

THURSDAY

December 18, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW
28°-29° 64°-66°

Coahoma Choir

The Coahoma Choir Kids, a select group of fourth, fifth and sixth grade singers, will present a Christmas concert at 7 tonight in the school cafeteria.

Admission is free. The public is invited to enjoy a wide variety of music.

The performance will be repeated for the school at 8:45 a.m. Friday in the cafeteria. At that time, all grade levels will participate in a Christmas sing-along.

GIVING



Each day through the holiday season, the Herald will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate. If your organization has an established program to help others and would like to be included in this list, call Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.

Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Herald (seniors)
- Gale's Sweet Shop
- Big Spring Mall
- Wal-Mart

Salvation Army Kettles:

- Post Office
- Wal-Mart
- Big Spring Mall
- Rip Griffin's Truck Stop

Giving Tree

- Wells Fargo Bank
- Western National Bank

Canned Food Drive

- Big Spring Herald

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Vol. 100, No. 29

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.

Showing their love for the season

Everyone's a winner in display of holiday lights

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A small group of women traveled the neighborhoods of Howard County Wednesday night searching for hidden holiday treasures.

Judging for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Decorating Contest yielded awards for everyone involved.

"We gave everybody a unique award for their hard work and contribution to beautifying our city," said judge Terri Johansen. "There are so many pretty decorations throughout the city, many that were not entered in the contest."

The judges opted to list each entry with an award befitting the display.

"I think this gives us a flavor for what's out there," Johansen said.

One must-see little-cache is the Ken Haven family home located at 2809 Lawrence. This "Hidden Treasure" is nestled in a neighborhood equally lit for the holiday season.

Another stunning display of festive holiday cheer is the home of Jesse Mince at 907 E. 13th. The house is illuminated with soft red colors, earning it the "Candy Cane Christmas" award.

Those willing to make the drive out to Forsan will enjoy the spectacular yard display of Frances and Sonny Wiseman filled with lights, Santa Claus

See LIGHTS, Page 3A



Frances and Sonny Wiseman of Forsan have filled their yard, above, with imaginative Christmas displays, earning the couple the "Reason for the Season" award from the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Decorating Contest held Wednesday. Each contest entry received a special award. At left, the home of Jesse Mince, 907 E. 13th St., earned the "Candy Cane Christmas" award from the judges. A number of residents and merchants decided to enter the annual contest.

HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody



Gollad Intermediate sixth grade teacher Gail Berringer selects two Salvation Army senior "angels" to adopt for the school's two civic organizations, the Classics and the Cavaliers. A number of "angels" still have not been adopted. Friday is the deadline to return the adopted "angels" to the Salvation Army before the gifts are distributed on Tuesday.

Abundance of 'Angels' remains

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Salvation Army is making one last plea to the community to adopt an "Angel" and help many area children and senior citizens have a merry Christmas.

"The Angel Tree program seems like it's moving very slow," said

Salvation Army Capt. Russ Keeney. "We still have a lot of angels who have not been adopted and that causes concern because we don't want any children to do without Christmas."

Friday is the deadline to return the adopted "angels" to the Salvation Army before the gifts are distributed on Tuesday,

but those who would like to participate still have time.

"We'd like to have them back in by the Friday deadline because it helps us to get everything prepared and organized for our distribution day," Keeney said. "But we'll take them right up to the

See ANGELS, Page 3A

Cox named interim director for VMAC

HERALD Staff Report

William E. Cox, associate director of the Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System, has been named interim director of Big Spring VA Medical Center.

The announcement came today from Network Director

Patricia A. McKlem, who made Cox's interim term at the West Texas VA Health Care System official.

According to VA offi-

cial, the recruitment process for a permanent director is under way, and Cox will serve in the position until it's filled.

Cox was appointed as associate director of the North Texas system in November of 1996. Prior to his appointment, he served as associate and assistant director of the Dallas VA Medical Center from 1992 until 1996.

Cox will be stepping into the roll formerly held by longtime director Cary Brown, who retired from the facility less than a month ago.

Cox has received several

See COX, Page 3A

Sands CISD will consider applying for fitness funds

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A grant to fund fitness equipment and changes in local policies will top the Sands Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting tonight.

Trustees will consider applying for a grant from the National School Fitness Foundation at their 7 p.m. meeting in the board room.

"It's a foundation that promotes wellness and health," said Superintendent Wayne Blount. "They're doing a lot of research on exercise in the schools."

"In total, it will put more than \$300,000 worth of fitness equipment in our school district," Blount continued. "We actually sign a lease agreement over the next three years. As long as we're staying in compliance with the guidelines of the grant and making those payments, then they reimburse us. After three years, the equipment is ours."

Blount said he had an opportunity to view Forsan Independent School District equipment which was obtained

See SANDS, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Albert Hinojosa



Albert "El Colorado" Hinojosa, 44, of Big Spring, died on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Vigil Services will be at 7:30 p.m. today, Dec. 18, 2003, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 2003, at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 20, 1959, in San Antonio. He lived most of his life in Odessa, but he also lived in Abilene and Big Spring. He was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church and was a construction worker. He was a musician, playing the accordion.

He is survived by one daughter, Mona Lisa Baeza of California; his mother, Maria Hinojosa of Big Spring; two brothers, Homer Hinojosa Jr. of Abilene and Juan Hinojosa of Big Spring; four sisters, Olga Tijerina of Odessa, Maria Carey of Big Spring, Sophie Hinojosa of Big Spring and Elizabeth Hinojosa of Oklahoma City; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Homer Hinojosa Sr.; and two brothers, Inez Hinojosa and Manuel Hinojosa.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Mary "Gladys" Odom

Mary "Gladys" Odom, 92, of Stanton, died on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003, in a Stanton hospital.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, 2003, at the First Baptist Church of Stanton with the Rev. Waymon Swopes, pastor of Greenwood Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.

She was born on Jan. 23, 1911, in St. Augustine County and married Loyd A. Odom on Dec. 8, 1929, in Carlsbad, N.M. He preceded her in death on March 21, 1968.

Mrs. Odom was baptized in the San Bernard River near Sweeny in 1923. Her family moved to Martin County from East Texas in 1926.

She and her husband moved to Callahan County for a short time and then moved back to Martin County in 1935. She spent many years answering the phone and dispatching trucks for their trucking company. She was a member of the First Baptist Church Stanton.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Velma Dean and Bob McMillan of Stanton; two sisters, Artelia Turner of San Angelo and Ruby Ridgway of Richardson; one brother, Henry Minton of Odessa; a daughter-in-law, Patsy Cook of Stanton; three granddaughters; six great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, a son, a daughter, a grandson and three brothers.

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

Lorraine Crenshaw Francis

Lorraine Crenshaw Francis, 84, of Odessa, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003, in Odessa. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Mae Currie

Mae Currie, 74, of Big Spring died at her home Thursday morning, Dec. 18, 2003. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support groups

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.

SUNDAY

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

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

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.

WEST TEXAS DISCOUNT FLOORING

M-F 9-5:30 SAT. 12-4	Pergo Snap \$2.59 sf	Wilsonart \$2.59 sf
1712 GREGG	REMNANT SALE	Plush Carpet \$6.99 yd
263-5500	16x16 Tile \$1.49 sf	Vinyl \$7.49 yd

Police blotter

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

- **LAGENE WOODARD GARZA**, 32, of 708 NW 10th Street, was arrested Wednesday on DPS traffic warrants.

- **RICHARD LEE BEATTY**, 19, of 2610 Dow, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of assault to cause bodily injury/family violence.

- **ROCKY ALLAN AUTRY**, 20, of 1425 E. Sixth Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

- **JOE ALFARO LOPEZ**, 41, of 907 S. Bell Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

- **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 2600 block of Dow.

- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported:

- in the 1100 block of Mesa.

- in the 700 block of 11th Place.

- **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 300 block of Owens.

- in the 500 block of N. Owens

- in the 1700 block of FM 700.

- in the 300 block of Owens.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:

- in the 500 block of Lancaster.

- in the 2200 block of Nolan.

- **THEFT OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- **JAMES EVERETT ROBERTS**, 35, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment and sentence for driving while intoxicated-3rd or more offense.

- **MARK LOUIS VELASQUEZ**, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for burglary of a building.

- **MANUEL ARMENDARIZ JR.**, 30, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid, driving while intoxicated, fleeing police officers and theft.

- **JEFFERY SCOTT COX**, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on motions to revoke probation for unauthorized use of a vehicle and evading arrest with a vehicle.

- **SHOTS FIRED** was reported in the 100 block of Scout Hut Road. Deputies responded, subjects were contacted and steps advised.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 400 block of High School. Deputies were dispatched, actor was released to parents. Class C assault report to follow.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of Eubanks. HCSO was advised of criminal mischief to a vehicle that occurred during the night. Deputy was dispatched, report taken.

Take note

☐ **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.

☐ **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families.

Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected.

For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE Disabled American Veterans Big Spring Chapter No. 47 is holding a special meeting of the chapter body at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17., at the chapter home, Seventh and Abrams streets. The order of business for this special session will focus on the 2004 DAV Transportation Network as it pertains to the Big Spring VA Medical Center. All members are encouraged to attend.

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Bulletin board

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

Today

Howard County Democratic Club will meet at 7 p.m. on the second floor of the county court house. Call Ann Weaver for more information.

Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479 for more information.

Gideon International, Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at Herman's Restaurant at 7 a.m.

The Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. at Gale's.

Masonic Lodge B40 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Vets of America meets at 7 p.m. at 309 South Main.

American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.

Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office, 501 Rannels.

Friday

Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance is held from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All area senior citizens are invited.

AMBUCS meet at noon at La Posada.

Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in Howard College Cactus Room.

St. Thomas Catholic Church will be selling tamales Friday and Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.

Saturday

Dance begins at 8:30 p.m. at Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Members and guests welcome.

PottonHouse, 200 Gregg, a restored historical home is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens is encouraged.

Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hanger 25 Air Museum is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and

Weather

Tonight...Clear. Lows in the upper 20s. Northeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the northwest around 5 mph after midnight.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s. South winds 5 to 10 mph..Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. South winds 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night through Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. Lows around 40.

Monday night and Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s..Lows in the mid 30s..Tuesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-11-17-21.

Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$37,139.
Winning tickets sold in: Port Arthur.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-10-31-35-41. Bonus Ball: 30.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$27 million.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-4-6

BIG SPRING HERALD
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Reflecting A Proud Community
432-263-7331 (Main switchboard) 432-263-7335 (Circulation calls only)
(Fax) 432-264-7205

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The Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Inland Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Newspaper Association of America, Small Newspaper Federation, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and American Newspaper Association.

Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 * ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

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LIGHTS

Continued from

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Christmas sight-seeing to start before sets. Several have dressed holiday.

Citizen's C 701 East FM "Old Fashion Christmas"

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Other comm nness awards Mesa Grill

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Testimony over redistri

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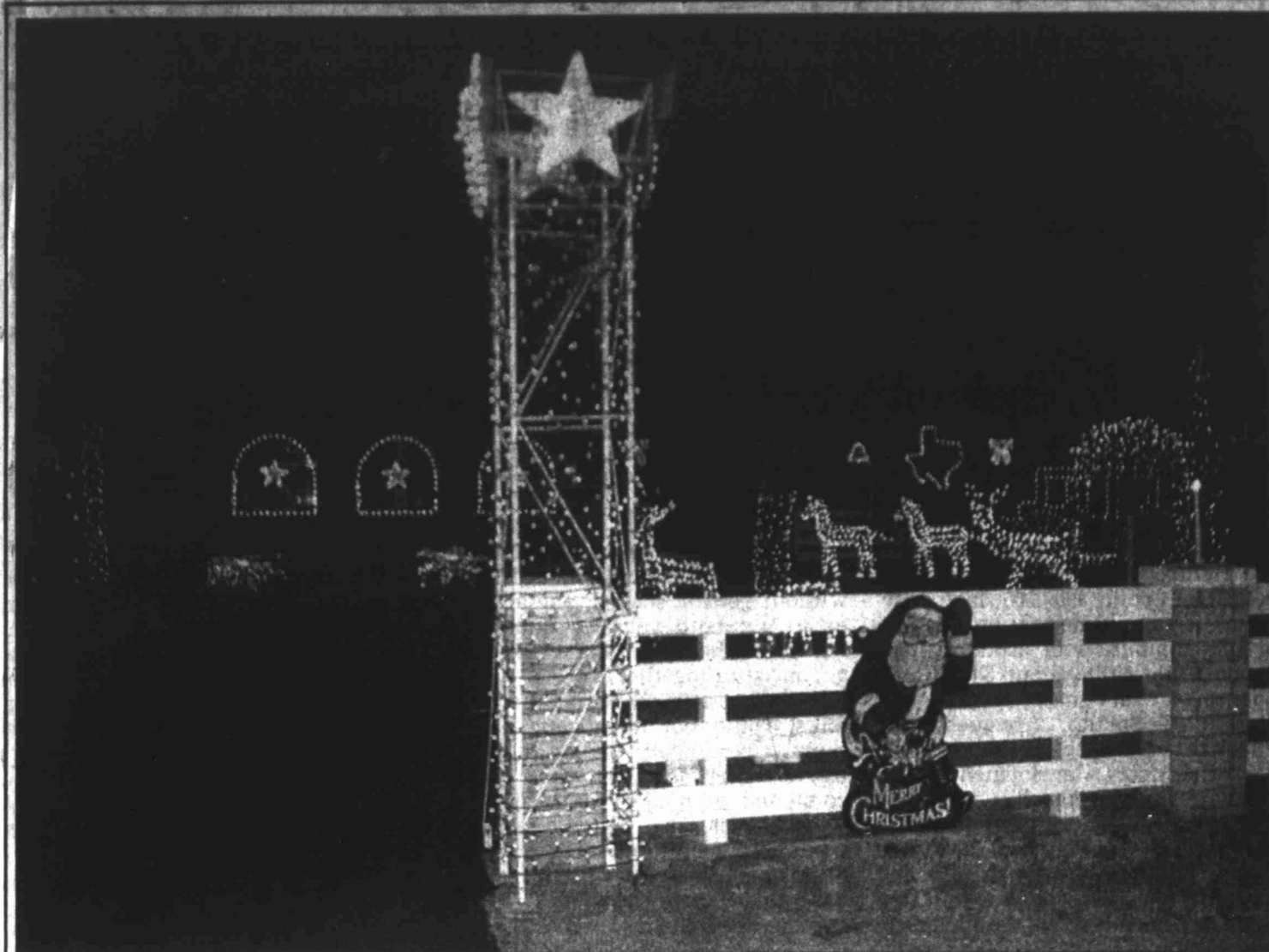
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Braz 1508 E. F She invites all clients to visit location for service

268-1



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
The home of George and Lola Sloan, located at 6013 Midway Road, earned the "Texas Christmas" award from the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Decorating Contest Judges.

LIGHTS

Continued from Page 1A

cut-outs and religious exhibits.

The Arnold Collins residence at 806 San Antonio is a must stop for sight-seers. For several years, the Collins family has made its wooden displays by hand, earning them "A Homemade Delight" award.

Christmas decorating sight-seeing doesn't have to start before the sun sets. Several businesses have dressed up for the holiday.

Citizen's Credit Union, 701 East FM 700, is an "Old Fashioned Must-See Christmas" while the Howard County Clerk's Office located at the courthouse shows the town the "Spirit of Christmas."

Other commercial business awards went to Red Mesa Grill for the

"Mexican Fiesta" award, 2401 Gregg St.; Wells Fargo Bank for "Elegant Christmas" award, 400 Main St.; and the Forsan Soda Shop for "Sweet Delight" award, 403 Rex Avenue.

There were fewer entries in the contest than in years past, but Johansen said the quality was better than ever.

"Big Spring is never more beautiful than it is at night at Christmas time," she said. "There are beautiful decorations out there. It's worth getting the family out in the car and driving around until you can't stand to drive around anymore."

Results from the residential decorating contest are as follows:

For Big Spring, Katie Lara of 714 Craigmont, "Merry Deer Christmas" award; Neal and Kay Roberts, 2904 Melrose Lane, "Lights of Motion" award; Ken Haven and

family at 2809 Lawrence, the "Hidden Treasure" award; Arnold Collins of 806 San Antonio, "Homemade Delight" award; and Erlinda Flores of 1213 W. Sixth St., "Silent Night, Holy Night" award.

Also, Daniel and Deanna Belew of 2101 Runnels St., "Home for the Holidays" award; Troy and Laurie Hyden of 1603 Johnson St., "Mini Christmas" award; Jesse Mince of 907 E. 13th St., "A Candy Cane Christmas" award; Kay and Rusty Parkan of 905 E. 13th, "Twinkle House" award; Patsy Self of 2408 Allendale, "Signs of the Season" award; George and Lola Sloan of 6013 E. Midway Road, "Texas Christmas" award; Daniel and Pam Hornsberger of 1608 Indian Hills, "Christmasey" award; Ron Cohorn of 702 Avondale Dr., "Just What

the Doctor Ordered" award.

The house of Eddie Word at 2300 Thorpe was not lit when judges came to view the display.

For Forsan, Van and Susan Gaston of West Fourth St., "Postcard Picture" award; and Frances and Sonny Wiseman, whose house is across the street for the Forsan Baptist Church, the "Reason for the Season" award.

"We want to thank everyone who participated in this year's contest," said Chamber of Commerce Executive Assistant Liz Adamson. "We appreciate everyone's effort to decorate for the holiday and help make Big Spring beautiful for the Christmas season."

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

ANGELS

Continued from Page 1A

distribution day, even after. We prefer not to do that because it makes for a lot of complications."

To participate, pick up an "angel" adorning one of the Christmas trees located at Wal-Mart, the Big Spring Herald, Gale's Sweet Shoppe and the Big Spring Mall.

Listed on the "angel" are sizes for clothing and



shoes and a wish list for presents. These are suggestions based on the wants of the child or senior citizen and the donor may chose other items.

Once the gifts have been purchased, attach the card to the presents and bring them to the Salvation Army at 811 West Fifth St. or drop them off under the tree where the card originated.

For more information on how you can help, contact the Salvation Army at 267-8239.

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

SANDS

Continued from Page 1A

from a NSFF grant and was impressed with the quality.

"It will be a huge opportunity for our district and our community to be able to have access to that kind of equipment here," he said.

In other business trustees will consider:

- Updates in local policy to reflect changes in state law. One of those changes is the ability for school

districts to evaluate teachers who qualify on a five-year rotation instead of annually.

- The 2002-2003 Academic Excellence Indicator System report. Copies of the report are available at the district's administration office.

- A 457 retirement plan.
- The 2002-2003 audit report.
- Retaining a law firm.
- Personnel matters.

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

COX

Continued from Page 1A

al awards during his tenure with Veterans Affairs, including the Outstanding Executive Award for his work with the Dallas/Fort Worth Federal Executive Board; VHA CFO Gold Team Award; Commendation, Under Secretary for Health, VHA; and the Outstanding Service Award for the state of Texas.

He was recently selected as the recipient of the LVA Honorary Leadership Award for his achievements in management and leadership.

Cox holds a master of science degree in health-care administration from Trinity University and a bachelor of science degree in medical record management from the Medical College of Georgia.

He is a diplomat of the American College of Healthcare Executives and member of the Senior Executive Association.

Newspaper In Education
Each Tuesday
THE HERALD

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FUNERAL HOME
& CHAPEL

24th & Johnson
267-8288

Albert "El Colorado" Hinojosa 44, died Tuesday. Vigil services will be at 7:30 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Mae Currie, 74, died Thursday. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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News briefs

Testimony ongoing over redistricting

AUSTIN (AP) — Minority activists and elected officials testified Wednesday that a Republican-drawn congressional redistricting map could hurt the political progress black and Hispanic Texans have made over many years.

"I think it's probably going to set us back maybe 20, 25 years," said Deralyn Riles Davis, a black political activist from Tarrant County. "The people are going to be discouraged."

Attorneys for the state say Republican legislative leaders were trying to craft a congressional map for partisan gain, and that race was not a predominant factor. They dispute claims by Democrats and minority groups that the map violates the federal Voting Rights Act.

The GOP-controlled Legislature approved new congressional boundaries in October after months of fighting. Democrats twice fled the state to break a legislative quorum and temporarily block passage of the bill. By Wednesday after-

noon, the last plaintiffs' lawyer began presenting the case of U.S. Reps. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Dallas and Sheila Jackson Lee of Houston, who represent historically black districts. All plaintiffs' testimony is expected to finish Thursday morning, then the state will call witnesses. The trial is expected to conclude Friday.

Families hear land dispute testimony

GILMER (AP) — About 300 East Texans who could lose their land and mineral rights in the state's biggest land dispute heard testimony at a public hearing Wednesday and then took to a microphone to voice their own opinions.

Nell Salter, 71, who has lived in the tiny community of East Mountain for 53 years, told the panelists how her granddaughter's soldier husband reacted when he heard about the land dispute over Thanksgiving.

"He looked at me with tears in his eyes and he said, 'Grandma, we're over there fighting for those people to keep their

land in Iraq and I come to the great state of Texas and my grandmother is in jeopardy of losing hers."

The dispute stems from a "vacancy" claim filed by local rancher William Dixon, who says historic documents show 4,600 acres known as the "William King Survey" was never properly surveyed and therefore should be returned to the state.

State moves on with radioactive waste

AUSTIN (AP) — State regulators approved rules Wednesday that companies are to follow when they apply to run a planned low-level radioactive waste site in West Texas.

"It's a big step," said Susan Jablonski of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. "Having the rules out there allows everybody to know what the rules of this commission (are) going to be."

Lawmakers in the spring approved a bill that allows for the creation of two privately-run waste disposal facilities licensed by the state.

One would handle waste under a compact between Texas, Vermont and Maine, although Maine has since dropped out of the compact. A separate but adjacent facility would take U.S. Department of Energy waste.

Boy told not to hand out religious flier

PLANO (AP) — A religious liberties law firm threatened Wednesday to sue over a public school's refusal to let a third-grader give classmates fliers saying candy canes are hard because Jesus Christ is "the Rock of Ages."

Eight-year-old Jonathan Morgan, a student at Thomas Elementary School in Plano, had asked for permission to pass out "The Legend of the Candy Cane" — along with the red-striped

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LABOR & DELIVERY DEPARTMENT (2nd Floor)
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Our dedicated and customer friendly staff can confirm your pregnancy while you wait. They can also provide you with information regarding Prenatal Care, Childbirth Education, Understanding Labor and Delivery and even make your first appointment with a competent, local OB/GYN physician.
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1601 West 11th
Tel: (432) 268-4550

The Music Ministry of Trinity Baptist Church presents...
Christmas is Jesus

The members of Trinity Baptist Church invite you to come hear the music of the season as we worship and celebrate the birth of our Savior.
Trinity Baptist Church
810 Eleventh Place
Sunday Evening (12/21) 6:00pm
A nursery will be provided

Linda Hall
formerly of Tonya's
has moved to
Brazo's
1508 E. FM 700
She invites all her former clients to visit her new location for all hair services.
268-1019

Pizza Inn.
Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.
Night Buffet
5:30 pm-9:30 pm
All The Pizza, Pasta, Salad & Dessert You Can Eat.
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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.

Chuck Williams
Publisher

Susanne Reed
General Manager

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Make plans for the symphony this Saturday

Recently, we exclaimed that nobody does Christmas like Big Spring — certainly no other town our size. And undoubtedly, if you took in even a couple of the activities over the past two weeks — the Living Christmas Tree, the Community Christmas Parade, the Drive Through Nativity or the Festival of Lights — you're in agreement. Well, Christmas hasn't arrived yet and the festivities haven't stopped either.

Saturday night, take in some holiday music as the Big Spring Symphony presents "The Symphony is Christmas." This promises to be a wonderfully entertaining night, melding the symphony, a children's choir and audience participation. Needless to say, but we will anyway, it's something for the entire family to enjoy.

The symphony will be performing Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on Greensleeves" and selections from "The Nutcracker Suite" under the direction of conductor Dr. Keith Graumann.

Susan Dawes will lead the Bauer Magnet School's Fourth Grade Choir in a collection of Alfred Burt carols such as "Caroling, Caroling," and "This is Christmas."

As mentioned, the audience will also be invited to participate in select carols as well.

"The Symphony is Christmas" will be held at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are more than reasonable at \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. They are available in advance at a number of locations in Big Spring, as well as at the auditorium on Saturday night.

We invite you to fill your heart with the sounds of Christmas this weekend. Make sure you plan on being there for "The Symphony is Christmas."

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 jmoseley@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

Help us, Lord, to fill our minds with positive healing thoughts.

Amen

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:
Concerning the interview of Mr. Slape and Mr. Sharp by staff writer Thomas Jenkins in the Wednesday edition of the Herald, there are several questions coming to the forefront concerning statements and conditions stated by Mr. Sharp, including one that relates to Big Spring's financial health.

It is true that StarTek hires some 200 people, and that is good, but that single factor does very little to positively enhance the economic condition of Howard County. And since when has Moore Development Board ever worked with "the people of the community?"

Another important question enters the picture with his statement: "We collected about \$900,000 last year, which if you divide that by the non-prison population of around 21,000 people, that puts about \$43 in the pocket of every man, woman and child in Big Spring." My question is: does this \$43 to the residents come from the Moore Development Board in the form of a check, or in what form does the 21,000 people receive this return? Actually, can Moore Development Board positively list any lasting major economic industry that they have brought in, including manufacturing, which would naturally increase the economic condition of Big Spring?

To date the only positive industry the board has assisted in coming to Big Spring is StarTek, which does put several people to work. But in the history of the board, much more cash money has left Big Spring than we have witnessed in increasing the wealth of the community, including the hiring of workers, bringing into the community more highly qualified personnel.

Rather than an increase in the population of the city and county, there is actually a flow in the opposite direction because of the lack of well paying jobs available here.

We do understand that the intent of the board is good, but can Big Spring survive, much less advance economically, on intent alone? I think not. And in conclusion, county residents are forced to participate in this venture by paying the extra tax, but have no say in the politics of the matter.

ROY SIMMONS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

We would like to thank Bunny Fletcher of Pollard Chevrolet Buick and Cadillac Inc. and Randy Jones of Pat Gray Towing.

At the end of September on our way home to Phoenix from our vacation, we stopped in Big Spring to visit the Hangar 25 Museum and some of the other spots of interest, since my husband spent his high school years in Big Spring and was member of BSHS class of '64.

We stopped at the local Wal-mart to get some cold medication for me since I'd caught a cold while attending a conference in Houston the week before. We left the store to come out to a dead van, on one of your hottest days of the summer. We used our almost dead cell phones to call AAA, who proceeded to contact the towing company and sat there to wait for help.

Our van had no power to anything including the air conditioner, so we sat to wait for the tow truck in the heat. Along came Randy pretty shortly to assess the situation. Before he was able to do anything, a police call came in, which of course has priority, and he left us promising to be back as soon as possible or to send another truck.

When he returned, he was hooking up the van when he overheard me make the comment to my husband that there was absolutely no way I could make it up into the tow truck cab as high as it was. I am handicapped and use a power wheelchair most of the time, although on this day I happened to be in my manual chair.

As Randy crawled out from under the van, he gave me a friendly grin and said he'd been wondering about that since he came the first time.

I figured I'd be stuck waiting for my hubby to return in Wal-mart. Randy, however, had a better idea! He knew the Chevy dealership ran a shuttle service, so he called them and explained the problem. They sent a shuttle right away and Randy waited there with us until it came.

The shuttle arrived with Bunny herself driving. It turned out the regular shuttle driver was out doing his usual shuttle run, and rather than leave us in the heat any longer than necessary, she filled in and came to get us.

When we arrived at the dealership, we waited while they did a few quick checks to see if it was something simple and while we waited, she made us feel at home, made sure we had everything we needed and then, knowing we needed a handicap accessible hotel room which is a

scarce commodity in Big Spring, she made some calls to nearby hotels and found us a good one nearby.

Then instead of renting us a car, she loaned us a van similar to ours so we'd have enough room to carry all the extras that I require on a trip. She made extra sure we had everything we needed to make it comfortably overnight and told us to check in about 10 the next morning.

When we called, she told us it was ready, explained the problem to us so we could avoid the situation in the future. When we went to pick up our van, it had just begun to rain—the start of the big street flooding day. To make it easier for me to change vehicles without getting soaked and my husband to transfer all our stuff also without getting soaked, she allowed us to put both vehicles under the garage, for however long it took us to get our stuff together.

If we been in Phoenix, the local folks would not have gone out of their way to help us, or to make things easier for us. We would like to commend both of these people for their professional can-do attitude, while also keeping the true meaning of customer service—which my husband and I grew up with. The both deserve an A-plus.

LYNN AND RICHARD DAHNKE
PHOENIX

TO THE EDITOR:

We recently received our annual notification from the city to have the back flow of our automatic sprinkler systems tested and certified. This was supposedly implemented in the 2000 International Plumbing Code.

This is another incurred expense for the homeowners, whose utilities, taxes and everyday operating expense seem to escalate at a tremendous speed.

My inquiry is regarding those who had sprinkler systems installed before permits were required, or those that installed their own systems without a permit. Why should we "law abiding, permit holding sprinkler system owners" have to comply with this expense, when so many others are exempt? If the "back flow" from our sprinkler systems can cause a contaminant in the water system, if they are not checked annually, cannot those installed without permits do the same damage? Are we to promote "sprinkler rage" among our friends, relatives and neighbors, by reporting their negligence? I think not.

BEA KELLY
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank the following people and businesses for making the Reading Family Night at Washington Elementary such a success. Thanks to our supportive students and parents, we had a great turnout of 330 people. We appreciate so much for our "Community Heroes" that read for us, they were: Dale Walker, Bobby Waldrop, Helen Gladden, Gilbert Barraza, Dwight Butler, Farley Hayworth and Tate Dillard.

A big thank you goes to our community businesses that made donations for drawings.

We also would like to thank our wonderful teachers and support group of students from BSHS drama department, Donna Amonett, Kelly Beauchamp, Sandra Waggoner, Brenda Tubb, Becky Roeber, Morgan Long, Steve Barker, Joanne Knox, the Washington cafeteria workers, and the Big Spring Herald for advertising our event. Everyone working together made our Family Reading Night a success.

JOY ARMSTRONG
AND ROSIE LAIN

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing regarding the letter from Robert Smith. I am Linda Cypert, Dylan Lowery's grandmother. Dylan has played soccer since he was 5, now he is 10. The last two years he has been on Robert's team.

Since Dylan's parents, Kenny and Leasa Lowery, both work for BSISD and have various duties that go with their jobs after the regular school day, and have three little boys to get to different places, it has been my responsibility to be the one to take Dylan to his practices and games. I always stay at the practices and have never missed a game that he is in so I believe I can speak with experience about having a child that is a player on Robert's team.

Robert Smith is an excellent coach, he teaches the kids the fundamentals of the game, they have fun learning, they work hard and they do not get upset if he raises his voice to tell them something or make a necessary point to improve their skills because they know he is trying to help them learn to be a better player. He is always praising them when they learn something new or do something well.

The team this year was made up of a great group of kids, they all played soccer to the best of their ability and

any game they won against any of the teams they played they earned. No one had to cheat to win. They won by playing well and doing a good job.

I had a great time this year being around all the kids, I enjoyed watching them learn and play the game of soccer. It's a shame how some "grownups" act when it concerns their children's athletic events. Sports are supposed to be a fun, learning experience which helps to prepare a child to learn not only the sport but also good sportsmanship which in turn helps them to deal with life in general.

Thanks, Coach Smith, for all you have taught Dylan about the sport of soccer an how to be a good sport as well. Thanks also to Joel De La Garza and Susan Watkins for helping coach the team. Thanks to Miranda's mom for being the team mom and to Waylan's granddad for always bring water and filling in at any open position necessary. Lastly, a great big thank you to all the Knight players for your hard work this year, it was a joy to get to know each one of you and to watch you play this season and I am looking forward to seeing you next year.

LINDA CYPERT
GARDEN CITY
CHAIRPERSONS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

On behalf of myself and all the seniors at the Spring City Senior Center, I would like to thank everyone who helped us at a time when we were in desperate need. One of our vehicles was totaled in a traffic accident and one of our freezers quit working. Some concerned citizens came to our rescue and gave us their assistance.

I want to thank Lyndel Moody from the Big Spring Herald, Mike Henry from KBST and Anabel Monge from Newswest 9, for all the publicity they gave the center when we needed help. A special thanks to Linda Buchanan and an anonymous donor for donating vans to the center and Gaylon Knowlton for the repairs and services he provided on one of the vans. I would also like to give a special thanks to Billy Light and the Fraternal Order of Eagles for their generous donation. A special thanks to the ladies that donated the freezers to the ladies that donated the freezers that we were in desperate need of.

Thank you to the nurses from the Health Department for coming to the center to provide flu shots for our participants. Their services are greatly appreciated. I also want to thank Joyce Crooker and Joann Staulcup for volunteering their time to decorate the center for the holidays. Your services are greatly appreciated. Thank you all.

BOBBIE LEONARD
SPRING CITY SENIOR CENTER

TO THE EDITOR:

The Hangar 25 Air Museum Board of Directors would like to thank those of you who attended or supported last month's Silver Wings Ball.

It would certainly be impossible to mention everyone by name who helped with planning, coordination and monetary assistance, but the board would like to give special thanks to Bill McClellan who provided the museum with excellent media coverage of the event.

The function was a great success and showed that a large segment of the community believes in the museum and its mission, which is the preservation of local military history.

The board would also like to remind the citizens of Big Spring that Hangar 25 has exciting events planned for the upcoming new year. So stay tuned.

Again, thanks for your support.

TROY HEADRICK
CURATOR/DIRECTOR
HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM

TO THE EDITOR:

The person or persons that vandalized our Christmas lights and decorations will probably not read this letter, but this is the second year that this has happened.

It takes a lot of time and effort to decorate your home, then after the holiday take the lights and decorations down and pack them away.

It's a shame this has happened. One of our neighbors honked as we were putting them up. Another stopped and told us how much she enjoyed seeing them each year.

So, to the person who vandalized us, you have not won here and you have not broken our spirit. However, we do not want to take the chance of having to see, or have anyone else see, the obscene display you made with our decorations.

Big Spring is a wonderful place to live with a lot of great people. Happy holidays.

PAUL AND DEE JENKINS
BIG SPRING

Intro

As a supportive wife to her husband's thirst for success, Wynter's life was full of parties and appearances. Nothing was terribly wrong, not much wrong.

David Lopez
West Texas Center
for ARC (Assoc.
County).

Resid for le hand

By VALERIE AVER
Special to the HE

Members of Association of Citizens of County, were held West Texas Center Mental Health Retardation at a appreciation for their ongoing ship with West Centers.

West Texas employees host reception as a thanking ARC commitment to with mental re in Howard through their donations.

"They have everything from work, money for parties, shoes and a computer software," said Gonzalez, West Centers foster coordinator.

ARC's new page will be a "night movies".

"This will give sumers a chance out and be more ed into communities," Gonzalez said. "Just when you thought they couldn't do more, they come with a great idea like

Optimist help are

"We're right on with Jess Looney, chair of the Optimist Christmas fund-raiser. This may be Christmas season Club sells Christmas due to increasing sales each year.

Looney attributes the popularity of trees, the availability of trees at a cheap price from other local and allergies to live. Revenues from tree sales are Club's chief source programs through

the
Original
Every
Christ
997 E. FM 2

Introspection creates new life for woman

As a supportive wife to her husband's thirst for success, Wynter's life was full of parties and appearances.

Nothing was terribly wrong, but not much was right

HERALD BOOK REVIEW

BOOK REVIEW
PAT WILLIAMS

either. In fact, her marriage was crumbling without her being aware of it.

In her state of oblivion, Wynter's usual zest for life was diminishing a little more each day. After some introspection, Wynter realized that for years she had done nothing for herself. Every activity in which she par-

ticipated, every "friend" she had made, and even how she dressed had been to make those around her happy.

Suddenly she felt hollow. At the invitation of her best friend, Wynter flies to Seattle for a visit which also allows her time to think about the changes occurring in her life.

While in Seattle, Wynter becomes a frequent customer at a quaint neighborhood bakery.

The wonderful smells of freshly baked bread and the unique activities in the small establishment reminds her of the time she spent in France as a baker's apprentice.

With these happy memories so freshly renewed, Wynter fills her empty hours with the comforting activity of kneading and molding yeast dough for new and creative

loaves of bread. When word of her abilities travel to the local bakery, she is offered a job.

In her state of oblivion, Wynter's usual zest for life was diminishing a little more each day.

After several unsuccessful meetings with her husband and the lack of any other promising life plans, Wynter makes her move to the Northwest, and the Queen Street Bakery soon becomes the center of her life.

She quickly makes friends, has some romantic interests, but best of all, begins to make a new life for herself.

Bread Alone is one of those rare books in which it is so easy to become absorbed as you are enveloped in the sensory images presented in words.

In her first novel Judith Ryan Hendricks accurately describes Seattle's soft, cold persistent rains, allows the reader to feel the power as the motors of the Puget Sound ferries push off from the dock, details the unusual odors of the fish stalls in the Pike Place Market, and precisely depicts the breathtaking beauty of Mt. Ranier and the surrounding mountain ranges.

While there is little suspense in the well-constructed plot, Hendricks' ability to write has the reader wanting more, even as the story winds to its conclusion.

Hendricks' characters are likable, believable, and consistent.

Wynter exhibits enough fallacies to seem naïve at times, yet has enough sensitivity to steal into your heart and become a good friend.

When things look most bleak to her, her stubbornness, sense of humor and basic instinct for survival join together to see her through, and wouldn't we all like to have these strengths?

Treat yourself to some special time: a good cup of coffee, a slice of warm, homemade bread slathered with butter, and this absolutely charming tale.

After all, you deserve the best!

Bread Alone, Judith Ryan Hendricks. Harper Collins Publisher. 2002.

Life is about you, our readers. For story suggestions, contact Life desk at 263-7331, ext. 236 with your story idea, or e-mail life@bigspringherald.com

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Courtesy photo

David Lopez and Adrian Ayala socialize at Tuesday's West Texas Centers for MHMR Appreciation Reception for ARC (Association of Retarded Citizens) of Howard County.

Residents honored for lending helping hand to community

By VALERIE AVERY
Special to the HERALD

Members of ARC, the Association of Retarded Citizens of Howard County, were honored by West Texas Centers for Mental Health Mental Retardation at a Tuesday appreciation reception for their ongoing partnership with West Texas Centers.

West Texas Centers employees hosted the reception as a way of thanking ARC for their commitment to people with mental retardation in Howard County through their generous donations.

"They have provided everything from dental work, money for holiday parties, shoes and clothing to computers and software," said Minnie Gonzalez, West Texas Centers foster care coordinator.

ARC's new pet project will be a "night at the movies."

"This will give our consumers a chance to get out and be more integrated into community activities," Gonzalez said. "Just when you think they couldn't do anything more, they come up with a great idea like 'night at

the movies.'"

Many consumers voiced their appreciation to ARC members for their support.

"They are nice to us and do nice things for us like buying computers" said Letty Anguiano. "I am learning how to use the computer now and am learning games. Things wouldn't be the same without the ARC."

ARC has played a key role in building a quality service delivery system for people with mental retardation in Howard County since its inception in the 1960s.

"Their dedication and support are just unbelievable," said Rodney Jones, West Texas Centers director of mental retardation program.

"This partnership is so beneficial to the people we serve and we wouldn't know what to do without them. This reception is just a small token to show our abundant appreciation for their involvement and commitment," said Jones.

West Texas Centers for MHMR serves more than 2,200 consumers with mental illness and mental retardation a month in the 23 counties it serves in rural West Texas.

Optimist tree sales go to help area civic programs

"We're right on schedule," Jess Looney, chairman of the Optimist Christmas tree sales fund-raiser, reports. This may be the last Christmas season Optimist Club sells Christmas trees, due to increasing drop of sales each year.

Looney attributes this to the popularity of artificial trees, the availability of trees at a cheaper price from other local retailers, and allergies to live trees.

Revenues from Christmas tree sales are Optimist Club's chief source to fund programs throughout the

year. Optimist Club supports a Little League baseball team, Optimist Youth Recognition, bingo and hot dog lunch for the Big Spring State Hospital, Optimist Junior High track meet, underwrites the Goliad Cavaliers and contributes to many more events involving Big Spring and Howard County youth.

The Optimist Club will meet at Denney's at 7 a.m. Wednesday mornings, Dec. 17-Jan. 7 because Howard College's dining facilities closed for the holidays. Meals are Dutch treat.

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The new LS 430

Lexus raises the mark with redesign of luxury flagship

DETROIT — Mid-cycle "refreshments" are nothing new. A tweak here, a new feature there, throw in five new color choices — it's basically the same model, only with a few new enhancements for the new model year.

Leave it to Lexus to break from tradition, again.

For the 2004 model year, the flagship LS 430 sedan receives a mid-cycle refreshment (cycle is a term used in the auto industry for the life span of a model before major redesign). But this is no ordinary freshening.

Lexus has raised the bar, in so many ways.

There is so much technology in the new LS 430, you almost forget about the luxury — and believe me, it's not lacking for luxury.

I really enjoyed the reclining rear seats with climate control systems and built-in massager. Push a button, the seat reclines. Push another button, the seat cools down or heats up. Push

another button and the pre-set climate control system blows conditioned air in your direction. Push another button and a thousand magic fingers rub away the pain of a long day).

Yes, it has restyled front and rear fascias that give it a more aggressive appearance and more striking profile. Yes, it has a new six-speed automatic transmission. Yes, its suspension has been refined to enhance both

comfort and performance.

But to me, the main story on the new LS 430 is all the technology, both under the hood and inside the cabin.

To name just a few:

ON THE ROAD



BY NEAL WHITE

Improved navigation system which features easier-to-understand graphics and new functions, including phone number-based address locations and building footprint display.

What that means is you can type in a phone number, and the navigation system will give you the address and detailed



The 2004 Lexus LS 430 luxury sedan.

directions to get there.

Utilizing Bluetooth wireless technology and a properly equipped cellular phone, you can transfer personal phone books to the navigation system and make hands-free calls through the navigation system's touch-screen control panel and speaker system.

When you exit the car, take your cell phone with you and use it like any other cell phone.

When linked to the navigation system, you can call up a point of interest on the screen, push a button and the system will dial the number on the hands-free phone.

The Dynamic Laser Cruise Control system is available, which is designed to maintain a set distance from the vehicle traveling in front

— when the car in front of you slows down, you

slow down without having to reset the cruise.

When parking, the Intuitive Parking Assist system uses ultrasonic sensors to alert the driver to obstacles at the front, rear and corners of the vehicle.

The SmartAccess feature may be the most practical automotive feature since the remote key fob.

The only difference is, you don't have to hold the key fob in your hand or push a button to get inside the car, and you don't have to put the keys in the ignition to start it.

All you have to do is have the SmartAccess fob on your person. The unit is programmable, meaning you can set it to unlock the driver's door, all doors, etc.

When you walk within one meter of the vehicle, it automatically unlocks the doors and/or trunk —

depending on how you programmed the settings.

You never have to fumble for keys in your pocket or purse, you just have to have them on you.

To start the car, just turn the ignition (without the keys).

I also like the simple to use voice activation system. Push a button and speak:

"Climate control."

"Seventy-two degrees"

BAM! You're cruising

down the road in 72-degree comfort.

"Audio"

"AM"

"1390"

BAM! Ken Robert and Barry Wolverson are

bickering over who ate the most biscuits for breakfast.

Under the hood, the LS 430 is powered by a 4.3-liter V-8 engine with a touted 0-60 mph time of 5.9 seconds. It has an EPA fuel economy rating of 18 mpg city/25 mpg

highway.

The '04 model is scheduled to begin arriving in dealer showrooms in late September.

Pricing has yet to be announced, however Lexus executives say it will remain competitive with current model pricing (base price for '03 LS 430 models begin at \$55,500).

And yes, it also comes in five new colors.

Without question, the new LS 430 is a remarkable vehicle, with more features than I can possibly list in this column.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 10 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com.

Old utilities seeking freedom to set own electric rates

By NATALIE GOTT

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Nearly two years after electric deregulation started in Texas, several entrenched utility companies say they have passed a milestone and can begin charging small-business customers whatever rates they choose.

The power companies, which operated as regulated monopolies until 2001, say that competitors have taken away at least 40 percent of their electricity sales to small businesses.

The 40 percent threshold is a measurement in state law that competition is alive and well, and it would free the utilities to set their own rates for small businesses. The companies could cut prices to attract customers.

The state Public Utility Commission is reviewing filings from several utilities and is expected to decide the issue on Thursday.

"This is really a validation of the success of the Texas market," said Chris Schein, a spokesman for Dallas-based TXU Corp., whose electricity transmission and distribution subsidiary submitted paperwork saying it had reached the 40-percent mark.

The deregulation law, which took effect in January 2001, required longtime utilities to cut their rates for residential and small-business cus-

tomers in their traditional services area, such as TXU in Dallas or Reliant in Houston.

The companies were required to lock in those rates for three years or until 40 percent of the electric power consumed by their customers was committed to being provided by another company.

Rates have gone up, however, because the utilities were able to pass on higher prices for natural gas.

The 40 percent threshold was meant to ensure that there was enough competition before regulated rates were completely lifted. When the PUC set the utilities' rates in 2001, commissioners wanted to set them low

enough to give customers a break on electric bills but high enough to provide room for new competing companies to offer better rates, PUC spokesman Terry Hadley said.

If the PUC agrees that the utilities have lost a big chunk of sales in their own backyards, they would be able to compete for lost customers and new ones by lowering prices or negotiating contracts with individual businesses.

Residential users are not affected because the utilities have held on to a bigger share of home customers.

Rivals to Texas New Mexico Power Co. agreed it has lost 40 percent of its small-business market.

Competitors, however, question whether other Texas utilities have suffered such big defections.

"We just want to make sure that they have hit that 40 percent so we know they are out there legitimately competing against us," said Terri Eaton, manager of government affairs in Texas for Austin-based Green Mountain Energy.

If the PUC approves the filings by the incumbent utilities, "it's one more competitor in the market, and this competitor just happens to have some tremendous advantages over everybody else," Eaton said.

For instance, the incumbent utilities have information about certain cus-

tomers' electricity usage and will be able to "cherry pick" their customers based on which ones will be the most profitable, she said.

TXU countered that all the companies had the same information — details on customers were shared among all electric providers on Jan. 1, 2001.

Scott Gahn, chief executive of Just Energy, said he is not concerned about competing with the older companies outside their traditional service territories. He said, however, that the one-time monopolies still dominate their home markets.

While the utilities may have lost 40 percent of the load they were carrying in 2001, they did not nec-

essarily lose 40 percent of their customers. Gahn said the utilities still have contracts with about 80 percent of small-business customers.

Schein said potential competitors had plenty of opportunity to air their concerns about the deregulation law.

"So now, when companies are going to be given the opportunity to really compete for customers, to say they wished the law was different is in poor taste," Schein said.

John Fainter, president of the Association of Electric Companies of Texas Inc., which represents incumbent utilities, said the filings by Texas utilities were a good sign for electric deregulation.

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Ewing, An
Jacob McC
McEndree,
Callie Pai
Pittman,
Adriana
Briana
Christopher
Michael Yeat
10th
Bartlett, Sam
Tania Brad
Bridges, Nata
Elizabeth Co
Croft, Sar
Sterling Gee,
Cody Gri
Holguin,
McCartney,
Drew Wells, J
11th Grade
12th
Bartlett, Tr
Haley But
Hutchison, J
Kelby Kem
Kennedy,
Mitchell,
Molina, Jos
Elisha Teel
Tindol, Chels
"A-B" Hono
9th Grade-J
Shandra Co
Gonzales,
Hildebrand,
Kennedy, Bl
Nathan Mad
McMillan,
Morelion, Tay
Channa Smi
Teaff, Ryar
Chelsea Wa
Wilson.
10th Gr
Atkinson, Te
Antonio
Thomas Helm
Hernandez,
Hutchison,
Jacquez, Kala
Martinez, A
Kali Robert
Sheppard, Ash
Jackie Valer
Yanez.
11th
Bowling,
Coker, Rebeke
Cheyenne Gri
Griffin, Dani
Brandi, Kilpat
Phillips,
Rodriguez,
Simpson, Mich
Lauren Yeater
12th Grade-D
Andra Amar
Ames, Chris
Lexie Bollen
Bowlin, Chan
Garret Cornet
Garza,
Gutierrez,
Halliday, Mira
Kody Jackso
Mitchell, Cry
Tiffani Pai
Pennington,
Price, Seana F
Rodriguez, Ma
Lindsey S
Jacob Villa
Wells.
Marcy El
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Quorcindra
Lindsey Wood
Bland,
Mirarmontes,
Zegara, Gabrie
Mia Olivia, C
Samantha
Diamonique
Nathan
Samantha Mu
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Coahoma High School
"A" Honor Roll
9th Grade-Stephen Ewing, Ami Martinez, Jacob McCain, Rebecca McEndree, Brittnee Nix, Calle Paige, Jessica Pittman, Cody Price, Adriana Rodriguez, Briana Thurman, Christopher Welthert, Michael Yeater.
10th Grade-Sarah Bartlett, Samantha Bayes, Tania Bradley, Crystal Bridges, Natasha Casillas, Elizabeth Conley, Patrick Croft, Sarah Dunn, Sterling Gee, Ryan Green, Cody Griffith, Joe Holguin, Latisha McCartney, Tori Paige, Drew Wells, Kelsea Wood.
11th Grade-Gene Corse
12th Grade-Grant Bartlett, Trevor Bibb, Haley Butts, Kristi Hutchison, K.K. Kellar, Kelby Kemper, Leslie Kennedy, Natasha Mitchell, Nicholas Molina, Joshua Noble, Elisha Teeler, Samuel Tindol, Chelse Wood.
"A-B" Honor Roll
9th Grade-Justin Cline, Shandra Coker, Jason Gonzales, Brandon Hildebrand, Ryan Kennedy, Blaine Kerby, Nathan Maddox, Colin McMillan, Monica Morelion, Taylor Rainey, Channa Smith, Dakota Teaff, Ryan Walker, Chelsea Watts, Elisha Wilson.
10th Grade-Rachell Atkinson, Terrell Bibb, Antonio Gonzales, Thomas Helmers, Gabriel Hernandez, Kassi Hutchison, Genevieve Jacquez, Kala Mann, Jaci Martinez, Ashle New, Kali Roberts, Tyler Sheppard, Ashton Taylor, Jackie Valencia, Pros Yanez.
11th Grade-Katie Bowling, Christine Coker, Rebekah Dunlap, Cheyenne Grice, Chelsea Griffin, Danielle Hess, Brandi Kilpatrick, Zack Phillips, Rebecca Rodriguez, Travis Simpson, Michael White, Lauren Yeater.
12th Grade-D. J. Allen, Andra Amaro, Sarah Ames, Chris Bishop, Lexie Bollier, Cade Bowlin, Chance Clanton, Garret Cornett, Christina Garza, Mitchell Gutierrez, Kristi Halliday, Miranda Hester, Kody Jackson, James Mitchell, Crystal Ortiz, Tiffani Paige, Cody Pennington, Brittany Price, Seana Reilly, Sesar Rodriguez, Maki Ryzaki, Lindsey Schoepner, Jacob Villa, Whitney Wells.
Marcy Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
Kindergarten-Quorcindra Lewis, Lindsey Woodard, Briana Bland, Kami Mirarmontes, Priska Zegarra, Gabriel Crossman, Mia Oliva, Cory Hilario, Samantha Carriger, Diamonique Mayes, Nathan Permenter, Samantha Murphy.
1st Grade-Cassidy Carroll, April Cerna, Allison Green, Tyler Green, Tyler Nairn, Ethan Rocha, Marisol Hinjosa, Christina

Zegarra, Tyler Green, Gloria Moran, Dealree Galaviz, Megan Herrera, Juan Juarez, Yessenia Juarez, Ashley Lugo, Carl Price.
2nd Grade-Julie Alvarez, Mercedes Estes, Steven Rose, Valerie Petrowski, Kaylee Roberts, Julian Armendariz, Marisela Rodriguez, Cameron Few, Abby Portocarrero, Alex Zavala.
3rd Grade-Gustavo Lugo, Sarah Reyes, Juan Rodriguez, Adriela Zavala, Sarai Cano, Katrina Petrowski, Ali Hilger, Michelle Morgan, Jasmine Rockwell.
4th Grade-Ivory Clemons, Aaron Delgado, James Fox, Erica Reyes, Stormy Emery, Eric Fierro, Jackie Alvarez, John Albert Doporto, Ashen Galan, Corey Lopez, Chasity Rodriguez.
"A-B" Honor Roll
Kindergarten-Justice Brim, Analicia Cervantes, Raelyne Garcia, William Grigg, Jeffrey Loyd, Alexander Mills, Melina Molina, Janisha Smith, Jimeka Post, Analicia Galan, Cindy Chavera, Manuel Galvan, Maribel Rodriguez, Jeremiah Holguin, Nancy Galvan, Sianna Baltazar, Tevin Decker, Esmeralda Rogers, Tiffani Ruiz, Anthony Martinez, Alijah Ruiz, Meranda Guitierrez, Camry Daughdrill, Alexis Henry, Spencer Huggins, Christopher Lopez, Reagan Munoz, Lazarus Yanez.
1st Grade-Angel Delgado, Jacob Dugger, Avery Martinez, Tyer Nalley, Brian Ortiz, Christopher Robles, Louis Tudon, Maya Chavez, Destinee Gonzales, Nicholas Lopez, Joel Martinez, Disiree Ortega, Hilario Porras, Troy Richardson, Mercedes Ruiz, Berenice Valdez, Darice Chavarria, Cameron Daughdrill, Bailey Galindo, Kattlin Long, Katelyn Igneczi, Shelton McDaniel, Elizabeth Reeh, Aiden Tolleson, Christopher Velasco, Alexis Bland, Destiny Brim, Brittney Cline, Lucero Hilario, Megan Jaramillo, Zachary Pricer, Cassidi Redlin, Annissa Cano, Breanna Cervantes, Andre Gonzales, Cindy Lopez, Autumn Minter, Molly Waddell, Donald Wright.
2nd Grade-Lili Alvarado, Selena Castillo, Marissa Garza, Kimberly Gonzalez, Tommy Gonzales, Brittany Newell, Mallena Almazan, Austin Cantu, Gilbert Jimenez, Morgan Rodriguez, Clarissa Ruiz, Desi Guzman, Chris Carrasco, Brandon Harvell, Brandee Hilger, Amy Juarez, Madeline Ramos, Gary Ellett.
3rd Grade-Braedyn Alaanz, Tyler Newell, Krista Rosario, Deven Heffington, Cody Moore, Shelbi Cannon, Tiffany Gonzales, Taylor Johnson, Auden Minjarez, Brady Walker, Brenda Galvan, Yhair Desantiago, Alberto

Quiroz, Kayla Aaron, Aric Hernandez, Marissa Islas, Erin Slate, Javon Brown, Sidni Carrasco, Stephanie Carrillo, Alexandria Fox, Brandy Garcia, Emily Guerrero, Chavon Jackson, Rodney Martinez, Samantha Saiz, Alexis Scaggs, Sammy Villeareal.
4th Grade-Amanda Garrard, Britney Hilger, Rebecca Loya, Allison Rodriguez, Alex Rodriguez, John Tarango, Diamond Mayes, Isaac Garza, Lilia Lugo, Tiffany Gonzales, Brandon Portacarrero, Rico Villa, Hunter McHaney, Andrea Casnino, Jezebel Florez, Richard Grant, Seth Yarber, Sawyer Roberts, Travis Wallace, Brandon Joslyn, Roglio Rodriguez, April Turner, Anthony Salazar, Teresa Armendariz, Kaycee Clayton.
Goliad Intermediate School
"A" Honor Roll
5th Grade-Ashley Billings, Kenzie Black, Blake Bromman, Alyssa Byrd, Michael Carrillo, Cameron Carroll, Deanna Clare, Taylor Digby, Caprise Fierro, Andrew Fillingim, Jesse Garza, Opal Gonzales, Colton Hawkins, Emily Hicks, Taylor Joy, Joshua Kelly, Quinton Kennemur, Courtney Long, John Lyons, Jonathan Molina, Natalie Morales, Shelby Newman, Austen Newton, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Lucas Ontiveros, Kristin Prez, Mindy Ralston, Savina Ramirez, David Rios, Adrianna Robertson, Valerie Ross, Jessica Rubio, Austin Sharp, Shelbi Sharp, Karishma Shroff, Courtnie Smith, Stormi Smith, Samuel Spivey, Deborah Thangam, Lorena Vasquez, Brandi Vaughn, Jackson Watkins, Britney Winters, Jessica Womack, Alesha Yanez, Ethan Yeats.
6th Grade-Jordan Austin, Sabrina Bedell, Alexander Crabree, Sloan Davis, Jacob Dominguez, Chaneel Dykes, Tiffany Garcia, Kylie Goswick, Ann-Alyssa Gutierrez, Jake Hernandez, Colton Ingram, Steven Islas, Andrew Lewis, Cara Long, Angela Lozano, Skyler Moore, Marissa Nieto, Alexandra Ortega, Jonathan Ray, Matthew Ritchey, Callie Shafer, William Tannehill, Chance Urias, Jonathan Womack, Martin Yanez, Linzee Yarbar.
"A-B" Honor Roll
5th Grade-Ashlie Aaron, Logan Adams, Timothy Arredondo, Robert Barlow, Robert Barraza, Ashley Barrientes, Joshua Basurto, Chad Bowles, Leanne Burcham, Tierra Burns, Ani Cantu, Mari-sol Carrillo, Anthony Carter, Patrick Casados, Brittnee Cervantez, Erika Cox, Mathew Cruz, Destiny Currie, Chanel Cuvieello, Nicole Davidson, William Davis, Danica Diaz, Loryn Escovedo, Belle Feaster, Kasey Fitzbiggions, Patrick Flores, Albert Franco, Jonathan Furrelle, Victor Garcia, Thomas Garling, Sage Gibson, Harold Gimenez, Richardo Gonzalez, Kara Hembree, Richard Hirtzel, John Hoover, Ebony Jones, Christina Jordan, Taryn Kennedy, Benjamin Klaassen, Montessa Lara, Lacey Lawrence, Devante Lloyd, Gilbert

Lopez, Daniel Lozano, Illiana Lujan, Joshua Lujan, Ramon Magallanes, Elisabeth Mangels, Iris Martinez, Micaela Martinez, Nathan McCleskey, Tyler McKinley, Liberty Mendoza, Dennis Merworth, Christopher Mims, Alex Minter, Kryslan Mize, Martin Moreno, Alan Najera, Andrew Newton, Jaycee Newton, Victoria Ontiveros, Felicia Ortiz, D'ona Parker, Stephanie Queen, Julian Ramirez, Stormie Reed, Allen Rice, Stephanie Rios, Benjamina Rios-Rios, Julian Rodriguez, Cynthia Rodriguez, Joe Rodriguez, Lisa Rudolph, Austin Sanchez, Brandon Sanchez, Jamie Lee Sanchez, Dominique Sarmiento, Andrew Schmidt, Guadalupe Sifuentes, Casey Smith, Skeeter Smith, Krystal Soto, Kathryn Teichroeb, Trinity Terrazas, Elle Torres, Judith Treece, Cheyenne Turner, James Turner, Kati Valle, Karlie White, Rachael Wilkins, Victor Woodruff, Stetson Word, Leo Wright, Jacob Wylie, Stephen Yanez, Dayvion Young, Graciela Zavala.
6th Grade-Kodi Aguilar, Stacy Aguilar, Ramon Alvarado, Anthony Barrera, Michelle Berry, Christine Bledsoe, Courtney Boyd, Andrew Brito, Ashley Broaddus, Brantley Cahoon, Taylor Calk, Miracle Cervantes, Kristina Chang, Ty Coker, Barbara Cruz, Bernadette Cruz, Zachary Dykes, Steven Elder, Michael Enriquez, Samone Foster, Josey Galloway, Brittany Galyean, Anthony Garcia, Oscar Garcia, Kristina Garner, Nathan Garrard, Juan Garza, Mikael Gonzales, Brandon Good, Macy Graves, Cameron Gross, Ty Hall, Jose Hernandez, Sonya Herrera, Jara Hester, Stacie Hilario, Chelsey Huckabee, Tori Huddleston, Loretta Jaramillo, Chaquesta Johnson, Mary Kincaide, Cheyenne Kingsley, Jeremy Langford, Jeremy Layman, Martin Leija, Aarika Marin, Dominique Martinez, Selina Martinez, Stefan Martinez, Jay McLeod, Kaeli Mendoz, Benjamin Merworth, Deanna Mills, Paula Mills, Sammy Moore, Desaray Muniz, Daniel New, Phylcia Ochoa, Kevin Osburn, Elexus Pacheco, Keely Parnell, Xavian Parnell, Pavel Plakhotny, Lauren Porras, Mitsy Porras, Maricela Ramirez, Matthew Ramirez, Charity Richardson, Shane Rios, Severa Rocha, Ariel Rockwell, Alyssa Ruiz, Eddilisa Saldivar, Joshua Sanchez, Justice Sarmiento, Jared Scott, Steffie Senter, Stetson Simmons, Ginger Simpson, Trevor Smith, Jessica Smithwick, Mariah Sparkman, Colton Speck, Halee Thomas, Crystal Threats, Yvette Torres, Marina Trevino, Destini Turney, Michael Valencia, Katelyn Villanueva, Justin Villareal, Jennifer Walker, Keonna Ward, Karlye Weaver, Hannah Weber, Braden Witt, Marissa Zavala.
Bauer Magnet Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Marcus Alcantar, Hannah

Biemert, Karla Carrasco, Nicole Cervantes, Erik Dominguez, Tiffany Enriquez, Alex Franco, David Gonzales, Adriana Granados, Shaylee Griffin, Aaron Hinojos, Billie James, Toby Kennemur, Briana Mendoza, Hannah Overby, Ashley Paredes, Chirag Patel, Teqdora Ramirez, Eric Rodriguez, Rikki Salgado, Alec Trevino, Abigail Valencia, Jasmine Westbrook.
2nd Grade-Tyler Avant, Crystal Ballin, Ryane Colette, Nicolas Escovedo, Alexis Gamboa, Nickolas Gonzalez, Joe Juarez, Bianca Lopez, Rian Molina, Katie Newton, Shawna Quernheim, Aron Rios, Jasmine Rios, Anthony Williams, Izzak Zamora.
3rd Grade-Hope Biemeret, Marissa Hernandez, Jose Jimenez, Paige Knowlton, Chelsea Ramirez.
4th Grade-Jesi Coates, Sassy Farmer, Austin Goswick, Sebastian Hernandez, Breanna Hilario, Brittany Hill, Rachel Hollady, Richard Lewis, Lacy McMurtrey, Mercedes Moncada, Laurie Pineda, Reba Smith.
"A-B" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Rayanne Bennett, Vicki Bustamante, David Byrd, Isaiah Carrillo, Bianca Correa, Aaron Duenes, Adrianna Flores, Brianna Gonzalez, Angel Hinojosa, Karissa Kinard, Brandy Knight, Ryan Lopez, Armando Mendoza, Justin O'Hara, Marisol Ortiz, Justin Ovalle, Morgan Pierce, Brittnee Rios, Crystal Rodriguez, Gary Watkins, Savannah Williams.
2nd Grade-Joshua Bihl, Caitlin Chavez, Ruben Cisneros, Lucas Escovedo, Gage Farmer, Jesse Franco, Natasha Gonzalez, Charles Green, Katelynne Hambrick, Tristan Hill, Baylee Howell, Jose Juarez, Dustin Kinard, Izai Melendez, Julie Puga, Laura Ramirez, Clarissa Rodriguez, Felix Rodriguez, Matthew Villa, Angel Villagrana, Andrea Villareal, Brandon Warner, Jahnia Williard, Matthew Yanez.
3rd Grade-J.R. Davila, Justine Delatour, Stephanie Duffer, Kaley Duncan, Elena Flores, Ayanna Gomez, Francisco Hernandez, Jennifer Hernandez, Victoria Hinck, Gunnar Kennedy, Joseph Morelion, Dillon Ogle, Adrian Olague, Josephine Rodriguez, Sabrina Rodriguez, Vanessa Shellman, Elizabeth Smithwick, Gabby Torres, Mork Torres, Megan Warner, Savi Vela, Paige Yater, Matthew Zubiate.
4th Grade-Tonia Arista, Juan Covarrubias, Megan Crane, Monica Garcia, Adrian Garza, Caleb Gonzales, Matthew Grant, Kirsten Esparza, Zachary Hernandez, Laura Herrera, Ricky Juarez, C.W. Kinney, Ariel Marlow, Krista Martinez, Layelle Montanez, Nickolas Morelion, Joseph Porras, Lauren Puga, Nikki Ramirez, Kadisha Robinson, Miranda Rodriguez.
Coahoma Junior High
"A" Honor Roll
7th Grade - Isaac Arguello, Harrison Chevalier, Megan Conley,

Nathan Gomez, Bobby Hodges-Kandel, Berkley Iden, Paige Jackson, Ashley Martin, Alexandra Moore, Laci Sterling
8th Grade - Teryn Bibb, William Reilly, Reagan Rupard, Simon Stolarczyk, Joshua Thompson
"A-B" Honor Roll
7th Grade - Devin Adamson, Steven Boren, Kelsey Butts, Canyon Daniels, Danja Gonzales, Melanie Gutierrez, Aricka Hart, Shelbi Paige, Jovi Paniagua, Michael Reid, Hilari White, Katelyn Wilson
8th Grade - Randi Gerstenberger, Janice Gonzales, Kayla Gutierrez, Stacy Hernandez, Amy Holleman, Joseph Mackey, Colter Morgan, Justin Rau, Christie Rich, Heather Sheppard, Kayla Spiller, Logan Stone, Caylea Wood
Coahoma Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
1st Grade --Bailee Barber, Christopher Biddison, Brandon Coker, Trenton Crenshaw, Cheyenne Dees, Donald Ewing, Erin Fontana, Kelsey Garza, Alexandra Gibbs, Braxton Iden, Katie King, Jordan Matthews, Namen McCullough, Victor Paniagua, Garrett Parrish, Tera Rinard, Kellie Schaedel, Brayden Thompson, Christian Van Wey, Noah Wagenman, Zakary Walton, Yanci Yeater
3rd Grade - Richard Adamson, Brittany Bakley, Tristan Gutierrez, Gabriel Hewtty, Kaylea Holbrook, Kayla Jernigan, Amanda King, Shayla Martin, Briana McCallay, Miranda McNew, Savannah Neff, Kristen Poffinbarger, Shanen Warneke, Tamala Wilson
3rd Grade - Jessica Alvarado, Wendy Andersen, Payton Anderson, Devin Barbee, William Barker, Kristen Dees, Dustin Fontana, Rikki Gilbert, Maria Gonzales, Brandie Gutierrez, Olivia Gutierrez, Alex Hill, Julie Jimenez, Tanner Lain, Jacqueline Martin, Kaleb McAdams, Clay Monroe, Shelbi Montgomery, David Morales, Laurel Nix, Ryan Reid, Tobi Robinson, Daniel Solis, Michael Villareal, Marla Wilson
4th Grade - Jennifer Castilaw, Justin Coker, Keven Gilbert, Heather Hildebrand, Ambra Hill, Mathew Horvatic, Heather Kirby, Jackie Kirkham, McKenzie Moore, Jessi Morgan, Haley Pace, Cayla Rodriguez, Coleman Sneed, MacKenzie Stone, Nikita Wagenman
5th Grade - Rachel Barbee, Morgan Barker, Joshua Castilaw, Brayden Iden, Rachel Kennedy, Jason Martinez, Cody Riddle, Brandi Smith, John Williams
6th Grade - Elisha Carroll, Alexandra Cordell, Katie Dunn, Kylie Gee, Krista Lyons, Jordan Martin, Kalea Neff, Dustin Noble, Megan Parrish, Kirstyn Pulis, Jared Ringener, Jacqueline Ruiz, Nicholas Sevey
"AB" Honor Roll
1st Grade - Ashlynn Armstrong, Brice Fortenberry, Jalin Gilbert, Hunter Hill, Alexis Jackson, Tabytha See
HONOR, Page 8A

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Continued from page 7A

Mendoza, Nicholas Paige, Hailey Ridge, Kayla Sanders, Fisher Williams 2nd Grade - Joseph Acosta, Cano Kameron, Breann Castillo, Kyla Clanton, Brian Cravens, Tyler Frazier, Kimberly Henry, Dakota Hodnett, Katerina Kandel, Branson Kennedy, Sarah Melendez, Joshua Metcalf, Loren Moore, Jordan Moron, Ashley O'Brien, Ariel Oliver, Cade Price, Devin Ruiz, Jerry Sloan, Joseph Thompson, Tanner Tucker, Eron Urias
3rd Grade - Brittney Cortez, Zachary Dickerson, Danielle Drury, Mariah Horvath, Hunter Lowery, Morgan Luce, Maeghan Mauzey, Krista Murphree, Dakota Murphree, Jose Nino, Santos Orozco, Justin Payte, Brandie Phillips, Rachel Robbins, Blaise Rorick Brittany Turner, Thomas White
4th Grade - Kief Black, Joshua Bridge, Kendra Carey, John Flores, Silvia Gonzalez, Beau Grigg, Robert Guzman, Christopher Henry, Marco Molina, Cody Oliver, Maria Orozco, Kaley Owens, Randy Paige, Tomas Ramirez, Paul Salazar, Brandon Sanders, Calvin Stansel
5th Grade - Kyle Bales, Machelle Barr, Jaurdin Briscoe, Casey Davis, Aaron Gonzales, Joanna Gonzales, Victoria Gonzales, Jessica Gutierrez, Martin Gutierrez, Mia Medina, Brooks Osborne, Maggie Pollock, Reagan Reid, Shelby Reid, Austin Rinard, Jacob Robbins, Casey Roberts, Devin Thomason, David Thompson, Michael Weihert, Christopher Yanez, Brooke Zitterkopf
6th Grade - Macy Bailey, Ashley Buske, Milton Castillo, Judson Chevalier, K'Leigh Fowler, Raymundo Gutierrez, Kirk Hahn, Stephanie Helmers, Kenzie Hunt, Bianca Mancha, Kourtney McAdams, Hayli McCullough, Ashleigh McCadden, Erik Nino, Joshua Paniagua, Jennifer Pittman, Reagan Sands CISD
"A" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Austin Blount, Davis Browne, Michelle Diaz, George Elias, Luis Gonzales, Ben Lester, Elizabeth Martinez, Sergio Plata.
2nd Grade-Cornelius Giesbrecht, Maria Gonzales, Aaron Ragle.
3rd Grade-Jake Browne, Jennifer Franco, Ryan Reid, Preston Zant.
4th Grade-Zaira Pena, Hayden Ware.
5th Grade-Meagan Yarborough.
6th Grade-Noemi Martinez, Kimberly Wigington.
7th Grade-Logan Gaskins, Miranda Gutierrez, Tamara Nichols.
9th Grade-Erik Gutierrez, Carol Martinez, Garrett

Nichols, James Reid, 10th Grade-Hannah Lester, Brenda Martinez, Cevan Smithson.
11th Grade-Marcelo Barraza, Kandis Carson, Marlena Gomez, Tisha Lucio;
12th Grade- Steven Barraza, Krista Blagrove, Jose Briseno, Ben Campbell, Jon Cluck, Gracie Diaz, Audra Kennemer, Cindy Martinez, Ana Plata, T'Auna Reed, Emy Sanchez, Brandon Woods, Chelsey Ybarra.
"A-B" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Felipe Aguinaga, Caitlin Carter, Stefanie Diaz, Isabella Flores, Aggie Friesen, Colten Hughes, Eva Loewen, Kyler Nichols, Sloan Shaw.
2nd Grade- Jorge Pena, Jerad Staggs, Kendra Staggs, Kaemen Watkins.
3rd Grade-Hannah Caceres, Chris Ruiz.
4th Grade-Albert Ybarra, Priscilla Ybarra.
5th Grade- Celeste Hamilton, Caleb Lester, Kelsea Moore, Landon Parker, Morgan Yarborough.
6th Grade-Abril Garcia, Braeson Ramey, Johnny Rogers.
7th Grade- Brittini Blagrove, William Carson, Kayla Franco, David Martinez, Jesse McDonough, Mason Parker, Sara Spivey.
8th Grade-Carmen Aguinaga, Jerry Casas, Jesus Casas, Stephanie Davila, Ruthie Luna.
9th Grade- Jessica Lucio, Eleazar Montes, Samantha Peacock.
10th Grade- Matthew Benavidez, Dan Campbell, Dee Fryar, Clemente Gomez, Tyler Kinman, Juan Mojica, Trent Rogers, Junior Varela, Santos, Ybarra.
12th Grade-Chris Rose, Roseanna Sanchez, Brady Timmins
Moss Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
1st GRADE-Oscar Barraza, Charlie Boling, Joshua Brown, Tyler Bryan, Carlee Daniel, Alyssa Deanda, Ryan Carmoe, Angela Garza, Kaeli Hines, Breeana Jeter, Jensen Jeter, Anais Martinez, Emily McKinley, Serena Payen, Rebecca Quillen, Julianna Rodriguez, Priscilla Salazar, Bailey Sharp, Jennie Steel, Tobyn Tannehill, Madison Verastegui
2nd GRADE-Casedy Cervantes, Zach Crabtree, Corbin Foster, Daric Gill, Kelsie Guinn, Catherine Harris, Evan Leib, Isaiah Ludington, Zachary Ludington, Devin Roberson, Jessica Spears, Conner Steel, Gabbie Trevino, Briana Valencia, Garrett Wheeler, Amy Winters
3rd Grade-Vanessa Alvarado, Kylee Borchardt, Connor Furqueron, Christopher Hughes, Sydney Larson, Caleb Lewis, Allison Payen, Sterling Phernetton, Bryanna Raney, Logan Yarbar
4th GRADE-Katie Black, Elias Bustamante, Crystal Garcia, Kassie

Gross, Nicholas Islas, Drew Long, Michael Luna, Mckenzie Metcalf, Samantha Munoz, Savannah Nock, Caleb Pirkle, Colby Ritter, Scarlet Robertson, Morgan Slaughter, Selene Sosa, Danielle Strickland, Garrett Stuteville, Matt Tompkins, Alexis Torres, Seth Trevino, Sydney Winters
"A-B" Honor Roll
1st GRADE-Karina Alvarado, Conner Bales, Caleb Benson, Oasis Cervantes, Kyra Cox, Destiny Gilliam, Joshua Gutierrez, Alex Guzman, Taryn Haynes, Tara Huey, Adrian Lopez, Will Lopez, Isaiah Luna, Whitney Luna, Rene Medina, Jared Nieto, Jimmy Olivares, Taylor Olivo, Marisol Ortega, Dylan Ross, Tatiana Sanchez, Ty Sealy, Gloria Stinson, Cameron Torres, Katie Wilson, Leksey Yarbar, Kristian Yeats
2nd GRADE-Taylor Arista, Elizabeth Arnet, Cassidy Feaster, Adam Franco, Harley Gray, Omar Hernandez, Alex Hughes, Tabitha Keaton, Cole Lyssy, Jonathan McCleskey, Brady Mikeska, Austin Mize, Mayra Ortega, Kaegan Robertson, Jourdan Rodriguez, Dylinda Salazar, Eric Salazar, Kayla Sigmon, Brandon Soliz, Trace Telchick, Nadya Viasana
3rd GRADE-Katelyn Bales, Emilea Brumley, Matthew Burnett, Selena Bustamante, Cloee Camden, Tyler Camden, Jarred Doporto, Dylan Edwards, Anthony Fierro, Alex Gartman, Austin Gibson, Megan Islas, Adam Lloyd, Oswald Lujan, Emilio Ortiz, Kasey Osborne, Ransom Parks, Alex Reagan, Colton Roberts, Korian Rodriguez, Paige Shaw, Richard Vasquez, Ariel York
4th GRADE-Brandon Aguilar, Robert Aguilar, Brian Beauchamp, Cassie Boehringer, Bradlee Butts, Megan Constancio, Daniel Coyle, Ashley Deleon, Kelvin Flarity, Jessica Oliva, Sean Poffenbarger, Alma Rodriguez, Mark Segundo, Brandon Shook, Seth Slayton, Joshua Smith
Washington Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Geoffrey Galloway, Serena Gonzales, Sarah Lopez, Tomi McPherson, Tayisiya Movchan, Danie Ortega, Brianna Rayford, Alicia Redwine, Ashley Smith, Devin Turney.
2nd Grade-Brandon Anchondo, Kaegan Baucum, Roy Carrillo, Victoria Castillo, Jose Chavez, Madison Currie, Ashley Garza, Juan Lara, Kenan Lewis, Kyle Madewell, Toby Shubert, Kiowa Spears, Dallas Turney, Tavaris Walker.
4th Grade-Donovan Aguero, Maranda Duchock, George Galloway, Rodolfo Hernandez, Kerry Moore, Kristina Skiles.
"A-B" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Natalie Aguilar, Breshay Ausbie, Fabian Barrientes, Andrea Garcia, Timothy Garling, Eric Gonzalez, William Green, Caitlyn Kellough, Alexandra Medina, Julie Nunez, Aaron Pena, Hayley Rangel, Margie Saucedo, Andrew Shober, Pauline Stone, Johnathon

Williams.
2nd Grade-Sarah Berner, Tyler Barza, Alexandria Kincheloe, Ka'Lee Lloyd, Reyna Magallanes, Joseph Nieto, Kendra Peterson, Jessica Phillips, Senjon Queen, Acey Sells, Joshua Spivey, Angelica Toro.
3rd Grade-Rosa Barrera, Ashlii Beserra, Bret Bethel, Aaron Farr, Jacinda Hernandez, Rona Hurst, Lucas Lopez, Jesse Nunez, Jamie Redwine, Ricky Shubert, Clarissa Vanpelt, Jessica Vanpelt.
4th Grade-Michael Anchondo, Krista Bailey, Travis Dedrick, David Gonzales, Sierra Hinojosa, Jonathon Hughes, Tommy Little, Audree Perez, Mercedes Ramirez, Pony Scaggs, Jordan Sosa, John Williams, Jessica Ybarra.
Perfect Attendance
Kindergarten-Chase Billings, Toby Blackshear, Bryson Burt, D'Angelo Clayburn, Dulciana Clayburn, Anastasia Coker, Kaylee Coker, Juan Cordova, Misty Davis, Sky Ferrel, Sammy Ferrel, Lorenzo Jones, Christopher Martinez, Veronica Nieto, Dameon Nieto, Anna Louisa Santa Cruz, Katlin Skiles, Jonathan Viasana, Michael Watson.
Elbow Elementary
"A" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Ryan Armstrong, Kole Carter, Mason Coor, Darby DePauw, Ashley Garcia, Sam Harris, Emily Hatfield, Dylan Headrick, Braden Hearn, Alicia Hernandez, Zachary Long, Breana Madry, Christopher Mims, Hannah Minchew, Nicole Niklasch, Ryan Pearson, Alexis Smith, Kaleb Stanley, Dalton Taylor, Hannah Thompson, Patrick Walker, Garrett Willard.
2nd Grade-Jamie Armstead, John Tyler Breyman, Covann Davidson, Bryson Dunn, Eric Edwards, Tyler Evans, Taybor Flores, Chandler Freeman, Alex Fry, Clayton Galloway, Marisol Hernandez, Ali Knight, Eindra Lwin, Matthew Mims, Falon Newton, Mikael Pappajohn, Karyssa Rhodes, Elizabeth Ramirez, Kolby Self, Esteban Serrano, Kelcy Truszkowski.
3rd Grade-Alexis Armstrong, Dillon Bagnall, Tanner Ballard, Landon Boeker, Gabrielle Borel, Trevor Burchett, Shea Campbell, Madison Churchwell, Nicholas Emerson, Trystin Fry, Case Ingram, Kie Jones, Leah Kay Lloyd, Cole Long, Jansen McDonald, Bethany Roach, Brian Tribolet.
4th Grade-Foster Burchett, April Cevallos, Hope Cimino, Phillip Cummings, Jared De Toro, Cheyenne Galloway, Patrick Greer, Alejandra Hernandez, Sydney Holdampf, Jodi Jones, Amber Neighbors, Lindsey Roach, Kyle Stevenson.
5th Grade-Cameron Churchwell, Jacquelin Civallo, Zane Herrin, C.J. Krug, Michael Mims, Regan Newsom.
"A-B" Honor Roll
1st Grade-Tristen Anderson, Erin Bagnall, Travis Ballard, Emily Campos, Taylor Clark, Kasey Foster, Chris Gomez, Alicia Heaton, Ian Heiden, Kaci Kesterson, Ashlie Knox, Gabriel

Leal, Victoria Martinez, Jan Massingill, Walker Massingill, Mary-Ashley McDaniel, Jessica Mince, Zackery Norman, Drew Sanders, Brianna Welch, Nick Williams.
2nd Grade-Hannah Cates, Kenna Colvin, Caleb Davenport, Kade Fannin, Austin Grantham, Rachel Haggard, Raegan Haggard, Richard Hearn, Lily Hsu, BreAnna Martinez, Polo Morin, Aaron Salazar, Ke'arra Scroggins, Cowboy Sheets, Sara Stevenson, Whitnee Walker.
3rd Grade-Marcus Cervantes, Anthony Chappell, Blaise Coffman, Diego De Hoyos, Dalton Doss, Jesse Harmon, Shandi Huitt, Treagan Kendrick, P.J. Madrigal, Max Pappajohn, Brianna Park, Copeland Riddell, Shelby Roemer, Shelby Rotan, Kayla Tilley, Kelsey Westbrook, Jordan Whetsel, Sarah Will, Dakcia Witkowski, Samuel Wright.
4th Grade-La Shaunte Anderson, C.J. Ballard, Haleigh Bird, Courtney Blair, Tiffani Box, Ashley Buzbee, Austin Bynum, Cassie Creel, Paxton De La Garza, Victoria Dunnam, Meagan Grisham, Dymeachia Hall, Shelbie Hudgins, Kara Hughey, Miranda Jennings, Alex Massingill, Felixiana Pantoja, Patric Paredez, Payton Parker, Patrick Robles, Caden Rosenbaum, Kaidie Saverance, Mara Sheets, Tyler Steen, Elgen Sauzo, Darien Walker, Kayla Warnick, Spencer Wells, Garrett Willey, Stevie Wilson.
5th Grade-Sterling Chaney, Shelby Clark, Karlene Daniel, Cory Davenport, Timothy Davila, Blake Eason, Morgan Forshee, Erica Garrett, Valerie Garza, Rebekah Hall, Zachary Hatfield, Stephanie Hesson, Steven Johnson, Logan Lamb, Lindsey Mince, Keyv O'Brien, Miranda Park, Summer Paddy, Kelsee Perkins, Chase Pierce, Nalani Province, Michael Rangel, Jake Rhoton, Brooklyn Riddell, Amber Rodriguez, Jeremy Saucedo, Kay'C Stanley, Hali Wells, Brandy Wilson.
New Hope Christian School
"A" Honor Roll
Kindergarten-A bby Platte
1st Grade-Carlye McMahon, Jonathan Rudd
4th Grade-Katie Evans
6th Grade-Allison Fritzler, Mone Mindling, David Sikes, Travis Waid.
7th Grade-Rebecca Sikes
10th Grade-Bryan Pearson
"A-B" Honor Roll
2nd Grade-Chance McNew, Bryan Platte
3rd Grade-Miranda Prather, Andrew Shafer
6th Grade-Wendell Moore
7th Grade-Asa Wheeler
8th Grade-Keegan Cooke, Kayley Granger
10th Grade-Angela Carrillo, Victoria Walker
11th Grade-Cambrie Cooke
Forsan Jr./Sr. High Schools
"A" Honor Roll
6th Grade-Amanda Barber, Macy Briggs, Evan Burton, Cole Campbell, Aaron Johnson, Amanda Longorio, Noelle McDowell, Reagan Rotan,

Laura Spence.
7th Grade-Tori Gauer, Melanie McDonald, Whitney Price, Jeremy Robbins, Charlene Stanley, Ryan Welch.
8th Grade-Caitlin Jones, Tara Kuykendall, Alexandra Newsom, Rowana Sauzo.
9TH Grade-Dani Borel, Cayley Eggleston, Eric Ellis, Seth Johnson, Brandon Morrow, Jonathan Purcell.
10TH Grade-Kimberly Berry, Justin Forshee, Casey Huitt, Claire Koenes, Kayla Nichols, Shiloh Pool, Jarrod Price, Shiloh Sanders, Kayla Spence, Clinton Stanley, Aarika Thixton.
11th Grade-Rachel Clinton, Casi Graves, Levi Johnson, Micaela Purcell
12th Grade-Staci Borel, Brandon Burleson, Kesha Christian, Lacy Eggleston, Micah Harrison, Heather Hise, Kacy Lilles, Adrianna Marlow, Misty Mcguire, Amanda Moreno, Felicia Osburn, Angie Pace, Amanda Wallace.
"A-B" Honor Roll
6th Grade-Sheree Atkerson, Kyle Daniel, Arie Denton, Ryan Flores, Caitlin Hearn, Claudia Jones, Kelsey Jones, Shelby Jones, Jessica Loera, Amber Morrow.
7th Grade-Faith Belew, Haylie Burleson, Jeffery Carey, Alex Emerson, Sandi Golleher, Zachary Herrin, Shawna Hesson, Jade Hughey, Brittani Huitt, Tessa Kendrick, Derek Lloyd, Shelby McDonald, Tia McQuatters, Ayx Pappajohn, Garrett Pool, Tiffany Strong, Kaleb Willey, Stephanie Williams.
8th Grade-Toby Anderson, Adam Bailey, Jessica Ballard, Jolinda Flores, Morgan Garrett, Blake Grantham, Kristan Hallford, Ashley Hearn, Jessica Hood, Aaron Hughes, Carissa Jensen, John Kaelin, Laci Lamb, Joshua Lang, Michael Leal, Clint Lockhart, Kaela Strickland, Whitney Wallace, John Williamson, Keisha Yarbar.
9th Grade-Michelle Hanline, Courtney Holdampf, Meagan Manca, Crystal McNew, Kaylon Stanley.
10TH Grade-Zach Amos, Tye Baker, Taylor Barber, Dawnia Burney, Samantha Charlton, Ashley colegrove, Samantha Flores, Jeremy Johnson, Shawn lawson, Hayley Lewis, Rosie Martinez, Audrey Montgomery, Jonathan Moore, Michell Murray, Luke Smith, Jon Sutton, Grace Walker.
11TH Grade-Burke Atkerson, Christin Ballard, James Branham, Hillary Burks, Sean Dunnam, Daniel Hoard, Crystal Hughes, Abby Janca, Ruth Kaelin, Clay Kuykendall, Melissa Marlow, Cory Reyna, Brandon Tant, Emilee Trammell.
12 Grade-Lyndsey Allen, Audra Bailey, Ross Berry, Ben Breyman, Krista Gamble, Josh Helmstetler, Augustine Hilario, Jaclyn Hise, Coby Howard, Chad James, Michael Paredez, Chance Rainer, Chanz Reed, Melody Riley, Stefer Stone.

IN B
Steers to s
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The Big Sp... will return Friday when the No. Greenwood basketball a p.m. in Green... The BSHS 10, will begi p.m. in the S... the Steers squad will p.m.
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SAN JUAN Rico (AP) — missioner's o ized an agre have the Expos retur Juan's Hiran Stadium for next season. The deal Expos playi games agains York Mets (A Florida (Apr Milwaukee (N San Francisco (23), Toronto (Atlanta (July Pittsburgh (Ju
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to open '04
NEW YORK The New York and Tampa E Rays will of season in T March 30 and an agreement by the comm office and the association.
Basketball o
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Basketball are needed games during 2004 basketbal Persons inte officiating loc should conta Rodriguez at (home) or (cell).
Ten Star seek
all-star applic
Applications being accepted Ten Star Summer B Camp. Boys a ages 10-19 are e apply. For more info call (704) 373-08
Former Lady
be enshrined
Former Big High School Rose Mager will be induc the Huntsville County Athleti Fame. Magers-Powe aunt of curre standou Magers, is slat inducted on Ap
Cowboys put i
on injured res
IRVING (A Dallas Cowboy sive tackle L Carson was injured Wednesday, a d surgery to rep torn triceps. Carson was in Sunday's wi Washington.
ON THE
Sports Broadcast Bol Dec. 18
Event, Time ...
Mavericks vs. Minnesota, 6 p.m. Dec. 19
Event, Time ...
Sours vs. Seattle, 9 p.m. Dec. 20
Event, Time ...
Sours vs. Portland, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 21
Event, Time ...
Tavara vs. Tava, 11:45 a.m. Dec. 21
Cowboys vs. Giants, 11:50 a.m. Dec. 21
Event, Time ...
Sours vs. Clippers, 7 p.m. Dec. 21

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IN BRIEF

**Steers to square off
with Greenwood**

The Big Spring Steers will return to action Friday when they face the No. 6-ranked Greenwood Rangers in basketball action at 8 p.m. in Greenwood.

The BSHS varsity, 3-10, will begin play at 8 p.m. in the Steer Gym. The Steers freshman squad will start at 6 p.m.

**Epos to play game
in Puerto Rico in '04**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — The commissioner's office finalized an agreement to have the Montreal Expos return to San Juan's Hiram Bithorn Stadium for 22 games next season.

The deal has the Expos playing home games against the New York Mets (April 9-11), Florida (April 13-15), Milwaukee (May 18-20), San Francisco (May 21-23), Toronto (July 2-4), Atlanta (July 5-7) and Pittsburgh (July 8-11).

**Yankees, Devil Rays
to open '04 in Japan**

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Yankees and Tampa Bay Devil Rays will open next season in Tokyo on March 30 and 31 under an agreement finalized by the commissioner's office and the players' association.

**Basketball officials
needed for season**

Basketball officials are needed to call games during the 2003-2004 basketball season.

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

**Ten Star seeking
all-star applications**

Applications are being accepted for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply.

For more information call (704) 373-0873.

**Former Lady Steer to
be enshrined in Hall**

Former Big Spring High School standout Rose Magers-Powell will be inducted into the Huntsville Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame.

Magers-Powell, the aunt of current BSHS standout Karissa Magers, is slated to be inducted on April 19.

**Cowboys put DT
on injured reserve**

IRVING (AP) — Dallas Cowboys defensive tackle Leonardo Carson was put on injured reserve Wednesday, a day after surgery to repair his torn triceps.

Carson was injured in Sunday's win at Washington.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule	
Dec. 18	
Event, Time	Station
Mavericks vs. Minnesota, 6 p.m.	1490
Dec. 19	
Event, Time	Station
Suns vs. Seattle, 9 p.m.	1490
Dec. 20	
Event, Time	Station
Suns vs. Portland, 8:30 p.m.	1490
Dec. 21	
Event, Time	Station
Tanaka vs. Tigers, 11:45 a.m.	94.3
Cowboys vs. Giants, 11:50 a.m.	95.7
Dec. 23	
Event, Time	Station
Suns vs. Clippers, 7 p.m.	1490

Steers splash to 2nd at Aqua Tribe Invitational

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Steers swim team continued to impress this past weekend at the Aqua Tribe Invitational Swim Meet in Seminole. The Steers collected 17 top 10 finishes and cruised to a second-place finish in the overall team standings.

District 4-4A rival Pecos won the event, marking the fourth time this season the Eagles had edged the Steers for a title. Pecos took the meet with 148 points. The Steers tankers placed second, collecting 92 in a meet that featured five BSHS district opponents.

Sophomore Daniel Pike got things started for the Steers in fine fashion. He finished second in the 200-yard freestyle to Pecos' Daniel Quintana. Pike posted a

time of 2 minutes, 20.91 seconds. He also furnished sixth in the 500-yard freestyle.

Chris Stokes was the big winner on the day for Big Spring. The senior started his swimming exhibition with a second-place finish in the 100-yard Butterfly. Stokes blistered the course in 1:08.53 and edged out teammate Justin Petrowski by just over a second. Petrowski took third at 1:09.97.

Stokes was far from finished. Two races later, he garnered a second in the 500-yard freestyle.

Mark Sheedy added to the Steers' hardware count by turning in a time 1:09.35 in the 100-yard backstroke and finishing second.

The Steers team showed its depth as Ryan Hughey contributed a fourth-place in the 200-

yard freestyle. Will Liggett and Jeremy Petrowski threw in a pair of fifth-place finishes in the 100-yard freestyle and the 100-yard breaststroke, respectively.

David Brooks, Steven Lucas, and Scott Thomas further aided the Steers' cause, turning in top 10 results in the 200-yard freestyle, individual medley and 100-yard butterfly.

The teams biggest coup, however, came in the relay events as all but two of Big Spring's combinations placed in the top five, including second in the 4x100-yard freestyle as the team of Sheedy, Liggett, Stokes and Justin Petrowski touched the wall in 4:06.45.

Freshman Terrin Herring turned in a 1:09.53 in the girls' 100-yard freestyle and captured third. She added a fourth-place

finish in the 50-yard freestyle to spark the Lady Steer swim team to a respectable fifth-place finish.

Juniors Kendra Weeks and Jessica Hughey pitched in a pair fourth and seventh place performances.

Weeks sprinted to a 3:01.61 in the 200-yard medley, while Hughey missed out on a trip to the podium by losing by just 0.15 seconds to Pecos' Amie Reynolds in the 100-yard backstroke.

The BSHS trio teamed up with Brittany Landis to secure fifth in the 4x50-yard freestyle relay while Landis, Meagan Matthews, Amber Sleight, and Anita Guilette seized eighth in the 4x100-yard freestyle.

The Steer tankers will return to action next month as they travel to Fort Stockton for the District 4-4A meet.



Big Spring senior Erin Partee battles two Snyder defenders for a rebound Tuesday night in the Steers' 61-59 victory at Steer Gym. The Steers, 3-10 overall, will return to action tomorrow in Greenwood against the No. 6 ranked Rangers. The two teams will begin play at 8 p.m.

Borden rallies past Forsan

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

FORSAN — Going into Tuesday's game, most expected the Forsan Buffaloes and Borden County Coyotes to have to scratch, bite and kick for every point possible. Quite simply, the forecast was for a close, hard-fought game.

They got exactly that — and more.

Borden County's Ben Griffin stepped to the charity stripe with 1.8 seconds remaining and sank one of two attempts to propel the Coyotes to a wild 42-41 come-from-behind overtime win.

Things looked as if they were to go Forsan's way early. The Buffs jumped out to a 13-4 lead just three and a half minutes into the contest.

Unfortunately for the Buffs, Borden County answered back with a run of its own. The Coyotes reeled off an impressive 11-2 run and pulled into a 15-15 tie before Josh Helmstetler managed to sink a shot that sent the Buffaloes into the second holding a slim 17-15 cushion.

After a Shane Tarleton jumper tied the score at 17, the two teams exchanged 4-0 runs over the next few minutes to leave the score tied for

See BUFFS, Page 2B

Knights deal Grady first loss

Herald Staff Report

The No. 2-ranked Grady Wildcats suffered their first setback of the 2003-2004 season Tuesday night as the Midland Classical, Knights claimed a 51-47 victory.

With the loss, Grady slipped to 14-1 on the year. Midland Classical, which had lost to Grady a week before in the finals of the Garden City Booster Classic, is 5-6.

Grady struggled to find its shot throughout the contest. The Wildcats managed to score just eight points in the second quarter and trailed by a 24-21 clip at the half.

Offensively, the Wildcats were led by 19 points from Trent May. Jason Pribyla added 14.

Coaching legend Gordon Wood dies

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

The Associated Press

Gordon Wood, who retired in 1985 as the winningest high school football coach in the nation, died Wednesday night. He was 89.

Wood developed a bronchial infection that turned into pneumonia last week, then suffered a heart attack on Saturday night, said longtime assistant coach Kenneth West. He was transported from Brownwood to a hospital

in Abilene on Monday.

"He just couldn't recover," West said.

Wood, who won nine state championships back when there were fewer classes and only one title per class, coached at eight schools and compiled a 396-91-15 record from 1940-85. He's mostly identified with Brownwood, where he won seven titles in 26 years.

"We lost the greatest coach that we ever had," said Pilot Point coach G.A. Moore, who last year

passed Wood as the state's winningest coach.

"Football has lost a real treasure," said former University of Texas coach Darrell Royal, who knew Wood for 47 years. "He had the magic, there's no question about that."

This fall, Brownwood's newly renovated sports complex was named in Wood's honor. At the entrance to the school's stadium, which has long carried his name, a bronze statue depicts Wood on the sideline, in

his oft-seen crouch, surrounded by seven helmets — one for each of his titles with the Lions.

"Coach Wood has stood for everything that any person in the profession could think of that a coach should stand for," current Brownwood coach Steve Freeman said Wednesday night.

Hundreds of coaches have been influenced by Wood, including Dallas Cowboys coach Bill Parcells. Wood used to See WOOD, Page 2B

San Augustine coach fired
after winning Class 2A crown

SAN AUGUSTINE, Texas (AP) — Just three days after leading the San Augustine Wolves to their first state championship, Lynn Graves was out of a job as the school's head football coach.

San Augustine school trustees voted 5-2 Tuesday not to bring Graves back. The board didn't give a reason for the action.

"It's a hell of a way to go, being Christmas and

unemployed," Graves said.

Graves was considered a "contract employee" with San Augustine ISD under an agreement with the retire/rehire plan.

"My understanding of his proposal last year was that he wanted to retire, work one year, hopefully have a good season and be finished," said board member Kathie Haley, who voted for the motion not to renew.

Bish Spring freshmen to play G'wood

The Big Spring High School freshman basketball team will return to play tomorrow evening in Greenwood against the

Rangers. The Steers are scheduled to begin play at 6 p.m. The BSHS varsity and JV squads will also play.

Herald Photo/
Bruce Schooler
Leslie Jansa
and the
Garden City
Lady Kats will
return to the
court Friday
night by host-
ing the Forsan
Lady Buffs in
the GCHS
gymnasium.
The Lady
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overall, have
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A-Rod: I'll only go to Boston with union approval

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez is willing to go to the Red Sox only if Boston restructures his contract in a manner that gains approval from the players' association.

Boston and Texas said Wednesday they settled on all the players involved in the trade. And the Red Sox and A-Rod agreed to restructure the shortstop's record \$252 million contract, Rangers owner Tom Hicks said.

But in a rare move, the union intervened and rejected the agreement, drawing criticism from both teams.

Commissioner Bud Selig set a 4 p.m. deadline for today for the trade to be completed. He might also go against the union and approve the restructuring, likely forcing the matter to arbitration.

"In the spirit of cooperation, I

advised the Red Sox I am willing to restructure my contract, but only within the guidelines prescribed by union officials," Rodriguez said. "I recognize the principle involved, and fully support the need to protect the interests of my fellow players."

"If my transfer to the Red Sox is to occur, it must be done with consideration of the interests of all major league players, not just one. Any statements by club officials suggesting my position is different than stated is inaccurate and unfortunate."

His agent said it was up to the Red Sox to find a way to restructure his client's contract without reducing its value, which would allow the proposed blockbuster trade for Manny Ramirez to take place.

"It's in the teams' hands," agent Scott Boras. "Unless

Boston comes back with a proposal that meets the union's criteria, then the deal will not get done."

Because union official Gene Orza and management lawyer Rob Manfred traveled to Florida for Bubba Trammell's grievance hearing Thursday, the deadline may have to be extended.

If the deal does go through, Boston would likely trade long-time shortstop Nomar Garciaparra, possibly to the Chicago White Sox.

"Given the impending deadline imposed by the office of the commissioner, the actions of the players' association may, unfortunately, determine this issue," Hicks said.

The commissioner's office said it was studying the agreement between Rodriguez and the Red Sox, but Orza said it

was unacceptable. "It was clear it crossed the line ... and by a huge margin," Orza said after meeting with Rodriguez, his agent and Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein. "We did suggest an offer the club could make to Alex that would not do that. As was its right, the club chose not to make it."

Manfred challenged the union's interpretation.

"The basic agreement contains a rule that requires any special covenant to be an actual or potential benefit to the player," Manfred said. "In a situation like the current situation, where there was a restructuring, where the player was getting something and the club was getting something, Gene Orza is not the final arbitrator on whether the restructuring provides an actual or potential

benefit to the player. The commissioner currently is considering his legal options in consultation with the two teams."

After reaching Florida, Orza responded: "Fortunately, perjury charges attend false testimony in arbitrations, and I know what Rob thinks about what he now characterizes as this attempted 'restructuring' of Alex's contract. So I'm not particularly worried about what he's saying in the press."

While no one detailed the agreement between Rodriguez and the Red Sox, Boston president Larry Lucchino said the union proposed "radical changes."

"The agreement called for some salary to be reduced and some to be deferred in exchange for giving Rodriguez the right to become a free agent earlier in the deal.

WOOD

Continued from Page 1B

drive to Lubbock to watch Texas Tech football practice when Parcells was defensive coordinator.

"He was very much an inspiration to me when I was a young coach, only because of something he was doing that I couldn't fathom," Parcells said recently. "Why some guy would be driving five hours a day to watch me coach linebackers for spring practice?"

A member of both the Texas High School Football Hall of Fame and the National High School Coach of the Year in 1979.

He was named as runner-up to Royal as "Coach of the Century" in the December 1999 issue of Texas Monthly.

Wood lost his status as the nation's winningest coach about a decade ago. He maintained his grip on the state list until Moore caught up in 2002.

"You've got people who break Babe Ruth's record every time you turn around, but that doesn't make them better than him," Wood told The Associated Press last year. "That might sound silly, but that's the way I feel about it."

Moore always said passing Wood in the record books didn't mean he could surpass a man he considered "my idol ever

since I've been coaching." "He just had a God-given talent. He was just blessed with a personality and a way that drew people to him. You automatically respected him," Moore said Wednesday night. "I learned a tremendous amount from him."

Ennis coach Sam Harrell, who played for Wood and later was one of his assistants, echoed those sentiments.

"There are a lot of people across the whole state of Texas that were touched by him," Harrell said. "I know he had a tremendous impact on Texas football."

Wood was thought to have surpassed 400 career victories during his final season, 1985. He even received a letter from former President Ronald Reagan congratulating him on the milestone.

In 2001, researchers working on a Texas high school football book found Wood's career coaching record actually was 396 — nine fewer victories than the mark which he was credited.

The mixup stemmed from his very first season, 1940, at Rule. He was credited with going 8-2, but UIL and other unofficial records show 2-8.

"I didn't hardly win any games at Rule," he said.

Wood lived most of his life in West Texas, growing up near Abilene and attending Hardin-Simmons University on a basketball and football schol-

arship. He spent two years at Rule, then joined the Navy during World War II.

He then coached at Roscoe (1947-49), Seminole (1950) and Winters (1950). His career took off at Stamford, where he went 80-6 with two state championships from 1951-57.

After two years at Victoria, Moore was so interested in returning to West Texas that he took a pay cut from \$10,000 to \$7,500.

He wanted to go to San Angelo, but lost out to Emory Bellard, who later made his mark by creating the Wishbone. So Wood ended up in Brownwood, where he produced one of the most powerful dynasties in Texas history. He went 257-52-7, reaching the playoffs 19 times and never having a losing season.

Throughout retirement, Wood often could be found traveling the state to watch games. He also maintained a small, cluttered office in downtown Brownwood. A nameplate on the outside of Wood's office building, where he never paid rent, simply reads "Coach Wood." He was always warmly greeted as "Coach" throughout the West Texas city of about 19,000.

Wood's football mind — once so keen that Royal often sought his advice — remained sharp, especially when talking about details of the run-based Wing T formation.

Parker's FT lifts Spurs past Raptors, 73-70

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio's smallest player made sure the Spurs kept winning.

Tony Parker, the Spurs' 6-foot-2 point guard, sank a foul shot with 7.9 seconds left to preserve San Antonio's eighth straight win, 73-70 over the Toronto Raptors on Wednesday night.

"It was kind of any ugly win, but we'll take it," Parker said, referring to the Spurs' struggles at the free throw line. They shot 15-of-27 (56 percent). Tim Duncan was 6-for-14.

"We're going to shoot

better from the line than we have been," added Parker, who was 5-for-6 from the line.

Parker had 13 points but was overshadowed by Duncan, who had 30 points, 20 in the first half and 13 rebounds as the Spurs improved to 10-1 against Eastern Conference teams.

"Toronto's weakness was inside, so we tried to get the ball to Tim," Parker said.

Rasho Nesterovic also grabbed 10 rebounds for San Antonio. Toronto's Donyell

Marshall took a 3-pointer with a second left, but the ball rolled off the rim.

"When it left my hands, it felt good," he said. "I thought it was good. I thought it was in. It just hit back of the iron."

The Raptors, who lost their fourth straight, were led by Marshall's 19 points and 14 rebounds. He was 3-for-6 from behind the 3-point arc. Jalen Rose had 14 points, Alvin Williams had 10, and Vince Carter had 16.

Chris Bosh added 12 rebounds.

SCOREBOARD

Chicago 7 17 292 11 Anaheim 10 12 4 5 29 67 84
Atlanta 7 20 259 12 1/2 Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Cleveland 6 19 240 12 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division
Denver 16 9 640
San Antonio 17 10 630
Dallas 15 9 625 1/2
Minnesota 15 9 625 1/2
Houston 14 10 583 1 1/2
Memphis 14 10 583 1 1/2
Utah 13 12 520 3

Pacific Division
L.A. Lakers 18 5 783
Sacramento 16 6 727 1 1/2
Golden State 12 11 522 6
Portland 11 11 500 6 1/2
Seattle 12 12 478 7
L.A. Clippers 10 11 476 7
Phoenix 9 16 360 10

Tuesday's Games
Washington 91, Utah 87
Miami 97, Atlanta 79

Golden State 104, New York 86
Memphis 105, Sacramento 100
Minnesota 92, Houston 75
Chicago 102, Orlando 85
Denver 116, New Orleans 94
Phoenix 92, Seattle 91, OT
Milwaukee 106, Portland 99

Wednesday's Games
Houston 89, Cleveland 85
Orlando 94, Indiana 90
Philadelphia 87, Miami 76
Detroit 77, Chicago 73
New Jersey 87, Utah 74
Golden State 98, Atlanta 85
Boston 105, Dallas 103
San Antonio 73, Toronto 70
Denver 99, Seattle 98
L.A. Clippers 93, Milwaukee 83

Today's Games
Dallas at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 10 p.m.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

East Division
Philadelphia 11 9 786 315 249
Dallas 11 9 643 263 244
Washington 5 9 357 256 314
N.Y. Giants 4 10 286 216 331

South
Carolina 9 7 643 268 266
New Orleans 7 7 500 308 299
Tampa Bay 7 7 500 260 201
Atlanta 3 11 214 248 380

North
Green Bay 8 6 571 370 297
Minnesota 8 6 571 354 315
Chicago 6 8 429 253 291
Detroit 4 10 286 226 339

West
St. Louis 11 3 786 400 288
Seattle 8 6 571 352 300
San Francisco 6 8 429 336 285
Arizona 3 11 214 197 407

Saturday's Games
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 12:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
New England at N.Y. Jets, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Miami at Buffalo, Noon
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, Noon
Detroit at Carolina, Noon
Washington at Chicago, Noon
Tennessee at Houston, Noon
Cincinnati at St. Louis, Noon
Baltimore at Cleveland, Noon
New Orleans at Jacksonville, Noon
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 3:15 p.m.
San Francisco at Philadelphia, 3:15 p.m.
Denver at Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

Monday's Game
Green Bay at Oakland, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 27
Buffalo at New England, 12:30 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4 p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 28
St. Louis at Detroit, Noon
N.Y. Jets at Miami, Noon
Chicago at Kansas City, Noon
Jacksonville at Atlanta, Noon
Indianapolis at Houston, Noon
Tampa Bay at Tennessee, Noon
Dallas at New Orleans, Noon
Cleveland at Cincinnati, Noon
Carolina at N.Y. Giants, 3:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
Denver at Green Bay, 3:15 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Baltimore, 7:30 p.m.
End Regular Season

NHL STANDINGS

Northeast Division
Toronto 18 6 5 3 44 88 74
Boston 13 6 8 4 38 82 76
Montreal 14 13 4 1 33 71 73
Ottawa 13 10 3 3 32 88 65
Buffalo 12 17 2 1 27 69 88

Southwest Division
Atlanta 16 13 3 1 36 98 99
Tampa Bay 13 10 4 1 31 65 61
Florida 10 15 7 1 28 70 89
Carolina 8 12 8 2 26 56 71
Washington 10 19 2 1 23 84 101

Central Division
Detroit 20 10 3 1 44 119 81
St. Louis 19 6 2 1 41 77 59
Nashville 14 12 2 1 31 71 74
Colorado 8 15 4 3 23 61 85
Chicago 7 15 6 3 23 58 86

Northwest Division
Vancouver 17 8 5 2 41 93 72
Colorado 16 8 5 1 38 90 68
Calgary 15 9 2 3 35 69 63
Minnesota 13 14 5 0 31 68 68
Edmonton 12 14 5 0 29 83 93

Pacific Division
Los Angeles 16 11 1 3 36 84 72
San Jose 10 8 10 3 33 73 73
Dallas 13 15 4 0 30 65 74
Phoenix 10 11 8 1 29 75 90

Midwest
Akron 64, Duquesne 61, OT
Bradley 79, Loyola of Chicago 63
Cincinnati 79, Clemson 56
Kent St. 116, Cleveland St. 66
Mississippi 69, Evansville 66
Northwestern 63, Arizona St. 61
Ohio St. 70, Furman 68
SW Missouri St. 80, UMKC 77, 20T
Saint Louis 73, Grambling St. 35
W. Illinois 73, Norfolk St. 53

Southeast
Ark. Little Rock 73, Southern U. 59
Arkansas 68, Louisiana Tech 56
Arkansas St. 84, Ark. Pine Bluff 52
Houston 56, Bethune-Cookman 45
North Texas 87, Texas Pan American 81, OT
Texas St. 85, Rochester, Mich. 67
Texas Tech 97, Sam Houston St. 63
UTEP 85, New Mexico St. 60
FAR WEST
Arizona 84, St. Mary's, Cal. 78
Oregon 94, Santa Clara 71
UC Santa Barbara 61, UCLA 60
Wyoming 109, Tennessee St. 56

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

East Division
Philadelphia 13 12 520
Boston 13 13 500 1/2
New Jersey 12 12 500 1/2
Miami 9 16 360 4
New York 9 17 346 4 1/2
Washington 8 16 333 4 1/2
Orlando 5 21 192 8 1/2

Central Division
Indiana 19 7 731
New Orleans 17 9 654 2
Detroit 15 10 600 3 1/2
Toronto 13 12 520 5 1/2
Milwaukee 12 14 462 7

BUFFS

Continued from Page 1B

the third time.

Sophomore post Jonathan Wright finally gave Forsan the upper hand late in the frame when he drained a short jumper and staked Forsan to a slim 25-23 advantage heading into the second half.

Forsan looked to pull away in the third quarter. Brandon Burleson kick-started a 6-0 run with a clutch shot from the field and stretched the Buffs' lead to 31-23 before Borden County was able to regroup.

Tarleton and Kyle Pinkerton each hit a pair of shots from the field over the ensuing two minutes and cut the Buffalo lead to four.

With the score at 36-28 and just over four minutes remaining, Griffin made his presence known with authority. He took a pass behind the three-

point line and launching a high, arcing shot that found nothing but the bottom of the net to ignite an 8-0 run by the Coyotes that tied the game at the end of regulation.

Tarleton gave Borden County the lead for the first time, at 38-36, when he took the ball off the opening tip in overtime and quickly pushed a shot home.

Helmstetler answered right back, however. He calmly knocked down a 3-pointer to hand the Buffs a 41-39 lead.

Auggie Hilario followed by stripping the ball and driving the length of the court for a layup that tied the game at 41-41.

With less than 10 seconds remaining in overtime, Griffin made his last and loudest statement of the night by driving hard to the basket and collecting a foul.

The win didn't come easy for the Coyotes. Griffin missed the first free throw, prompting

Forsan coach Terry McDonald to call a timeout in hopes of unnerving the BCHS junior.

The ploy didn't work, though. Griffin drained the charity shot and sent a stunned silence over the Buffalo faithful.

Helmstetler paced the Forsan attack by scoring 17 points, including three long distance bombs. Wright and Burleson tallied nine and eight, respectively.

In ladies action, the Borden County Lady Coyotes downed the Lady Buffs, 41-39 behind the deadly three-point shooting of Shayla Gass.

Gass lead Borden County with 12 points — all of which came via a 4-for-4 performance from downtown. Ashley James and LaShea Johnson added eight and six.

Casi Graves, Jacklynn Hise and Haylea Belew sparked the Lady Buffs with six apiece.

Forsan will travel to Garden City Friday night.

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Big Spring Herald Thursday, Dec 18, 2003

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Cup d

BY CAMMY CLA Knight Ridder New

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But Vickers year has been an incredible oppo giving him to d was driven mos Nemechek.

There are on Nextel Cup. By elite level is mo professional spo

"Every morn and better," said a David Green National title in Miami Speedwa

Vickers and to Joe's Stone C he won the title, tour in Tampa, f ago, he was in N final Winston C Waldorf-Astoria

Vickers also appeared on ESI ing show. He als Key West, Fla. the list.

"Not physica pinch yourself."

Eye for tal

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At the same t decision not to r shoulder injury.

Vickers, driving Icking in first ar points.

Propos

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Since 2001, the Ph has used a similar poem to pick its cham series has two divisio and Southern. Driver pete in at least half of regular-season races the top 30 in points a ble to run for the title race championship se

One wrinkle the p each driver one race possession. If you fin example, you start th of points you'd get fo means the regular ser the winner's total in divisional winners of

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Young and focused

Despite his youth, Brian Vickers expects his first year in Nextel Cup competition to be successful and is aiming for a top finish

By CAMMY CLARK
Knight Ridder Newspapers

How young a NASCAR champion is Brian Vickers? He attended the Grand National Series awards banquet in Orlando, Fla., last month in pain. His wisdom teeth were coming in.

And for the immediate future, the driver who turned 20 two months ago was more concerned about having those teeth yanked than becoming the youngest driver to compete full-time on the Nextel Cup (formerly the Winston Cup) circuit.

But Vickers is a smart kid. Although the past year has been a whirlwind, he understands the incredible opportunity Hendrick Motorsports is giving him to drive the No. 25 Chevrolet that was driven most of last season by veteran Joe Nemechek.

There are only about 43 full-time rides in Nextel Cup. By pure numbers, making it to that elite level is more difficult than cracking most professional sports, including the NFL.

"Every morning I get up it just gets better and better," said Vickers, who edged out veteran David Green by 14 points to win the Grand National title in November at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Vickers and his Grand National team went to Joe's Stone Crab in South Beach, Fla., after he won the title. He later went on a mini media tour in Tampa, Fla., and Orlando. Two weeks ago, he was in New York to be honored at the final Winston Cup awards banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

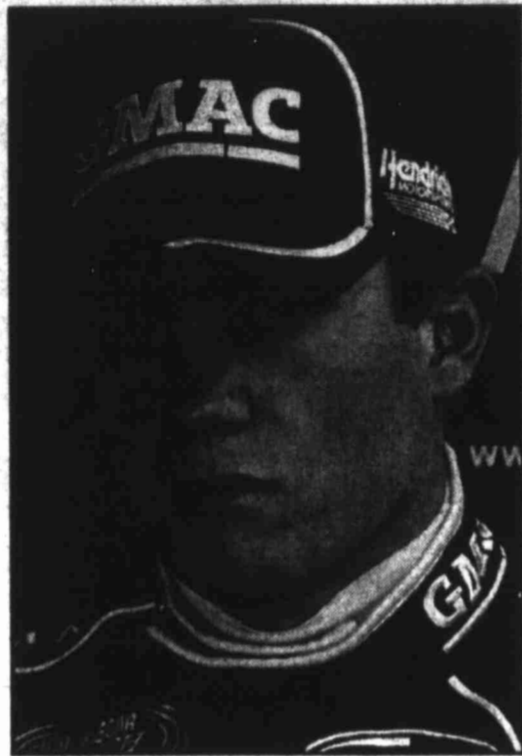
Vickers also did a magazine shoot and appeared on ESPN's new "Cold Pizza" morning show. He also has some R&R planned in Key West, Fla., where fishing will be tops on the list.

"Not physically, but mentally, you have to pinch yourself," he said.

Eye for talent

Just a little more than a year ago, he wasn't sure he even would be able to race at all. His family-owned BLV Motorsports was running out of money to fund his dream.

At the same time, Ricky Hendrick made a decision not to race anymore because of a shoulder injury. He needed a replacement for



Brian Vickers looks forward to competing in the Nextel Cup in 2004.

his Grand National team's No. 5 Chevrolet and soon became impressed by Vickers. But convincing his father, Rick, was a tough sell, despite his father having been the first to go after young talent with the jackpot signing of Jeff Gordon a decade ago.

The 23-year-old Ricky, whose longish blond locks make him look more like a surfer than a car owner, demanded Vickers get a chance.

And the rest, as Ricky puts it, has been a "fairy tale."

Not to mention lucrative. Vickers won a total of \$1,987,255 this season, which includes \$855,000 for the title.

"To be honest with you, nobody expected for him to do this well," Ricky said. "I didn't expect him to do this well, and I don't think the team expected for him to do this well. I know the sponsors didn't."

The No. 25 car was owned by Ricky Hendrick's paternal grandfather, known as Papa Joe. But Joe is letting Ricky have 50 percent ownership.

"I guess I made a good call with Brian, and so they're giving me more responsibility now,"

Fast facts

- Birthdate: Oct. 24, 1983
- Hometown: Thomasville, N.C.
- Career highlights: 2003 Grand National champion, 2002 Grand National rookie of the year, 2000 USAR Hooters ProCup rookie of the year.
- First career Winston Cup start: Oct. 11, 2003, at Lowe's Motor Speedway
- 2004 Nextel Cup team owners: Joe and Ricky Hendrick of Hendrick Motorsports
- 2004 Nextel Cup team sponsor: GMAC

Ricky said.

Big dreams

The No. 25 car is part of a four-car Cup contingent under the Hendrick banner, with four-time Cup champion Gordon, Jimmie Johnson (who finished second in points this season) and former Cup champion Terry Labonte.

"They've struggled in the No. 25 for a little while," Ricky said. "We want to try to get it going in the way it should have already been going."

Many drivers much older than Vickers have been working years to get such a ride.

"They can say that I didn't pay my dues, and compared to them, maybe I didn't," Vickers said.

"But I promise not a one of them, if given the same opportunity, they wouldn't go for it."

Vickers already has turned heads at the Cup level. With five starts, he qualified among the top four drivers four times — twice losing poles to Ryan Newman. He led laps at Homestead and had a 13th-place finish at Phoenix.

"It's going to be a big learning year next year, but my ideal year for Nextel Cup would be top 10 in points," Ricky said.

For Vickers, incredible also was getting those wisdom teeth yanked and turning 21, the legal drinking age. He said, "Then I'll be able to come back and celebrate the Grand National championship the way I was supposed to."



Ricky Hendrick



Vickers, driving the No. 5 GMAC Chevrolet, and Hendrick Motorsports Grand National series teammate Kyle Busch share a victory lap after finishing in first and second, respectively, at the Winn-Dixie 200 at Darlington Raceway in August. Vickers won the 2003 the series title with 4637 points.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

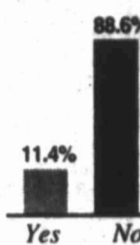
When will you start getting really excited about the 2004 season?

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LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Should NASCAR adopt the "26-10" playoff-style points system for 2004?

Number of votes: 4,599



RACIN' NOTES

Some drivers voice

opposition to proposed, 10-race playoff system

Some Nextel Cup drivers have yet to warm to the idea currently being floated of adding a playoff-type format to NASCAR's biggest series as early as next season.

"I'm all for doing things to make our sport more exciting and entertaining for our fans," said Kevin Harvick, who finished fifth in the final points standings this season. "But we have a lot of things going on next season — a new series sponsor, new gas supplier (and) tighter templates on the cars."

"In my opinion, we need to take small steps and not try to do everything at once."

NASCAR officials are seriously considering a plan that would create a 26-race "regular season" and 10-race playoff format. Only the top 10 drivers in points after 26 races would be eligible to race for the championship over the final 10 races. A decision is expected next month.

"If you take 26 races and just lock in 10 drivers, then the rest of the field might as well not show up the rest of the season," Harvick said.

"If you look at our history, 10th in points means a lot. Many seasons the race for that 10th spot has been a great race in itself. Why are you just going to throw that away?"

Harvick said he wouldn't change much about the current system.

"I think you should give the race winner an additional five points, just something to make winning the race a bonus from someone who finishes second and leads the most laps," he said.

Tony Stewart, the 2002 series champion, also supports the current system. Stewart was on vacation Monday, but a team spokesman confirmed the former champion's lack of enthusiasm for the proposed change.

Harvick also believes fans and the media naturally will focus on only the 10 drivers eligible for the title in the series' final 10 races.

"If you win a race at the end of year and your not locked in the top 10, no one is going to care," Harvick said. "A championship in this sport has always been about how you perform over the whole season — not in a seven-game series."

"If you want something like football or baseball, then go out and buy a football or baseball team."

NASCAR and Nextel Communications, which takes over as sponsor for NASCAR's Cup series in 2004, are in discussions regarding the proposed addition of a playoff format to the series, officials with the sponsor confirmed Tuesday.

In addition, Nextel was not informed of NASCAR's desire to change the current points system before its deal was signed with NASCAR. That'sRacin.com has learned.

"We are talking to NASCAR about this playoff format which we understand, if adopted, would begin next season," said Nextel spokesman Mike Mauney.

"I would add that many other NASCAR partners, sponsors and participants are also talking with NASCAR about this proposed change."



Harvick



Stewart

— Jim Utter

Proposed playoff system seems familiar to USAR ProCup fans

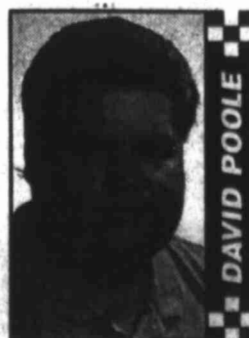
When the folks who run the USAR Hooters ProCup racing series first read about the postseason playoff plan

NASCAR is considering for its Nextel Cup series in 2004, they must have been thinking, "Hey, that sounds familiar."

Since 2001, the ProCup series has used a similar postseason format to pick its champion. The series has two divisions, Northern and Southern. Drivers who compete in at least half of a division's regular-season races and make the top 30 in points are then eligible to run for the title in a five-race championship series.

One wrinkle the ProCup series uses is to give each driver one race worth of points to begin the postseason. If you finish ninth in your division, for example, you start the title series with the number of points you'd get for ninth in one race. That means the regular season counts for one sixth of the winner's total in the championship series. The divisional winners of the Northern and Southern

regular seasons each get a 25-point bonus. Shane Huffman of Hickory, N.C., won this year's ProCup championship.



DAVID POOLE

Diversity program seeks crew member applicants

While the new Drive for Diversity program is no longer looking for driver candidates for 2004, it will accept resumes from experienced minority crew members and other qualified minority athletes through Dec. 17.

The crew members selected for the program will compete with NASCAR Truck Series teams next season. The drivers chosen from the group already assembled will race on NASCAR Dodge Weekly Series tracks in the Southeast next year.

Potential crew members should send resumes, videotapes, race results, references and other supporting materials to Drive for Diversity at Access Marketing & Communications, 201 S. Tryon St., Suite 130, PMB 254, Charlotte, N.C. 28202.

The program has scheduled a tryout event for

drivers and crew members on Jan. 5 at Hickory (N.C.) Motor Speedway.

IRL to cut horsepower

The Indy Racing League announced last week that it will cut engine horsepower to reduce its cars' speed, starting with the 2004 Indianapolis 500.

Engine displacement will drop from 3.5 liters to 3.0 liters, which should result in a 10 percent cut in power and a 10 mph reduction in speeds.

Helio Castroneves won the Indy 500 pole last year at 231.725 mph, the fastest since Arie Luyendyk's record of 236.986 mph speed in 1996, before the IRL went from turbocharged to normally aspirated engines.

Winston Cup leads other motorsports in attendance

According to The Sports Business Daily's annual attendance survey of sporting events in the United States and Canada, nearly 36 million fans attended auto racing events in 2002. Winston Cup



NASCAR Winston Cup fans accounted for 6.7 million of the nearly 36 million people who attended auto racing events in 2002.

led the way with 6.7 million fans, with the DIRT series second with 4.5 million, the WISSOTA series for late models in the Midwest was third at 3.5 million and NASCAR Dodge Weekly Series fourth at 3.2 million. The Grand National series was sixth at 2.4 million, just behind CART. The Truck series ranked 13th with 900,000 fans.

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BIG SPRING HERALD
Thursday, D

HELP WANTED
American State Bar accepting employ applications for part-time teller position. Banking experience, solid cashier background, require Must pass credit check. Apply 1411 Gr Street.

Attn: Big Spring Postal position. Clerks/cashiers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits. For exam, salary, & test information call (63) 393-3032 ext. 688. 8am-6pm 7 days

Domino's Pizza Dr. needed. Hourly mileage + tip. Competition says be commission, but can't make commis doing dishes for the down lobby. Go by 2 S. Gregg or 432-267-4111

Experience Mecha needed at Natural Gas Plant North East of Spring. Fax resume (432)399-4290 or n to: 11703 E. FM 8 Coahoma, TX 79511.

GAS PLANT OPERATOR
needed at Natural Gas Plant, NE Big Spring, 12 hr. shift. Fax resume (432)399-4290 or n to: 11703 E. FM 8 Coahoma, TX 79511.

IMMEDIATE OPENING
for clerk/cashier/ccc. Apply at 315 E. FM 700. Neighbors Convenience Store

Looking for Part-time Personal Banker/Tell Sales experience preferred but not required. Bring resume to WNB in Wal-Mart.

Typing and Computer skills a must. Telephone manners. Must answer phones and messages. Be at work on time. Send resume to c/o Big Spring Herald, PO Box 1431/221. Big Spring TX 79721

JOBS WANTED
Experienced Baby Sitter after School, Sch holidays and some weekends. Please call 432-263-0714 betwe 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND
FOUND men's watch left on top of BS Herald newspaper rack at Scurry. Call 432-263-7331 to identify.

Please return Brov Wallet taken at the Big Spring Herald parking lot. You keep the money you please return the wallet and content to the Big Spring Herald. No questions asked.

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Attn: Big Spring Postal position. Clerks/carriers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits for exam, salary, & testing information call (530) 393-3032 ext.681, 8am-6pm 7 days.

Dominos Pizza Drivers needed. Hourly + mileage + tips. Competition says better commission, but you can't make commission doing dishes for the sit down lobby. Go by 2111 S. Gregg or call 432-267-4111.

Experience Mechanic needed at Natural Gas Plant North East of Big Spring. Fax resumes, (432)399-4290 or mail to: 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511.

GAS PLANT "A" OPERATOR needed at natural gas plant, NE of Big Spring. 12 hr. shift. Fax resumes, (432)399-4290 or mail to: 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511.

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Looking for Part-time Personal Banker/Teller. Sales experienced preferred but not required. Bring resumes to WNB in Wal-Mart.

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"It Pays To Read Big Spring Herald Classifieds"

ON THE FARM

SE/4 Section 21, Blk. 33, T-2-N, T & P. Ry. Co. Survey, Howard Co. FSA Farm No. 2056. Cotton base acres 151.1. FSA yield 563 lbs. 1/4 minerals, some royalty. 160 acres, \$800/acre or \$128,000. Knott Area. Call 432-268-3110

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1100 Ridgeway - Clean 2 Bdrm., 1 bath. \$350/mo. \$250/dep. 1 yr lease. Ref. Req. No pets. 432-267-7721.

1312 Park 2 BR 1 bath. CH/A. \$350/mo. \$200 deposit. Call 432-263-3375 or 270-8665

1408 Donley Extra clean furn. 1 bdr. apt. Water & Gas paid. \$300/mo. \$150/dep. Sorry, no pets. 432-263-4922.

1514 E. Hwy 350. Large building with 3 offices & lots of storage on fenced 4 acre lot. \$650/mo. plus dep. Westex Auto Parts, Inc. 432-263-5000.

1BR, 1 bath. 1102 Sycamore. No pets. Call 432-267-3841 or 270-7309

2 & 3 BDRM Houses for Rent. CH/A. No Pets. No HUD. 432-263-5818 or 213-0820

2 bdr. 1 bath. 1524 E. 17th. CH/A. fenced backyard. \$350/mo. \$300/d. Call 432-267-4090 or 213-3864

2 Bdrm apt., Coahoma, \$375/mo. & 3 Bdrm 2 bath house, Forsan, \$375/mo. 432-394-4903

2411 Morrison 3BR, 2 bath. CH/A. Stove, refrigerator, washer & dryer, microwave. \$500/mo. \$250/dep. Call Tom, 978-869-6911

2BR, 1 bath. 1102 Lancaster. No pets. Call 432-267-3841 or 270-7309

\$300/mo. for 2 Bdrms 1401 Virginia 1310 Donley \$400/mo. for 3 Bdrms 1303 Sycamore w/2 bath

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FOR RENT: 4109 DIXON - 4 BR, 2 bath. \$500/mo. \$500 deposit. CH/A. References required. 432-267-3074 or 979-324-2072.

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3708 Dixon. Clean 3 bdr. 2 bath, CH/A, stove & refrigerator furnished, fenced yard. \$475/mo. \$200/dep. Call 432-267-1543

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805 W. 18th. 3/1/1 Good Neighborhood. \$450/Mo. \$400/dep. Call 432-264-0833 after 5:00.

Executive 3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. 2 car garage. Great location. \$850/mo. Call 432-263-2382

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

\$1,000 Total Move in Cost On each remaining 300 Block of Marijo. Reasonably good credit required. Down payment assistance and lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. No Payments till Feb. 2004. Call now 432-520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

2908 Cherokee. 2 Bedroom, garage, fenced yard. \$12,000. No Owner Finance. 432-267-6667

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For Lease or Sale: 4 bdrm 1 bath. Nicely decorated and fenced. Call 830-385-1826

For Sale: 2 story, 3,000 sq. ft. downtown office building. Would be ideal for Doctor's Office. Call 432-267-3126

For Sale by Owner Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath Updated Kitchen & bath. 1103 Sycamore Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

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Price Reduced 4 bedroom located 7 miles east at 1006 N. Moss Lake Rd. \$800. down pmt. Fantastic Buy! Call Jared Duncum, 1-800-766-1167 or 325-226-3337

Tracks of land for sale. 5 miles South of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles West of Coahoma. Owner will Finance or Texas Veterans. Call 432-263-8785.

Trucks of land for sale. To \$43,000 yr./ Free Call No Experience Necessary Now Hiring / Full Benefits 1-800-842-1622 Ext. 46

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BY JOYCE JILLSON

The Libra moon accompanies a delightful day of quality conversation, impressive ambiance and easy hookups for friendships and other partnerships.

Mercury is retrograde, so occupy yourself with thinking ahead. Whatever might go wrong needs a backup plan. Call ahead to see if your plane is on time, and keep extra supplies at home.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your creative powers are focused in such a way that you feel there's no problem you can't solve by thinking outside the box. A career change brings in more money, so start planning it now while you're inclined to think big.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Losing one battle does not mean you have lost the war. Keep trying, and you will be victorious. Regarding your personal life, well, it's not so personal now that your so-called friend has blabbed it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your industrious attitude is noticed, and you are rewarded. Your good mood makes it easier for you to forgive a relative for recent pigheaded action. He or she really needs your support.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). On hectic days like

today, keep repeating a simple affirmation like "It's all going to be OK." The psychological anticipation of problems will create more trouble than any glitch will. Tonight, ask for opinions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Stay buoyant at work, even when it feels like you and your crew are on a sinking ship. As they say, "No good deed goes unpunished," and today, you may get told off for interfering in order to save the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Nothing is wrong really, but your mood isn't as light as it could be. An objective listener is a real help. You'll wind up focusing energy outward, which is a good way to feel better. Encourage creativity in loved ones.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Temptations are plenty at work. Refuse to compromise your principles in favor of financial gain. Interesting examples of what not to do this afternoon are set in front of you. Your significant someone is not ready to give up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Usually, your gut tells you everything you need to know. But on that rare occasion like today when you're not sure what to do, seeking assistance means success rather than failure. Consult a Taurus or Cancer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). So what if it feels like you are showing off? Fulfillment

Tomorrow's Horoscope

comes from boldly stepping onto the stage of the outer world and showing what you're capable of. Financial circumstances that feel dire can be a valuable gift.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your fierce determination and cool manner sustain you. A challenging situation pops up at work. Emotionally charged issues could trigger tempers. Communication will be strained, but the new insight is worth it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Cut loose old baggage. This will free you up to make the progress you had envisioned for yourself when you were coming off the high of last week's inspirational encounter. You'll feel recharged and ready to break from routine.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your vision demands a full commitment to see it through. Information overload is a danger. Stay focused, and make sure all business agreements are in writing. Don't let an unforeseen snag keep you from your goals.

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.

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Dear Annie: I have been married to "Steven" for 23 years. We both work full time now, although we have a traditional marriage and for many years I was a stay-at-home mother. Our 21-year-old daughter lives with us.

The problem is, Steven is not happy. He puts up a good front, but he admitted 10 years ago that he never has been in love with me. We went for counseling briefly and tried marriage retreats, but we couldn't connect in a deep way.

Five years ago, Steven met a woman with whom he shared all the feelings he never had for me. I chose not to interfere with this extramarital affair because I thought it was helping Steven. When Steven wanted a divorce, however, we went for counseling again in an attempt to salvage our marriage.

Steven now says he wants to work it out, but I am convinced he is only going through the motions because he is afraid our daughter will never speak to him again if he divorces me. He's probably right. Our daughter has had problems in the past, and she is struggling to be more independent. I fear a divorce will cause her to lose respect for her father and she will never recover.

I still love Steven, but I am tired of feeling that I am not good enough for him and angry that he cannot seem to realize what a worthwhile life he has with me. Please advise me. — St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear St. Petersburg: You cannot make Steven appreciate the life he has with you, and waiting for him to come around is like beating your head against a wall. If you still want him, even though he is in love with someone else, continue with counseling. You must decide if this illusory marriage is worth maintaining for the sake of your grown daughter. It certainly isn't doing much for you or Steven.

Dear Annie: Thank you for telling "Fed Up Stepmom" not to give up. She said her 14-year-old stepson was impossible and had behavior problems at school. My stepson, "Jon," came to us at age 12, after his mother gave up on him. Jon lied, stole and worse. We put him in therapy, and I practiced tough love, reinforcing his responsibility for his actions but assuring him I would always be there for him.

Two years ago, this "son of my heart" thanked me. He believes

ANNIE'S MAILBOX:

he might be dead if I hadn't stuck it out. As hard as it is for "Stepmom," she can take a break from his problems. He must live with himself every moment. — Been There

Dear Been There: Thank you for the encouragement. Here's one more:

Dear Annie: This 14-year-old stepson could very well be suffering from a mental illness. I am the assistant director of a support group for parents of children like this. In the last five to 10 years, it has been recognized that such behavior can be a symptom of ADHD or bipolar disorder. In many cases, medication is necessary.

I strongly recommend that this boy be seen by a child and adolescent psychiatrist. (This is a medical doctor specializing in psychiatry with additional training in child and adolescent disorders.) If the family cannot afford it, they should request an IEP (Individual Education Plan) meeting with the school and ask for neuropsychological testing.

For more information on these conditions, your readers can visit bpkids.org (Child and Adolescent Bipolar Foundation), www.nami.org (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) and www.nimh.nih.gov (National Mental Health Institute). The sooner this child receives medical treatment, the better the outcome will be. — Janet Williams, POWER (Parents Offering Wisdom Enrichment and Resources), Jacksonville, Fla.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ANNIE'S MAILBOX

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

705 S. Lancaster Cheaper than a storage building! Cash Prize \$4,900, or \$500 down, \$94/mo. for 84 mos. Call 512-826-2553.

For Lease or Sale: 4 bdrm 1 bath. Nicely decorated and fenced. Call 830-385-1826

For Sale: 2 story, 3,000 sq. ft. downtown office building. Would be ideal for Doctor's Office. Call 432-267-3126

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GARAGE SALES

J Fri & Sat. Garage Sale, 1317 Wood St. 9:00-5:30. Children clothes, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: Sat. 9-7, 1726 Purdue. Christmas gifts collectibles, coins, cards, hot wheels, misc.

J Inside Sale: 1408 Virginia, Wed-Sat. 8-5. Stove, refrigerator, electric hot water heater, misc.

MISCELLANEOUS Pecans for Sale, in the hull \$1.50 lb, shelled \$5.00 lb. Call 432-263-8785

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J P's Inside Sale, 2210 Main. Fri & Sat. 10-4. Rent to own, first & last month rent down. 3BR, 1 bath. Call 432-264-9522

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Holiday Hours
The Big Spring Herald Office will be closed Thursday, December 25 for the observance of Christmas.
There will be no Christmas Day publication.
Classified advertising deadlines are adjusted as follows:
Deadlines for ads in Wednesday's paper 12:00 noon Tuesday.
Deadlines for ads in Friday's paper 12:00 Noon Wednesday
Retail advertising deadlines are adjusted as follows:
Deadline for Wednesday's paper 12:00 Noon Monday
Deadline for Friday's paper 12:00 Noon Tuesday
Deadline for Sunday's paper 12:00 Noon Wednesday.

ANNIE'S MAILBOX:



ANNIE'S MAILBOX

he might be dead if I hadn't stuck it out. As hard as it is for "Stepmom," she can take a break from his problems. He must live with himself every moment. — Been There

Dear Been There: Thank you for the encouragement. Here's one more:

Dear Annie: This 14-year-old stepson could very well be suffering from a mental illness. I am the assistant director of a support group for parents of children like this. In the last five to 10 years, it has been recognized that such behavior can be a symptom of ADHD or bipolar disorder. In many cases, medication is necessary.

THURSDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMDL (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Tulsa	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLN (12) Odessa	KOCV (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (25) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	USA (30) New York	TMC (35) Premium
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	El Manantial	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Psion de Gervantes	News Sainfield (CC)	Sainfield (CC)	Joe McGee John Hagan	News-Laher	New Detectives-Forensic	(CC)	NBA Programs	Live BET.com	Sister, Sister Lizzie McGuire	Championship College	NFL Pro Bowl Selection Show	JAG (CC)	
7	More Than a Game	Threat Matrix (CC)	Valo de Novia (CC)	The Calling (CC)	Price is Right Spectacular	Amor Descarado	Friends (CC)	Movie: Blue Streak (CC)	Updates/Israel Biblical Israel	West Tex Jm World	Water Survivors	Movie: Legal Eagles	Basketball: Mavericks at Timberwolves	9th Annual Walk of Fame: Aretha Franklin	Movie: Seventeen Again (CC)	Football: GMAC Bowl - Louisville vs. Miami-Ohio	NHL Hockey: Islanders at Rangers or Sharks at	Law & Order: Special Victims (CC)	Movie: Major Payne (CC)
8	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Yo Amara en Silencio	Furnished Game Show	CSE: Crime Scene Investig.	El Alma Herida	Will & Grace Scrubs (CC)	Light of the Southwest	From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians	From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians	Nubia: Forgotten Kingdom	25 Movie: NBA Basketball	Comicview	Sister, Sister Boy World	(CC)	Blues SportsCenter	Color of Night (CC)		
9	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday	Aquí y Ahora	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Without a Trace (CC)	La Presencia de Anita	ER (CC)	Movie: Raindeer	Charis Rose (CC)	Water Survivors	Mr. Mom (CC)	Phoenix Suns at Portland Trail Blazers	Midnight Love	Even Stevens	Wm. Volleyball (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims (CC)	Movie: Sgt. Bilko (CC)	Passionate Deceptions	
10	News Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	News Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias El Alma Herida	News Tonight Show	Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Deep Salvage (CC)	20 Movie: Legal Eagles	X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Boy World Recalls (CC)	NFL Pro Bowl Selection Show				
11	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC)	En las Mayores Familias	Becker (CC)	Late Late	Laura	Late Night (CC)	Movie: Blue Streak (CC)	Rev. J. Hansen Jesse Lee Pe.	Deep Salvage (CC)	20 Movie: Legal Eagles	X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Boy World Recalls (CC)	NFL Pro Bowl Selection Show				
12	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Angela	Blind Date	Street Smarts	Cortis-Familias	Frasier (CC)												

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WHAT DO I GET FOR BEING JUST A TINY BIT NAUGHTY..."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

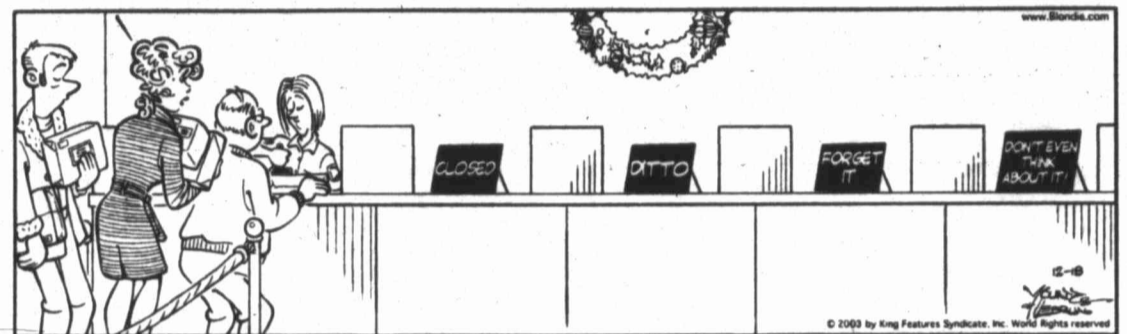


"Joseph was a carpenter, so why didn't he build a nice little crib?"

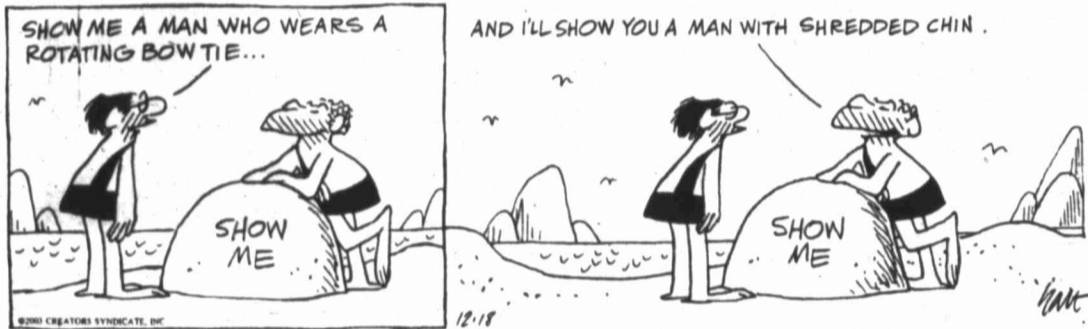
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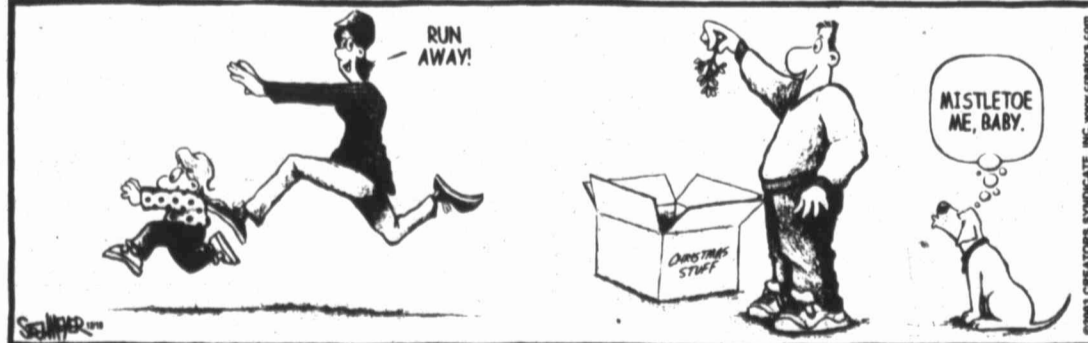
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



MR. HOUSEWIFE



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 18, the 352nd day of 2003. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1915, President Wilson, widowed the year before, married Edith Bolling Galt at her Washington home.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler signed a secret directive ordering preparations for a

Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union. (Operation Barbarossa was launched in June 1941.)

In 1944, in a pair of rulings, the Supreme Court upheld the wartime relocation of Japanese-Americans, but also said undeniably loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry could not be detained.

In 1956, Japan was admitted to the United Nations.

In 1969, Britain's Parliament abolished the death penalty for murder.

In 1971, the Reverend Jesse Jackson announced in Chicago the founding of Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).

In 1972, the United States began its heaviest bombing of North Vietnam at that time during the Vietnam War. (The bombardment ended 12 days later.)

In 1980, former Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin died at age 76.

Ten years ago: The United States and Germany pledged close cooperation to help Boris Yeltsin through

Russia's political and economic crises in a two-hour meeting in Oggersheim between Vice President Al Gore and Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ossie Davis is 86. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 76. Actor Roger Smith is 71. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 70. Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 60. Writer-director Alan Rudolph is 60. Movie producer-director Steven Spielberg is 57. Blues artist Ron Piazza is 56. Movie director Gillian Armstrong is 53.

Answer to previous puzzle

SPACE	OLGA	MBAS
PARIS	HEAP	YENS
ASCAP	GARP	BAKE
SHORT	BREATH	
EDD	ODD	
CARESS	ESAU	TIN
AREAS	ERIC	HANA
STAROP	BYN	LEM
TIGS	LACE	ELOPE
SET	RUNT	CADETS
	HEM	OLD
STICK	POPPER	
ATOM	ISSE	ISLAM
LENO	ELLS	MALTA
ITEM	SOLE	ERASE

Newsday Crossword

FOOTBALL TEAM by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Johnny Mathis tune | 1 __ Hari | 62 Navigational aid | 9 Added seasoning to |
| 6 Tupperware sound | 2 Caspian Sea country | 63 "Keep it" notation | 10 "__ Fideles" |
| 10 Circus lineup | 3 Split-off group | 64 Collar stiffener | 11 Magazine middle, maybe |
| 14 Sectors | 4 Face-slapper's words | 65 Pipe unclogger | 12 Grand __ National Park |
| 15 Big Apple tennis stadium | 5 Fashion monogram | | 13 Curling or hurling |
| 16 __-six (toss out) | 6 More despicable | | 18 "Zounds!" |
| 17 Where to buy hooks | 7 Shows to one's seat, slangily | | 23 Allies' foe |
| 19 Ecto- opposite | 8 P on a frat house | | 25 Slithery swimmer |
| 20 Pot starter | | | 27 Drainage pit |
| 21 "I'm impressed!" | | | 28 "That's clear!" |
| 22 Flock leader | | | 29 Military lockup |
| 24 Salty drops | | | 30 Stadium level |
| 26 Magnitude | | | 32 Hourglass innards |
| 27 Expressed relief, perhaps | | | 33 General __'s chicken |
| 30 Judge, at times | | | 35 Racer Luyendyk |
| 31 Bar order, with "the" | | | |
| 32 Pigs' digs | | | |
| 34 Reunion grp. | | | |
| 37 Nut center | | | |
| 38 Checked out | | | |
| 39 Needing liniment | | | |
| 40 According to | | | |
| 41 Source of blood | | | |
| 42 Kegler's headache | | | |
| 43 Be fearful of | | | |
| 45 Alaska port | | | |
| 46 Skier's run | | | |
| 48 Actress Papas | | | |
| 50 Toasting word | | | |
| 51 Born, in bios | | | |
| 52 Apollo 13 org. | | | |
| 56 Debtors' slips | | | |
| 57 Final result | | | |
| 60 Go gingery | | | |
| 61 Muddy up | | | |

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