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The Evening Lions Club will be offering free recycled eyeglasses for any adults who cannot afford to purchase glasses. The eyeglass clinic will be held Saturday, Jan. 17, from 9 a.m. until noon at Bob's Custom Woodwork, 409 E. Third.

INSIDE



Bernard Lafayette, a civil rights worker who worked closely with Martin Luther King Jr., has dedicated his life to building peace.

Hometown Hero: Bringing joy into the lives of terminally ill children is not an easy task, but for the past 15 years it has been a way of life for Kandi and Mark Bailey of North Platte, Neb. (pop. 23,878). After they lost their young son to a brain tumor in 1986, the Baileys found strength and healing through their volunteer efforts with the North Platte chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. **Hometown Spotlight:** Founded during in 1887, Eatonville, Fla., (pop. 2,432) is the nation's oldest surviving incorporated African-American municipality.

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Early voting continues in District 31 Senate election

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The number of early voting ballots cast this week in the District 31 Senate race were by no means outstanding, but county officials predict a good overall outcome. Howard County Clerk Donna Wright said 269 ballots were cast through Friday in the first week of early voting. In addition, 10 ballots had been mailed, with three returned.



WRIGHT

Earlier in the week, Wright compared numbers to last year's special election for U.S. Senate. "We currently have 156 in the office as of today, and we've mailed out five ballots, one of which has been returned," said Wright. "In comparison to the special election we had last year, the first

three days of early voting yielded 189 votes. We're not far behind at this point."

Wright said she hopes current election totals meet or exceed previous special election balloting.

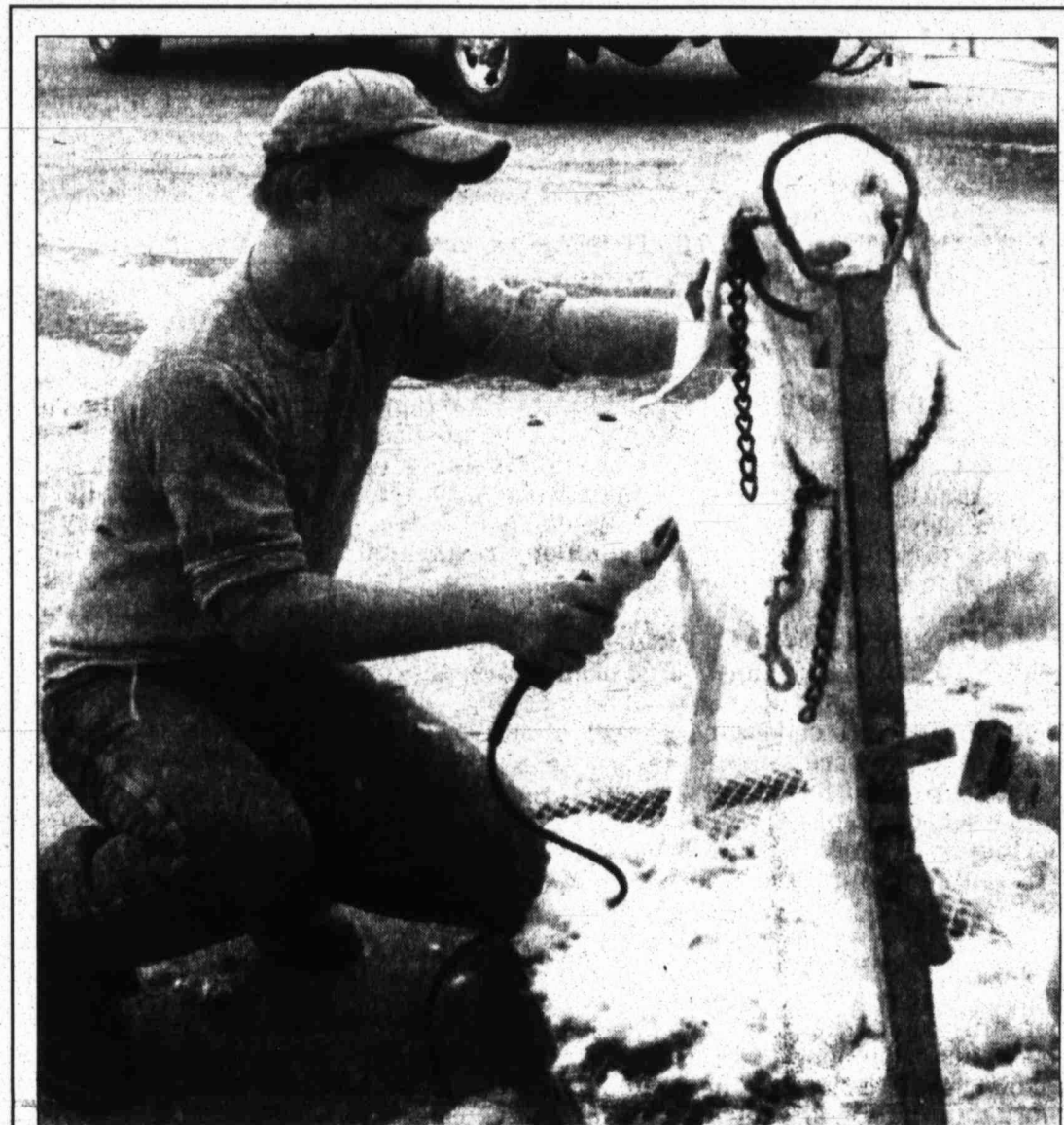
"In last year's special election we had a total of 1,874 ballots cast," said Wright. "That was early voting and election day totals together. At that point we had 17,482 registered voters in

Howard County, which comes out to 10.72 percent participation."

While a 10 percent turnout may seem rather bleak, Wright said the short nature of special elections has a lot to do with the voter turnout.

"I really think people just don't get the chance to review the candidates as well when it comes to

See **VOTE**, Page 3A



Garden City High School sophomore Alex Halfmann shears a goat in preparation for the the goat judging at the annual Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show. Halfmann was helped in the chore by his father Butch and Chase O'Brien.

Funds are necessary in order to conduct Bible history classes

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

See photo, Page 5A

In God we trust. It's the cornerstone of American culture and the concept got a much-needed boost Friday afternoon, as the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at St. Paul Lutheran Church presented the Howard County Bible Class Board with a check for \$1,168.

Board President Jackie Henry accepted the check from Leighrene Kohl, President of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at St. Paul Lutheran. Henry said the money will be used to fund the program, which provides Bible

classes in three Howard County schools.

"We have Bible classes in the three schools in Howard County," she said. "We currently have three classes at Big Spring High School, two classes at Forsan and one at Coahoma. This is the first year for classes at Coahoma.

"We are allowed to have those as humanities classes. The school district doesn't pay for any of the supplies or for the teacher's salaries, so we are dependent on fund-raisers, people from the community and local

"It's a wonderful mission opportunity when you consider the kids at the high school that are getting the Bible knowledge."

Leighrene Kohl, President of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League

See **BIBLE**, Page 5A

ALON USA Refinery officials bring curriculum to Big Spring ISD

By **MARSHA ALLEN**
Life Editor

See photo, Page 5A

It didn't go "oink," but it was impressive all the same.

Demonstrating principles of a "pig," ALON USA went to the classroom on Friday to bring its two-week instruction program to Big Spring Independent School District students.

Ernie Morgan, operations manager at ALON USA's Big Spring Refinery, demonstrated the principle of a "pig" to Goliad Intermediate School students. A "pig," Morgan explained, is an apparatus which does the hefty job of cleaning the refinery's pipelines. The term "pigs" came from a former practice of using live swine to clean sewer lines in the early days of sewer line installments. Of course, swine are no longer used for such cleaning methods, Morgan added.

Oil refinery "pigs" are placed in refinery



pipelines at one entry location, such as Big Spring, and retrieved at another junction. They have traveled along the pipeline, cleaning sludge as they go. Sludge is emptied at various pipeline junctions such as Abilene, Wichita Falls and Big Spring.

Morgan further explained that some "pigs" are dumb and some are smart. Smart "pigs" are computerized; dumb ones are not. When smart "pigs" are placed

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Big Spring Refinery Manager Joe Conciennie presents a flag that was flown over construction of the facility's new low-sulfur gasoline unit to Operations Manager Jeff Broman.

Milestone in production of gasoline noted with presentation of U.S. flag

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Refinery celebrated the completion of its new \$18 million low-sulfur gasoline unit in a rather patriotic way Friday afternoon, as Refinery Manager Joe Conciennie

presented the group responsible for running the unit with an American flag that flew above the project during construction.

Conciennie said the new unit is a milestone in the production of gasoline, and marked the plant's

most important accomplishment of the past year.

"There was not one more important thing we had to do this year," he said. "There were a lot of things that were important, but that was at the

See **FLAG**, Page 3A



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HERALD photo/Marsha Allen
Ernie Morgan, operations manager for ALON USA Big Spring Refinery, demonstrates the principles of "pigs" to Golliad Intermediate School students and Lucy Odom, Golliad teacher. He holds a typical "pig" apparatus. Students include, left to right, Chance Urias, Odom, James Grimes, Morgan, Wayne Bateman, Ashley Thomas, and Lindsey Deel. See article, Page 1A.

CLASSES

Continued from Page 1A

in pipelines they measure thickness of pipeline walls and register any problems as they proceed along.

The interesting educational program was just a sampling of what ALON USA professionals plan to present to BSISD students over the next two weeks as the company celebrates its 75th anniversary.

The curriculum will focus on four areas of the refinery — environmental aspects, scientific principals, the economic impact on the community and technological innovations throughout the years.

Big Spring Refinery Manager Joe Conciencie said ALON officials are eager to assist the school district.

"We have groups of people, experts, who are going to serve as a resource in every way possible," Conciencie said in October, while addressing school district teachers and students.

Before the two weeks are over, ALON personnel will have made visits to all campuses, many of them on multiple occasions.

In addition to his explanation of "pigs" on Friday, Morgan gave an overview of the refinery. He went on to explain that refinery storage tanks can raise and lower temperatures to keep crude oil or other petroleum products at liquefied levels. The tall towers at the refinery are distillation towers, he noted.

Also, operators at the plant are required to wear hard hats, earplugs, gloves and fire retardant

shirts. Each operator carries a radio, Armstrong told the youngsters during presentations in the school's library.

Costs for operating a refinery are much the same as operating one's home, Morgan said. For instance, a normal size home needs to be equipped with water, natural gas and electricity. Refineries need these commodities as well.

A normal home's operation might require approximately \$150 a month in water bills, \$200 in natural gas use and approximately \$200 to \$300 in electricity use. A refinery's bills for water is approximately \$70,000 a month, \$1.5 million for natural gas use, and from \$600,000 to \$800,000 for electricity.

News Editor Bill McClellan contributed to this article.

FLAG

Continued from Page 1A

top, mainly because we couldn't sell gasoline at the end of the year if we didn't get it finished.

"It's a milestone and a success, and the way I define a success is it was done on time, and we didn't give ourselves any more time than we needed to do it. It was done on budget. Lastly, and most importantly, it does what it was designed to do."

Conciencie said the flag, which was placed in a shadow box to be displayed at the facility's control room, symbolizes more than just a Big Spring Refinery accomplishment.

"One of the things this flag symbolizes for me is the fact that the project was completed with American labor," said Conciencie. "It was an American project all the way, and it was done at a time when this country was involved in the Iraq war. So I think it's a reminder of the accom-

plishments of the project and what was going on at that time in the U.S. I feel like it's very appropriate in many different ways."

The flag was accepted by Jeff Brorman, Operations Supervisor over the new low-sulfur gasoline unit, who did so on behalf of the men and women that worked so hard to meet Conciencie's high standard of success. Brorman said the project went smoothly from its inception in 2002, right up to its completion in December of 2003.

"We started the engineering phase, which is the process design of the unit, back in 2002," said Brorman. "We wrapped up that part of the phase in 2003, and went from that point on to the design construction phase, where they designed and engineered all of the equipment that went into it. We started construction some time in April and worked the construction all the way until the early part of December. Operations started up right after that."

Brorman said the pro-

ject represented a collaboration on the parts of many different departments within the plant, and its smooth start-up and operation is testament to that cooperation.

"We had a few days where we had a little bit of wet weather but overall we were lucky on the weather we had," he said. "There was a lot of wind, but that's just West Texas for you."

"I think it was a good project for the company. Everybody pulled together, and we're not real long on people resources and their availability, so everyone had to play a part to make it all work — everyone from maintenance, operations, construction group and outside contractors. I'm just pleased with the way it's been running since we got it up, and it's been running very smoothly."

The gasoline the new unit is producing represents a serious step forward for the environment, said Brorman, with even more improvements coming in the near future.

"The previous gasoline that left the refinery ran in the range of 600 parts per million in sulfur, and we've been able to reduce that by almost half," he explained. "That's a big reduction in the amount of sulfur the cars make when they burn it. Ultimately, there's going to be more work to be done to remove even more of the sulfur out of the gasoline. The target in the future is 30 PPM, so we still have a way to go. It's staged in so we don't have to spend all of the money right up front, so we still have work to do to get the final goal for the gasoline we produce."

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

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

these special elections," she said. "Especially in this one. Everyone has had such a short time to hear from the candidates, I think it makes it really tough for them to go to the polls."

"We're approaching this with a positive frame of mind and we hope the voters will as well."

The special election was announced shortly after Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, announced his resignation from the seat effective Jan. 12. Bivins cited his nomination by President Bush as ambassador to Sweden and a desire to spend more time with this family as the reasons.

On the ballot will be seven candidates, including lone Democratic hope-

ful Elaine King Miller of Amarillo. Republican candidates include farmer Lee Gibson of Dumas, businessman Kirk Edwards of Odessa, businessman Kel Seliger of Amarillo, businessman Don Sparks of Midland, Odessa businessman Bob Barnes, and restaurant owner/attorney Jesse Quackenbush of Amarillo.

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Jackie Henry, president of the Howard County Bible Class Board, right, receives a check for \$1,168 from Leighrene Kohl, president of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at St. Paul Lutheran. Kohl and her group raised the money through different projects including a fall bazaar.

BIBLE

Continued from Page 1A

businesses to support us financially."

Henry said donations like these are vital to the continuation of the program.

"Their are a couple of groups here at the Lutheran Church, and they're donating the funds that they've raised to the program," said Henry. "Without these donations, the classes simply wouldn't be possible. The teachers that teach these classes are paid on the same pay rate as the other teachers at the school district, and if we can't afford to pay them we have to start cutting the classes down.

"It's taught to the students as history. It's not taught from a denominational or theological standpoint."

Kohl said they had a great deal of fun raising the money for the program.

"We did fund-raisers and a big bazaar last fall, and from those we were able to raise enough to donate more than \$1,100 to the Bible fund," said Kohl. "The quarterly mission project for our Sunday School children was to collect funds as well, and they've raised right at \$1,000, which will be presented to the fund as well at a later date."

Kohl said the need for the funding became apparent thanks to her husband, who is on the

board of directors for the program.

"My husband is on the board and he made us aware of the need," she said. "It's a wonderful mission opportunity when you consider the kids at the high school that are getting the Bible knowledge."

"I feel like this helps strengthen the entire community. It gives the children the basic biblical knowledge, regardless of their denomination and it speaks well of our community and city when newcomers and businesses come in and see that it's an important part of our community."

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Challengers of redistricting plan are seeking Supreme Court stay

AUSTIN (AP) — Opponents of a Republican congressional redistricting plan for Texas on Friday asked the U.S. Supreme Court to stop the use of the new map for the 2004 elections pending their full appeal to the high court.

Congressional Democrats and other Democratic interests that had challenged the plan asked the Supreme Court to stay a lower federal court's ruling approving the map. If that request is not granted, the plaintiffs said, they want an injunction to require previous congressional districts to be used in the election.

The plaintiffs have up to 60 days to appeal Tuesday's approval of the map by a three-judge panel.

The panel listened to trial testimony in Austin in December before ruling that the Democrats and minority groups had failed to prove their claims that the new congressional plan violated the U.S. Constitution or the federal Voting Rights Act.

"It's likely the case will be reversed ultimately by the Supreme Court," said Gerry Hebert, an attorney

representing Texas congressional Democrats.

Attorneys for the state have argued the new map was passed by lawmakers in October with political interests in mind, not racial gerrymandering. But Democrats claim minority voting rights were trampled in the new plan.

Attorney General Greg Abbott repeatedly has said he believes the GOP map will withstand court challenges. "As I indicat-

ed earlier this week, I do not believe that the United States Supreme Court will grant the plaintiffs' request for (a) stay in the redistricting case," Abbott said through a spokesman Friday.

Ted Royer, spokesman for the Republican Party of Texas, said GOP leaders expect the new redistricting plan to continue to get legal validation.

"We're confident... that the outcome is going to be the same," Royer said.

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Woman who planned abduction receives prison term

INDIO, Calif. (AP) — A woman who helped plan the violent abduction of her 9-year-old son from his father's home during a bitter custody dispute has been sentenced to five years in prison.

Debra Rose, 39, wept as the judge handed down the sentence Friday.

Rose and her boyfriend, 49-year-old Michael Riley, paid two men to snatch Nicholas Farber from his father's home in August 2002. Police found the boy disguised in girl's clothing two days later at a San Diego County campground with Rose and Riley.

The armed kidnapping came during a summer of several high-profile abductions, including that of Samantha Rynnion, an Orange County girl whose body was found weeks later along a highway.

Rose and Riley hired Rodrigue Van Blake and Elias Gutierrez, both 29, to kidnap the boy. The men said Riley had told them the child was in danger and the kidnapping was part of a CIA mission.

All four were found guilty in October of child abduction, custodial interference, burglary, assault and false imprisonment.

Riley, whom the judge called the mastermind of the plot, was also convicted of felony kidnapping and given a 16-year sentence.

Van Blake, a former Marine with no criminal record, was sentenced to eight years in prison. Gutierrez was sentenced to five years.

Nicholas' father said his son was traumatized by the abduction.

"I now have a little boy who doesn't like to go outside, who always has to make sure the doors and windows are locked, who doesn't make friends," Michael Farber said.

Land mine found in passenger's luggage

DENVER (AP) — A 24-year-old Army sergeant was removed from an American Airlines flight after an inert land mine was found in his checked baggage, the Transportation Safety Administration said.

TSA screeners noticed the land mine Friday, pulled the bag from the luggage system at Denver International Airport and confiscated the mine, TSA spokesman Mike Fierberg said.

No flights were delayed. The soldier, whose name was not released, could face civil penalties for trying to put a prohibited item aboard a flight, Fierberg said. No criminal charges would be filed, he said.

The man was released by police, but the airline refused to allow him aboard his flight to Dallas, Fierberg said.

FDA head says agency working to cut drug costs

WASHINGTON (AP) — States can cut their drug costs without turning to imports from Canada, says the head of the Food and Drug Administration, and states that defy the ban on importing pharmaceuticals might face legal action.

FDA Commissioner Mark McClellan said Friday his agency is working with state governments to increase the use of less-expensive generic drugs and to find other ways to cut costs, such as using the states' buying power to negotiate lower prices from drug companies.

City governments in Springfield, Mass., and Montgomery, Ala., have begun buying drugs from Canada, and several states are studying the idea.

The FDA contends that it can't guarantee the safety of imported drugs and has been working to discourage the imports. Importing medicine from abroad for resale is illegal.

Iraqis surprised on Saddam's POW status

By SAMEER N. YACOB
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi authorities expressed surprise and disappointment Saturday at reports that Pentagon lawyers have determined that Saddam Hussein has been a prisoner of war since American forces captured him last month.

On Friday, a Pentagon spokesman, Maj. Michael Shavers, said the Defense Department's top civilian lawyers have determined that Saddam is a prisoner of war because of his status as former commander in chief of Iraq's military. The lawyers determined that no formal declaration of Saddam's status was needed, he said.

Some Iraqis expressed concern that prisoner of war status, which grants Saddam certain legal rights and protection under the Geneva Conventions, could prevent Iraqi courts from trying the ousted dictator for alleged crimes against the Iraqi people.

"I am surprised by this decision," said Dara Nor al-Din, a former appeals court judge and member of the Iraqi Governing Council. "We still consider Saddam a criminal and he will be tried on this basis. This new move will be discussed thoroughly in the Governing Council."

But officials of the U.S.-led coalition late Saturday repeated President Bush's assurance that Iraqis would play a leading role, and said that his POW status could change later.

The top U.S. military spokesman in Iraq, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, denied suggestions that a deal was made with Saddam, telling a news conference: "There was no deal brokered between the coalition forces and Saddam for changing his status to an enemy prisoner of war."

U.S. officials have said they plan to turn Saddam over to an Iraqi court for trial. The United States says Saddam's government killed at least

300,000 Iraqis, including thousands of Iraqi Kurds in a poison gas attack in 1988.

But the Geneva Conventions say POWs can be tried for crimes against humanity only by an international tribunal or the occupying power — in this case the United States.

"I think it is a bad decision, and the Americans have no right to make such decisions because it is the Iraqi people alone who can decide," said Governing Council member Mahmoud Othman. "The Iraqi people want Saddam to be tried for his crimes in accordance with the Iraqi law. Iraqis want to know the parties which helped Saddam to commit those crimes and to possess weapons of mass destruction."

Coalition spokesman Dan Senor told reporters that "there is no need for concern" since Saddam's "ultimate designation will be determined down the road."

Senor reiterated that

"President Bush has said that the pursuit of justice regarding Saddam Hussein should have an Iraqi leadership role ... a substantial leadership role by the Iraqi people itself."

Iraq's justice minister, Hashim Abdul-Rahman, called the Pentagon comments about POW status "mere views" and insisted that Iraqis themselves would determine Saddam's fate.

"It is a political decision, not a legal one," Abdul-Rahman said. "I do not know why it is taken. But the only thing I do know is that Iraqi bodies will decide Saddam's status. We will determine his legal status when the Iraqi authorities take over this issue."

The United States plans to transfer sovereignty to

a provisional Iraqi government by July 1, after which Iraqi authorities could press demands for jurisdiction over Saddam.

On the streets of the Iraqi capital, some Iraqis speculated that the Americans were trying to deny Iraq the chance to try Saddam for fear the ousted leader would expose secret contacts between Washington and Baghdad during the years when the United States was trying to cultivate ties with this country.

"The are considering him a POW in order to have a legal excuse to keep him with them away from the hands of Iraqis," taxi driver Imad Abbas said.

"I don't think they will hand him for Iraqis for investigation lest he should reveal previous contacts with them."

Woman mauled, man killed by California mountain lion

By ANGELA WATERCUTTER
Associated Press Writer

MISSION VIEJO, Calif. — Anne Hjelle was bicycling along a wilderness trail when a mountain lion sprang from the brush, pounced on her back and dragged her off by the head as fellow bikers threw rocks at the animal and tried to pull her away. The cougar finally ran off, leaving Hjelle — a former Marine who works as a fitness instructor — bloody and near death.

Hjelle, 30, lay in serious condition Friday after the mauling Thursday evening in Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park.

"This guy would not let go. He had a hold of her face," said Debbie Nichols, who was riding with Hjelle and held on to her friend during a desperate tug-of-war with the cat.

"I just told her, 'I'm never letting go.'"

Authorities suspect the same mountain lion also killed 35-year-old Mark Jeffrey Reynolds, an amateur mountain bike racer whose half-eaten body was found Thursday in the park near his disabled bike.

He had apparently been killed earlier in the day.

"The chains fell off or somehow broke, and while he was attempting to fix his bike is when the attack happened," said Jim Amormino, a spokesman for the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

The two attacks shocked people in Southern California and reminded them of the dangers of the outdoors in places where suburban sprawl has encroached on the wilderness.

A 2-year-old male mountain lion, which weighed about 110 pounds, was shot and killed Thursday night after it returned to where Reynolds' body was found.

Initial tests conducted Friday revealed that tissues consistent with human skin were found in the stomach of the male cat, said state Fish and Game spokeswoman

Chamois Andersen. The full necropsy will be completed next week, she said.

"We are fairly confident we have the sole cat that was responsible for both attacks," Andersen said.

Footprints taken at the site of both attacks had the same measurements, state officials said. A female mountain lion was also being tested after it was hit by a car and killed late Thursday.

California has had only 14 mountain lion attacks on humans — six of them deadly — in the past 114 years, said state Fish and Game Department biologist-Doug Updike.

The park where the attacks occurred is in an area of Orange County bordered by Cleveland National Forest and several residential developments, and is designated as wildlife habitat.

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NEWS

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1997 Dodge D150 Was \$13,995

1994 Ford F150 Was \$5,995

Phillips nominated for Red Zone Player of the Year

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Jared Phillips was something special this past season for the Big Spring Steers at middle linebacker. Just how special is becoming more and more evident. Phillips, an all-district pick in each of his final two seasons, was nominated for the Old Spice Red Zone Player of the Year award last week. The award is presented

annually to the top high school players in the United States. "It's a great honor for him," said Big Spring head coach Dwight Butler. "He spent a lot of time and effort doing the things he needed to do to be the best football player and student he could be. He's very deserving of the honor."

A senior, Phillips was a member of the Big Spring varsity football program for three years. In 2003,

he finished as one of the Steers' top defensive players. He racked up more than 100 tackles and had an interception while spearheading a rejuvenated BSBS defense.

Players from throughout Texas and the U.S. are nominated for the award by high school coaches. By being nominated for the national award, Phillips is eligible to be selected to the national Red Zone Players of the Year team — a group of 50

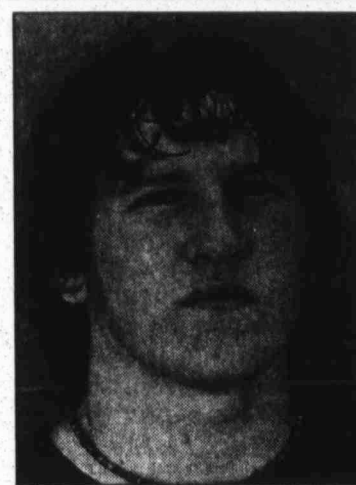
athletes who will be honored as the U.S.'s top prep players next month in USA Today.

As a nominee for the award, the 205-pound two-way standout received a certificate acknowledging his efforts.

The Red Zone Player of the Year award, which is sponsored by Old Spice, recognizes high school football players who go above and beyond the call of duty, particularly in the red zone — or final 20

yards on either end of the field. The award honors those athletes who are able to elevate their play and step up at crucial times.

Phillips, who starred late in the year at full-back for Big Spring, is the second Big Spring High School player nominated for the Red Zone Player of the Year award. Last fall, record-setting quarterback Tye Butler was the first Steers player ever nominated.



File photo
Big Spring senior Jared Phillips was nominated for the Red Zone Player of the Year award.

FHS girls run past Lady Birds in opener

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

FORSAN — If you make your shots from the charity stripe, chances are you're going to win.

The Forsan Lady Buffs found out just how big free throws are Friday night as they converted 9-of-19 free throw opportunities in the second half en route to claiming a 42-37 win over the Crane Lady Birds in the District 3-2A opener in front of a vocal crowd at Buffalo Gym.

The Lady Buffs' second-half surge enabled them to rally from a 12-6 deficit in the first quarter and, more importantly, head into the second game of district action Tuesday with a 6-12 record and tied for the lead in the 3-2A race.

The Crane Lady Birds, who fell to 7-12 and 0-1, managed just four shots from the charity line — of which they converted only two — in the second half.

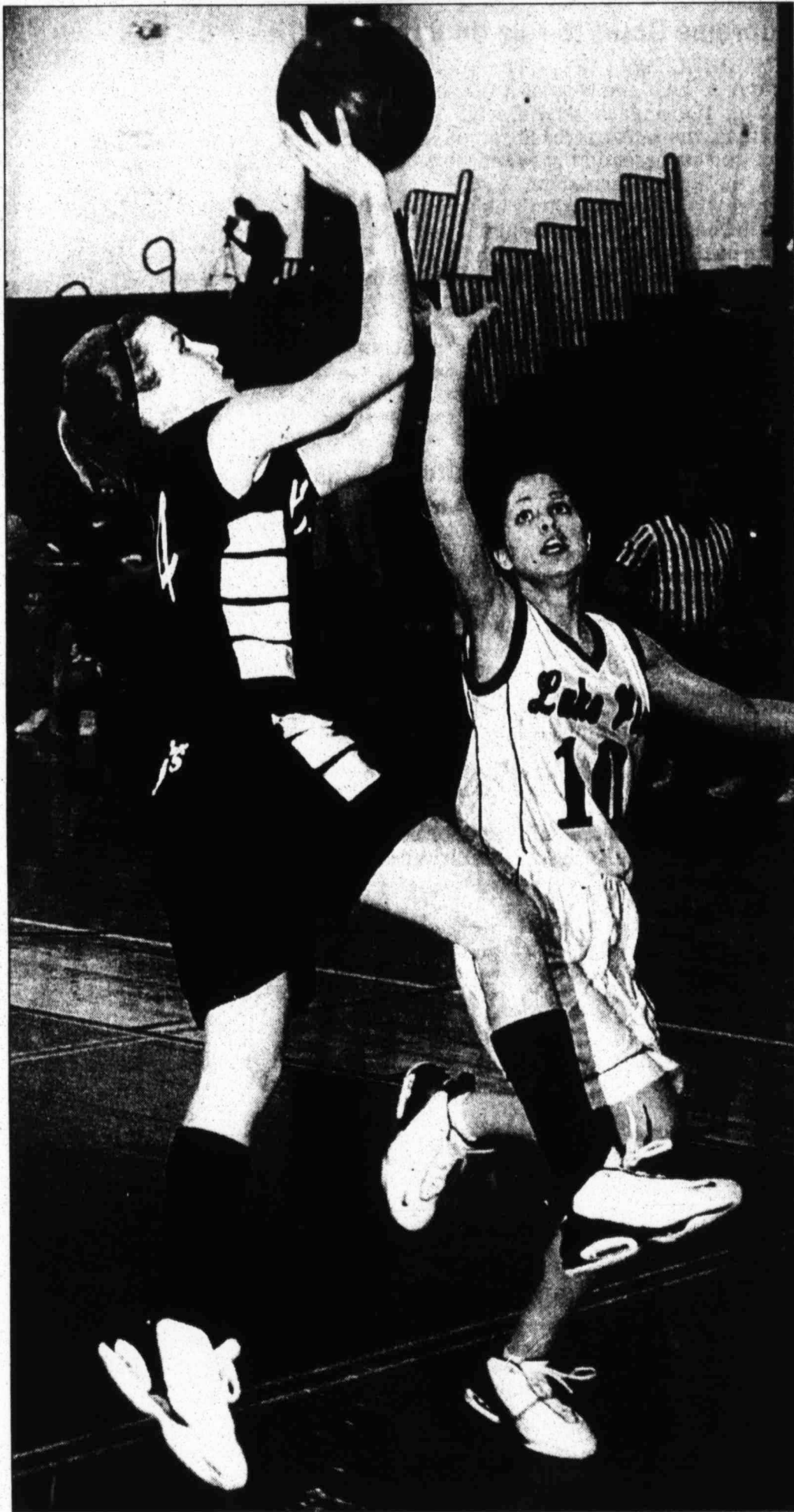
After a frigid shooting performance to open the game, Forsan began turning up the heat in the second quarter, outscoring the Lady Birds by a 14-7 clip to go into the break holding a 20-19 lead.

Jacklynn Hise and Casi Graves continued the FHS onslaught in the third. Hise buried a 3-point shot to open the stanza. Graves followed Hise's heroics by capping a 6-0 run by converting one of two shots from the charity stripe and then, just 30 seconds after her free throw opportunity, pushing a shot from the floor for a 26-21 lead.

After a 7-2 run by Crane had knotted the score at 28-28, the Lady Buffs responded to coach Brandye Hughey's plea for rebounds by turning in a clinic on about rebounding on the offensive boards. Forsan all but sealed the win by grabbing 11 rebounds on its next two trips down the court — resulting in Misty McGuire being fouled as she sank a short jumper.

McGuire completed the three-

Lady Steers come up short



Herald Photo/Tommy Wells
Big Spring sophomore Codye Burt drives past Lake View's Erin Jacobs for a basket during the third quarter Friday night. Lake View managed to snap a 41-game district slide with a 59-50 win.

Lake View snaps 41-game losing streak with 59-50 win

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

SAN ANGELO — The Big Spring Lady Steers had almost everything going for them Friday night in their District 4-4A opener against the Lake View Maidens.

Unfortunately, the whistle wasn't one of them. The Lady Steers committed 35 fouls and had four players foul out en route to suffering a tough 59-50 loss to Lake View in the Ben Norton Gymnasium. Big Spring's foul trouble enabled the Maidens to snap a 41-

game district losing streak by hitting on 25 of 44 free throw opportunities. With the loss, Big Spring slipped to 5-13 for the year and to 0-1 in league play. Lake View is now 11-10 and 1-0.

Big Spring held its own in the early minutes of the contest. After Lake View senior Allison Hill had opened the game with a pair of baskets, Imari Brown kicked the Lady Steers' offense into gear with a 3-point shot from the wing. Brown's basket pulled Big Spring to within 4-3 with 5:26 left in the first.

Elida Rodriguez and Alex Watkins followed Brown's lead from there. After an Acacia Ramirez layup had given the Maidens a 6-3 lead, Rodriguez and Watkins pumped in back-to-back shots that staked the Lady Steers to a 7-6 cushion with 4:28 left.

That turned out to be Big Spring's only lead.

Hill, who finished the game with 25 points, knocked down two shots from the floor in the final 2:12 to give Lake View a slim 12-11 advantage heading into the second. Lake View, which last

Lady Steers to host Levelland

The Big Spring Lady Steers are scheduled to host the Levelland Lobettes Tuesday evening in the Steer Gym.

Big Spring heads into the game sporting an 0-1 mark in District 4-4A play. Levelland is 0-1 following a 45-41 setback to Frenship.

In other 4-4A action Friday, Lubbock Estacado downed Andrews by an 84-50 margin.

won a district encounter in the 2000 season, shifted into high gear in the second. The Maidens, spurred on by a 7-of-11 effort from the charity stripe in the second, stretched their lead to 31-21 at the half with a 19-10 run.

Raegan Ritchey and Carmen Lewis helped power Big Spring in the second with clutch baskets.

Lake View continues to push the lead higher in the third. The Maidens behind six more points from Hill, posted a 14-11 run in the frame and took a 12-point lead, at 45-32, into the final eight minutes of the game.

Freshman Haley Hill keyed the Maidens' third-quarter success by collecting six of her 11 points in the frame.

Things look bleak for Big Spring in the opening moments of the fourth. Lake View opened the fourth with a 5-0 run that inflated its lead to 18, at 50-32.

The Lady Steers, who had two players — Carmen Lewis and Brown — collect four fouls apiece in the first half, refused to go down quietly. See GIRLS, Page 9A

Big Spring rider takes second at NCHA Futurity

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

After four years of competing in the cutting horse business, Big Spring's Thomas Ross saw the fruits of his labor last month at the National Cutting Horse Association Futurity.

Ross tied for second in the non-professional division at the event which was held at the Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum in Fort Worth. The former pilot and current owner of Cain Electrical Supply scored a 214.5 on his horse Jazabelle Jerry and shared second with Kate Gaughan of Las Vegas. Ross and Gaughan fell just short of Julie Ann

Wrigley's winning mark of 216. Wrigley, of Gleenbrook, Nev., rode her horse, Wood Ya Wanna, to the title.

Ross, one of only three Texans to finish in the non-professional top 10, pocketed \$15,050 for his second-place finish.

In the non-pro finals, Scott Furgeson of Hempstead, avenged his reserve-championship showing the year before by winning the title with a score of 223. Linda Holmes of Longmont, Colo., was second.

Kevin Parker of Stephenville won the limited Open title with a score of 221, while Carol Dewrell of Gulf Breeze, Fla., claimed the limited non-pro event.



Courtesy photo
Big Spring cowboy Thomas Ross and his horse Jazabelle Jerry claimed second in the non-professional division at the NCHA Futurity in Fort Worth.

Free throws help Pirates slip past Steers, 56-38

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Lubbock Cooper Pirates scored 35 second-half points Tuesday night and raced to a tough 56-38 win over the Big Spring Steers in non-district action.

Cooper, which improved to 9-9 overall, converted 17 of 21 opportunities from the free throw line in the contest. Big Spring went to the charity stripe just 15 times in the game.

The Steers, coming off

BS softball boosters to meet Monday

The Big Spring Lady Steers Softball Booster Club will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the BSBS

an impressive win over Pecos last week, held their own in the first half. Big Spring trailed by just six points, at 21-15, at the end of the first 16 minutes of play.

Cooper outscored Big Spring by a 35-23 margin in the second half.

With the loss, the Steers head into Tuesday's non-district finale against Sweetwater with a 4-16 record.

Jordan Cobb led all BSBS scorers with 14 points. Michael Ornales-Doportto added 11.

Athletic Training Complex. All parents of players are urged to attend.

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

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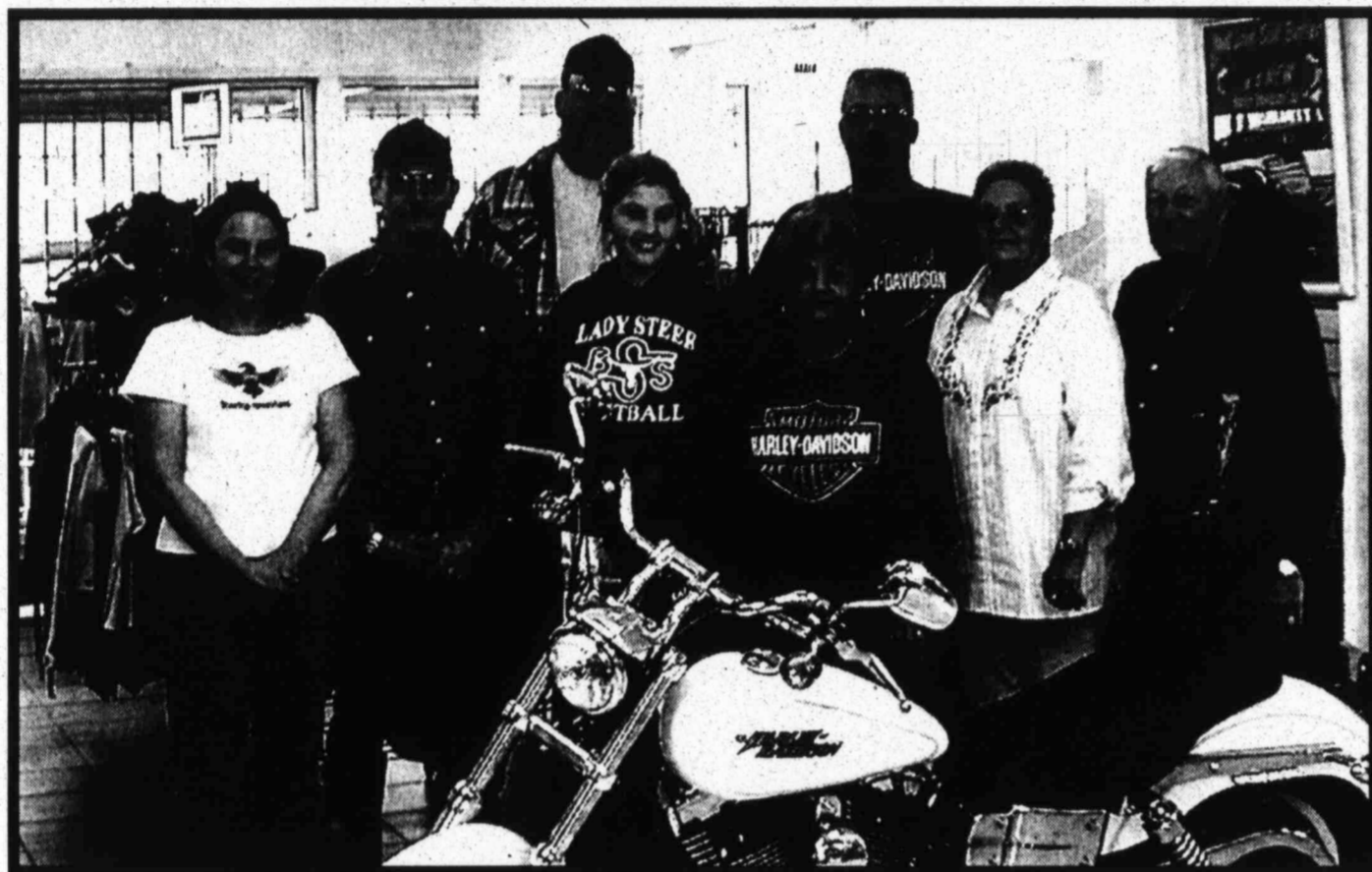
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GIRLS

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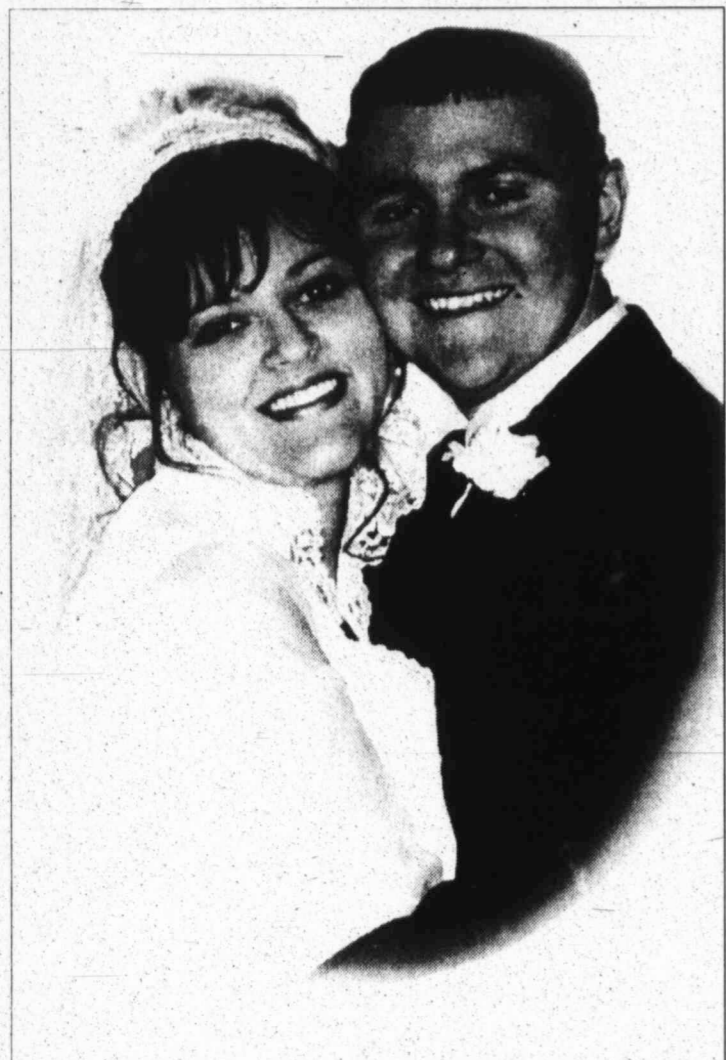
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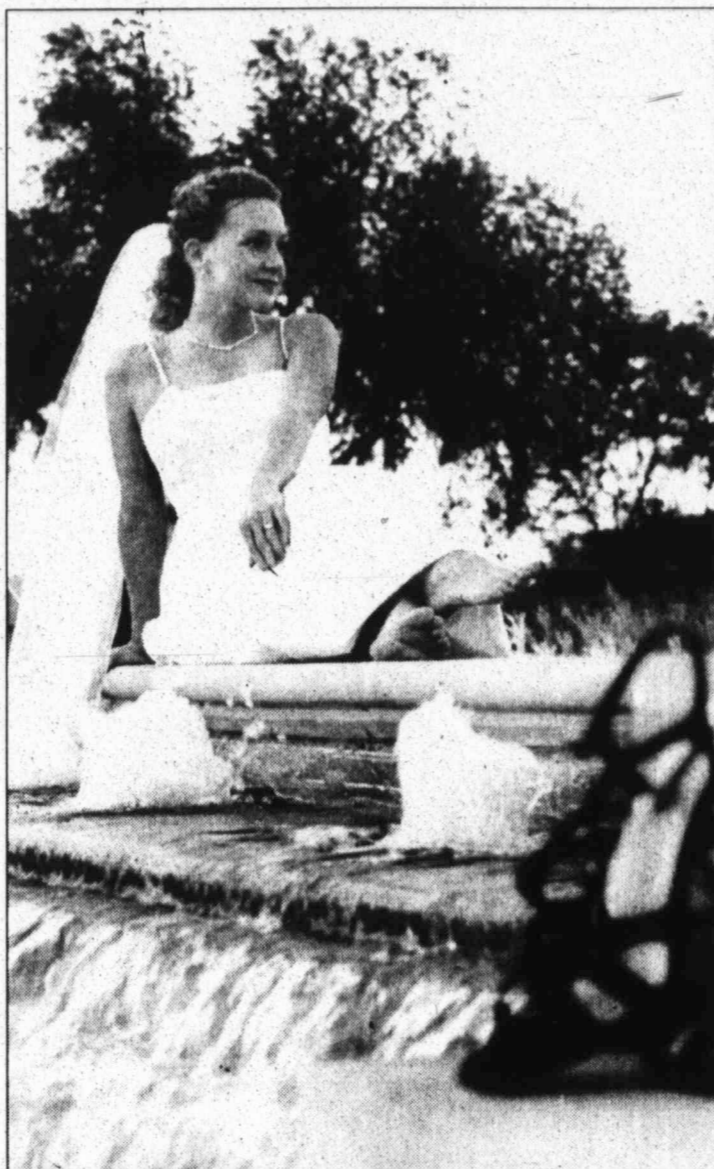
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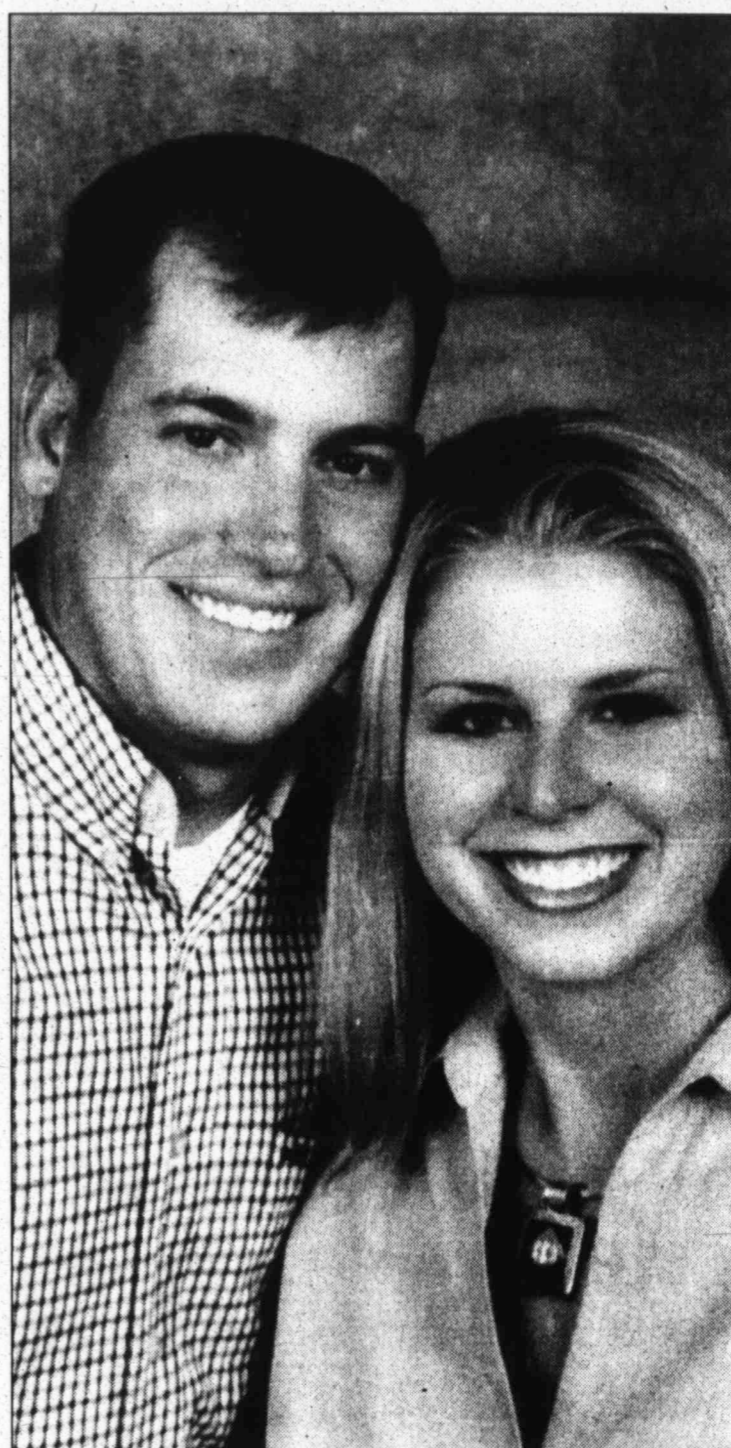
Weddings



Mr. and Mrs. Justin Blair Gamble



Mrs. Brandon Matthew Hawkins



Mr. and Mrs. Galen Wayne Schwartz

Meadows and Gamble

Kristen Louise Meadows and Justin Blair Gamble of San Angelo were married at 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003, in First United Methodist Church in Coahoma. The exchange of marriage vows was officiated by Pastor Wanda Hill.

The bride is the daughter of Doug and Betty Meadows of Killeen. She is a 2000 graduate of Killeen High School. She graduated from Howard College School of Nursing, San Angelo Branch, in 2003 and works as an LVN at Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo.

The groom is the son of John and Sue Keller of Big Spring, Perry and Wanda Gamble of Big Spring, and the grandson of Joe and Mildred Gamble of Big Spring, Rose Gamble of Big Spring, and Charles "Mo" Utley of Big Spring and the late Jessie Lee Utley. He is a 1998 graduate of Coahoma High School and graduated from Howard College in 2000 with an associates degree in science. He also attended Angelo State University and is employed with D&S Residential Homes in San Angelo.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She wore her mother's wedding gown, designed in a traditional, long white style, enhanced with seed pearls and lace along the cuffs and bodice and around the train and veil.

She carried a bouquet of yellow, orange and burgundy gladiolus braided together with streamers, created by the bride's sister.

Jacque Mauch sang "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied by Lorene Barbee playing the organ.

The bride's matron of honor was the bride's sister, Amanda Adcock of Killeen. Her bridesmaids were Danielle Valdez and Mary Helen Ames of San Angelo. Serving as best man was Anthony Gonzales of Midland and groomsmen included Jonathan Barr of Plano and Stephen Prater of Lubbock.

Serving as the couple's flower girl was the groom's niece, Christian Gamble of Midland.

The ring bearer was the groom's nephew, Collin Smith of Roscoe.

A reception was held at the Big Spring Shrine Club. Hors d'oeuvres selections were served to guests prior to the arrival of the bride and groom. The Big Spring Shrine Club Fire Brigade escorted the couple in its 1927 antique fire truck, driven by the groom's stepfather, with the flag carts leading the wedding party. James Hughes and Cody Hughes drove the flag carts. The wedding cake was created of Italian cream in a six-tier design with cream icing topped with champagne glasses, fall leaves and a modern sculpture of a bride and groom.

The reception table was decorated with an antique quilt and fall foliage. Guests were served a brisket dinner. A dance followed the dinner with music provided by Vince Allen.

The guestbook gift table was decorated with baby pictures of the bride and groom, a crystal dish filled with fall foliage and candles decorated with fall flowers.

Following the reception, the bride and groom took a honeymoon trip to New Orleans. They reside in San Angelo.

Cranford and Hawkins

Sara Ruth Cranford and Brandon Matthew Hawkins were united in marriage at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2003, at the historic Baker building in downtown Lubbock. Dr. Michael Dean, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth and uncle of the bride, and Patrick Hawkins, father of the groom, officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Reg Cranford of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Cranford of Fort Worth, formerly residents of Big Spring. She is a graduate of Big Spring High School, Howard College and Texas Tech University. She is working to earn her master's degree and is self-employed.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hawkins of Corpus Christi. He is a graduate of Cal Allen High School in Corpus Christi and a student at Texas Tech University studying civil engineering. He is co-owner of Power House Builders, a construction company in Lubbock.

The bride selected an elegant, faux, two-piece strapless gown with a chapel length train in candlelight Italian satin from the St. Patrick collection. The gown's neckline of the A-line style was edged with crystal beads and floral embroidery and seed pearls embellished the bodice. She carried a fall bouquet of Leonita roses surrounded by hoyas, coffee arabica and copper eucalyptus.

Jennifer Antu, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. Gretchen Boling and Heidi Hawkins, sisters of the groom, served as bridesmaids. They wore dresses mad by Iris McGlothlin of Big Spring.

Daniel Wilkins was the best man and Jamey Boling and Michael Hewett were groomsmen. Serving as usher was Aaron Eugenis.

Kris Antu and Brenna Antu, nieces of the bride, were junior bridesmaids. Kris Antu carried a cross to memorialize the deceased family members of the bride and groom, and to honor those family members who could not attend the ceremony. Brenna carried a basket of fall leaves which she tossed as she made her way down the aisle with her brother and nephew of the bride, Randy, who was the ring bearer.

Todd and Kim Perry, Stacy Young, Jennifer Antu, Ashley Cook and Allison Dean provided music along with a string quartet.

A reception was held following the ceremony. The bride's table featured a five-tier ivory colored wedding cake decorated with sugared pomegranates, bosc pears and Leonita roses.

The groom's table had a selection of cheesecakes displayed on a pewter stand designed and made by the groom. Food selections for the wedding reception was buffet style prepared by the bride's aunts.

After a honeymoon trip to Ashville, N.C., the couple makes their home in Lubbock.

Skehan and Schwartz

Kristin Kasburg Skehan of Midland and Galen Wayne Schwartz of Garden City were married at 4 p.m. on Dec. 27, 2003, in Ozona Catholic Church in Ozona.

The bride is the daughter of Jim and Laura Skehan of Ozona and the granddaughter of Bill and Betty Stuard of San Angelo and Hank and Patty Skehan of Comstock. She recently earned a bachelor's degree in education.

The groom is the son of Ernie and Debra Schwartz of Garden City and the grandson of Joe and Rose Schwartz of Garden City and Ed and Bernadette Plagens of Garden City. He is self employed in the farming industry.

Story idea? Contact the Life desk editor, Marsha Allen with your story suggestion, 263-7331, ext 236, or e-mail life@bigspringherald.com

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Engagements

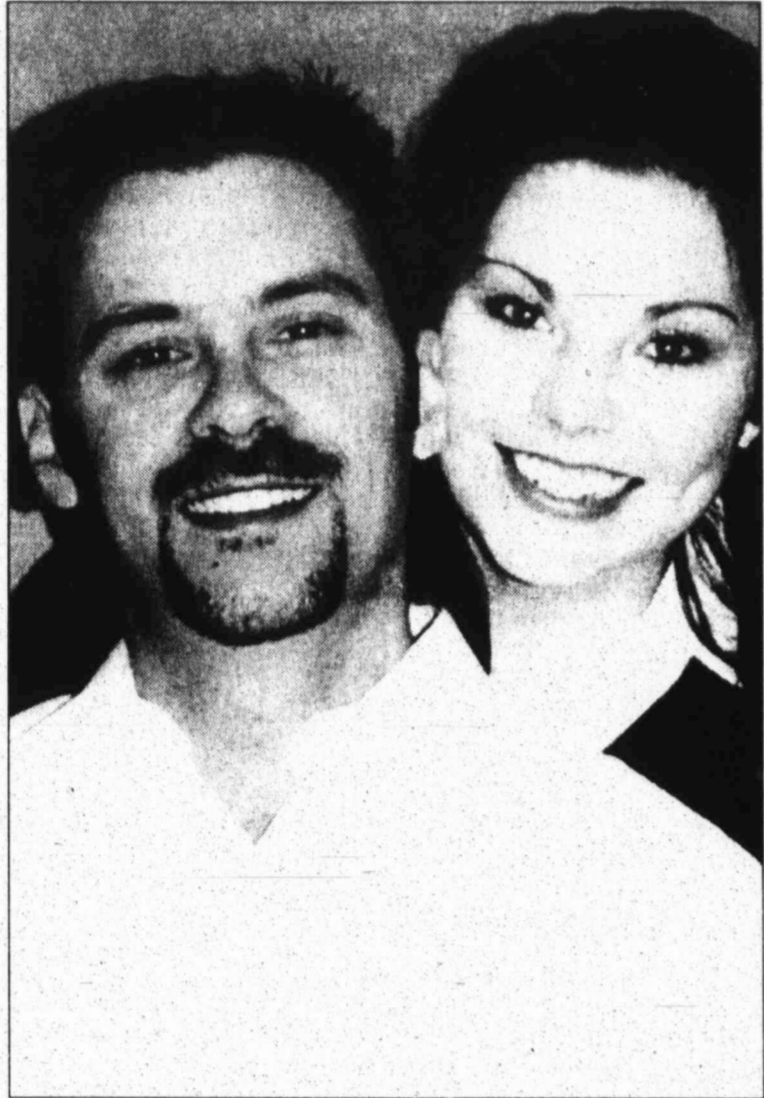
Caffey and Wilber

Roddy and Jann Caffey of Big Spring announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kori Brooke Caffey to Brad Lane Wilber of Winnie.

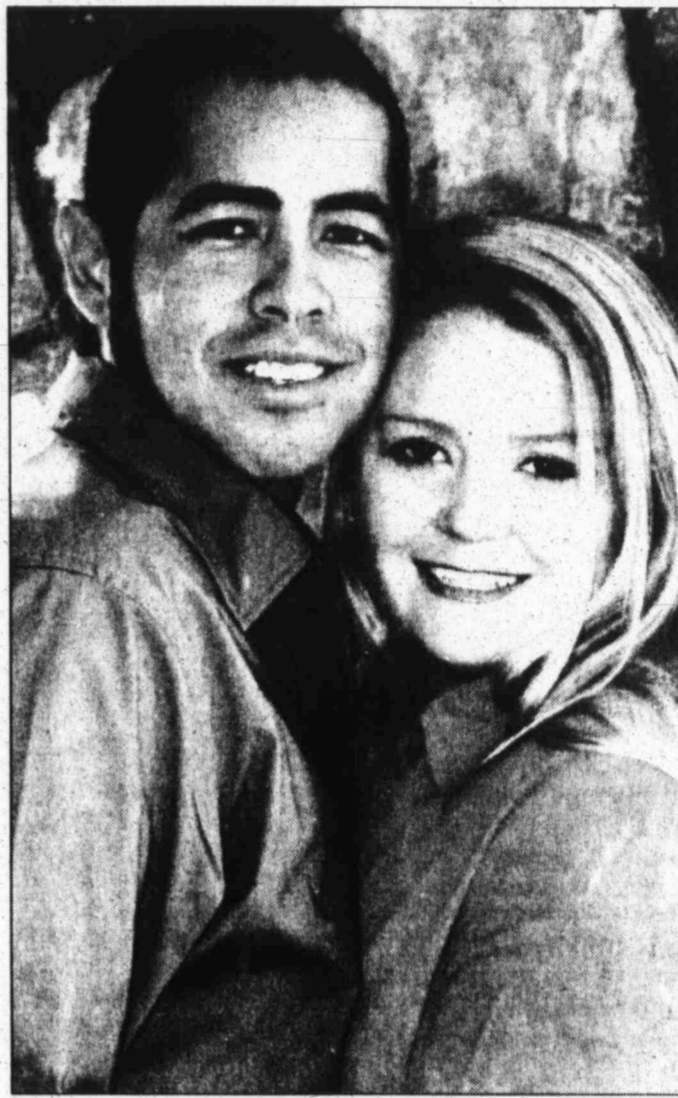
The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Robert and Patty Caffey of San Angelo and Ean and JoAnne Forrest of Big Spring.

The prospective groom is the son of Frank and Lois Hatcher of High Island and the late Charles "Beau" Wilber.

The exchange of marriage vows ceremony will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the Raddison Cable Beach Golf Resort in Nassau, Bahamas.



Kori Caffey and Brad Wilber



Amanda Cole and Adrian Calvio

Cole and Calvio

Amanda Dian Cole of Big Spring and Adrian C. Calvio of Austin will be married March 9, 2004, at St. Maarten, B.V.I.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Eddie and Vicki Cole of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Austin and Faye Steen of Crosbyton and Maggie Griffin and the late Will D. Griffin of Crosbyton. She earned a bachelor's of business administration in marketing and management from Texas Tech University and a master's of business administration from Southwest Texas State University. She works for Westex Auto Parts.

The prospective groom is the son of Alex and Martha Calvio of Big Spring and the grandson of Rosa Alvarez and the late Jesus Alvarez of Big Spring, Lupe Calvio and the late Leland Calvio of Big Spring. He earned a bachelor's of science and applied sociology degree from Texas State University.

Bridal Services

More newlyweds beginning their lives together in closer proximity to family

There used to be a time when newlyweds raced away from their hometowns shortly after getting married, eager to begin a new life on their own; but that is no longer the case. According to recent survey findings, people are beginning to realize the lure of new places and faces doesn't compare to the benefits of staying closer to family.

"The advantages of living near our family have a lot to do with comfort," states Jeff Livingston, of Sloatsburg, N.Y. "It's just easier when you can ask your father-in-law, 'hey, where should I take my car to get new tires?' Now, living near my family, I take my car to the same guy that used to service my grandfather's vehicles."

Livingston, his wife Paige and their three boys ages 1 to 5, live in the same area where his family has resided for over 300 years and where an extensive family network still remains. The couple met while Paige, a native of the Midwest, was in graduate school in New York. After their marriage, they spent several years in the Midwest near Paige's family before moving back to New York prior to the birth of their second son.

"We've talked about what we would do if I was offered a position internationally through the company I work for," Livingston, an architect, muses. "It would be a fun adventure but tough to do. I can't say we would readily move to where we don't know someone."

According to a recent survey conducted by Harris Interactive and sponsored by Modern Woodmen of America, Rock Island, Ill., the majority of Americans have extended family members living nearby.

"Our survey found nearly two out of three Americans or 65 percent are living within the same state or closer, and nearly one quarter of us have extended family living as close



as the same city," says Sharon Snawerdt of Modern Woodmen of America. The fraternal financial services organization advocates fostering strong family and community ties. The organization sponsors a Web site, www.gatherings.info that provides ideas and resources to encourage family gatherings and communication.

Snawerdt adds, "Most of us feel that the key ingredient for closeness is quality time together. The survey also found that one in 10 Americans would try to live closer to extended family to strengthen those bonds."

"Living by my family definitely has an impact," says Livingston. "We see my family at least once a week. We run into them everywhere we go. They help with the kids and take them places. You really don't have to work too hard at the relationships. They just happen daily."

If you are not in close proximity to family, it takes a lot of work to keep family relationships strong. This is a situation when people will sometimes turn to resources such as books, magazines and even the Internet to help pull together a gath-

ering. Many Web sites, like www.gatherings.info, offer tips, checklists, recipes and ideas to help simplify the planning process.

A lifetime influence

For those people who grow up near their family and enjoy frequent face-to-face interaction, the effects and advantages may not be that apparent. It is just life as they know it. According to Dr. Allan Carlson, president of The Howard Center for Family, Religion & Society, the daily familial relationships people take for granted are building a network for their success and security in the future.

"When children grow up around their extended family, they know that family means something broader than just their parents and their siblings," emphasizes Dr. Carlson. "It is critical, I feel, to their emotional development that they know that they are part of this ongoing pageant of life; that they have roots that go back to their grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins; that they are part of a greater group. It can have a powerful affect on their lives now and in the future."

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Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. T.J. "Jerry" Musgrove Jr.

Celebrating their golden anniversary

T.J. "Jerry" and LaDell "Dell" (Johnson) Musgrove Jr. will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary from 2 to 5 p.m. Jan. 17.

A reception, hosted by their children and grandchildren, will be held in the fellowship hall of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Mr. Musgrove is a native of Hilton and Mrs. Musgrove of Boswell, Okla. The couple met on a blind date hayride held by Northside Baptist Church in Big Spring in October 1953. They were married Jan. 15, 1954, at Northside in a ceremony officiated by Carlos McCloud.

The Musgroves have lived in El Paso; Red Bank, N.J.; Fountain Bleu, France and Big Spring. Mr. Musgrove served in the U.S. Army and is retired from Musgrove Electric and Cosden Fina Oil and Chemical. She is retired from ownership of Dell's Cafe. They are members of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

The have a son and daughter, T.J. "Tom" Musgrove Jr. and his wife, Liz, and Susan Palmer and her husband Clarence. They have four grandchildren.



The Musgroves on their wedding day

The couple enjoys spending summers in Cloudcroft, N.M., golfing, pawn shopping with friends, are avid fans of Elmer Kelton westerns and love to spend reading time with their grandchildren.

Of their successful 50-year marriage he says it couldn't be better and she touts that putting the Lord first will cause everything else to fall into place.

Be careful of gasoline burns

During Burn Awareness Week 2004, Feb. 1-7, the Shriners, members of the fraternal organization that operates 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children throughout North America want people to take the necessary steps to prevent flammable liquid and gasoline-related burns.

"The greatest tragedy is that most burn injuries are preventable," says M.

Burton Oien, president and CEO of the Shriners of North America. "Every year Shriners get involved in Burn Awareness Week to help people prevent dangerous burns. This year we hope to decrease the number of flammable liquid and gasoline-related burns."

Keep flammable products, matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

Less-invasive gastric bypass surgery gaining popularity

By ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press Writer

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS — As America's waistline has been steadily increasing, so has the popularity of a less-invasive surgery for the morbidly obese.

When a gastric bypass operation is done through laparoscopy, a camera is inserted through the navel and doctors work through several 1- to 2-inch incisions in the abdomen. No large incision means patients usually recover faster and have fewer complications.

"It's still a major surgery. It is not a cosmetic operation," said Dr. David D. Kim, director of the new Bariatric Surgery Center at North Hills Hospital, which started offering the procedure in November. "It's done to improve overall health. Patients are sort of trapped in their bodies, and this operation gives them the tools to lose weight."

The laparoscopic weight-loss procedure originated a decade ago and now accounts for about half of the gastric bypass surgeries in this country, said Dr. Alan Whitgrove, a San Diego surgeon and president of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery.

The number of both types of operations has nearly tripled since 1997 to 63,100 last year, according to the organization, and it's no wonder.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 61 percent of adults and 15 percent of children in the United States are overweight. The number of extremely obese American adults — those who are at least 100 pounds overweight — has quadrupled since the 1980s to about 4 million, or about one in every 50 adults, according to a recent RAND Corp. study.

About 6 percent of healthcare expenditures in this country, some \$238 billion a year, are for obesity-related diseases.

Birth

Dylan Lane Kinard
Glen and Alisa Kinard welcomed their son Dylan Lane Kinard at 10:05 on Jan. 1, 2004, weighing six pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 21 inches long.

Grandparents are Charlene Ables of Odessa and Austin Ables of Big Spring and Sonny and Bonnie Kinard of Big Spring.

Story idea? Contact Life desk with your story suggestion, 263-7331, ext. 236 or e-mail life@bigspringherald.com

Read us online: bigspringherald.com

according to the Journal of the American Medical Association. Excess weight can lead to diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, sleep apnea, arthritis and even depression, according to medical experts.

"I call obesity, unfortunately, the last acceptable form of prejudice in our society," Kim said. "But it has become so prevalent — how can it be anything short of a disease?"

Mortality rates for gastric bypass are about 0.5 percent, slightly higher than for other common procedures such as tonsillectomies or gall bladder surgery.

That's because obese people usually are high-risk already because of other serious health problems, medical experts say.

The most common type of surgery for morbidly obese Americans is the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, first done in 1967. A surgeon — through a large, vertical incision — divides the stomach in two, then attaches the small intestine to the smaller stomach pouch, about the size of an egg. The larger part of the stomach is no longer used.

Patients usually lose 70 percent of their weight in the first year to 18 months, Kim said. After that, patients must exercise and keep eating healthy foods — although, obviously, in smaller amounts — to shed pounds.

The first laparoscopic gastric bypass was done in 1993 at San Diego's Alvarado Hospital

Medical Center by Whitgrove and his colleagues, who have done 3,500 procedures since.

Other surgical methods, including stomach stapling and placing a band around the upper part of the stomach to restrict food, are not done as often in this country because they have not been as successful for maintaining weight loss, Whitgrove said.

Gastric bypass surgery costs from \$15,000 to \$25,000, and the laparoscopy procedure usually is more expensive because more instruments are used, Whitgrove said.

Insurance companies

initially refused to cover the surgery but later agreed, realizing the future cost savings as patients' health problems improved. Whitgrove said. However, many insurers have recently started requiring prospective patients to prove that they have failed at several diets, he said.

"Now, as there's a demand for the surgery, they're throwing roadblocks in front of it," Whitgrove said.

On the Web site, North Hills Hospital is <http://www.northhillshospital.com>, and the American Society for Bariatric Surgery: <http://www.asbs.org>



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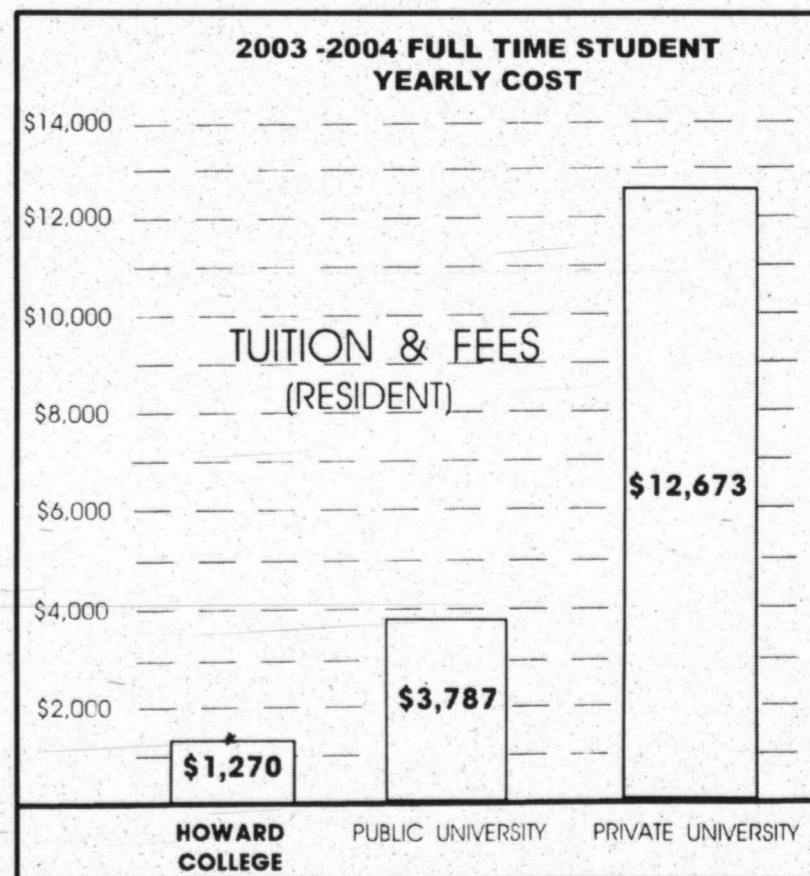
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LEVI'S

Continued from Page 6B

force shrink from more than 37,000 in 1996 to about 12,000 as of last month, roughly half of them in the United States, said spokeswoman Kari Otto Seymore.

Along with the San Francisco headquarters, Levi's will continue to base its design and sales staffs in the United States, along with some distribution centers.

"We're still an American brand, but we're also a brand and a company whose products have been adopted by consumers around the world," Beckman said.

"We have to operate as a global company."

Walter Loeb, a retail analyst in New York, says the profitability of moving production is worth more than a symbolic presence in the United States, where Levi's had made jeans since the 1870s.

"Investors are not very sentimental these days," Loeb said.

Loeb said even with overseas labor, management faces a big challenge in restoring the

company's once-snug fit with consumers.

"There was a time when Levi's was the fashion garment of the day," he said. "The exclusivity of the Levi's brand is no longer as important to customers."

Seymore said Levi's severance package includes two weeks pay for every full year of employment, as well as an enhanced pension program and a period of subsidized medical coverage. In addition, she said, workers will be given up to \$2,450 each.

That's better than what Viola Casares received when she and about 1,100 other Levi's employees were laid off from another San Antonio plant in 1990, but she doubts many workers are smiling.

"They would rather have a job," said Casares, who co-founded a group that protested the 1990 closure. She said that with other factories in the city also closing, workers will have trouble finding jobs that pay as well as the ones they're losing.

"For me right now, I feel like I'm in mourning," Casares said. "We used to be like a family. It's hard to believe that it's final."

JOBS

Continued from Page 6B

lion jobs since President Bush took office, a statistic that Democrats hope to use against Bush as he seeks re-election.

"Rather than focusing on putting a person on the moon, I think the Bush administration should focus on putting people back to work," said Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill., a former Clinton White House aide, citing Bush's planned announcement next week of goals of sending Americans to Mars and establishing a permanent human presence on the moon.

The Bush administration contends that stronger economic growth — helped by the president's three tax cuts — will eventually lead to more meaningful job creation on a sustained basis.

"The pace of December job growth reinforces the need to pass all the elements of the president's plan for job creation,"

said Commerce Secretary Don Evans. "President Bush won't be satisfied until every American seeking work finds a job. Congress should make tax relief permanent and act with urgency on the rest of President Bush's jobs and growth agenda."

For that sustained growth, analysts are looking for monthly payroll gains of 200,000 to 300,000 — a mark the economy is far from reaching. December marked the fifth consecutive month of payroll gains, however slight.

Other areas of the economy are surging, but the jobs market has been a weak link in the recovery. To remain competitive in the global economy and out of concern that economic improvements wouldn't last, companies have been hesitant to take on added costs of hiring new full-time workers. Instead, they have been working their employees longer and harder. Hence, the productivity of American workers has been at high levels in recent months.

GOATS

Continued from Page 6B

able to all goat producers.

"Through the combination of performance records and pedigree records, we will be able to have a valid comparison of animals in Texas, Kentucky, California, or any other state. The ABGA is fortunate to have the Texas A&M faculty available to help us develop this very valuable resource."

Waldron said the program will give purebred Boer breeders and commercial goat producers an important tool to improve the genetic merit of their herds.

"Selecting more productive animals will lead to

increased efficiency of production," said Waldron. "Using EPDs to select breeding stock gives producers the ability to predict how next year's kid crop will perform."

"The ABGA breeders took the initiative and came to me for help in developing this program last winter. This grant will help the ABGA to make faster progress toward the availability of EPDs," Waldron said.

Waldron said commercial goat producers will ultimately benefit from the B-GIN program because they will be able to buy bucks that will produce predictable results in the coming year's kid crop.

Tommy Yeater is the Howard County Extension agent for agriculture.

SNB

Continued from Page 6B

other employees thought enough of me to give me this award. We have a wonderful group of people to work with here at State National Bank and that means a lot to me. I really enjoy it here. It's a good place to work."

Thompson said when she was chosen as an employee of the quarter, she never imagined she would be named employ-

ee of the year.

"I really didn't think about it that much," she said. "It was really a surprise though. I'm just really grateful."

"The gratuity that came with it was really nice, but the fact that the employees thought enough of me to give me this award means more. It's a great honor."

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

PUBLIC RECORDS

Hot Checks/Warrants Issued:
The addresses listed are the last known addresses. If there are any problems with this list, please call 264-2226.

Castellano, Earmalinda, 1002 N. Main Street Apt. 30, Big Spring
Castellano, Isa Mojica, 1002 N. Main Street Apt. 30, Big Spring
Castillo, Danelle, 1804 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
Castillo, Samantha Lee, 2515 Ent, Big Spring
Copeland, Nikki, 2508 Sweetbriar Drive Apt. 801, San Angelo
Dry, Johnnie Lou, RR 11 Box 156 FM 2011, Longview
Gaitan, Sylvia I., 1100 Lamar Ave., Big Spring
Garvin, Darwin, 4500 Avenue U, Snyder
Gonzales, Krystal A., 2401 Marcy Apt. 15, Big Spring
Holsenbeck, Karie, 702 W. 18th Street, Big Spring
Hunt, Cheryl D., 538 Westover Road Apt 245, Big Spring
Koonce, Randy, 4500 W. Illinois, Midland
Mills, Cody Alissa Dodson, 112 Hooser Road/3202 Auburn, Big Spring
Ramey, Jeannetta Carol Newsom, 203 Avenue B/17801 FM 2203, Ackerly
Ramirez, Juan Jose, 110 N. 16th Street, Lamesa
Renteria, Tina, 4200 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
Rios, Salome Adolph, 2511 Albrook, Big Spring
Salazar, Eric, 2403 37th Street, Lubbock
Shifflet, Wally, 6901 Tumbleweed Apt. 5, Odessa
Smith, Cory, 2101 E. Ninth Street Apt. 8, Odessa
Tanis, Clint Randall, 4301 Raleigh Court Apt. 1804, Midland
Taylor, Curtis, USS Tarawa LHA-1, California
Vega, Ruben, 214 Grimes, Big Spring
Williams, Georgianna, 907 E. Interstate Highway 20 Apt. 24, Big Spring
Williams, Tonya Marie Bridge, 3111 S. Anderson Road, Big Spring
Yanez, Eva Carrasco, 1408 Oriole/1616 Mesquite, Big Spring

County Court Rulings:
Probated Judgment: Martin H. Brito, Possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces, \$500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in

jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Misty N. Bosley, theft-more than \$20 less than \$500, \$100 fine, \$311 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Terrie Deebann Allen, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Fidel Perez, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Manuel Rey Chavarria, driving while license suspended-enhanced, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Cherilyn Ausbie, failure to identify-giving false/fictitious information, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Melissa V. Wiltsie, failure to identify as a fugitive-intentionally giving false information, \$500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: William Leroy Davis, driving while license suspended, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Dennis M. Richardson, driving while license suspended, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Jesse Deleon Jr., driving while intoxicated, \$500 fine, \$276 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Ramon Alvear, burglary of a vehicle, \$1,500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Paul John Holguin, evading arrest, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 30 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Christopher L. Valencia, theft-more than \$50 less than \$500, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 90 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Christopher Lee Valencia, evading arrest, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 90 days in jail.

Marilyn Kay Intlekofer, evading arrest, \$261 court costs, 40 days in jail.

Marriage Licenses:
Jaime Aaron Ovalle, 22, and Karla Fabiola Vega Magana, 20, both of Big Spring.
Alejandro Cordero Gonzales, 21, of New York, and Nora Hinojazo Hernandez, 43, of Colorado.
Gregory Wallace McAlister, 21, and Cammie Denise Davis, 19, both of Big Spring.
Jessie Moilm Ferrel Jr., 63, and Lucia Zapata Gomez, 58, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings:
Margarita Velasquez vs. Betty Jane McWilliams, injury/damages with a motor vehicle.
Citibank (South Dakota) N.A. vs. Thomas E. Kligora, accounts, notes and contracts.
John Wesley Hazelwood vs. Ruth Ann Hazelwood, divorce.
Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas vs. Robert Shaffer, accounts, notes and contracts.
Karen Gloria Bethke vs. Ian James Bethke, divorce.
Alice L. Villa vs. Henry S. Mickey Lynn Gammons vs. Patricia Hooser Gammons, divorce.
Cory Joe Maxwell vs. Barbara Lyn Maxwell, divorce.
City Bank (South Dakota) N.A. vs. Roger D. Battle, accounts, notes and contracts.

Warranty Deed:
Grantor: Dawn Michelle Tucker
Grantee: Sarah Hansen
Property: Lot 4, Block 6, Settles Heights Addition
Date filed: Dec. 29, 2003

Grantor: Rayburn J. Barbee and Jessie Lorene Barbee
Grantee: A.D. Choate
Property: Lots 9 and 10, Block 5, Saunders Addition
Date filed: Dec. 29, 2003

Grantor: Patsy J. Guinn and Bobby D. Grant
Grantee: Koila Strickland
Property: An 8.031 acre tract out of the SW/4 of Section 18, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Dec. 30, 2003

Grantor: Paul Clark
Grantee: Randy Paige
Property: The S/2 of Subdivision 5 of Section 48 in Block 32, T-1-N T&P RR Co.

Survey
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

Grantor: Delaware Limited Liability Co.
Grantee: Edward D. Cole and Vicki Cole
Property: A 1.03 acre tract out of the E/2 of Block 17, Brennand Addition
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Jimmy L. Newsom and Georgie Newsom
Grantee: Apolinar Prieto and Noemi C. Arriola
Property: Lots 2, 3 and 4, Block 23, Fairview Heights Addition
Date filed: Dec. 29, 2003

Grantor: Danny Thomas, Trustee of the Wynell Rayburn Revocable Trust
Grantee: Jackie Don Merrill and Mary Lou Merrill
Property: Lot 1, Block 1, Cole and Strayhorn Addition
Date filed: Dec. 29, 2003

Grantor: Reveille Patterson
Grantee: Frank Del Bosquez and Mary Del Bosquez
Property: The S/2 of Lots 5 and 6, Block 14, Jones Valley Addition
Date filed: Dec. 30, 2003

Grantor: Judy Fortneberrry Sprowl and Loren A. Sprowl
Grantee: Wayne K. Frowl and Glenda Sue Frost
Property: The N/2 of Lot 2, Block 1, Worth Peeler Subdivision
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

Grantor: Ted W. Thomas and Sharon Thomas
Grantee: Billy King and Virginia King
Property: A 6.03 acre tract out of the SE/4 of Section 23, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

Grantor: Jason N. York and Andrea Andrews York
Grantee: Bobby R. Capps
Property: Lots 2, 3, 4 and 5, Block 5, William Green Addition
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

Grantor: Echols Family Living Trust
Grantee: Raymond Harrison and Diane Harrison
Property: A 7.47 acre tract out of the W/2 of the E/2 of Section 2, Block 31, T-1-S T&P RR Co. Survey
Date filed: Dec. 31, 2003

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