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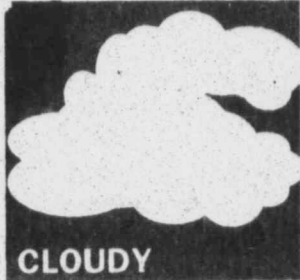
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

TUESDAY

November 16, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLOUDY

TONIGHT 48°-50° TOMORROW 64°-66°

BRIEFLY

Relay for Life rally set tonight

A rally to start the 2005 Relay For Life campaign will be held at 6 tonight at the First United Methodist Church Garrett Hall, 400 Scurry St. Refreshments will be served.

Kennel club offers cookbook gift idea

The Big Spring Kennel Club's cookbook, Treats from the Country, is now available for Christmas gift giving. The cookbook has 200 recipes from club members and friends, including appetizers, main courses, side dishes and desserts. The book also includes 16 tail-wagging recipes for pet treats. The cookbooks are priced at \$8 each and are available at Suggs Hallmark, the Western Hills Animal Clinic and at Kydees on U.S. Highway 87 South.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



The comeback of the wild turkey is one of the most remarkable wildlife recovery stories in the nation's history. Hunted to near extinction by the 1930s, today wild turkeys number 6.5 million.

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Vol. 100, No. 304

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com. To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. to noon Sunday.



The spillway at U.S. Highway 87 and Whipkey Drive made a spectacular waterfall Tuesday morning, as the Howard County area inches toward an annual rainfall record. Year-to-date, the area has received 32.74 inches of precipitation, a little less than two inches from the annual rainfall record set in 1932.

Record year for rainfall?

It appears the 1932 record of 32.74 inches will tumble

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

The Howard County area may be in line to break a rather auspicious record, as the year-to-date rainfall inches towards the wettest year in history.

According to U.S. Department of Agriculture Engineering Technician Charles Yates, Howard County is only 1.6 inches away from breaking the rainfall record. "We've received 32.74 inches of rain since the



YATES

See RAINFALL, Page 3A

Fire marshal's office mulls possible arson

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

The Big Spring Fire Marshal's Office is currently investigating a possible case of arson that took place early Monday morning.

According to reports from the Big Spring Police Department, a call was received at 3:23 a.m. reporting attempted arson in the 3600 block of

Dixon. Police Public Information Officer Sgt. Tony Everett said when police arrived on the scene, firefighters were already in the process of extinguishing the blaze, which involved a vehicle. Fire Marshal Carl Condray declined to comment on the details of the fire or the ongoing investigation, saying only that damages were minimal.

Bush taps Rice to replace Secretary of State Powell

Monday's resignations: Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Venemen, Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush turned to his most trusted foreign policy adviser, Condoleezza Rice, to lead U.S. diplomacy during his second term, replacing Secretary of State Colin Powell, who often was out of step with more hawkish members of the administration's national security team.

A senior administration official said Bush on Tuesday would nominate Rice, another move in a significant Cabinet shuffle that has included the exit not only of Powell, the administration's most prominent moderate, but also the resignation of Attorney General John Ashcroft, one of the administration's most outspoken conservatives.

Rice, who is considered more of a foreign policy hard-liner than Powell, has been Bush's national security adviser for four years. While she's known around the globe, her image on the world stage does not rival Powell's. The retired four-star general has higher popularity ratings than the president.

"She is a true friend to Israel," Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom told Army Radio in Israel on Tuesday. "Her friendship toward Israel is very deep and stems from religious feelings and



Dr. Condoleezza Rice, assistant to the president for National Security Affairs, has been nominated to take Colin Powell's place as secretary of state.

deep faith." Palestinian Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat, in an interview with the Associated Press Television Network, said, "We have dealt with Dr. Rice on various occasions. She's a very digni-

100 YEARS YOUNG



Olive Ruth Cowden celebrates her 100th birthday today. She was born Nov. 16, 1904, in Big Spring and attended school in Big Spring. Mrs. Cowden is the longest standing member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Her interest in local history eventually led her to donate the land that the Heritage Museum occupies today.

Courtesy photo

Operation Christmas Child seeks donations

By KENDRA WISS Staff Writer

As the season of giving approaches, many Big Spring community members work to provide a shoe box full of Christmas by participating in Operation Christmas Child.

Giving people from all over the world decorate shoe boxes filled with small toys and personal items which are distributed by Operation Christmas Child as a ministry of Samaritan's Purse to children in war-torn and poverty-stricken countries.

Barbara Brumley, a member of the Lutheran Women's Ministry League at St. Paul Lutheran Church, participates in Operation Christmas Child every year.

"We participate because this ministry helps kids

Take filled shoe boxes to either Allan's Furniture, located at 202 Scurry, or the Master's Touch, located at 995 East FM 700.

and helps us to reach out to the world with the love of Christ," Brumley said.

Coahoma High School's chapter of Business Professionals of America took on Operation Christmas Child as its service project.

"We wanted the students to realize that it's important to give back to the community," said BPA sponsor Linda Best. "This is something special we can do during this special time of year to help children in need."

See BOXES, Page 3A



Kadden Koffman packs shoe boxes with Christmas gifts as part of Operation Christmas Child, a project of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Other organizations within the community also participate in the project.

NOV 16 2004

Obituaries

William Walter Thomas



William Walter Thomas, 76, died Nov. 13, 2004 in Plains Regional Medical Center, Clovis, N.M. Services will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18, 2004, at Steed-Todd Chapel, Clovis, N.M. Interment will follow in Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens, Clovis, N.M.

He was born July 16, 1928 in Blue Mountain, Miss. to Luther and Pearl Thomas. He married Adeline Charizia Nov. 1, 1949, in Cheverly, Md.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1947, then transferred to the newly formed Air Force in 1948. The fire department became his career choice. During his 22 years in the Air Force, he earned a degree in fire protection engineering, achieved the rank of Senior Master Sgt., and served as assistant fire chief at several bases across the United States.

Retirement from the Air Force was a small pause in his career. He quickly returned to work in civil service as a fire chief, stationed at Webb Air Force Base.

In 1976, he transferred as fire chief to Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, N.M., retiring in 1992. In addition to his work, he taught fire protection engineering at Howard College in Big Spring.

He was an avid golfer, member of the Academy of Modeling Aviation, the Soaring Society of America, V.F.W. Post 3280 and past president of the local Model Airplane Drivers Society.

He was a fan of the Dallas Cowboys and the Atlanta Braves. In his spare time, he loved to spend time woodworking and with his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by father, Luther Alexander Thomas, mother, Pearl Etta Childers Thomas, and granddaughter, Crystal Audrey Cotham.

He is survived by wife, Adeline Thomas; sons, Grant Thomas and his wife, Terry, of El Paso, Michael Thomas of Albuquerque, N.M., Keith Thomas and his wife, Laurie, of Portales, N.M.; daughter, Renee M. Thomas of Clovis, N.M.; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He will be buried with full military honors and fire-fighter tribute.

Honorary pallbearers are Ronnie McCord, Bobby Lockmiller, Rick Poe, Richard Poe, Joe Davis, Chad Messick, Larry Cherry, Maj. Norm Johnson, Cody McCord, Steve Verdile, Bob Butler, Ricky Thornton, Antoni Bogusz and all brother fire fighters.

The family suggests memorials to the American Heart Association

Arrangements are under the direction of Steed-Todd Funeral Home, 800 E. Manana, Clovis, N.M. 88101.

Paid obituary

Dorothy Lee Salmon

Dorothy Lee Salmon, 87, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take note

□ **GARAGE AND BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT CIRCLE SIX RANCH IN STANTON** is set for Dec. 3-4 at the ranch, which is located six miles north of Stanton on Highway 137. Call 432-458-3467 for more information.

□ **TUMBLEWEED SMITH BOOK SIGNING**, "Under the Chinaberry Tree," and new CD, "Natural-Born Storyteller," at the Martin County Museum from 1-4 p.m. Friday. Contact Helen Thrailkill at 756-2722 for more information.

□ **TALENT SHOW AND SPAGHETTI SUPPER AT CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1008 Birdwell Lane, at 6:30 Friday. Tickets are \$5 for each event, or \$8 to attend both. Proceeds go to fund missionary work of Janae Giles, who is attending the missions program at Lubbock Christian University. Contact Don Swinney, 263-9963, for more information.

□ **NEW HOPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** Thanksgiving Feast for students and parents at 10:45 a.m. Thursday. Call Karen at 263-0203 for more information.

□ **LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS (LULAC) CHAPTER 4791** is having an open meeting for the community from 6-8 p.m. Friday, in the Howard County Library Community Room. For more information, call Jennifer at 264-1297; Anita Marquez at 816-3226; Raul Marquez at 263-6351; Janey Tino at 268-9155; or Isabel Calderon at 213-4239.

□ **VENDORS NEEDED FOR CANTERBURY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** set for 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Dec. 4. Call Mandy at 263-1265. Space is limited.

□ **AN ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT TRISTAN RANGEL**, son of Ione and Tim Rangel, has been set up at the Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union, 2204 Gregg St., account No. 529903, to help with medical expenses. He has been diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia and is in a Lubbock hospital.

□ **BUFFALO COUNTRY FINA** is giving away an autographed photograph of Michael Jordan, along with two other Jordan magazine covers, to help with medical costs of 12-year-old Sage Gibson, son of Big Spring Junior High School assistant principal Tommy

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Monday and 8 a.m. today:

- **MARGARET VIVIAN WELLS**, 19, of 1106 E. 12th Street, was arrested Monday on a Tarrant County warrant for theft.
- **RODNEY DEAN KINARD**, 22, of 404 Jill Road, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **INTERFERING WITH AN EMERGENCY PHONE CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Ninth Street.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 200 block of Ninth Street.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 2000 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- **ARSON** was reported in the 3600 block of Dixon.

Sheriff's report

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

- **RODNEY DEAN KINARD**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 300 block of Main Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 5200 block of Parkway.

Support groups

TUESDAY

□ The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

THURSDAY

□ Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

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

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. Call 263-8273 for more information.

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

Gibson, who has been diagnosed with a tumor. For an update on Gibson's condition visit www.carepages.com/ServeCarePage?cpn=Sagepage&uniq=923947. For more information about the Buffalo Fina fund-raiser call 267-5050.

□ **THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL STEADHAM** is in need of help to pay for his funeral expenses. Friends of the family say he had no insurance and died suddenly. An account has been established at the Cosden Federal Credit Union for those wishing to help the family. For more information, call 264-0838 or 264-2600.

□ **THE BIG SPRING WEST TEXAS GIRL SCOUTS COUNCIL SENIOR TROOP 266** is collecting stuffed animals for Scenic Mountain Medical Center's emergency room. A collection box for the stuffed toys will be at Seams-So-Nice in the Big Spring Mall. Or call Laurie Peterson at 432-267-9773

□ **A FUND TO HELP WITH EXPENSES FOR THE FAMILY OF MICKEY EMERSON OF FORSAN** has been set up at State National Bank, 901 Main St. Mickey was involved in a motorcycle accident Sept. 23 and is in intensive care in a Lubbock hospital. Contact his mother, Carolyn Winbush, at 263-1178 with any questions.

□ **AN ORIGINAL SUE BAGWELL PAINTING** will be given away in April at the Heritage Museum. Contact the museum at 267-8288 for more details.

□ **FORSAN SCHOOL BAND WILL PERFORM IN WASHINGTON D.C. JULY 4, 2005**, by special invitation, representing Texas. Funds are needed to cover the \$145,000 cost of the trip. Donations are being accepted at the First Bank of West Texas, account name Forsan Band Trip. Contact Forsan Superintendent Randy Johnson or band directors Jim Rhodes and Jeremy Higgenbotham at 457-2223.

□ **A FUND TO HELP DEFRA Y** the funeral costs and medical bills of Johnny Darden, a Howard County

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Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- A Stitchin' Time Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Everyone is invited to learn and share sewing skills, and portable sewing machines are welcome. Call Kay Sikes at 394-4835 for more information.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at 1st and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Chapter 67 Order of the Eastern Star meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

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

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 5-11-17-20. Bonus Ball: 10.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$1.1 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-16-24-25-32.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$41,079.
Winning tickets sold in: Fort Worth.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-0-7

Weather

Tonight - Cloudy with showers and thunderstorms likely with heavy rainfall. Lows near 50. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 70 percent.
Wednesday - Mostly cloudy with showers likely and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s. Southwest winds near 10 mph in the morning becoming light and variable in the afternoon. Chance of rain 60 percent.
Wednesday night - Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds.
Thursday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the mid 60s. Light and variable winds.
Thursday night - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s.
Friday - Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.
Friday night - Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 40s.
Saturday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.
Saturday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows near 40.
Sunday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs near 50.
Sunday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s.
Monday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs near 50.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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U.S. Army soldiers (New Dawn). The Brigade Combat Te

Troop to ret

BAGHDAD, Iraq - U.S. and Iraqi forces pushed into heavy neighborhood streets on Monday, launching an offensive to retake parts of the city. The U.S. military staged a major offensive last week in an attempt to push insurgents out of the city.

Mosul's five police stations were closed to operations and U.S. forces began clearing western parts of the city. Third-largest city of Iraq, Mosul, is a major U.S. military base. Capt. Angela L. with Task Force "We are in the

of securing all stations and the police to put in strong police presence she said. "Some stations are in the hood of the city which has been insurgent presence now moving through the neighborhood."

About 1,200 U.S. were taking part in offensive to retake about a dozen police stations abandoned forces after an that sprung up the U.S.-led a Fallujah in a operation that at least 38 American and six Iraqi dead. American estimate that 1,000 insurgents have been the Fallujah fight.

Since the attack began, insurgents have police stations, military forces, U.S. convoys and operations across a of the Sunni heartland following the start of the Fallujah offensive and many were believed slipped out of ahead of the onslaught.

In a speech Monday on the radio, speaker said that Musab al-Zarqawi, Iraq's most notorious leader, call followers to "show Americans 'win' and mortars" U.S. forces were too thin as the "finish off" Fallujah."

On Tuesday, reported U.S. and helicopters over Mosul, about 1 million explosions were heard were heard American bas

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Department of Defense photo/ Sgt. 1st Class Johancharles Van Boers
U.S. Army soldiers are poised to enter a building in Fallujah, Iraq, during Operation al Fajr (New Dawn). The soldiers are assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

Troops launch offensive to retake parts of Mosul

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. and Iraqi troops pushed into insurgent-heavy neighborhoods and stormed police stations in Mosul on Tuesday, launching an offensive to retake parts of this northern Iraqi city where militants staged a mass uprising last week in support of insurgents in Fallujah.

Mosul's five bridges were closed to start the operation and American forces began securing police stations in the western part of Iraq's third-largest city, said Capt. Angela Bowman, with Task Force Olympia.

"We are in the process of securing all of police stations and returning the police to these stations to put in place a strong police presence," she said. "Some of those stations are in neighborhoods on the western side of the city where there has been insurgent activity and presence. We are now moving through the neighborhood."

About 1,200 U.S. soldiers were taking part in the offensive to recapture about a dozen police stations abandoned by Iraqi forces after an uprising that sprung up following the U.S.-led attack on Fallujah in a week-old operation that has left at least 38 American troops and six Iraqi soldiers dead. American officials estimate that 1,200 insurgents have been killed in the Fallujah fighting.

Since the Fallujah attack began Nov. 8, insurgents have attacked police stations, Iraqi security forces, U.S. military convoys and oil installations across a wide area of the Sunni Muslim heartland following the start of the Fallujah offensive and many insurgents were believed to have slipped out of the city ahead of the U.S. onslaught.

In a speech found Monday on the Internet, a speaker said to be Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the country's most feared terror leader, called on his followers to "shower" the Americans "with rockets and mortars" because U.S. forces were spread too thin as they seek to "finish off Islam in Fallujah."

On Tuesday, residents reported U.S. warplanes and helicopters hovering over Mosul, a city of about 1 million, as loud explosions and gunfire were heard near the American base on the

northern edge of the city, 225 miles north of Baghdad.

Witnesses said three police stations already under the control of insurgents were blown up this morning before the militants left.

The Zuhour police station, and a substation in northeastern Mosul were destroyed, along with Qahira police station in the northern part of the city. No casualties were seen.

Last week, a mass insurgent uprising began in Mosul in apparent support of militants in Fallujah. Masked and armed bands of men stormed more than a half dozen police stations, bridges and political offices in the city, clashing with U.S. troops and Iraqi forces.

The city's police force were overwhelmed, and in many places, failed to even put up a fight. Mosul Police Chief Brig. Gen. Mohammed Kheiri Barhawi was fired in the wake of criticism that some police forces had cooperated with insurgents during the attacks.

On Monday, a suicide driver detonated his car near an American military convoy in the western edge of Mosul, injuring five U.S. soldiers. The driver first tried to ram his vehicle into the convoy but missed. A second

car then tried to approach the same patrol, but the troops opened fire, killing the driver.

The U.S. military was investigating videotaped pool pictures taken Saturday by NBC that showed a U.S. Marine shooting dead a wounded prisoner in a mosque in Fallujah. The footage was taken during an operation of the Marines 3rd Battalion, 1st Regiment.

On the video, a Marine can be heard shouting obscenities in the background, yelling that one of the men against the wall in the mosque was only pretending to be dead. It then briefly shows a Marine raising his weapon toward one of the prisoners lying on the ground. The video is then blacked out, but the report of the gunfire can be heard.

On Tuesday, the U.S. military said in a statement that the 1st Marine Division is investigating an allegation of the unlawful use of force in the death of an enemy combatant in Fallujah during combat.

The Marine has been withdrawn from the battlefield pending the results of the investigation. "We follow the law of armed conflict and hold ourselves to a high standard of accountability," said Lt. Gen. John F. Sattler.

BOXES

Continued from Page 1A

For many of the children receiving boxes, the shoe box gift will be the first gift they have ever received.

There are more than 7 million recipients of the shoe-boxed gifts living in 95 countries on six continents. Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project.

Taking part in Operation Christmas Child is easy and doesn't require much work. The project's Web site, www.samaritanspurse.org, lists the following instructions for assembling shoe box gifts.

First, select a shoe box, decorate the top and bottom and choose a boy or girl as a recipient. Pre-printed labels can be downloaded from the Web

site. Second, select which age child will receive the box. The age categories are 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

Third, fill the box with the needs and desires of the appropriately aged child. For instance, 2 to 4 year-olds enjoy clothing, toys, winter caps and gloves. Children ages 5-9 might enjoy toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, brushes, toys like small dolls and matchbox cars and flashlights. Ten-to 14-year-olds enjoy hygiene items, underclothes, socks, T-shirts, solar calculators and school supplies.

Organizers urge participants to not send used items; war-related items such as toy guns, toy soldiers or knives; perishable items; liquids such as shampoo, lotion or bubbles; medicines such as vitamins or cough drops; or breakable items

such as mirrors or china dolls.

Fourth, in the top of the box enclose a check or money order payable to Samaritan's Purse for \$5 to cover the cost of overseas shipping.

Attach the official label or simply write boy or girl and age on the top of the box and secure the box with a rubber band.

Fifth, take the shoe box to either Allan's Furniture, located at 202 Scurry, or the Master's Touch, located at 995 East FM 700, by the deadline date of Monday, Nov. 22.

For more information, contact Operation Christmas Child's Regional Collection Center in Midland at 432-557-1095.

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

RAINFALL

Continued from Page 1A

beginning of the year," said Yates. "The normal amount of rainfall for this point in the year is 17.51 inches, so you could say this year hasn't been normal in a very good way."

"The wettest year on record was 34.34 inches in 1932, so if the rainfall continues the way it's currently going, we'll probably beat that record."

National Weather Service Meteorologist Greg Murdock said West Texans can count on the wet stuff being a part of their holiday season as well.

"It looks like this trend of increased precipitation is going to continue through the end of the

year," said Murdock. "We're expecting the rains we've received over the past several days to continue through tonight with a 70 percent chance of rain and a low of 50 degrees."

Murdock said although the cold winds seem to be blowing right along with the rain, the chances of any freezing weather in the next few days is slim at best.

As for the incredible increase in the rate of precipitation for 2004, Murdock said it's hard to nail the cause down to just one source.

"It's difficult to say, especially when you talk about just one variable," said Murdock. "The storm track has moved more favorably for storms to come in off of the

Pacific Ocean. There have also been several other events favoring the southern flow across Mexico bringing up moisture."

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

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Prayer to the Virgin Mary
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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

United Way still needing our donations

Work ... and plenty of it remains to be done. The annual drive for United Way of Big Spring and Howard County is well on its way to meeting its \$250,000 goal, but that doesn't mean anyone involved in the campaign can afford to sit back and rest on their laurels.

Nor should any of us — those the United Way depends on for donations — think we don't have to continue to do our part in helping take care of those who need help in our community.

The few dollars each of us gives to United Way goes a long, long way. Through scouting, the YMCA, after-school programs and the like, children learn teamwork, responsibility and the value of participation. It helps keep our youth focused on positive things and off the streets.

Programs such as Victim Services give those who have suffered emotional and physical trauma a source to turn to, new hope and the ability to carry on with productive lives. The American Red Cross helps us in times of disaster, whether it be a tornado or a house fire.

The Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center helps us recover from physical setbacks and get back on our feet again.

And the Salvation Army provides school supplies, coats and shoes for those who don't have them; food for those who are hungry; Christmas for those who would not otherwise share the joy and peace of the holiday season. In short, it helps those who are having a tougher time of it and need a warm, caring hand to help them back up again.

So many lives are touched by these non-profit organizations and the others United Way serves — the CASA of West Texas, Council on Aging, Howard County Humane Society, Isaiah 58, Northside Community Center, the YMCA of Big Spring, the Westside Community Center and Westside Day Care Center.

All told, the 15 agencies ensure that someone in our county who needs help can get it with dignity and pride.

Because of this, those few dollars each of us contributes keep our neighborhoods safer. They ensure our children get an education. They provide the means that allow single parents a step up to self-sufficiency.

This is not charity. It is ensuring the well being of an entire community and that's something we all have a stake in.

Many of those who need our help today will be among our leaders tomorrow. That is the goal — to provide the means for everyone in our county to have an equal chance to become a productive part of society.

And that takes all of us.

Once again, we hope you'll choose to be a part of this incredibly beneficial cause and let's not stop until we have all done our part.

How To CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

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

Allergies are serious business

Let's talk peanut butter and jelly. According to an account in The New York Times last year, more and more schools are banning peanut butter, that childhood staple, because peanut allergies are apparently on the rise. In rare cases, the allergy is so severe that it can kill, although there is an antidote.



MOLLY IVINS

Asthma and allergies are the Rodney Dangerfields of disease — unless, of course, you happen to have them. Years ago in the Texas Lege, a fellow named E.W. Robinson of Amarillo was going through a confirmation hearing on his appointment to the Air Pollution Control Board. Not precisely a militant environmentalist, Robinson allowed that he would be against air pollution that was very harmful to people.

How about pollution that causes asthma and allergies? Well, you don't die of that, replied Robinson reasonably.

He would have had an easier time getting confirmed if there had not been a senator on the committee who had serious allergies and felt that his suffering should be taken seriously.

One trouble with allergies is that their cause is hard to pin down. A bewildering variety of natural substances cause allergic reactions. Other people have reactions to man-made products, and a depressing list of toxic pollutants, which can cause cancer and other fatal diseases, end the litany of their consequences with "can also cause asthma and allergies."

Something called Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) afflicts somewhere between 15 percent and 30 percent of all Americans, according to different surveys. That's between 37 million and 75 million people who report

that they are unusually sensitive or allergic to certain common substances, such as detergents, perfumes, solvents, pesticides, pharmaceuticals and foods.

Rachel's Environment & Health Weekly, a valuable newsletter that usually addresses graver consequences of pollution, reported in February 1998: "An estimated 5 percent (13 million people) have been diagnosed by physicians as being especially sensitive. Many of these people react so strongly that they can become disabled from very low exposure to common substances. Typical symptoms include prolonged fatigue, memory difficulties, dizziness, difficulty concentrating, depression, feeling spacey or groggy, lack of motivation, shortness of breath, headache, nervousness, muscle aches, joint pain, chest pains, nausea and more."

As you can see from this partial list of symptoms, practically anything can be blamed on MCS. It sounds like hypochondriac heaven, which makes it easy to dismiss.

But Rachel's reports: "MCS has been recognized by its symptoms for 50 years because MCS sufferers in many geographical areas, researchers studying them and doctors treating them have reported a remarkably consistent picture of disease. However, because MCS sufferers react to chemicals at levels that are hundreds or thousands of times lower than allowable occupational exposures, traditional toxicology dictates that their symptoms cannot be caused by chemical exposure. ... In sum, because MCS does not fit any of the three currently accepted mechanisms of disease — infectious, immune system or cancer — traditional medicine has not known how to explain MCS, and so has often labeled it 'psychogenic' — originating in the patient's mind."

In a rare moment of comedy in all this, the first time MCS came to public attention here (the Canadians are well ahead of us on

this) was in 1987, when the Environmental Protection Agency remodeled its office space at the Watergate Mall, causing about 200 employees to develop "sick building syndrome." The National Research Council now accepts that sick building syndrome is a real phenomenon, and several dozen EPA employees later reported developing MCS.

Meanwhile, the chemical companies, like the tobacco companies before them, are dismissing all this as "junk science." They have funded their own research group: the Environmental Sensitivities Research Institute. Rachel's reports that Monsanto, Procter & Gamble, the Cosmetic Toiletries and Fragrances Association, and other companies involved in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, pesticides and other chemicals each pay \$10,000 a year to keep ESRI going. The head of ESRI, Dr. Ronald Gots, also runs the National Medical Advisory Group, which provides expert witnesses to defend chemical corporations in tort lawsuits.

As Rachel's also points out, "The stakes are enormous, and the chemical industry knows it. If a clearly defined disease emerges from research of MCS, with chemical causes that are understood, then it can't be too many decades before chemical corporations will have to face liability and compensation claims from millions of citizens harmed by their products."

Rachel's recommends the book "Chemical Exposures: Low Levels and High Stakes" by Nicholas Ashford and Claudia Miller as a lucid and thoughtful account of the current science and medicine on MCS.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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JERRY KILGORE — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.
BILL CROOKER — Home: 263-2566.
GARY SIMER — Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.

Blocking Specter's move up ladder

The Senate Republican leadership is considering a two-year waiver to delay Sen. Orrin Hatch's removal as Judiciary Committee chairman because of term limits, thereby forestalling Sen. Arlen Specter's succession to the post.

Specter has almost entirely backed down from his exuberant post-election comments warning President Bush that no foe of the Roe v. Wade abortion decision would be confirmed for the Supreme Court. Nevertheless, pro-life activists and other conservatives still suspect what course Specter would take as chairman and want to keep him out of that position.



ROGER SIMON

An argument for giving Hatch a waiver is the fact that while facing re-election in Utah in 2006, he would have no committee chairmanship or even a subcommittee chairmanship despite advanced seniority in the Senate. Although Hatch and Specter have had their differences in the past, Hatch has publicly supported Specter as his replacement.

The motive behind the unusual candidacy of Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack to be the next Democratic national chairman is to keep former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean out of the job. Being party chairman probably would hurt rather than help Vilsack's presidential ambitions for 2008, and the first word from his supporters was negative about

seeking to head the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

However, sources say Vilsack was alarmed by the prospect that Dean would pull the party's image far to the left. Vilsack is also reported to be interested in saving Iowa's first-in-the-nation presidential caucuses, endangered again after guaranteeing John Kerry's early nomination this year.

A footnote: Bill and Hillary Clinton, who dictated the election of Terry McAuliffe as DNC chairman four years ago, so far have stayed out of the contest for his successor.

Sources close to President Bush report he favors naming retiring Democratic Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana as secretary of energy to replace Spencer Abraham.

Bush would like in his Cabinet at least one legitimate Democrat who supported John Kerry for president this year. Breaux is a genuine moderate, with a 46 percent lifetime rating by the American Conservative Union and a 45 percent most recent liberal rating by the Americans for Democratic Action.

Abraham, a one-term U.S. senator from Michigan, is reportedly interested in becoming secretary of transportation but more likely will end up in the private sector.

Presidential prospects for Gov. Bill Owens, a leading conservative possibility for the 2008 Republican nomination, were not helped by this year's election outcome in his state of Colorado.

Although President Bush carried Colorado by five percentage points, otherwise the state was a rare disaster for Republicans. Democrats took away a U.S.

Senate seat, captured one House seat and came close in another, and took over both previously Republican-controlled houses of the state legislature (the only such double switch in the nation).

Owens is blamed by Republican critics for supporting a state referendum that would have permitted the use of private contractors in Colorado, which now requires all work on government projects to be done by state employees. The state employees union mobilized a huge vote, defeating the referendum 3 to 2 and bringing many Democratic voters to the polls.

The loss for the U.S. Senate in Colorado by brewery owner Pete Coors continued a poor election record by rich self-financed candidates, particularly Republicans.

No self-financed Senate candidate was elected this year. The losers included Republicans Coors, Tim Michels in Wisconsin, Doug Gallagher in Florida, E.J. Pipkin in Maryland and Thomas Ravenel in South Carolina. Democratic self-funders Erskine Bowles in North Carolina and Blair Hull in Illinois also lost Senate contests.

Three Democratic self-financers won 2000 Senate races: Mark Dayton in Minnesota, Jon Corzine in New Jersey and Maria Cantwell in Washington (though she was later reimbursed by her campaign). No self-financing Republican has been elected to the Senate since 1998, when Peter Fitzgerald won in Illinois.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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LAREDO Foreign traveling the United States Monday seen the Homeland Department's gratation security program in stride saying the printing, ph and security actually speak "It's OK," Gonzales, from Monter who was am to be proces morning on of the Lin International hope this r

RICE

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Stephen H current dep security a expected to to replace Ri administrat said on c anonymity.

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Known for views and reputation, before the U in February Bush's ar invading Ir abroad and Powell's cas

Nevada's shrunk

WASHINGTON ing manage and their lo home.

Sen. Harry in as leader Daschle of the party's Senate floor

Reid's asc ing of Senat following th Illinois, in l ranking Ser Reid, 64, only 44 sea January.

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Three land ports testing border security technology

LAREDO (AP) — Foreign travelers entering the United States Monday seemed to take the Homeland Security Department's new immigration security test program in stride, with many saying the added fingerprinting, photographing and security checks may actually speed things up.

"It's OK," said Fabian Gonzales, a restaurateur from Monterrey, Mexico, who was among the first to be processed Monday morning on the U.S. side of the Lincoln-Juarez International Bridge. "I hope this new process

improves the security and also helps the tourists."

Following a testing period in Laredo, Douglas, Ariz.; and Port Huron, Mich.; the Department of Homeland Security plans to expand the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology program, or US-VISIT, to land crossings across the U.S. and Canadian borders.

"We always test first," said Anna Hinken, outreach manager for US-VISIT.

By Dec. 31, inkless fingerprint machines and

digital cameras will be at the nation's 50 busiest land ports and at all 165 land border crossings by the end of 2005. It is already in effect at airports and sea ports.

Things appeared to be going smoothly in Laredo on Monday as busloads of tourists from Mexico and Central America moved steadily through the lines for processing.

"You know there is the reason," 30-year-old Stefano Spaggiari of Modena, Italy, said, referring to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. "So you can wait."

After the 2001 terrorist attacks, Congress merged federal border security agencies and mandated a speedy system that would ID and record every foreigner who enters and leaves the United States.

Homeland Security is spending \$340 million implementing the technology. Another \$340 million has been allocated for 2005.

Business and political leaders in border cities fought the system when it was announced, fearing it would slow traffic and deter Mexicans who have made the impoverished

Texas border one of the hottest retail spots in the nation.

One business group, The Alliance for Security and Trade, commissioned a study finding that a 20 percent delay at the border would cost the U.S. border 375,000 jobs.

Each year, Laredo has 4.6 million pedestrians, 1.4 million trucks, 6.8 million private vehicles and more than 40,000 buses cross its four international bridges, according to Customs and Border Protection.

Those who've seen the new system say they no

longer oppose it.

Supporters like how the scanners use data from passports and other documents to automatically complete paperwork that was before filled out by hand.

"At the very beginning we were led to believe, perhaps by the media or perhaps by our own misinformation, that this program was going to be bad for us," said Laredo Mayor Betty Flores, one of the program's loudest early critics. "From what I witnessed ... the program is going to be good for us."

RICE

Continued from Page 1A

fied person, she has a very analytical, systematic mind and I believe she's committed to President Bush's two-state solution."

Rice, 50, worked at the National Security Council in former President Bush's White House and went on to be provost of Stanford University in California before working in the current president's 2000 campaign. She was widely considered the president's first choice for the top diplomat's job, despite reports that she intended to return to California or was hoping to replace Donald H. Rumsfeld as defense secretary.

Stephen Hadley, Bush's current deputy national security adviser, is expected to be promoted to replace Rice, the senior administration official said on condition of anonymity.

There had been speculation that Powell, 67, would stay on, at least for part of Bush's second term, but he told reporters Monday that he had made no offer to do so. In his resignation letter dated Nov. 12, Powell, a 35-year Army veteran and former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told Bush that, with the election over, it was time to "step down ... and return to private life." He said he would stay on "for a number of weeks, or a month or two" until his replacement was confirmed by the Senate.

Known for his moderate views and unblemished reputation, Powell went before the United Nations in February 2003 to sell Bush's argument for invading Iraq to skeptics abroad and at home. But Powell's case was built on

faulty intelligence that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. He remained the most popular member of the administration.

Scott McClellan, the White House press secretary, declined to answer questions about whether Bush asked Powell to step down, or tried to persuade him to stay.

Ivo Daalder, who served on President Clinton's National Security Council, suspects Powell was nudged out the door.

"It was a surprise," he said. "He had been telling people that he wanted to stay."

Powell's departure may affect internal debates on foreign policy, but "he lost a lot of those anyway," said Michael O'Hanlon, a foreign policy analyst at the liberal Brookings Institution. "I think what's more fundamental is whether these guys are going to change their world view."

Rumsfeld, traveling in Ecuador on Monday, told reporters he had not yet discussed his future with the president and would provide no hint as to whether he would continue with Bush's Cabinet, either for months or through the second term.

He praised Powell and said the news media had tried "to fabricate friction" between himself and the secretary of state.

Also on Monday, the White House announced the resignations of Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham. Ashcroft and Commerce Secretary Don Evans resigned earlier this month, meaning six of Bush's 15 Cabinet members are leaving.

At least three Cabinet chairs could go to White House insiders, possibly

reflecting Bush's desire to send trusted lieutenants to implement his policies in the agencies and extend his influence government-wide.

Besides Rice, Bush already picked White House counsel Alberto Gonzales to replace Ashcroft. Margaret Spellings, Bush's domes-

tic policy adviser, is on the short list to replace Paige as education secretary. At least two more resignations are expected, and individuals close to the White House are among likely successors for these posts as well.

Tommy Thompson, the health and human services chief, has said he

would take a break from government service after four years on the job at HHS and 14 as Wisconsin governor. The favorite to replace Thompson is Medicare chief Mark McClellan.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge has told colleagues he'll probably leave because of his

personal finances and job stresses. If he steps down, White House homeland security adviser Frances Townsend is a possible successor. Other prospects are Asa Hutchinson, Homeland Security Department undersecretary for border and transportation security, and Thomas Kean.

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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

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Civic Commercial

Brief description of entry: _____

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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
Big Spring Herald
P.O. Box 1431
710 Scurry St.
(432) 264-7205 (fax)

QUESTIONS? CALL (432) 263-7331, Ask for Elizabeth Flores

Nevada's Reid being tapped to lead shrunken Senate Democratic caucus

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats are changing management, their ranks reduced to a 74-year low and their longtime leader defeated for re-election back home.

Sen. Harry Reid, a soft-spoken Nevadan, is moving in as leader of the shrunken minority, while Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota moves out after a decade as the party's chief spokesman and strategist on the Senate floor.

Reid's ascension was preordained at Tuesday's meeting of Senate Democrats, their ranks smaller by four following the Nov. 2 elections. Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, in line to succeed Reid as the party's second-ranking Senate leader, was also unopposed.

Reid, 64, takes command of a party that will have only 44 seats when the new Congress convenes in January.

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Call 263-7331 to start your subscription to the **Big Spring Herald** today, and get the scoop on local news and events.

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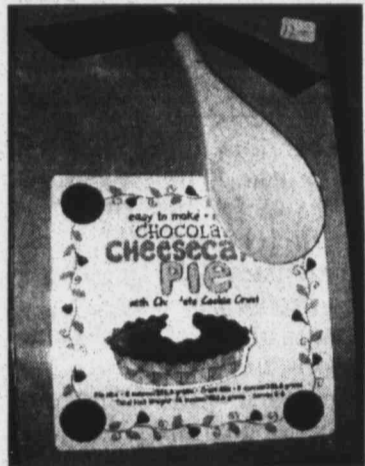
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★ ★ *Shoppin' Robin* ★ ★

Lyndel: Hey Susanne, did you go to any of the businesses participating in the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce open house Sunday? Well, you know I just can't turn away from any kind of SSFR (Socializing, Shopping and Free Refreshments) and I thought this was the perfect time to stop by Spice, that newly opened gift shop on 10th Street.

While enjoying the



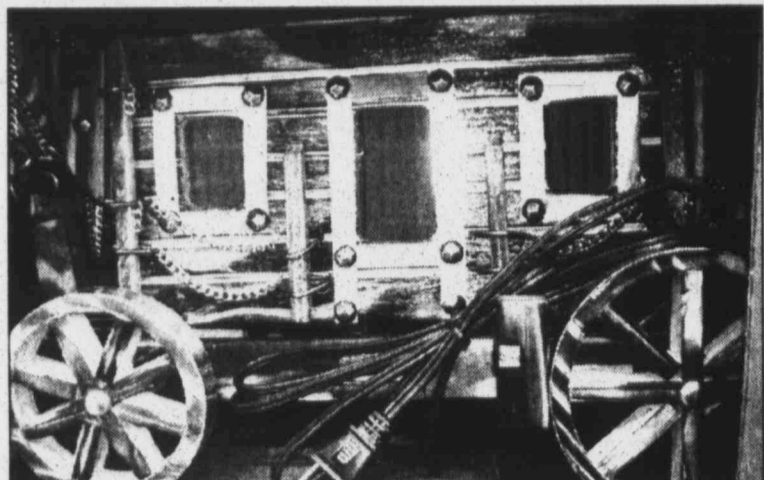
Pelican Bay's easy to make no bake pies may be found at Spice, 207 W. 10th St.

atmosphere, I found a perfect holiday gift — Pelican Bay's easy to make no bake pies. All you have to do is add milk, whipped cream cheese to the pie mix and melted butter to help form the crust. It already comes in an attractive package so no gift wrapping is necessary.

Spice carries pumpkin, peach cheese cake, chocolate cheese cake and my favorite, key lime pie.

Susanne: Mmm, that sounds delicious and it's just my type of cooking. A nice dessert with a warm cup of coffee would go perfect with our recent spat of rainy weather.

Even though I've only lived here a little more than a year, I've grown to



Conestoga stagecoach lamps are available at Higginbotham-Bartlett, 1900 E. FM 700.

miss the sun during this latest cold, wet spell, but a recent trip to Higginbotham Bartlett General Store, Hardware and Lumber Company brought back a flood of memories of living in the hills of Arkansas. I spotted a pot belly cast iron stove. Heat from a wood fire is very comforting



Wood burning stove is available at Higginbotham-Bartlett, 1900 E. FM 700.

and with the chill in the air, I wanted to fire that stove up.

And talk about finding a

real "Texas" gift, the store carries a line of USA handmade stagecoach and Conestoga wagon lamps. In fact, they're made in Texas.

While I was at the checkout stand I noticed some unusual key forms at the key making machine including keys that look like the U.S. Flag, camouflage, flames, leopard, tie dye, and even Texas Tech and UT college logos.

Lyndel: Wouldn't one of those handmade stagecoach or wagon lamps really add to a home atmosphere?

You know, I'm always searching for unique gifts to give at Christmas and I think I found one that gives a real kick at Sam's Package Store at 2409 Gregg. The store carries a special bottle of Tequila called Romance by Milagro.

It's actually two bottles in one made from hand-blown glass which holds two kinds of Tequila —

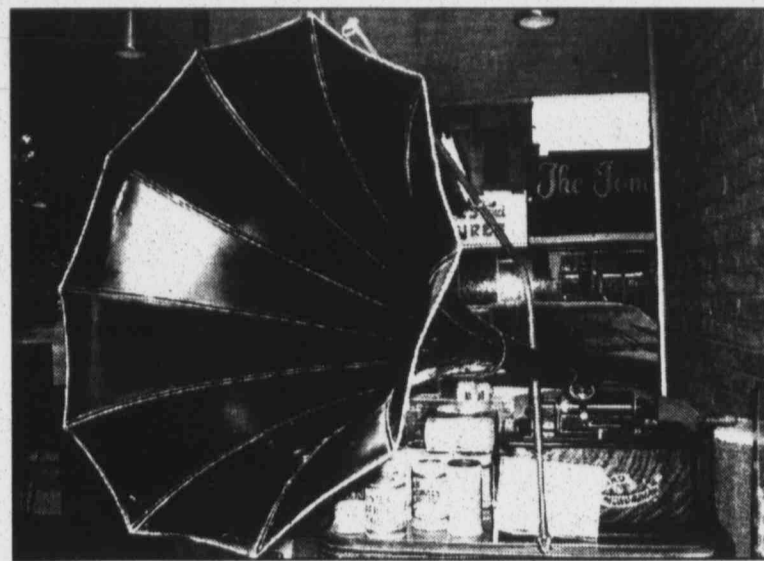
Reposado and Anejo. If tequila isn't your brand of liquor, the store also carries several types of



Romance by Milagro available at Sam's Package Store at 2409 Gregg.

brand-name alcohol gift sets and if you visit Sam's before 3 p.m. on the weekdays, you might even get to see Polly, the owner's parrot who is a real character herself.

And to talk about character, I met Jay Shewmake, the owner of Good Music Company, Monday. He's a retired teacher and minister who just can't stay retired. He's been opened at 223 S. Main for about 18 months now and his store carries a number of collectable treasures including a 1906 Thomas Edison Phonograph in very good condition.



A 1906 Thomas Edison Phonograph is available at the Good Music Company, 223 S. Main.

Jay also sells a number musical instruments and if you ask him really nice,



A gemstone globe available at Blum's Jewelers in the Big Spring Mall.

he just might play a few tunes for you.

Susanne: There is no way I can go to the Mall and not stop in at Blum's Jewelers. You can't go wrong with a gift of jewelry, I always say.

One of my favorites from there is their gemstone globes. None are created equally. Grade A gemstones are used for the oceans and countries of the world.

Glittering gold and silver leaf ribbon is used for the latitude and longitude lines. Once you see one, I'm sure you'll agree with me... it's a perfect world.

This is a weekly column written by Big Spring Herald publisher Susanne Reed and advertising representative Lyndel Moody.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Make your deal now -- it's done fair and square, and you don't have to worry about the backlash of buyer's remorse or any such thing.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

The Capricorn moon does get to the point. And with the Scorpio sun rooting for us to clue into what people really want (the story behind the story), it's more likely we can fulfill both spoken and unspoken promises.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You cajole. You kid. You flatter and flirt. And still, you have no idea where you stand with that closed-off someone. Keep working on it. If anyone can melt through that layer of ancient ice, you can.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sweeping changes dazzle you, but don't hang around slack-jawed for long. There's an opportunity in this, and you're just the one to take advantage of it! On a romantic note, be a bit more curious about a loved one's past.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You awake in a swingin' mood, like you've found your inner Austin Powers. Swanky sentiments get the attention of your target audience. Maybe you sing your message; maybe you dance it. However you do it, you do it with style.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A juicy prize lands in your world, but unfortunately, everyone else wants it, too. It's like a soccer team for 5-year-olds. Everyone huddles

around the ball instead of taking his or her position in the field. Your maturity prevails.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You act out of a sense of honor, because it's right, and because you're a noble person. So what if nobody notices just yet? Don't worry! Someone will -- without prompting from you. Tonight, it's up to you to live things up!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll have a one-on-one audience with an exalted individual -- not the opportunity to divulge your smarts. Keep things friendly and light. A sprightly air sign (a Gemini, Libra or Aquarius) makes your heart beat like a tom-tom.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Who can work with the theatrics going on behind the scenes? It's all you can do to stop planning your escape and focus on the proceedings. But focus you must if you're to get your share of the rewards.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It feels so fabulous to be liked and accepted! However, there's no reason to rush into any agreements or declare your passionate alliance with anyone. Take it easy! Keep your cards tucked into your chest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A relationship tugs at you, trying to get your attention. So it's just not where your head is -- does that make you a bad person? No, but you'll proud of yourself later if you stop and acknowledge what others need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Real opportunity doesn't drop names and make big promises. It gives you a sly smile instead and opens the door just a crack so that

you can see a sliver of what's possible. Beware of people who are all show, no go.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're not backed into a corner. You're backed into a circle -- a merry-go-round that's difficult to jump off. Love takes you for a whirl, making you feel both stifled and free all at once. At least contradiction makes things interesting.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're the healer of your environment. As much as you'd like to feel an automatic sense of belonging at work, the kinship has been deteriorating. You'll have to build it from scratch now, and you're the one who can!

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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 - Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 pm
 - Supper Club "KC Steakhouse" - 5:30 pm
- November 16 • Tuesday**
 - Mall Walking - 8:00 am
 - Kick Off Relay For Life - Garrett Hall - 6:00 pm
 - Reading Of Mayor Proclamation - Guest Speaker
 - Refreshments Available
- November 17 • Wednesday**
 - RSVP Senior Leadership - Chamber - 8:30 am
 - Stretch & Tone - 11:00 am
 - Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am
- November 18 • Thursday**
 - Mall Walking - 8:00 am
 - Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am
 - Lunch-N-Learn - 11:30 pm
- November 19 • Friday**
 - Thanksgiving Potluck & Bingo - 11:30 am
 - Retirement Reception honoring Dr. R Marc Schwarz
 - Malone Hogan Clinic Lobby 5:00-6:30 pm
- Bake Sale** Hosted By SMMC Volunteers Hospital Lobby - 7:30 am
- November 20 • Saturday**
Open
- November 21 • Sunday**
Open
- November 22 • Monday**
 - Games - 2:00 pm
 - Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 pm
- November 23 • Tuesday**
 - Mall Walking - 8:00 am
 - Supper Club "Cowboys" - 5:30 pm
 - RSVP - 3:00 pm
 - Polly Mays Municipal Annex Bldg.
- November 24 • Wednesday**
 - Stretch & Tone - 11:00 am
 - Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am
- November 25 • Thursday**
Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 26 • Friday**
Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 27 • Saturday**
Open
- November 28 • Sunday**
Open
- November 29 • Monday**
 - Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 pm
- November 30 • Tuesday**
 - Mall Walking - 8:00 am
 - Supper Club "Spanish Inn" 5:30 pm

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S

IN B

Youth basketball set at B.S.

The YM announced ball registration upcoming run through Boys and five through register to t one of four s

The regis is \$30 and a will take p YMCA.

There w fund-raiser but financ tance is av families w assistance.

An org meeting for would like group coord been sche Tuesday, N Saturday. Everyone i coaching r one of these uted meetin

The game uted to begi Jan. 8.

For more tion, call th 267-8234.

Basketball needed for

The Cross is looking ball officia upcoming s

For mor tion, cont Rodriguez or 517-0300.

The gam played in such as F Forsan an and will junior high school level

Big Spring Booster m

There wi Spring Booster Cl at 6 p.m. M Athletic Center.

It will be tional mee ready for th 2005 season

For mor tion, con Sparks at 2

Bonds w straight M

NEW YO Barry Bon record se MVP awar the oldest p the MVP

North Am fessional 40-year-old of 32 first and 407 p loting by 1 Writers' A America t award for straight se

Los An baseman A was second first-place 311 points.

Bonds i baseball more than awards ar one to wir two in a ro

Bonds' unparalleled. He hit his second title in th and sha major lea with a .609 centage, previous

he set tw Bonds hit 373 at-bats, hit a major

hit a major in 48 in 5

IN BRIEF

Youth basketball set at B.S. YMCA

The YMCA has announced that basketball registration for the upcoming season will run through Nov. 20.

Boys and girls age five through 12 may register to take part in one of four age groups.

The registration fee is \$30 and all sign-ups will take place at the YMCA.

There will be no fund-raiser this year, but financial assistance is available for families who require assistance.

An organizational meeting for adults who would like to be age group coordinators has been scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 4. Everyone interested in coaching must attend one of these two scheduled meetings.

The games are scheduled to begin Saturday, Jan. 8.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Basketball referees needed for season

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

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.

Big Spring Baseball Booster meeting set

There will be a Big Spring Baseball Booster Club meeting at 6 p.m. Monday in the Athletic Training Center.

It will be an organizational meeting to get ready for the upcoming 2005 season.

For more information, contact John Sparks at 263-8527.

Bonds wins fourth straight MVP award

NEW YORK (AP) — Barry Bonds won his record seventh NL MVP award, becoming the oldest player to win the MVP of a major North American professional league. The 40-year-old received 24 of 32 first-place votes and 407 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America to earn the award for the fourth straight season.

Los Angeles third baseman Adrian Beltre was second, getting six first-place votes and 311 points.

Bonds is the only baseball player with more than three MVP awards and the only one to win more than two in a row.

Bonds' season was unparalleled statistically. He hit .362 to win his second NL batting title in three seasons and shattered the major league record with a .609 on-base percentage, topping the previous mark of .582 he set two years ago. Bonds hit 45 homers in 373 at-bats, while Beltre hit a major league-leading 48 in 598 at-bats.

Owens outdoes Witten in Eagles win over Dallas

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Terrell Owens must be running out of material for his touchdown celebrations. Two weeks after mocking Ray Lewis, he reverted to one of his old moves.

Back on the field where he began turning scores into performance opportu-

nities, Owens once again did his thing on the Dallas Cowboys' logo. Only this time, he used a star on a helmet in the end zone, not the large one at midfield.

Owens had plenty of chances to celebrate Monday night with three TD catches in the Eagles' 49-21 win over Dallas.

He pretended to ice

skate into the end zone after his 59-yard touchdown in the first quarter. He posed on the smaller star logo in the end zone after his 27-yarder in the second quarter and then slam-dunked the ball over the crossbar after his last score.

"I'm just going out here having fun," said Owens, who caught six passes for

134 yards in his second three-TD game of the season. "I can't do too much ... I just have to keep it low key."

The latest celebrations were nothing like four years ago when Owens was with San Francisco and celebrated twice on the midfield logo. Emmitt Smith mocked him after the first one, and safety

George Teague flattened him on the next one.

Philadelphia (8-1) rebounded from its only loss by scoring its most points in a regular-season game since beating the St. Louis Cardinals 52-10 in November 1981.

Donovan McNabb completed 15 of 28 passes for

See COWBOYS, Page 2B

Lady Steers revert back to old habits in loss to Permian

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The tough Class 5A competition continued for the Big Spring girls basketball team as the Lady Steers fell to Odessa Permian on the road Monday, 64-34.

"We kind of reverted back to our old bad habits and they just won't get away from them," said Big Spring head coach Tim VanHecke. "We ran a couple of offenses last night that I have never seen before."

Permian led by 13 at halftime.

"We played hard, but we are still trying to do too much too quick and that created some confusion," said VanHecke.

Junior Carmen Lewis led the Lady Steers with eight points and a team-high six rebounds, while junior Raegan Ritchey finished with a team-high 10 points.

Senior Cycelye Tuitt pulled down six rebounds as well, and sophomore Codye Burt added five

points. Senior Alex Watkins and sophomore Mallory Dunn each led the team in assists with three.

The junior varsity team won its game against Permian 43-42 and the freshman team was also victorious, but a score was not available at press time.

"The freshman and junior varsity teams did exactly what I asked them to do and it worked out good for both teams," said VanHecke. "The varsity team just did what they wanted to do and we kind of struggled with that."

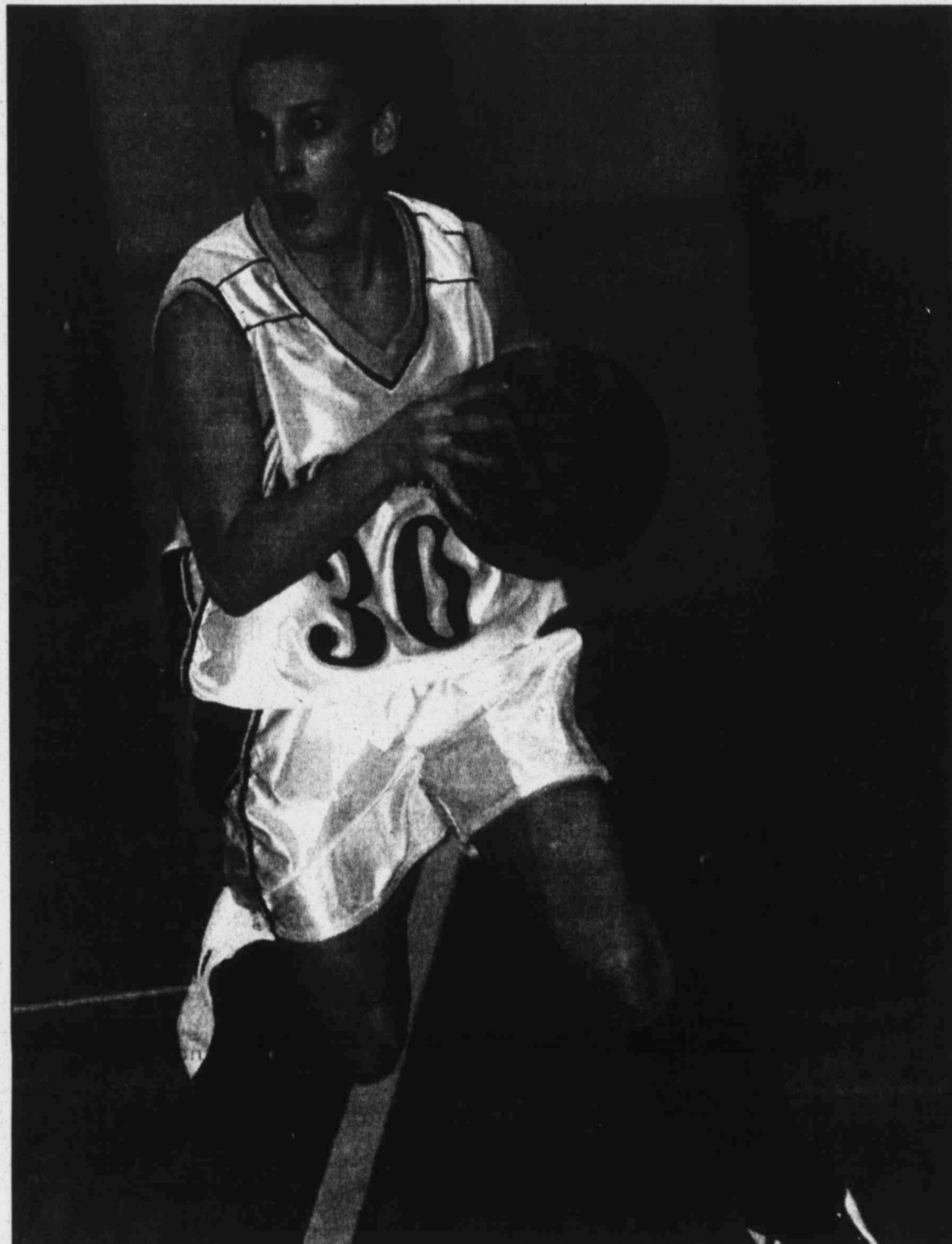
"We now have five days to learn from our mistakes before our next game."

The varsity team's next contest will be played next Monday on the road against Midland Lee. The freshman and junior varsity team's will play in a Midland Lee Tournament starting Friday.

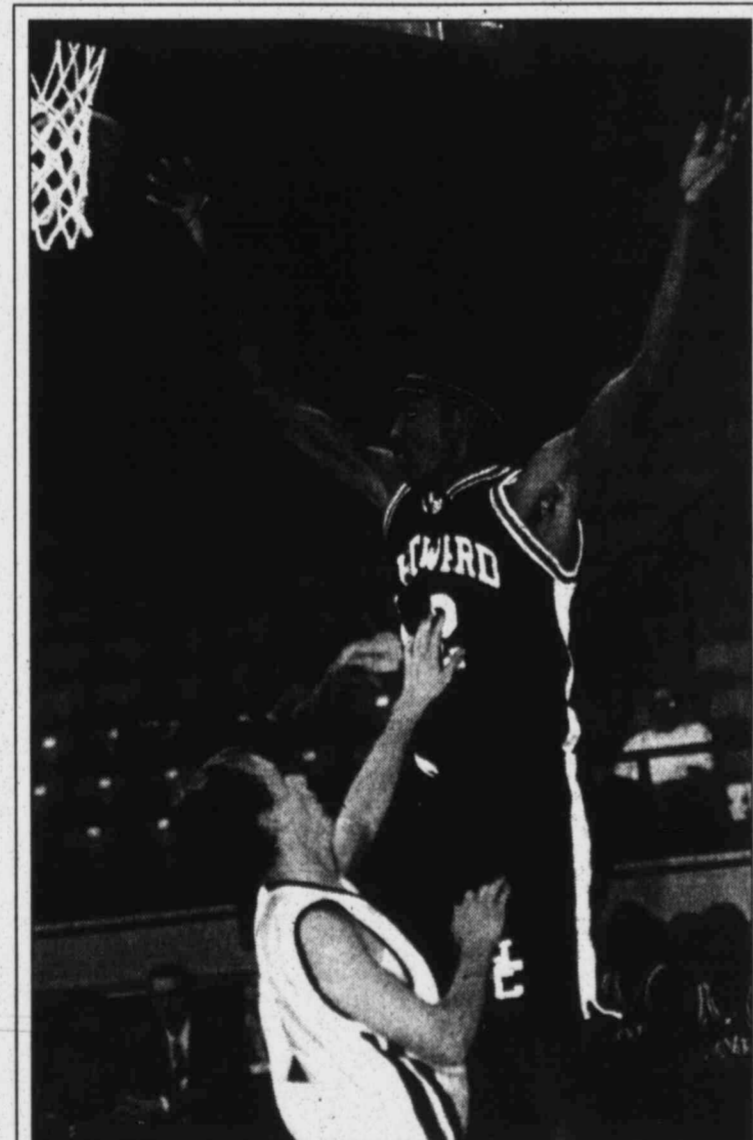
Both teams start the tournament against Andrews Friday morning at 9 a.m. The junior varsity team will play in the front gym and the freshman will play in the back gym.



LEWIS



Big Spring sophomore Katy Abner looks for an opening in the defense against Lubbock Monterrey Nov. 8. The Lady Steers lost their second game of the early season to Odessa Permian Monday, 64-34.



Howard College guard Louis Rodgers passes the ball back into play during the Hawks' season opener against the LCU junior varsity. The Hawks pushed their record to 4-0 this past weekend with two wins at the Midland Classic.

Cain takes eighth at Jr. Invite

Special to the HERALD

Big Spring junior Chance Cain finished eighth this past weekend at the Midland Country Club's junior golf invitational with a two-round score of 159.

One-hundred partici-

pants took part in the event, as Cain tied with Eddie Grothaus.

Midland's Tommy Sikes and Brian Scherer finished first and second, respectively. Sikes shot a 147, while Scherer was three shots back at 150.

Hawk women push record to 6-0

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Another junior varsity opponent led to an easy victory Monday for the Howard College women's basketball team as the Hawk women knocked off the Wayland Baptist JV, 78-49, in Plainview.

Howard, which pushed its undefeated mark to 6-0, led 42-24 at halftime.

"The competition is not very formidable right now, but it will get to be

soon," said Howard women's coach Lorin Miller.

Freshman point guard Jennifer Pena led the Hawk women with 13 points and six rebounds, while freshman Sheila West added a team-high 15 points.

The low post duo of Latoya Fairley and Charmaine Callahan combined for 20 points — 10 points apiece. Fairley pulled down a team-high seven rebounds, while

freshman point guard Ariel Rhodes dished out six assists.

"The competition will start to pick up this weekend," said Miller.

The Hawk women travel to Odessa Thursday to take part in the WJCAC preseason tournament. Howard will play Odessa College on opening night.

"That game will definitely be a challenge for us," said Miller. "We will know where we are at after that one."

Texans endure another setback

By JOEL ANDERSON

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — David Carr was reminded of those painful afternoons during his rookie season, when the expansion Houston Texans were simply fodder for the NFL's heavyweights.

"It's been a long time since I've been beaten like this," Carr said Sunday after the Indianapolis Colts routed the Texans 49-14. "We have a long way to go."

The Texans are suddenly looking less like a young team on the rise and more like the punchless expansion team they were in 2002. In the past two weeks, Houston has lost by a total of 53 points to a couple of division leaders, Denver and Indianapolis.

The playoffs might be nothing more than a pipe dream for Houston (4-5)

now. The Texans trail Indianapolis and Jacksonville by two games in the AFC South, and the gap between them has never seemed as wide after this latest humiliation.

Houston, 0-5 against the Colts, matched the worst margin of defeat in franchise history. The Texans lost 38-3 to Cincinnati in their inaugural season.

Making a lopsided loss even worse, Indianapolis kept throwing the ball instead of running out the clock with a 35-point lead in the fourth quarter. The Texans were clearly miffed by the throws and a few scuffles broke out in the waning minutes — perhaps the most fight Houston showed all day.

"It bothered me," said rookie cornerback Dunta Robinson, who drew a personal-foul penalty in the fourth quarter.

Texans coach Dom Capers was careful not to criticize the Colts, though he didn't seem exactly happy with their decision to keep passing late in the game.

"I don't get hung up on that ... we play them again," Capers said Monday. "My feeling always is let's stop them. We've got to be man enough to accept the responsibility."

Things weren't much better on the other side of the ball.

Carr was hammered by defensive end Dwight Freeney on his first play of the game and threw an interception that was returned 77 yards for a touchdown on his last snap.

Altogether, Carr completed 22 of 41 passes for 215 yards and three interceptions against the NFL's worst defense.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

345 yards and four touchdowns, the other a 59-yarder to Todd Pinkston. He also had an incredible scramble that led to a 60-yard completion and set up Brian Westbrook's 1-yard run just before half-time.

The Eagles had a 35-14 halftime lead, already with more points than they had scored in a game this season and matching the most ever allowed by Dallas (3-6) in a half.

"The guys took pride in themselves to come out here and rebound from the loss last week," Owens said. "We came in with a passion, the pride and the character of the guys on this team, and it showed today."

Lito Sheppard capped the scoring with a 101-yard interception return.

Dallas has lost five of

six games, the last three losses by at least 20 points each. The Cowboys have lost eight of nine to Philadelphia by an average of 24 points.

"We couldn't slow them down, simple as that," Cowboys coach Bill Parcells said. "They were too much for us."

Unlike the 26-3 loss at Cincinnati the previous week, when Parcells called the Cowboys "stupid," Dallas was simply outplayed this time. But there were still several boneheaded mistakes — such as flags on all three extra points, a fumbled punt and a muffed kickoff that was recovered.

Dallas gave up its most points ever at home, and the most anywhere since losing 50-24 at Cincinnati in December 1985.

Philadelphia scored on four straight possessions in the second quarter, the first team to ever score four touchdowns in a

quarter against Dallas.

The Eagles made it five straight possessions with a TD when Owens caught a 16-yarder over two defenders in the third quarter to make it 42-21 and give him his NFL-best 12th TD.

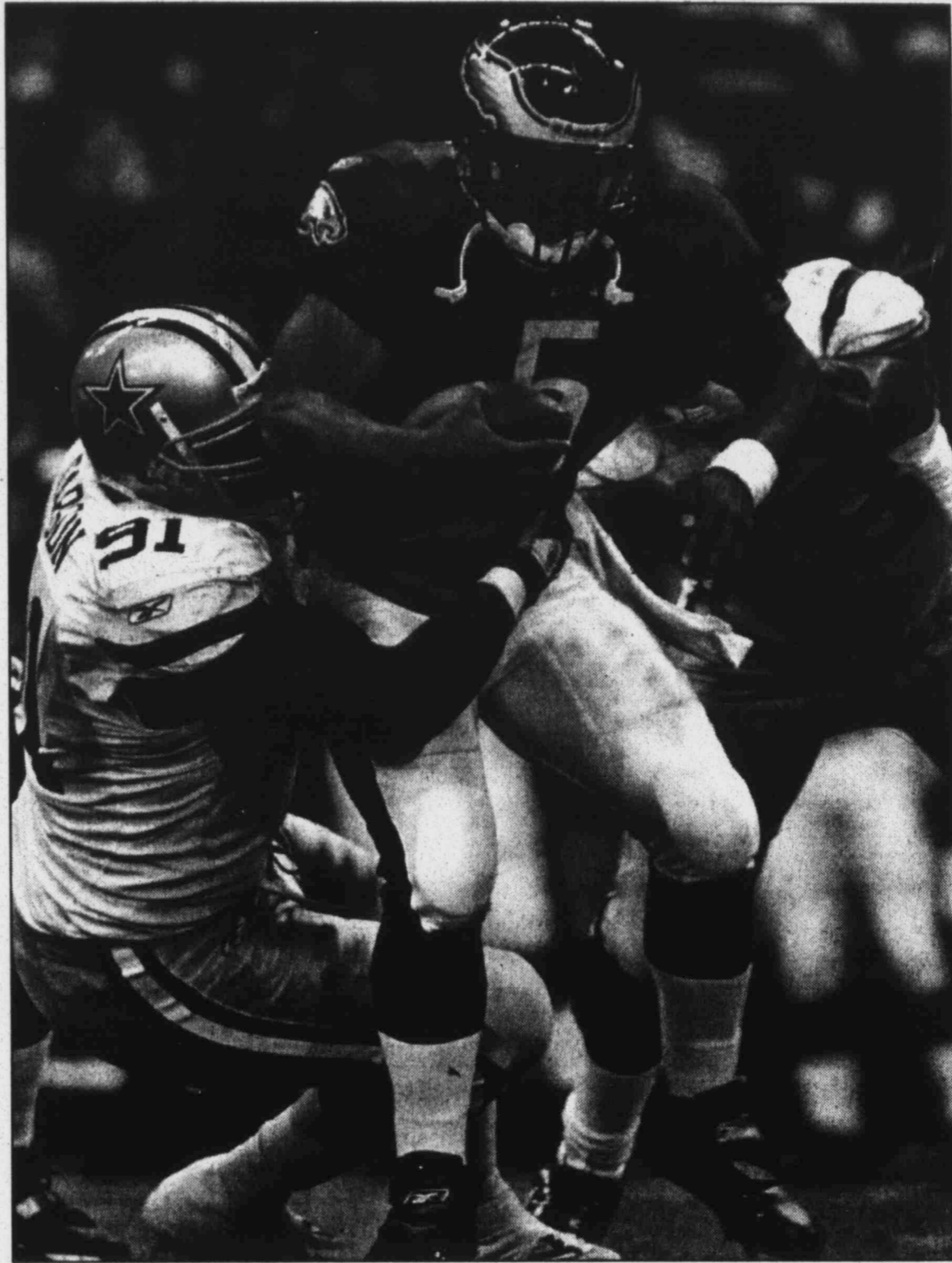
"It takes a couple plays for us to get a little momentum," McNabb said. "Once things get going, we feel confident that every play that we call is going to be effective and possibly get in the end zone."

McNabb had the most incredible play, on third-and-10 from the Philadelphia 25 in the second quarter.

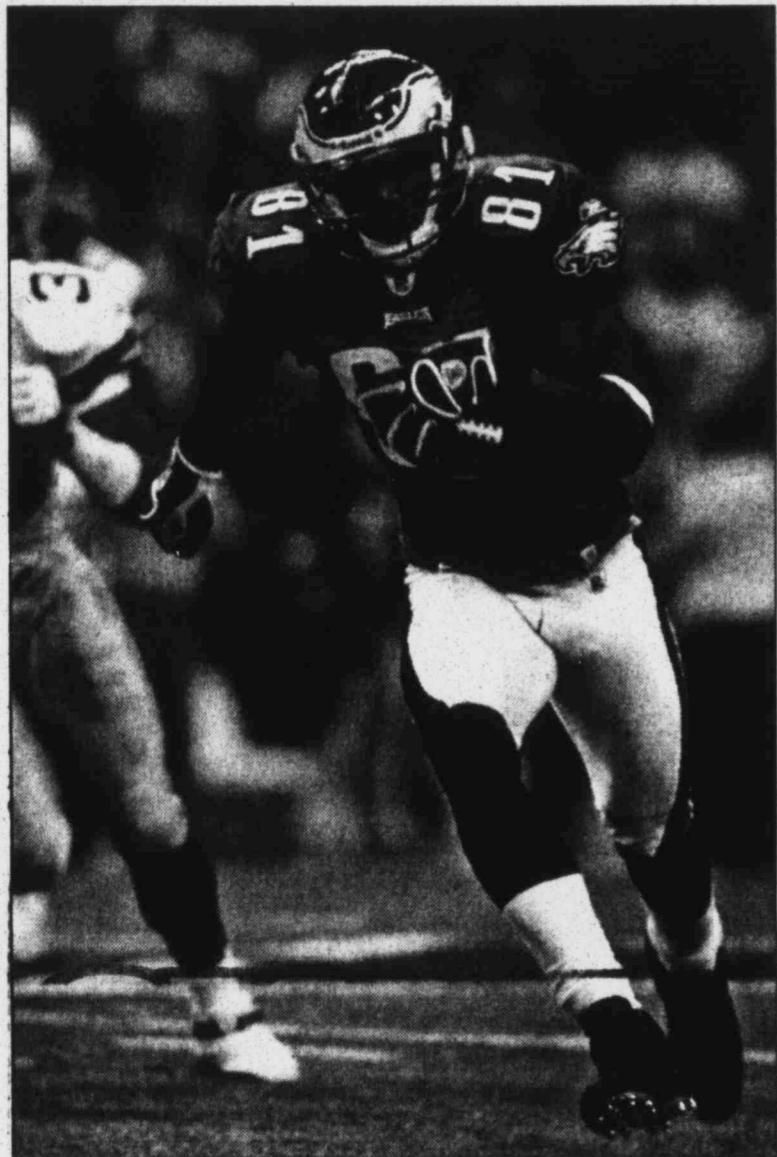
McNabb spun away from one would-be tackler and sprinted to his right, only to find another defender. So he went back to his left, chased by two more players, and finally heaved the ball. Replays showed he held the ball for 14 seconds before the 60-yard pass to Freddie Mitchell.

"We had everybody on our front four miss him back there," Parcells said, but not necessarily calling that the key play. "They had a lot of them that you could put in that category."

Two days after turning 41, Vinny Testaverde hit 21 of 30 passes for 254 yards with two TDs to tight end Jason Witten, who had nine catches for 133 yards. Eddie George added a 15-yard TD run.



The Cowboys' Leonardo Carson sacks Eagles' quarterback Donovan McNabb in the first quarter of their game at Texas Stadium Monday.



The Eagles' Terrell Owens runs away from the Cowboys' Roy Williams for a first quarter touchdown at Texas Stadium Monday.

Rockets poor start leads to ugly win

By CHRIS SHERIDAN

AP Basketball Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Irate at the way his team started the game, Jeff Van Gundy stood cross-armed near the Houston bench and didn't move a muscle.

The game was less than four minutes old, three fouls had been called on Maurice Taylor, the Rockets were shooting 0-for-8 and trailing 11-0 — and not a twitch from Van Gundy.

The coach left Taylor in

the game, and he scored Houston's first six points to snap the early drought before the Rockets went on to defeat the New Jersey Nets 80-69 Monday night.

"It was a risk on his part, and it paid off," said Taylor, who didn't pick up his fourth foul until three minutes into the third quarter. By then, the Rockets were ahead by 20.

The move was an unconventional one by Van Gundy, who said he

could only recall one other instance in his NBA career — coaching the Knicks against Indiana in a playoff game — when he left a player in after picking up three early fouls.

Van Gundy was only mildly satisfied with the victory, lamenting how Yao Ming had only been assertive in the two games Tracy McGrady missed prior to this one because of an injury.

Yao was in foul trouble most of the night and scored just six points.

McGrady had 14, while Jim Jackson scored a season-high 18 and Taylor added 12.

Houston snapped a two-game losing streak and sent the offensively inept Nets to their third straight defeat.

New Jersey shot just 23-for-75.

"At the end of the day when you shoot 30 percent and have 21 turnovers, it's hard to win no matter how hard they play," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said.



Shea, The Cricket Who Chirped, Chirped, and Chirped

In the meadow, where every-thing was green and beautiful and peaceful, there lived a family of crickets. The meadow had a stream running through it, and the water running over the rocks seemed to be singing a lullaby. It was a truly nice place to live, and the crickets loved the peace and quiet of that meadow.

It WAS such a wonderful place to live until THAT day! Ask any cricket which day I am talking about and they will remember. Because it was such a different day for them, they will

never forget it! It was the day that Shea came to visit the meadow.

Now, Shea was a cricket, just like them, almost! Shea just loved to chirp! She wasn't mean, or cranky. She just loved to talk in cricket talk! Now, you know that cricket talk is chirping. And, could she CHIRP! All the time! Anywhere! Anytime! To anyone! To everyone!

All of the other crickets in Cricketville were about to ask her to leave their meadow so it would be peaceful and quiet

again, when it happened!

All of the young crickets had gone out of the meadow to play in the woods nearby. They had so much fun playing that they did not notice that they were getting deeper and deeper into the woods. When it was time to go home, no one knew which way to go! They were lost in the woods!

The crickets, parents were beginning to worry because the children had not come home and it was getting very late! Off into the woods they ran to find the little ones.

They finally found the children very far into the woods. They were scared, but safe! Then the parents discovered that they were lost, too! What are they going to do? They didn't know the way home!

Just then, one of the big crickets heard something! It sounded like a cricket chirping! Listen closely. Do you hear it? The chirping was indeed another cricket! It was Shea chirping! She was chirping louder than ever before!

The parents just listened to Shea

and kept walking towards her voice and in no time at all, they were in that beautiful meadow again, all safe and sound!

What a pleasant sound Shea's chirping was to them that day. Not one of the other crickets ever asked Shea to leave the meadow after that. They all loved her and wanted her to stay. After a little while, they even asked her to never stop chirping, and that made Shea very happy, because she was one cricket who loved to chirp! In cricket language, chirp, chirp.

(Good Night.)

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1309 LAMAR. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. CH/A with fenced yard. \$350. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

1311 TUCSON. Newly remodeled. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, one car garage, CH/A, washer/dryer hookup. Fenced yard. \$410. month, \$295. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

1405-1/2 SETTLES. Very clean one bedroom, fenced yard. Stove & refrigerator furnished. \$200. month, \$100. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

1408 DONLEY. Clean, Furnished 1 bedroom 1 bath Apartment. Water & Gas Paid. \$300. month, \$150. deposit. Sorry No Pets. (432)263-4922.

1409 MT. VERNON. Newly remodeled. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard with washer & dryer connections. \$515. month, \$395. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

2604 ENT. 3 Bedroom 2 bath, New paint/ carpet. References. \$450. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)267-7449.

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1610 STATE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 car garage, workshop, fenced yard, new carpet & paint. \$335. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

3202 AUBURN. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, in-close garage, fenced yard, central evaporative A/C, nice neighborhood. \$500. month, \$500. deposit. No inside pets. References required. Call (432)267-6667.

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4002 PARKWAY. Clean three bedroom, one bath, CH/A, fenced yard, stove & refrigerator furnished. \$425. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

605 EAST 15TH. Two bedroom, one bath, CH/A. \$375. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

612 GREGG, 800 square feet. Strip/Center Location. \$450.00 month plus deposit required. Call (432)267-7449.

806 EAST 12TH. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. All Bills Paid. \$385.00 month \$100.00 deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

914 EAST 6TH. 2 Bedroom 1 bath. No Pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

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FOR RENT: 800 1/2 Nolan. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. Utilities included. \$400.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

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FOR SALE by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 500 1st St - Coahoma. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

FOR SALE by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1216 Ridgeroad. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

I'M MAD... AT BANKS WHO DON'T GIVE HOUSE LOANS BECAUSE OF BAD CREDIT, PROBLEMS OR NEW EMPLOYMENT. I DO, CALL L.D. KIRK, HOMELAND MORTGAGES, (254)947-4475. www.bomeland46.com

LE GUSTARIA ser dueno de su propia casa pues ahora es cuando sin importar su credito le puedo ayuda, con el enganche nos arreglamos a su conveniencia yo se la financio por 10 anos para mas inf. Llane Annette Sanchez 432-413-0549 o 432-620-8285.

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WOULD YOU like to own your home but have bad credit or not enough credit. 1209 Sycamore could be that home. I can work with you on the down payment Call Annette Sanchez @ 432-413-0549 or 432-620-8285 I will Finance you a house for 10 Years.

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Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 0005-05-095 for REHABILITATION in HOWARD County will be opened on December 07, 2004 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/ or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials

may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 14836

State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s) Abilene District District Engineer 4250 N. Clack Abilene, Texas 79604-0150 Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. #4384 November 16 & 23, 2004

Legals

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT REGISTRATION

PROPOSED AIR QUALITY REGISTRATION NO. 74218

APPLICATION Troy Vines, Incorporated, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 74218, which would authorize construction of a Concrete Batch Plant located at 1009 West Interstate 20, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.

The proposed facility will emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter including (but not limited to) aggregate, cement, and road dust.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on November 04, 2004. The application is available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Midland regional office, and the Howard County Courthouse, 300 South Main, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application.

If a hearing request is timely filed, the executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following any required Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If any comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on a mailing list for this application.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a

Legals

civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15 day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. To request a hearing, a person must actually reside in a permanent residence within 440 yards of the proposed plant. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and Registration Number; (3) the statement "[we] request a contested case hearing;"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility.

If the request is made by a group or association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing, and the interests which the group or association seek to protect, must also be identified. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address below.

If a hearing request is timely filed, additional notice will be provided. Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION Written public comments or requests for a public meeting of contested case hearing should be submitted to Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from Troy Vines, Incorporated, P.O. Box 1351, Midland, Texas 79702 or by calling Mr. Lanny D. Vines, Safety/Environmental Manager at (432)682-7031.

Issuance Date: November 10, 2004 #4386 November 16, 2004

TUESDAY

Table with 2 columns: Time and Program. 6:30 PM News (CC) Wheel-Fo, 7:30 PM My Wife+ George L, 8:30 PM According Rodney (I, 9:30 PM NYPD Bl (CC), 10:30 PM News (CC) Night, 11:30 PM Ent. Tonj Jimmy Ki, 12:30 AM Live (CC) Oprah

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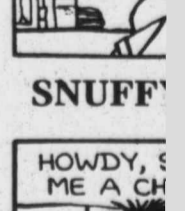
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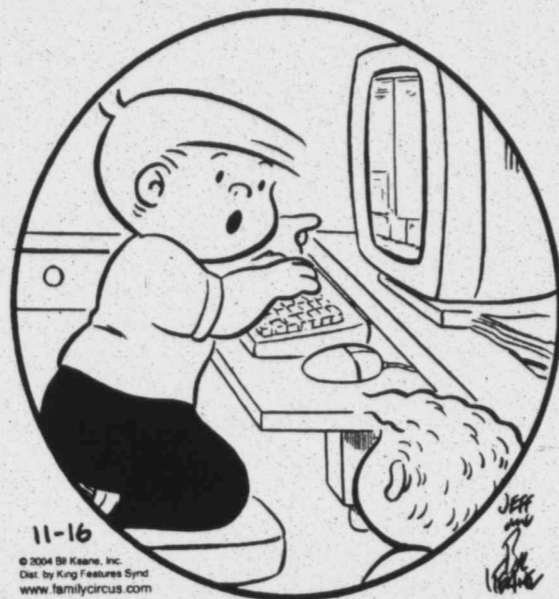
| | WFAA (2) | KMID (3) | UNI (4) | KPEJ (5) | KOSA (7) | KTLE (8) | KWES (9) | WTBS (11) | KMLM (12) | KOCV (13) | DISC (20) | AMC (21) | SPIKE (22) | TNT (23) | BET (26) | DISN (27) | ESPN2 (28) | ESPN (29) | TMC (25) |
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| | Dallas | Midland | Spanish | Odessa | Odessa | Telemundo | Midland | Atlanta | Odessa | Odessa | Discovery | Classics | Spike TV | Atlanta | Black Ent. | Dianey | Sports | Sports | Premium |
| 6 | News (CC) | News Wheel-Fortune | La Mujer de Madera | Malcolm-Mid. Raymond | News Ent. Tonight | Anita No Te Rajas | News Serinfeld (CC) | Raymond | Booker John Hagee | News-Laher | Monster Nation | AMC: Final Analysis | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn. | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Live BET Style | Sister, Sister That's-Raven | College Basketball | World Series of Poker | Lapse (CC) |
| 7 | My Wife-Kids George Lopez | My Wife-Kids George Lopez | Rubi | Billionaire: Quest for Best | NCIS (CC) | Prisonera | The Biggest Loser (CC) | Friends (CC) | Update/Israel Final Exodus | Nova (CC) (DVS) | Dr. G: Medical Examiner | Movie: Final Analysis | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn. | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | The Parkers | Movie: Double Team | College Basketball | Dream Job (CC) | Widowmaker (CC) |
| 8 | Accordng-Jim Rodney (CC) | Accordng-Jim Rodney (CC) | Amor Real | House (CC) | The Amazing Race 6 (CC) | Gitanas | Scrubs (CC) | Sex and-City | Light of the Southwest | Frontline (CC) | Wing Nuts | Movie: The Godfather, Part III (CC) | Charmed (CC) | Comcview | Click It-Pick It Sister, Sister | Preseason NIT | College Basketball | Dream Job (CC) | Widowmaker (CC) |
| 9 | NYPD Blue (CC) | NYPD Blue (CC) | Veremos Todo con Niluka | Malcolm-Mid. 70s Show | Te Voy a Ensenar a Querer | Noticias Laura | Law & Order: SVU | He's a Lady | The Hour of Healing | Independent Lens (CC) | Wing Nuts | Movie: The Last Seduction | Charmed (CC) | Comcview | Click It-Pick It Sister, Sister | Preseason NIT | College Basketball | Dream Job (CC) | Widowmaker (CC) |
| 10 | News (CC) Nightline | News Nightline | Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ. | 70s Show | News Late Show | Noticias Laura | Law & Order: SVU | He's a Lady | The Hour of Healing | Independent Lens (CC) | Wing Nuts | Movie: The Last Seduction | Charmed (CC) | Comcview | Click It-Pick It Sister, Sister | Preseason NIT | College Basketball | Dream Job (CC) | Widowmaker (CC) |
| 11 | Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel | Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel | El Recuento de los Danos | Becker (CC) Becker (CC) | The Late Late Show | Al Rojo Vivo | News (CC) Late Night | Joe McGee Rabbi Richman | Joe McGee Rabbi Richman | Sign Off | Extreme Engineering | Movie: Final Analysis | The X-Files (CC) | Comcview | Kim Possible | NBA Fastbreak | Cup--Round-Robin (CC) | SportsCenter (CC) | Demolition University |
| 12 | Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey | Extra (CC) Paid Program | Spin City Dharma-Greg | Show (CC) The Insider | Update/Israel Booker | 11:50 Movie: Sugar & | Update/Israel Booker | Blind Date | The X-Files (CC) | Comcview | Click It-Pick It | NFL's Great | Demolition University | | | | | | |

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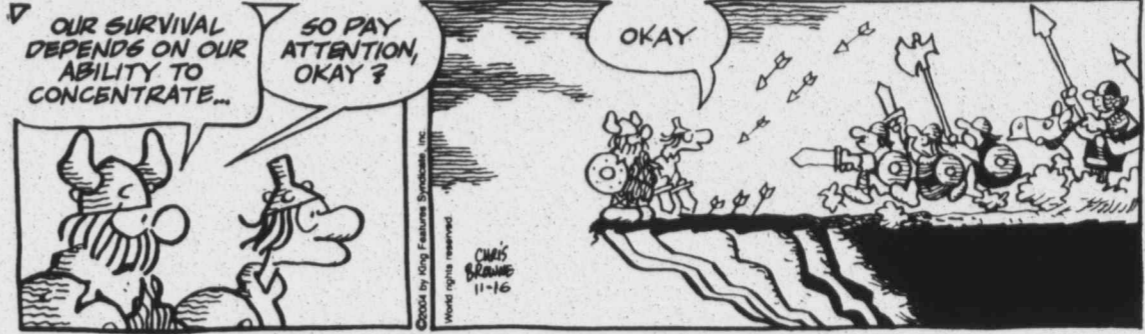
"I SUPPOSE ANYTHING I SAY WILL BE HELD AGAINST ME, RIGHT?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm on the honor roll, but there's nothing about it on Google."

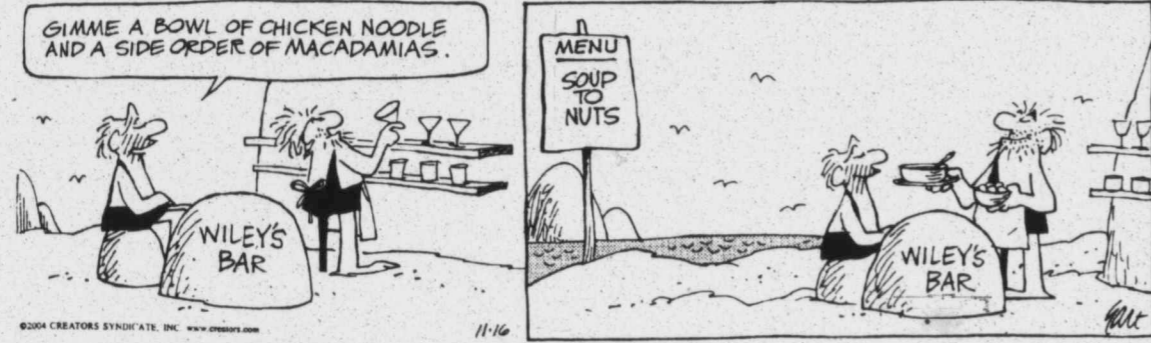
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THE OTHER COAST



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BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 16, the 321st day of 2004. There are 45 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 16, 1864, Union Gen. William T. Sherman and his troops began their "March to the Sea" during the Civil War.

On this date:

In 1776, British troops captured Fort Mifflin during the American Revolution.

In 1885, Canadian rebel Louis Riel was executed for high treason.

In 1907, Oklahoma became the 46th state of the union.

In 1933, the United States and the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations.

In 1959, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The

Sound of Music" opened on Broadway.

In 1961, House Speaker Samuel T. Rayburn died in Bonham, Texas, having served as speaker since 1940 except for two terms.

In 1973, Skylab III, carrying a crew of three astronauts, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on an 84-day mission.

In 1973, President Nixon signed the Alaska Pipeline measure into law.

In 1981, actor William Holden was found dead in his apartment in Santa Monica, Calif.; he was 63.

In 1982, an agreement was announced in the 57th day of a strike by National Football League players.

Ten years ago: The government reported consumer prices rose one-tenth of one percentage point in October. A federal judge issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the state of California from implementing most provisions of Proposition 187, the voter-approved measure that would deny most public services to illegals.

gal immigrants. President Clinton, ending a five-day trip to Asia, discussed human rights with Indonesian President Suharto.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Clu Gulager is 76. Blues musician Hubert Sumlin is 73. Journalist Elizabeth Drew is 69. Blues musician W.C. Clark is 65. Actor Steve Railsback is 59. Actor David Leisure is 54. Actress Marg Helgenberger is 46. Rock musician Mani is 42. Tennis player Zina Garrison is 41. Baseball player Dwight Gooden is 40. Jazz singer Diana Krall is 40. Actress Lisa Bonet is 37.

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|------------|--------|---------|
| BASH | PAPAS | LIMA |
| ANTI | AVERT | ORAL |
| UNIT | WAKEUP | CALL |
| MERCY | LEA | OASES |
| HOB | CTRL | |
| CHECKING | OUT | SAM |
| HEROES | RDS | GAZA |
| ALEC | TRIES | RUTH |
| NECK | ROM | LEADER |
| TNT | ROOM | SERVICE |
| COST | EDGY | |
| CZARS | BAR | OBOES |
| REGISTERED | OGRE | |
| ITEM | KEANU | ALAN |
| BASE | ORBED | TEST |

Newsday Crossword

UP A TREE by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sport-coat flap
 - 6 Milky Way unit
 - 10 Amazes
 - 14 Like an acrobat
 - 15 100%
 - 16 Ripped
 - 17 Local lender
 - 19 Pork cut
 - 20 Make a choice
 - 21 Subtle quality
 - 22 Got away from
 - 24 Takes offense at
 - 26 Belt's locale
 - 27 California national park
 - 29 Unburden
 - 32 All the time
 - 35 Once more
 - 36 It's south of Can.
 - 37 Prod
 - 38 Rip up
 - 40 "It's ___ a Paper Moon"
 - 41 Experimentation room
 - 42 Unaccounted for, in the military
 - 43 "Land ___ alive!"
 - 44 Building addition
 - 45 Not up to standard
 - 48 Receded
 - 50 Greek drink
 - 54 Where pirotettes are performed
 - 56 Strong Spanish affirmative
 - 57 Go bad
 - 58 Neighborhood
- DOWN**
- 11 Antique storage chest
 - 12 Toledo's lake
 - 13 Transmit
 - 18 Dirt-road features
 - 23 Watch, as a movie
 - 25 Looked at
 - 26 Champagne or Chablis
 - 28 Thomas of That Girl
 - 30 The Emerald ___ (Ireland)
 - 31 Calendar squares
 - 32 Stare at
 - 33 Young horse
 - 34 Furniture extension
 - 38 Flowering vine
 - 39 "___ your horses!"
 - 40 Rowing needs
 - 42 Singer Lane
 - 43 Fulfill
 - 46 Composes, as a letter
 - 47 Mexican money
 - 49 Use dynamite
 - 51 Removes wrinkles
 - 52 Not a single soul
 - 53 Lawyers: Abbr.
 - 54 Sheep sounds
 - 55 Folk singer Guthrie
 - 56 Run-of-the-mill
 - 60 Easter entrée
 - 61 Color

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | 18 | | | | 19 | | | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | 21 | | | | 22 | 23 | | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | 25 | | | | 26 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 27 | | | | 28 | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| 32 | 33 | 34 | | | | | | | 35 | | | 36 | | | | |
| 37 | | | | | | | | | 38 | 39 | | | 40 | | | |
| 41 | | | | | | | | | 42 | | | | 43 | | | |
| 44 | | | | | | | | | 45 | | | 46 | 47 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 48 | 49 | | | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 |
| 54 | 55 | | | | | | | | 56 | | | | | 57 | | |
| 58 | | | | | | | | | 59 | 60 | | | | 61 | | |
| 62 | | | | | | | | | 63 | | | | | 64 | | |
| 65 | | | | | | | | | 66 | | | | | 67 | | |

NOV 16 2004

Especially for kids and their families The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

Be a State Detective...

Where Can a Sound Be Found?

Stop, look and listen! What sounds do you hear? Sounds can tell us so much about a place and what goes on there.

The week of Nov. 15-19 is Geography Awareness Week. The theme is: Culture: The Sound of Place.

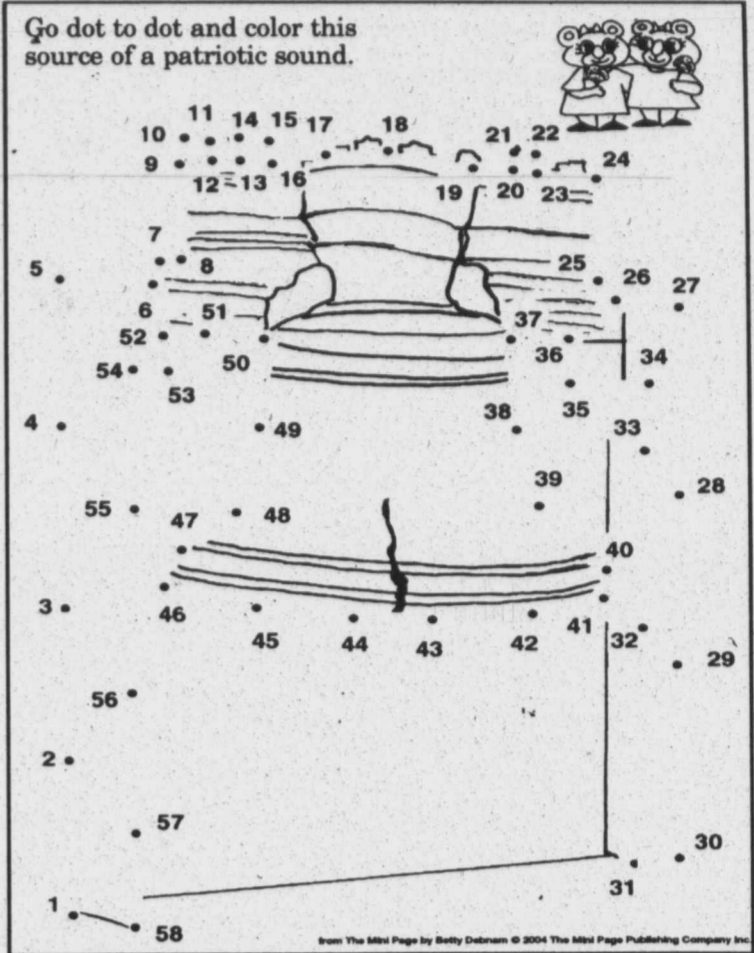
Here we have just one sound you might hear in each state. There are thousands of other sounds.

Study this issue, then give it to a friend and ask him or her to tell you a sound. See if you can identify the state we have in mind. Other states might have these sounds, too.

- Alabama: The blast of a rocket going up. Huntsville is a space flight center.
Alaska: Dogs barking in the famous Iditarod race from Anchorage to Nome.
Arizona: The clop, clop, clop of mules going up and down a steep Grand Canyon trail.
Arkansas: A chicken clucking. The state produces more broiler chickens than any other state.
California: Applause for Hollywood. It is a top entertainment center.

- Colorado: Swish, swish. A skier zips down a trail at Aspen.
Connecticut: "Can I sell you a policy?" Hartford, known as the insurance city, has about 50 insurance companies.
Delaware: Bubble, bubble, the brewing of chemicals. Several chemical companies have headquarters there.
District of Columbia: "Cast Your Vote." Members of Congress meet in our capital, Washington. (D.C. is not a state, but a district.)
Florida: Waves splashing against the shore of many seaside resorts.
Georgia: The opening of a Coca-Cola bottle. The headquarters is in Atlanta.
Hawaii: The strumming of a guitar as hula dancers sway to music.
Idaho: The chopping, mashing or boiling of potatoes. The state grows more than any other state.

- Illinois: Wind whistling around the buildings of Chicago on Lake Michigan.
Indiana: A race car zooming around the track at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.
Iowa: A hog oinking. The state is a leading pork producer.
Kansas: The whoosh of wind through the tall grasses of the prairie.
Kentucky: Horses galloping around the Kentucky Derby race track in Louisville.
Louisiana: New Orleans jazz music, such as "When the Saints Go Marching In."
Maine: The warning of a fog horn. The sea coast is often foggy.
Maryland: "Anchors Aweigh," the Navy's song. The U.S. Naval Academy is in Annapolis.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Tuna Noodle Casserole. You'll need: 1 (6-ounce) can of tuna fish, drained; 1 (16-ounce) box of spaghetti or egg noodles; 1 (10-ounce) can cream of mushroom soup; 1 cup potato chips, crushed; pinch of salt and pepper. What to do: 1. Butter a casserole dish and set aside. 2. Cook noodles according to package directions and then drain. 3. Place half the noodles on the bottom of the casserole dish. 4. Spread a layer of tuna fish and then mushroom soup over noodles. 5. Cover with remaining noodles. Sprinkle with crushed potato chips, salt and pepper. 6. Bake in a preheated 325-degree oven for 30 minutes. Serves 6. Note: You will need an adult's help with this recipe.

The Mini Page Rookie Cookie Cookbook. Easy, everyday recipes designed especially for kids! Includes ingredients, directions, and a table manners guide. Encourages kids to read and follow directions!

Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: Cael Sanderson. Height: 6-0 Birthdate: 6-20-79. Home: Ames, Iowa. There were always at least two things folks in Iowa could count on seeing every year: crops growing and Cael Sanderson winning wrestling matches.

Meet Scarlett Johansson. When Scarlett Johansson was growing up, she remembers her mother taking her to auditions. It was after her performance in a play in New York that her acting career began.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes. All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category? Mary: Why don't lions eat clowns? Stan: Because they taste funny!

SOUNDS TRY 'N FIND. Words relating to sounds you might hear in various states are listed in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: OINK, APPLAUSE, MUSIC, BARK, HONK, BUBBLE, BLAST, HUM, GALLOP, CHEER, GURGLE, CHOP, CLUCK, CLOP, WHOOSH, SONG, SPLASH, ROAR, OPENING, STRUM, WHISTLE, ZOOM, WARNING, SWISH.

Mini Spy... Mini Spy is traveling through a noisy city. See if you can find: spool of thread, horse's head, word MINI, lion, bell, basket, arrow, hammer, key, fish, turtle, number 3, squirrel, toothbrush, ruler, hairbrush, letter H, doughnut.

Be a State Sound Detective. Massachusetts: "The British are coming!" Michigan: Horns honking. Minnesota: Water lapping against the shore of one of the state's 15,000 lakes. Missouri: The churning of water as a paddle boat cruises down the Mississippi River. Montana: The rustle of cattle grazing on one of the state's many ranches. Nebraska: "Go Huskers!" Nevada: The clang of the slot machines. New Hampshire: "We are the first to vote." New Jersey: Factory whistles blowing. New Mexico: The music of a Spanish fiesta. New York: "Wow" and other amazed expressions. North Carolina: Turkeys gobbling. North Dakota: The grunting of a herd of buffalo. Ohio: The hum of a farm tractor. Oklahoma: The whoosh of oil shooting up from one of the state's many oil wells. Oregon: Drip, drip. There is a lot of rain along the state's coastal areas. Pennsylvania: The ringing of the Liberty Bell. Rhode Island: The blowing of a whale off the coast. South Carolina: The boom of a cannon at Fort Sumter. South Dakota: A sound from history: Stone being chipped as four presidents' faces are carved on Mount Rushmore. Tennessee: The country music from the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. Texas: The hum of oil being pumped out of an oil well. Utah: The music of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Salt Lake City. Vermont: The horse trotting through a covered wooden bridge. Virginia: "Give me liberty or give me death." Washington: The rumble of the volcano Mount St. Helens. West Virginia: The splash of whitewater rafting. Wisconsin: A dairy cow mooing. Wyoming: Old Faithful geyser gushing in Yellowstone National Park.

Advertisement for various local businesses including Atmos Energy, WNB Western National Bank, C.R. Wing CoGeneration Plant, First Bank of West Texas, and Wal-Mart.