees can take action if Land Office and Reliant they want to.' Energy to provided elec-

In September, Howard County commissioners agreed to enter into a contingency fee agreement with the Perry & Kellog to investigate and possibly pursue common law claims against major oil industries for alleged al disaster occurring in underpayment on hydrocarbon mineral interests, including oil and gas.

If the CISD board for property located in decides to participate in Sand Springs some type of lawsuit, Trustee Sissy Wells has dums of understanding stated publicly she would between CISD and the Big have to resign due to a Spring ISD. conflict of interest. Wells works for a company in

academic achievement. Contact Staff Writer

gram.

trict.

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Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

izza Inn

Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.

Night Buffet

5:30 pm-9:30 pm

All The Pizza, Pasta, Salad &

rt You Can Eat.

702 Gregg

263-1381

Young men's on sale too! Selected styles. Reg./orig. 26.00-38.00. • Discuss applying for the National School Fitness Foundation pro-24.99-34.99 Cast ballots for the

> FURNISHINGS Lounge sets, terry robes, dress shirt and tie sets. Reg. 40.00-49.50.

MEN'S BOXED

SALE 17.99

MEN'S KNIT

& WOVEN SHIRTS

40% OFF **GIRLS 7-16 & BOYS 8-20 TOPS**

Selected fashion styles for Fall. Reg. 16.00-28.00, SALE 9.60-16.80.

BUY 1 PR. 50% OFF **ENTIRE STOCK** SHOES FOR THE FAMILY

All men's, ladies and kids styles. Reg. 15.00-80.00.

*2nd pair must be of equal or lesser value

BEALLS



Storewide savings, Holiday Bucks, plus use

your Bonus Coupons below to save even more!

FREE \$10 HOLIDAY BUCKS CERTIFICATE WITH ANY PURCHASE **OF \$50 OR MORE** November 29-December 1, 2003

> 60% OFF **ENTIRE STOCK FINE JEWELRY**

Gold and sterling silver earrings rings, necklaces, bracelets, sets, more

SAVE 50% ALL HOLIDAY HOME ACCENTS

Tree toppers, nativities, ceramics and more. Orig. 8.00-40.00, SALE 3.98-19.98.

30%-40% OFF MISSES FALL TOPS Tops, sweaters, blouses, more.

Reg. 26.00-48.00, SALE 18.20-28.80.

40% OFF JUNIORS ACTIVEWEAR

Big Flirt', Full Speed', more. S-M-L. Reg. 14.00-28.00, SALE 8.40-16.80.

SALE 19.99 WONDERBRA "LOVE IT LACE" BRAS Styles 7263, 7476 or 7478 only. Reg. 29.00-32.00.

SAVE 33%-40% **ENTIRE STOCK** LADIES & MEN'S COATS 33% OFF reg. prices. EXTRA 25% OFF clearance. Reg./orig. 40.00-160.00, then 29.99-160.00, SALE 22.50-105.60.

BEALLS

BONUS COUPON VALID NOVEMBER 21-24 BONUS COUPON VALID NOVEMBER 21-24 Extra 15% Off Extra 15% O ANY SINGLE ITEM: REG.-PRICE, SALE OR CLEARANCE ANY SINGLE ITEM: REG.-PRICE, SALE OR CLEARANCE

Interim markdowns may have been taken. Entire stocks only where indicated. Selections may vary by store. For the store nearest you, call toll-free 1-877-737-8243.

OPINION

BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

DITORIAL

"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

Susanne Reed

General Manager

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

Chuck Williams Publisher

> John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Deadline for Herald Christmas parade entries noon Friday

here's just one day left for those individuals, businesses and organizations planning to take part in the Big Spring Herald's 18th annual Community Christmas Parade to register their entries.

Entry forms for the Saturday, Dec. 6, event have been running in the *Herald* and are also available at the newspaper's offices.

The deadline is noon Friday, so be sure to get your entry form filled in and dropped off here at the Herald's offices, located at 710 Scurry.

The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. and follow its usual route from the intersection of 24th and Gregg Streets to downtown, arriving at the courthouse square in time for the lighting of the community Christmas tree scheduled at Heart of the City Park.

Once again, we believe there are lots of reasons to enter the parade. Those who've participated in the past tell us it's a fun way to express civic pride and a blessing to see the joy on the faces of spectators that line Gregg Street.

For many, participating in the parade is another way to celebrate the season – an expression of faith.

It seems that every year some of the floats are simple, while others are quite elaborate. All, however, are unique.

'Our theme this year is "A Family Christmas," and we suggest that you develop your entry around the activities you and your family or friends always enjoy at this time of year. The ideas, obviously, are endless. Parade entries will be judged and plaques awarded to first-place winners in 'four categories: lighted entries; those sponsored by schools and churches; commercial and manufacturers' entries; and those sponsored by civic organizations. So, if you are interested in taking part in the Herald **Community Christmas Parade**, get an entry form filled in as soon as possible and let us know what you're planning to do. The parade is huge – sometimes as many as 100 entries — and it takes time for us to plan and coordinate. And if you have any questions or need additional information concerning the parade, contact parade coordinator Elizabeth Flores at 263-7331. The Community Christmas Parade has become one of the largest and best events of its kind and we hope you'll all join us in making this the biggest and best parade we've ever had.

n August, state Attorney General Bill Lockyer told the Sacramento Bee that if the Gray Davis political machine waged a nasty campaign in the recall election - as it did in its successful bid to bury

Los Angeles Mayor Dick Riordan in the GOP primary in 2002 many Democrats would tell His Grayness, "We're tired of that puke politics."

Now, "puke politics" is back thanks to Lockyer. On Friday, the attorney general told Ronn Owens of KGO radio

in San Francisco that he had "personal knowledge" Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger did "terrible things" to a woman during the filming of "Terminator 3" - even though Lockyer said he didn't know the woman's name and wasn't sure if he could track her down.

Lockyer called for an independent investigation into Schwarzenegger's treatment of women, possibly by a district attorney's office, and suggested that investigators post an 800 telephone number to help alleged victims lodge complaints.

A baffled Owens quipped Monday: What would you call the number

"1-800-GROPING or something?" Lockyer told Owens that he doesn't know if Schwarzenegger is

guilty or not. That makes Lockyer guilty of not understanding the gravity of his

office. California's top law man

Washington, D.C.

JOHN CORNYN

RICK PERRY

unions instantly

changed the atmos-

ranks. The former

plucky outsider

phere in Democratic

governor of Vermont

is no longer merely a

tweaking the political

establishment. More

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Washington, DC 20510-

Phone: 202-224-2934

U.S. Senator

4305

Governor ADDRESSES State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 GEORGE W. BUSH Austin, 78711 President Phone: (512) 463-2000 The White House

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator 703 Hart Office Building Washington, 20510 Phone: 202-224-5922

TEEL BIVINS

isn't chief of the rumor police. He has a moral obligation not to spread gossip that - by his own admission - he hasn't even checked out.

The return of puke politics! Let Arnold do his job

A few facts are in order: During the election, the Los Angeles Times ran stories in which women accused Schwarzenegger of groping or humiliating them. There were no eye witnesses. Every allegation fell outside the statute of limitations. No criminal charges were filed. No civil lawsuits are pending. In the eyes of the law, there is no "there" there.

Lockyer spokesman Nathan Barankin explained that Lockyer wants an independent investigation because the rumors "are out there" and they'll haunt the new governor. It could absolve Schwarzenegger or give him the opportunity to send the message that sexual harassment is wrong.

Nice try — but there are nogrounds for government action. Rather than a story of wrongdoing, this is really a story of two men who have dug big public-relations holes for themselves and keep digging.

Lockyer has been feeling heat from the left since he announced he voted for Schwarzenegger. despite his reservations about the governor-elect's "frat-boy behavior." Then, Lockyer hurt himself again by defining that "frat-boy behavior" as ranging from "rowdy drunkenness to rape." His calls for an independent investigation might have made the bad press go elsewhere - if Lockyer hadn't put his foot in his mouth again with his craven rumormongering.

Then, there's Schwarzenegger. In a bonehead moment during the campaign, Schwarzenegger told

> Representative Texas 85th District P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: (512) 463-0604

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OFFICE - 264-2200. BEN LOCKHART, COUNTY JUDGE - Home: 263-4155: Office: 264-2202.

NBC's Tom Brokaw that he would look into the sexual harassment allegations after the election and "get into all of these specifics."

Let that be a lesson for the governor-elect: Think before you make big promises that tie up your staff in Gordian knots. To make it look as if Schwarzenegger actually meant what he said, his spokesman, Rob Stutzman, told reporters that Team Arnold would hire a private investigator.

My advice: Don't make this mistake. Schwarzenegger has already told the public, "I have done things that were not right, which I thought then was playful.' Disclosing the dirty details as to which boorish episodes were true, and which were not, can only result in more old-sleaze stories. Yuk.

The voters have a sense for how long bad deeds should haunt a public man; they elected Schwarzenegger. The women in the L.A. Times' stories had a chance to file complaints; they passed.

Which means: Only Schwarzenegger can hurt Schwarzenegger. His first act as governor should be to announce that he's not going to respond to what amounts to gossip. The authorities can investigate if they actually have cause, but he has work to do.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Nursery): 263-4441.

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

RUSS MCEWEN, MAYOR Home: 263-0907; Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413.

GREG BIDDISON - Home: 267-6009; Work (Ponderosa Restaurant): 267-7121. W.A. "WOODY" JUMPER -

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DEBRA SAUNDERS

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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.

 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

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205

 By e-mail Managing Editor John Moseley at imoseley@crcom.net or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.

By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, some day you will let us see clearly the reason for the muddy days.

Amen

Senator RANDY NEUGEBAUER U.S. Representative (19th Cong. District) 1026 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202)225-4005

he endorsement of Howard

Dean for president this

week by two

major labor

Texas 31st District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720. Phone: 268-9909; (915) 563-0031, (915) 682-0455, (512) 463-0131.

Looking closely at Dean, warts and all

announced presidential candi-

dates, Dean was given four min-

utes to address the NARAL Pro-

Choice America dinner. What was

reported of his remarks was hard-

What was not reported was

had not impregnated the girl, and

Dean knew it. On NBC's "Meet the

Press," Dean indicated that he had

guilty party and so parental notifi-

cation was not appropriate. In the

first thought the father was the

Standard. opinion editor David

Tell relates the incident in full

and leaves no doubt that Dean

misrepresented the situation in

addressing the NARAL dinner.

Tell was one of the Republican

Party's leading opposition research

experts a decade ago before enter-

ing journalism and has no peer in

digging out the dirt. But a peerless

investigator was not needed to

gaffe.

uncover Dean's Confederate flag

Nobody paid much attention

Democratic National Committee in

when Dean, addressing the

February, sought support of

trucks with Confederate flag

"white folks who drive pickup

decals." The doctor dodged that

1, reminding everybody: "I still

with Confederate flags in their

pickup trucks." When Dean's

want to be the candidate for guys

bullet but brought it up again Nov.

current issue of the Weekly

PETE LANEY

EMMA BROWN — Home: 267-2649. JERRY KILGORE - 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471. BILL CROOKER - Home: 263-2566. GARY SIMER - Home: 263-

0269; Work (Ponderosa

Home: 263-0782; Work (BSSH): 267-8216.

STEPHANIE HORTON Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.. JOANN STAULCUP --- Home: 263-4980

GLORIA MCDONALD -Home: 263-4835

opponents pounced on him at the Nov. 4 candidates' debate in Boston, he bristled. It took him until the next morning to back away from the Stars and Bars. One onlooker said Dean has the harsh bedside manner of a surgeon.

Just when it appeared that Dean's prickly behavior might do him in, the two labor union endorsements confirmed him as front-runner. Backing from the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) had been expected. But support from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) was a devastating blow to **Gephardt and Teamsters President**

Until the end, Gephardt had hoped AFSCME's Gerald McEntee would follow 20 other unions into his camp, leading to an AFL-CIO endorsement of the veteran congressman. In private conversation, however, McEntee has complained that Gephardt is not "electable." So much for a career of organized labor's most faithful supporter in the upper reaches of the Democratic Party.

AFSCME's organizational muscle in Iowa strengthens Dean's hand in winning the Jan. 19 caucuses there, which stand as a last barricade against his nomination. peculiar nominee of a major party. To prevent that or take advantage of it, his torrent of words is being searched in the greatest detail.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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James Hoffa.

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ly newsworthy. Dean's account of a 12-year-old pregnant girl he treated. "After I had talked to her for a while," he said, "I came to the conclusion that the likely father of her child ROBERT NOVAK

likely than anybody else, he will be nominated for president – warts and all. Those warts are talked about by Democratic activists, only after they stress that they cannot be quoted by name in criticizing their party's prospective leader. "The more I see of Howard Dean." a veteran Democratic operative told me, "the less I like him."

Deficiency of likability is cited widely inside the party. He is accused of being a poor listener whose words make trouble for himself. Tough and determined though he is, he is stubborn, humorless and often inflexible.

Everybody now is taking a closer look at Dr. Dean. That includes his opponents for the nomination. desperate to stop what has the appearance of a runaway train. It also guarantees that George W. Bush's crack opposition research team will more intensely scrutinize Dean's accumulated mass of public statements. What's more, the news media is bound to dig into and masticate what looks like a political feast.

Morsels that can cause Dean political indigestion are often hidden inside statements that attracted little attention at the time. Last Jan. 21, along with five other

was her own father." That led to Dean's heated promise that "I will veto parental notification," evoking stormy applause. But as reported in Salon and USA Today weeks later, the father

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BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

LIFE

Secret Service mystery draws reader into intrigue

Not long after attorney David

desiring his services; the wife of the President of the United States is seeking a divorce. At first David is flushed with pride at being sought by such an influential person, but he soon learns that he has entered into a world of threats, danger, and retaliation.

Secret Service Agent Helen Wills is assigned the task of guarding the president's wife. Myra McPherson. Helen's devotion to her job and her charge never seem to be in doubt, but her conversations with others are ambiguous enough to create questions about where her loyalties do lie.

Not long after David's first meeting with Myra, Helen frantically enlists David assistance in a search for the First Lady and her son who have been separately spirited away by the Secret Service to innocuous, but hidden places.

Independently David and Helen manage to be successful in their searches that involve quick thinking, stolen

vehicles, and a lot of luck. After finding Myra and her son, David and Helen rendezvous and begin in earnest their joint escape from the Secret Service and local police: now they are officially on the run.

Incorporated in the president's manipulation for ultimate power are questionable alliances with a greedy software magnate who has evil agendas of his own. As part of the business man's ambition to be on the cutting edge of technology, he employs brilliant, yet unethical, unconscionable men who are essentially pawns in the scheme.

When the safety of the President's wife and son are in question, it is left to the reader to discern whether these nefarious power-hungry people have compromised the security net set up by the Secret Service.

In this latest novel Brandon does not go into great detail about White House and Secret Service protocol, but offers just enough information to give the story a sense of reality and possibility. The myriad of problems that could arise when the wife of such a wealthy and influential man seeks a public divorce are unending. The diversity of well-founded news. leaks, as well as biased information available for public consumption, has given this author plenty of substance with which to write a compelling

novel

Jay Brandon is an experienced author with many books to his credit; **Executive Privilege show**cases his proficiency in writing fiction that can emotionally charge the reader with fear, excitement and empathy.

5A

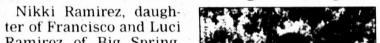
Brandon's characterizations remain consistent throughout the story, but the development of each person seems to lack depth. Attorney Owens continues to seek the best for his client in every way, but it is hard to sense commitment. The First Lady seems rather wimpy for a woman who could personally destroy the leader of the Free World.

First Son Randy is the "perfect child" and never exhibits any normal rebellion or youthful angst. 'Agent Helen maintains her rigid stance while on duty, but her softer side seems suspect. The plot is interest ing and allows the reader frequent opportunities to surmise possible outcomes; however, the intimate moments seem contrived and shallow. The implications of a presidential divorce with its far-reaching consequences are of such great proportion that it would be catastrophic for one's political future to allow it to happen. Or would it?

Executive Privilege. Jay Brandon. Tom Doherty Assoc., LLC, New York, New York. 2003(Paperback).

Student noted among distinguished Texas youth

Ramirez of Big Spring,



ty-first century. The candidates are intelligent, well-rounded students. Sixty percent of the judging involves written resumes, with another significant portion being the judge's interview." Program finals will be held Nov. 30, at the Renaissance Hotel and will culminate in the naming of the new Young Miss of Texas and Little Miss of Texas Special Guests featured in the program will be the current Young Miss of Texas, Krista Hill of Piano and the current Little Miss of Texas, Carly Johnson of Sweetwater.Featured Mistresses of Ceremony will be former Miss Teen of Texas, Ashlie Kelly of Pasadena and Miss Teen of America, Andrea Hatch of Boise, Idaho.

St. Paul Lutheran sup-Operation ports Christmas Child. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, along with Sunday School classes, have put together 166 boxes to be sent to children. The church members donated items and/or money to purchase items to be included in these

Spring and Lamesa. Noon Monday is the deadline to take boxes to Operation Child 2003.

boxes. Allan's Furniture is the area drop-off site for Big Christmas

Allan's to be included in

Child sends a message of hope to children in desperate situations around the world through giftfilled shoe boxes and

Allan's Furniture is the area drop-off site for Big Spring and Lamesa.

> boxes now. Shoe box gifts can be dropped off at one of more than 1,300 drop sites located in all 50 states. Official shoe box collection week is Nov. 17 - 24.

Ned Crandall, Helen Crandall, Phyllis Graumann, and Juanell Roever prepare boxes. Irma

Christmas gift boxes

prepared by volunteers

Dunckel, and Doris Hicks complete the boxes to be shipped.

Families, schools, churches, scout troops, civic clubs, and other organizations in thousands of cities in all 50 **Operation** Christmas states and nine additional countries will fill some seven million shoe boxes with personal gifts, school supplies, candy, necessity items, family Christian literature. This photos, and notes of program provides an encouragement. opportunity for individu-More than 75,000 volunals of all ages to be teers worldwide, 36,000 involved in a simple, volunteers in the United hands-on missions project States serve during the that reaches out to sufferprogram. ing children while focus-Shoe boxes will be filled ing on the true meaning and donated by millions of Christmas. In 2002, of people in 10 countries more than six million including the United shoe boxes were collected States, Canada, worldwide and distrib-United Kingdom, uted to children in about Australia, the 95 countries. Netherlands, Germany, In 2003, Operation Ireland, Austria, Christmas Child will Switzerland, and Finland. hand-deliver an estimated Samaritan's Purse staff seven million shoe box and partners will handgifts to hurting kids in deliver the shoe box gifts more than 100 countries. to some seven million The World's Largest children in more than 100 Christmas Children's countries including Project of Kids-Helping-Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kids Jordan, and Sudan. Some seven million suf-The shoe box gifts are fering children in more processed in seven major than 100 countries on six centers across the United continents will receive States: Boone, N.C.; personal, gift-filled shoe Charlotte, N.C.; boxes through this kids-Minneapolis, Minn.; helping-kids project. Atlanta, Ga.; Denver, For many of these chil-Colo.; Santa Ana, Calif.; dren, the gift will be the Soldotna; Alaska. After first present they have processing, the shoe ever received. boxes are loaded onto Kids, families, scout some of the world's troops, schools, churches, largest cargo planes, civic clubs, and businesstrucks, and sea containes are filling their shoe ers bound for the far stop by to see Wouldn't life be easier if you had **Ronnie Palmer ONE AGENT** to handle your Well Farm Bureau Insurance can insurance needs help. We provide auto, home and life insurance. So whether you have a claim, need to change FARM coverage or just have a question. it's really convenient. You always BUREAU call the same office. And with INSURANCE Farm Bureau Insurance rates, you may even save money. FARM BUREAU

reaches of the earth. Once the boxes are transported to some 100

Courtesy photo

countries around the world, Samaritan's Purse representatives and national partners collect them an

travel by truck, bus, train, helicopter, boat, foot, dog sled, mule and even camel to hand-deliver the gifts, along with colorful children's books of the Christmas story.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected more than 24 million shoe boxes valued at more than \$480 million. and delivered them to needy children in 120 countries.

Every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan has packed an Operation Christmas Operation Christmas Child is a proof international ject Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse, named the most efficiently run religious charity America in by SmartMoney magazine (2000, 2001, 2002). Headed by Franklin Graham, Samaritan's Purse is curthe rently working in 100 countries. including Afghanistan, where after the fall of the Taliban, the organization established

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schools, and helped build hundreds of homes. After Nov. 24, shoe boxes should be mailed to Samaritan's Purse: P.O. Box 3000, 801 Bamboo Road, Boone, N.C. 28607. For more information visit the organization's Web site at www.samaritanspurse.org.

a hospital, rebuilt several

Read us online: bigspringherald.com

has been selected to participate in the Distinguished Youth of Texas Scholarship and **Recognition Program to** bė held the at Renaissance Hotel in Austin, Nov. 28-30, 2003.

She is the granddaugh ter of Mr. and Mrs. Vern **Robin and Anne Torres of** Big Spring and Alex Ramirez of Hereford.

During the weekend event, two Texas students will be selected to receive a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond and the right to serve as a State Program Titleholder for one year. In addition, both winners will receive \$250 to present to their respective from the schools Distinguished Youth of America Program. In all. more than \$5,000 in awards and prizes will be presented to various participants.

The Distinguished Youth program is designed to recognize



Nikki Ramirez

girls who rank high academically and who are leaders in their schools and communities. The judging criteria used to select the two state titleholders includes the following: scholastic record; service to school and community; personality projection; and interview. program founder, Warren Alexander, said "This program truly reflects the female youth of the twen-



SPIRIT

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FEATURES

BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

Wheels



The all-new Ford F-150 lineup for 2004 includes Regular, SuperCab and SuperCrew body styles, and choice of three bed lengths and five trim lines.

Bigger, bolder, stronger, tougher

Ford's new F-150 for 2004 exceeds expectations

SAN ANTONIO – The game has changed.

The new Ford F-150 set to hit dealer showrooms this fall – is bigger, bolder, stronger and the toughest F-150 ever.

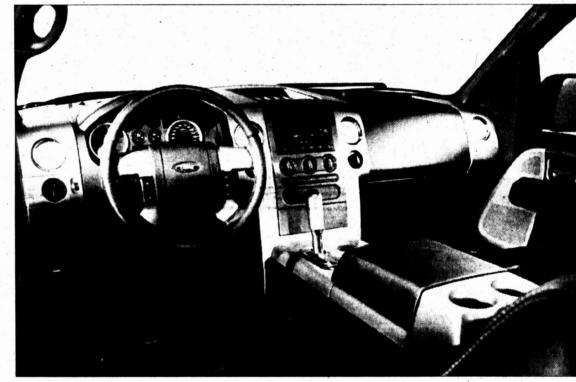
That's not just an ad slogan — Ford has exceeded every expectation in the '04 redesign of the world's best-selling vehicle. It is without question the quietest, most comfortable, smoothest riding full-size pickup on the road.

ered), L was amazed at how well the new pickup handled the off road course.

This truck will go anywhere, do anything – and not wear you out or beat



The rear passenger compartment for SuperCab models has been lengthened by six inches, giving back seat passengers much needed additional leg room. The rear seats have also been redesigned, providing a more natural (and comfortable) angle for sitting. It is more powerful. Every '04 includes a V-8 engine and automatic transmission. A new 5.4liter Triton V-8 engine (300 horsepow r) has been added to the lineup, providing a maximum tow rating of 9.500 pounds and a maximum payload capacity of 2,900 pounds. The cargo box is also two inches deeper, providing greater cargo volume. It also includes Ford's new Tailgate Assist feature, which allows the rear gate to be opened and closed easily with one hand (I did put that feature to the test, and again. it exceeded my expectations).



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in the have m Specif Souther decide champi No. 10 outrigh the sec (7-3, 6straight Still, want to (10-0, 7 Champ "Yeah times," Brando

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Special FORS Buffalo Terry being e about t his tea their f season against Steers. "We ness,"

"What with it The enough All t was to into turnov tory. The n't go Buffal Thank ing per the ga themse catchu Senio tied th with ju go in hard t flipped head play.

Ford engineers deserve a major pat on the back for their work on the new boxed frame and suspension design, which features innovative outboard rear shocks and wider rear leaf springs.

During a recent media preview in San Antonio, we logged a lot of seat time in the new F-150 on both the highway and offroad course.

While I expected a superior ride on the road (which the F-150 delivBY NEAL WHITE

you up in the process.

Every '04 F-150 features four doors — including Regular Cab models, which feature 13 inches of secure storage space behind the seat. The two access doors provide convenient access to tools, groceries or whatever needs to be securely stowed.

On the outside, Ford has given the new F-150 a much bolder, tougher stance that closely resembles its Super Duty

2004 Ford F-150 FX4 interior. More room means greater comfort

cousins. The big surprise comes when you open the door and see the new interiors. WOW!

Ford has definitely moved pickup truck interior styling into the 21st century.

The '04 F-150 is available in three body configurations (Regular Cab. SuperCab and SuperCrew), three box lengths (8-feet, 6-1/2-feet,

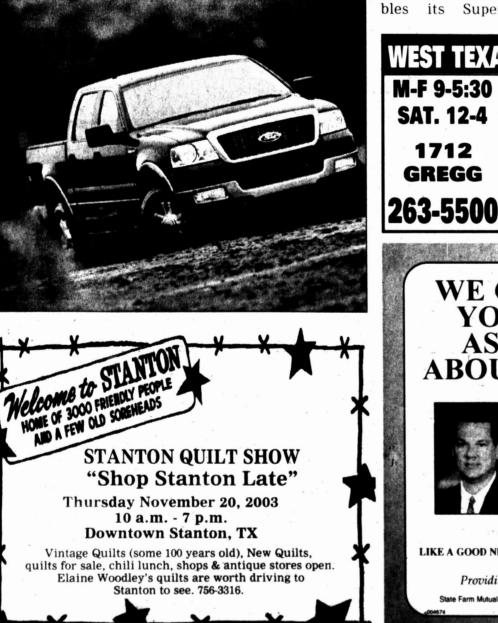
option), two box styles (Styleside and Flareside), and five trim levels (XL, STX, XLT, FX4 and Lariat.

While offering more features, more power -'04 F-150 nearly identical to current year pricing, scoring a big hit on the value equation. The new F-150 changes

and 5-1/2-feet SuperCab the game. It is a pickup everyone will get excited about.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 10 years and is affiliated more everything - Ford with the Texas Auto has kept pricing for the Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white(@waxa-







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Sports

BIG HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Tommy Wells at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Thursday, November 20, 2003

TCU tunes out BCS talk with C-USA title on the line

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP Sports Writer

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (AP) -While others debate whether unbeaten TCU is worthy of a spot in the BCS, the Horned Frogs have more immediate concerns.

Specifically, a showdown with Southern Mississippi that will decide the Conference USA championship Thursday night.

No. 10 TCU can clinch its first outright C-USA title by beating the second-place Golden Eagles (7-3, 6-0), who have won four straight games.

Still, it seems all most people want to talk to the Horned Frogs (10-0, 7-0) about is the Bowl Championship Series standings.

"Yeah, it gets tiring sometimes," said TCU quarterback Brandon Hassell, who is 6-0 since

replacing injured starter Tye me is beating Southern Miss," it, more so than just the confer-Gunn. "Most of the time talking to some people, that's all they want to talk about it, and we're really focused on Southern Miss and the game we have coming up that week. Sometimes you just really don't want to talk about it after talking about it so much and hearing about it so much."

TCU dropped two spots in the BCS standings this week to eighth. The top six teams are guaranteed spots in the four bigticket bowl games - Rose, Sugar, Fiesta and Orange.

Staying undefeated keeps the Horned Frogs in the mix, even if it gives them only an outside shot. If win the conference and don't make it to one of the big bowls, they will return to the Liberty Bowl.

TCU coach Gary Patterson said. "We know it's not going to make any difference at all unless we go 2-0 the last week-and-a-half."

If TCU beats Southern Mississippi, only winless SMU stands in the way of the Horned Frogs' first unbeaten season since 1938, when quarterback Davey O'Brien led TCU to its only national championship.

A loss to the Golden Eagles not only ends the BCS debate, it very well could relegate TCU to second-place in its own league.

Southern Miss finishes the season against C-USA rival East Carolina, which has won just once this season.

"I don't think it matters what they have riding on this game," Southern Miss center Jim Hicks "The only thing that matters to said. "They have a lot riding on

ence championship. They have been high up in the rankings all year long, and we didn't pay to much attention to that because we have our goals."

'Southern Miss won' three C-USA titles in the league's first four seasons, but none since 1999.

"This football team is really hungry and this is the position they wanted to be in," Golden Eagles coach Jeff Bower said.

It has taken just three seasons in C-USA for TCU and Southern Miss to create a spirited rivalry.

"It has turned into a big rivalry, not a rivalry of hatred," said TCU defensive end Bo Schobel, who leads the conference with 11 1/2 sacks. "We respect them as being a good football team and I think they respect us the same."



Hardin-Simmons University tennis coaches and players will be in Big Spring to conduct a clinic on Nov. 22. Stroke production, live ball drills, competition drill as well as singles and doubles strategies will be stressed.

T-shirts and other prizes will be given away.

Area athletes in grades 5-8 will be instructed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Athletes in Grades 9 and above will attend from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For more information contact BSHS tennis coach Sarah Corse at 263-2275.

BSYBA sets meeting for board, adults

The Big Spring Youth **Basketball** Association will be holding an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. on Nov. 24 at the YMCA.

BSYBA board members and any adults interested in taking a leadership role as an age group coordinator for the league are urged to attend.

New classes now forming at YMCA

Registration for classes in gymnastics, swimming, martial arts and women's weights is now being held at the Big Spring Family YMCA.

Gymnastics classes include Kidnastics for

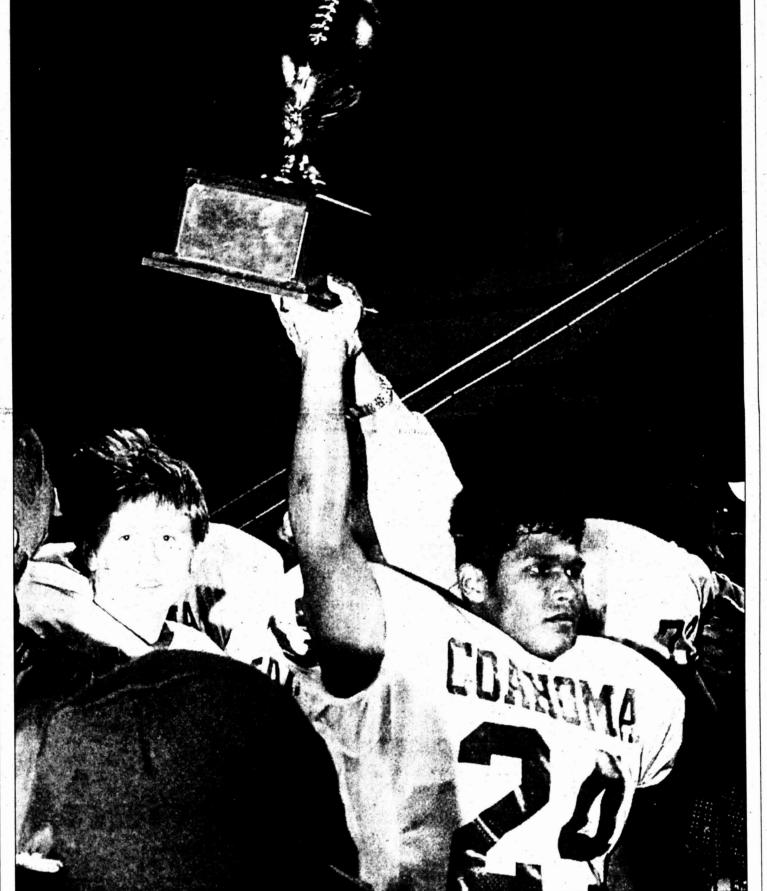
Forsan brands **Steers** win loss **By BRANDON HALLFORD**

Special to the Herald

FORSAN – Forsan Buffaloes head coach Terry McDonald was being extremely cautious about the subject of how his team shaped up for their first game of the season Tuesday night against the Robert Lee Steers.

"We have some quickness," he went on to say, "What we are able to do with it is the question.' The answer was enough.

All the Buffaloes did





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was to parlay that speed into 17 Robert Lee turnovers and a 51-38 victory.

The season-opener didn't go smoothly for the Buffaloes all night. Thanks to sluggish shooting performance to begin the game, Forsan found themselves playing catchup early.

Senior Josh Helmstetler tied the score at nine with just over a minute to go in the first. He cut hard to the basket and flipped the ball over his head to complete the play.

Things went from bad to worse in the second quarter for the Buffs. The team hit just two of their seven shots in the stanza both by Jeremy Bedwell.

Robert Lee, however, showed some rust of its own, hitting four of nine in the quarter and limped into the locker room with a 17-15 lead.

The Buffaloes served notice early in the second half that things were about to change. Forsan hit five of their first seven shots from the field in the frame and never looked back.

"I'm really pleased with the way the boys came out after halftime," said McDonald. "We played within ourselves and that is somethin that we are going to have to do if we are to be successful."

Helmstetler sparked the explosion, hitting both of his fieldgoal attempts and then burying back-toback treys to put Forsan comfortably in front going into the final quarter.

Johnathan Wright took over from there.

A 6-foot-2 sophomore, Wright drained three shots and also added 13 rebounds to the stat sheet to help the Buffs wrap up the win.

"Johnathan played real S BUFFS, Page 2B

Herald Photo/Tommy Wells

Nick Molina and the Coahoma Bulldogs will try and nail down the area football championship Saturday night when they face the Ozona Lions at Midland's Grande Communications Stadium. The Bulldogs, 9-2, will be meeting the Lions for a second time this year. Coahoma defeated Ozona, 13-12, in Week 5.

Big Spring splashes way to second at Pecos Invitational

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring High School swim team held its own in competition against some of the best squads in West Texas this past weekend at the Pecos Invitational Swim Meet. The Steers finished eighth in the girl's division and notched an impressive second-place showing in the boy's.

Pecos won both sides of the meet were handily. The Eagles amassed 350 points in the girl's bracket while the boys scored 327.

Jessica Hughey paced the Lady Steers' efforts. She tallied 32.5 points in four events. Hughey scored big twice, finishing third in the 200-yard individual medley with a time 2:38.65 and then capturned second in the 100-yard backstroke with a blistering mark of 1:10.19.

Big Spring also received big points from junior Kendra Weeks and freshman Terin Herring. Weeks finished sixth in both her individual efforts, turning in a time of 121.86 in the 100 butterfly and 1:27.95 for the 100 breaststroke.

Herring clocked in with a 28.89 and 1:04.27, giving the Lady Steers a pair of eighth-place finishes in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle races.

Hughey, Weeks, and Herring also scored with both relay teams as they where joined by Kasey Pointon to splash their way to a fifth-place finish in the 4x50 and and eighth in the 4x100 yard race.

Megan Matthew provided BSHS with a 12th-place finish in the 100yard butterfly, while also finishing 16th out of 23 in the 200 freestyle.

See STEERS, Page 2B

Astros sign Ausmus to two-year deal, add seven to roster

Catcher Brad Ausmus decided to stay with the Houston Astros, agreeing last season. He finished Wednesday to a \$4 million, two-year contract. Ausmus, a two-time .997 fielding percentage.

and 47 RBIs for the Astros league catchers with a

played in Houston in 1997 and 1998 after being went back to the Tigers for the 1999 and 2000 sea-

Astros in 2001.

The Astros also added four pitchers, an infielder. and outfielder and a catcher to the team's 40man røster.

preschoolers, ages 5 and younger, and regular gymnastics and tumbling classes for boys and girls 6 and older.

For more information contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Basketball officials needed for season

Basketball officials are needed for the upcoming season.

Persons interested in officiating local games this fall should contact Adam Rodriguez at 263-8731 (home) or 517-0300 (cell).

Crossroads league to hold board elections

The Crossroads Little Football League will hold elections to fill three positions on its board of directors at the championship games on Saturday.

Ballots will be avaialble at two sites at Memorial Stadium during the CLFL championship game.

YMCA swim team spots available

The Big Spring YMCA swim team has positions open for interested athletes.

For more information call Dolline Budke at 264-8252 or 263-4505.

BSJHS hoops team to begin play Nov. 24

The Big Spring Junior High School seventh and eighth grade basketball teams will tip off their 2003-04 season on Monday when they host the Snyder Tigers in the BSJHS gym.

The seventh grade team will lead off the action at 5 p.m. The eighth graders will begin at 6:15 p.m.

HOUSTON (AP) - Gold Glove winner, hit This is Ausmus' second sons before rejoining the .229 with four home runs stint with the Astros. He second among major acquired from Detroit. He

2B

SPORTS

Lady Buffs hammer out 40-36 OT win over Steers

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

Last season, wins were few and far between for the Forsan Lady Buffs.

The didn't have to wait long for a W this season even if it did take a little extra time to do.

Forsan claimed a 40-36 overtime win over the Robert Lee Lady Steers Tuesday.

Robert Lee gave a glimpse of what to expect early in the affair by outhustling the Lady Buffs. Robert Lee used seven Forsan turnovers, in the first period to take the upper hand.

The Lady Steers were unable to take advantage of the gifts, however. The team shot a frigid 20 percent from the field - and hit only two of eight shots from behind the three point arc.

The Lady Buffs, on the

other hand, were hot from third stanza.

the field. Forsan hit three of four field goal attempts - and hit 50 percent from three-point land.

matically in the second as to go 9-of-10 from the free an iceburg big enough to sink the Titanic fell in the middle of Buffalo Gym. The two teams combined to score for a total of eight points in the frame.

Cassi Graves scored the only points of the quarter for the Lady Buffs, hitting four attempts from the charity stripe.

Graves' free throws kept FHS within two, at 15-13, going into the half.

While their shooting from the field in second half was nothing to write home about, Forsan's shooting free-throw prowess was Pulitzer material.

Graves provided the spark from the floor, hit- Hise ting two fieldgoals in the points.

The Lady Buffs' knock out punch was delivered by Audra Bailey, Misty McGuire, and Jackylynn Things cooled off dra- Hise. The trio combined throw line in the third and gave the Lady Buffs to a two-point lead at the

> end of three. Forsan looked to have the game salted away at 36-33 until Robert Lee's Cassidy Wenk buried a trey with just 3.3 seconds remaining.

The overtime period belonged to Forsan. The Lady Buffs outscored the Lady Steersby a 4-0 clip in the stanza to pull out the victory.

Graves led all scorers on the evening, notching 16 points while Bailey added eight.

Hali Belew, Cynthia Beccera, McGuire, and contributed - 16

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Philadelphia Indianapolis	38. N.	Y. Jets	31				Carolina at Ottawa, 7:30 p.	m.
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Detroit at Minnesota, Noon Pittsburgh at Cleveland, Noon. New Orleans at Philadelphia, Noon. St. Louis at Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Chicago at Denver, 3:05 p.m. Tennessee at Atlanta, 3:15 p.m. Oakland at Kansas City, 3:15 p.m Cincinnati at San Diego, 3:15 p.m. Washington at Miami, 7:30 p.m. Washington at Mian

Washington at Miami, 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17 N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay, 9 p.m

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE East Division W L T OL Pts. GF GA .10 2 4 25 54 33

	Emmitt return	is to p	oractice	for	Cardina
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TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) -Emmitt Smith practiced Wednesday for the first time since breaking his left shoulder blade nearly

We'll put him in pads tomorrow and see where he is," Arizona Cardinals coach Dave McGinnis said.

seven weeks ago. McGinnis said Smith and battered he cou "He looked pretty good. remains listed as doubtful practice Wednesday." McGinnis said Smith and battered he couldn't

for Sunday's game against St. Louis. The team certainly could use him, running back with Marcel Shipp so bruised

BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

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SCOREBOARD

Pittsburgh at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m Carolina at Buffalo, 8 p.n Los Angeles at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. San Jose at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

NBA STANDINGS

Nashville at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m. EASTERN CONFERENCE

Philadelphia

Boston

24 44 29 20 55 41 18 44 46 Toronto Atlanta 0 11 33 64 Chicago Cleveland 26 51 39 WESTERN CONFERENCE 3 3 5 2 21 45 53 19 40 52 18 39 44 17 50 37 **Midwest Di** Houston Dallas San Antonio Denver Minnesota Utah 22 58 22 58 50 21 42 26 16 40 42 Memphis 2 0 16 42 53 11 44 54 L.A. Lakers WESTERN CONFERENCE Seattle Sacramento **Central Division** 23 46 39 0 1 Portland 22 60 47 18 38 56 15 42 47 L.A. Clippers Phoenix 1 0 Golden State Tuesday's Games Cleveland 103, L.A. Clippers 95 Detroit 106, L.A. Lakers 96 New Orleans 88, New Jersey 85 13 36 51 26 62 41 21 24 58 44 20 55 53 19 46 43 Atlanta 101, Milwaukee 93 Minnesota 89, Denver 76 San Antonio 94, Golden State 8 0 3 0 0 2 16 35 42 Phoenix 95, Chicago 82 Pacific Division 20 47 38 20 42 51 18 47 55 Miami 105, Seattle 98 Wednesday's Game: New Orleans 81, Boston 73 Washington 106, Cleveland 95 Philadelphia 81, Toronto 75 Indiana 91, L.A. Clippers 78 3 0 17 43 53 an Jose3 6 8 2 16 45 54 Two points for a win, one point for a tie and L.A. Lakers 104, New York 83 **Tuesday's Games** Houston 85, Golden State 83 Sacramento 118, Utah 110 Denver 94, Milwaukee 86 Detroit 99, Memphis 92 Portland 94, Miami 93 Today's Game San Antonio at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. N.Y. Rangers 2, San Jose 2, tie Wednesday's Games Orlando at Phoenix, 10 p.m. Friday's Games Boston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. New York at Detroit, 8 p.m. Indiana at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Minnesota at Cleveland, 8 p.m. Atlanta at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m Los Angeles 3, Nashville 0 Today's Games Milwaukee at Utah, 9 p.m. Washington at Denver, 9 p.m. Orlando at Sacramento, 10 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. Carolina at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m. Detroit at Columbus, 7:30 p.m. Memphis at Seattle, 10:30 p.m. **MLS PLAYOFFS** Minnesota at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m N.Y. Rangers at Colorado, 10 p.m. Chicago at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m. Friday's Games Atlanta at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

Houston at Portland, 10:30 p.m. Miami at Golden State, 10:30 p.m. Conference Champions Eastern Conference Friday, Nov. 14 Chicago 1, New England 0, 01

> Western Conference Saturday, Nov. 15 Jose 3, Kansas City 2, OT

MLS Cup Sunday, Nov. 23 At Carson, Calif. Chicago vs. San Jose, 3:30 p.m

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BASKETBALL SCORES

TOURNAMENT Preseason NIT Quarterfinals Connecticut 93, Nevada 79 Utah 66. Minnesota 54

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Cowboys not taking advantage of the team's top-ranked defense

Dallas Cowboys aren't taking full advantage of having the NFL's topranked defense.

They've been shut out twice their last four `games. They've gone six quarters without scoring a touchdown, the last coming in a 10-6 win.

"We've got to understand we're trying to do different things. We're searching for answers," quarterback Quincy Carter said Wednesday. "The bottom line is we're 7-3 and still in first - place."

Not for much longer if they don't start moving n't have at least a fourthe ball and scoring points again. After averaging 25 points in each of the first six games, they Cowboys have scored just 31 points – total — the last four. They gained less than 300 yards three times the last month, and in a 400-yard performance against Washington had to overcome four first-half third-year quarterback East with Philadelphia, turnovers to win. Things don't get much easier for the Cowboys on Sunday when they play Carolina (8-2), which has the NFC's best record and what Dallas coach Bill Parcells says is the best defensive front four in football - better, the coach says, than Tampa Bay and New England. Those are the two teams that kept the Cowboys from scoring.

 \cdot IRVING (AP) – The change a lot of things." Parcells said. "You don't have an inordinate number of options, so we just got to hope we can do better than we've been doing."

In Sunday night's 12-0 loss at New England, Parcells said his offense had 11 mental errors and four dropped balls. Along with five penalties, three turnovers and a sack.

Those kinds of problems are keeping the Cowboys from sustaining offensive drives, which is a big part to be more productive of their plan. All of the running the ball and losses came in the only games in which they did-

Carter is digressing, even though he threw three interceptions last week while going over 200 yards passing for the first time in six games. "I think Quincy will be

with the notion that

fine if we can just get every everything, most everything else kind of in order for him," Parcells said. "Penalties, things like that. If we can do some of that better, I think we'll be OK.'

The Cowboys also have receivers have to do a better job of catching it.

Troy Hambrick has two 100-yard games, but was

New Jersey Washington New York Miami 10 .091 4 .818 .750 .667 Indiana 2 New Orle Detroit

Atlantic Division

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So what's Parcells got in mind for changing his team's offensive fortunes? "You can't wholesale

minute advantage in time of possession.

And maybe other teams are starting to figure out the Cowboys.

"Teams are scheming us well," Carter said. "We're not helping ourselves either. We've got to play better. That's obvious.'

who won the job during which has won five training camp, isn't the straight games since losproblem. He disagrees ing at Dallas.

seven other games and is averaging just 3.4 yards per carry. The top three receivers Joey Galloway, Terry Glenn and Antonio Bryant have just 10 catches the last two games. Still, the Cowboys share

Parcells said Carter, the first place in the NFC

Kuykendall, FJHS girls suffer 33-30 loss to Roscoe in opener

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

The Forsan eighth grade Lady Buffs turned in a solid effort Tuesday but in the end came up just short end of a 33-30 bout with the Roscoe Plowgirls.

"I'm proud of the girls they played their hearts

total by finishing eighth.

well," said McDonald,

"Remember, he is just a

sophmore. He is going to

get better with every

game-high 18 points to

One Covers Howard County Sports Like The Big Spring Herald

cap an impressive night

BUFFS

game."'

100-yard butterfly.

out," said coach Byron Seal about his team performance.

Tara Kuykendall paced FJHS with 16 points while teammates Jessica Hood, Morgan Garrett, and Christina Vickers combined for 12 points going for four, five, and three, respectivly.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

The Big Spring boys' posted a team effort to finish second overall. No less than 10 Steers played a hand in rolling up the medal in the 200-yard team's 203 points.

Seniors Mark Sheedy and Will Liggett led the 1:41.26. way with one bronze medal apiece in individual events. Sheedy grabbed his hardware in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 59.98. Liggett bagged his medal in the 100-yard breaststroke by pulling in with 1:09.26.

Liggett barely missed another trip to the podium in the 200 individual medley when his 2:17.10 fell just two one-hundredth of a second short — forcing him to settle for fourth.

Justin Petrowski made

a strong showing in the Thomas added another 200 IM, finishing eighth. 14 points, finishing sev-He also took fifth in the enth in both the 200- and 500-yard freestyle races.

Then trio combined Brooks had a solid day throwing in an eighth, their talents, teaming with fellow senior Chris ninth, and 11th place fin-Stokes, to snag the silver ish that contributed nine more points. Freshman freestyle relay. The four-Ryan Hughey added a some touched the wall at ninth-place showings in the 200 individual medley The Big Spring B team and the 100 breaststroke. of Steven Lucas, Scott In the 200 medley relay, Thomas, Randy Yanez, Hughey, Yanez, Jeremy and David Brooks added Petrowski, and Brooks another 10 points to the placed ninth.

that included six steals and a blocked shot. Continued from Page 1B ling night scoring 11

points. Wright and Brandon Burleson ended the night with nine apiece while Auggie Hilario and Mike Helmstetler poured in a Paradez contributed three and one, respectivley.

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POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

If you had a ticket to the Winston Cup banquet and your choice of where to sit, which driver would you sit with?

> Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

OK, it's officially time to look ahead. Who'll win the 2004 Daytona 500? Number of votes: 7,665

Driver	No. of votes	percent
One of Joe Gibbs' drivers	2,205	28.8%
Someone in a DEI Chevrole	t 1,779	23.2%
One of Roush's drivers	1,033	13.5%
A Hendrick driver	779	10.2%
A Robert Yates' Ford driver	620	8.1%
An Evernham Dodge driver	471	6.1%
A Penske pilot	315	4.1%
A RCR driver	287	3.7%
Someone else	120	1.6%
A Chip Ganassi guy	56	0.7%

RACIN' NOTES

No. 8 crew wins yearlong pit competition

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s pit'crew made a lateseason charge to capture the inaugural McDonald's Drive-Thru Pit Championship sponsored by Powerade.

Participating teams earned points based on whose car spent the least amount of aggregate time off the racetrack during Winston Cup points events, provided the team's driver took the green flag.

With five McDonald's/Powerade race victories that paid \$20,000 each, plus a \$200,000 first-place bonus, Earnhardt Jr.'s pit crew earned a total of \$300,000 in the season-long title chase. Earnhardt Jr.'s crew edged Michael Waltrip's pit crew to claim the championship. — ThatsRacin.com

BY THE NUMBERS

WINSTON CUP POINTS LEADERS

C.1 2003

The top-4	son:		
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. M. Kenseth (17) 5022	21. W. Burton (2	22) . 3550
2. J. Johnson (4	8). 4932	22. E. Sadler (3	8) 3525
3. D. Eamhardt.	Jr. (8)	23. R. Rudd (21)3521

Ranking the top 40 teams, drivers of the season

BY DAVID POOLE Knight Ridder Newspapers

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SCORES

That's Racin' ranks the top-40 Winston Cup teams for the 2003 season, based on overall team performance:

THE TOP TIER

■ 1. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Scored 222 more points to win the championship than Tony Stewart did one year ago. Preseason ranking: 6.

2. Ryan Newman (car No. 12): Points standings aside, this team did more good things than any other in the sport, by far. Preseason ranking: 2.

3. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): Six straight top-three finishes to close out '03 and nail down the runner-up spot in standings. Preseason ranking: 5.

4. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): This team simply needs to get better all around to move up and race for the title next season. Preseason ranking: 8.

5. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29): Has all the desire he needs to be a championship contender. bad. Not using what help it gets? That's worse. Preseason ranking: 13.

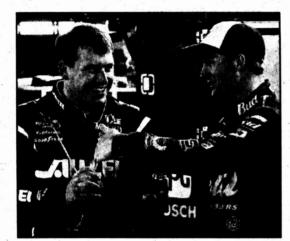
■ 16. Jeff Burton (car No. 99): What in the world has happened to this team? Its slide is one of the biggest mysteries in the sport. Preseason ranking: 9

17. Sterling Marlin (car No. 40): No topfive finishes all season. This team just never got close to the form it showed in 2002. Preseason tanking: 12

■ 18. Greg Biffle (car No. 16): July win at Daytona was the season's biggest upset. Biffle may run Cup and Grand National slates in '04. Preseason ranking: 21.

19. Robby Gordon (car No. 31): Swept the road courses and had a great summer stretch before faltering through the fall. Preseason ranking: 23

■ 20. Mark Martin (car No. 6): Ford's new cylinder head and new car pieces might help this team more than any other. Preseason ranking: 7.



much with as little as anybody in the sport in 2003. But finding sponsors is still elusive. Preseason ranking: Not ranked.

■ 27. Joe Nemechek (car No. 01): Nemechek winds up what Jerry Nadeau started. May also benefit from switch to Chevy. Preseason ranking: 34

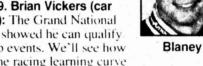
28. Dave Blaney (car No. 77): If Penske South shares more resources once this team goes to Dodge next season, there could be a pickup here.

■ 29. Brian Vickers (car No. 25): The Grand National champ showed he can qualify for Cup events. We'll see how steep the racing learning curve

■ 30. Scott Wimmer (car No. 22): This Bill Davis Racing team may wander in Cup wilderness until Toyota seeds are harvested. Preseason ranking: 17.

■ 31. Ricky Craven (car No. 32): Won in the 1 season's best finish at Darlington, but this team completed the year on a long slide. Preseason

Preseason ranking: 29.



is. Preseason ranking: 28.

Does he have the patience? Preseason ranking: 16.

6. Bill Elliott (car No. 9): Elliott's average finish over the season's final-12 races was 9.6. Kenseth's was 15.9. Preseason ranking: 14.

7. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): This team somehow kept missing the mark late in races when it mattered most in 2003. Preseason ranking: 1.

8. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): Finished fourth in points for the second straight year. Streak of at least three race wins for nine straight seasons is very impressive. Preseason ranking: 4.

9. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18): Is one of nine drivers with multiple victories in 2003 thanks to a last-lap miracle at Homestead. Preseason ranking: 11.

10. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): Justifiably bummed out after early Homestead wreck cost him a top-10 points position finish. Preseason ranking: 3.

THE MIDDLE TIER

11. Jamie McMurray (car No. 42): Took charge of rookie of the year race in the season's second half. This will be a team to watch in '04. Preseason ranking: 24

■ 12. Terry Labonte (car No. 5): Top-10 points finish is a terrific rebound for this team after a couple of realiy long years. Preseason ranking: 33

■ 13. Jeremy Mayfield (car No. 19): In May this team was falling apart. Had things not turned around from there it would've. Preseason ranking: 19

■ 14. Michael Waltrip (car No. 15): Team won twice, but it was fifth in points after the second Michigan race before wilting. Preseason ranking: 20.

■ 15. Rusty Wallace (car No. 2): Not getting the right help from the No. 12 team? That's

Ryan Newman and Dale Earnhardt Jr. should be championship contenders next season.

THE REST OF THE TOP 40

21. Jimmy Spencer (car No. 7): This ornery old cuss had his days in '03. Team needs a sponsor to build on that in 2004. Preseason ranking: 35

22. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38): This team looked great out of the box but couldn't keep the positive momentum going for long. Preseason ranking: 18.

23. Dale Jarrett (car No. 88): Win in second race at Rockingham looks like a miracle given what happened after that. Preseason ranking: 10.

24. Ricky Rudd (car No. 21): This Wood Bros. team may move to Charlotte for closer link with Roush Racing. That might help. Preseason ranking: 15

■ 25. Ward Burton (car No. 0): Burton sees promise in this team he joined near season's end. Move to Chevy won't hurt either. Preseason ranking: 38.

■ 26. Tony Raines (car No. 74): Did as

ranking: 22.

32. Johnny Benson (car No. 10): Team likely to break apart after a long run as a tight unit. Scott Riggs drives here in-2004. Preseason ranking: 26.

33. Todd Bodine (car No. 54): The future seems highly uncertain here, too. Sponsor supposedly still looking elsewhere. Preseason ranking: 39.

■ 34. John Andretti (car No. 1): If this team is around in 2004, it seems more and more likely Andretti will be back, too. Preseason ranking:

Benson

Mears

35. Ken Schrader (car No. 49): Another set of question marks. Will Schrader move on? If he does, will this team go

away? Preseason ranking: 40. ■ 36. Casey Mears (car No. 41): Rookie showed some signs of promise. It certainly appears he needs more time, though. Preseason ranking: 37

■ 37. Kenny Wallace (car No. 23): All signs point back toward the Grand National Series for this member of the

racing Wallace family. Preseason ranking: 30

■ 38. Steve Park (car No. 30): With driver issue still unsettled, it's looking like another rough year could be on this team's horizon. Preseason ranking: 25.

■ 39. Jeff Green (car No. 43): The legendary No. 43 car failed to qualify for five races in '03. It's a tough, tough business. Preseason ranking: 28

40. Kevin Lepage (car No. 4): Lepage signed on late in the year and helped this team squeeze back into the final top 40. Preseason ranking: 36.



GRAND NATIONAL POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers of the 2003 season:

	× .	0	
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. B. Vickers	4637	11. S. Comptor	n 3893
2. D. Green	4623	12. A. Lewis	3801
3. R. Homada	y 4591	13. M. Wallace	3489
4. B. Hamilton	Jr 4588	14. C. Gibbs	3213
5. J. Keller	4528	15. S. Hmiel	3160
6. S. Riggs	4462	16. K. Harvick	3077
7. K. Kahne	4104	17. T. Bodine .	2763
8. J. Sauter	4098	18. M. Waltrip	2637
9. S. Wimmer	4013	19. K. Grubb	2498
10. M. Bliss	3932	20. J. McMurra	y 2365

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers of the 2003 season:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. T. Kvapit	3837	6. B. Hamilton	3627
2. D. Setzer	3828	7. R. Crawford	3578
3. T. Musgrave .	3819	8. C. Edwards	3416
4. B. Gaughan .	3797	9. T. Cook	3212
5. J. Wood	3659	10. C. Chaffon	3143

As new era dawns, NASCAR should heed unexpected change

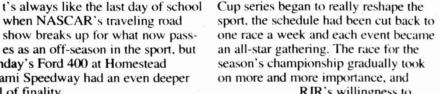
when NASCAR's traveling road show breaks up for what now passes as an off-season in the sport, but Sunday's Ford 400 at Homestead Miami Speedway had an even deeper feel of finality.

Until sundown on Sunday, stock-car racing's history could quite have been neatly divided into two eras. There was the time before R.J. Reynolds signed on as title sponsor of the series and the time after that took place in late 1971

Before RJR, NASCAR's best raced 50 or more times a year, sometimes two or three days a week, at tracks big and

small, on dirt and on pavement. Few people raced in all of those events and some of the biggest stars cherry-picked only the most important ones.

By 1973, when RJR's sponsorship of what would become the Winston



back the prestige of winning the title with big money turned the points race - once an afterthought --- into NASCAR's overarching

So as dusk settled over the race track on the season's final day, around a stage where Matt Kenseth and his

team were celebrating their 2003 championship was much larger than the one watching Bobby Labonte's team frolic in the good fortune of winning the Ford 400 after Bill Elliott's flat tire on the last lap.

What happened next was not planned. The Kenseth's stage had been built to support only so many people, but all of the corporate and public relations foofs from Ford, Roush Racing, NASCAR and various other "stakeholders" fighting for space in the spotlight overwhelmed the supports. The front of the stage sagged and it had to be cleared.

There was a symbolism in all of that.

When RJR first came into the sport, NASCAR faced critical financial issues and it might not have survived had the tobacco company's money not come along to prop it up. These days, NASCAR seems to think the laws of physics don't apply. Weight schmeight. Everybody come on up and smile for the cameras, everything will be OK.

Business isn't bad for the folks in Daytona.

They signed up Nextel for 10 years at about \$75 million a year to take over Winston's role at title sponsor. They



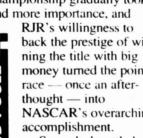
Matt Kenseth celebrates his first Winston Cup championship.

got Sunoco to replace the 76 brand of gasoline, which had for more than 50 years been the circuit's fuel sponsor. They hoard too much milk from the financial teat of television and elbow team owners away too often from the trough of new sponsorship dollars.

But as this season ends, Roush Racing and Dale Earnhardt Inc. have teams without sponsors. Roush has this year's championship team and DEl is one of the sport's big-name operations. The same issues face other teams with lower profiles, but NASCAR needs to be concerned about them, too.

Things change from season to season in any sport. Players and teams come and go and the games still go on. NASCAR is no different. When the gates close at the last race each year, you know there will be new faces and new issues when the gates open again the next February at Daytona.

The changes that come to NASCAR between now and February 2004 will be the most significant since RJR came in more than three decades ago. Some of those changes - Nextel's arrival, for instance — are ones everyone anticipates, but it's the ones NASCAR might not see coming that they should be the most worried about.



the crowd gathered





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Tomorrow's Horoscope

ed down through the gen-

erations – which is no

small matter. Pay

homage today, or expect

to pay a price instead.

For children, make a big

deal about rites of pas-

CANCER (June 22-July

22). Ease up on the rules

of conduct you've got for

yourself. Life is a

process, not a result. If

you're the one leading a

project, all turns out per-

fectly. If not, don't play

backseat driver to some-

one sensitive, as this will

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

Personalities around you

are on the harsh side.

Standing up for yourself

helps you have a more

centered attitude. Only

then can you feel relaxed

enough to be productive.

Otherwise, you feel

defensive for the whole

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). Your attention to

detail helps everything

come together nicely.

Being in the "now"

only backfire.

day.

GARAGE SALES Garage Sale, 1724 Yale, Sat. 8-? A little bit of everything! Garage Sale, Sat. 7:30-4, 507 E. 3rd. Toys, tools, welder, household items, filing cabinets& lawn mower It's Garol Dr., Sat. Only 8-3. kind PC Software/ hardware, too much to list. Moving Sale: Friday

Only 8-5, 2600 E. 16th. Next to Teal Carpets. Small appliances, crafts & material, decorating Yard Sale: Sat. & Sun. 8-?. Doors, windows, 2 desk, king size water bed, bath room set,

exercise equip., 2 utility trailers, some clothes Just too many items to list. Everything priced to sell. 2114 Carl St (Lockhart edition). MISCELLANEOUS

2/1, \$188/mo. for 10 yrs For Sale: Extra clean/nice king size mattress and box springs. 432-267-7073 \$100 Lazy Boy sofa with **Regardless of Credit** queen size bed . Good Condition. \$200. Call to see 432-263-3190 WEDDING CAKES !! ilk florals, arches

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BY JOYCI JILLSON Mars and Jupiter mix up the picture with a lot of big personalities fight-



Joyce Jillson

close probably has a big problem in this department, and his or her bad habit rubs off on everyone near. The spoils go to the one who listens the

ARIES (March 21-April

future.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Traditions are hand-

ANNOUNCEMENT-

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moment is a lot easier for you once you're sure that you've got everything you need. Keep that list you can refer to often. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're the mellow one — the one who makes it possible for others to sit across the table and negotiate together.

> TOO LATES □ Moving Sale: 2605 Cindy Lane, Sunday 8-? Furn. and misc. House for rent in east part of Big Spring 2 bdr. - \$300. mo. 3 bdr.- \$400. mo. 432-267-7380 2513 Cindy. Clean 3 BDRM, 2 bath. \$560/mo., Ref. req. Call 432-263-4948 Garage Sale: 1806 Laurie, Thur. -Fri.-Sat. 8-?. Too much to list. Garage Sale: 3912 Hamilton, Fri. & Sat 8-3. Lots of kids clothes

> > (5 to 16) boy's & girl's

You are rewarded by being able to see what's strange and wonderful about the people you love.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Consider how you are growing into a totally new person. The weeks ahead will bring amazing changes that you couldn't even anticipate if you tried. That said, ordinary events, like lunch with a friend, are best.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's a busy day, but that's what you needed to get your engine going. This morning's events are hectic but, because they are out of your usual routine, are rejuvenating at the same time. Make specific wishes clear.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This wacky day is not at all the one you planned. Surprises are featured, and adjustments must be made, too. unpredictable The nature of this day is partly due to the crazy personalities you know.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Deeply spiritual feelings are featured. Tapping into a source of strength doesn't have anything to do with how much money is available to you or even the friends you've got — it's a profound personal journey

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you firmly believe that nothing could bring you down, it's a stressfree, highly productive, amazing day. You've made up your mind to get your day on with a whopping dose of style, and your follow-through will gain many fans. ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm an

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instances by someone else, but that can only occur if the cursed agrees on some level to the curse. As an Aries, you have a stronger personality and energy than you probably realize. You are not sensitive to those around you so much as allergic to them. It is hard for you to see where others are coming from, and therefore, you stand in their way, and they run you over. But here's the good news: You have control over your life.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page; or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at

www.creators.com. 2003JOYCE JILLSON BY CREATORS SYNDI-

Annie's Mailbox: Advice for those in need

5B

Aries born March 29.

1971. My entire life, I've

had difficulty dealing

with people of all kinds.

A lot of it has to do with

people being deceptive to

me (lying, stealing and

worse). Sometimes, I'm

very sensitive to the lack

of harmony around me,

and I break out in hives.

I try to keep to myself,

but I always end up in a

painful situation. I went

to a spiritualist who said

that a woman 'worked

some roots' against me,

and that's why I have

bad luck with people. Am

I believe that a person

can be cursed in some

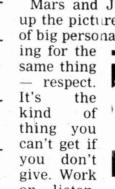
I cursed?"

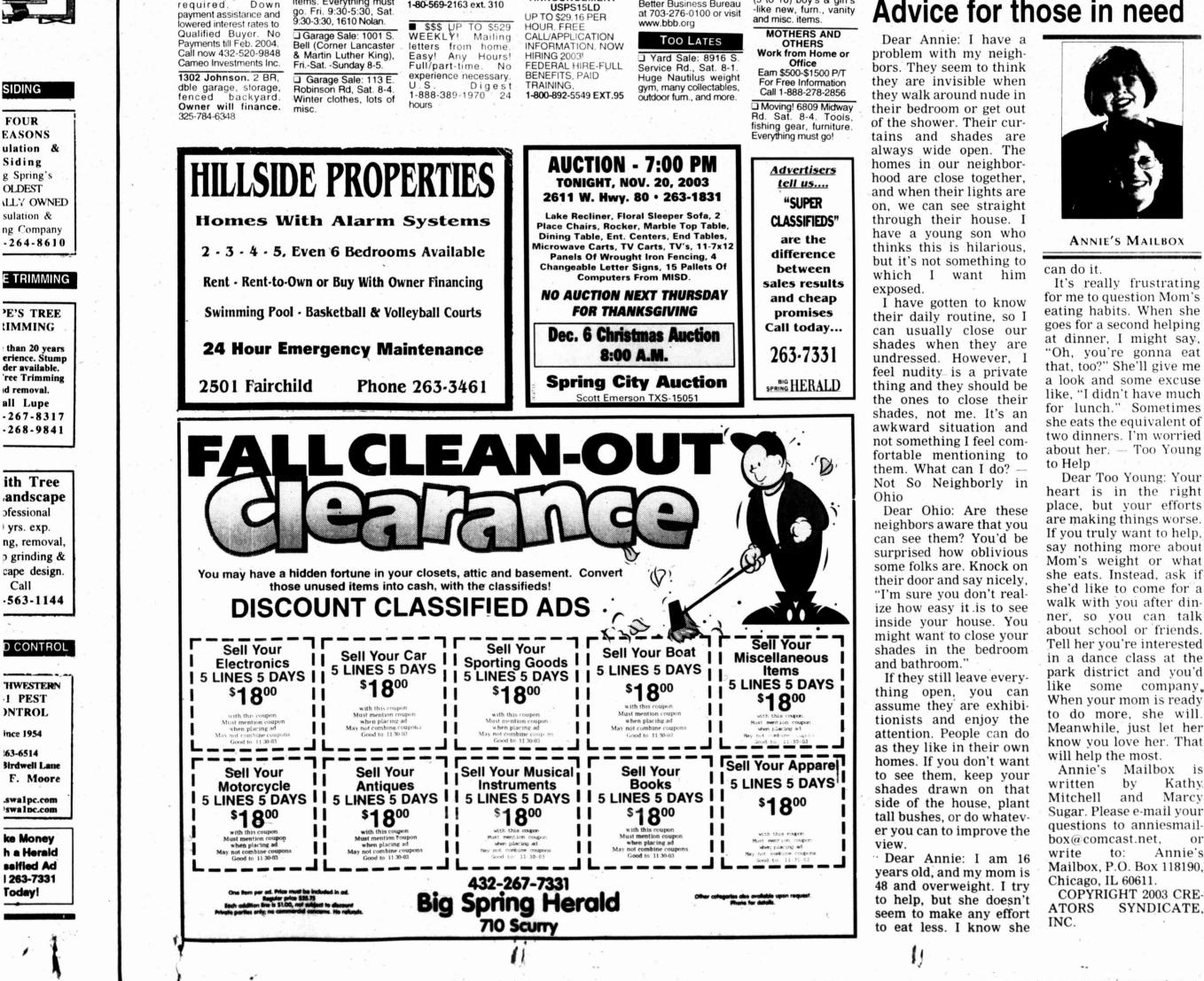
of thing you can't get if you don't give. Work on listening skills. Someone

best.

19). The same thing that thrilled you last year is old news now. Add an exotic touch to your life. When family discussions get heated, your facts are straight. Don't step on any toes — it's not worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be a leader in the day's events. Partners of all kinds respect someone who is with it enough to consider others first; reiterate your plan for making everyone feel welcome. What happens now affects the





Meanwhile, just let her know you love her. That will help the most. Annie's Mailbox is Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or Annie's

Mom's weight or what she eats. Instead, ask if she'd like to come for a walk with you after dinner, so you can talk about school or friends.

that, too?" She'll give me a look and some excuse like, "I didn't have much for lunch." Sometimes she eats the equivalent of two dinners. I'm worried about her. — Too Young Dear Too Young: Your heart is in the right

ANNIE'S MAILBOX It's really frustrating for me to question Mom's

6B

COMICS

BIG SPRING HERALD Thursday, November 20, 2003

THURSDAY

		WFAA (2)	KMID 3	UNI (4)	KPEJ 5	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS 11	KMLM 12	KOCV 13	DISC 20	AMC [21]	TNT 23	BET 26	DISN 27	ESPN2 28	ESPN 29	USA 30	TMC 250
2		Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	New York	Premium
	PM	News (CC)	News	El Manantial	King of the Hill	News	Pasion de	News	Seinfeld (CC)	Joe McGee	News-Lehrer	New Detec-	11	NBA Pregame		Sister, Sister	NFL Live		House Wars	the Water
6	:30	Wheel-Fortune	Wheel-Fortune		Raymond	Ent. Tonight	Gavilanes	Seinfeld (CC)	Friends (CC)	John Hagee		tives-Forensic	с и	NBA	BET com	Lizzie McGuire		College	. "	(CC)
-	:PM	Bachelor: After	Bachelor: After	Velo de Novia	Tru Calling	Survivor: Pearl	Amor	Friends (CC)	Movie: Back to	Update/Israel	West Tex Jml	Great Sphinx:	Movie: Fatal	Basketball:	9th Annual	Movie: The	Detroit Red			Movie: Orang
7	:30	the Final Rose	the Final Rose		(CC)	Islands (CC)	Descarado	Friends (CC)	the Future Part	Biblical Israel	World	Pyramids	Attraction	San Antonio	Walk of Fame:	Luck of the	Wings at	Texas	Special Victims	County (CC)
	:PM	Peter Jennings	Peter Jennings	Nina Amada	The O.C.	CSI: Crime	Ladron de	Will & Grace	III (CC)	Light of the	Frontline	Mystery of Ti-	(CC)	Spurs at Dallas	Aretha Franklin	Irish (CC)	Columbus Blue	at Southern	Movie: Patriot	
8	:30	Reporting:	Reporting:	Mia	(CC)	Scene Invstgtn.	Corazones	Scrubs (CC)		Southwest	(CC)	betan Mummy		Mavericks			Jackets (CC)	Mississippi	Games (CC)	Movie: Vanilla
1	PM	the second states and states and states and	Kennedy	Viaje a la	'70s Show	Without a	Lazos de	ER (CC)	to .			Secret Towers		NBA .	Comicview	Sister, Sister	NHL Hockey:	(CC)	"	Sky (CC)
9	:30	Assassination	Assassination	Muerte	Dharma-Greg	Trace (CC)	Familia	· ·	:40 Movie:			of Himalayas	:20 Movie:	Basketball:		Boy World	New York	SportsCenter	н	· •
	PM	News	News	Primer Impacto	'70s Show	News	Noticias	News	Kindergarten	Hour of		Great Sphinx:	Mary Reilly	Orlando Magic	Nightly News	Kim Possible	Rangers at	(CC)		
10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	Late Show	Laura	Tonight Show	Cop (CC)	Healing	1	Pyramids		at Phoenix	Maad Sports	Proud Family	Colorado		Law & Order:	:45 Movie:
	PM	Ent. Tonight	Extra (CC)	En las Mejores	Becker (CC)	(CC)	89	(CC)		Rev. J. Hansen	Sign Off	Mystery of Ti-	:15 Movie:	Suns (CC)	Midnight Love	Even Stevens	Avalanche	Rome Is	Special Victims	Kiss the Sky
11	:30	Jimmy Kimmel			Spin City	Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night	:40 Movie:	Jesse Lee Pe.	"	betan Mummy	Fatal	Inside the NBA	"	Sister, Sister	NHL 2Night	Burning (CC)	House Wars	(CC)
	:AM	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Angela	Blind Date	Show (CC)	Maria Celeste	(CC)	Back to the	Update/Israel		Secret Towers	Attraction	X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Boy World	NFL Live	SportsCenter		· "
		Oprah Winfrey			Blind Date		Corte-Familia	Frasier (CC)	Future Part III	Derek Prince		of Himalayas	(CC)	"	н	Recess (CC)	NFL's Greatest	(CC)	Nash Bridges	:35 Movie:

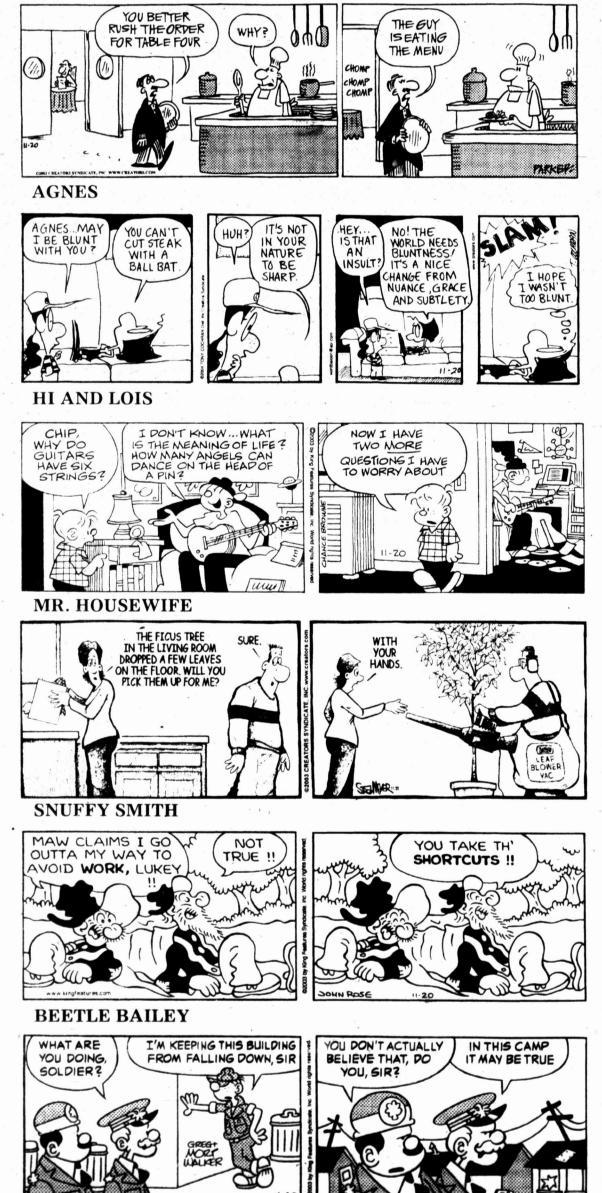
DENNIS THE MENACE



"NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO TO CARROTS ... THEY'RE STILL CARROTS!"

BC





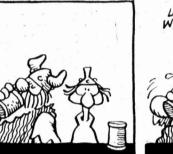
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

UNC 11-20 KEANE 02003 Bil Keane, In Dist by King Featur

"I can count to one in Spanish!"

HAGAR







BLONDIE



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Nov. 20, the 324th day of 2003. There are 41 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 20, 1947, Britain's future queen, Princess Elizabeth, married Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, in a ceremony broadcast worldwide from Westminster Abbey.

On this date: In 1789, New Jersey became the first state to rate ify the Bill of Rights.

atolls in the Gilbert Islands, encountering fierce resistance from Japanese forces but emerging victorious three days later.

In 1945, 24 Nazi leaders went on trial before an international war crimes tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany.

In 1959, the United issued Nations its "Declaration of the Rights of the Child."

the Commerce In Department ticked past 200 million.

In 1975, after nearly four decades of absolute rule, Spain's Gen. Francisco Franco died, two weeks before his 83rd birthday.

In 1977, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat became the first Arab leader to address Israel's parliament. In 1992, fire seriously damaged the northwest side of Windsor Castle, the favorite weekend home of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II.

which imposed a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases, and passed it by a 63-36 vote; the Senate also approved legislation 61-38 implementing the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Birthdays: Today's Author and TV personality Alistair Cooke is 95. Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., is 86. Actress Evelyn Keyes is 84. Economist Beryl Sprinkel is 80. Actress-comedian Kaye Ballard is 77. Actress Estelle Parsons is 76. TV personality Richard Dawson is 71. Comedian Dick Smothers is 64. Singer Kim Weston is 64. Singer Norman Greenbaum is 61.

Answer to previous puzzle IIISAPTS

In 1910, revolution broke out in Mexico, led by Francisco I. Madero. In 1925, Robert F Kennedy was born in

Brookline, Mass. In 1943, during World War II, U.S. Marines began land-

ing on Tarawa and Makin

Ten years ago: The U.S. Senate ended a filibuster against the Brady Bill,

Newsday Crossword

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