

BIG SPRING

HERALD

At the Crossroads of West Texas

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WEEKEND EDITION

December 20-21, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

SUNDAY 71°-73° SUNDAY NIGHT 46°-47°

INSIDE



When people perform acts of kindness, it can make a huge difference in a person's life.

IN BRIEF

Herald holidays

The Herald office will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve and will open again at 7:30 a.m. Friday. There will be no Christmas Day paper. Subscribers who do not receive their Christmas Eve paper should call the Herald that evening between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Flu shots offered

The Texas Department of Health will be giving flu shots Monday and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$10 unless you have Medicare or Medicaid. Please be sure to bring Medicare/Medicaid information. The Texas Department of Health is located in the College Park Shopping Center on Birdwell Lane.

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Vol. 100, No. 31

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.

Deadline nears for candidate filing in District 31 Senate seat

Special to the HERALD

Time has almost run out for anyone who may be considering running for the State Senate's soon-to-be-vacated District 31 seat.

Monday is the last day to file with the Secretary of State's Office in Austin.

Five men have paid their filing fee to the state in hopes of replacing Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, who will step down on Jan. 12. Bivins, who has served for 15 years, announced his resignation earlier this month, citing his nomination by President Bush as ambassador to Sweden and a

desire to spend more time with this family as the reasons.

Those who have filed — all Republicans — are restaurant owner Bob Barnes of Odessa, businessman Kirk Edwards of Odessa, businessman Kel Seliger of Amarillo, busi-

See SENATE, Page 3A

County to select polling places for special election

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will be meeting Monday morning to discuss, among other things, setting the 2004 terms of the court and consolidating polling places for the upcoming special election.

"Each year we have to



WRIGHT

officially set the terms of the county court," said County Clerk Donna Wright. "It's more of a formality than anything. There are four terms of

See COUNTY, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Salvation Army Capt. Russ Keeney, with the help of Goliad Intermediate School Classics member Kristina Chang, left, and Cavaliers Tyler Tanehill and Andrew Lewis, sorts through donations for the Big Spring Herald Toy Drive. Goliad's two civic groups donated 100 toys to the drive, which officially ended Wednesday.

Big Spring physician disciplined

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Local physician Dr. Nandlal Patel recently fell under disciplinary action from the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, which placed the Big Spring doctor on probation in lieu of his medical license being suspended.

Patel, who will have to comply with the board's stringent list of orders for a five-year period, first came under fire in October for what the state deemed "failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner." He was assessed a

"What it really comes down to is the amount of time spent on medical records versus the amount of time actually spent with the patient."



Dr. Nandlal Patel

\$5,000 administrative penalty and publicly reprimanded based on his treatment of two

patients, according to board reports.

The most recent allegations came regarding Patel's care of five patients, several of whom were nursing home residents. The board alleged the patients failed to receive adequate physical exams, citing the physician for "generally providing substandard care for each of these patients," and that Patel failed to maintain adequate medical records.

"Respondent (Patel) was the responsible admitting physi-

See DOCTOR, Page 5A

Sands CISD to pursue a national fitness grant

By LYNDEL MOODY Staff Writer

ACKERLY — Sands Consolidated Independent School District trustees gave the go-ahead this week to pursue a National School Fitness Foundation (NSFF) grant proposal.

According to Superintendent Wayne Blount, the district's lawyers will need to review the paperwork before the grant can be officially approved by the board and submitted to the NSFF.

Once approved, the district will be eligible for more than \$300,000 worth of fitness equipment which will be available for use by students and

Ackerly residents.

Also, trustees directed the superintendent to pursue the feasibility of building a metal structure near the school's old gymnasium which will house the fitness equipment.

In other business, the administration will meet with the district site-based committee to discuss the teacher yearly evaluation process. In the last legislative session, the state approved changes to allow evaluations of teachers who qualify to be conducted every five years.

Blount said the site-base committee plans to review this new change

See SANDS, Page 3A

REDISTRICTING DOJ approves Republican map; fed trial continues

AUSTIN (AP) — The U.S. Department of Justice cleared a Republican-backed congressional district map Friday, just hours after a three-judge federal panel ruled that mid-decade redistricting is permissible under state law.

The DOJ evaluated the map to see if it adhered to the federal Voting Rights Act, a law that protects minority voting rights.

"It's unfortunate that the Bush Justice Department ignored the Voting Rights Act and near-unanimous opposition from minority leaders in Texas," said Gerry Hebert, a Democratic attorney challenging the map adopted by lawmakers in October. "The proposed map disenfranchises over 3.5 million Hispanics and African Americans just so Republicans can get seven more seats in Congress."

The approval comes as a federal panel in Austin hears legal challenges by Democrats to the new map, which gives the GOP as many as seven additional seats in the delegation ruled 17-15 by Democrats.

The map, if it stands, would pit new Congressman Randy Neugebauer (R-Lubbock) against longtime Congressman Charles Stenholm (D-Abilene) in District 19. Neither was available for comment Saturday morning.

"This is a critically important step but it's just one step in a multistep process," Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry said the DOJ decision "validated our efforts to draw fairer districts that reflect the voting patterns of Texas."

Republicans hold every statewide-elected post and rule both the state Senate and House.

"As the Department of Justice found, senators and representatives carried out their constitutional responsibility

See REDISTRICTING, Page 5A



Courtesy photo

U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer poses with troops from Texas while visiting Iraq this week. The congressman also toured Afghanistan, along with other members of the House Agriculture Committee. See story, Page 3A.



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Neugebauer visits Iraq, Afghanistan; expresses his gratitude toward troops

Special to the HERALD

U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer, returning Friday from a trip to Iraq and Afghanistan, said he was impressed with what he witnessed.

Neugebauer met with Presidential Envoy Ambassador Paul Bremer and U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the top commander in Iraq, who briefed the congressman on the status on the war in Iraq.

Neugebauer said he was particularly impressed with the joint forces that are working together.

"I wanted to see what is going on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan. I knew it was important for me to travel to see our troops," said Neugebauer, R-Lubbock. "All I can say is our troops' hard work is paying off."

"No one could have



NEUGEBAUER

anticipated the historic moment when coalition forces captured Saddam Hussein. I can't express enough how much gratitude we should have for our troops. I am so proud of our young men and women valiantly serving our country and this was a chance to observe them in action."

Neugebauer and the delegation escorted the coffins of two American soldiers who died in Iraq on part of their journey back home.

"It was an honor to be on board with two heroes," he said.

"It's important to remember we are still at war. We are winning though. We will restore Iraq — not like it was, but better than it was."

The trip included a visit

to Baghdad, where Neugebauer toured the Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters, a former presidential palace. He also traveled to Bagram Air Force base in Afghanistan where he met with Texas troops and civilians.

Neugebauer has kept a journal about his experiences and will share his thoughts upon his return to Texas.

"I look forward to coming back to sharing my experiences with constituents," he said.

Neugebauer traveled to the region as a member of the House Agriculture Committee. Committee Members included Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Virginia), Rep. Leonard Boswell (D-Indiana), Rep. Doug Ose (R-California), Rep. Tom Osborne (R-Nebraska) and Rep. Dennis Rehberg (R-Montana).

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

court each year, and we'll set them during Monday's meeting."

Wright said commissioners will also set the dates for next year's commissioners court meetings.

"Again, it's just a formality," she said. "We have to designate the second Monday of each month for the regular meeting of the commissioners court, and then the fourth Monday of each month for their special meeting."

"There's no changes to

the schedule this year. We've kept the same schedule for a number of years now, and we're going to keep it for the coming year as well."

Commissioners are also expected to set the polling places for the special Senate District 31 election, slated for Jan. 20, 2004.

"I'm pretty sure we'll consolidate the polls down to about five," said Wright. "It's going to be very similar to the polling places we used during the recent constitutional amendment election."

Also on the agenda for the meeting:

- Jackie Olson - County Auditor

- Invoices
- Purchase requests
- Budget amendments
- Teresa Thomas - County Treasurer
- Personnel considerations
- Phil Furquerson - Construction Administrator
- Courthouse and library renovations.

The meeting will get under way at 10 a.m. on Monday in the commissioner's courtroom, located on the second floor of the Howard County Courthouse.

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

SANDS

Continued from Page 1A

and develop a local policy.

Trustees also:

- Heard the district's 2002-2003 audit report. According to independent auditors Stones and Herm of Stanton, the district

received a clean audit.

- Retained the law firm Underwood of Amarillo.
- Hired Oscar Garza of Mexico as the school's Spanish teacher. Garza is currently teaching English at a university in Mexico.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331,

ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Mae Currie, 74, died Thursday. Graveside Services were at 2:00 PM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

SENATE

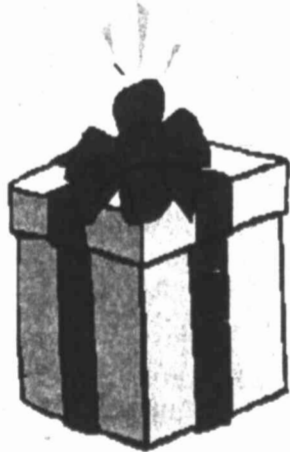
Continued from Page 1A

nessman Don Sparks of Midland and restaurant owner/attorney Jesse Quackenbush of Amarillo.

Early voting in the election begins Monday, Jan. 5, and continues through Friday, Jan. 16. Election day is Jan. 20.

Senate District 31 covers 26 counties including

Howard, Midland, Martin and Glasscock.



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*Mona Lisa Smile (PG-13)
Daily: 2:10, 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40

Love Don't Cost A Thing (PG-13)
Daily: 2:20 & 7:20

Honey (PG-13)
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HERALD photo/Marsha Allen
Poinsettias are on sale at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Proceeds from the sale go to help the Relay for Life fundraiser. Lou Vincent and Mildred Hayworth, Pink Lady volunteers will help with plant selection, which sell for \$11. Johansen's Landscape furnished the poinsettias.

DOCTOR

Continued from Page 1A

cian for the care of patients (names excluded)," the report concluded. "Some of these patients were nursing home patients. The patients were between the ages of 71 and 89.

"The board's consultant reported that respondent (Patel) failed to perform and document an adequate physical exam, failed to perform proper work-up, failed to maintain adequate medical records and generally provided substandard care to each of these patients."

As part of an agreement between Patel and the board, the Big Spring doctor will be monitored by an outside physician designated by the board, and can have his license suspended by the agency at any time for a period of five years. He has also been ordered to attend at least 20 hours of continuing medical education each year.

In response to the measures taken by the board, Patel said he sternly denies any allegations of substandard care for his

patients but admits to a record-keeping problem.

"I never admitted to any wrong doings as far as caring for my patients is concerned," he said. "I agreed to the probation because I didn't want a long, drawn out lawsuit over this.

"I plan to continue practicing medicine in Big Spring, and I'm going to be implementing a new electronic record-keeping system to help make it easier to maintain."

Patel said monitoring from the board shouldn't interfere with his care of patients and hopes to see it completed as soon as possible.

"I really don't think it's going to have an effect on us," said Patel. "Once we get all of the records and charts to them, I'm hoping this will all be over in six or seven months.

"What it really comes down to is the amount of time spent on medical records versus the amount of time actually spent with the patient. I think the new electronic system will help reduce the time it takes to document everything, giving me more time to talk with and care for my patients."

REDISTRICTING

Continued from Page 1A

this year in a fair and legal way," Perry said.

Gary Bledsoe, president of the Texas NAACP and a plaintiff in the federal trial, blasted the DOJ decision and said his group would request a formal investigation by the House Judiciary Committee or a Senate Committee to determine if there was inappropriate political interference.

"Their decision is clearly erroneous and clearly

indicates that this Department is refusing to follow the law and is engaged in rewriting the law to suit their political purposes," Bledsoe said.

Earlier in the day, attorneys for the state and Democrats wrapped up their cases before the panel in federal court. Closing arguments are set for Tuesday.

Democrats say the plan to put more Republicans in Congress illegally dilutes minority and rural voting power in Texas and is a partisan gerrymander.

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From Greg, Betty and Carolyn

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Al-Qaida provided militants with \$150,000 to carry out bombings, suspect confesses

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — A man charged with helping organize last month's suicide bombings in Istanbul has confessed that al-Qaida gave militants \$150,000 to carry out the attacks, local media reported Saturday.

Adnan Ersoz's confession, which newspapers said had been leaked by police sources, would be the first time a suspect in the attacks has admitted al-Qaida financed the bombings that killed 62 people.

Ersoz, believed to be a senior member of al-Qaida in Turkey, was charged Friday with an offense amounting to treason. Police believe he was a link between the terror

network and suicide bombers.

Ersoz told police an Iranian sent him \$50,000 by courier, and he later contacted Habib Aktas, the head of al-Qaida in Turkey, to get another \$100,000 for the attackers, the newspapers reported.

"I followed the necessary financing for attacks, which I thought would be carried out against U.S. targets," Hurriyet quoted Ersoz as telling to interrogators.

The truck bombings blew up two synagogues Nov. 15 and the British Consulate and a London-based bank in Istanbul five days later.

In court, Ersoz had denied advanced knowl-

edge of the attacks or that he had received orders from Osama bin Laden, the semiofficial Anatolia news agency reported. He did admit in court to receiving military training in Afghanistan in 1997, and said he met with bin Laden in Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2001, Anatolia reported.

Authorities had earlier said Ersoz told interrogators that he and Aktas, had met with bin Laden in Kandahar before the Sept. 11 attacks, and they had decided to attack Turkey's southern Incirlik Air Base, used by the U.S. military. But tight security apparently made them change their target.

Michael Jackson to gather with family and friends at Neverland

LOS ANGELES (AP) — More than 300 relatives and close friends of Michael Jackson are heading to his Neverland Ranch to show their support for the singer, who is facing multiple child molestation charges.

Saturday's event at the ranch, about 100 miles north of Los Angeles, is being described by a Jackson representative as a homecoming. The entertainer has been in Las Vegas and various undisclosed locations since surrendering to authorities last month and being released on \$3 million bail.

Michael's life."

A holiday gathering for Jackson family and friends could help burnish the entertainer's reputation, said Laurie Levenson, a law professor at Loyola University.

"The goal here is to look like 'The Waltons,' to make it look like he has a warm family and group of supporters," she said, referring to the 1970s TV show about a close-knit family during the Great Depression. "That helps him. But it has to be sedate. He's under a microscope right now."

With Jackson's arraignment scheduled for Jan. 16, legal experts said the pop star should try to stay out of the headlines.

publicity than he had and even then the album went straight to No. 1. Despite the allegations, despite his increasing eccentricity and despite the fact he hasn't released a decent album for 10 or 15 years, his fans are incredibly loyal."

There will be a goodly chunk of people including celebrities," spokesman Stuart Backerman said Friday, adding he did not have any names yet of famous people who might attend.

Backerman said the guest list originally included about 300 names but predicted twice that many people could show up.

Jackson was charged Thursday with seven counts of performing lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under 14 and two counts of administering an intoxicating agent.

The entertainer, who has proclaimed his innocence, is looking forward to thanking those people who have stood by him, said Brian Oxman, a lawyer and Jackson friend who planned to attend the gathering.

"It's for family and friends to say thank you from Michael to people he loves and who have supported him," Oxman said. "It's not a party. It's not a pep rally. It's not hoopla or celebration."

Initially, Jackson's relatives were to receive a tour of Neverland to see damage Jackson said was done by sheriff's deputies when they searched the estate. Oxman said the focus of the gathering has since changed.

"They wanted to do something simple and quiet," he said, "and the fact that it's mushroomed into these huge proportions is just the nature of

Jackson's plans for the coming weeks may help him do that. He is heading for England to fulfill some contractual obligations, his lawyer has said. Authorities in Santa Barbara County approved the trip.

Backerman said he doesn't know what Jackson will be doing overseas. There have been reports the self-proclaimed King of Pop will be promoting his latest CD, "Number Ones" which is selling better in the United Kingdom than it is in the United States.

"It's been amazing with Jackson, you don't realize how many loyal fans he has. He seems to have more fans these days in the U.K. than he does in the States," said Ben Todd, the deputy show business editor at The Sunday Mirror in London.

"You don't get worse

FISD changes evaluation process

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

A change in the yearly evaluation process for teachers and reviewing the district's "report card," highlighted the Forsan Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting Monday.

"We want to allow teachers the opportunity to be evaluated every other year provided they have taught in the district for three years, they exceed expectations on their evaluation, they're (State Board of Education) certified and they're teaching in a content area in which they're certified," Rotan said.

ate," he said in explaining the reason not to implement the state standard. "Instead of doing 50 evaluations of teachers every year, this will allow us to evaluate 20 or 30. Instead of rushing through 50 evaluations, we'll be able to focus more on the ones we're are doing."

There is an exception to the proposed policy.

Both teachers and principals will have the option to request by written notice an evaluation during an off year.

In other business, trustees mull over the district's "report card" during a public hearing of the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report.

"It takes our TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) scores, our attendance rate, our ACT/SAT scores...it takes various information about the district and compares them with other schools in Region 18 along with other schools in the state of Texas," Rotan said.

For those interested

who were unable to attend, a campus report will be sent home with students' next report cards on Jan. 7, along with a letter explaining how to read the report.

For more information or to view the district AEIS report, visit the Forsan ISD Web site at www.forsan.esc18.net or call the administration office at 457-2223.

In other business, trustees approved:

- The first reading of updates in local policy reflecting changes in state law.
- A \$3,000 budget amendment to reflect the change in Discipline Alternative Education service provider. In January, FISD will begin utilizing the Big Spring ISD program instead of Stanton's.
- Approved a Paraprofessional Assessment of Knowledge and Skills evaluation instrument that will allow the district to certify people to become paraprofessionals who do not meet the requirements of having two years of study at a higher education institution or an associate of arts or higher degree.



ROTAN

Holiday Greetings



Back Row: Dee Clawson, Dr. Shroff, Gracie Gonzales, Front Row: Becky Coker and Pragna Shroff.

All we want for Christmas is to thank our loyal patients for their support. We hope this holiday season brings you many blessings in the company of family and friends.

Dr. Manish Shroff & Staff
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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.

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TEXAS

Megachurch with Christmas

PLANO (AP) — The Christmas of angels appears their flock in Jesus lay in a In Preston retelling, bringing, 12-foot-long headbands and tuary filled with The angels pended from foot long tracing. Fifteen o sets control toward the star real sheep her "After Jesus that the angels giving glory to Lee, one of f Dallas Christi member church think about w I'm just think incredible it m At Christmas Fourth of Jul productions li have become Protestant "me

Riders retraced but fighting

SAN ANTONIO songwriter from retrace some native of the st the Alamo. But musician different from Texas freedom his grandson v victim of Down to raise aware ple with the ch Between nig coordinator fo Ruth Sanchez area Thursday the ride as it Texas. "It's a very, v the San Ant

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2003 Ford Focus SE Was \$16,925

2003 Ford Focus SE MSRP \$16,925

2003 Ford Mustang MSRP \$20,560

2003 Ford Taurus SE MSRP \$21,670

2003 Ford Ranger Ed Was \$12,995

2003 Ford Ranger - T Was \$13,995

2000 Ford Ranger XL Was \$9,995

2000 Nissan Frontier Was \$11,995

1999 Chevrolet S-10 Was \$9,995

1998 Dodge Dakota - Was \$8,995

1998 Nissan Frontier Was \$9,995

1998 Ford Ranger Su Was \$9,995

1997 Chevrolet S-10 Was \$9,995

2002 Dodge Ram 1500 w/20,300 miles. Was \$15,995

2002 Dodge Ram 1500 miles. Was \$21,995

2002 Ford F150 Super loaded, locally owned v Was \$24,995

2002 Ford F150 S/C X Was \$23,995

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Wildcats trample Valley Christian

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LENORAH — Trent May scored a game-high 27 points and Jason Pribyla and Brent Madison both pulled down more than 10 rebounds Friday and led the state-ranked Grady Wildcats to a convincing 76-44 win over the Valley Christian Warriors.

With the win, the Wildcats bounced back from their loss to Midland Classical on Tuesday in grand fashion. Grady shot nearly 50 percent from the field and improved to 15-1 for the year.

The Wildcats, using a stifling defensive press, took control quickly. Grady reeled off an 18-2 run in the first eight minutes.

Grady reeled off a 14-13 run in the second and took a commanding 32-15 lead into the break.

The Wildcats, who had four players score into double figures in the affair, sealed the victory with a 25-13 spree in the third.

In addition to May, Madison chipped in 18 points, while Pribyla and Nick Winford contributed 16 and 10 points, respectively.

Senior guard Westin Rhoades led all Valley Christian scorers with 10 points.



Westbrook's Allison Bray drives between two Klondike defenders for a basket Friday night. Bray scored 12 points in the the Lady Kats' 66-55 loss.

Lady Coogs' survive Lady Cats' threat, nail down 66-55 victory

By WHITNEY WELLS
Special to the Herald

KLONDIKE — The Klondike Lady Cougars survive a tough first-half charge by the Westbrook Lady Cats and rolled to a 66-55 win Friday night.

Westbrook, which had three players score into double figures, held its own on the early minutes of the game. Codee Waldrep and Allison Bray each scored almost at will in the initial 16 minutes and helped Westbrook go into the half down by one, at 31-30.

Waldrep scored eight of her team-high 18 points in the second period. Bray tallied six of her 12 points in the first half.

Klondike managed to survive the threat, however. The Lady Cougars scored 18 points in the third quarter and never looked back.

Klondike outscored Westbrook by a 35-25 margin in the final 16 minutes and claimed its second win of the year over Westbrook.

Sheen Fernandez finished the game with 13.

Grady girls unload on Valley Christian

LENORAH — The Grady Lady Cats had four players reach double-digits offensively Friday night and rolled to an 82-11 victory over the Valley Christian Lady Warriors.

Grady, which finished second at the recent Garden City tournament, dominated the first 16 minutes of the play. The Lady Cats outscored Valley by a staggering 46-2 margin in the first half.

Grady, which was led offensively by Brittany Rivas' team-high 15 points, opened the contest with a bang. They outscored the Lady Warriors by a 22-2 clip in the first quarter.

It only got worse for Valley Christian from there. The Lady Warriors saw their deficit balloon to 44 points in the third as Grady hammered out a 24-0 run.

The Lady Cats sealed the win with a 34-9 run in the second half.

Callie Harryman was Grady's second-leading scorer in the contest, tallying 14. Kelsey Tubb and Whitney Opegard added 13 and 10, respectively.

Garden City 59 Forsan 25

GARDEN CITY — The Garden City Lady Kats turned eight first-quarter turnovers by the Forsan Lady Buffs into a 59-25 victory Friday night.

Sparked by the Lady Buffs' turnovers, the Lady Cats reeled off a 19-5 outburst in the first eight minutes of the contest. Junior Megan Niehues highlighted the Lady Kats' first-quarter efforts with a trey at the horn.

Leslie Jansa sparked the Lady Kats offensively, torching the Lady Buffs

for 18 while Jessica Hoch and Niehues both hit double figures with 16 and 11 points, respectively. Jaclynn Hise paced the Lady Buffs with eight.

Greenwood 51 Big Spring JV 42

GREENWOOD — The Greenwood Rangers used a late fourth-quarter run to hold off Justin Green and the Big Spring Steers junior varsity by a 51-42 margin Friday afternoon. With the loss, the Steers slipped to 3-6 for the year.

Klondike 72 Westbrook 66

KLONDIKE — Despite having four players in double figures, the Westbrook Wildcats suffered a 72-66 setback to Klondike.

Jared Matlock led all Westbrook scorers with 18 points.

No. 4-ranked Tech clips Washington

SEATTLE (AP) — Texas Tech rallied for a narrow victory in a noisy gym against a physical, determined opponent.

Erin Grant made an 8-footer in the lane with 11 seconds to play, and Chesley Dabbs added two free throws with 1.5 seconds remaining as fourth-ranked Texas Tech escaped with a 74-70 victory Friday night over Washington.

"It's on the road," Lady Raiders coach Marsha Sharp said. "It's in a fairly hostile environment for us. Their fans did a great job of making it tough on us, and that's what we're going to see later in the Big 12."

Casey Jackson had 10 points and 16 rebounds and Cisti Greenwalt added 15 points and 11 boards. Texas Tech (10-0) closed on an 8-0 run to snap Washington's 18-game home winning streak.

"There's no doubt we battled like warriors," Huskies coach June

Daugherty said. "We played incredibly hard for 40 minutes. Our defense disrupted a very accomplished Texas Tech team. It's tough to lose the way we lost, down the stretch."

Giuliana Mendiola scored 17 of her 27 points in the second half and Andrea Lalum added 15 points for the Huskies (6-2), who nearly beat the Lady Raiders at their own game by holding Texas Tech to a season-low 36.4 percent shooting.

"Anytime you play great players and great teams, you tend to pick up your game," Mendiola said. "I'm proud of our team because we hung in there as much as we could. We showed a lot of heart."

Washington fell just short after Lalum missed a late 3-point try and Mendiola rolled off a pick but lost control of the ball in the paint. Dabbs came away with it and hit two foul shots for her only points.

Rockets release troubled forward

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets have released forward Eddie Griffin, who had been suspended since mid-October and faces an assault charge related to allegations of a fight with a woman.

"This has been very disappointing for our franchise," Rockets general manager Carroll Dawson said in announcing Griffin's release Friday. "We had high hopes for

Eddie and still feel that he has the ability to be a very good player in this league if he gets his personal issues resolved."

Griffin was suspended Oct. 16 for a series of missed practices and a skipped flight to Sacramento. That month he checked into a hospital to get help.

He was charged in November with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

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A-ROD

Continued from Page 8A

this transaction at this time." Boston asked that Rodriguez slash his contract by \$28 million to \$30 million, which the union blocked, saying it would violate the sport's labor agreement by lowering the deal's value.

The union and Boras proposed that Rodriguez lower his contract by \$12 million in exchange for the right to use the Red Sox logo and marks in marketing deals, a figure the union interpreted as closer to \$13 million once interest on deferred income was taken into

account. In addition, the shortstop would gain the right to become a free agent after the 2005 season.

Boston balked, and Selig's window closed. Proposals to trade Boston's longtime shortstop, Nomar Garciaparra, were left on hold. The Red Sox had discussed sending him to the Chicago White Sox.

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Coahoma 7th grade takes aim at perfect school year

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

Every now and then a class comes along that happens to have the winning touch.

The Coahoma Junior High School seventh graders certainly fit that mold. Through the first half of the 2003-2004 season, the Bulldogs have yet to taste defeat, winning every football and basketball game they've played.

The streak may be even older than some realize.

"Going all the way back to Pee Wee football I don't remember them losing once," said Stan Griffin, the grandfather of one of the seventh grade students. "They're all just good athletes."

This year the group — which runs the same spread offensive scheme as the Bulldog varsity — devastated its opponents on both sides of the ball. Anchored by a defense that would have made Ebenezer Scrooge look charitable, the seventh graders collected four shutouts in their eight games.

In all, the junior high Bulldogs gave up just 52 points during the season.

The CJHS seventh grade offense was just as prolific, racking up a 36 points per outing. They won every game by an average of 30 points.

Coahoma coach Dean Richters was quick to praise the entire team's work ethic.

"They're just a good group of kids," Richters said. "You can't just point at one of them and say 'he is the reason.' Defensively, it's an overall team effort. We just have a good group of kids to choose from."

"You know when all

you have to do is show up to drive the bus it makes coaching pretty easy," Richters added. "They just take to coaching real well and that makes mine and the other coaches' jobs so much easier."

Football isn't the only sport the seventh graders have taken to. The class has rattled off five straight victories to begin the basketball season.

Athletic bloodlines run deep in the class.

Take Donnie Garcia for instance. His older sister, Ruby, is the all-state catcher for the high school softball team. Then there's Cory Roberts — the younger brother of Lance Roberts, a first team all-district receiver.

"These boys have just always played together and that helps make them so special," Griffin said.

The prospects for the future look bright at Coahoma as the Division II Coahoma Bulldogs of the Crossroads Little Football League recently completed its season by winning the championship — its fourth consecutive crown.

The CJHS squad consist of Donnie Garcia, Quade Harris, Cory Roberts, Matthew Brown, P.J. Daylong, Jesus Medina, Damian Bailey, Steven Boren, Michael Reid, Nathan Gomez, Jooi Paniagua, Keagan Hunt, Harrison Chevolier, James Taylor, Cody Sheppard, Chase Clanton, Kolby Fields, Braden Griffin, and Andy Metcalf.

Richters is assisted by Robby Dickenson and Matt Gofford.

Isaac Arguello and Bobby Hodges contribute their talents during the basketball season.



Herald Photo/Bruce Schooler
A member of the Sidewinders gymnastics teams helps a budding gymnastics hopeful go through an exercise on the uneven parallel bars last week during gymnastics classes at the Big Spring YMCA. The classes, which are held on Monday and Wednesday, will begin again following the holidays.

Duncan scores 27 in Spurs' 87-73 win

SEATTLE (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs have turned things around in a big way.

Tim Duncan had 27 points and 20 rebounds, leading the Spurs to their ninth straight victory, 87-73 over the Seattle SuperSonics on Friday night.

The defending NBA champions improved their record to 18-10, including 7-7 on the road. They can tie the Los Angeles Lakers for the longest winning streak in the NBA this season with a win at Portland on Saturday night. Not bad for a team that lost four in a row prior to their current streak.

"It was a good night for us," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. Tony Parker scored 16 points and Manu Ginobili added 14 for the Spurs, who have their longest winning streak since they won 10 straight in the 2001-2002 season.

BUFFS

Continued from Page 8A

shot from inside the paint to tie the score at 38-38, the ball game at 38.

Forsan junior varsity call up Tye Baker made the most of his varsity debut from there. He drained a long jumper late in the frame to put the Buffaloes on top by two, at 40-38, to end the third.

The FHS rookie came back early in the fourth with another dose of

magic. Just 20 seconds after a Chudej basket had tied the score again, he stepped up and buried a trey from long distance to stake the Buffs to a 43-40 lead.

With the score standing at 44-43, Garden City's Chase Goodwin took over. He scored 10 points over a two-minute span and powered the Kats to a 14-1 run that enabled the GCHS fans to become involved.

Goodwin's heroics also gave the Bearkats a 57-45 advantage.

After the Chudej shot that ended the run, the Bearkats ran into a bit of trouble. Garden City was hit with the first of three technicals when officials whistled them for delaying the game by slapping the ball after a shot. The technical sent Helmstetter to the line where he dropped one of the two shots and pulled the Buffs to within 11.

Garden City was hit with its second and third technicals less than a minute later — again sending Helmstetter to the line. The FHS senior

converted three of the four attempts and sliced the Bearkats lead to eight.

The Bearkats closed the game out by hitting four of six from the line over the last minute.

Chudej took the top scoring honors by pouring in a game-high 27 points. Goodwin added 11.

Forsan had four players reach double figures, including Helmstetter with 18. Auggie Hilario added 14 while the inside tandem of Jeremy Bedwell and Johnathan Wright added 10 apiece.

By Marsha Allen
HERALD Lifestyle

When she had cancer, she was astonished.

Linda Profitt walked a few days in said.

But the simple one.

operation or d. For the past, and her husband have owned a Proffitt Day Center on Wasson Road of leaving her children was as much a factor as the surgery.

"You know was built in time became available and Dan and I. Our son was old and we started care," she said. business established. Early in the the Proffitts

Facts and tell the story

Breast cancer most frequently cancer in US with 211,300 invasive in situ cases in 2003, accounting one in every three diagnosed. It second leading death in US with 20,000 deaths in 2003.

Progress in detection and treatment of breast cancer has led to decreasing rates in most of the population 1990s; more than 97 percent of breast cancer diagnosed at local regional stages five-year survival 97 percent and respectively. breast cancer (all ages combined) about 20% higher women than American women. American women higher mortality.

Other racial groups have higher incidence rates than whites or Americans. However, proportion of diagnosed at advanced stages and with larger sizes is generally higher in minority populations.

Continued research against breast cancer requires application of existing knowledge, prevention, early and treatment advances among racial minorities and populations who have not benefited from equal advances in treatment. well as continuing into how to better detect, and treat breast cancer.

BIG SPRING AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Who We Are

The Big Spring Area Community Foundation was established in 2002 to build charitable endowments and to serve donors. The board of Trustees has adopted the following Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Big Spring Area Community Foundation is:

- to establish permanent charitable endowments.
- to provide a vehicle for donors' varied interests.
- to promote local philanthropy.
- to provide leadership and resources in addressing local challenges and opportunities without conflicting with other community or religious programs.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation is an independent public charity. All donations qualify for the maximum deduction for charitable contributions under IRS Regulations.

We are one of more than 500 community foundations across America - growing endowments to meet changing community needs and opportunities. We build a legacy of philanthropy for generations to come.

We strive to help donors create funds that reflect their charitable goals and communicate with them frequently regarding the foundation's work. Grants are made from endowment earnings to a wide variety of nonprofit organizations to enhance life in our community.

An experienced investment committee, assisted by professional and monitored by a board composed of community leaders, invests funds and carries out the wishes of the donors to the Foundation.

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Facing the enemy winning

Linda Proffitt of Big Spring overcame a life and death struggle

By Marsha Allen
HERALD Lifestyle Editor

One woman's story of her triumph over

"It feels so good to just be back with my kids again."
Linda Proffitt



When she was told she had cancer, she was astonished.

Linda Proffitt of Big Spring walked about for a few days in a daze, she said.

But the choice was a simple one. It was an operation or death.

For the past 30 years she and her husband Dan have owned and operated Proffitt Day Care Center on Wasson Road. The idea of leaving her center children was as much a stress factor as the pending surgery.

"You know this building was built in the 1940s. It became available in 1981, and Dan and I opened it. Our son was six months old and we started the day care," she said of her business establishment.

Early in their marriage the Proffitts moved to

Austin where she worked in the day care industry for Emmy Griggs Day Care, giving her valuable experience in the business.

She and Mr. Proffitt started their center in their home, starting with 19 children. They still live in the same house.

The center is licensed for 57. "That's our capacity," she said.

She went back to college and earned two child development and two business courses. "Now you have to have a bachelor's degree to run a day care center," she said.

All has been going well for the past 20 years until August, 2002 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"I was working from six in the morning until six at night," she explained. "Dan and I worked the day care every day."

She has been in cancer treatment for the past 14 months, she said.

"I had 10 months of chemo, I had three surgeries and 33 radiation treatments", she said.

Her husband has helped her tremendously, she said. "He's been right there with me every step of the way".

They have been married 33 years. "He actually took care of me and was my nurse, and was right by my side for the past 14 months", Proffitt said. "He literally nursed me back to health".

Now, to get caught up financially, Mr. Proffitt has taken a full time job with another Big Spring company.

Slowly, as energy and health allows, she has returned to the center to work with "her kids," she said. She speaks of them as if they were her own children.

"I will come back full time as soon as I can,"

she said. "Right now, I can only go for about four hours a day until I get tired".

She has only been back to the center working for three weeks.

"I'm trying each day. I'm all through with my treatments. My bone scan came back clear and they're saying I'm cancer free", she said.

She continues to take medication, and that will continue for quite some time.

"I will be on a cancer drug for five years, and, if there are no cancer cells at the end of five years, then I get off that medication and really be cancer free—a survivor".

Her three surgeries included a lump ectomy, which involved removing a lump in a breast.

The second surgery included two treatments under an arm. "Out of 27 lymph nodes, three had the cancer", she said.

Then she had two more chemo treatments. "It's the very strong chemo therapy which causes you to lose your hair", she

said. "I lost every bit of it. I had long, blonde hair that I wore in a pony tail. That's how the kids identified with me".

While preparing for radiation after her second surgery, another mammogram was taken and a calcification node was discovered. A biopsy was done, and "the cancer had already come back", she said.

Her third surgery was June 18 this year, a left mastectomy.

"I had 13 weeks of chemo after that; every day for 13 weeks. Just as soon as we got through with that I had 33 more radiation treatments", she said. These treatments were taken at the Allison Treatment Center in Midland.

Throughout the treatment ordeal Proffitt lost weight and lost her appetite.

"I had some very low, low days. I mean there were days that, well, I had never been down like that. I had never been bed-ridden. It was a very sad day for me".

Her outlook on life began to deteriorate drastically, she said. There were days when she just couldn't see any future. "They would have me waiting three weeks sometimes to let me know what was going on. It was in the summer when doctors are on vacation. And I had to wait three weeks one time to see if the cancer had come back, and it had".

Physicians wanted to perform another lumpectomy. "And that's when I decided for another mastectomy".

Within the past few weeks no cancer has been reported as evident from the monitoring she receives by her doctor.

"I've always been a strong Christian", she said. "The Lord really helped me. There were days when I would just lie in bed and talk to him, one on one, and he pulled me up and got me back on my feet.

"There were so many days I felt so bad, just laying on my bed, bald-headed, and I just felt so lone-

ly.

"My husband has told me that I'm just as beautiful as I ever was. I have to put corn starch under my arms because the friction where the surgery was bothers me. He said he looked up and he said he saw the corn starch glistening on me in the TV light and he told me I just looked so beautiful just standing there. You know, that's love".

With the support of her faith and her family and friends Proffitt has faced the enemy of cancer and won.

Breast cancer myths

MYTH: Finding a lump in your breast means you have breast cancer.

TRUTH: Eight out of 10 lumps are benign, or not cancerous. If you discover a persistent lump in your breast or any changes in breast tissue, it is very important that you see a physician immediately. Take charge of your own health by monthly self-exams, regular visits to the doctor, and regularly scheduled mammograms.

MYTH: A mammogram can cause breast cancer to spread.

TRUTH: An x-ray of the breast is called a mammogram. The x-ray and the pressure on the breast from the x-ray machine cannot cause cancer to spread. Do not let tales of other people's experiences keep you from having a mammogram. Base your decision on your physician's recommendation and ask the physician any questions you may have about the mammogram.

MYTH: Having a family history of breast cancer means you will get breast cancer.

TRUTH: While women who have a family history of breast cancer are in a higher risk group, most women who have breast cancer have no family history. If you have a mother, daughter, sister, or grandmother who had breast cancer, you should have a mammogram five years before the age of their diagnosis.

Information from the American Cancer Society.



Linda Proffitt tells a story to a group of her day care center students. Although still wobbly on her feet from cancer surgery and treatments, Mrs. Proffitt is glad to be back with her children at the Proffitt Day Care Center she and her husband Dan own and operate.

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► Births

Logan Tyler Rios

Logan Tyler Rios, boy, born Nov. 14, 2003, at 2:43 p.m. weighing 6 pounds 15 1/2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. His parents are Salome A. Rios and Magdalene A. Lopez of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Alva and Andres Lopez of Rocksprings and Mary Jane and Ben Licon of Big Spring.

John Andrew Solis Jr.

John Andrew Solis Jr., boy, born Nov. 27, 2003 at 7:28 a.m. weighing 4 pounds 15 ounces and was 18 3/4 inches long. His parents are John Solis and Stacey Lozano of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Joe and Irma Lozano of Big Spring and Tammy Solis of Plano.

Richard Alexander Herrera Jr.

Richard Alexander Herrera Jr., boy, born Nov. 19, 2003, at 0035 weighing 6 pounds, 13.7 ounces and was 19 inches long. His parents are

Richard and Latisha Herrera of Big Spring.

Neasa Taylor Nichole Slate

Neasa Taylor Nichole Slate, girl, born Nov. 25, 2003 at 3:29 a.m. weighing 7 pounds 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. Her parents are Mark and Ruth Slate.

Her grandparents are Edward and Jean Slate and Virginia Oliver all of Big Spring.

Aryan James Holmes

Aryan James Holmes, boy, born Nov. 25, 2003, at 4:56 weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. His mother is Chelsea Richardson of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Lana Richardson, Kay Dillinger and Craig Richardson all of Big Spring.

Antonio Garza Jr.

Antonio Garza Jr., boy, born Nov. 26, 2003 at 12:20 weighing 6 pounds, 1 ounce and was 18 inches long. His parents are

Antonio Garza and Teresa Zurate.

His grandparents are Margarita Garza and Emilio Garza, both of Coahoma.

Felipe John Shober

Felipe John Shober, boy, born Nov. 30, 2003, at 6:46 a.m. weighing 7 pounds 10 1/2 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. His parents are Cindi Herrera and John Shober of Big Spring. His grandparents are Susan Herrera and Dolly Shober

Roman Alexander Perez

Roman Alexander Perez, boy, born Dec. 2, 2003, at 3:54 p.m. weighing 8 pounds 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. His parents are Ariel Perez and Dianna Sosa of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Selestino and Maria Hernandez of Big Spring and Baltazar and Irma Perez of Eagle Pass.

Births submitted by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.



HERALD photo/Marsha Allen
Bus drivers of the Big Spring Independent School District were busy recently with their sale table in the Big Spring Mall. Funds from their sale of tasty sweets went to benefit Relay for Life. Gathering to work the sale were Juana Osborn, Beverly Norman, Georgia Torres, Angel Sosa and Tish Baucham. Last Saturday they held a bake sale throughout the day until all the sweet goodies were gone.

A surprise surrey-style Christmas sleigh ride to cherish

It was a Christmas to remember and cherish.



SEASONINGS
MARSHA ALLEN

That Christmas Eve we headed for his hometown to spend a few days with his parents.

Military leave was only to last a couple of days, so planning anything grand seemed to be out of the question.

But then, Marines are efficiently genius at innovating and adapting.

His parents had waited for tree decorating until their Marine son and his Marine female friend arrived for the holiday. The two had driven from Washington, D.C., to Pennsylvania in a driving snow.

On Christmas Eve morning his home was filled with familiar aromas of the season, such as apple cider with cinnamon steaming on the stove. The turkey had begun its journey toward being the main focus of the Christmas feast.

With a short brunch completed, everyone scrambled to put on warm duds for a walk in the snow. A soft flurry of white flakes continued to float from heaven to their eventual landing on the ground.

A cup of cappuccino

coffee was served to his female guest as she nestled in front of the warmth of a fire in a huge stone fireplace. She sensed something was about to occur.

Conversation around the fireplace included family news and current events. The Vietnam War was still speculating.

Soon the sound of bells could be heard in the distance. The jingle sounds came closer and closer, and suddenly the sounds stopped in front of the house.

Escorting his female friend to the front threshold the heavy oak door was opened to the sight of a beautiful surrey-style sleigh parked in front of the house.

Harnessed to the green and brown colored sleigh was an elegant chestnut-colored horse handled by a man so heavily clad with layered clothing only his nose and eyes were visible.

The two donned coat, mittens and hat and glided through the knee-deep snow to the sleigh.

The surrey ride had been arranged by he and his parents as a Christmas gift for his female friend.

A blanket was thrown over their legs as the two nestled into the sleigh's seat. With a gentle "giddy-up," from the man, his magnificent

chestnut pranced through the snow, its hooves flicking up crystal white snow with silent grace.

Although the ride lasted only a few blocks it was endearingly romantic. The two held each other's mittened hands, listening to the bells hung all around the surrey and dangling from the horse's harness.

Too soon the man ushered his equine charge to a stop in front of the house. The horse's breathing steamed into the mid-morning air.

The two Marines were assisted from the sleigh by the man as he uttered with a smile a wish of "Merry Christmas!" They reciprocated with, "and a happy holiday to you, too, sir."

On a resplendent snowy Christmas Eve it had been a charming, surprise surrey-style sleigh ride.

Observe Christmas Eve with a candlelight service

Enjoy the celebration of the season with a candlelight service at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve with First Christian Church congregation.

For the Eve's observance worship the reason for the season with the reading of the Christmas story and Communion.

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TUESDAY—Chicken fried steak, potatoes, broccoli and cheese, fruit-ed gelatin, milk, rolls, pie.

WEDNESDAY—Spaghetti and meat sauce, mixed vegetables, salad, milk, cobbler.

THURSDAY—Merry Christmas.

FRIDAY—Closed for Christmas.
Schools are out for Christmas holidays.

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Video

Always on popular gifts video games mesmerizing many a Christmas Texas A&M professor says be negative that view pushing and

With more annually on (at least \$7 year) than r (about \$5 b video games a fixture in replacing th

Elderly is good for the

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through he U Oslo School o Norway. Study p were random to two groups given Sambud spoon, and t placebo four t for five days. cant side eff reported.

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Special

Video games: good or bad effects?

Always one of the most popular gifts for children, video games will cast a mesmerizing spell on many a child this Christmas Day, but a Texas A&M University professor says there can be negative aspects of all that viewing, button pushing and clicking.

With more money spent annually on video games (at least \$7 billion per year) than movie tickets (about \$5 billion sold), video games have become a fixture in the culture, replacing the ball and

"Students with a high degree of spatial visualization are usually high achievers in math and science," Steve Dorman, professor of health and kinesiology, University of Florida

glove as the leisure time activity of choice for many children.

Steve Dorman, professor of health and kinesiology, along with colleagues at the University of Florida, examined kids and video games and concluded that some kids can become dangerously close to being addicted to them, can be affected by them mentally and can even suffer physical ailments requiring medical treatment.

"We wanted to look at the health effects of video and computer games on kids, to see if there were some serious drawbacks to the tremendous amount of time spent using them," Dorman explains.

"The answer is yes, there are some not-so-good things about video games that can affect kids."

One problem is seizures.

Video games can induce seizures in some children. The flashing of lights and the photosensitivity of the images from the screen can trigger a seizure-like occurrence, and more than 50 such cases have been documented.

"They may provoke a seizure more often than watching a television program because of the way the images are projected on the screen, plus children sit closer to a video screen than they do to a television set," Dorman explains.

Treatment for such seizures requires avoidance of the video games or anticonvulsant drugs, he says.

"Physicians have a term for a seizure caused by video games. They refer to it as 'dark warrior epilepsy,'" adds Dorman.

Many video games require repeated clicking and pressing of buttons on a control monitor, adds Dorman.

This can lead to an injury called nintendinitis and occurs when there is severe pain in the tendon of the thumb.

"Again, the only cure is to abstain from playing video games for several days," says Dorman.

Aggression levels of kids playing video games has been a debated topic, Dorman adds.

"Playing a video game seems to lead children to exhibit behaviors similar to those portrayed in the game," he notes.

"Violent video games may arouse children in the same way as violent television cartoons. We need further research in this area, but studies show that children tend to model what they experience in video games."

Dorman says there are some positive results from video games.

Video games can enhance certain skills in a child.

For example, he cites "spatial visualization" - the ability to rotate mentally and twist two and three-dimensional objects can improve in children by playing video games.

"Students with a high degree of spatial visualization are usually high achievers in math and science," he points out.

Occupations which require mechanical tasks or machinery operation also demand high spatial visualization skills, he says.

But one drawback to video games is their affect on how kids learn. Dorman says some evidence exists that kids who view video games want all learning to take a "gaming" approach. In other words, it must be fun.

"It has given rise to 'edutainment' media," Dorman says. "It is software that resembles video-game type learning materials."

"Video games are not going away," he adds.

"They are here to stay. We should pay attention to the content of these games and their effects on children. It is important for health promoters to understand how this technology can be used to improve health."

Using these games may provide a way to improve health in children and adults who live in an increasing 'technologically-based society.'

Growing Up is a service of Texas A&M University. For more information, contact Ryan Garcia at 979-845-4680 or e-mail the university at rag@univrel.tamu.edu.

Exhibit displays cubed sculpture

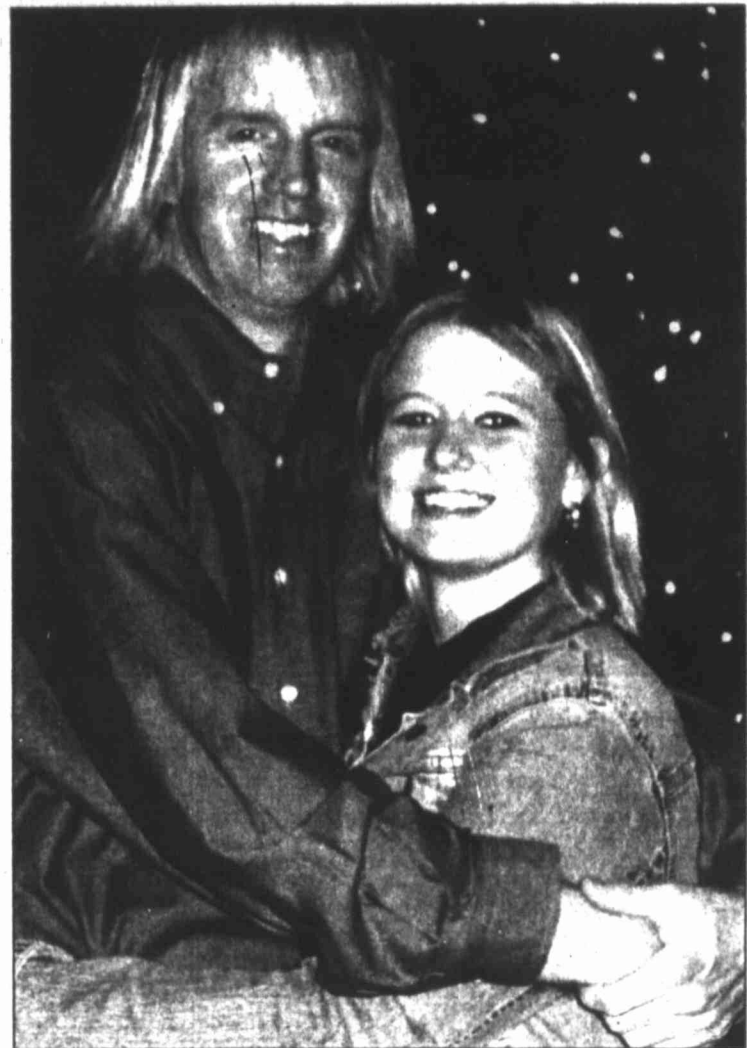
The Ellen Noel Art Museum will be exhibiting the works of Mark Wade, a nature display.

The exhibition opens Jan. 8, 2004 and runs through Feb. 29. Wade creates three-dimensional walled sculptures that often are cubed or box shaped.

A community reception will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22. Artists will talk about works beginning at 7:15 p.m. and visiting artists, Melinda Hall and Travis Erion will speak.

The museum is located at 4909 E. University Blvd. in Odessa. Call 432-550-9696, or e-mail michael@noelartmuseum.org.

Engagement



Kodi Walker and Michael Dixon

Walker and Dixon

Kodi Kai Walker of Midland and Michael Lee Dixon of Midland will be married at 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 17 in the First Baptist Church of Big Spring.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Lisa and Reggie McCullum of Midland and Doby and Kasi Walker of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of Ed and Judy Shrum, Autry and Martha Moore and Royce and Linda Walker of Big Spring.

The prospective groom is the son of Arnold and Velma Dixon of San Antonio.

Elderberry is good for the flu

Sambucol, an all-natural, proprietary black elderberry extract, reduces symptoms and shortens duration of flu types A, B, finds a clinical study accepted for publication in The Journal of International Medical Research.

On average, flu patients given Sambucol recovered in 3.1 days compared to 7.1 days for those given placebo.

Fifty-four patients with verified type A flu and six with type B, 29 females/31 males aged 18 to 54 years, were enrolled in the double-blind, placebo-controlled study conducted through the University of Oslo School of Medicine, Norway.

Study participants were randomly assigned to two groups, with one given Sambucol, one teaspoon, and the other placebo four times a day for five days. No significant side effects were reported.

A previous study published by the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine found that nearly 90 percent of flu patients given Sambucol were completely free of symptoms within two to three days, as compared to at least six days with placebo.

These clinical studies confirm the effectiveness of Sambucol black elderberry extract in shortening the duration and reducing the severity of flu. Black elderberry has not, however, been tested as a flu preventative, nor is it intended as a substitute for flu vaccine.

Available in formulas for children and adults, Sambucol is sold in health and nutrition stores nationwide.

The diet supplement is classified as a dietary supplement rather than a drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the prevention, cure or treatment of the flu.

It is not intended as a substitute for flu vaccine, which is advisable for children and adults, especially those over the age of 50, or with a compromised immune function.

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State hospital names top employees

Award winners selected by committee of past recipients

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the HERALD
Big Spring State Hospital employees Betty Krager, Dr. John Pichitino, Claudia Polyniak, Barbara Ann Russell and Debbie Vernon were named the hospital's top employees for 2003 during the facility's 34th Annual Awards Program Wednesday.

This year's awards ceremony was dedicated to all the employees who have worked with the hospital's youth during the past 50 years when the hospital admitted its first adolescent patient.

Hospital CEO Ed Moughon presented the commendation awards to Krager, who serves as administrative assistant to the chief executive nurse; Pichitino, director of psychology; Polyniak, accountant; Russell, a Mental Health Mental Retardation services assistant; and Vernon, transcription services clerk.

Commendation award winners were selected by a committee of past recipients, who looked at the nominees' contributions to the hospital, their enthusiasm and their dedication to serving people with psychiatric illnesses.

Former Big Spring VA Medical Center Director Cary Brown and VISN 18 were named as Friends of



KRUGER POLYNIAK RUSSELL VERNON

the Hospital. The Friend of the Hospital award is given to a person or an organization, which has made significant contributions to the facility.

Brown retired from the VA Nov. 3 after 34 years of service with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and was instrumental in reaching an agreement with Moughon to provide psychiatric services to veterans through VISN 18. Veterans from West Texas, New Mexico and Arizona are admitted to Big Spring State Hospital with a formal referral from one of the seven VA Hospitals in VISN 18.

Big Spring State Hospital Assistant CEO Jok Simons and Director of Human Resources Dennis Warrington presented Employee Service Awards to 5-, 10-, 15-, 20-, 25- and 30-year employees. Brenda Larson, a pharmacy technician was awarded a 30-year plaque.

General Medical Services Nurse Program Administrator Caren

Greathouse, MHMR Services Supervisor Danny Sherman, and Chief Executive Nurse Stormy Ward, MSN, BSN, RNC, were given 25-year pins.

Special Annual Awards were given to Ruby O'Neill, Social Worker of the Year; Ronel Sulatan, RN, RN of the Year; Carol Pate, LVN, LVN of the Year; Max Hernandez, Psychiatric Aide of the Year; and Carlla McCullough, ATD Employee of the Year.

Special recognition was given to state hospital employees who serve in the U.S. Armed Services and their families following employee Claudette Forward's singing of the National Anthem.

In an emotional part of the ceremony, Big Spring State Hospital Chaplain Rick Foster remembered three employees who died during the past year and presented family members with a certificate and a framed flag. Remembered

See AWARDS, Page 5B

SERVICE AWARDS

Five years: Paul Aguilar, Sheila Barber, Mary Barraza, Linda Charmain Beall, Lorrie Beaty, Yvette Calderon, Armanda Carrisalez, Francesca Cerna, Albert Prestoñ Daylong, Beatrice DeLeon, Alex Escanuela, Rachel Everett, Rachel Garza, Thomas Micheal Gay, Chris Gonzales, Brenda Kemper, Patricia Lopez, Joe Maholly, Eugene Marquez, Paul Mize, Elena Paiz, Iva Carol Pate, Jessica Payen, Maria S. Rodriguez, Paul Schlipf, Mark Spaeth, Jimmie Stiehl, Charlie Turner, Robin Waddil, Janie Wallace, Michelle Werner, Zoe Wilson, Shelia Woodruff, Joe Yanez.

Ten Years: Viola Cooper, Melanie Gordon-Sheets, Mary Guzman, Elizabeth Musgrove, Rita Powell, Shelli Ramirez, Robin Riha, Charlene Rushin, Maria Saracho, Nita Taylor, Alma Yanez.

Fifteen Years: Maria Bristo, Darrell Cooper, Anna Evans, Gloria Feddersen, Manuel Guerra, Cheyenne Harrison, Darlene Hildebrand, Joshua Leib, Ed Moughon, Helen Richardson, Julius Ryals, Elisa Silva, Bobbie Waltenbaugh, Judy West, Rosemary West, Pamela White, Dolly Woodard, Carol Wright.

Twenty Years: James (Jay) Colvin, Rénald Matteson, Linda Roberts, David Simpson, Mary Watkins.

Twenty-Five Years: Caren Greathouse, Danny Sherman, Stormy Ward.

Thirty Years: Brenda Larson.



Quail in their natural habitat. Ranchers hope to benefit from the Texas Quail Index.

Texas Quail Index: Concho County rancher believes he'll see benefit

PAINT ROCK — What's a quail worth? Ben Sims, longtime Concho County ranchman, figures his wild quail crop last year netted him \$16 a bird. He's seen times when a good lamb didn't bring that much.



TOMMY YEATER
EXTENSION AGENT

Sims is among a growing number of traditional ranchers who have begun pricking an ear toward wildlife-related enterprises. During the past several years, drought and a tough livestock trade have forced many producers to seek out other income.

Recent general rains across much of the state and the current bullish livestock trade have eased the situation somewhat, but seasoned ranchers know dry weather and sluggish markets will return. They're fast finding though that those factors have little impact on the hunting dollar.

But to have a successful hunting enterprise, there must be plenty of game and wild quail populations are often hard to maintain, according to Dr. Dale Rollins, Texas Cooperative Extension wildlife specialist and author of the "Texas Quail Index." The Index is a five-year project designed to monitor quail happenings on a particular ranch. The project is now being implemented in 35 counties across Texas' "quail belt." Extension agents and landowners cooperate to implement the program.

"I see the Texas Quail Index as an opportunity for someone like Ben to inventory his breeding stock of quail and to relate his quail abundance to land use and environmental factors," said Rollins. "He can then measure incrementally throughout the summer factors such as nesting success that we hope will predict the quail abundance come December. Over the course of the study, he'll be better suited to man-

See QUAIL, Page 5B

Big Spring native Vela selected SSA deputy regional commissioner

Special to the HERALD

Big Spring native Edward H. Vela has been promoted to deputy regional commissioner of the Social Security Administration for the Dallas region.

In his new position, Vela — who began his career in 1985 as a claims representative in Big Spring after being recruited by Reynaldo Abelar Sr. — will oversee all of the SSA offices in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico.

Vela has held many positions in the Dallas and Denver Social Security Administration regions, including field representative, operations supervisor, branch manager, assistant district manager and district manager.

He served as the Teleservice Center director for the Dallas region for two years, overseeing four facilities ranging in size from 25 to 600 employees. He also worked briefly as a disability program administrator in the Dallas region and as director in the

division of operation and customer service.

Prior to his current promotion, he was the area director for Area I of the SSA for the Dallas region. Area I includes 32 field offices in Arkansas and most of Oklahoma.

Vela graduated from Angelo State University with a bachelor's degree in management. He studied leadership at the University of California at Los Angeles and was selected to participate in the advanced leadership development program sponsored by the Social Security Administration in 2001.

He and his wife of 20 years, Elizabeth Cevallos Vela, are both natives of Big Spring. They have four sons, Edward Allen, 19; Aaron Michael, 17; Austin Marcel, 12; and Alec Lorenzo, 8. Vela is the son of Frank M. and Jane Vela. His siblings, all of Big Spring, are Robert Vela, Adam Vela, Lucy Morelion and Linda Gonzales.



Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Big Spring Ambassadors representatives gather for a ribbon cutting at Edward Jones, 410 E. FM 700. Edward Jones representative Chad Lyons is cutting the ribbon. Also pictured are Ambassador Clarence Hartfield Jr., chamber executive director Debbye ValVerde, Ambassador Raul Marquez, Edward Jones' client Jerry Jones, Debra Kuykendall of Edward Jones, Ambassador Barbara Brumley, Fran Roberts and Carla Gross, both of the Texas Workforce Network, and Ambassador Katie Grimes.

Record industry cannot subpoena providers

By TED BRIDIS

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court on Friday rejected efforts by the recording industry to compel the nation's Internet providers to turn over names of subscribers suspected of illegally swapping music online.

The ruling from a three-judge panel from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia was a dramatic setback for the industry's controversial anti-piracy campaign. It overturned the trial judge's decision to enforce a type of copyright subpoena from a law that predates the music downloading trend.

The appeals court said the 1998 law doesn't cover the popular file-sharing networks currently used by tens of millions of Americans to

The appeals ruling throws into question at least 382 civil lawsuits the recording industry filed since it announced its legal campaign nearly six months ago.

download songs.

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act "betrays no awareness whatsoever that Internet users might be able directly to exchange files containing copyrighted works," the court wrote.

The appeals judges said they sympathized with the recording industry, noting that "stakes are large." But the judges said it was not the role of courts to rewrite the 1998 copyright law, "no matter how

damaging that development has been to the music industry or threatens being to the motion picture and software industries."

The appeals ruling throws into question at least 382 civil lawsuits the recording industry filed since it announced its legal campaign nearly six months ago.

U.S. District Judge John D. Bates had approved use of the subpoenas, forcing Verizon Communications Inc. to turn over names and addresses for at least four Internet subscribers. Since then, Verizon has identified dozens of its other subscribers to music industry lawyers.

The appeals court said one of the arguments by the Recording Industry Association of America

See RULING, Page 5B

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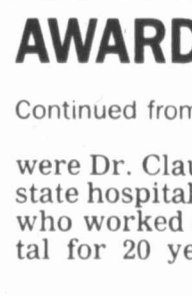
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DAILIES SATCHEL
ALTAR CITY HATE
NIECE AREA TZO
GAMED BARK LENA

Let Classified Work for You!
Call 263-7331 Today!

RN/LVN & CMA POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

RN's
12 Hour Shifts w/3 day weekends off every other weekend.
Starting Salary \$25.00 an hour (Full-time 6:00 pm - 6:00 am) (Part-Time Weekends 6:00 am - 6:00 pm)

LVN's
2:00 - 10:00 pm shifts
Starting Salary \$16.00 an hour

CMA's
2:00 - 10:00 pm shift
Starting Salary \$10.00 an hour

Competitive Wages - Health Insurance & Benefits.
Contact Human Resources Dept. Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez
Texas State Veterans Home
1809 N. Hwy. 87
Big Spring, Tx 79720
(432) 268-8387
(432) 268-1987 fax
Equal Opportunity Employer

Looking for a job that provides meaningful work and competitive compensation? Consider a position in a State Farm Agent's office.

Insurance Staff Position

This employment opportunity is with a State Farm agent, not with State Farm Insurance Companies and requires the successful completion of licensing requirements to sell and service State Farm products.

Please come by our office to complete an application.

Wesley Beauchamp
1309 Gregg Street
Big Spring, TX 79720

Barcelona Apartments
Call For Move-In Specials
All Bills Paid
530 Westover Rd. 263-1252

1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Rent Based on Income
NORTHCREST APARTMENTS
1002 North Main
Big Spring, TX (432) 267-5191

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carpets,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
•Swimming Pool
•Private Patios
•Carpets
•Appliances
•Most Utilities Paid
•Senior Citizens Discount
•1 & 2 Bedroom
Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
800 W. Marcy Drive
263-5555 263-5000

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES
Homes With Alarm Systems
2 - 3 - 4 - 5, Even 6 Bedrooms Available
Rent - Rent-to-Own or Buy With Owner Financing
Swimming Pool - Basketball & Volleyball Courts
24 Hour Emergency Maintenance
2501 Fairchild Phone 263-3461

Get Your Holiday Bonus
SELL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

By advertising your no-longer-used items in the classifieds, you'll have extra cash to do your own holiday shopping.

Holiday Special
10 Lines 7 Days
HALF PRICE
NOW ONLY \$30⁰⁰
PRIVATE PARTY ADS ONLY. NO REFUNDS
OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/03

The Big Spring Herald
710 Scurry • 263-7331

NOW HIRING

The Big Spring Herald has the following carrier routes open:
Route 385
All or parts of E. 16th, Baylor, Birdwell Lane, Colby, Fisher, FM 700, Grafa, E. Marcy Dr., Monmouth, Phillips Rd., Robb Dr., and Virginia Ave.

Contact Angie at
BIG SPRING HERALD
710 Scurry (432) 263-7331

Ponderosa Apartments
A Nice Place For Nice People
•All Utilities Paid
•One Bedroom - 820 sq. ft.
•Two Bedroom One Bath - 1080 sq. ft.
•Two Bedroom Two Bath - 1280 sq. ft.
•Three Bedroom Two Bath - 1800 sq. ft.
Furnished & Unfurnished
1425 E. 6th • 263-6319

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN Week of December 21, 2003

ADOPTION
Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? We can help. We specialize in matching families with birthmothers nationwide. Toll Free 24 hours a day, 1-866-921-0565. One True Gift Adoptions.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
1-800-VENDING, 90 MACHINES. \$8,670. The best locations. 1-800-836-3464, 24 hours.

DRIVERS WANTED
DRIVERS AND OWNER/OPERATORS... MORE CASH! NEW YEAR, NEW PAY! Sign on bonus. Van, flatbed, autohaul and heavy haul. CDL training available. Swift Transportation card, home weekends by choice. 1-866-333-8801, weekly settlements and direct deposit! www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com

DRIVERS-AVERAGE \$40,000 a year! No hazmat! Dry vans or dry bulk pneumatics. Mainly Midwest. Respect! 2 years OTR, Class CDL/A, Tiona Truck Line. 1-800-821-3046, Ext. 1124.

DRIVERS/CDL/A - A NEW DRIVER Program! Flatbed and van drivers, 1 year T/T exp. E-W. Wylie, 1-866-357-2446 or rience. \$50,000 yearly poten-1-817-834-1431.

DRIVER COMPANY AND OWNER/OPERATORS REGIONAL-HOME WEEKLY. difference. In the Texas Army Pay for experience up to .31 National Guard you can get cents/mile company. \$1.00/mile money for college and career Owner/Operators. Arnold Trans-training. Call 1-800-454-2887.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
JOIN OUR TEAM and make a difference. In the Texas Army Pay for experience up to .31 National Guard you can get cents/mile company. \$1.00/mile money for college and career Owner/Operators. Arnold Trans-training. Call 1-800-454-2887.

FINANCIAL SERVICES
NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS 140 acres only \$49,900 (adjacent to national forest). Beautiful land, abundant wildlife, great setting. Year round maintained road. Excellent financing! Call 1-866-350-5263.

TROPHY WHITELAIT 100 acres - \$39,900 (5 deer limit) First class Texas whitetail area. This 100 acres is an ideal habitat. Tree covered hills and draws. Private, but with good access. You'll love it! Will finance. Call Texas Land & Ranches, 1-866-899-5263.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FREE DVD player while supplies last with purchase of Wolff Tanning Bed. Payments from \$25/month. FREE color catalog. 1-888-839-5160.

FREE 3-ROOM DIRECTV SYSTEMS including installation! FREE 3 MONTHS HBO (7 movie channels) with subscription. Access 225+ TV channels. Digital quality picture/sound. Limited Offer/Restrictions apply. 1-800-264-3458.

PET SUPPLIES
ALL NEW HAPPY JACK ProDog(R) and ProPup(R) dewormer. Chewable, flavored. Convenient, economical. Gets all 4 major worms. For pups and large dogs. Distributed by Nelson Wholesale. 1-325-643-3636.

REAL ESTATE
NEW SOUTHERN COLORADO. 1 hour Taos, first time, 35 acres only \$35,900. Majestic lake and mountain views. 35 beautiful acres on quiet country road dramatically overlooking adjacent public multi-use lakes and 360 mountain views. Located nearby great skiing. 1 hour to Taos, easy drive to town. Excellent financing. Call 1-888-443-4040.

RESORTS/TIMESHARES
AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LARGEST timeshare/campground clearinghouse. Selling-Buying-Renting. Best in sales, service and satisfaction. Bringing buyers and sellers together. Call RSI at 1-800-423-5967

Run Your Ad In TexSCAN!
Statewide Ad \$400
330 Newspapers, 1.3 Million Circulation
North Region Only \$175
115 Newspapers, 465,000 Circulation
South Region Only \$175
107 Newspapers, 518,000 Circulation
West Region Only \$175
100 Newspapers, 310,000 Circulation
To Order: Call This Newspaper, or call Texas Press Service at 1-800-749-4793 Today!

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop

Extend your advertising reach with TexSCAN, your Statewide Classified Ad Network.

Newsday Crossword

STUMPER by Merle Baker
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS
1 Stage part
6 French possessive
9 Stylish
14 ID of a sort
15 Shed light (on)
17 His 14 Across was "Thinking of You"
18 Bears
19 "When the frost ..."
20 Conditions of indignity
21 Having no value
22 Literally, "may it benefit"
23 The March of Time producer
24 They're on the level
27 Sem. degree
28 Payoff
29 Once and Again name
31 Hector
32 Compensated
36 Body of laws
38 Mr. Pim creator
39 Former streaker
42 Hangs it up
44 Romanian dance
46 Gutter neighbor
47 Fix: Abbr.
48 Indian Ocean arm
50 Participate in a roleo

DOWN
1 "The Autocrat of the Aisle"
2 Build
3 Staunch
4 Prognostic
5 Ending for part
6 Radio tube
7 Susan Hinton
8 Sage relatives
9 Word processing command
10 Ran out on
11 Stayed or skipped
12 Nasal offense
13 Assented to
16 '60s phenomenon
20 Plot
22 Novel part
25 "Stiff Upper Lip" band
26 Apply suddenly
30 Entry
33 Antigen, vis-à-vis antibodies
34 Let fly, as a baseball
35 Unrivaled
37 Handicaps
38 Calumniate
39 Staff members
40 Gold record for Jimmy Dorsey
41 Postal inquiry
43 Follows
45 Little Boy, e.g.
49 "Last one ..."
50 Road destination
52 ___ bunt

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35
36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

\$1,000 Total Move in Cost. On each remaining 3 New homes on 1300 Block of Marijo...

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

700 N. Tubb Rd. Coahoma School Dist. New MFG Home 2,128 sq. ft. 4 Bdrm 2 bath...

705 S. Lancaster. Cheaper than a storage building! Cash Prize \$4,900...

Clean 1 br. furnished upstairs apartment. \$240. Water paid \$100 dep.

For Lease or Sale: 4 bdrm 1 bath. Nicely decorated and fenced.

For Sale: 2 Bdrm 1 bath, well insulated, new roof/water heater.

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

For Sale By Owner Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment. low monthly. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath. Updated Kitchen & bath.

New Construction Open House. Sat-Sun. 1-6 pm. or any time by appt. 1308 Marijo.

Tracts of land for sale. 5 miles South of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles West of Coahoma.

GARAGE SALES

Yard Sale. 1007 Sycamore. Sat & Sun. 9:00-7. Color TV, tires, wheels, punch bag, boxing gloves...

MISCELLANEOUS

CKC Chihuahua puppy. Refrigerator, dryer, Magic Chef electric stove & 35 ft. Mobile home.

Pecans for Sale, in the hull \$1.50 lb. shelled \$5.00 lb.

Rodgers Drum set \$300. Call after 5:00 p.m. 432-267-2941 or daytime 432-213-1363.

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad.

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

Explore Your World! All you have to do is Read.

NATIONAL ADVERTISING

\$25,000 cash grants - GUARANTEED! All U.S. residents qualify! Money for bills, business, school, etc.

Federal Postal Jobs To \$43,000 yr./Free Call No Experience Necessary. Now Hiring / Full Benefits.

GOV'T POSTAL JOBS ANNOUNCEMENT-#PS2479. NOW HIRING SELECT AREAS. FREE CALL-APPLICATION EXAMINATION INFORMATION.

GOV'T POSTAL JOBS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT-USPS15LD. UP TO \$29.16 PER HOUR. FREE CALL/APPLICATION INFORMATION.

U.S. POSTAL JOBS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT-USPS15LD. UP TO \$29.16 PER HOUR. FREE CALL/APPLICATION INFORMATION.

\$\$\$UP TO \$529 WEEKLY! Mailing letters from home. Easy! Any Hours! Full/Part-time. No experience necessary.

This Newspaper is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified ads.

BY JOYCE JILLSON astrological bring on



Joyce Jillson

Today's events will remarkable changes over the next month. First, Venus enters Aquarius, the sign of altruism, entrepreneurial spirit and creative problem solving.

Love has an oddball grin that says friendship comes first. The moon enters Sagittarius, and the sun enters Capricorn, setting a reverent tone for the week.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You want to do it all, but it can't all be done - choose. Here's a hint: It's your connection with others that's important.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Tremendous change and growth through a relationship are inevitable for someone with your courage.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Do work that has to be done early in the day so you have time to stretch,

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Generosity you often deal out is now dealt to you. Youthful influences spice up your personal life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's easy to know your next move when you don't think too much about it; just let your body and intuition show you where to go.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Politics, religion and the larger questions of life are hot topics. Energy focused on the profundities of living will solve the smaller and more personal issues in one fell swoop.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Family plans change and grow. Keep impatient thoughts in check. Take your time with love.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). This is an excellent day to make friends - everyone will be feeling social. Be patient with people trying to express themselves to you.

human, with nature and with the universe. Love planet Venus enters the sign of Aquarius, giving love a new face. Don't be surprised if you find yourself wanting something different from your companions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Partnerships are pleasing, and the company of children is highly rewarding. Affections grow where there are shared goals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When it's time to go to bat, you do it, no questions asked. Your impressive dedication attracts wonderful people to you.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The winter solstice is the event that starts this week on a mystical note - the passage of the sun into Capricorn is an astrological event that has been celebrated through the ages.

offer an alternative to this practice. Throughout the year, I save any gift that perhaps didn't fit, was a duplicate, the wrong color, and so on.

Dear Annie: Thank you for suggesting such a kind and thoughtful gesture. Please, folks, if you receive any unused items that you don't want, give them to the needy this holiday season.

Dear Annie: I could not believe your cavalier response to "Inglewood, Calif.," who said her 4-month-old daughter was emotionally abusive because the baby smiles and giggles, making it impossible for Mom to leave for work.

That woman is seriously disturbed, and her daughter is at high risk for abuse. Someone needs to tell Mom that a 4-month-old is not capable of being abusive.

That woman should get psychological help before it's too late. - Worried in Louisiana

Dear Worried: We were surprised, and also gratified, to see so many readers worried about this child. However, Mom was being facetious about the abuse, and we should have made it more clear.

Dear Annie: I know a lot of people who "re-gift" - meaning they take a present that was given to them and rewrap it for someone else.

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Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar.



ANNIE'S MAILBOX

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY logo and text: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968...

TOO LATES. 2003 Yamaha YZ 125. Rode 3 times. Make offer 425-7236.

2003 Yamaha YZ 125. Rode 3 times. Make offer 425-7236.

Found Male Chihuahua in the area of 2nd & Benton. Call 432-263-4502 to identify.

Owner Finance Low Down Payment No Credit Check 3/1, 107 Miller B. Coahoma 2/1, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring 4/1, 3215 Auburn, Big Spring 4/2, 1500 11th Place, Big Spring Call Pam (432)631-5468 (432)570-8178

TOO LATES. Lost Horse (TS Bran on her hip) in the area of Silver Hills addition. Please Call 432-264-6711 or 816-9685

1 Bdrm Duplex, 106 16th Refrigerated air, stove & refrigerator furnished. \$225/mo \$100/dep. Call 432-268-8353

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED CUSTOMERS. IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL OR MAKE CHANGES IN YOUR AD, PLEASE CALL BY 8:00 AM THE DAY THE CHANGE IS TO OCCUR.

PUBLIC NOTICE THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO DEFENDANT. You have been sued. You may employ an attorney.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITATION FOR PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO: The Unknown Heirs of Myrtle McMaster, Deceased.

PUBLIC NOTICE SHERIFF SALE REAL PROPERTY. NOTICE OF SALE: REAL PROPERTY. THE STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF HOWARD.

PUBLIC NOTICE SHERIFF SALE REAL PROPERTY. NOTICE OF SALE: REAL PROPERTY. THE STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF HOWARD.

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EVERYONE CAN USE THE CLASSIFIEDS! There's something for everyone in the Big Spring Herald's Classifieds! Grandpa sold his sailboat. Mama found the missing piece for her china set... Papa bought a great used car... Little Brother traded his baseball cards for a guitar... Big Brother found an awesome set of free weights... Cousin Bill found a great apartment... Big Sister found a great new job... Aunt Sue found a dining room table... ALL THIS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS To place an ad in the Classifieds Call 263-7331, BIG SPRING HERALD 710 Scurry • Big Spring