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WEEKEND EDITION

October, 16-17, 2004

WEATHER



PARTLY CLOUDY SUNDAY 76-78 SUNDAY NIGHT 59-61

BRIEFLY

Victim Services seeks donations of old cell phones

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Victim Services is in need of old cell phones.

The cell phones can be reconditioned and programmed for use by victims to call for help in emergency situations.

To donate old cell phones, batteries and chargers for Victim Services, drop them at the following locations: the Big Spring Herald, KBST, the Big Spring Police Department, Howard County Sheriff's Office, Wes-Tex Communications, Professional Pharmacy and The Medicine Shoppe.

For more information, call Victim Services at 263-3312.

CSPAN's Website offers debate video

The recent debate between 19th Congressional District candidates Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, and Libertarian Dr. Richard Peterson at Texas Tech University is available in streaming video media at www.CSPAN.org under the "state debates" section.

Jury duty canceled

Jury duty scheduled for Monday in 118th District Court has been canceled. Anyone receiving a jury summons for that date should disregard it.

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Early voting set to get under way Monday

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Get out your voter registration cards and get ready to flex your electoral pectorals. Early voting will begin Monday morning in Howard County, as area voters finally get the chance to make their voices heard in what has become a rather heated presidential election.

Howard County District Clerk Donna Wright said her office is ready to help area voters cast their ballots, and while the turnout the 2004 election will draw remains a mystery, it's cer-

"Voter turnout for any election is really a mystery. You don't really know what gets people to the polls, whether they don't like the people that are currently in charge or they're afraid of what may be coming in. It's always hard to tell."



WRIGHT

tainly off to a good start.

"We've mailed out 407 ballots as of Thursday," said Wright. "At this same point in the 2000 presidential election, we were

only at 283 ballots, so we're looking at a considerable increase.

"Voter turnout for any election is really a mystery. You don't really know what gets people to

the polls, whether they don't like the people that are currently in charge or they're afraid of what may be coming in. It's always hard to tell."

Early voting will be held at the Howard County Courthouse Monday through Friday, until Oct. 29. Wright said her office will also be taking the polls "on the road" during early voting in an effort to bring the electoral process to the voters.

"We're going to make trips to the Spring City Senior Center, Canterbury retirement homes

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Students from Bauer Elementary watch as their time capsule is encased in the new Hangar 25 museum sign. From the left are: Vice President of the museum, Gloria Byrd McDonald, Erik Dominguez, Anthony Williams, Karla Carrasco, Kalob Arteaga and Kaley Duncan. The group is invited back to the museum on Oct. 15, 2054 to uncover the time-capsule contents which included a wooden airplane donated by the Boys' club, small toys important to the children and pictures the class drew depicting what they enjoy doing, their families and what believe life will be like in 50 years.

Forsan trustees to meet Monday

By KENDRA WISS Staff Writer

The Forsan Independent School District Board of Trustees will meet Monday to discuss wind turbines, land acquisitions, ratings and district improvement.

Trustees are expecting two companies to present plans for wind turbines in the coming months. This increase in tax funds may make a difference to the school if they have to move from a Chapter 42 school to a Chapter 41 school, which would

move the district into contributing to the "Robin Hood" plan.

Lots next to the school have become available for sale and trustees will consider purchasing them for use as a bus barn.

Next, trustees will review donation procedures for the district as the band faces raises money for their trip to Washington.

The Texas Education Association has issued its district ratings and trustees will review these results.

Bond information will be presented as it pertains to the

Permanent School Fund Guarantee.

The Fair Labor Standards Act has changed the way overtime can be paid and trustees will address these changes.

Next, the elementary and secondary principals will present their reports to the board and will outline their campus ratings and plan for improvement.

Action items for the board to consider include:

- Reading and approval of min-

See FORSAN, Page 3A

15-month-old girl critical after accidental shooting

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

A 15-month-old girl remains in critical condition in the Lubbock Covenant Pediatric Unit, fighting for her life after an accidental shooting that took place in the child's home Thursday afternoon.

The child, who's name is currently being withheld by the Howard County Sheriff's Office, was reportedly shot at point-blank range with a 12-gauge shotgun. Sheriff Dale Walker said

one shot was fired, hitting the girl in both of her lower legs. The gun was wielded by her 4-year-old sibling.

"We received the 911 call at approximately 5:20 p.m. yesterday," said Walker. "According to the call, the child had a laceration. An ambulance and deputy were immediately dispatched to the home where it occurred, which is in the 300 block of Pettus Road.

"Before the ambulance and deputy could arrive on the scene the child was transported by pri-

ivate vehicle. The private vehicle was near the Big Spring State Hospital when the ambulance and deputy caught up and transported the girl to the emergency room."

Once the girl arrived at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center emergency room, Walker said she was stabilized so she could be flown to Lubbock.

"There was already an AeroCare helicopter at the hospital to transport another patient when the girl arrived," said Walker. "It took them quite a

while to get her stable enough to fly, but once they had they went ahead and bumped the patient that was supposed to be taken and took the infant to Lubbock."

The infant is listed in critical condition, according to Walker, and is expected to go into surgery as soon as doctors determine she's stable enough for the procedures.

Walker said the children's mother was home at the time of the shooting.

See GIRL, Page 3A

Forum

Chamber offering voters a chance to meet candidates

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will give area voters a chance to get to know the candidates vying for their ballots Monday with a forum Monday evening.

The forum, which is slated for 6 p.m. at the Big Spring High School Cafeteria, will be a very informal event according to Virginia Belew, the governmental affairs committee chairperson for the Chamber.

"We want to give citizens an opportunity to actually visit with the candidates," Belew explained. "It will be more relaxed. And with the number of candidates that are going to be there, we felt this would be a better setting for people to get to know them."

Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde said the scheduled forum will by no means be a debate.

"This forum will be nothing like a debate," Debbye ValVerde, the chamber's executive director, explained. "In fact, it will be very loosely structured. The candidates will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and a few minutes to speak about the issues they consider important. After that we want the candidates to have an opportunity to mingle with the audience and be able to answer individual voters' questions face-to-face."

Several candidates have confirmed they will attend, including Howard County Sheriff candidates, Democrat Dale Walker and GOP challenger Ron Allen.

Republican incumbent Bill

See FORUM, Page 3A

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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

A Big Spring woman was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center emergency room Friday afternoon with only minor injuries when her van, which was traveling south on Lancaster, was struck by a Ford Pickup traveling west on 16th Street. Police on the scene said the driver of the pickup pulled out in front of the van after stopping at the intersection's stop sign, and was cited for failure to yield the right of way.

**FORUM**

Continued from Page 1A

Crooker and Democrat James (Dick) Dubose, candidates in the Precinct 3 county commissioner's race, have also indicated they will attend.

In the Precinct 1 commissioner's race, Edwin O. Ware, the Republican challenger to Democratic incumbent Emma Puga Brown, has announced he will attend. Others who have indicated they will attend are Republican Justice of the Peace Precinct 1, Place 1 incumbent Bennie Green, who is challenged by Democrat Phil Bustamante; and

Republican Boyce Hale, who is seeking the Precinct 1 constable's position.

Representatives of Congressman Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, and Congressman Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, will also be on hand to visit with voters.

Both candidates seeking the District 85 Texas House of Representatives seat, incumbent Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, and Republican challenger Kent Sharp of Big Spring, are also expected to attend.

"We want to really encourage the public to come out and attend the forum and take an interest in the election," Belew said. "Not only do we

want to make sure local voters get a chance to meet and question the candidates, but we also want to make sure the candidates — especially those seeking national and statewide office — know what we here in the Big Spring area consider important issues."

Belew indicated that plans call for an interpreter to be on hand to provide signing for the hearing disabled. "And if there's anyone else who has a handicap or other condition that requires special auxiliary aids, we want them to call the chamber office and let us know."

For more information, call the chamber office at 263-7641.

**Howard College trustees to handle routine matters at Monday meeting**

By KENDRA WISS, Staff Writer

Trustees of Howard College will meet at 12:30 p.m. Monday in the board room for a regular meeting.

New business for the trustees includes addressing an Alon tax abatement request, approving a resolution extending time to hold property deeded in lieu of tax foreclosure.

Next, trustees will consider approving an Associate of Arts in Teaching from the state, a University of Texas at El

Paso nurse educator program and a Lubbock Christian University update.

The summer and fall enrollment and contact hour figures will be discussed as well as what these numbers will mean financially to the university.

The board will then be presented with the distance learning update and small class reports.

Monitoring items that will be presented to the board will include catalog and handbook changes, personnel changes and bids for the bookstore

contract and vendor of record for computer equipment.

Next the president will present her report to the board.

The Texas Association of Community College Trustees and Administrators board development will be presented and followed by a meeting evaluation and future agenda items.

Contact Staff Writer Kendra Wiss at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

**FORSAN**

Continued from Page 1A

utes.

- Financial report.
- Payment of bills.
- Consider architect, engineering proposal.
- Consider construction management, agent proposals.

- Approval TASB update 73, second reading.
- Public notice of Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System.
- Annual review of the child abuse policy.
- Consider GPA/ranking policy.
- Consider graduation credit requirements.

- Approve adjunct faculty agreement.

The board will also hear from the three committees dedicated to campus improvement. The district improvement plan, elementary campus improvement plan and secondary improvement plan will be presented to the board for approval.

**GIRL**

Continued from Page 1A

"The children were playing a bedroom adjacent to the living room, where the mother was asleep on the couch," said Walker, who declined to comment further pending an investigation by his office and Child Protective Services.

According to Walker, several other children living in the home were voluntary placed with relatives while CPS conducts a full investigation into

the matter.

The shooting isn't the first tragic accident the infant's parents, Travis and Sarah Burch, have endured.

On Oct. 14, 2000, exactly four years from the date of the shooting, the Burch's 18-month-old child was rushed to the emergency room by private vehicle after Travis Burch accidentally backed over the child with a car. The Burchs were living in the 1600 block of Jennings at the time of the accident.

The child was immedi-

ately flown to Covenant Medical Center, and was treated at the same pediatric intensive care unit his sister is being treated at now.

The child suffered extensive permanent disability as a result of the accident.

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**VOTING**

Continued from Page 1A

and Park Place retirement center," said Wright.

Temporary polling places will be set up at the Spring City Senior Center Tuesday from 11:15 a.m. until 12:45 p.m.

Wright said her office will then try for a "triple play" on Wednesday, as they visit Canterbury North from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.; Park Place Retirement Center from 11 a.m. until noon; and Canterbury South from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.

"These special dates

aren't just for the residents of the centers or those that go to the Senior Center," said Wright. "It's for anyone that would like to cast their ballot and might not be able to get to the courthouse during our regular hours."

Early voting will be held at the courthouse during the special dates and times as well.

"We just want to encourage everyone to come out and cast their ballots during early voting," said Wright.

For more information, contact the District Clerk's Office at 264-2213.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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**Happy 1st Birthday**  
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**GREAT-GRANDPARENTS:**  
Patsy Self-Big Spring, Tennie Hays-Big Spring, Bud & Donna Cowger-Rochester, IN, Marion Hays-Westbrook  
**GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS:**  
Tennie Hays-Big Spring

**KENT SHARP**

For State Representative



" I have made it my life's work to promote economic development and bring good paying, stable jobs to our community.

We love West Texas. We love its people. We love its values. And we need to do whatever it takes to keep our communities growing. For if we fail and if our communities deteriorate, the engine that drives these values will be lost.

Today in our community we have families that are concerned about their economic future.

We must take charge now and build our local economy.

As your State Representative, I will work tirelessly to promote what is, I believe, the best place to be in Texas.

Years of success working with the private sector have prepared me to re-energize the get-things-done attitude we share.

Please join my family and me in voting for a positive future for West Texas."

*Kent Sharp*

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# EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed,  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Take advantage of an opportunity to go vote early

Early voting in the November general election begins Monday and we'd encourage readers to cast their ballot soon. Polls will be open at the Howard County Courthouse from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23. The early period ends Oct. 29. Election day is Nov. 2.

There are plenty of reasons for voting early, not the least of which is the unpredictability of our West Texas weather. Warm, dusty, rainy a cold front — the only thing you can count on is that the weather will change.

Another reason to cast your ballot in the next few days is human nature. The fact is, the longer we put things off, the less likely we are to ever get them accomplished. Too many other things come up, and suddenly we find ourselves out of time.

There are a plethora of key races in on the ballot. The presidential race between President George W. Bush and Democratic challenger Sen. John F. Kerry.

In addition, there's the District 19 U.S. Representative's race where incumbent District 19 Congressman Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, and incumbent District 17 Congressman Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, face one another.

And in the District 85 State Representative's race where incumbent Democrat Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, is challenged by Republican Kent Sharp of Big Spring.

Add the District 31 State Senatorial District seat, two county commissioners' seats and the race for Howard County Sheriff also being contested, voters have quite a bit to decide.

We hope you will take time to study the candidates, then make your choice at the polls. Real soon.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS

## Dropping the ball on health care

Not only did President George Bush and Sen. John Kerry drop the ball on the issue of health care in Wednesday night's presidential debate, but even moderator Bob Schieffer got it wrong when he said of health care, "We're paying more. We're getting less."

I disagree. Most Americans are enjoying the best health care ever.

The struggle today for most people isn't to get good care but to get other people to pay for their good health care. The great American pastime these days is to get someone else to pay for their doctor visits, drugs and hospital care.

It doesn't matter if Americans can't afford to pay for their own health care. Affluent people, who happily dish out big dollars for meals and entertainment, bristle at the very notion that they should have to pay to take care of themselves.

So neither Bush nor Kerry will level with voters to tell them about the consequences of the quest to shift the tab to someone else.

I'll add, too, that neither guy wants to disclose that he can't deliver something for nothing.

Bush? He loves health-savings accounts because they make people think about the cost of seeing a doctor, buying a drug or consulting a specialist. But he won't go out of his way to explain that his approach is predicated on an end to employer subsidies of health care — because, when employers provide medical benefits, employees have little incentive to curb their spending.

Bush is right to believe that consumers won't waste money if they are paying for day-to-day health expenses. And if he truly wants to upend the decades-long tradition of employers footing the health-care bill, he must know he has to stick out his neck to make the case to the voters. But he won't.

So listen to Sally C. Pipes, president and CEO of the Pacific Research Institute in San Francisco and author of "Miracle Cure: How to Solve America's Health-Care Crisis and Why Canada Isn't the Answer," who notes that when employers provide health coverage, employees "overuse the system."

To control costs, you either change

the incentives or ration, notes Pipes, a Canadian who believes the governmental approach leads to rationing.

Kerry? He says he won't expand government health care, but Wednesday night, he was promising health care for all — even though his own policy briefs don't promise that much.

Kerry talks as if more health care will be practically free. As Sen. Sophisticate explained, "If you diagnose diabetes early, you could save \$50 billion in the health-care system of America by avoiding surgery and dialysis. It works."

OK. Providing health care for more individuals may reduce the number of emergency-room visits, but providing health care to more individuals also means paying for those who come in for care and then ignore their doctors and end up in an ambulance. It also means paying for folks who go to the doctor with minor ailments — rashes, digestive complaints — that could have been resolved over the counter.

Expanded health care also means providing pharmaceuticals, therapy sessions, a slew of diagnostic tests and other visits that you wouldn't have provided before — which costs money. Before you know it, you've spent that \$50 billion in savings — or more.

## Inside report: Report criminalized politics

"They're trying to make Tom DeLay into Jim Wright. They've stolen our playbook," declared an outspoken deputy whip at a recent House Republican leadership meeting. That implicit bipartisan sharing of responsibility for what has become of the House of Representatives was not a popular message for most GOP lawmakers. But it accurately portrays today's situation.

The "admonishment" of Majority Leader DeLay by the House Ethics Committee recalls, in cloakrooms of both parties, the series of events 15 years ago. Wright's forced resignation as House speaker on ethical charges was followed by lost congressional seats and, five years later, Republicans taking control of the House. The same pattern is devoutly desired by today's Democrats — beginning with DeLay's demise.

This is the criminalization of politics. Democrats appear to be as frustrated by being out of power in the House the past 10 years as the Republicans were four times that long in the wilderness. But it is a process that never seems to end. Sources in the House GOP leadership say ethics charges are contemplated against House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi for allegedly working with outside groups (which she denies) to get DeLay.

Rep. Newt Gingrich, when still a Republican backbencher, assured me in 1988 that Wright would be forced from the speaker's chair. Although I was skeptical, Wright resigned under pressure in 1989.

That same year, Gingrich was elected to the GOP leadership, as minority whip. But he was a marked man, designated for retribution, and was forced out on ethics charges as speaker in 1999.

Ever since Gingrich's departure, DeLay has been the dominant political personality in both houses of Congress. First as whip and now as majority leader, he has become the most effective enforcer of party discipline in history (resulting in one of his knuckle-rappings by the ethics committee). DeLay runs a tightly ordered House, where conquered Democrats are not offered succor.

However, what really concentrated Democratic wrath against DeLay was his rough campaign to undo the gerrymander in his home state of Texas after the 2000 census that retained a Democratic-dominated House delegation from an overwhelmingly Republican state. A multi-front war to drive DeLay from office was organized by the House Democratic leadership, the left-wing Moveon.org, another liberal group called CREW and Ronnie Earle, the intensely political Democratic district attorney of Austin. Reporting this with delight were members of the news media, who had been treated with less than tender loving care by DeLay.

The DeLay campaign has been a frantic combined effort by Democrats. Rep. Alan Mollohan of West Virginia, a Democrat on the Ethics Committee, has briefed Pelosi on the supposedly non-partisan panel's process. One of the committee's Republicans, Rep. Judy Biggart, has received more than 3,000 anti-DeLay messages generated by Moveon.org. Bucks County (Pa.) Commissioner Mike Fitzpatrick, running in a closely contested district, is one of many Republican candidates being pres-

sured to send back DeLay's \$5,000 contributions.

Republican House members assumed their colleagues would block charges against DeLay, but "The Hammer's" smash-mouth tactics even make some Republican enemies. Rep. Joel Hefley, a nine-term congressman from Colorado who heads the Ethics Committee, is no friend of DeLay and is still aggravated about not becoming Armed Services Committee chairman. To the amazement of the Republican conference, the Ethics Committee found unanimously against DeLay on lesser charges, including attending a golf tournament sponsored by energy companies.

"With DeLay's wings clipped, he will fall to earth," a Republican power broker told me. But that is not the prevailing view inside the House Republican conference, whose members are grateful for his leadership, his cash contributions and his Texas coup that guarantees two more years of a Republican House majority. DeLay, lacking Gingrich's egotistical exuberance, is willing to stay off television and work outside the spotlight. That makes him a harder target to hit than Gingrich, and in the end a more dangerous enemy for Democrats.

Just before Wright and Gingrich fell, prominent supporters of each told me they had lost confidence. No such winds are blowing against DeLay, only outrage against Nancy Pelosi and the normally less partisan Democratic whip, Steny Hoyer. More House Wars await in 2005.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).  
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IT WAS A CATASTROPHIC MISTAKE TO GO IT ALONE IN IRAQ.



WE SHOULD GO IT ALONE IN NORTH KOREA.



## TEXAS

### NASA memo

HOUSTON (C) L. Gordon C Johnson Space water skier, a good astronaut Cooper, the original seven to spend more al causes Oct. was 77.

NASA Adm naut John G Mercury ast humorous stor ments. "Gordo was also unflay on him in a tig

Glenn told h ing trip near astronauts hov ever seen whil minutes.

### Safety patrol

DALLAS (AI) patrolling Dall show that the porters say.

"Downtown i neighborhood, Downtown Imp realize it. We r status quo isn'

The patrol, f ers, is designe tialization effor and commerci

Businesses v annual cost, a patrol program

### Fire lieutenant

FORT WORT the Southlake l fired for sup Southlake Carr students.

Also, a firefig 120 days and a pension witho event in the pa Fire Lt. Jeff Wednesday.

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### Houston poli

HOUSTON (A) but they influ Gibson, a sk Department, tr reconstruct paj jewelry that ma

"You have to t are overwhelm can relax you e your fifth-grade Her approach Department cre more than 700 s

### Classifi

get rest call 263-73

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## TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

### NASA memorial celebrates life of Cooper

HOUSTON (AP) — One of NASA's first astronauts, L. Gordon Cooper Jr., was remembered at the Johnson Space Center on Friday as "not too bad of a water skier, not too bad of a pilot, but a heck of a good astronaut."

Cooper, the youngest and perhaps cockiest of the original seven Mercury astronauts and the first man to spend more than 24 hours in space, died of natural causes Oct. 4 at his home in Ventura, Calif. He was 77.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe, former astronaut John Glenn and the two other surviving Mercury astronauts remembered Cooper with humorous stories and memories of his accomplishments. "Gordon Cooper was not only a great pilot, he was also unflappable," O'Keefe said. "You could count on him in a tight spot, and he also was a character."

Glenn told how Cooper once returned from a fishing trip near Cape Canaveral. He told his fellow astronauts how he saw the largest bullfrogs he had ever seen while wading waist deep in a pond for 45 minutes.

### Safety patrol hits downtown Dallas streets

DALLAS (AP) — A new safety force has started patrolling Dallas' downtown streets in an effort to show that the Central Business District is safe, supporters say.

"Downtown is as safe as any place in the city, any neighborhood," said Tom Persch, chairman of the Downtown Improvement District. "People just don't realize it. We need to change those perceptions. The status quo isn't good enough."

The patrol, financed by a group of business owners, is designed to cut crime further and bolster revitalization efforts that have attracted more residents and commercial activity to the area.

Businesses will pay for the patrol's \$1.5 million annual cost, about \$600,000 more than a previous patrol program called the Ambassadors program.

### Fire lieutenant fired after students hosed

FORT WORTH (AP) — A veteran firefighter from the Southlake Department of Public Safety has been fired for supervising the hosing down of the Southlake Carroll band and color guard, injuring 13 students.

Also, a firefighter was suspended without pay for 120 days and a fire captain was given a one-day suspension without pay for involvement in the Aug. 4 event in the parking lot of Carroll High School.

Fire Lt. Jeff Powell, a 14-year veteran, was fired Wednesday.

"In the city of Southlake, our supervisors are held to a higher level of accountability," Rick Black, city DPS director, said.

Firefighter Cliff Altom was given the 120-day suspension and Fire Capt. Mike Starr was given the one-day suspension.

### Houston police sketch artist among real few

HOUSTON (AP) — Crime victims don't know it, but they influence what Lois Gibson wears to work.

Gibson, a sketch artist for the Houston Police Department, tries to put victims at ease as they reconstruct painful images — sometimes wearing jewelry that may start a conversation.

"You have to be patient, you have to comfort. They are overwhelmed with the fear," said Gibson. "If I can relax you enough, I can have you to remember your fifth-grade teacher."

Her approach seems to work. The Houston Police Department credits Gibson in helping it to identify more than 700 suspects since she started working.

# Review discovers Bush records National Guard officials missed

By MATT KELLEY

Associated Press Writer

Weeks after Texas National Guard officials signed an oath swearing they had turned over all of President Bush's military records, independent examiners found more than two dozen pages of previously unreleased documents about Bush.

The two retired Army lawyers went through Texas files under an agreement between the Texas Guard and The Associated Press, which sued to gain access to the files. The 31 pages of documents turned over to AP Thursday night include orders for high-altitude training in 1972, less than three months before Bush abruptly quit flying as a fighter pilot.

The discovery is the latest in a series of embarrassments for Pentagon and Texas National Guard officials who have repeatedly said they found and released all of Bush's Vietnam-era military files, only to belatedly discover more records. Those discoveries — nearly 100 pages, including Bush's pay records and flight logs — have been the result of freedom of information lawsuits filed in federal and Texas courts by AP.

A Texas National Guard spokesman defended the continuing discoveries, saying Guard officials didn't find all of Bush's records because they are disorganized and in poor shape.

"These boxes are full of dirt and rat (excrement) and dead bugs. They have never been sitting in an uncontrolled climate," said Lt. Col. John Stanford. "It's a tough task to go through archives that were not set up in a way that you could easily go through them."

Two Texas officials had signed sworn affidavits insisting they had reviewed the files in those boxes and released copies of all that related to Bush's 1968-1973 Guard service, however.

"These boxes are full of dirt and rat (excrement) and dead bugs. They have never been sitting in an uncontrolled climate. It's a tough task to go through archives that were not set up in a way that you could easily go through them."

Lt. Col John Stanford  
Texas National Guard

Calvin Lewis, both former Army lawyers, reviewed the boxes of files earlier this week under an agreement in the AP lawsuit. They found three other boxes with files from Bush's unit that previous searches did not turn up, Stanford said.

The newly released documents include a January 1972 order for Bush to attend three days of "physiological training" at Laredo Air Force Base in Texas. His Texas payroll and attendance records, released earlier, show Bush was credited for serving on active duty training for the three days involved.

At the time, pilots had to renew their high-altitude training every three years, said retired Maj. Gen. Paul A. Weaver, Jr., a former head of the Air National Guard. Bush's first altitude training came in 1969 when he was in pilot school at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia.

The training involved instruction about the effects of lack of oxygen on the body and exercises in which the pilots are exposed under supervision to the thin air of high altitudes. The pur-

pose is to familiarize pilots with the effects of lack of oxygen so they can recognize them and take appropriate action to avoid blacking out at the controls.

The altitude training came six weeks before Bush began an unexplained string of flights on two-seat training jets and simulators. On April 12, 1972, Bush took his last flight in the single-seat F-102A fighter.

The future president skipped a required yearly medical exam and was ordered grounded as of August 1972. Bush says he missed the exam because he was planning to train with an Alabama Air National Guard unit which did not fly the F-102A.

Bush went to Alabama that year to work on the U.S. Senate campaign of a family friend. Records show Bush did no guard training at all between mid-April and late October 1972. He's credited with six days of training in October and November 1972, presumably with the Alabama unit.

The Alabama unit's commanders say they never saw Bush or any paperwork showing he performed drills there. A January 1973 document says Bush got a dental examination at the Alabama unit's base.

On the Net:  
The new files are available at:  
[http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/foi/bush\\_records/ind ex.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/foi/bush_records/ind ex.html)

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# Bush, Kerry focus on jobs, the economy in battleground states

By JILL ZUCKMAN  
 and  
 RICK PEARSON

**Chicago Tribune**  
 MILWAUKEE — Jobs and the economy took center stage in a dispute between President Bush and Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., Friday as each candidate argued he would be a better steward for America.

Bush was put on the defensive as Kerry declared the economy "has a bad case of the flu and we need a new medicine" in a speech at the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

But Bush fired back from Cedar Rapids, Iowa — and again from Oshkosh, Wis. — that Kerry "didn't seem to get it" in their third debate, when Bush said there was a "vital link between education and jobs."

Kerry continued to argue in Friday's speech Bush is neglecting the middle class and favoring the wealthy with policies that encourage outsourcing jobs to other countries, depress wages and boost the deficit to record levels.

"The problem is, this president either just doesn't understand what's happened to our economy or he understands and he just doesn't care," said Kerry, who plans to make a series of speeches targeting middle-class concerns in the final days of the presidential campaign. Kerry sarcastically

questioned how Bush could say he was proud of his record.

"Proud of millions of Americans unemployed? Proud of tens of millions who have no health insurance? Proud of millions of families facing rising costs and falling incomes? And he's proud and he said this on the very day — the very day — the federal government announced the largest deficit in American history," the senator said. "If that's what he's proud of, I'd hate to see what he's ashamed of."

The argument over the economy took place in two key battleground states, Wisconsin and Iowa, where the race is extremely tight. A recent Chicago Tribune poll indicated Bush had a slight advantage over Kerry in Iowa and Kerry led Bush in Wisconsin. Both results were within the poll's 4.4 percentage point margin of error.

At an indoor arena rally in Iowa, Bush talked about the "vital" education-jobs link and Kerry's comment in this week's debate.

"He said, 'I switched away from jobs and started to talk about education.' No, good jobs start from good education," Bush said.

"One of the best ways to keep jobs in America is to make sure our workforce is educated, the most highly skilled, the most creative and the most innovative in the world,"



President George W. Bush shakes hands with supporters during a campaign stop in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on Friday. KRT Photo Service

he said. In trying to draw distinctions between himself and Kerry, Bush sought to return to his 2000 campaign theme of heading a government that was compassionate but con-

servative. "I don't believe in big government and I don't believe in indifferent government. I'm a compassionate conservative," Bush said. "I believe in policies that empower

people to improve their lives. I do not believe in policies that try to run people's lives."

Campaign aides said Bush will deliver what See RACE, Page 8A

## STORIES

Continued from Page 6A

breast cancer screenings and don't have enough money," Thomson said. "When people come in here and see these bras, it starts a conversation."

Breast cancer will kill about 40,600 American women this year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It is the sec-

ond-most commonly diagnosed cancer in women, after skin cancer.

Thomson hopes the auction, which will include paintings, raises \$20,000. Half of the proceeds will go to Fort Worth's Cancer Care Service, which provides financial and emotional help to underserved cancer patients and their families.

The rest will be split between Do It For Me, Mom, a cervical and

breast cancer awareness program that provides screenings in Fort Worth; and Faces of Survivors, which targets the black community.

Peck hopes to continue the bra project and have more exhibits. Some people who buy bras at the auction will give them back to the exhibit, and more artists are expected to send new bras.

"I truly believe it needs to travel," Peck said.

**On the Net:**  
 Firehouse Art Studios  
 and Gallery: [www.firehouseart.net](http://www.firehouseart.net)  
 Junanne Peck:  
[home.earthlink.net](mailto:home.earthlink.net)  
[j\[unanne\]peck/](mailto:junannepeck@earthlink.net)

## HINOJOSA

Continued from Page 6A

largely determines our journey in this life," Ortiz said. "Ruben works very hard to improve the chances for all our young people to go to college."

Hinojosa, 64, says his own upbringing, typical of many of his generation in the Rio Grande Valley, made him value education.

He was born the eighth of 11 children in the Edcouch-Elsa region, attending schools where most everyone was Mexican-American and everyone's families spoke Spanish.

When he was 9, his family moved to Mercedes, where his father had bought a meat packing plant. Only then did Hinojosa attend school with white students and begin to master English.

He later earned a business degree at the University of Texas and joined the family business, becoming president

of H&H Foods, which grew to supply schools from Texas to California with hamburger and breaded chicken patties. The company now employs more than 300 workers and has a contract to supply the Whoppers for Burger King.

The struggles of getting capital to expand the business motivated him into politics, Hinojosa said.

"During those 20 years as president and chief

financial officer, I was able to get a very good understanding of our region and the neglect that, in my opinion, had occurred over previous decades, from both the state and federal government," he said. "I wanted to go to Washington and find out what we could do to get an investment in human capital and infrastructure."

**On the Net:**  
[www.rubenhinojosa.com](http://www.rubenhinojosa.com)  
[www.thamfortexas.com](http://www.thamfortexas.com)

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# Military probing whether unit in Iraq refused dangerous mission

By JOHN J. LUMPKIN  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Army is investigating up to 19 members of a supply platoon in Iraq who refused to go on a convoy mission, the military said Friday. Relatives of the soldiers said the troops considered the mission too dangerous, in part because their vehicles were in such poor shape. Some of the troops' concerns were being addressed, military officials said. But a coalition spokesman in Baghdad noted that "a small number of the soldiers involved chose to express their concerns in an inappropriate manner, causing a temporary breakdown in discipline." The reservists are from a fuel platoon that is part

of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, based in Rock Hill, S.C. The unit delivers food, water and fuel on trucks in combat zones. Teresa Hill of Dothan, Ala., who said her daughter, Amber McClenny, was among in the platoon, received a phone message from her early Thursday morning saying they had been detained by U.S. military authorities. "This is a real, real, big emergency," McClenny said in her message. "I need you to contact someone. I mean, raise pure hell." McClenny said in her message that her platoon had refused to go on a convoy to Taji, located north of Baghdad. "We had broken down trucks, non-armored vehicles

and, um, we were carrying contaminated fuel. They are holding us against our will. We are now prisoners," she said. Hill said she was later contacted by Spc. Tammy Reese in Iraq, who was calling families of the detainees. "She told me (Amber) was being held in a tent with armed guards," said Hill, who spoke with her daughter Friday afternoon after her release. Her daughter said they are facing punishment ranging from a reprimand to a charge of mutiny. The incident was first reported Friday by The Clarion-Ledger newspaper in Jackson, Miss. Family members told the newspaper that several platoon members had been confined, but the

military did not confirm that. A commanding general has ordered the unit to undergo a "safety-maintenance stand down," during which it will conduct no further missions as the unit's vehicles undergo safety inspections, the military said. On Wednesday, 19 members of the platoon did not show up for a scheduled 7 a.m. meeting in Tallil, in southeastern Iraq, to prepare for the fuel convoy's departure a few hours later, the military statement said. "An initial report indicated that some of the 19 soldiers (not all) refused to participate in the convoy as directed," the military statement says. The mission was ultimately carried out by

other soldiers from the 343rd, which has at least 120 soldiers, the military said. Convoys in Iraq are frequently subject to ambushes and roadside bombings. A whole unit refusing to go on a mission in a war zone would be a significant breach of military discipline. The military statement called the incident "isolated" and called the 343rd an experienced unit that performed honorable service in nine months in Iraq. U.S. military officials said the commanding general of the 13th Corps Support Command, Brig. Gen. James E. Chambers, had appointed his deputy, Col. Darrell Roll, to investigate. An investigative team under Roll is in

Tallil, questioning soldiers about the incident, the military said. Preliminary findings indicate that there were several contributing factors that led to the late convoy incident and alleged refusal to participate by some soldiers," the military said. "It would be inappropriate to discuss those factors while the investigation continues." Separately, the commander of the 300th Area Support Group, listed on a military Web site as Col. Pamela Adams, has ordered a criminal inquiry to determine if any soldiers committed crimes under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and, if so, whether disciplinary measures are warranted.

# Explosions rock Baghdad, cordon eased in Fallujah

By ROBERT H. REID  
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Car bombs killed five U.S. troops in Iraq, the U.S. military said Saturday, the latest in a string of such attacks at the start of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. Blasts also targeted five churches in the Iraqi capital. The two car bombs went off Friday, the military said. One, carried out by a suicide bomber driving an explosive-laden vehicle, targeted a U.S. patrol near the town of Qaim, an insurgent hotspot near the border with Syria, killing four U.S. troops,

according to Lt. Col. Chris Woodbridge, commander of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment. The other blast went off in the northern city of Mosul, 225 miles north of Baghdad, killing a U.S. soldier assigned to Task Force Olympia, the military said. U.S. commanders have warned that insurgents may increase violence during Ramadan — just as there was a surge in attacks last year with the start of the month of fasting. In recent days, U.S. and Iraqi forces have launched sweeps around several cities in an

attempt to suppress guerrillas ahead of Ramadan. Most Iraqis began observing the sunrise-to-sunset fast on Friday, though some Shiites began Saturday. The U.S. military loosened a cordon around the Sunni insurgent stronghold of Fallujah after several days of intense clashes with rebels there, residents said. The surge in violence in Fallujah came as negotiations with city leaders aimed a deal to re-establish government control broke down. A vehicle bomb reported Friday by the U.S. military blasted near a police

station in southwest Baghdad, killing 10 civilians — including a family of four who were driving by at the time of the blast. Iraqi hospital officials said 14 people were wounded. In Baghdad on Saturday, bombs rang out outside five churches in quick succession over an hour and half starting at 4:00 a.m., the Iraqi Interior Ministry said. There were no injuries, but all the churches had windows blown out, said ministry spokesman Col. Adnan Abdul-Rahman. "It is a criminal act to make Iraq unstable and to create religious difficul-

ties," Rev. Zaya Yousef of St. George's Church said. "But this will not happen because we all live together like brothers in this country through sadness and happiness." Iraq's community of 750,000 Christians has grown increasingly anxious at the rise of Islamic fundamentalism since the ouster of Saddam Hussein last year. Hundreds have fled to neighboring Jordan and Syria. In August, coordinated attacks hit four churches in Baghdad and one in Mosul, killing at least seven people and wounding dozens more in the first significant strike

against Iraq's minority Christians since the U.S. invasion began last year. In other Baghdad violence, a mortar round exploded in the garden of the Ibn al-Betar hospital, killing one person. Officials said the blast at the hospital could have been far worse — The building was under renovation at the time and there were no patients there. Another mortar round hit the parking lot of al-Mansour Hotel, where some foreign journalists and diplomats stay. There were no reports of casualties there, the Interior Ministry said.

# Anti-war Americans send photos to Iraq to counteract images of prisoner abuse

By JIM FITZGERALD  
Associated Press Writer

NYACK, N.Y. — More than 2,000 people opposing the war in Iraq, including the father of an American beheaded by terrorists, are sending Iraqis personal photos with protest messages to show "what Americans are really like." The pictures, from all around the country, are meant to be a counterpoint to the infamous images of Americans abusing Iraqi prisoners. Each photo shows at least one sign, usually handmade. Some specifically criticize U.S. actions in the war while others simply extend sympathy to Iraqi civilians. "With deep shame, we apologize for the suffering our country has brought to the people of Iraq," says a banner in a photo showing 11 people in Vancouver, Wash. Three elderly people in Minneapolis declare, "All our children long for a new day." Michael Berg, whose son Nicholas was executed last spring by an al-Qaida-affiliated group, holds a sign in his photo that says, "I am sorry and ashamed for the tremendous loss my government has caused the Iraqi people."

oners and many regret a war being waged in their name. A veterans' group, however, believes the project undercuts U.S. soldiers. Jerry Newberry, spokesman for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said, "This type of thing only serves to undermine the effort and the sacrifice of our military in Iraq. These people on the face of it seem to have a political agenda. ... It implies that what we're attempting to do in Iraq is shameful." The White House had no comment, spokesman Ken Lisaius said. The project was sparked by Kaia Svien, a 57-year-old Minneapolis teacher, who said she was "just dumbstruck" when she saw the Abu Ghraib prison photos. "It was the power of the photographs that brought home the message," Svien said. "So I thought, 'Can't we use photos in another way to respond to this and hope they will be as powerful? Maybe we can show them what Americans are really like.'" She took the idea to the Nyack-based Fellowship,

a 90-year-old group with a history of pacifism and activism. Staffer Hossein Alizadeh made it a national project, asking local peace groups to spread the word. About 400 pictures came in from more than 100 cities and towns. Half of them are being burned onto CDs for distribution Wednesday to news media that reach Iraqis, said Fellowship spokeswoman Jennifer Hyman. "We thought it would be great if we could speak as ordinary Americans to ordinary Iraqis," said Alizadeh. "Since the United States went in there, the Iraqis have seen nothing but violence, so they have a very negative opinion of Americans. We hope that after they see these photographs, they will pause for a second and think, 'At least we have a few friends, there are people who care about what's happening.'" He said that despite the signs in the pictures, the project is "not about condemning any government." Hyman said the peace group wants to stop the deaths of U.S. soldiers as well as Iraqis.

"I truly feel that what the United States government has done to the once-sovereign nation of Iraq is atrocious and shameful," he said in a phone interview. Berg, whose opposition to the war predates his son's execution, will be in Washington on Wednesday when the project is formally unveiled by the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The peace group, which organized the project, said it wants Iraqis to know that most Americans were shocked by the photos of U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqis pris-

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<b>October 19 • Tuesday</b> • Mail Walking - 8:00 am • Dinner & A Movie "Schlotzsky's"
<b>October 20 • Wednesday</b> • Stretch & Tone - 11:00 am • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am Senior Leadership Meeting @ Chamber of Commerce - 8:45 am
<b>October 21 • Thursday</b> • Mail Walking - 8:00 am • Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am • Lunch-N-Learn - 11:30 am • Childbirth Classes - 9:00 am-3:00 pm, 268-4550 Laurie Burks, Instructor (2nd Floor Hospital)
<b>October 22 • Friday</b> • SMMC Relay Team Used Scrub (Uniform) Sale 7:00 am - Lobby of Hospital
<b>October 23 • Saturday</b> Open
<b>October 24 • Sunday</b> Open
<b>October 25 • Monday</b> • Games 2:00 pm • Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 pm
<b>October 26 • Tuesday</b> • Mail Walking - 8:00 am • Supper Club "Cowboys" 5:30 pm
<b>October 27 • Wednesday</b> • Stretch & Tone - 11:00 am • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am
<b>October 28 • Thursday</b> • Mail Walking - 8:00 am • Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am
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### IN BRIEF

#### Basketball referees needed for season

The Crossroads area is looking for basketball officials for the upcoming season in November.

For more information, contact Adam Rodriguez at 263-8731 or 517-0300.

The games will be played in local areas such as Big Spring, Forsan and Coahoma and will be for the junior high and high school levels.

#### Ragball tournament set for early Nov.

A ragball tournament has been set up to help raise money for Relay for Life.

The tournament will take place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 6-7, at Cotton Mize Field inside of Comanche Trail Park. Registration will take place Saturday at 1 p.m.

The teams are made up of five men and five women and it costs \$10 per player to participate.

For more information, contact Angel at the bus barn at 264-4108.

#### Lady Steers Booster Club sets meeting

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club will hold a meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of girls in volleyball, basketball, track, training and cheerleading are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Janet Abner at 264-0023 or 466-1711.

#### Astros keep Moore in Round Rock

HOUSTON (AP) — Former major league manager Jackie Moore will remain in charge of the Houston Astros' affiliate in Round Rock next season when the team moves up to Triple A, and former big-leaguer Dave Clark will manage the franchise's new Double A club.

Moore led the Round Rock Express to the Double-A Texas League playoffs four of the last five seasons. His new team, still called the Express, will be in the Pacific Coast League.

"It only made sense that we would hire Jackie for this important role in our inaugural season of Triple-A baseball in Round Rock," said Astros assistant general manager Tim Purpura.

Clark played 13 seasons in the majors, the final one with the Astros in 1998.

#### ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event, Time	Station
Sunday	
Texas vs. St. Louis, 11:30 a.m.	94.9
Coahoma vs. Steers, 2:00 p.m.	95.7
Astros vs. Cardinals, 2:40 p.m.	94.9
Tuesday	
Lady Steers @ Mustangs, 7:00 p.m.	94.9
Friday	
Steers vs. Mustangs, 6:00 p.m.	94.9
Coahoma @ Forsan, 7:00 p.m.	94.9

## Bearkats roll to another mercy rule victory

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

The mercy rule has become a bit of a habit for the Garden City football team as the Bearkats took care of Water Valley Friday in Garden City, 45-0. It was the Bearkats fifth 45-point mercy rule victory this year.

Garden City's defense held Water Valley's offense to 64 yards, including 35 yards rushing on 21 carries. And Greg Williams, who rushed for nearly 470 yards against Loraine earlier this year, was a non-factor.

"The key of this game was our defense holding Water Valley to no first downs in the first three or four drives," said Garden City head coach Ken Hoskins. "When the defense can do things like that, the result will always work out good for us."

And it wasn't just the defense that worked out good for Garden City (6-1) at Bearkat Stadium Friday. The offense committed no turnovers and amassed 197 yards rushing and 119 passing. Eight different receivers caught a pass and 26 different players saw the field, as well, including 10 players on the junior varsity team.

"This was an example of a total team effort," said Hoskins. "The stats by each guy are not great, but we continue to get

things done as a team. "The way we do our offense makes it hard to count on just one person because we have so many different formations involving so many different kids."

The offense was flat early on, according to Hoskins, as the Bearkats scored just six points in the first quarter. However, a 21-point second quarter gave Garden City a commanding half-time lead.

The first quarter touchdown was scored by senior Tim Schniers as he caught an 18-yard pass from sophomore quarterback Alex Halfmann.

Senior Trey Hillger, who finished with 88 yards rushing on 12 carries, reached the end zone twice in the second quarter. His five and 11-yard runs were sandwiched by a four-yard Wade Machicek touchdown reception.

Travis Coats got into the scoring mix early in the third quarter as he took the opening kick off back 50 yards for the score.

The defense accounted for one score in the third quarter, as well. Machicek intercepted a pass and scampered 25 yards for the touchdown.

Then, Hillger's 10-yard touchdown run with 8:43 to play ended the game at 45-0.

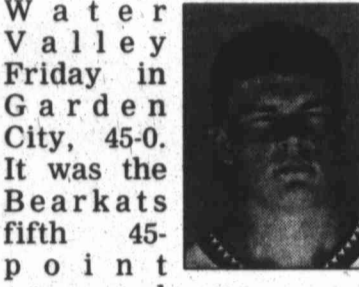
"We knew Water Valley would come in here and play well against us because they were thinking the same thing we

were," said Hoskins. "And that was that the winner of this game has an inside track to win the district title."

Senior Robert Lopez finished with 70 yards rushing on nine carries, while Jared Bradford led all receivers with two catches for 38 yards. Halfmann finished eight-for-12 for 94 yards and two touchdowns.

The defense was led by Colby Hirt and Colton Schwartz, who had eight and six tackles, respectively. Hillger, Bradford and Blaine Walker also added five tackles.

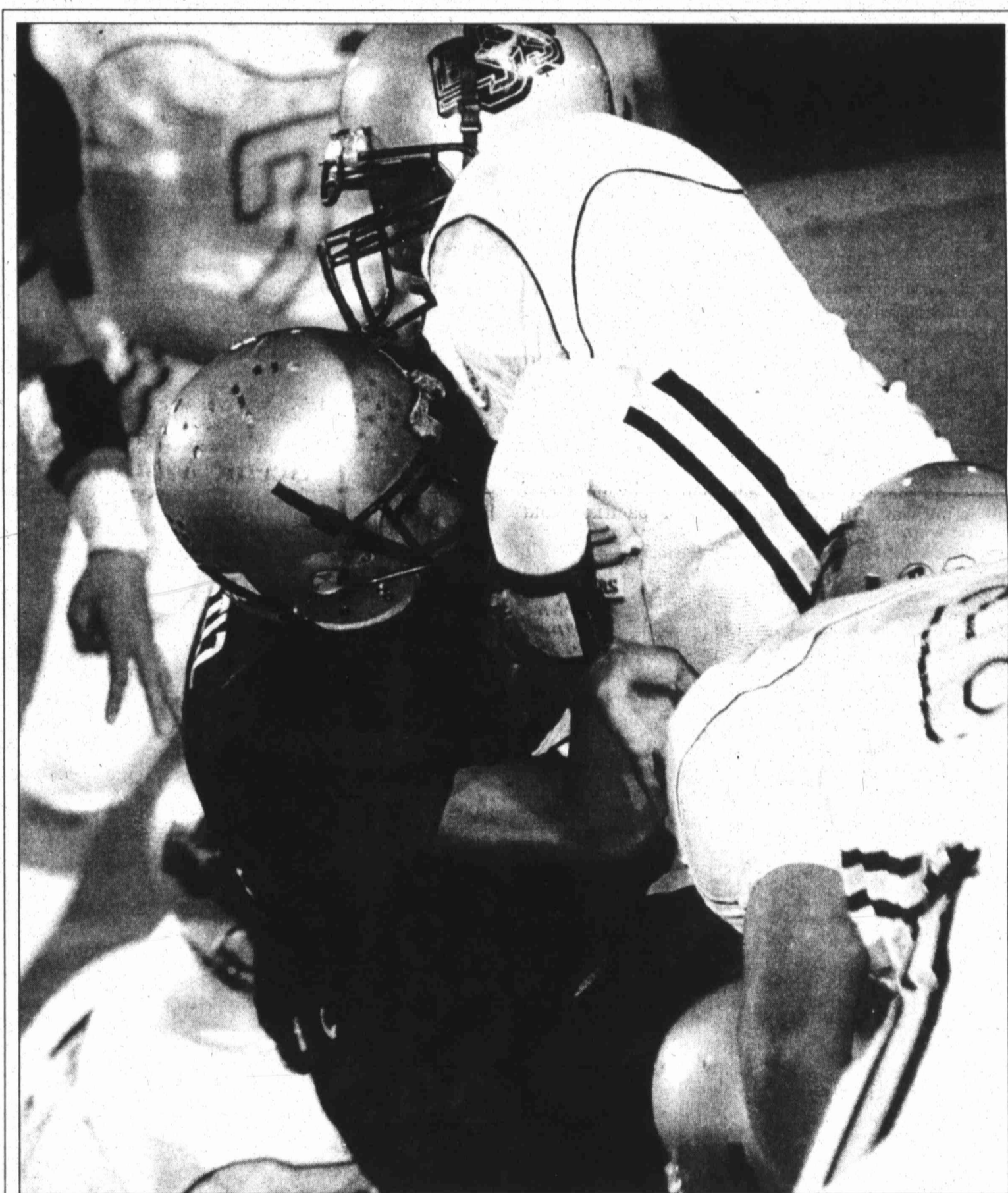
The Bearkats hit the road next Friday to take on district rival Veribest at 7:30 p.m. Veribest is 1-1 in district play after defeating Blackwell Friday night. The Bearkats have begun district play 2-0.



MACHICEK



SCHWARTZ



Big Spring senior Taviance Clemons, right, runs into an Andrews defender but still manages to find the goal line in the fourth quarter of the Steers' 11-point loss to the Mustangs Friday night at the Mustang Bowl.

## Andrews wins pivotal district game

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

Big Spring's biggest rival — Andrews — used 17 points in the third quarter to knock off the Steers in a very sloppy game at the Mustang Bowl Friday night, 24-13.

The two teams accounted for three turnovers in the first five possessions of the game, but neither team's offense did any-

thing with them. Big Spring picked up only three first downs in its first five possessions, but Andrews wasn't much better. The Mustangs picked up two first downs in each of their first two possessions, but both times turned the ball over to the Steers.

"We were inept on offense," said Big Spring head coach Dwight

Butler. "We couldn't do anything and a lot of that was due to Andrews' good defense. They deserve a lot of credit."

"Our turnovers, like they have all year, hurt us tonight."

After back-to-back interceptions by Jeremy Bueno and Andy Lasater, and then back-to-back punts by both teams, Andrews reached the end

zone first with 7:57 to play in the second quarter. The Mustangs had a short field and needed just three plays to reach paydirt. The 34-yard drive featured a 32-yard pass completion and a two-yard touchdown pass from Bueno to Jesse Ortiz.

Big Spring answered

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

## Mustangs run over Dragons

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

ACKERLY — The Sands Mustangs football team used 427 yards rushing to earn its fourth consecutive win Friday at home against rival Dawson. And the win came via the 45-point mercy rule as the Mustangs defeated the Dragons, 62-14, just into the third quarter.

Sands scored 28 points in each of the first two quarters to take a 56-14 lead at halftime before Santos Ybarra's 49-yard touchdown run ended the game early in the third quarter.

The Mustangs threw only six times for 30 yards as the rushing attack was phenomenal again for Sands.

Ybarra, a junior, scored three times in the first quarter on runs of 32, five and 74 yards. He added two more touchdowns (one of which was on defense) in the second quarter and the game-ending score in the third.

The other Sands touchdowns were scored by junior Cevan Smithson. He scored on a 34-yard run in the first quarter and on runs of one and 60 yards in the second frame.

For the game Ybarra finished with 289 yards on 16 carries, while Smithson amassed 144 yards on 10 carries.

Ybarra's defensive touchdown was the first score of the second quarter. He scored on a 15-yard interception return.

Dawson's Kenyon Brown, who scored on a 45-yard touchdown reception in the first quarter, led the Dragons with 55 yards rushing and 45 yards receiving.

The Sands defense held Dawson to 159 total yards and forced five turnovers in the win.

The victory gives the Mustangs a 2-0 record in the district. Sands will host 2-0 Wellman-Union next Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Ackerly.

OCT 16 2004

### Friday Night Football This week's finals

Andrews 24	Anson 13	Stanton 48	Roscoe 78	Wellman 63	Sands 62	Garden City 45
Big Spring 13	Coahoma 6	Stamford 14	Forsan 12	Grady 22	Dawson 14	Water Valley 0



## Coahoma remains winless at home as Bulldogs fall again

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Coahoma fell to 0-2 in District 4-2A after Anson rolled off 310 rushing yards en route to a 13-6 home victory Friday night.

The Bulldogs used three quarterbacks in the game as senior starter Adrian Abrego was sidelined due to an injury.

Senior Chad Born got the Bulldogs off on the right foot in the first quarter. He took an Anson fumble to paydirt from 65 yards out with 29 seconds to play.

The extra point failed, but Coahoma (1-6) still led 6-0.

Unfortunately, the Bulldogs did not score the rest of the night as Anson scored on touchdown runs in the second and fourth quarters to seal the win.

The first Anson touchdown came with 3:13 to play until halftime. K.C.

Fields found a large hole and rumbled 73 yards to the end zone and the extra point put his team up 7-6 at halftime.

A 50-yard run by Robert Chapman with 1:23 to play in the game put the game out of reach for the Bulldogs.

Coahoma's final drive reached the 50-yard line, but time ran out before the Bulldogs could score.

Anson had 12 first downs to Coahoma's 14, but outgained the Bulldogs 349-205 offensively.

Senior Andrew Brown led the Bulldogs offense with 67 yards on six carries. Senior Gene Corse was Coahoma's top receiver on the night as he caught two passes for 44 yards.

The three quarterbacks accounted for 59 passing yards.

Tad White went four-for-10 for all 59 yards, while Patrick Croft and



HERALD photo/Manuel Beza  
Coahoma quarterback Patrick Croft drops back to pass during the Bulldogs' 13-6 loss to Anson Friday night at Bulldog Stadium. Coahoma is winless at home this year.

Lance Roberts each went 0-for-5 with an interception. White also ran 14 times for 51 yards.

Coahoma will play the suddenly hot Stanton Buffaloes next Friday in

Stanton. The Buffaloes have won four straight games and 2-0 in district play.

They defeated district rival Stamford on the road Friday, 48-14.

## Cowboys weary of Roethlisberger led Steelers

By JAIME ARON  
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Bill Parcells has a favorite line about rookies who blaze onto the scene: "Don't put him in Canton yet."

Yet with the Pittsburgh Steelers coming to Texas Stadium on Sunday to face his Dallas Cowboys, Parcells went the opposite direction in praising their young quarterback, Ben Roethlisberger.

Parcells started by calling him "the best young prospect I've seen in 10 to

12 years," then said he's making the most seamless transition from college to the pros since Dan Marino.

"I think it's pretty remarkable what he's done," Parcells said. "I haven't seen many rookie quarterbacks come in and perform at that level."

Had he continued, Parcells might have worked his way up to asking for Roethlisberger's coat size so he could order the yellow blazer that goes with induction into

the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Get the picture? The verbal bouquets reek of a double-edged ploy. He's both "feeding cheese" — another of his pet phrases — to try inflating the kid's ego AND trying to persuade his young secondary to spend more time studying the play-book.

Roethlisberger handled the kudos with the poise he's shown on the field, thanking Parcells while acknowledging it could be a setup.

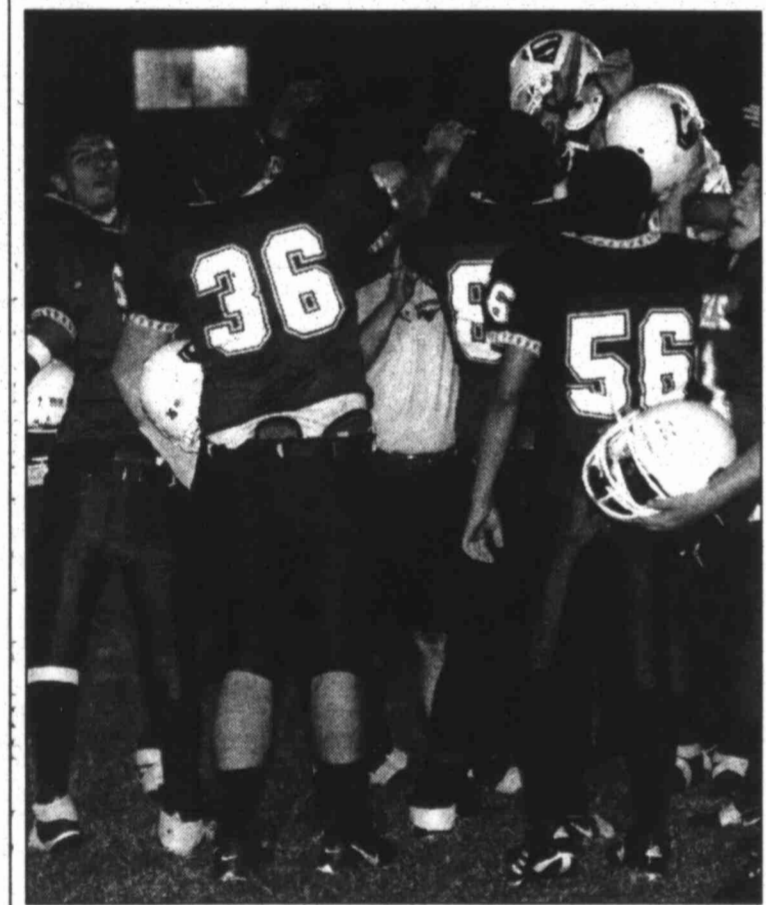
"It's a little too early to be putting those state-

ments on it," he said. "If I can be half as good as Marino, I'll be incredibly happy."

Well, at least it worked inside the Dallas locker room, although players insisted Parcells' compliments merely supported what they saw on film.

"If you took his name and number off his jersey, you wouldn't think he's a rookie at all," marveled Dallas defensive end Greg Ellis. "He's the real deal."

Big, strong, mobile, smart and rocket-armed, Roethlisberger has started his career by winning his first three starts.



HERALD photo/Bruce Scholer  
Sands football players huddle up after scoring the final touchdown of the game Friday in Ackerly. The touchdown put into effect the 45-point mercy rule as Sands defeated Dawson, 62-14.

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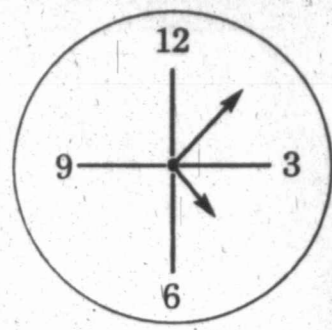
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## It's



to

## Fish

**ALAN HENRY:** Water lightly stained; 72 degrees; .6-foot low. Black bass are fair on shad-colored soft plastics spinnerbaits and black/blue jigs along structure. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water muddy (upper end of lake); 71 degrees; 7.8-foot low. Black bass are fair on shallow running crankbaits and big jigs in 5 - 10 feet near rocky areas and flooded vegetation lines. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows suspended in 12 - 14 feet near derricks. White bass are good on shallow flats in 3 - 8 feet on shad-imitation crankbaits and jigs with inline spinners. Blue and channel catfish are good on cut shad and prepared baits in shallow water and flooded vegetation.

**COLORADO CITY:** Water clear; 78 degrees; 6.73-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are slow. Redfish are slow. Catfish are slow.

**FT. PHANTOM HILL:** Water clear; 77 degrees; 9.4-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair. Catfish are fair.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 78 degrees; 17.3-foot low. Black bass are fair on shad-colored crankbaits, watermelon jigs, and soft plastics. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass and hybrid striper are fair on jigs and live bait. Catfish are fair on live baits.

**NASWORTHY:** Water lightly stained; 76 degrees. Black bass are fair on black/charreusse jigs and live bait. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Redfish are fair. White bass and striped bass are fair on minnows. Catfish are fair.

**OAK CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 75 degrees; 27-foot low. Black bass are fair on live bait. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair. No boat ramps open. 4x4 vehicles can unload on the dirt road near the dam.

**O.H. IVIE:** Water lightly stained; 78 degrees; 29-foot low. Black bass are fair on white spinnerbaits and soft jerkbaits and dark greens soft plastics. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on live bait. Smallmouth bass are fair. Channel catfish are good on live bait.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water clear; 73 degrees; 1.8-foot low. Black bass are fair in 5 - 10 feet along vegetation lines. Crappie are fair. White bass are fair. Channel and blue catfish are good in the river just above the reservoir on trotlines.

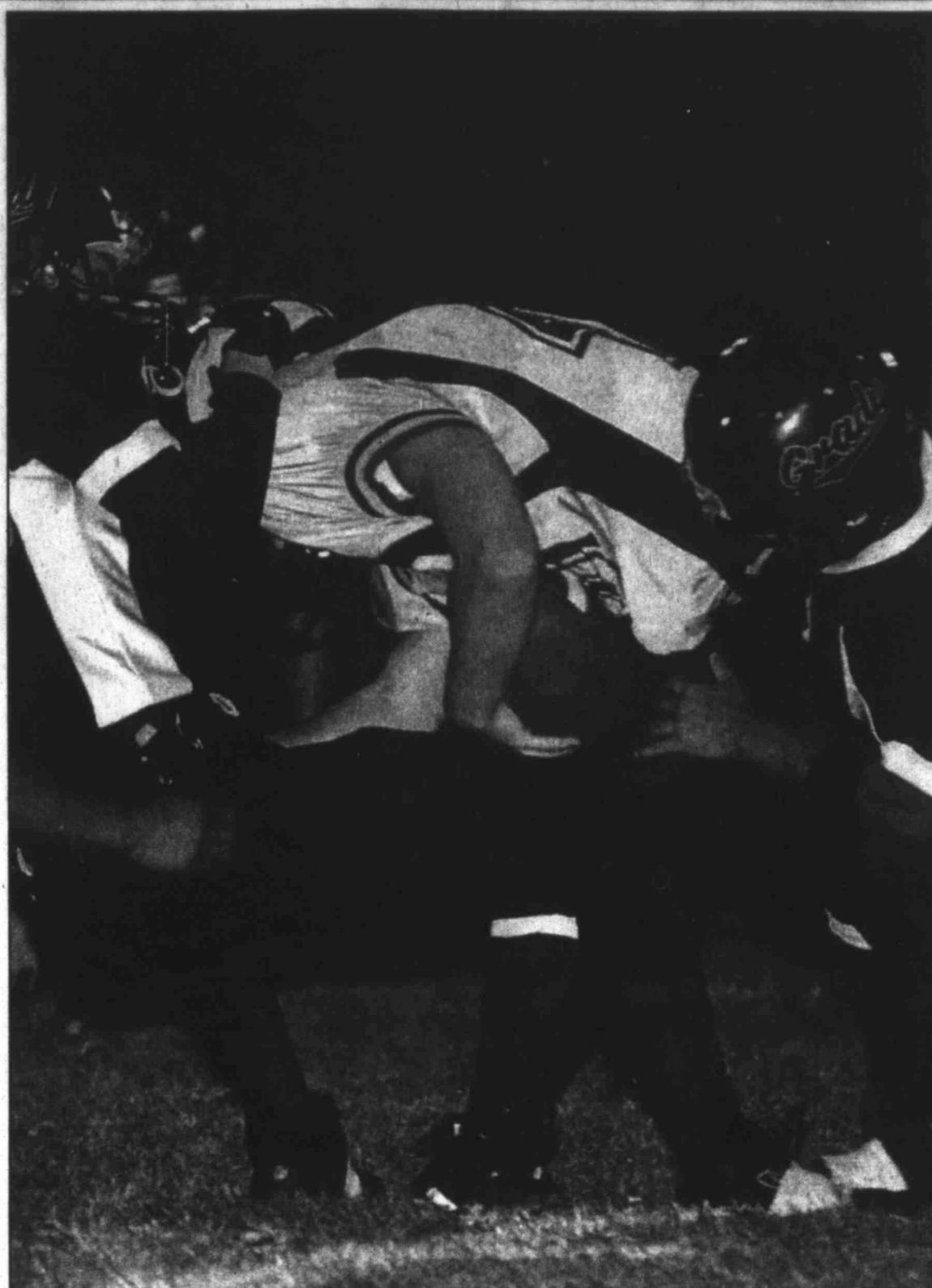
**SPENCE:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 62-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are fair. Striped bass and hybrid striper are slow. Catfish are slow.

**STAMFORD:** Water lightly stained; 81 degrees; 5.4-foot low. Black bass are fair on live bait, shad-colored jigs, and spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs.

**SWEETWATER:** Water lightly stained; 81 degrees; 31-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on small crankbaits.

**WHITE RIVER:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 22.6-foot low. Black bass are fair on crankbaits and dark jigs. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Walleye are fair on live baits.

**WICHITA:** Water clearing; 69 degrees; 0.3-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass and hybrid striper are fair on large minnows and white Road Runners along the dam early and late. Channel catfish are slow on trotlines and rod & reel with shrimp or punch bait.



Grady Brock Rhodes and Nedy Flores assist each other in bringing down a Wellman-Union ballcarrier during Grady's loss Friday in Lenorah at Tunnel Field.

## GRADY

Continued from Page 2B

three-yard run with 4:12 to play before the half. Nutt countered Hirth's touchdown with a one-yard run of his own.

However, Hirth answered right back with a 33-yard reception from Villa with 1:43 to play.

Eleven seconds later, Nutt was in the end zone again as he reached pay dirt after a 47-yard kick-off return.

The second half belonged to Wellman-Union (4-3) as they outscored Grady 30-6, including 24-0 in the fourth quarter.

Taylor Fields scored for Grady with 6:20 to play in the third off a 22-yard pass from Villa, but that is all Wellman-Union would give up the rest of the way.

Tim Calloway, Beal Martin, Franco and Nutt all scored in the second half for Wellman-Union.

Grady (2-5) drops to 1-1 in the district.

The Wildcats and head coach Joe Helms will try to get back on the winning track next Friday when they travel to Dawson to take on the rival Dragons, who lost to Sands in Ackerly Friday night, 62-14.



HELMS

24th annual  
Big Spring Herald  
Community Christmas Parade  
5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4

Parade theme:  
"100 Years of West Texas Christmases"  
Entry deadline — Noon, Friday, Nov. 19

The parade will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and head north on Gregg Street toward downtown, arriving in time for the downtown Christmas celebration.

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories:  
1. Individual or family      2. School or church  
3. Commercial                      4. Civic organizations

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories.

ENTRY FORM

Name of organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Categories

Individual/Family     Church/school  
 Civic                       Commercial

Brief description of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL 100TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS

In addition to the standard awards given to division winners, this year's parade entries will be judged for recognition of three special awards.

Herald's Best of Show Award: \$100 for best interpretation of theme.  
Mayor's Trophy: \$75 for best use of lighting.  
Grand Marshall's Award: \$50 for best costuming.

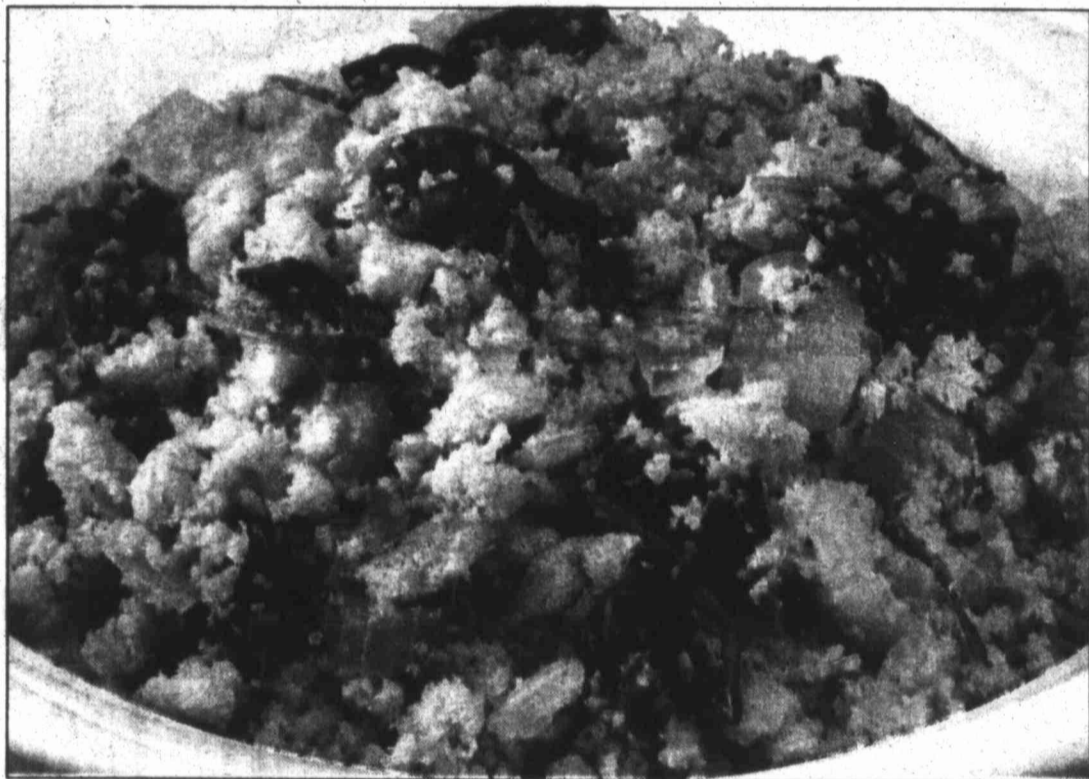
PARADE RULES

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.
2. Floats should not exceed 65 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
3. Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
5. Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be eligible for awards.
6. Mail, fax or hand deliver entry forms to:

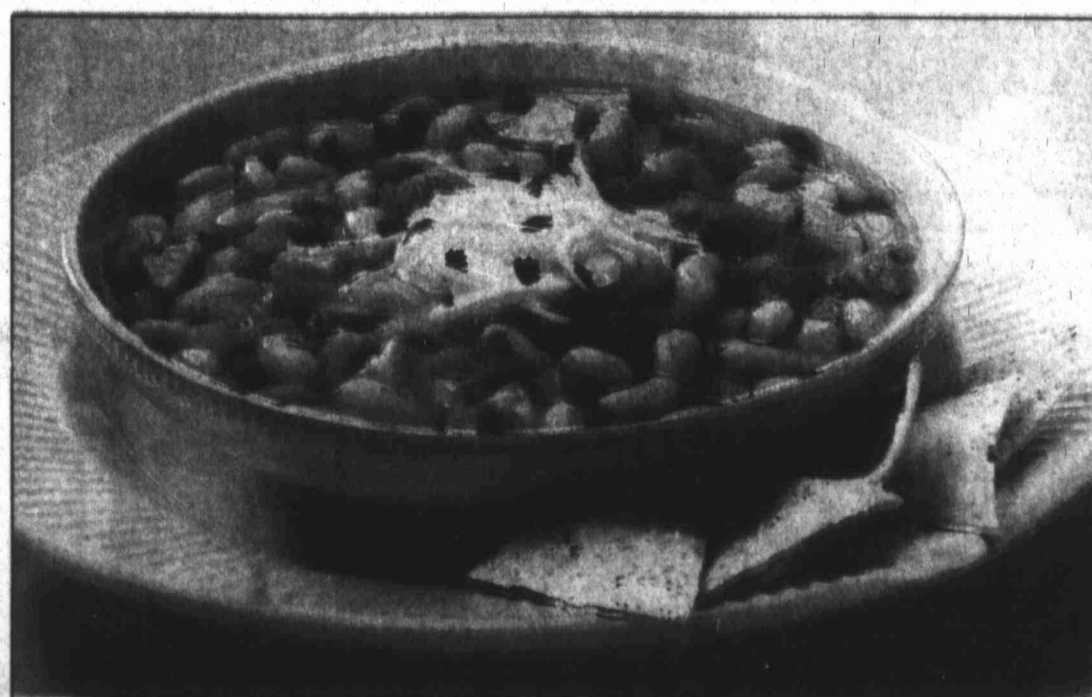
**PARADE COMMITTEE**  
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P.O. Box 1431  
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# Taste of Home COOKING SCHOOL



These photos are of some of the recipes available Thursday at the Taste of Home Cooking School. For more information visit [www.tasteofhomeschools.com](http://www.tasteofhomeschools.com)



**B**ig Spring prepares for a tasty treat Thursday when the Taste of Home Cooking School brings a cooking show to the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

"This will be so much fun and so informative. We have this chance for our local businesses to spotlight their products in the vendor booths, and then we'll have the Taste of Home Cooking School which will have several recipes prepared.

"We'll also have the goodie bags which are filled with lots samples and other wonderful items," said Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Tickets for the event are \$7, available at the chamber of commerce, Big Spring Herald, KBST, Heritage Museum, Uptown Salon, Parks Convenience Store and Nannie's Attic.

Door open at 6 p.m. and the cooking school begins about 6:50 p.m.

"We'll have door prizes and each goodie bag will have the Taste of Home Cookbook in it," she said.

Eleven of the recipes in the cookbook will be prepared by demonstrator Tamra Duncan, a Taste of Home Cooking School home economist from Wisconsin.

Part of the prizes for the evening will be an opportunity to taste the dishes she prepares, and some of the door prizes will be to win a created dish.

"I don't want to give too much away, but we are going to have great prizes," ValVerde said.

The show begins with master of ceremonies Brian Michaelz, followed by a welcome from chamber president John Weeks.

Duncan will then begin preparing the recipes, while providing special tips for cooking and baking.

Some door prizes will be given during intermission, but the majority will be awarded at the end of the program.

Howard College Diplomats will assist during the event, and Retired Senior Volunteer Program members assembled the goodie bags.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will have Nelda Laney autographing her Keep Texas Beautiful ornaments.

"Tickets are selling at a steady pace, but we remind those who are planning to buy their ticket do so now, before they are all gone," ValVerde said.

Marsha Sturdivant is features editor of the Big Spring Herald. Contact her at [ife@bigspringherald.com](mailto:ife@bigspringherald.com).

### Vendor Booths

- All District
- Screen Printing
- Arbonne International
- Big Spring CVB
- DeCoty Coffee
- Displays of Splendor
- Gaze Crystal Kitchen
- Heritage Museum
- KBST / KBTS
- Keep Big Spring Beautiful
- Kent Sharp for State Rep.
- Kisiah Imports
- Neugebauer
- Congressional Committee
- Odyssey Healthcare
- Ponderosa Nursery
- Sara Lee Foods
- Sears
- Spice
- Uptown Salon
- Vision Makers
- YES! Business Services
- Wal-Mart

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OCT 16 2004

► Wedding

# Middeton, Craig united in marriage in Lubbock ceremony

Lauren Renee Middleton and Cody Ian Craig were united in marriage at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004, at LakeRidge United Methodist Church in Lubbock. The Rev. Bill Couch officiated the service.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Middleton of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Middleton of Big Spring and Eldon and the late Weesie Carroll of Lubbock.

The groom is the son of Kim and Shelley Craig of Lubbock and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Craig of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Arnold of Lubbock and the late Pete and Lucille Peeples of Idalou.

Presented in marriage by her father, Lauren wore a beautiful classic ivory strapless gown designed by Pronovias. The gown was designed with a mock two-piece silhouette. The bodice is embellished with a floral pattern of embroidery created with pearls, bugle beads and crystals.

The pattern is repeated on the tiffany train. Lauren's ivory veil fea-

ured two layers of illusion tulle topped off by a Bellaire tiara.

The bride carried a hand-tied clutch bouquet with ivory hydrangea, coral coffee bean, assorted shades of orange roses, lilies and flame mini calla lilies with accents of seeded eucalyptus and fresh wheat.

Attending the bride was Kim Middleton, of Frisco, who served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Leslie McLellan of Austin, Ashley Finch of Lubbock, Tracy Strong of Lubbock and Lauren Moore of Frisco. The bridesmaids wore identical strapless, matte taffeta A-line, tea-length dresses with organza trim at the neckline and hem.

The goldleaf color of the dresses complimented the flowers each bridesmaid carried. Each attendant carried a small version of Lauren's bouquet without the hydrangea but with the addition of red and peach alstromeria lilies.

Attending the groom as best man was Ryan Ray of Dallas. Groomsman were Todd Worley of Dallas, Cameron Leggett of Dallas, Seth Harrington of Lubbock and Adam Lasseter of Austin.



Mrs. Cody Ian Craig

Serving in the house party were Kylee Welch of Abilene, Emily Mouton of Bloomington, Ind., Courtney Craig of Austin and Heather Hobbs of Dallas. Ushers were Brian Rainey of San Antonio, Keith Bradley of Memphis, Tenn., Matt McMahon of Lubbock and Trey Aston of Dallas.

Wedding music consisted of Vivaldi, Bach and Pachelbel. The bride walked down the aisle to Clarke's "Trumpet Voluntary." Two songs were performed during the ceremony — "In This Very Room," a solo and a duet, "The Prayer." The bride and groom exited to "Purcell, Trumpet Tune."

The couple exchanged vows in front of one large arrangement centered behind the church altar. The arrangement consisted of orange lilies, orange gladiolus, coffee bean, fall colored roses, ivory hydrangea, alstromeria lilies and assorted grasses. On each side of the altar were three, 4-foot columns that held ivory, wax candleholders of assorted sizes. The base of each candleholder was decorated with fall flowers and assorted grasses. The reception was held

at LakeRidge Country Club, where guests were served buffet style shrimp cocktail, chicken fingers, crab stuffed mushrooms, roast beef, assorted cheese and vegetables, cocktail eggrolls and ham kabobs.

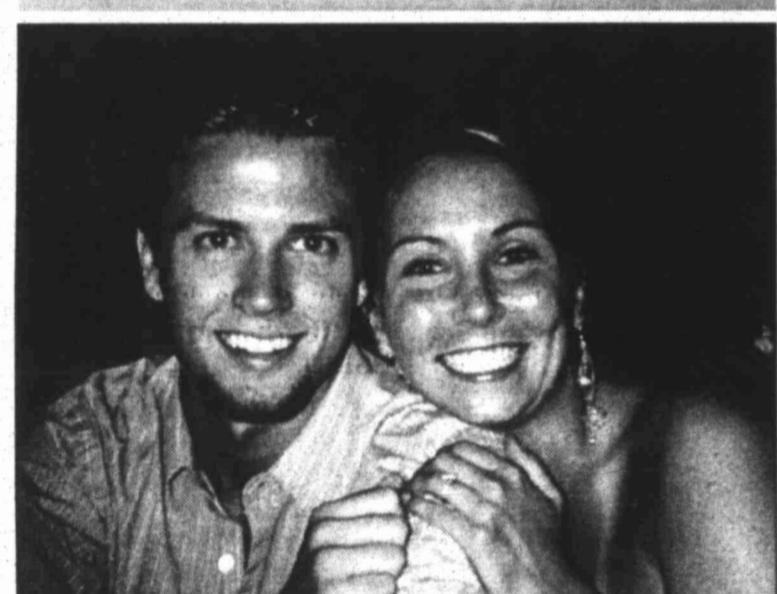
The bride's cake was four tiers of champagne-colored butter cream icing. Fall colored flowers decorated each layer and it was topped off with an arrangement of roses. The groom's cake was a two-layered red velvet cake with chocolate icing. It was surrounded by chocolate covered strawberries, raspberries and kiwi.

Lauren is a 1998 graduate of Big Spring High School and a 2002 graduate of Texas Tech University, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in public relations. She is employed by TMP Worldwide in Dallas.

Cody is a 1998 graduate of Coronado High School in Lubbock and a 2004 graduate of Texas Tech University. He earned his bachelor of business degree in marketing.

Following the honeymoon to St. Lucia, the couple will reside in Plano.

► Engagement



Lacey Dawn Anderson and John Andrew "Jay" Arrick

## Anderson, Arrick engaged

Lacey Dawn Anderson and John Andrew "Jay" Arrick of Odessa will exchange wedding vows at 7 p.m. July 9, 2005, in St. Paul The Apostle Chapel in Horseshoe Bay.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Rita Anderson of Big Spring and Donny Anderson of Corpus Christi. She is the granddaughter of College Anderson of Cross Plains and Leta and the late Robert Pruitt of Big Spring.

She is a graduate of Texas Tech University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and is working on a master's of education degree in community counseling. The prospective groom is the son of John and Sidney Arrick of Odessa

and the grandson of Edwinna and the late Fred Carr of Odessa and the late C.W. and Jewell Arrick of Big Spring.

He is a graduate of Texas Tech University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in finance and is working on a master's degree in finance. He is a graduate assistant at the North West Texas Small Business Development Center in Lubbock.

## Coahoma resident honored at Howard Payne homecoming

BROWNWOOD - The Daniel Baker College Ex-Students Association honored W.A. Fishback of Coahoma as one of three distinguished alumni at the DBC Awards during the Howard Payne University Homecoming festivities.

Fishback and his wife, Bea, have lived in Coahoma for 51 years. The Fishbacks have three sons, three daughters-in-law, one granddaughter and five grandsons.

He enrolled in Daniel Baker College in the fall of 1939. He completed three years at DBC before serving in the U.S. Army. He served overseas in the 78th Infantry Division / 78th Lightning Division as a platoon sergeant during his 15 months in combat in the European theatre. He earned the Bronze Star and three good-conduct medals, as well as ribbons for battles in the Ardennes, the Rhineland, Remagen and Central Europe.

While teaching seventh grade at Early, during that time, one of his students was Don Newbury, who later became president at Howard Payne University and who currently serves as chancel-



W.A. Fishback  
Principal of the university.  
Fishback served as elementary principal in

Gustine and later, in Coahoma, where he worked for 25 years until retiring in 1979.

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► Parke

Dora Robert Center in Big Spring the setting Christena Lee'Ann Park David Montana 4 p.m. Saturday 2004. Virgil youth minister groom, officiated mony.

The bride is the ter of Tim an Parker and the daughter of Bess of Odessa, forme Spring, and the Elmo Taylor and Mrs. A.B. Pa Midwest City, O formerly of Big S

Christy is 199 graduate of Bi High School and Cisco Junior Col is currently c with Citizens Credit Union Spring.

The groom is t Mr. and Mrs. Ro of Big Spring grandson of the and Mrs. Pir Levelland and Rita Howell and Lee Howell of Bo

He is a 1995 gr Big Spring Hig and a 2002 gra Texas Tech U where he receive elor's degree in cal engineering, currently emplo Colonial Pipe Beaumont.

The couple e vows in a double

► Newco

Patricia Rob sons Jason and all formerly of E Calif. She owns ates Jazzy's.

Pam Lefler, fo Houston. She is by Coldwell Ellen Phillips.

Margaret Tur

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# Wedding

## Parker, Howell exchange wedding vows

Dora Roberts Civic Center in Big Spring was the setting uniting Christena (Christy) Lee'Ann Parker and David Montana Howell at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 24, 2004. Virgil Feinsod, youth minister of the groom, officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Tim and Tena Parker and the granddaughter of Bessie Taylor, of Odessa, formerly of Big Spring, and the late San Elmo Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Parker of Midwest City, Okla., also formerly of Big Spring.

Christy is 1996 honor graduate of Big Spring High School and attended Cisco Junior College. She is currently employed with Citizens Federal Credit Union in Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Howell of Big Spring and the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Pinkert of Levelland and the late Rita Howell and the late Lee Howell of Borger.

He is a 1995 graduate of Big Spring High School and a 2002 graduate of Texas Tech University, where he received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He is currently employed with Colonial Pipeline in Beaumont.

The couple exchanged vows in a double ring ceremony under a silver heart archway draped with tulle, adorned with burgundy and silver silk roses, delicate ivy chains and matching bows. Two silver candelabras and softly lit ficus trees completed the stage.

The aisles were accented with bows of sheer pewter ribbon, burgundy roses and tiny pearls. Scallops of tulle and miniature lights created a romantic canapé above the room.

Christy's father proudly escorted our daughter down an aisle covered in burgundy rose petals. She wore a traditional styled ball gown made of satin and mirror mist with exquisite detail on the silhouette. Appliqués of delicate embroidered pears adorned the fitted strapless bodice. A tiara of pearls and rhinestones with a two-tiered elbow-length veil, also worn by her mother, completed her ensemble.

She carried a SJB original bouquet of white calla lilies, burgundy rose buds, tiny seed pearl clusters and baby's breath. One single white rose was added to her bouquet in honor of a dear friend, the late Jimmy Banister. Syntra Barnhart of Big Spring serve as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Christy Robinson, of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Tonya Arnold of Big Spring.

They wore matching formal length silver satin gowns. Each carried a bouquet of silver and burgundy roses complimenting the bride's. Garrett Ballard, nephew of the groom, of Fort Worth served as the ring bearer. Haley Ballard, niece of the groom, also of Fort Worth, was the flower girl and Sherida Jones of Big Spring lit the candles.

Rick Snyder of Midland served as best man. Groomsmen were Jason Roberts of Big Spring and Steve Anderson of Dallas. Ushers were Jake and Judd Timmons, cousins of the groom, of Morton and Timothy Parker Jr., brother of the bride, of Moore, Okla.

Gloria MacDonald, of Colorado Springs, Colo., was the soloist during the ceremony. She sang "I Need You" while Christy and Montana lit the unity candle. Charles West, great uncle of the bride, of Oklahoma City read the scripture, 1 Corinthians 13. Rebecca Taylor, aunt of the bride, of Odessa offered a marriage blessing prayer.

Following the ceremony, a reception, dinner and dance were held in honor of the new couple at the Dora Roberts Civic Center.

The tables were covered in white cloths. A double globe centerpiece with a small oil lamp insert and a ring of calla lilies, roses and pearls continued the candle lit decor.

The bride and groom's tables were covered in matching white linen tablecloths and skirting with delicate rose pattern lace overlay.

The bride's table depicted a spiraling five-tier floating cake. Four of the tiers were topped with bouquets of burgundy and silver silk roses, silver foil sprigs and tiny crystal doves.

A crystal bride and groom highlighted the center tier. Organza floral lights and soft tulle surrounded the crystal cake stands. Crystal stair-step candles accented the beauty of the cake.

The groom's table provided a handmade (by the bride) German chocolate cake topped with a fun loving bride dragging the groom to the alter.

Syntra Barnhart and Rick Snyder honored their dear friends, Christy and Montana, with a special toast after the cutting of the cake.

Danny Sherman, friend of the bride, provided the music for the reception and dance. Christy and Montana had planned to dance their first dance, to "Can I have This Dance," however, Danny surprised them with

2004, the groom's parents hosted a dinner at KC Steakhouse, honoring the couple following the wedding rehearsal. A bridal shower in honor of Christy was held April 24, 2004, in the garden room at Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

Friday evening, July 23, 2004, the groom's parents hosted a dinner at KC Steakhouse, honoring the couple following the wedding rehearsal.

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Mr. and Mrs. David Montana Howell

"Friends In Low Places," instead. The couple smiled and never missed a step.

After a honeymoon to Asheville, N.C. and a cruise to follow, Christy and Montana will make their home in Beaumont.

Friday evening, July 23,

2004, the groom's parents hosted a dinner at KC Steakhouse, honoring the couple following the wedding rehearsal.

A bridal shower in honor of Christy was held April 24, 2004, in the garden room at Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

### Newcomers

Patricia Roberts and sons Jason and Markus, all formerly of Elk Grove, Calif. She owns and operates Jazzy's.

Pam Lefler, formerly of Houston. She is employed by Coldwell Bankers Ellen Phillips.

Margaret Turner, formerly of San Angelo. She is employed by the Howard County Appraisal office.

Ben Mazzara, formerly of Houston/Galveston. He is employed by Texas State Veterans Home.

Aung Thein, wife Mee, daughter May, son Justin

Brett Kinnan, wife Leslie and daughter McKinzie, formerly of New Port, Ark. He is employed by Scenic Mountain Medical

and grandmother Daw Kyin Nu, all formerly of Ennis. He is employed by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Robert Jewett, wife Naomi and sons David, Jason and Scott, all formerly of Birtand, Neb. He is self-employed.

Casey Pacheco and wife Jennifer, formerly of Austin. He is employed by Big Spring Independent School District.

Karen Saunders and daughter Kaitlyn, formerly of Blackwell. They are both employed by BSISD.



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October 25 - November 3      Monday, Wednesday      1:00 - 3:00 pm  
November 8 - 17      Monday, Wednesday      1:00 - 3:00 pm  
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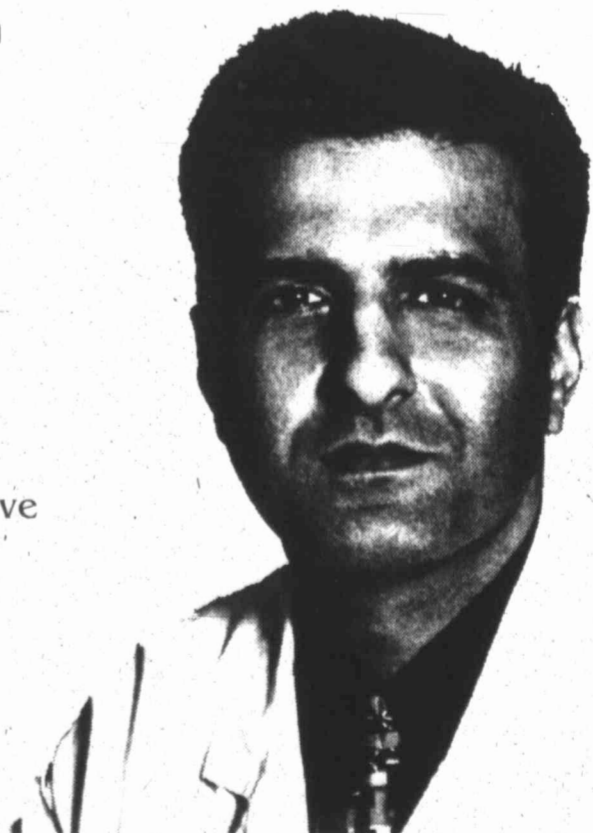
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## USDA Rural Development reps to be in Borden County on Oct. 27

Special to the Herald

Representatives of USDA Rural Development will be at the Borden County Courthouse on Oct. 27 to assist individuals with applications and provide information about the various housing, community and business and industry programs.

USDA Rural Development's

housing programs offer loans and grants to very low, low, and moderate income persons in towns and cities meeting certain population requirements. Programs offered assist qualified persons to buy, build, repair or maintain a home.

USDA Rural Development's community programs enhance the quality of life for rural Texans by providing funds to

governmental entities, nonprofit organizations and Indian tribes to enlarge, improve or construct schools, libraries, medical clinics, assisted living centers, public buildings, community centers and fund new and improved water and wastewater facilities.

USDA Rural Development's business and cooperative programs provide the needed capi-

tal to expand economic opportunities and development in rural areas throughout Texas by working with banks and community leaders.

There is no minimum loan size and the maximum loan size that will be considered is \$10 million with some exceptions up to \$25 million.

The meetings will be held in the commissioner's courtroom,

117 East Wasson in Gail from 10 a.m. until noon

USDA Rural Development officials said the agency is committed to help improve the quality of life for rural Texans.

For more information regarding any of the USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the USDA's Seguin office by calling 830-372-1042, ext. 4.

## NEW BUSINESS IN TOWN



The Big Spring Chamber of Commerce welcomes a new gift shop, Spice, as a chamber member. Pictured from left are: Rick Nunez, Emma Jenkins, Debbye Valverde, Kathy Lusk, Danny Robbitt, Shirley Lee, Kim Schrank, JoAnne Hyer, Zane Bobbitt, Koby Jenkins, Claudine Dillard, Casey Bobbitt, John Jenkins holding Riley Jenkins, Justin Jenkins, Terry Jenkins, Tito Arencibia, Raul Marquez and Sherry Wegner.

## Economy

### Shoppers spring back to life in September; industrial production still lagging behind

By JEANNINE AVERSA  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Shoppers got their buying groove back last month, propelling sales at the nation's retailers by a strong 1.5 percent, the best showing since March. Activity at the nation's factories remained subdued, however, with industrial production rising just 0.1 percent.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the sizable gain in retail sales came after shoppers took a bit of a breather in August, causing sales to dip by 0.2 percent. The buying bounceback seen in September offered a fresh sign that consumers still have an inclination to spend despite soaring energy prices and a questionable jobs outlook.

September's strength was led by a rebound in sales at automobile dealerships, yet consumers also showed a hearty appetite to spend on a wide variety of goods including electronics and appliances, building materials, garden supplies and clothing.

The sales figure for September was much better than the 0.6 percent rise that some economists were forecasting.

The 0.1 percent rise in output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities was below the 0.3 percent gain that economists had been expecting. The Federal Reserve blamed part of the weakness on hurricanes that battered the country last month, curtailing activity in the oil and gas sector, petroleum refining and chemical production.

The Fed reported that September's disappointing performance followed an outright decline of 0.1 percent in industrial output in August, a figure that had originally been reported as a 0.1 percent

increase. After zooming ahead in the first three months of this year, the economy has been buffeted since that time by strong headwinds coming from the sharp rise in energy prices. However, analysts believe the summer slowdown will be followed by stronger growth in the last three months of the year.

The 0.1 percent overall gain in industrial production reflected a big 5.4 percent jump in output at the nation's utilities which offset a 0.3 percent drop in manufacturing output and a 2.3 percent decline in mining activity, a category that includes oil and gas production.

Excluding sales of automobiles sales at all other merchants rose by a brisk 0.6 percent in September — the biggest advance since May and up from a 0.2 percent increase in August. The figure excluding automobile sales also was better than the 0.4 percent rise that some economists were expecting.

In other economic news: Wholesale prices edged up 0.1 percent in September, after falling by 0.1 percent in August, the Labor Department said. The showing matched economists' forecasts and suggested that inflation is not a threat to the economy. Excluding food and energy prices, "core" wholesale prices rose 0.3 percent last month, slightly faster than the 0.2 percent rise that some economists were expecting. Core prices dipped by 0.1 percent in August.

Economists closely watch consumer behavior because their spending accounts for roughly two-thirds of all economic activity in the United States.

In September, sales of See ECONOMY, Page 6C

## Jiffy Lube close to striking a deal that will settle consumer lawsuits

By DAVID KOENIG  
AP Business Writer

An Oklahoma judge is poised to approve a settlement of class-action lawsuits by drivers who say they were cheated when Jiffy Lube International Inc. added surcharges to their oil-change bills over the past five years.

The settlement would close at least nine pending class-action cases from California to New Jersey — a similar accord has been reached in a New York case. Some customers would get \$5 off their next oil change. The three law firms that negotiated with Houston-based Jiffy Lube would split \$2.75 million.

Some attorneys are trying to kill the nationwide deal, however, calling it a sham that would short-change millions of customers. They plan to ask a state district judge in

Tahlequah, Okla., to reject the deal at a hearing Nov. 17.

At issue is an "environmental surcharge" that ranged from 80 cents to \$1.25 added to the price of an oil change at Jiffy Lube's 400 company-owned stores from late 1999 until April. Some but not all the 1,800 Jiffy Lubes owned by franchisees also charged fees, according to the company.

Jiffy Lube won't say how many customers paid the charge, which the company stopped imposing after customer complaints and several lawsuits. The company said there were 30 million oil changes performed last year at Jiffy Lube shops, including franchise stores.

The company mailed 7.3 million coupons to customers of company-owned

stores, who were identified from a data base, and promised not to charge a similar fee again.

Critics say the company called the fee an environmental surcharge to fool customers into thinking it was a tax.

"It was just a straight rip-off for \$1.25 every time someone came in," said Scott R. Shepherd, a Pennsylvania attorney who sued the company. "They were hiding a price increase."

Jiffy Lube began charging the fee to recover the costs of environmental regulations designed to prevent and clean up oil spills, said Mike Lawrence, a publicist hired by Jiffy Lube to answer questions related to the lawsuits.

"This is a pretty common fee. It's been charged by most of the companies in the quick-lube industry

for a long time," Lawrence said. "However, because the practice has generated increasing controversy, we elected to stop charging this fee."

The use of such fees dropped in recent years as they came under attack from consumers and state officials and as recyclers began paying for used oil instead of charging to take it away. This year, only about one-third of the nation's oil-change garages add an environmental charge, with the average being \$1.62, according to trade publication National Oil & Lube News.

Lawyers attacking the settlement complain that customers who went to one of the 1,800 stores run by franchisees will get nothing. Marc A. Wites, a Florida lawyer, said it

See DEAL, Page 6C

## Eastern equine encephalitis confirmed in Louisiana

Louisiana officials have confirmed at least 10 horses have died from Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE), and another 10 are believed to have had the mosquito-borne disease.

Equine owners in East Texas, or persons who plan to haul their animals to the area, should make sure their horses have been vaccinated



TOMMY YEATER

against the disease.

Planning to take equine animals to events, or transporting pack animals to Colorado or New Mexico for hunting?

Due to the continuing Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) outbreak in Colorado and New Mexico, animals traveling into Colorado or New Mexico must have an examination by an accredited veterinarian prior to returning to Texas. The negative examination results by the Colorado or New Mexico veterinarian may be recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection that

accompanied the animal, if the certificate is still valid (less than 45 days old). Otherwise, a new certificate of veterinary inspection must be issued by the accredited veterinarian in Colorado or New Mexico.

The following statement and the accredited veterinarian's original signature must be recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection:

"The animals represented on this certificate of veterinary inspection have not originated from a premise or area under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis or a premise on which

vesicular stomatitis has been diagnosed in the past thirty days. I have examined each animal and have found no signs of vesicular stomatitis."

If you have any questions, please call the Texas Animal Health Commission's permit department at 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777.

Do you have Texas heifers going to a Colorado feedlot? Import requirements:

Texas heifers one year of age or younger are to be officially calfood vaccinated against cattle brucellosis prior to entering a Colorado feedlot.

If the Texas heifers are not vaccinated, they must enter the Colorado feedlot under a Colorado entry permit.

These heifers will then be permanently identified in the Colorado feedlot by cropping the distal on third of the left ear.

If heifers are not vaccinated, this fact should be noted on certificates of veterinary inspection issued prior to movement from Texas.

Tommy Yeater is the Howard County Extension agent for agriculture.

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