



BIG SPRING

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

MONDAY

November 24, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 33°-35° TOMORROW 62°-64°

BRIEFLY

Foster families

The Big Spring High School Student Council is sponsoring a blood drive for United Blood Drive Services from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 2, in the high school auditorium foyer.

Donors must be at least 17, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. They must also bring a list of all medications they are presently taking and be prepared to show identification.

To make an appointment, call the high school office 264-3641.

Foster families

Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers of the children in the community who have been abused and neglected.

For more information on becoming foster/adoptive families call Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669 or 1-800-233-3405.

55-Alive program

Fifty-five Alive driver safety program classes will be held from 8 a.m. until noon Dec. 11-12 at the Martin County Senior Citizen's Center in Stanton.

This class is taught by a state-certified instructor and is a two-day course of four hours each session. You must attend both days to receive a certificate, which will be accepted by most insurance companies for a deduction in premiums for a three-year period.

The cost is \$10 per person. To register, call 432-756-2791 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This class is not a defensive driving class and cannot "forgive" traffic violations.

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Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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, Salvation Army team up to help youth

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Hard economic times can take a great deal of the fun out of a child's Christmas, but the staff at the Big Spring Herald aims to help remedy those unfortunate situations this season.

The Herald began its second annual Christmas Toy Drive on Monday, and according to Toy Drive Coordinator Bob Rumpff, expectations for the drive are high to say the least.

"It's all about a new toy for a child on Christmas, and that's what makes it special," said Rumpff. "I really appreciate the gen-

"It's all about a new toy for a child on Christmas, and that's what makes it special."

Bob Rumpff, Toy Drive coordinator



erosity of the people of Howard County who supported the drive last year. They responded overwhelmingly last year, and I ask those same people to remember what it was like when they were a child on Christmas morn-

ing. "What was the first thing you headed for Christmas morning? You loved the new sweater from aunt Susie, and the new slippers from Mom and Dad were great, but golly... those toys from Santa Claus... that's what made Christmas. Don't ignore the Angel Trees. Don't ignore the food drives. But let's not forget the toys for the children either."

In contrast to last year's late kick off for the toy drive, Rumpff said area shoppers will have plenty of time to purchase the toys and

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Howard County resident Tabitha Madry shows off one of her miniature horses to Pat Nieto, a resident of Mountain View Lodge. The petite animal garnered several pets and scratches from the nursing home residents.

Tumbleweed Smith to release new CD

Special to the Herald

Tumbleweed Smith, syndicated newspaper columnist and producer of The Sound of Texas radio series, has produced a CD entitled Natural Born Storytellers.

It features 39 storytellers he has interviewed since starting his program in 1969.

"These are really funny Texas folks telling about some of the most bizarre experiences and situa-

What: Release of Tumbleweed Smith's new CD, Natural Born Storytellers.

Where: Heritage Museum.

When: 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday.

tions," said Smith. "I listened to thousands of my interviews before selecting the ones to include in the CD. It is pure Texas humor."

His Sound of Texas episodes number nearly 9,000. The daily radio

show is broadcast statewide on some 50 Texas radio stations. His column, Rolling Across Texas, is consistently ranked "most read" by newspapers and magazines carrying the column, Smith said.

The new CD is 75 minutes long. The price is \$10.

Smith will have a CD release party from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday at the Heritage Museum in Big Spring. Wine and cheese will be

See STORIES, Page 3A

Search and rescue: Think safety first

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

If faced with a natural disaster situation, would you know where to go and what to do to exact the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of people?

That was the focus for Community Emergency Response Team members this week, as they looked at some of the possible scenarios that could force them into action.

Big Spring Police Department Sgt. Lance Telchik, who also serves as a CERT instructor, said such training is vital to keeping a bad situation from quickly getting worse.

"This class is designed to teach the CERT members how to be safe while doing search and rescue operations," said Telchik, "what you need to look at before you actually commit yourself and your team to a situation. That means making sure you

have enough personnel to do the job safely, and if you've got to go into a building, which ones to go into and which ones to stay away from."

While the chances of an earthquake similar to the recent one that devastated Mexico City are unlikely in the Big Spring area, Telchik said there is still a lot we can learn from that disaster about the necessity for training.

"The well-meaning bystanders that rushed into those buildings to help managed to save 800 people, but in the process they killed about 100 that could have survived," he said. "Unfortunately, numbers like these are really common in a situation like that."

"Everyone has a good heart and wants to help, but they don't understand that they can do more damage by rushing in if they don't know what they're doing."

The class went through several different scenar-

"It's always a worst case scenario. It goes back to my belief that if you prepare for the worst, when something does happen it's not so much of a shock to the people trying to assist. It helps get you ready for what could happen."

Sgt. Lance Telchik Big Spring Police Department



CERT Team members Heidi Arriaga and Chris Churchwell work on "cribbing" a wall that has fallen on someone during a training scenario. Cribbing, which is by using wooden blocks to support a fallen object during victim extraction, is just one of many tools CERT members are being trained to use in the event of an emergency.

ios to examine things like the relevance of the date and time of the disaster, location and other factors that could have rescuer's chasing their tails if not taken into consideration. "It's always a worst case scenario," he said. "It goes back to my belief that if you prepare for the worst, when something does happen it's not so much of a shock to the

people trying to assist. It helps get you ready for what could happen."

"One of the scenarios we looked at tonight involved a tornado touching down in a residential area near a school, and throwing in the dilemma of who they would help first. It teaches the concept of doing the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of peo-

ple. If it's a Sunday morning, there's a pretty good chance the school will be empty, making it a lower priority. However, if it's a Monday morning, you know there's going to be a high number of children present, making it a higher priority."

Telchik said CERT training is all about

See SAFETY, Page 3A

NUTS!

Pecan Show entries being accepted now

Herald Staff Report

Pecans anyone? It's time again for the Howard County Pecan Show, sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension Office.

There are two facets to the show, entries of pecans-in the shell and entries of food items that contain pecans. Pecan entries must be submitted by Monday, Dec. 1; food entries are due by Wednesday, Dec. 3. Entries should be brought to the extension office in the basement of the Howard County Courthouse.

Here are the rules and categories for entry:

Pecan Division Entries must be in the Howard County Extension Office by 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 1.

Exhibitors are limited to one entry of each named variety they grow. The grower may enter as

See SHOW, Page 3A

Obituaries

Mary T. Jenkins

Mary T. Jenkins, 73, of Greenwood, formerly of Big Lake, died Saturday, Nov. 22, 2003, at her residence. Graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2003, at Glenrest Cemetery in Big Lake with the Rev. Robert Frazier, pastor of Valley View Baptist Church, officiating.

Mrs. Jenkins was born on March 28, 1930, in Brady and married Wes Jenkins on Aug. 31, 1949, in Big Lake. He preceded her in death on July 26, 1990.

She lived in Big Lake most of her life before moving to Greenwood five years ago. Having worked at Reagan Memorial Hospital for 25 years, she retired in 1990. She was very proud of having a license as a lab and X-ray technician. She was a member of Big Lake Church Of Christ.

Her survivors include her son, Bill Jenkins of Carlsbad; her daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Jerry Hardin of Greenwood; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her daughter, Virginia Kaye Jenkins; her mother, Nila Addie Elliott Turnell; and one brother, Bud Turnell.

The family will receive friends tonight, Monday, Nov. 24, 2003, from 7 to 8 at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 901 W. Missouri, Midland 79701.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Martha Cervantes

Martha Cervantes, 49, of Big Spring died Monday morning, Nov. 24, 2003, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sheriff's report

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

- **REBECCA RIVAS**, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.

- **BRYAN CHARLES DUNAHOO**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and open container.

- **JANA RENE'A MOSS**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a building, forgery and issuance of a bad check.

- **ASHLEY D. JOHNSON**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of issuance of a bad check, possession of marijuana less than two ounces, possession of drug paraphernalia and on a Dawson County warrant for theft by check.

- **CHRISTOPHER LOREN BELZNER**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a building.

- **JUAN LEWIS ESTRADA**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a Bexar County warrant for possession of a controlled substance.

- **SERGIO A. MIRELES**, 23, was arrested by DPS Saturday and taken to the county jail on charges of driving while intoxicated and open container.

- **LISA ANN CHAVARRIA**, 37, was arrested by DPS Saturday and taken to the county jail on a charge of public intoxication of a minor, third or more offense (enhanced).

- **BENITO JOSE RODRIQUEZ**, 36, was arrested by DPS Saturday and taken to the county jail on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **ANTHONY RAY GARZA**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

- **MARISA OLIVAS**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of duty on striking fixture/highway on site landscape.

- **BOBBY JOE HUTCHESON**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana less than two ounces and possession of a prohibited weapon, switchblade/knuckle weapons in a weapon free zone.

- **CRISTALINA CERVANTES**, 22, was taken to the county jail Saturday by DPS on charges of speeding (73 mph in a 65 mph), no liability insurance and failure to appear.

- **JESSE TALAMANTEZ**, 21, was taken to the county jail Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **JUAN LOPEZ ORTEGA**, age unknown, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and issuance of a bad check.

- **JOSE NEREO VASQUEZ**, 43, was taken to the county jail Sunday by DPS on charges of failure to stop and render aid and bailsmen off bond.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of S. Main Street. Deputy responded, information taken and case number assigned with report to follow.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 100 block of N. Moss Lake Road. Deputy responded and took information from complainant. Case number assigned, report to follow.

Police blotter

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

- **BRITO BRITO**, 23, OF 1604 Settles, was arrested Saturday on a capias warrant for speeding.

- **GUILLERMO FEHR-WEIBE**, 27, of Ackerly, was arrested Saturday on a traffic citation.

- **JUAN LOPEZ ORTEGA**, 59, of 1911 Runnels, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **CHRISTALINA CERVEANTES**, 22, of Irving, was arrested Sunday and held for the HCSO.

- **MANUAL LOZANO**, 31, of 2504 Chanute, was arrested Sunday on a DPS traffic warrant.

- **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 900 block of Willia.

- in the 1800 block of Gregg.

- in the 300 block of Gregg.

- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

- in the 200 block of Benton.

- in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.

- in the 1200 block of Frazier.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:

- in the 1900 block of Scurry.

- in the 100 block of Third Street.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 500 block of Gregg Street.

- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 2600 block of Larry.

- **FORGERY** was reported in the 1200 block of Gregg Street.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 700 block of Bell.

- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

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.

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

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

Weather

Today — Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s. South winds 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Wednesday — Mostly clear. Highs in the upper 60s.

Thanksgiving day — Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the lower 60s.

Friday through Sunday — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Highs in the upper 60s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-5-9-26-35. Bonus Ball: 27. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$10 million.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-20-25-28-37. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$22,455. Winning tickets sold in: West and Vidor. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night: 0-4-8

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon: 6-0-7

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

Senior Circle, 4 p.m., SMMC Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. People 50 and older are invited to participate. Call 268-4721 for more information.

Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., La Posada, 206 NW Fourth Street.

TUESDAY

Intermediate Line Dance classes, 9 a.m., Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler, 267-1628.

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

Concerned Citizens meets at 7 p.m. in Howard County Library.

Wednesday

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard Country Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

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

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

Line dancing, 1 p.m., Sr. Citizen Center, Industrial Park, 267-6966 or 267-1628.

Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. at SMMC classroom for stretch and tone. Call 268-4721 for more information.

Thursday

Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 703 West 3rd.

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.

Support groups

TUESDAY

- Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin will hold a self-help support group for care givers in Howard County on Tuesday.

The meeting will be held at Canterbury Retirement Homes Inc., 1700 Lancaster, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, call Raynetta Williams, caregiver coordinator, at (432) 563-1061 or (800) 491-4636 or locally call Debbie Read at Home Hospice at (432) 264-7599.

This group is open to the public and funded by the Texas Department on Aging.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 noon to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

- Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue Support Group meets at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

- Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 North Highway 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon Open Big Book Study Meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Open Discussion Meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open Podium/Speakers Meeting 615 Settles 8 to 9 p.m. Open Birthday Night, No Smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.



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Volu

By THOMAS
Staff Writer

The Ho Volunteer Department's fund-raising event accepted a donation from the Professional Association of Tommies of the HC for the donation of the group goal of making that would be a department pumper-trailer also showing relationships to local e

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Volunteer firefighters get boost in fund-raising effort

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The Howard County Volunteer Fire Department got a boost in its fundraising activities this week, as members accepted a \$1,000 donation from the Big Spring Professional Firefighters Association.

Tommy Sullivan, chief of the HCVFD, said the donation not only moves the group closer to its goal of matching a grant that would provide the department with a new pumper-tanker truck, it also shows the working relationship between the two local entities.

"We've worked to establish a fire service relationship between the volunteer fire department and the Big Spring Fire Department," he said. "We all train on the same level with the same information. We use the same officer structure. No matter what happens when we come together, we're operating on the same page, and that's what it's

about. We help each other out.

"We helped Big Spring raise money for their thermal imager because its helps save lives, and in return they are helping us with this project because not only is it going to supplement the volunteer fire department, it's going to help protect Big Spring firefighters that come out with us. When that critical moment comes, we'll have water and the right types of equipment so it's a safer environment for all of the fire services."

Although the truck would make a considerable addition to the VFD arsenal in fighting fires, it comes with a cost.

"We have to match 10 percent of the grant, which will cover the \$230,000 cost of the truck," he said. "When you really look at it dollar for dollar, we're certainly getting the best bang for our buck here. We're finally reaping some of the benefits from the big money that's

being offered to all of the big fire departments all over the country, so we feel fortunate.

"We can get this high caliber truck for only \$23,000 and we'll get a 30- to 35-year longevity out of it, so that's only around \$700 per year... what we're having to contribute is nothing in comparison to what we're getting."

Sullivan said the grant was approved last year as part of the federal government's realization the nation's fire departments sorely needed equipment.

"In 2002 we applied for a Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) grant under the Fire Act, which came shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, tragedy. The President and Congress finally saw the need for supplying fire departments with the tools they need to protect the citizens of the United States."

"With this Fire Act grant we applied for a

pumper-tanker for Howard County. In doing our needs assessment, one of the things we need is water on the scene, and this truck will carry 3,000 gallons. One of the other things that we need is a pumper truck to pump water through to the scene."

The firefighting power the new pumper-tanker represents is immense, according to Sullivan, and in an area that services so many oil-related businesses, equipment can be the difference between life and death at the scene of a fire.

"We protect and help protect the Fina Refinery, property for a lot of the oil companies in the area, and of course, the citizens when it comes to structure fires," explained Sullivan. "This one truck will allow us to roll firefighters so we have enough manpower on the scene, and initially enough water until the other trucks show up to fight the fire."

"Water is our cheapest extinguishing agent, and it's the one we need the most of. In the past we had one tanker that came from the Forest Service, but it only rolls at 35 mph. With this pumper-tanker we'll be able to roll out firefighters and a large water supply, all at the same time."

The campaign to raise the matching funds has brought in more than \$5,000, a far cry from the \$23,000 needed to secure the grant, but according to Sullivan, he has faith the community will pull through in the end.

"We started by mailing out letters to residents out in the county, and asking them for a \$10 donation," said Sullivan. "As of today, including this \$1,000 donation from the Big Spring Professional Firefighters Association, we've collected \$5,280 of our \$23,000 goal."

"We still have a long way to go, but we feel the citizens, organizations and businesses in Howard

County will help us meet our goal to pay for this new truck."

Sullivan said he hopes everyone in the community will get behind the effort, which will provide considerable benefits to everyone in Howard County.

"If you haven't made a donation, you should certainly consider it," said Sullivan. "Each donation is an investment in your community and your fire services. Making a contribution is investing in your own protection and the protection of your family and property."

"Later, when we get the Insurance Service Office and do some of our fire flow studies, we'll be able to help drop insurance rates as well. So your donation actually gets reinvested to help save you money in the long run."

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

BSHS yearbook receives honor; New book currently on sale

HERALD Staff Report

The Big Spring High School 2003 yearbook will be showcased along with other top publications in this year's "Yearbook Yearbook."

This honor is the second in a row for the BSHS journalism staff.

Taylor Publishing, which prints the BSHS yearbook El Rodeo, selects the top 10 percent of its entire production line to bestow the honor.

"Of the more than 8,000 yearbooks that Taylor

Publishing prints each year, less than 10 percent of them are chosen to be semifinalists for the Yearbook Yearbook," Cliff Palmberg, editor of the Yearbook Yearbook, said.

Each year, the BSHS yearbook staff attends a summer workshop to develop a theme and set styles and designs for the upcoming annual.

"We chose the theme 'About Face' in order to get more students in the book," yearbook adviser Leland Mallett said, "and it lends to easy design

and fun ideas."

The 192-page book is filled with student photography, feature articles and surveys. High school art teacher Judy Tereletsky designed the front cover.

"I really enjoy the bonus of having my work published in the yearbook," newspaper editor Sarah Vela said. "Knowing that the ideas and words I write can be referenced for years to come is a unique experience."

Because the book only

comes out once a year, earning the distinction of being in the Yearbook Yearbook gives the staff a sense of delight and helps motivate them to continue their success, Mallett said.

"It is hard to show off the great things my students are doing because we are working behind the scenes so much," Mallett said. "So this honor is something that gets my kids working hard and instills pride in their work."

A panel of judges from

across the nation selects the final pages that will appear in the Yearbook Yearbook.

"Last year we had one spread in the book," Mallett said, "but I think they are going to show off our cover and some of our special features."

The Yearbook Yearbook is distributed to more than 8,000 yearbook staffs across the nation in March of each year.

Many staffs use this publication as a source for ideas and new trends, Mallett said.

"It is really cool to see our pages and ideas among other great books throughout the nation," yearbook editor Valerie Ontiveros said.

The 2004 El Rodeo is on sale now through the mail or online at www.smartpay.com. This year's theme is "4 real."

"Next year's book has a great theme," Mallett said. "It has taken a little more work than last year's theme, but I am sure the student body will enjoy it."

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

neighbors helping neighbors, and with a small amount of training, team members will be a major asset to the community in the event of a natural disaster.

"I think this program is an excellent idea," he

said. "It's a 'neighbor taking care of neighbor' type situation. You're taught to take care of your own family first, but once you've done that you can help other people that are in need. That's what CERT is all about."

"Just being taught what to look for on something like a building, and determining the difference between a heavily dam-

aged structure and a moderately damaged structure. The main thing people have to remember is not to add to the problem, because if they go in and get hurt, then the situation has gone from bad to worse."

While the training is designed to prepare CERT teams to do the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of peo-

ple, Telchik said all of it isn't about that warm and fuzzy feeling people get when they help one another.

However, there's another, darker side to preparing CERT trainees for the worst.

"When it comes down to something like that, it's not a pleasant thing," he said. "You have to come to terms with the realiza-

tion that you're not Superman. You're not the super hero that you would like to be, and it gets really tough in those kinds of situations where you can't save everyone. It's really tough."

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

SHOW

Continued from Page 1A

many seedlings, known hybrids or natives as he or she wishes.

Pecans must be grown in Howard County. The exhibitor must be the grower.

An entry consists of a minimum of 40 pecans; 42 is preferred.

Entries containing more than one variety will be disqualified.

Nuts that are cut, sanded, polished or otherwise altered will be disqualified.

Pecans exhibited must be from the 2003 crop.

Pecans must be entered in a Ziploc bag with name of person and variety (if known) on it.

Cooking Division Entries must be in the Howard County Extension Office by noon on Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Pecans must be in each recipe.

There is no limit on the number of entries.

Items requiring refrigeration will not be accepted.

The entire recipe must be entered for judging.

Place food on disposable dishes, covered with clear plastic wrap with your name, division and age category on the bottom of

the container.

Age categories: Youth (Grade 3-23) and Peewee (Pre K-2)

Food categories: Cake, Pie, Cookie, Candy and Miscellaneous.

For more information, contact Michael Brooks or Tommy Yeater at 264-2236.

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1A

get them to the Herald office.

"We started the drive on Monday and it will continue through Dec. 17, at 5 p.m.," he said. "The toys will be distributed on Dec. 23 by the Salvation Army. Last year was our first time doing this, and we did it sort of at the last minute. There were only two or three weeks left in the Christmas season when we got it under way."

"We need people to donate unwrapped, new toys. It doesn't have to be expensive. To a child, a new toy is a new toy. If you want to go and buy a bicycle, tricycle or little red wagon, that's fine. If you want to go to Family Dollar or the Dollar Store and spend a \$1.50 to \$3, then that's great too."

According to Rumpff, the idea for the toy drive was born out of the mother of all inventions and ideas... necessity.

"I noticed there were a

lot of different holiday drives going on, but none of them in Howard County were focused on getting toys for children," Rumpff explained. "Things like food and clothing were being put together, and of course those are extremely important. But come on... To a kid 4 or 5 years old, Christmas just isn't Christmas without a new toy. Even if it's just one."

"We got together with the publisher and the Salvation Army, and it was tremendously successful last year. We hope it will be even more successful this year."

Donors can drop off their toys at the Big Spring Herald office, located at 710 Scurry Street. For more information on the program, contact Rumpff at 263-7331.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

Ratliff leaving is real loss for Texans

Rural communities and small towns in Texas learned that they would be suffering another blow to their dwindling influence in Austin last week when State Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, announced his plans to resign his seat in the legislature on Jan. 10.

Ratliff's announcement probably went largely unnoticed in many corners of West Texas, but not by those who remembered his defiance of Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and other Republican leaders this year by opposing congressional redistricting.

It was Ratliff, a native of West Texas who spent most of his adult life as a civil engineer in East Texas before becoming in 1989 the first Republican to represent the First Senatorial District of Texas since Reconstruction, who served as acting lieutenant governor when then-Lt. Gov. Rick Perry became governor over George W. Bush was elected president.

And it was Ratliff, who stood along in opposition to the triumvirate of Dewhurst, Carol Keeton Strahorn and John Cornyn when the four were tasked to serve as a special legislative redistricting panel two years ago.

It was that panel's 3-1 vote that left Howard County gerrymandered into new state House and Senate districts, as well as in a new congressional district.

Additionally, Ratliff made the decision to bow out of a short-lived campaign for a full term as lieutenant governor when he recognized he wasn't capable of playing the partisan politics necessary to win election to that post.

And it is that kind of character that all Texans will be deprived of when he leaves office early next year.

Forgetting for the moment the loss of legislative seniority from a largely rural district, Texas' loss will be one less voice of sanity in a political landscape in Austin that has become drastically polarized and mean-spirited.

Ratliff will be the winner in this his second "retirement." He'll be back at home in Mount Pleasant with his wife, Sally.

We, the voters, will be the losers, because quality people like Bill Ratliff don't seem to hold sway in Austin anymore.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

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

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 to Managing Editor John Moseley at jmoseley@crcom.net or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

Revenge of the Wal-mart nine

How do people who deliberately set out to break American immigration law get to sue U.S. employers for breaking labor laws?

It's a question I had to ask myself when I read in The New York Times that nine illegal immigrants who worked as janitors at Wal-Mart were suing the retail giant and the cleaning contractors for whom they worked for failing to pay overtime and withhold taxes.

The nine immigrants, whose suit was filed in New Jersey, were among some 250 illegal immigrants picked up at Wal-Mart stores in 21 states during a sweep by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents last month.

Illegal or not, they've dived into America's biggest melting pot — the pool of plaintiffs in civil suits. And they don't seem overly concerned that they got there by flouting federal law, cutting in front of people who immigrate legally, perhaps obtaining illegal documents, and then getting jobs for which they didn't pay taxes.

They trusted in the certainty that they could find employers who will use the excuse that illegal immigrants will do the work that Americans won't do. Wrong. If employers pay good wages, they will find good workers. That said, some corporate suits think they

have the right to pay people substandard wages and then let taxpayers pick up the tab for the public services needed to sustain their underpaid work force.

Wal-Mart spokespeople have denied legal culpability and say the chain insists that its contractors obey the law. But immigration officials also searched offices at Wal-Mart's offices. There were similar raids in 2001 and 1998.

There's a pattern here, and the pattern shuts out honest contractors. As a Bakersfield cleaning contractor told Forbes magazine, he was offered such a poor deal to clean grocery stores that he had to turn it down, because he couldn't do the work "legitimately."

"Like most Americans, I have a sense of outrage that people who violate our laws are then using our laws to get money or reward themselves for their illegal behavior," said Craig Nelsen, director of Friends of Immigration Law Enforcement. "On the other hand, the conditions under which these people worked were truly outrageous." No employer has a right to break labor laws.

John Keeley of the Washington-based Center for Immigration Reform believes that big judgments for illegal workers "could have a chilling effect" on employers who cut corners to increase their profits. Keeley wants to see the Wal-Mart plaintiffs win, if their case is solid — and then be deported.

It's not fair to deport somebody who has endured these conditions, responded Steve Reyes, an attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) in Los Angeles, who is involved with a similar lawsuit against Albertson's.

That's the sort of selective approach to the law that has muddied the waters. Illegal immigrants decide which laws they can break. Employers decide which laws they can break. In the end, the law has no meaning, and would-be legal immigrants and law-abiding employers look like suckers.

Gilberto Garcia, the New Jersey attorney representing the Wal-Mart plaintiffs, said, "My clients are in the United States in violation of the law" and are "subject to deportation." Unlike MALDEF's Reyes, Garcia didn't say they shouldn't be deported. Instead, he said, "We're trying to send a message to unscrupulous employers, who are trying to take advantage of these people while other able citizens are in unemployment lines because these employers don't want to pay (legal immigrants and citizens) what they deserve."

The postscript to that message should be: Everyone caught breaking U.S. immigration laws pays the penalty.

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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Arnold's promise won't go away

Politicians often regret their campaign promises. Upon calm reflection, George H.W. Bush might have wanted to say, "Read my lips, no new taxes — unless the country really, really needs them to reduce the deficit."

And Arnold Schwarzenegger, inaugurated as California's 38th governor this week, probably wishes he had adopted the "Dee Snider Defense" in the face of accusations that he has groped at least 15 women over the years. Snider, lead singer for Twisted Sister, whose 1984 hit "We're Not Gonna Take It" became Schwarzenegger's campaign anthem, said: "The fact is, men are dogs. If we took all the dogs out of jobs of importance, we'd have a lot of empty offices."

Instead, two days before the recall election that transformed him from a Hollywood superstar to a Sacramento superstar, Schwarzenegger did an interview with NBC's Tom Brokaw in order to put the groping allegations to rest. Instead, however, Schwarzenegger continued their life cycle. The key exchange was this one:

BROKAW: Gov. (Gray) Davis is saying today that you have an obligation to answer specifically the charges that have been made against you by 15 women now. You either have to call those women and their families liars, or give specific responses to the charges that they have made. Are you prepared to do that?

SCHWARZENEGGER: Gov. Davis owes the people of California an apology for what he has done to this state. He owes them an explanation. He should talk to the people of California because what he has done to this

state is terrible. **BROKAW:** But you're not going to be any more specific about these charges, in terms of your denials?

SCHWARZENEGGER: As soon as the campaign is over, I will. Two days later, the campaign ended with a Schwarzenegger victory, but he didn't seem all that eager to make good on his campaign promise.

At his first press conference, Schwarzenegger didn't raise the matter (nor did any of the hundreds of reporters in the room ask him about it), but he did make an interesting plea. "Please do me a favor," Schwarzenegger said to the reporters. "Stay with me the next three years, because you are absolutely essential for me to get my message out there. I really appreciate your being a part of this campaign."

Perhaps Schwarzenegger's assumption that the press was "part" of his campaign was enough to awaken some reporters, because the next day at a press conference, a reporter asked Schwarzenegger when he would make good on his promise to provide more specifics about the groping charges.

"Old news," Schwarzenegger said tersely.

Not to Garry Trudeau, creator of Doonesbury, it wasn't. Trudeau has done strip after strip portraying Schwarzenegger as a giant groping hand. And California Attorney General Bill Lockyer, who appears to have been on every possible side of the issue, has also kept it going.

On the last day of the recall campaign, Lockyer, a Democrat, said that even though the statute of limitations had run out on bringing criminal charges against Schwarzenegger for his behavior, "Arnold should volunteer" for an "investigation to clear up these charges." Said Lockyer, "There's too many of them, they're disturbing, the volume is disturbing." After Schwarzenegger won, how-

ever, Lockyer said he had voted for Schwarzenegger. "I'm convinced Arnold didn't really understand that he was caught up in frat-boy behavior," Lockyer said.

Two weeks ago, however, Lockyer gave a radio interview saying he had met with Schwarzenegger and told him "some form of independent, third-party review of those (groping) complaints" was needed "to see if there's any criminal liability or not." Schwarzenegger was furious, and his spokesman made the somewhat curious claim that Lockyer had violated "attorney-client" privilege by divulging "the content of communication between himself and the governor-elect." Under California law, Schwarzenegger's spokesman said, "the attorney general is the governor's lawyer."

But at the time, Schwarzenegger was not governor, nor had the recall vote even been certified. No matter, the spokesman said, Lockyer had violated the privilege and even though Schwarzenegger had decided "to engage a well-respected investigative firm to look into the allegations," he now might not turn the results over to Lockyer.

Lockyer, who may run for governor in 2006, soon struck back, saying someone had come to him two days before the election with information that Schwarzenegger may have groped someone last year during the filming of "Terminator 3." Lockyer also suggested that a toll-free 800 number be established so that anyone with complaints against Schwarzenegger could call in.

Unfortunately, 1-800-T-H-E-G-R-O-P-I-N-A-T-O-R will not fit. Roger Simon can be e-mailed at WriteRoger@aol.com. To find out more about Roger Simon and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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TEXAS

Grand Prairie

DALLAS (AP) - cation has taken Africa and Georg list.

Folarin, 22, of C 32 American Rho winners were sel by 366 colleges University of C October. Their years of study.

"I was shedding a businessman i of his reaction v Saturday from F His mother was everything."

"He was very. He had told his he was applying Top Folarin sa the United Nati wants to be an ar graduate," he sai Rhodes Schola will of British pl

Whole Foods

AUSTIN (AP) - based natural f entrepreneur ir accounting firm John Mackey, Inc., received € weekend, becom win.

Mackey was r among 400 conte Google Inc., the er JetBlue Airv Adobe Systems.

Mackey was r from a single s natural food an

El Paso offic

EL PASO (AP) has room to exp Pentagon annou in 2005.

In 2005, the De line a process t of its military Maloney of El F Preparedness C absorb troops fr

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TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Grand Prairie man gets Rhodes Scholarship

DALLAS (AP) — Oluwbusayo "Top" Folarin's education has taken him from Texas to Maine, South Africa and Georgia. Now, he can add England to the list.

Folarin, 22, of Grand Prairie was selected as one of 32 American Rhodes Scholars over the weekend. The winners were selected from 963 applicants endorsed by 366 colleges and universities to attend the University of Oxford in England starting next October. Their scholarships provide two or three years of study.

"I was shedding tears," his father Olabode Folarin, a businessman in Grand Prairie, said Sunday night of his reaction when his son called with the news Saturday from Houston. "We're just proud of him. His mother was just jumping up, thanking God for everything."

"He was very, very happy," Comfort Folarin said. He had told his family a couple of months ago that he was applying for the scholarship.

Top Folarin said he eventually wants to work for the United Nations. In his application, he said he wants to be an ambassador. "But right now, I want to graduate," he said Sunday.

Rhodes Scholarships were created in 1902 by the will of British philanthropist Cecil Rhodes.

Whole Foods founder wins competition

AUSTIN (AP) — The founder of a Central Texas-based natural foods company has been named top entrepreneur in a competition sponsored by an accounting firm.

John Mackey, founder of Whole Foods Markets Inc., received entrepreneur of the year over the weekend, becoming only the second Austinite to win.

Mackey was the judges' unanimous choice from among 400 contenders that included the founders of Google Inc., the online search engine; low-cost carrier JetBlue Airways Corp.; and software innovator Adobe Systems Inc.

Mackey was recognized for building Whole Foods from a single store into one of the world's biggest natural food and organics retailers.

El Paso officials push Fort Bliss expansion

EL PASO (AP) — Local officials say that Fort Bliss has room to expand and could be a winner when the Pentagon announces a realignment of military bases in 2005.

In 2005, the Defense Department is expected to outline a process to realign and close about 25 percent of its military bases. Retired Maj. Gen. James Maloney of El Paso, a member of the Texas Military Preparedness Commission, said there is potential to absorb troops from military posts overseas.

"It was recently announced that 20,000 troops will be removed from Korea, but I'm not sure what kind of units they might be," he said. "Fort Bliss could easily accommodate a whole division, which could mean an organization of about 15,000."

Don't dip these cookies in milk

One of the most common problems I hear from people regarding the Internet is how fast, or more appropriately, how slow their browser moves along the information super highway. For some it's at the blink of an eye, while for others, it seems more like the pace of a snail on valium.

So what can you do to optimize your surfing experience? This week we'll take a look at some quick and easy maintenance you can perform on your home computer to keep it in tip-top racing shape.

Drano for you computer...

OK, let's start with a really simple analogy to help you understand how Internet files can get gunked up beneath the surface of your operating system (some points in this article may be specific to a certain version of Internet Explorer, but for the most part you should be able to get the idea).

Have you ever seen the inside of a piece of copper piping used in the water system of your home? The first time I saw one from Big Spring (and that's never a pleasant experience, let me tell you), I had a hard time believing water could actually find its way through all of the mineral build up. Your computer works on the same principal, but instead of water it's trying to move data.

Let's start with cookies. No, not the chocolate

chip variety... A cookie is a file created by an Internet site to store information on your computer, such as your preferences when visiting that site. For example, if you inquire about a flight schedule at an airline's Web site, the site might create a cookie that contains your itinerary. Or it might only contain a record of the pages you looked at within the site you visited, to help the site customize the view for you the next time you visit. Cookies can also store personally identifiable information.

Personally identifiable information that can be used to identify or contact you, such as your name, e-mail address, home or work address, or telephone number. However, a Web site only has access to the personally identifiable information that you provide. For example, a Web site cannot determine your e-mail name unless you provide it. Also, a Web site cannot gain access to other information on your computer. At any given time, your computer can contain from 100 to 100,000 of these cookies, depending on how often you "clean out" your system, and can seriously slow down your surfing.

So how do I get rid of these things? There are two options... You can either go in and manually delete these items, which are usually found in your Windows folder, or use third party software. Most Windows operating systems come with their own cleaning program, aptly named "Disk Cleanup," but there are some major differences between the

Microsoft offering versus third party programs.

Microsoft Disk Cleanup, which comes free of charge with most Windows operating systems, is good for getting rid of unneeded files such as cookies and things still floating in your recycle bin. To access Disk Cleanup, go through the following files: start, programs, accessories, system tools. It offers a pretty low degree of preferences when it comes to what files to snag and bag, but it gets their job done, sorta. Disk Cleanup deletes files, but unlike most third-party software, doesn't wipe the slack space from your hard drive or completely "erase" the information from your computer.

Not that any of my readers need to worry about their Internet home computing toes (I'm crossing my fingers, OK?), most third-party erasure programs offer a way to make deleted files unretrievable. Also called "bleaching," they generally make any deleted files almost impossible to retrieve. The most skilled computer techs can even retrieve information from a computer that has been "bleached." The information program is aptly named "Window Washer" and is distributed by Webroot Software Inc.

Window Washer is a very useful program for cleaning up the messes of your activities on a computer. Many people do not realize that Windows and other operating systems store information of what they have done, such as documents they have used, what web sites they have visited, and many other activities they have performed. Therefore,

anyone else can see what you have been doing on your computer, which raises several privacy concerns. Furthermore, much of your activity information takes up valuable disk space, and recovering this space can be very beneficial.

Cleaning up the history of your activities can be a tedious chore of manually removing each history file or entry. If privacy and disk space are to be maintained, this process must be performed every time you use your computer.

Window Washer can automate this process for you. Window Washer will automatically run in the background and clean up whatever tracks you want removed, whenever you want. You can have Window Washer automatically clean your files when Windows is started or shutdown, in addition to regular timed cleanings.

Window Washer integrates with the standard places where Microsoft Windows stores your tracks, such as the document pool and the Recycle Bin. It also integrates with popular programs like Netscape and Internet Explorer. What's more, with the flexible "Custom Items" feature, you can specify other files, folders, or registry entries that you would like to be automatically cleaned. More information on this product is available at www.webroot.com.

So, this week we'll take a look at some more things you can do to help your Internet Explorer be your best buddy, rather than your lifelong nemesis. Until then, remember... Don't dip your computer cookies in milk.



THOMAS JENKINS

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<p>★★★ FORDS ★★★</p> <p>2003 Ford E350 XLT 15 Passenger Van - White w/Cloth, V-10, Dual Air/Heat, Privacy Glass, 17,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$32,395 NOW \$20,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Windstar LX 4-DR. - Light Parchment, Cloth, 7 Passenger, Dual Air/Heat, 23,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$28,810 NOW \$17,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Focus SE 4-DR. - Gray w/Cloth, All Power, 18,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$16,925 NOW \$11,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Focus SE 4-DR. - Light Gray w/Cloth, All Power, 17,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$16,925 NOW \$11,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Mustang - Black, Cloth, V-6, Automatic, All Power, 15,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$20,560 NOW \$14,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Taurus SES - White/Cloth, All Power, 15,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$21,670 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2003 Ford Taurus SES - Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, 10,000 Miles. SOLD</p> <p>MSRP \$21,670 NOW \$13,995</p>	

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TOYS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SALVATION ARMY FOR DISTRIBUTION, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

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BIG SPRING HERALD

710 SCURRY 263-7331

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MONDAY

	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 (25)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odesa	Odesa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odesa	Odesa	Discovery	Classics	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	New York	Premium
6:30 PM	News (CC) Wheel-Fortune	News Wheel-Fortune	El Manantial	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes	News Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC) Friends (CC)	Joseph Good John Hagee	News-Lehrer	MythBusters	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live! BET com	Sister, Sister Lizzie McGuire	College Basketball	Monday Night	JAG (CC)	(CC)
7:30 PM	Primetime Monday	Primetime Monday	Veloz de Novia	Next Joe Milligra: An	Yes, Dear Still Standing	Amor Descarado	Fear Factor (CC)	Movie: Jerry Maguire (CC)	Update/Israel Sam Peak	Antiques Roadshow	Monster House	Movie: Shenandoah	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Ghost Dad	College Basketball	Davidson vs. North Carolina	Countdown (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims	Movie: A Shot at Glory (CC)
8:30 PM	NFL Football: Giants at Tampa Bay	NFL Football: Giants at Tampa Bay	Nina Amada	International Affair (CC)	Raymond Two-Half Men	Ladron de Corazones	Average Joe (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Ken Burns American	Monster Garage	10 Movie: Hombres	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Comicview	Sister, Sister Boy World	College Basketball	Ohio St vs. S.D. St.	New American Sportsman	Law & Order: Special Victims	Movie: The Score (CC)
9:30 PM	Buccaneers (CC)	Buccaneers (CC)	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	Noticias Late Show	Noticias Late Show	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: Days of Healing	Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Monster House	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Nightly News Hey Monie	Kim Possible Proud Family	Gamenight College	Totally Hooked Offshore Adv.	Law & Order: Special Victims		
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Nightline	En las Mejores Familias	Becker (CC) Spin City	Late Late	AI Rojo Vivo	Late Night (CC)	Thunder (CC)	Rev. J. Harner Tommie	Sign Off	Monster Garage	20 Movie: Shenandoah (CC)	X-Files (CC)	Midnight Love	Even Stevens Sister, Sister	Basketball Hawaii vs.	SportsCenter	Peacemakers (CC)	05 Movie: Nightscare
11:30 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Nightline Jimmy Kimmel	Angela	Show (CC) Street Smarts	Blind Date	Street Smarts	Fraser (CC)	35 Movie:	Update/Israel N. McBride	American Chopper	X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Boy World Recess (CC)	Boy World Recess (CC)	Santa Clara NBA Fastbreak	Outside-Lines SportsCenter	Nash Bridges (CC)	35 Movie:	

DENNIS THE MENACE

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"SCHOOL WAS A LOT OF FUN UNTIL THE TEACHER CAME BACK IN THE ROOM."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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"If you got me my own cell phone, I promise I'd hardly ever lose it."

HAGAR

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THE MEDICINE YOU PRESCRIBED FOR ME MADE ME FEEL MEAN AND EGGY AND READY TO FIGHT AT THE DROP OF A HAT!

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GOD! THEN YOU'RE BACK TO FEELING LIKE YOUR OLD SELF AGAIN?

YES! THANKS TO YOU!

BLONDIE

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MY WIFE THINKS I'M THE MOST FORGETFUL MAN ON THE PLANET

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SHE'S GOING TO KILL ME IF I FORGET TO BRING HER FLOWERS FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY TONIGHT

WHOA! WAIT A MINUTE! I JUST REMEMBERED SHE LEFT ME TWO MONTHS AGO!

BC

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TV AUDIENCE AUDITIONS

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

LET'S HEAR YOU SQUEAL WITH GLEE.

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This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 24, the 328th day of 2003. There are 37 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 24, 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television.

On this date:

In 1784, Zachary Taylor, the 12th president of the United States, was born in Orange County, Va.

In 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory of evolution.

In 1863, the Civil War battle for Lookout Mountain began in Tennessee; Union forces took the mountain

two days later.

In 1864, French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec was born in Albi.

In 1871, the National Rifle Association was incorporated.

In 1947, a group of writers, producers and directors that became known as the "Hollywood Ten" was cited for contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions about alleged Communist influence in the movie industry.

In 1969, Apollo 12 splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1971, hijacker D.B. Cooper parachuted from a Northwest Airlines 727 over Washington state with \$200,000 in ransom. His fate remains unknown.

In 1985, the hijacking of an Egyptair jetliner parked on the ground in Malta ended violently as Egyptian commandos stormed the plane. Fifty-eight people died in the raid, in addition to two others killed by the hijackers.

In 1987, the United States and the Soviet Union

agreed to scrap shorter- and medium-range missiles.

Today's Birthdays:

Columist William F. Buckley is 78. Country singer Johnny Carver is 63. Rock-and-roll drummer Pete Best is 62. Rock musician Donald "Duck" Dunn (Booker T. & the MG's) is 62. Actor-comedian Billy Connolly is 61. Former White House news secretary Marlin Fitzwater is 61. Former Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman is 59. Singer Lee Michaels is 58. Actor Dwight Schultz is 56. Actor Stanley Livingston is 53. Rock musician Clem Burke (Blondie) is 48.

Answer to previous puzzle

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WIZARD OF ID

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IS THIS BILL VALUABLE?

WOW! IT SURE IS!

IT'S THE FIRST ONE THAT EVER GOT THROUGH THE INSPECTION PROCESS WITH "GOD SAVE THE FINK" ON IT!

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AGNES

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I THINK I HAVE DISCOVERED THE SOURCE OF ALL MY PROBLEMS.

GREAT!

YES... YOU SEE, ALL OF MY LIFE I HAVE BEEN TOLD TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX.

HEY! ME, TOO!

SO... JUST WHERE IS THIS BOX, AND WHY ARE THEY TRYING SO HARD TO KEEP US OUT?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I CAN'T PUT MY FEET ON THE COFFEE TABLE.

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HI AND LOIS

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WHERE'S YOUR FATHER? I THOUGHT HE WAS PAYING BILLS!

HE SAID HE WAS GOING OUT TO "CLEAR HIS HEAD."

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN, ANYWAY?

SCRITCH SCRITCH

BANG BANG

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MR. HOUSEWIFE

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YOU VACUUM.

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SNUFFY SMITH

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SMIF, I'M ORDERIN' YOU HELD AN' YORE BAIL SET AT, UM, LET'S SEE HERE...

WHAT'S TH' MINIMUM TO GIT IN YORE CARD GAME AG'IN, SHERIFF?

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BETLE BAILEY

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WHUMP!

WHAT WAS THAT?!

SARGE MUST HAVE FOUND THE CARTOON I DID OF HIM ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

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Newsday Crossword

IN THE BACKYARD by Lee Weaver
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Unexpected obstacle
 - 6 Here to Eternity
 - 10 Linksters' org.
 - 13 Merry Man Allan-
 - 14 Warm affection
 - 15 The Simpson boy
 - 16 In the neighborhood
 - 17 On a cruise
 - 18 Computer owner
 - 19 Young wedding attendant
 - 21 Stick around
 - 22 Schnozzes
 - 23 Newscaster Huntley
 - 24 Woolen blanket
 - 28 Small porch
 - 30 Ballet bend
 - 31 Bus station
 - 35 Kids' ballgame site
 - 39 Pecan patty
 - 40 Green Acres star
 - 42 Not fooled by
 - 43 Novelist Zola
 - 44 Lustrous fabric
 - 46 Wild guess
 - 48 Make joyous
 - 50 Moby Dick seeker
 - 51 Source of political support
 - 56 Part in a play
 - 57 Truck-stop offering
 - 58 Telecast component
- DOWN**
- 1 50%
 - 2 Revered one
 - 3 Tijuana treat
 - 4 Lobster's grabber
 - 5 Montana capital
 - 6 Loses energy
 - 7 Most promising
 - 8 Go beyond
 - 9 One of a daily trio
 - 10 Wallpaperer's need
 - 11 Phenomenal
 - 12 "Give it _!"
 - 15 Flyer servicing remote areas
 - 20 Director Howard
 - 23 Robin Cook thriller
 - 24 Church area
 - 25 Vanilla or choc.
 - 26 Actress Lollobrigida
 - 27 Act to reduce one's loss
 - 29 Bobby of hockey
 - 32 WXY on a phone
 - 33 Poker stake
 - 34 Author Uris
 - 36 Easter entrée
 - 37 Kimono sash
 - 38 Stand for
 - 41 Makes a comparison
 - 44 Ave. crossers
 - 45 Make fizzy
 - 46 "All _ Up" (Presley tune)
 - 47 Keep score
 - 49 Strong point
 - 50 Circle segments
 - 51 First or reverse
 - 52 What we share
 - 53 Poems of praise
 - 54 Fork prong
 - 55 Lays a new lawn

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ON THE

Sports Broad
Nov.
Event, Time
Mavericks vs. Chicago, 7
Nov.
Event, Time
Spurs vs. Chicago, 7 p.m.
Nov.
Event, Time
Dowboys vs. Miami, 2 p.m.

IN BRIEF

BSYBA sets meeting for board, adults

The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association will hold an organizational meeting tonight at 7 p.m. 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.

JV Steers to face Merkel in Steer Gym

The Big Spring High School Steers junior varsity basketball team will square off against the Merkel Badgers tonight in the Steer Gym.

Big Spring, coming off a tough loss to Lamesa in its opener, is slated to tip off at 6 p.m.

The Steers will travel to Snyder Tuesday for a 6 p.m. start.

Quarterback Club to meet on Dec. 1

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold a meeting Dec. 1 at the BSHS Athletic Training Complex to begin preparations for the football banquet and to hold officer elections.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

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 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).

CLFL adds three to board of directors

The Crossroads Little Football League added three members to its board of directors Saturday. The three were elected during voting at the CLFL championship games.

Named to the board were Joanna Dykes, Nicole Gibson and Zack Johnson.

BSJHS hoops team to begin play today

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

The seventh graders will begin at 5 p.m. The eighth graders will begin at 6:15 p.m.

ON THE AIR

Event, Time	Station
Nov. 25	
Nov. 25	1490
Nov. 26	
Nov. 26	1490
Nov. 27	
Nov. 27	1490

Coahoma slips past Ozona



Coahoma defensive back Adrian Abrego lifts the area championship trophy in celebration of the Bulldogs' thrilling 21-20 win over the Ozona Lions Saturday night at Grande Communications Stadium in Midland. With the win, Coahoma will advance to a regional showdown with Panhandle Friday night in Lubbock.

Late interception spurs Coahoma to 21-20 win over Ozona in area playoff

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

MIDLAND — Oddly enough, a team that prides itself on being able to move the ball almost at will, was saved by a defensive catch from the man who throws the ball.

Sam Tindol squelched a late drive by the Ozona Lions by intercepting a pass at his own 13 with less than two minutes left in regulation Saturday night and helped the Coahoma Bulldogs survive a 21-20 playoff thriller at Grande Communications Stadium. The win marked the second time this season the Bulldogs claimed a one-point victory over Ozona.

"We just told ourselves to watch the ball and not give up the big play," said junior cornerback Adrian Abrego of the Bulldogs' defensive plan for the Lions' final drive. "We knew we just had to play within ourselves and play Bulldog football. We did and it paid off."

Ozona didn't make it easy, however. The Lions, aided by a pass interference penalty, marched from their own 25 to the Coahoma 34 before the Bulldog defense threw up an iron wall.

On first down for the Coahoma 34, Abrego and Clay Grant managed to sneak through the line and drop running back Jaryyd Taylor for a yard loss. One play, Ozona quarterback Aaron Garza lofted an incomplete pass, leaving the Lions facing a third-and-11 situation.

Tindol, one of the top passers in the nation with more than 3,400



Sam Tindol and the Coahoma Bulldogs earned their third trip to the regional round of the Class 2A state playoffs Friday night with a 21-20 win over the Ozona Lions. Coahoma improves to 10-2 for the season.

yards, came up with the big play — as a defensive back. He intercepted a high pass on a third-down attempt at the CHS 13 and helped Coahoma nailed down its third Class 2A area championship in four years.

"We're a run defense," said senior defensive tackle Sammy Sevey. "We did what we had to do. We came out that last series and played smash-mouth football. I don't want to take anything away from them because they have a great team, but we executed well and came out on top."

The Bulldogs, now 10-2 overall, did more than come out on top. With the win, Coahoma earned a berth opposite Panhandle in the third round of the playoffs Friday at 7 p.m. at Lubbock's Lowery Field.

The Bulldogs' game-winning effort was just one of two drives they halted inside the CHS 20 in the final 12 minutes. Ozona threatened to take a lead on its first series of the fourth quarter by driving to the Coahoma six before stumbling.

See COAHOMA, Page 2B

Lady Hawks suffer 4th loss

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Stephanie Russell knocked down nine 3-pointers Saturday afternoon and sparked the Clarendon College Lady Bulldogs to a stunning 72-56 win over the slumping Howard College Lady Hawks in their final game of the 2003 Western Junior College Athletic Conference Pre-Season Tournament.

Russell, who finished with a game-high 31 points, rallied the Lady Bulldogs from an early deficit with a torrid shooting display at the end of the first half and the first 10 minutes of the second. The Clarendon standout single-handedly erased an 18-16 HC lead by pumping in 25 points in a 20-minute span.

After watching as LaTasha Davis had powered the Lady Hawks to an early lead, Russell took over. She nailed three 3-point shots and a pair of free throws in the closing minutes of the first half, leading an 18-10 run that sent the Lady Bulldogs into the half holding a 34-28 lead.

She didn't cool off any at the half. Russell hit four 3-pointers in the first 10 minutes of the second half and sparked a 22-14 run that all but sealed Howard College's fourth straight loss.

During her streak, the Clarendon sophomore tallied 25 of the Lady Bulldogs' 40 points.

Desire Bostice led Howard in the final minutes. She scored nine of her team-high 15 points in the last 11 minutes.

Ciara Tidwell and Davis also hit double-figures for the HC women, posting 12 and 11, respectively.

The Lady Hawks are slated to return to action tonight at 6 p.m. against the Hardin Simmons University JV.

Hawks drop bouts with Grayson, Hill

The Howard College Hawks ran into a speed bump this past weekend as they suffered back-to-back losses to Grayson County and Hill College in Odessa.

With the losses, Howard College slipped to 4-2 on the year.

The Hawks' closed out the weekend with a tough 82-72 loss to Hill College on Saturday afternoon.

"We just weren't able to get over the hump against their hot shooting," said HC men's basketball coach Jim Lewis.

The Hawks managed to stay close early. Sparked by freshman Johnny Jones, HC managed to pull to within 43-42 shortly before the half.

Jones was one of the Howard players finishing in double figures, netting 22. Steve Story and Steve Goff added 13 and 10, respectively.

No. 2-ranked Eastern Oklahoma upend Midland in WJCAC finale

Amanda Stone scored a game-high 20 points and Tanya Morris added 17 more Saturday evening and led the No. 2-ranked Eastern Oklahoma Lady Mountaineers to an 86-83

win over No. 9-ranked Midland College in the WJCAC Pre-Season Tournament finals. Eastern Oklahoma dominated the first half of play, outscoring Midland

by a 44-33 clip. Midland rallied in the second, pulling to within three with a 50-42 second-half surge. Stone and Morris were both named to the all-

tournament team along with Odessa's Kanani Marshal, Frank Phillips' Priscilla Alves and New Mexico's Johnice James. Midland's Tashia Combs was named MVP.

Miranda Swearingin scored 20 points and led NMJC to a 81-73 win over Frank Phillips in the third-place game. Odessa beat South Plains, 98-81, to finish fourth.

Hughey leads Forsan 7th graders to FJHS Tournament crown

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

All good things must come to an end and that is exactly what happened Saturday afternoon as the Forsan Junior High School Invitational Basketball Tournament drew to a conclusion.

Just like organizers had planned, everyone left happy as each school that participated in the tourney went home with a championship plaque.

In the girls' seventh grade division the Forsan Lady Buffaloes found themselves fac-

ing cross-county rivals the Coahoma Bulldogettes in the finals. Thanks to the solid play of Jade Hughey and Tori Gauer, the Lady Buffs pulled out a thrilling 34-23 victory.

Forsan, which led 9-5 after one period of play, broke open the game in the second by reeling off a 12-3 run to grab a 21-8 lead that all but closed out the contest.

Hughey paced Forsan in scoring, throwing in 12 big points and contributing greatly on the boards. Gauer contributed nine points.

Paige Jackson led all

Coahoma scorers with 10 points. Shelbi Paige had six.

In the eighth grade girls' bracket, the Bulldogettes found the going a little easier. They outscored the Grape Creek Lady Eagles by a 17-5 clip in the first quarter and cruised to a 40-22 win.

Coahoma used a balanced scoring attack that saw six players hit the stat sheet. Leading the way for the Bulldogettes was Jessica Gonzales with nine points. Heather Sheppard and Kassie Holbrook tallied seven and six points, respectively, while

Reagan Ruperd, Caylea Wood, and Kayla Gutierrez contributed two points apiece.

On the boys' side of the tourney, the Stanton Buffaloes raced out to a 27-8 halftime lead and rolled to a 43-17 victory over the Forsan Buffaloes in the eighth grade division.

Stanton put the finishing touches on the win with a 16-9 run in the second half.

Justin Hinjosa paced the Bulldogs with 15 points, while teammates David Erives and Grant Fulton added 12 and eight points, respectively.

Blake Grantham led the scor-

ing efforts for the Buffaloes with six points. Cameron Parker added three while Clint Hobbs, James Marlow, and Toby Anderson scored two apiece for the Buffaloes.

Grape Creek garnered the seventh grade championship title with a 24-14 over Stanton.

Pacing the Buffaloes with six points was Michael Church while the trio of Stephen Reyes, John Eric Saenz, and Nick Hart added a combined eight points to the effort. Reyes tallied four, while Saenz and Hart scored two each.



Senior wide receiver Kelby Kemper runs for a short gain after hauling in a pass in the second quarter. Kemper had eight receptions for 74 yards in the contest.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

After Taylor had reeled off a six-yard gain to the Bulldog 6, Adam Thompson came up big, catching Taylor behind the line for a loss. One play later, Tindol batted down a pass at the two and forced Ozona into a fourth-and-5 call.

Initially, Ozona head coach Steve Taylor decided to try a 25-yard field goal and sent junior place-kicker Toby Fabens onto the field.

After a timeout, however, Taylor changed his mind and sent the Lions offense back onto the field.

It was a decision that Taylor will likely regret for the next seven months. Garza, who has been bothered much of the year with a sore thumb, lofted a pass over the head of his intended receiver in the end zone.

While the Bulldogs had success in stopping Ozona in the red zone, the Lions didn't have any such good fortune.

In fact, it hadn't been for bad luck, the Lions wouldn't have had any at all in the opening minutes of the contest.

Coahoma, led by plays from Abrego, Mitchell Gutierrez and Lance Roberts, dominated the Lions offense in the opening minutes, allowing OHS just three yards on its first three plays from scrimmage.

On fourth down, Ozona shot itself in the foot. A high snap on a punting attempt forced Garza to scramble. Grant hauled the Lions' senior down at the OHS six.

It didn't take the

Bulldogs long to turn the Lions' miscue into points. After a short run by Clay Grant to the OHS 5, Tindol lofted a five-yard pass to Roberts for the touchdown.

Roberts' reception gave Coahoma a 6-0 lead just 2:06 having expired off the clock.

The Lions' next two drives didn't go much better. Ozona managed just eight yards on their next nine plays and punted twice.

The Lions managed to get their offense untracked early in the second period. Taylor broke free on a sweep around the right end and raced 45 yards for a touchdown on the second play of the frame. Pagan's extra point kick gave Ozona a 7-6 lead with 11:23 left in the half.

Taylor, who rushed for 149 yards on 24 carries, found his way into the end zone again just over eight minutes later when he capped a 10-play, 68-yard drive with a nine-yard run.

Taylor's second TD of the half gave Ozona a 14-6 cushion with 3:09 left.

It didn't take long for Coahoma to answer back. Tindol opened the Bulldogs' ensuing series with passes of 19 and 24 yards to Kelby Kemper and Abrego. Three plays later, he scrambled up the middle for a six-yard touchdown.

Tindol's touchdown highlighted a 6-play drive that covered 70 yards in just 1:48.

Coahoma head coach Robert Wood dug into his bag of tricks from there — and came up with a gem. Clay Grant took a pitch from Tindol on the two-point conversion and rambed in for the con-

version, tying the score at 14-14 with 1:21 remaining in the half.

The Bulldogs found the end zone again midway through the third quarter as Tindol put on a passing clinic for the large crowd on hand.

After a short 20-yard punt had given Coahoma the ball at the Ozona 43, Tindol reeled off passes of 14 and 17 yards to Roberts and Kemper, respectively, before capping the march by tossing a 32-yard touchdown pass to Kemper in the back of the end zone. Kemper, who had seven catches in the game for 84 yards, made a dramatic effort on the play, outjumping two defenders and coming down with his feet in the end zone.

Ozona, which finished the year at 8-3, managed to keep its hopes alive on its ensuing drive. The Lions — courtesy of another pass interference call against Coahoma, went 69 yards in nine plays to pull to within 21-20.

Ozona quarterback Clay Hale came up with the big play in the drive by hooking up with receiver Trey Collis on a 32-yard scoring toss on a fourth-and-15 play.

The CHS defense stole the Lions' thunder, though. The Bulldogs, with a strong push up front by Sevey and Thompson, blocked the OHS extra point attempt.

The Bulldogs defense didn't let up after that, holding Ozona scoreless for the remaining 13 minutes of play.

Tindol finished the game by completing 16 of 24 passing attempts for 174 yards.

Cowboys net best record in NFC with win over Carolina

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys can't be called losers in their first year under Bill Parcells, no matter what happens, the rest of the season.

Dallas is guaranteed at least a .500 season after beating the Panthers 24-20 Sunday. After three straight 5-11 seasons, that's a big accomplishment — especially with five games left.

"We may not be winners, but we're not losers anymore," Parcells said.

Quincy Carter threw two touchdown passes, then converted two third downs on the final, clock-milking drive to prevent another Carolina comeback.

The Cowboys (8-3) are tied with Carolina, St. Louis and Philadelphia for the NFC's best record. The NFC East rival Eagles have won six straight since losing at Dallas.

Carolina is home next week against the Eagles, a week before the Cowboys, play at Philadelphia.

And Dallas goes into its Thanksgiving Day game against Miami with eight wins for the first time since 1998, its last winning season.

"We'll see what we can do," Parcells said. "We have a lot of football left, but we're going to be in the hunt for a while."

Carolina has already matched its win total from the last two years combined, but is still short of clinching the second winning season in the nine-year team history. The other was when the Panthers went to the NFC championship game in 1996.

"My confidence is not at all shaken," said Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme, who was just 9-of-24 for 175 yards and a touchdown. "We just didn't play too well, and we know it."

The Panthers had already won six games in the final two minutes or overtime. After John Kasey's 34-yard field goal with 3:47 left, Carter didn't give them a chance to make it seven.

Carolina never got the ball back.

Carter scrambled for 4 yards on third-and-9 from the 21 before two penalty flags, one a 15-yarder on Brenston Buckner for grabbing Carter's face-

mask. The clincher was a 13-yard pass to Jason Whitten on third-and-8 with 1:39 left.

Carter finished with the most attempts (44) and completions (29) of his career, for 254 yards. His early 24-yard TD pass to Joey Galloway was his longest completion, and he later threw a 5-yarder to Jeff Robinson — whose primary job is deep snapping.

"It's not like he was Joe Montana out there. His receivers made a lot of plays," Buckner said of Carter. "He took the safe 5-yard pass and didn't force anything."

The Cowboys' offense scored three touchdowns. Dallas had just four in the previous four-game stretch that included two

shutout losses and a 10-6 win.

"Good teams are going to score points, you have to know that as an offense," Carter said. "Our defense has carried us for a while. It was important for us to come out and give the defense a chance."

Until fullback Richie Anderson took a handoff and pitched out to Aveion Cason for a 16-yard TD that made it 24-17 late in the third quarter, Carolina answered each Dallas score, tying the game at 3, 10 and 17.

Delhomme's 1-yard TD pass to Brad Hoover tied the game at 17 on the possession before the Cowboys' trickery for the go-ahead score.

Vinatieri lifts Pats by Houston in OT

HOUSTON (AP) — Despite struggling earlier in the game, Tom Brady and Adam Vinatieri came through when the New England Patriots needed them most.

Brady threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Daniel Graham that forced overtime and Vinatieri kicked a 37-yard field goal with 41 seconds left in the extra period for a 23-20 victory over the Houston Texans on Sunday.

Brady had two passes intercepted and lost a fumble before his tying touchdown pass to Graham. Before kicking the winning field goal, Vinatieri hit the goal post on one attempt and had another blocked.

Vinatieri couldn't wait to atone for his miscues. "The whole overtime period seemed like a long 12 minutes," Vinatieri said. "It took a while but our defense did a good job of stepping it up. I just kept thinking, 'Just give me another shot.'"

It took a dramatic late fourth-quarter drive led by Brady for Vinatieri to get his wish.

Facing a third-and-10 with 2:26 to play, Brady hit Graham with a 33-yard completion to the Houston 37 that helped set up the 37-yard touchdown pass that tied the game.

"Those were really two good plays," Brady said.

"(Graham) made the one down the field that really changed the position for us. On the (touchdown) he did a great job of running on the side and cutting back to lose his defender and give me a place to throw it."

The Patriots (9-2) won their seventh game in a row and their ninth in 10 games. They needed every big play they could muster against the Texans (4-7), who were outgained in total yards 472-169 but still had several excellent chances to win the game.

With Houston trailing 10-3 at the half, the Texans began to come back after Marcus Coleman intercepted a pass and Jay Foreman returned a fumble 33 yards to set up touchdown passes by Tony Banks, 10 yards to Andre Johnson and 16 yards to tight end Billy Miller.

Vinatieri kicked a 32-yarder for the Patriots and Kris Brown had a 31-yard field goal for Houston in the fourth quarter, leaving the Texans with a 20-13 lead going into the final minutes.

Banks, who started for injured starter David Carr, knew the Texans missed a terrific opportunity to win back-to-back games for the first time in the franchise's 27-game history.

Baylor wins first game after difficult offseason

WACO (AP) — Coach Scott Drew found out a lot about his Baylor team in the first game.

For one, the Bears won't go without a win this season. And they will play hard, even though the minutes probably will continue to pile up for the starters on an undermanned roster.

After a difficult offseason that included the shooting death of a player

and murder charges against a teammate, a coaching change after serious NCAA violations were revealed and the transfers of the top three scorers, Baylor won its season opener 72-59 over Texas Southern on Saturday night.

"You never know in your first game how your team is going to be prepared and how they are going to play," Drew said.

"They made a run and it challenged us and made us see what we were made of. I was really impressed with how we responded."

The Bears had a 22-point lead and then withstood a charge by Texas Southern even as they were wearing down. Four Baylor starters played at least 34 minutes, and the other was in foul trouble.

Texas Tech women power past Rutgers, 73-45

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech knew it would take tenacious defense and rebounding to repel

Rutgers in the championship game of the women's Preseason NIT. The No. 7 Lady Raiders

had plenty of both while running away from the No. 15-ranked Scarlet Knights 73-45 Sunday.

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