

BIG **SPRING**

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Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring

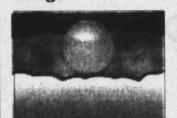
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

MONDAY

November 29, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW 23°-26° 39°-42°

BRIEFLY

Angels available for adoption now

The Salvation Army Angel Tree program is in place for the holiday season. Angels are ready for adoption at Wal-Mart, Teen Angels are ready for adoption at Nannie's Attic and Senior Angels are available for adoption at the Big Spring Herald.

Gingerbread House decorating contest

Gale's Sweet Shoppe and the Heritage Museum offers the annual Gingerbread House Decorating from 1-5 p.m. Sunday at the **Dora Roberts** Community Center.

Assembled gingerbread houses may be decorated using a variety of confections such as red hots, candy canes, licorice, vanina wafers and other treats.

Reservations are needed and tickets are \$15, available at the bakery, 1200 E. Fourth or by calling 263-2253.

Red Dress Tea is slated for Dec. 12

The annual Red Dress Tea presented by the Heritage Museum from noon until 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, offers family-style entertainment at the Potton House, 200 Gregg.

The event honors the tradition of a red dress tea, a turn-of-the-century event where ladies once donned their hand-made red Christmas dresses and gathered at a home for tea and dessert.

The plan this year, the fourth the Museum has held, is for families to tour the Potton House and view different Christmas decorations.

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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.

Man, Woman of Year nominations due soon

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

Do you know someone who has devoted some of their free time to make the area a better place? Perhaps someone who has made a difference in the lives of others, or the beauty of their communi-

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for Man and Woman of the Year, two individuals who will be recognized during the cham-

"It's a big honor to those who are either behind the scenes or go above and beyond to making our area the best it can be," said Debbye VALVERDE

ValVerde, chamber executive director. The deadline to nominate

someone is Monday, Dec. 6. Because it is a Chamber award,

ber's banquet on Feb. those nominating someone must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce. However, nominees do not have to be a member.

> Chamber officials suggest that nominations should be based on all around contributions to the community, and not for one accomplishment, unless the accomplishment was extraordinary.

Anyone holding a political office is not eligible to be nomi-

"We have forms if people want to use them. We can fax forms. too," said ValVerde.

Applications can be obtained at the Chamber office, 215 W. Third St. For more information or to received a fax application, call 263-7641.

"Our past Man and Woman of the Year believe in Big Spring and the area and take pride in living here," said ValVerde. "These are the people we are looking for."

'Oliver' coming to stage

☐ Runs 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Big Spring High School Auditorium.

By KENDRA WISS

Staff Writer

"Oliver!" is coming to Big

Spring! Community performers from Howard College, Coahoma High

School, Big Spring High School, Big Spring Junior High and various Big Spring elementary schools will bring the musical to the stage starting Thursday.

"The cast is doing a ally great job." said co-director Tracie Lindsey. "So many cast members are on stage at the same

time and they are doing very well." The cast is headlined by 12-year-old Rory Feherty playing the role of Oliver Twist. The sixth-grad-

Goliad Intermediate School, quickly drew the attention of codirector Clay Grizzle. "When he auditioned we knew

who attends

he was the one to play the part of Oliver," said Grizzle. Feherty's mother, Caroline

Moore said her son is enjoying the theatrical experience.

"He's having a great time," said Moore. "I have really



"Oliver" cast members rehearse as Clay Grizzle and Tracie Lindsey co-direct the performers. Linda Lyndell provided music for the rehearsal. The community musical will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Big Spring High School Auditorium.

enjoyed watching all of the kids. Grizzle. "He is very talented." They are very talented." Another headlining cast mem-

ber, Eric Barton, plays Fagin. "Eric is from Coahoma and we

have only four more rehearsals until opening night. The musical will be presented

The cast, crew and orchestra

are very lucky to get him," said at the Big Spring High School See OLIVER!, Page 3A

Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$5 per person and will be available

Museum to feature Winter's Blessings exhibit



Heritage Museum curator Tammy Schrecengost puts a finishing touch on the Winter's Blessings Christmas exhibit, which opens at the musem at 4 p.m. Saturday. This wedding gown is from 1894. and was worn by Mrs. Joseph Weir Barnett. Other vintage wedding and christening gowns are displayed as well, and a special Hanukkah display is also part of the exhibit.

Softer side of Christmas opens Saturday afternoon

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Features Editor

Heritage Museum celebrates Christmas this season with a special exhibit, "Winter's Blessings," that opens at 4 p.m. Saturday.

"We have designed a soft, feminine, angelic exhibit with lots of pastel pinks and blues and white. We have some old, old wedding gowns from the turn of the century that are on display," said Tammy Schrecengost, Heritage Museum curator.

Complete with cherub sculptures and stands, a blue pastel wall featuring angels and cherubs and a Christmas tree decorated in pastel blues, white pinks, and "Winter's

What: Winters Blessings and Hanukkah exhibit. Where: Heritage

Museum.

When: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday.

Blessings" provides a seasonal inspiration of times past.

One of the gowns on display dates from 1894 and was worn by Lillian Barnett, who was married to Joseph Weir Barnett Jr., son of Dr. Joseph Barnett, a Howard County pioneer physician, she said.

Along with the gown, which was donated by Janie Harrison, granddaughter of the

See MUSEUM, Page 3A

Obituaries

Jan Noyes



Jan Noyes, 71, of Big Spring died at 1:12 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, 2004, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Dr. David Ring, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Oct. 17, 1933, in Kankakee, Ill. She married Bob Noyes March 28, 1968, in Phoenix, Ariz., and they started Bob's Custom Woodwork in 1971. She was active in the Evening Lions Club since 1984, and had held all of the offices

She is survived by her husband, Bob Noyes of Big Spring; three sons, Richard Cohn of Pilot Point, Gary Cohn of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Edward Noyes of Fort Worth; five grandchildren; and one great-grand-

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister.

The family suggests memorials to Big Spring Evening Lions Club, Children's Vision Program, 409 E. Third, Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Pamela Kelsey

Pamela Kelsey, 40, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, in a Midland Hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Daron Ray

Daron Ray, 32, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2004, in Midland. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Everette Ray Spivey

Everette Ray Spivey, infant, died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2004, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take note

☐ CHRIS'S CROSSES WILL BE ON SALE AT THE EAST DOOR OF WAL-MART Thursday as a fundraiser for Home Hospice Halos relay For Life team. Call Shrry or Rose Ann at 264-7599 for more informa-

☐ A BENEFIT FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Jeremiah Best to help with the cost of his cancer treatment. Contributions and prayers are appreciated.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER IS SELLING KRISPY KREME DONUTS for \$6 per dozen as a Relay For Life fund-raiser. Orders are due Wednesday and may be picked up Dec. 3. Also, pink ribbon car magnets are available for \$2.50. Call Amber Rich at 268-4960 for more information.

□ LETTERS FROM SANTA ARE AVAILABLE FROM SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER as a Relay For Life fund-raiser. Each letter will have a North Pole postmark for a \$5 donation. Contact Amber Rich at 268-4960 for more information.

☐ GARAGE AND BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT CIR-CLE SIX RANCH IN STANTON is set for Friday and Saturday at the ranch, which is located six miles north of Stanton on Highway 137. Call 432-458-3467 for more information.

AN ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT TRISTIN 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 Gibson, who has been diagnosed with a tumor. For an Gibson's condition update on www.carepages.com/ServeCarePage?cpn=Sagepage&u niq=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.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Monday:

· RANDY HERNANDEZ, 18, of 1203 Wood, was arrested Sunday on charges of possession of marijuana in a school/drug free zone, minor in consumption and possession or delivery of drug paraphernalia.

· KIMBERLY KILLCREASE, 24, of 1322 Harding, was arrested Sunday on two capias warrants.

 CHANCE RAY LANG, 18, of 4200 Hamilton, was arrested Sunday on a charge of failure to identify. · CHAD LEE PUGA, 20, of 7200 Kyle Road, was

arrested Sunday on local and capias warrants. ADAM MARTINEZ VIERA, 20, of 1907 Main Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of minor in

consumption and evading arrest/detention. • ERMENIA CHAVERA, 43, of 705 Willia, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

· SHAWNA DAWN CRENSHAW, 33, of 3811 Old Colorado Highway, was arrested Saturday on a local warrant and a charge of failure to appear.

• ROBERT BOBBY PEREZ, 18, 109 Pettus Road, was arrested Saturday on two local warrants.

• PAUL ROSTUN RAMIREZ, 39, of 110 Carey Street, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

· LARRY TEPERA, 46, transient, was arrested Saturday on a charge of disorderly conduct for urinating in public.

Note: A police activity log for Thursday afternoon through Monday morning was not available at press

Sheriff's report

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

 ROMANA ALVAREZ, 28, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify/giving false, fictitious information.

· MARIA KAY STANDISH, 31, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of

· COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a

charge of theft. · JOHN CORBETT WILLIFORD, 31, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and possession of a controlled substance.

• TYRONE DEION SMITH, 24, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana.

· PAMELA HENRY, 26, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check. KRYSTLE MARIE MARTINEZ, 22, was trans-

ferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance.

Support groups

☐ Encourager's Support Group for widows and widowers begins at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Seventh and Runnels streets. Enter through the north door. Please bring a covered dish. Call 398-5522 for more information.

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

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

FRIDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

Open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 to 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-8-11-19-27 Bonus Ball: 4. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$20 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-3-11-17-36. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night: 5-0-0

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

· Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

· Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.

TUESDAY

· Intermediate Line dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628.

· Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

· 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.

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. at 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 at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

 Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant. · Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet

· Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-

· Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

"Oliver," a community-wide musical production,

begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101

• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or

FRIDAY

· Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

Weather

Today — Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. Temperatures steady or slowly falling with highs near 50. North winds 15 to 20 mph.

Tonight — Cloudy with a chance of rain or snow in the evening. Chance of snow after midnight. Lows in the mid 20s. North winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Tuesday — Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow in the morning, then partly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs near 40. Northwest winds 10 to 15

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. West winds near 10 mph.

Wednesday - Partly cloudy. Highs near 50. Light and variable winds.

Wednesday night — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid Thursday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Lows near 30. Friday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Friday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Saturday — Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Saturday night — Partly cloudy. Lows near 30. Sunday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

SPRING HERA

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John A. Mose

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LOCAL/TEXAS

Texas News Briefs

First trial related to smuggling deaths to begin

HOUSTON (AP) - Defendants in the first trial stemming from the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt include the son of a South Texas couple accused of running one of the operation's cells.

Jury selection was set to begin Monday afternoon in federal court. Victor Jesus Rodriguez, Claudia Carrizales de Villa and Fredy Giovanni Garcia-Tobar each face a total of 58 counts of harboring and transporting illegal immigrants. If convicted, each could get up to life in prison.

Prosecutors say the three were part of a smuggling ring that tried to transport a group of more than 70 immigrants inside a tractor trailer during a trip from South Texas to Houston that began on the evening of May 13, 2003.

Packed inside the trailer, which had little ventilation, the immigrants began succumbing to stifling temperatures that authorities estimate reached 173 degrees.

Early the next morning, the trailer was abandoned at a truck stop near Victoria, about 100 miles southwest of Houston. Authorities found 17 immigrants dead inside the trailer. Two others later died.

Wharton residents starting to return home

HOUSTON (AP) — More than a week after rising floodwaters invaded Wharton, residents have started returning home to begin salvaging their soggy belong-

The Colorado River dipped below the flood stage of 39 feet on Sunday. It had crested to more than 48 feet on

About 150 Wharton residents were sent packing when floodwaters ravaged the area last week. They were allowed to return to their homes on Sunday as the water receded, said officials.

They said a dusk-to-dawn curfew that Wharton Mayor Bryce Kocian issued Friday has been rescinded. Violators had been subject to arrest and a \$1,000

Homes that were in the flood's path were inspected by city workers to determine if the buildings were habitable and whether any health hazards remain. CenterPoint Energy workers will also check for gas leaks.

Plans pit Rio Grande Valley against I-35 cities

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A Trans-Texas Corridor route that will carry billions of dollars in merchandise for trade with Mexico has triggered a dispute between two regions of the state.

The fear is that thousands of trucks will stop rolling through Laredo, Cotulla and Pearsall, instead taking an alternate path proposed by the state from Oklahoma to the Rio Grande Valley. The route was included by state transportation officials in their proposals for the new Trans-Texas Corridor.

Pearsall officials have passed resolutions in support of the River of Trade Corridor Coalition's effort to keep the Trans-Texas Corridor as close to the existing Interstate 35 as possible. They're also urging state legislators to halt the corridor proposal.

The plans should be delayed until more studies can be done on its economic effect, said Dallas City Council member Sandy Greyson, who serves as chairwoman of the coalition.

"Laredo would like to see the existing route kept," she told the San Antonio Express-News in Monday's editions, adding that towns along I-35 would suffer economically if the corridor is built far away.

Corps of Cadets seeking to increase numbers

COLLEGE STATION (AP) - Being a member of Texas A&M University's Corps of Cadets is tougher than it used to be, but undaunted university leaders remain focused on beefing up membership.

The nation's largest uniformed body of students outside U.S. service academies last reached 2,600 members more than 30 years ago. This fall membership fell to 1,862, the lowest in 12 years, which isn't enough to fill 10 of the dozen dormitories for cadets.

Still, A&M President Robert Gates aims to push membership to its former heights.

"I think the foundation is being laid for significant growth in the period ahead," he told the Bryan-College Station Eagle in Sunday's editions. "I'm very upbeat and optimistic we're going to be able to turn around and grow the Corps again."

Corps of Cadets Commandant John Van Alstyne began implementing more rigorous academic and physical standards two years ago and he anticipated a dip in membership, he said. Corps membership has dropped by 150 students in that time.

Val Alstyne said he warned Gates that higher membership standards could initially mean fewer cadets.

Currently, cadets must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade-point average and pass newly implemented height and weight tests. This year, 51 students were dismissed from the Corps for failure to meet the academic requirements, and another six were kicked out for failing to meet the physical standards, Van Alstyne

Indian campground may be excavated

FORT WORTH (AP) - An ancient Indian campground in the path of a proposed highway likely will have to be excavated before the roadway can be built, a state archaeologist said.

"We may have a site that is intact and isn't badly disturbed," said Mark Denton, director of the state and federal review section of the Texas Historical Commission's archaeology division.

Tests conducted during the 1990s found two layers of artifacts at the site, both within four feet from the sur-

Officials said the campground is on private property along the Clear Fork of the Trinity River, but would not be more specific.

The Texas Department of Transportation released its environmental study of the parkway two weeks ago. Local Native Americans have expressed concern

about the site. "We want to see that everything that is humanly possible is done to identify what tribe it is and that that tribe is an integral part," Diana Woodward, executive director of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas, said in Sunday's editions of the

Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Native American representatives want to identify the tribe that used the campground and get assurances that tribal representatives will be consulted about the excavation.

The campground is between 500 to 2,000 years old, older than most existing tribes, Denton said. Unless human remains are found, the tribes won't have jurisdiction over the site, he said.

The artifacts should belong to the tribe's descendants, Woodward said.

Biologists set traps for endangered wildcat

LAGUNA ATASCOSA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (AP) — After the third report in a month of jaguarundis darting through the brush, wildlife biologist Linda Laack took action.

She hid sensory cameras in the grasses of this Gulf Coast preserve, in hopes one of the rare weasel-like wildcats would trip a self-portrait during its hunt for rodents or birds. Such a photo would be the first of a wild jaguarundi in the United States since 1986, when one of the animals was found dead outside of Brownsville.

The endangered animal, about the size of a house cat, usually roams land stretching from southern Brazil through Central America and Mexico. At one time the animals reached north along Mexico's Gulf Coast into the subtropical scrub of the Rio Grande Valley — the only place they have been documented in the United

States — but their range is dwindling because of deforestation and development.

"They're such a mysterious animal that we really don't know a lot about them," Laack said. "That's why we would like to document them."

The evolutionary line of the jaguarundi most resembles pumas and cheetahs, though they are usually compared to weasels for their gait and otters for their long, short-legged bodies. Their name means "weasel cat" in German.

The animals have no spots or stripes and come in one of two colors — blackish-gray or cinnamon brown. They have long, wide tails and weigh between 8 and 15

Police say pair was in missing teacher's house

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two people being held in the disappearance of an Alamo Heights teacher were in her house the night she was reported missing, authorities said.

Diane Tilly probably opened the door Tuesday night to Ronnie Joe Neal, 33, and his 15-year-old daughter, who are being questioned, said Detective Al Damiani, of the Bexar County Sheriff's Office.

"She was in the house, someone knocked on the door and that's how they got in," Damiani said in Sunday's editions of the San Antonio Express-News. "He was in the house by 9 p.m. We believe the daughter was also there."

Friends reported Tilly missing late Tuesday when she failed to deliver turkeys for a Thanksgiving luncheon at the Robbins Academy, where she is lead

Neal and his daughter were arrested Wednesday; several of Tilly's belongings were in their possession.

They used Tilly's ATM card at several convenience stores, officials aid. An arrest affidavit shows that receipts found in Tilly's house showed someone tried to use the card between 9 and 10 p.m. Monday.

Neal is charged with aggravated robbery. He has an extensive criminal record including convictions for auto theft, robbery, burglary and forgery. His daughter is charged with delinquent conduct by reason of aggravated robbery. She lived with her grandmother in a house less than a mile from Tilly's home.

Poker's popularity with teens increases worry

AUSTIN (AP) — Now that his high school football season is over, Zak Coppinger has been playing poker every chance he can get.

With his mom's blessing, he's turned the family dining room, complete with green walls and a chandelier, into a poker parlor for himself and his buddies. He also keeps a deck of cards at school so he can play impromptu games during class or lunch.

"It's better than homework, I can tell you that," the 18-year-old from Austin says with a chuckle.

He's just one of the many young people who have become avid players of Texas Hold 'Em and other poker games — a trend sparked, in part, by TV shows that feature tournaments for celebrities and professional poker players. But gambling opponents wonder if some teens, and the adults who let them play, are taking it too far.

"It's fun. It's exciting. It's glamorized on TV and in the media in a way that other addictions are not," says Keith Whyte, executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling. "There's the impression that through skill you can beat the odds. But randomness is always going to have a bigger factor in determining the outcome than your skill.

"And unfortunately, that's not the message these kids get."

Some parents have heeded the warning, cutting back on casino nights at after-prom parties and other

And officials at a growing number of schools — from New Trier High School, north of Chicago, to Apple Valley High School in suburban Minneapolis — have recently started banning poker-playing on their campuses.

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1A

Barnetts, is a display of memorabilia various from their wedding and marriage.

"They had a deep, grand love and there are pieces of their love and their life on display," she said.

Love letters written by the couple compliment the wedding gown, which is made of "beautiful handiwork with lace." she said.

Another gown on display was worn by Mrs. Charnell Thomas Hightower, and is an example of an old world, 1884 wedding gown.

"This dress is the smallest dress I have ever seen. It is so tiny I could not find one single mannequin or display model to place it on, so we have it displayed on a special hanger," Schrecengost

A 1956 lace wedding gown from Dr. Louise Worthy, retired pediatrician and daughter of Dr. M.H. Bennett, another founding physician, will also be displayed as part of the Winter's Blessings exhibit.

Also, the Worthy family's christening gown is part of the exhibit. This gown, which has been in

the family for generations, was worn by Worthy when she was an infant, by Roy Worthy at his christening and by Roy's son, Jeb Worthy,

now 21 months. Other christening gowns are also displayed. A special display, part

of the Winter's Blessings exhibit, donated by Jane Jones is a unique song book, "Sacred Harp Notes," written to display shape notes singing. In "Cold the movie Mountain," a special shape note song is recorded on the soundtrack.

"Sacred harp notes are human voices singing hymnals to God," accord-

ing to the information found at the exhibit.

"This song book was featured in Texas Highways magazine in March 2004,"

Schrecengost said. Howard County pioneer and founding member Dora Roberts' wedding band and string of pearls are also displayed.

The first portion of the exhibit features a Hanukkah display of artifacts and special treasures from the private collection of Susan Zack Lewis, a descendant of the Fishers, one of Howard County's earliest Jewish families, Schrecengost said.

"There's a collection of menorah and other treasures specific to the 5. Hanukkah celebration. When you walk into the exhibit the first thing you see is the Hanukkah exhibit and then you go around the corner and you enter the world of Christmas," Schrecengost said.

Hanukkah begins Sunday and continues through Dec. 15.

A luminary will light the way from the museum to the First United Methodist Church following the parade watch for the 26th annual performance of the Living Christmas Tree.

composer Andrew Lloyd-

Webber praised him by

saying, "Lionel was the

father of the modern

exhibits will The remain open through Jan.

For Saturday's opening from 4-7 p.m., entry is free. After the opening, tickets to the museum are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Call the museum at 267-8255 for more information.

Marsha Sturdivant is the Features Editor for the Big Spring Herald. Contact her through the email address life@bigspringherald.com or call 263-7331.

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OLIVER!

Continued from Page 1A

at the door. For more than 40 years, audiences have enjoyed "Oliver!"

Lionel Bart was 28 when he wrote the music and lyrics to "Oliver!" based on the 1838 Charles Dickens classic "Oliver Twist."

He had started out writing pop tunes for Tommy Steele. Bart had been in



Caveman with him and had written two previous successful West End shows, "Fings Ain't Wot They Used T'be" (music and lyrics-1957) and "Lock Up Your Daughters" (lyrics-1959).

to Rex According Bunnett, writing in "The David Lean film.

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the musical group the Musicals," originally Bart was looking to create a vehicle to star Steele when he decided to adapt "Oliver Twist," but that plan was discarded when Bart limited the show to the early part of the book that also formed the basis for the successful 1948

By the time "Oliver!" opened on Broadway, Bart had three hit shows running simultaneously in London — "Oliver!," "Lock Your Up Daughters" and "Blitz" (music and lyrics). Bart died April 4, 1999, at the age of 68.

At his funeral, fellow ald.com

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

British musical.'

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Don't miss your chance to see 'Oliver' on stage

othing is quite as impressive as a combined effort. We've show it over and over again here in Howard County, and another example will be on display beginning Thursday when "Oliver!" premieres in Big Spring.

Community performers from Howard College, Coahoma High School, Big Spring High School, Big Spring Junior High and the county's several elementary schools will bring the musical to the stage.

The cast is headlined by 12-year-old Rory Feherty playing the role of Oliver Twist and Eric Barton playing the role of Fagin. Feherty is a sixth grader at Goliad Intermediate School, while Barton is a student at Coahoma Elementary School.

The musical will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the Big Spring High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 per person and will be available at the door.

For more than 40 years, audiences have enjoyed "Oliver!"

Lionel Bart, who is widely recognized as the father of the modern British musical, was 28 when he wrote the music and lyrics to the show which is based on the 1838 Charles Dickens classic "Oliver Twist."

It is a story most of us remember from our studies in school. But the music and lyrics composed by Bart turn the somewhat melancholy tale into a lively theater experience.

We hope you'll take the time this later this week to put one of the performances of "Oliver!" on your schedule.

We think you'll find you're better off for the experience.

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

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.
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You can bring to pass, Lord, what appears to be impossible.

Inside report: Greenspan and the dollar

lan Greenspan had acted like a closet Republican all during the presidential election campaign, doing nothing by word or deed that would impede George W. Bush achieving a second term as he had impeded the president's father's re-election 12 years earlier. But in Germany last week, the Federal Reserve chairman sounded like a Democrat on the U.S. Senate floor inveighing against Bush administration



deficits. Greenspan's speech last Friday at the European Banking Congress in Frankfurt could just as easily have been written for Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota, the deficit-obsessed Democrat. Freemarket conservative Greenspan warned that the U.S. current accounts deficit (largely the trade deficit) is unsupportable and that sooner or later foreign investors will either stop buying American assets or ask for a higher return.

Europeans. Greenspan, at age 78 nearing the end in 2006 of his long tenure as Fed chairman, in Frankfurt was performing his unofficial function

That outcome, he warned, pointed

against the euro, to the dismay of

to a further decline in the dollar

as central banker for the world. What he said, however, was anything but reassuring. While his comments did not appear to seriously roil financial markets; his underlying message was that the world's financial problems were not his fault and there was nothing he could do about them. He

confirmed this on Saturday in Berlin at the meeting of the Group of 20 (industrialized plus emerging nations) when he rejected any intervention in the decline of the

Nearly all Fed-watchers are loath to criticize the iconic Greenspan, or do so only in guarded language. In his Monday report to clients, Bear Stearns economist David Malpass began: "We're increasingly concerned about U.S. policy on the dollar." He noted that Greenspan "seemed to link the dollar's value to the trade deficit." He indicated that "acceptance of dollar weakness" is cause for "concern." What supply-sider Malpass did not address is whether the current accounts

deficit is really unsupportable for the foreseeable future. He probably does not think so. Consultant and supply-side pioneer Jude Wanniski, who does not mince words, in his Monday report to clients declared that Greenspan has "run out of reasons why Fed policy is not stabilizing the value of the dollar" and is blaming activity outside his juris-

diction. Wanniski continued: "The most worrisome aspect of Greenspan's European remarks is that he is in denial, and as long as the most powerful central banker in the world is kidding himself that he knows what he is doing, we all have to fasten our seat-

belts." The chairman's Frankfurt remarks came as a surprise to even the closest Greenspan-watchers, and may be traced to deep distress in Europe over the U.S. presidential election returns. The European financial community was confident that Sen. John Kerry would be president and, as he promised, would force through

Congress a series of U.S. tax increases that supposedly would end the decline of the dollar against the euro. To the Europeans then, Bush's unexpected survival means more of what European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet has called a "brutal" rise of the euro.

Thus, Greenspan's speech sound ed as though he was trying to get himself off the hook by acknowledging that Europe's economic plight was America's fault. But his placing the blame on the U.S. trade deficit did not cheer his colleagues in Berlin. As one American analyst puts it, it is Europe rather than the U.S. that has the dollar problem.

Part of the problem is that China's and other Asian currencies are pegged to the dollar. Just as Asia depends on exports to the U.S., Europe depends on exports to Asia. At the heart of this equation is global reliance on the American economy's dynamism and prosper-

Since Greenspan often strays far from the conventional jurisdiction of a central banker, he might well have lectured his European listeners about the need for structural reform of their own economies to cut away the socialistic undergrowth. Instead, he did his imitation of Sen. Conrad fantasizing about the revenge of America's creditors. His speech's minimal negative impact on financial markets may suggest a new awareness that the chairman wears no clothes.

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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Failing to pace oneself

an Green of New York City says of the election results, "You can't be depressed now, the worst is yet to come." Following that good advice, I intended to keep my indignation dry and save the outrage for when it is

really needed, kind of like saving room for the pumpkin pie after Thanksgiving dinner. If we're going to get through the next four years, we have to pace ourselves, I concluded.

But here it is, not even three weeks into the new Bush regime, and already I'm jawdropped, you've-got-

to-be-kidding mad. Here's the record so far: Republicans somehow man-

aged to squirrel an obscure little provision into the appropriations bill that gives congressmen or their "agents" the right to look at your IRS return and make what use of it they will. This perverse item was apparently the brainchild of Rep. Ernie Istook of Oklahoma, who is such a hopeless chucklehead it's often hard to take him seriously as a menace. He's chair of the transportation subcommittee of the appropriations committee, and in that position clearly needs to see your tax return. He also voted for funding for light rail in Salt Lake City (he's Mormon), but against light

rail funding for Oklahoma City. What is it with Oklahoma? Even Istook is likely to be out-dumbed by Oklahoma's new senator, Tom Coburn, who believes "lesbianism is so rampant in some of the schools in southeast Oklahoma that they'll only let one girl go the bathroom" at a time. No evidence could be found for this peculiar claim. He also described state legislators as "a bunch of crapheads." While I do not agree, I am sympa-

thetic to the perspective. Sen. Ted Stevens, who as usual has larded the appropriations bill with an outsize package of goodies for Alaska, assured the Senate that Istook's amendment would be deleted before the bill was sent to the president. He begged, he pleaded. "Do I have to get on my knees?" he asked.

Quick, someone check just how much more in federal spending the 250,000 citizens of Alaska are getting than the rest of us.

- Also stashed away inside the appropriations bill was a provision imposing a domestic gag rule on abortion: no federal money to agencies that require doctors, hospitals or insurers to provide abortions, cover them OR give referrals to abortion providers. Sailed right through the House. Hey, why not put a new abortion restriction in the appropriations bill, along with the kitchen sink?

 Republican House leaders rejected the 9-11 commission's bill on intelligence reform. Eighty percent of Americans want the intelligence reforms, and our safety is directly at stake. But hey, we're just chopped liver: The reforms would take power away from the Pentagon. And as we all know, we just can't have that.

- The Senate voted 65 to 30 to set funds aside for a special category of "priorities," including a new presidential yacht.

- It's really fascinating to watch the Republican slime machine at work on Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle. Earle is one of the longest-serving district attorneys in the entire country. His constituents have been reelecting him since 1976. He was one of the first prosecutors in Texas to create a victim assistance program and helped start the Austin Children's Advocacy Center to help abused kids.

He's pretty much a local hero around here, and no D.A. gets that way by being "soft on crime." Earle is death penalty advocate.

He is also noted for going after corrupt Democratic politicians in this state, even though he's a Democrat himself. He was willing not only to take on the slam-dunk cases, but also some tough ones just to remind everybody that the law is to be obeyed.

Earle is such a careful craftsman of prosecution that Time magazine selected him as their main example for a major 2003 article to explain how DAs like Earle might bring some resolution to the death penalty debate. Earle has experienced both the good and bad of the death penalty - consequently, he has a special review procedure for cases on which his office seeks capital punishment.

He is widely admired among his peers, and his innovations are often copied. This is the guy the Republicans are blithely dismissing as a "crackpot." Since Earle has been in office almost 30 years and has a fine national reputation, it's ludicrous to dismiss him as a "runaway district attorney." Does anyone at Fox News ever do any research?

- As though things on the legislative side weren't bad enough, Bush and Cheney are moving to make the executive branch allpowerful. You can already see several of the unfortunate characteristics of the first term being intensified in the second. The emphasis on secrecy is already more pronounced, as is the selection of people for loyalty rather than competence.

But we have to save some room for when it gets worse, so I'd like wish absolutely everybody, including the Bush administration, a swell Thanksgiving.

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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Jesse James Pa

BIG SPRING H

Monday, Nov

spirit at Proffit meal.



Iva Jo Hanslik brought the ic



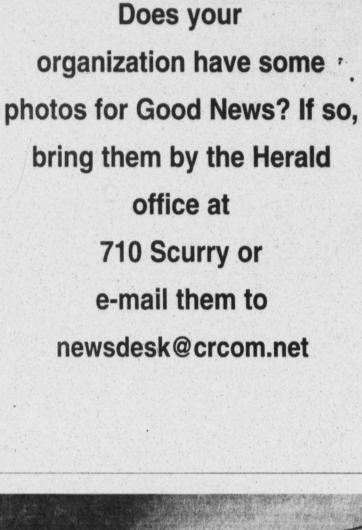
These Wash graders fill b his Marine . between Fall to Marines w



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Jesse James Partlow, back left, Dominic Ortiz, Cutter Atkins, Dylan Smith and Malakah Kressil show their Thanksgiving spirit at Proffitt Daycare Wednesday morning, donning Native American-style costumes for the daycare center's holiday



Iva Jo Hanslik and Liz Lowrey scoop ice cream for Goliad Intermediate choir members. Veterans Administration personnel brought the ice cream to thank the choir for performing at the Veterans Day service at the VA.



These Washington Elementary School third and fourth graders fill boxes to send to Lance Cpl. James Heims and his Marine platoon stationed in the Abu Ghurayb prison between Fallujah and Bagdhad. The school sent 56 boxes to Marines who won't be coming home for Christmas.





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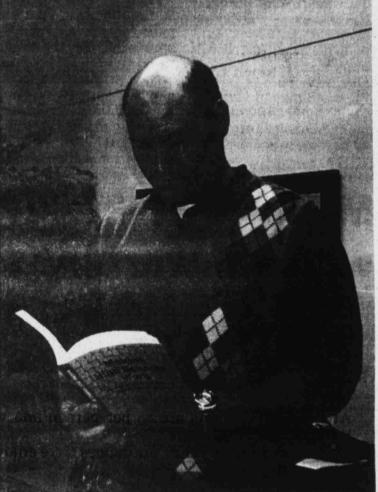
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Big Spring High School Principal Mike Ritchie, studies the High Schools That Work initiative after the school was awarded \$150,000 to implement the program.







Give thanks for vaccines

Special to the Herald

During the holidays, many people count their blessings — for freedom, for family, and for good The health. Texas Association Medical reminds us the health we take for granted was truly not an option during the days of the Pilgrims, when devastating diseases caused untold suffering and meant certain often death.

Many of those diseases are considered eradicated or preventable today. thanks to immunizations. Immunizations are the single most important preventive measure parents or caregivers can take to keep their children safe from some of the most deadly diseases in history, according to Robert Gunby, MD, TMA president-elect and chair of the Joint Committee on Health Improvement Initiatives. "Diseases such as smallpox and polio once devastated millions," says Dr. Gunby, an obstetrician in Dallas. "Now, thanks to vaccinations, these diseases and many others are eradicated or greatly reduced."

Madisonville family practice physician Andrew Eisenberg, MD, MHA, chair of TMA's Council on Public Health, adds, "Vaccinations have saved more lives and prevented more disease than any other single medical intervention.'

Too many children still are not receiving the they immunizations vitally need.

Texas statistics are dismal, according to the 2003 National Immunization Survey (NIS), which ranked Texas 41st among the 50 states for completion of routine vaccinations. And that is an improvement from the year 2000 when our state was ranked 50th. In 2003, Texas children were immunized at a 78.1 percent rate, compared to Connecticut. which ranked tops in the country at a 95 percent immunization rate.

Though vaccination is one of the most effective tools for preventing disease and death, only three out of every four Texas children 19 to 35 months of age received all childhood vaccinations for disease in 1999, according to TMA. Houston has the lowest

immunization rate for young children of any major city in the country (67 percent) which leaves the city at risk for an epi-

"It's easy to forget how serious some of these diseases are," says Dr. Eisenberg. "We don't see them like we used to, thanks largely to vaccines. Yet, some crippling and potentially fatal disseen in this country parts of the world. Since sponsors immunization many people travel in and out of the U.S every day, these diseases are only a plane ride away. With the added threat of bioterrorism, it's more important than ever that infants and children receive recommended immunizations on time," emphasizes Eisenberg.

"Today's children are still at serious risk," Dr. nation, Gunby says. "These diseases are not as common as they used be, but they still can have debilitating effects, such as pneumonia, choking, brain damcer, blindness - and even death."

To improve the Texas

immunization rate and educate caregivers about the life-and-death importance of vaccinations, TMA has launched one of the most ambitious public health programs in its 151-year history. Be Wise ImmunizeSM is a joint initiative of TMA and the TMA Alliance, funded through a grant from the TMA Foundation to substantially increase eases that are no longer statewide immunization rates. The three-year prolike polio and diphtheria gram promotes immu-still occur in other nization education and

> events. For more information about immunizations, call the Texas Department of State Health Services toll free. 1-800-252-9152, or look on the TDSHS Web site, www.dshs.state.tx.us or the TMA Web site, www.texmed.org.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the representing more than 39,500 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the age, heart problems, can-state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all

Weight loss carries long-lasting benefits

t is clear America has an obesity problem. More than two out of every three Americans are overweight, and one in every three is considered obese. This is a widespread and common health issue.

However, it is also obvious that many people would like to lose weight as easily as they put it on. "If only there was a pill or a magic lotion to help me lose it," we wish. The

PATTI **PATTERSON**

fact of the matter is you will only lose weight if you burn more calories than you take in and this can take perseverance and commitment. There is a small component of obesity associated with genetic structure; however, most people gain weight because they eat more calories than they burn, and the only way to take it off is to reverse that - burn more calories than you eat.

Studies have proven repeatedly, that even if you are significantly overweight or obese, losing as little as 5 percent to 10 percent of your weight can have significant benefits for your overall health. Losing weight can help reduce high blood pressure, control glucose levels, lower cholesterol levels and reduce the risk of heart disease. Losing weight also can help lessen the pain you may have from arthritis-related joint problems in your ankles, knees and hips, and it can help you sleep better at night. Losing weight can give a wonderful boost to your self-esteem and your mental health and will give you more energy to be with your family and your friends. The more you lose weight, the more you want to lose. Success begets success for many people.

With all of the emphasis placed on losing weight and effective weight management, how do you determine the right goals for you? One of the first steps is to critically evaluate the advertisements that promise you weight loss without trying. If a company is promising weight loss without adjusting caloric intake and without exercising, it is probably too good to be true. It might not even be safe, so use your judgment and ask your health care provider for guidance. He or she would be more than happy to give you some helpful tips to guide you on your way to a healthier happier

Long-term weight loss, losing the weight and keeping it off, is based on a person making many small lifestyle changes that all add up to a healthjer way of living.

For example, it means that if you go to a fast food restaurant, you order the small meal, not the super-sized one. It means that even if you don't feel like it, you go for your daily 30-minute walk, and it means that you make the effort to bring healthy snacks to work so you don't raid the vending machine at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

People tend to lose weight, and keep it off, if they add these changes gradually to their lives. It can be difficult and overwhelming to try to add a lot of new health habits all at once, especially if your lifestyle wasn't that healthy to begin with.

Taking baby steps, becoming comfortable with them, and then adding more is usually the best way to succeed at this. It also is helpful if you can partner with someone who can support you, such as a family member, a friend or someone at work or

How much you weigh is an important part of your overall health in so many different ways. If you know you're overweight, promise yourself to make one small change today to help you become healthier. It could be something as simple as drinking water rather than a soft drink with your lunch.

Take a step in the right direction and help yourself be as healthy as you can be. Big changes come from small steps.

Patti J. Patterson, M.D., is the vice president of Rural and Community Health at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. She grew up in Hale Center.



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Millions still taking risky heart drug without warnings promised by FDA of questions about how approved to treat. A Amiodarone currently is By ALISON YOUNG

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON - A highly toxic heart drug continues to be prescribed to millions of patients nationwide without the detailed consumer warnings promised by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration than a year ago.

Each bottle of the drug, amiodarone, is supposed to include a new advisory that warns of its many risks and symptoms of fatal side effects and explains how the medication is supposed to be used. But the advisory, planned since October 2003, remains in draft form, bouncing back and forth between the FDA and the drug maker assigned to write it.

The delay comes as the FDA is being questioned about its slowness in protecting Americans from deadly drugs, including the arthritis drug Vioxx, which was pulled off the market this fall.

"How many people are dying right now as we speak as a result of their procrastination?" asked Karen Muccino of Los Alamitos, Calif., whose father died Feb. 20 of lung damage caused by amiodarone. Despite his training as an obstetrician, Muccino's father never realized his dry cough was a symptom of a potentially fatal side effect, Muccino said.

She said she's livid that the FDA didn't immediately issue the patient warnings last fall. "He would have been taken off the drug three months earlier and his life would have been saved," she said.

Sen. Charles Grassley, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said Tuesday that he will look into the delays in the amiodarone warnings.

"What's happening with this drug goes to the heart



long it takes the FDA to act when known risks or dangers exist," said Grassley, R-Iowa. "The FDA and drug companies might know about risks, but it doesn't do any good during the 12-month periif doctors and patients od ending July 31, 2003. don't know about them

Like most patients, Muccino's father was taking amiodarone for atrial fibrillation, a common condition in which the heart beats out of rhythm. The FDA never approved the drug to treat that con-Patients taking amio-

darone have died from lung and liver damage, gone blind or suffered from other side effects. Yet it's routinely prescribed for common heart rhythm problems despite the availability of safer alternatives. The FDA has approved amiodarone only for more severe disorders, called ventricular arrhythmias, and then only as a treatment of last resort.

According to recent data, doctors wrote more than 2 million prescriptions in a single year for atrial fibrillation and other heart conditions that amiodarone wasn't those prescriptions represented 82 percent of all the amiodarone dispensed from retail pharmacies Earlier this month, a

class-action lawsuit was filed in New Jersey that accuses drug makers of promoting amiodarone for common heart ailments in an effort to boost profits. The suit contends that more than 1,000 people died, 100 had vision problems and thousands of others suffered severe medical complications.

FDA officials didn't respond to repeated requests for interviews about amiodarone and its efforts to protect consumers. An FDA spokeswoman instead referred questions to Wyeth, the drug maker assigned to write the advisory.

Wyeth spokesman Chris Garland said the FDA could approve its advisory as early as next month. Wyeth, which sells the drug under the brand name Cordarone, was given the job of writing the informational guide because it was the first company to sell the drug.

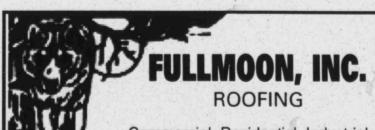
Knight Ridder investiga- sold by several generic tion last year found that manufacturers, as well as under another brand name, Pacerone.

When the FDA approved amiodarone for sale in the United States, it recognized that it was a dangerous drug and told doctors to be careful about its

Dr. Valentin Fuster, the of the chairman American College of Cardiology's treatment guidelines committee for atrial fibrillation, said amiodarone shouldn't be the first drug a doctor tries when treating the disorder. "You don't use amio-

darone as a drug for this except after everything else fails," said Fuster, who's also director of the cardiovascular institute at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. "Amiodarone carries a higher risk than other drugs."

Knight Ridder found that patients routinely got little information about its risks or alternative therapies. Over the years, the FDA has cited various manufacturers for downplaying the drug's risks and for promoting it as a first-line therapy.



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Basketball I needed for s The Crossro is looking fo ball officials upcoming sea For more

tion, contac

Rodriguez at

or 517-0300. The games played in lo such as Big Forsan and and will be junior high school levels.

YMCA exten youth registi The YMO announced th

basketball re

for the upcor

son will through Frida The organ meeting for a would like group coordi still schedu Tuesday and Everyone int coaching mu one of these t uled meetings The teams formed Satu

well. The games uled to begin Jan. 8. For more tion, call the

267-8234. B.S. football set for Dec. The Big Sr

ball banquet set for Mon 13. at 6:30 p. Big Spring Jt Cafetorium. The meal \$10. For mor

tion, call th Training Cer 3662.

Sign ups no Coahoma 'd The sign-u Coahoma Dribblers League will Tuesday Thursday Coahoma Ju Gym. The Ti sion will from 5:30 p.m., while days begin and end at 8

The league and girls a grade throu grade. The

Iowa, Duke at Bahama FREE Bahamas (A Cavey score her 12 point eight minu Iowa in t Division cha game of the Crystal S earned MV

added 11 seven reb Iowa (4-0). Monique 25 points rebounds t past Kansa the Freepo champions the Junkan Alison Ba

points and

IN BRIEF

Basketball referees needed for season

The Crossroads area is looking for basketball officials for the upcoming season. For more informa-

tion, 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.

YMCA extends vouth registration

The YMCA has announced that youth basketball registration for the upcoming season will extend

through Friday. The organizational meeting for adults who would like to be age group coordinators is still scheduled for Tuesday and Saturday. Everyone interested in coaching must attend one of these two scheduled meetings.

The teams will be formed Saturday, as well.

The games are scheduled to begin Saturday,

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

B.S. football banquet set for Dec. 13

The Big Spring football banquet has been set for Monday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the nig opring Junior High Cafetorium.

The meal will cost \$10. For more information, call the Athletic Training Center at 264-

Sign ups now set for Coahoma 'dribblers'

The sign-ups for the Little Coahoma Dribblers Basketball League will take place Tuesday through Thursday at the Coahoma Junior High Gym. The Tuesday session will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., while the other days begin at 6 p.m. and end at 8 p.m.

The league is for boys and girls ages fourthgrade through sixthgrade. The cost is only

lowa, Duke get wins at Bahamas tourney

FREEPORT Bahamas (AP) - Jamie Cavey scored seven of her 12 points in the last eight minutes to lead Iowa in the Lucaya Division championship game of the Junkanoo Jam.

Crystal Smith, who earned MVP honors, added 11 points and seven rebounds for Iowa (4-0).

Monique Currie had 25 points and eight rebounds to lead Duke past Kansas State in the Freeport Division championship game at the Junkanoo Jam.

Alison Bales added 11 points and 13 rebounds for Duke (5-1).



Heffington, Garza, Hilario earn first-team honors

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Seniors Steven Heffington and Daniel Garza and junior Matt Hilario were all named to the all-District 4-4A

first-team recently. Heffington made the

team as a first-team defensive lineman, while Garza and Hilario were chosen as a

w i d e HEFFINGTON receiver and defensive back, respectively.

The Steers also landed several players to the second-team and honorable mention squad.

Big Spring's defense placed three players on the second-team defensive unit as senior linebackers Quentin Vanderbilt and Daniel Castillo and senior defensive back Lee Cortez all earned spots.

The Steers landed four

offensive players to second-team, while second members of the team were named as honorable mention selections.

Big Spring's biggest player — J.R. Rodriguez — earned a spot on the second-team as a guard, while receivers Jerry Doporto and J. Rich Sparks also made the squad along with running back Taviance Clemons.

The offensive district MVP was given to Lake View's Matt Phillips, while the defensive MVP was shared by Andrews' Stephens, Chris Frenship's Zach Morman and Lake View's Tyler

Hayes. Lake View, Andrews and Frenship represented the district in the playoffs this season. Lake View and Andrews were both defeated in the first round, while Frenship got beat in the regional quarterfinals this past Saturday by

ALL-DISTRICT 4-4A FOOTBALL TEAMS

First Team Offense

Tyler Lyons, Frenship Phillips, Lake View Eloy Saucedo, Frenship Jamar Wall, Plainview Cassidy Hamilton, Andrews Brik Brinker, Frenship

Christian Perryman, Lake View Daniel Garza, Big Spring Ray Dunn, Andrews William Glover, Lake View Dean Kellum, Plainview Stephan Caballero, Frenship

Spencer Thompson, Plainview Gary Taylor, Frenship Spencer Bryson, Plainview Frank Leija, Frenship

Second Team Offense

Quarterback: Jeremy Bueno, Andrews

Running Back: Robert Payne, Lake View

Taviance Clemons, Big Spring Tony Glynn, Estacado Wide Receiver: Jesse Ortiz, Andrews Jabari Parker, Frenship Jerry Doporto, Big Spring J. Rich Sparks, Big Spring Travis Mateo, Lake View Steven Young, Plainview Jonathon Kittley, Frenship Trey Rinker, Andrews

Paden Higgins, Lake View J.R. Rodriguez, Big Spring Shawn Smith, Plainview Jose Garcia, Andrews Travis Mateo, Lake View

Chris Stephens, Andrews

First Team Defense

Matt Flendon, Frenship Daniel Miller, Lake View Tyler Hayes, Lake View Chris Stephens, Andrews Christian Perryman, Lake View att Hilario, Big Spring

Jesse Ortiz, Andrews

Nick Evans, Frenship

Nick Evans, Frenship

Rashaud Ellis, Plainview

Second Team Defense

Defensive Line: Jarrett Ballew, Andrews Gary Fink, Frenship Eric Paez, Lake View Edward Carrera, Plainview John Smith, Frenship Rance Loafman, Plainview Quentin Vanderbilt, Big Spring Daniel Castillo, Big Spring Enrique Neira, Lake View

Eddie Salgado, Andrews Cody Brenon, Frenship Lee Cortez, Big Spring Travis Mateo, Lake View

Offensive MVP Matt Phillips, Lake View

Defensive MVPs Chris Stephens, Andrews Zach Morman, Frenship

Offensive Newcomer Josh Varquera, Lake View

Tyler Hayes, Lake View

Defensive Newcomer

Donnell Harris, Lake View

Honorable Mention Kyle Piercefield: DL Lance Tissue: DL Trey Thomas: LB Curtis Osburn: DB Johnny Williams: DB Rvan Tannehill: Punter Matt Rodriguez: Center Dexter Straughter: Guard Jacob Murphree: Tackle Alex Castillo: WR Kalin Whitehead: RB

Andy Lasater: QB Scott Fankhauser: Kicker

HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Big Spring senior Cycelye Tuitt scores two points after converting an inside layup against Greenwood last Tuesday. The Lady Steers won the game in overtime on a basket and a free throw by senior Alex Watkins. The girls team hosts Lamesa Tuesday at the junior high beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Hawk men take two in Arizona, women fall twice in Kansas

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Two wins in Arizona pushed the Howard College men's basketball team's overall record to 9-1, while the Hawk women fell to 7-5 overall after losing twice in the Dodge City Classic Friday and Saturday.

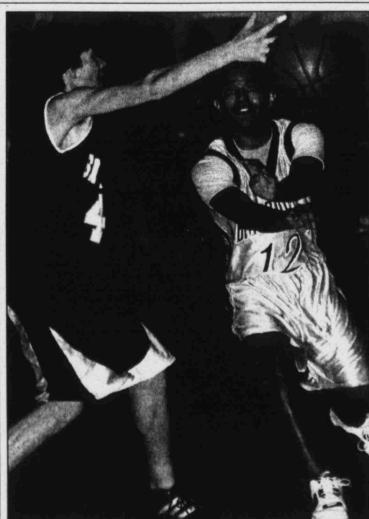
The Hawk men took part in the Eastern Arizona Classic over the weekend. The team needed overtime to take out the host school as the Hawks defeated Eastern Arizona University, 64-63, and then they took out Central Arizona Saturday by a score of 74-68.

The women took on Dodge City, the host of the tournament, which was also known as the Pepsi Classic, Friday, but lost to the Jayhawk Conference powerhouse by a score of 109-50. Then the Hawk women took on Pratt Community College, which also plays in the Jayhawk Conference, Saturday and fell 93-80.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde Howard sophomore Julie Gorski puts up a shot in a game last week at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The women lost two games in Kansas over the weekend, while the men won twice in Arlzona.

The men host the Christian Abilene University JV team Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, while the women's next game will take place Friday at Cisco.



HERALD photo/Bruce Scho Big Spring junior Matt Hilario distributes the ball to a teammate against Snyder last Tuesday at the Big Spring junior high. The Steers will host Lamesa at the Steer Gym Tuesday beginning at 7:30 p.m.

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THIS

High School football playoff results and next week's matchups

Mansfield Summit 7

Tyler Lee 38, Round Rock leNeil 13 Region I/II

uless Trinity (10-3) vs. Tyler Lee (10-3), TBA. egion III Quarterfinals Spring Westfield 42, Cypress Falls 14

Region IV Quarterfinals Converse Judson 43, La Region III/IV

Semifmals Spring Westfield (12-1) vs. Converse Judson (13-0), 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Astrodome. DIVISION II AREA Region I

Southlake Carroll 35, Denton Ryan 49, Midland

Southlake Carroll (13-0) vs. Denton Ryan (12-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Texas

Cedar Park 31, Mesquite Lufkin 31, Longview 21

Cedar Park (11-2) vs. Lufkin (13-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium. Region III Katy 49. Pasadena Dobie

Houston Clear Lake 37, Houston Memorial 29 (3OT)

Katy (12-1) vs. Houston Clear Lake (12-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Astrodome. Region IV SA Taft 42, Laredo Nixon

Smithson Valley 51, San

Smithson Valley (11-2), 2 p.m. Saturday at Farris Stadium, San Antonio.

Class 4A Region I Quarterfinals Sherman 36, Wolfforth Frenship 27 Stadium

Region II Quarterfinals Ennis 34, Texarkana Texas 10 Region I/II

Semifinals Sherman (10-3) vs. Ennis (11-2), TBA. Region III Quarterfinals

Marshall 28, Houston Yates 7 Region IV Quarterfinals Boerne 20, SA Harlandale

Region III/IV Semifinals Marshall vs. Boerne (12-

1), TBA. DIVISION II Region I Regionals Aledo 36, Pampa 12

By The Associated Press Wichita Falls Rider 49, El Boyd 55, Argyle 21
Pass Riverside 7 Region I/II

omplex in Denton.

Wylie 14, Everman 13 Dallas Lincoln 28,

Wylie (10-3) vs. Dallas Lincoln (11-1), at 2 p.m. Saturday at Grand Prairie's Gopher-Warrior Bowl. Region III Regionals

Kilgore 18, El Campo 0 La Marque 29 Jacksonville 20 (CORRECT-

Kilgore (12-0) vs. La Marque (11-2), TBA. Region IV Regionals Gregory-Portland 38, SA Alamo Heights 20 Pflugerville Connally 20. Corpus Christi Calallen 7

Quarterfinals * Gregory-Portland (13-0) vs. Pflugerville Connally (10-3), TBA.

Abilene Wylie 14, Decatur

Quarterfinals Royse City 35, Center 8 Region I/II Semifinals Abilene Wylie (10-3) vs.

Royse City (11-2), TBA Region III Quarterfinals Palestine 38, Connally 14 Region IV

Quarterfinals Cuero 31, Sinton 0 Region III/IV Semifinals Palestine (11-2) vs. Cuero

(13-0), 8 p.m. Friday, Round DIVISION II Region I Snyder 21, Iowa Park 7

Sweetwater (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Big Spring

Sweetwater 58, Glen Rose

Region II Regionals Gilmer Dallas Madison 21 Tatum 23, Wilmer-Hutchins 19

Quarterfinals Gilmer (13-0) vs. Tatum (12-1), TBA.

Jasper 20, Cameron 7 Marlin 37, Kirbyville 13 Quarterfinals Jasper (10-3) vs. Marlin

(12-1), 8 p.m. Saturday at Region IV Regionals Liberty Hill 42, Devine 24 Hallettsville 10, Port

Isabel 0 Quarterfinals Liberty Hill (11-2) vs. Hallettsville (11-1), TBA.

Class 2A Henrietta 40, Colorado Region II Quarterfinals

(13-0), TBA Region III

Brookshire Royal 67, Van

Region III/IV Semifinals Brookshire Royal (13-0), 7:30 p.m.

DIVISION II Region I Canadian 32, Jim Ned 27 Holliday 27, Mason 20 Quarterfinals anadian (13-0)

Holliday (11-2), TBA. Celina 35, Hamilton 18 Crawford 49, Cooper 12 Quarterfinals Celina (13-0) vs. Crawford

(13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Region III Regionals Corrigan-Camden 0

Mart 27 Quarterfinals Troup (12-1) vs. Omaha Paul Pewitt (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Gladewater.

Omaha Paul Pewitt 35,

Region IV Regionals Rogers 41, Refugio 6 Lexington 35, Yorktown 0 Quarterfinals

Rogers (13-0) vs. Lexington (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Baylor.

Sunray 14, Seagraves 0 Stratford 34, McCamey 7 Quarterfinals Sunray (18-0) vs. Stratford (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Kimbrough Stadium in Canyon.

Haskell 21, Goldthwaite 7 Windthorst 28, Albany 19 Quarterfinals sekalt A (150)

Region III Harleton 10, Normangee 6

Big Sandy 24, Groveton 21 Harleton (12-1) vs. Big Sandy (10-3), TBA Region IV Shiner 24, Chilton 7 Brackett 28, Axtell 6 Quarterfinals Shiner (13-0) vs. Brackett

Highland 60, Chillicothe

(13-0), TBA.

Valley 40, Ira 14 Semifinals Highland (12-1) vs. Valley (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday in Region HI/IV Quarterfinals

Richland Springs 58, Throckmorton 38, Calvert

Semifinals Richland Springs (13-0) vs. Throckmorton (13-0),

Texans battle back to claim victory over McNair, Titans

By JOEL ANDERSON

AP Sports Writer HOUSTON - David

Carr put together a huge comeback of his own after Brett Favre showed him how to do it last week.

Carr threw for 201 yards and two touchdowns and Domanick Davis rushed for a season-high 129 yards and a score to help the Houston Texans rally from an 18-point deficit in a 31-21 win over the Tennessee Titans on Sunday.

After allowing Favre and the Green Bay Packers to come back from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter for a win last week, Carr and the Texans staged an impressive imitation in rallying from the largest deficit in franchise history for a victory.

The Texans (5-6) ended a three-game losing streak and, perhaps most importantly to their fans, swept the season series from the team they replaced in Houston.

Titans owner Bud Adams, who moved the Houston Oilers Tennessee in 1996, took in the defeat from a luxury Houston wouldn't build for him.

in its 11th game, a clear improvement for the third-year team!

The Titans (4-7) dropped into sole possession of last place in the AFC South, likely ending their slim playoff hopes much earlier than expected.

Tennessee wasted a brilliant first-half performance from Steve McNair.

McNair completed his first seven passes for 80 yards, including a couple of touchdown throws to Erron Kinney to give Tennessee a 14-0 lead. He added another touchdown pass to Derrick Mason early in the second quarter, increasing the Titans' lead to 21-3.

Those boos got even louder when Kris Brown's 41-yard field goal the end of the first half, McCree for the Texans.

Carr had the fans on their feet thanks to his quarter.

After Houston recovered McNair's fumbled snap on third-and-1 from the Titans 26, Carr threw suite in the stadium his second touchdown pass of the quarter to Houston also tied its Texans on top 24-21. Carr interception.

win total from last season completed all nine of his pass attempts for 83 yards in the quarter.

McNair had another big mistake as the Titans attempted to rally, fumbling after Antwan Peek hit him from his blindside on third-and-10 from the Houston 13. Kailee Wong recovered the ball, snuffing out what could have been a chip-shot, game-tying field goal attempt.

The Titans still had a chance to tie the game. In a situation eerily similar to the Texans' collapse against Favre, McNair was driving the Titans down the field with about two minutes left in the game.

But Houston came up with the key defensive stop they didn't get against Green Bay: attempt was blocked at Texans safety Marlon picked yet another blunder in McNair with 1:47 left, settwo quarters full of them ting off a wild celebration on the Houston sideline. Davis sealed the victory

with a 41-yard touchdown masterpiece in the third run down the middle of the field, his longest rush of the year. Davis had his best game

of the year, adding seven reception for 52 yards. McNair finished 25-of-34

for 227 yards and three Andre Johnson to put the touchdowns with one

Couples captures record fifth Skins title

By The Associated Press

LA QUINTA, Calif. -Couples won all his the desert.

money on Sunday, starting with a birdie putt Mr. Skins Fred Couples worth \$300,000 and eight prevailed in four playoff skins on the first hole. He holes over Tiger Woods to finally won after Woods' Same with a total of 17th at Trilogy Golf Club on a cold, windy day in

Although the Silly Season tournament turned serious - Woods hit the ground with an iron and both players claim the final three tee shot went into the looked tight after missing skins worth \$340,000 and water on the last playoff putts that would have win his record fifth Skins hole, the par-3, 204-yard won it - Couples and Woods jokingly walked arm-in-arm down the final fairway.



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Impressive win keeps Trojans on top of rankings, Sooners still No. 2

By RALPH D. RUSSO AP Sports Writer

A week after losing some support as the No. 1 team, Southern California got it right back.

Top-ranked received 52 first-place votes, four more than last week, and 1,610 points in The Associated Press Top 25 Sunday.

With No. 2 Oklahoma and No. 3 Auburn idle, Trojans pounded Notre Dame 41-10 Saturday night, persuading some more media voters that they are the best team in the country. Irish coach Tyrone Willingham sure was convinced.

"They are No. 1 for a reason," he said.

The Sooners and Tigers

place 'votes than last Today coaches poll. week, but Oklahoma

Auburn by five points.

Oklahoma received seven first-place votes and 1,540 points. Auburn got six first-place votes and 1,530 points.

Bowl When the Championship Series standings are released Monday, no changes are expected at the very top. Last week, USC was first, Oklahoma second and Auburn third.

All three play Saturday, trying to stay unbeaten. USC plays at UCLA; Oklahoma meets Colorado in the Big 12 title game; and Auburn faces Tennessee for the Southeastern Conference championship.

USC, Oklahoma and Auburn, in that order,

The top nine teams in

the same as last week. No. 4 California was followed Utah, Texas, Louisville, Georgia and Miami. Virginia Tech moved up

a spot to No. 10, flip-flopping with unbeaten Boise State. Three teams moved into the poll, including two for

the first time this season. Pittsburgh vaulted in at No. 19 after beating West Virginia 16-13 last Thursday. The Panthers are in line for a BCS bid if they can beat South

Florida Saturday. Texas Tech is in for the first time this season at No. 23 after beating Oklahoma State 31-15. The Cowboys dropped out of the rankings.

ranked for the first time in school history, fell out extended its lead over the latest AP poll were after losing 37-35 to Tulsa.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Jupiter and Neptune
are in an auspicious rela-

are in an ausitionship that lasts through Dec. 6 of this year. This represents a return to the hippie values of peace, love and understanding,

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

and as Elvis Costello would say, what's so funny about that? This trine provides an opening for cosmic awareness. We're seeing fewer differences among people.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Parenting issues arise. If you are a parent, it's about shifting your style to accommodate the current state of things. If

you're not a parent, it's about remembering what you were taught so you don't have to learn the lesson twice.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). From the Latin word "discere," which means "to learn," we get the word "discipline." Self-discipline is really about educating yourself, not about creating more ways and reasons to punish yourself. Be nice to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's an opportunity that comes to you solely because someone else slipped up. Be compassionate, but jump on this! Make sure you have fruit, cheese and drinks on hand at home. Someone is stopping by unexpectedly

cancer (June 22-July 22). Friends won't behave themselves, so don't expect them to. The best

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you can do is refuse to be embarrassed by other people's actions. Make sure to call things in the moment, and you won't have to blow up later.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What's on your mind? Money, riches, booty! You've been working hard, and still, it's just out of reach. Get creative. A brainstorming session will open windows of financial possibility worth investigating.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Despite your efforts, a relationship is still less than perfect. Perhaps it's lovely in its flaws! Anyway, you can still feel bad about a mistake and feel good about yourself. A Sagittarius helps you find compassion for yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Maybe you're blowing things out of proportion.

But, more likely, your sense of proportion just isn't like other peopleis, and that doesn't make it wrong. There are times when it's fun to make a big to-do over a trifling matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've got it all worked out in your head, but the question is whether everyone else can duplicate your plan. Too bad reality dictates that not everything will go your way. Communicate to the best

of your ability.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Big responsibilities are featured, and so is the fear of doing it all wrong — it's a healthy fear, though, and one that will keep you honest. Your brainchild is beginning to "walk." This is the next best thing to being

immortal!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're a tad gullible and could believe someone you'd usually agree is unbelievable. Then comes the mental descent from sublime dreams to commonplace reality. Do not lose faith in visions, though!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Consider yourself a protector! Hopefully, people will consult you before making silly decisions or falling for ploys designed especially to appeal to the ignorant through sensationalism or cheapness.

A S T R O L O G I C A L QUESTIONS: "I'm a 42year-old woman with a successful career and a practice of volunteering with a couple of organizations when I can. I'm a truly whole, happy and healthy person. I am, however, missing a relationship. I feel if I were involved with someone, I'd have the balance that I so crave in my life. Will I ever meet him? My date of birth is Oct. 15, 1962."

You're a Libra with Mars in Leo and Venus in Scorpio, which tells me that you're a rare breed of woman to whom the Rules -- and by Rules, I mean the advice laid out in the best-selling book "The Rules" -- do not apply. You can risk being more forward, and it actually works for you. In fact, the initiative rests with you. When you're ready (and May of 2005 is the perfect time to start), I suggest you join an online service, put the word out through friends, and join a singles club. (By the way, your volunteer work is noble, but there are no single men in the organizations!) The question is, are you wiling to open up only to get your heart broken and your ego bruised? Because that's the raw part of this deal and what you'll go through before you embrace this big love.

CELEBRITY FILES: Actor Ed Harris enjoys going out on the edge in his acting. His eerily accurate rendition of Jackson Pollock is an example how Sagittarius, the sign of travel, can take a trip without physically going anywhere. Whereas Pisces actors aim to embody a character by "being" that character, Sagittarian actors journey with a character, experiencing the choices of that character.

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

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Annie's Mailbox •

Dear Annie: I have a son, "Chris," age 23, who recently left for deployment to Iraq. He has an adorable wife of three years but no children. This girl is unbelievably sweet and absolutely crazy about my son.

When he left, they seemed so in love. However, while in training before he deployed, he went to a club with his buds and ended up going home with a young woman for the night. I raised Chris to have good morals, and he has never done anything like this before. Now he says he is in love with this new girl and wants a divorce

and wants a divorce.

I am heartbroken over his poor decision. I emailed Chris, telling him how angry, saddened and disappointed I am, and how his decision has hurt so many people, not just his wife. Chris won't write back or call me, but he is writing and calling his dad, who by the way, did the same thing to me before our divorce.

My ex-husband thinks I am horrible for judging Chris. Did I do the right thing to tell him how I felt and let him know the pain this has caused? I know this has brought up a lot of my own past, so I can't be sure I am really seeing things straight. Please tell me what to do. -- Heartsick Mom

Dear Heartsick: It's understandable that you are upset, and there's no reason to hide it from Chris. It's painful when a child's marriage breaks up, especially since you are obviously fond of your daughter-in-law. However, Chris sounds rather immature. It's also possible that, facing deployment to Iraq, his reaction is to shed all previous entanglements. You cannot fix these things. Chris must deal with them in his own way, right or wrong.

Write your son a letter and tell him you love him and hope he returns home safely. Say nothing about his marriage or his girlfriend. current Encourage his wife to take advantage of the counseling services offered through the military, and be a limited, not-too-attached source of support for her, whatever the outcome.

Dear Annie: I enjoy going to my women's gym, where everyone is friendly. Last week, however, two of the women, speaking very loudly, began a rather



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

personal conversation about a third woman, "Jean."

Others in the gym overheard, and I wonder if they found this conversation as inappropriate as I did. Perhaps you could remind folks that such conversations are in poor taste in public. --Exerciser in Connecticut

Dear Exerciser: People don't always realize they can be heard or that others are listening (similar to cell phone conversations). Bystanders should try their best not to notice. However, if other gym regulars know Jean, such gossip could find its way back to her. It would have been polite to discreetly point that out to these women.

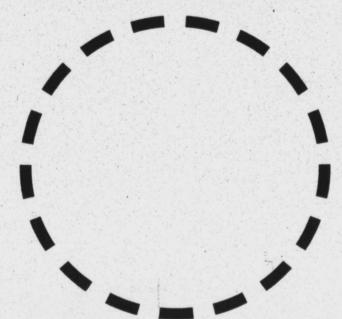
Dear Annie: You often recommend counseling. This is good advice, but what does one do if one cannot afford to pay for counseling, which is often expensive? This is not a problem for the rich, and the poor can get public assistance, but what about those of us in the middle? How do we get the help we need? -- South Bend, Ind.

Dear South Bend: An excellent question. Here's a list: Check your phone book or online for the YMCA; United Way; Catholic Charities; Jewish Federation; the Salvation Army; Recovery, Inc.; the Alliance for Children and Families; local hospitals; university graduate school departments of social work and psychology; churches, synagogues, mosques and pastoral counseling centers; and your family physician.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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Spin City



"Somebody should tell that guy how to use eye shadow.

HAGAR

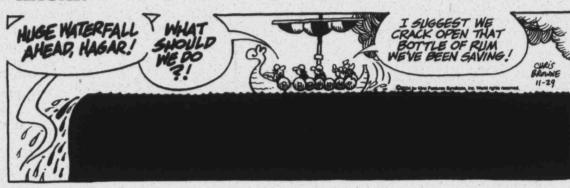
Garage

Chopper

:35 Movie

Wonderful

Some Kind of



That's-Raven

Sports

(CC)

(CC)

NYPD Blue

Prince-Persia

Blind Date

BLONDIE







BC



A GUY WHO HIDES MARIJUANAIN HIS BELLYBUTTON THE BOOK PHRASES

WIZARD OF ID

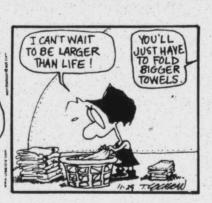




AGNES







HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 29, the 334th day of 2004. There are 32 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 29, 1964, the U.S. Roman Catholic Church instituted sweeping changes in the liturgy, including the use of English instead of Latin. On this date:

In 1864, a Colorado militia killed at least 150 peaceful Cheyenne Indians in the Sand Creek Massacre.

In 1924, Italian composer Giacomo Puccini died in Brussels before he could complete his opera "Turandot." It was finished by Franco Alfano.

In 1929, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd radioed that he'd made the first airplane flight over the South

In 1947, the U.N. General

Assembly passed a resolution calling for the partiof Palestine tioning between Arabs and Jews.

In 1952, President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower kept his campaign promise to visit Korea to assess the ongoing conflict.

In 1961, "Enos" the chimp was launched from Cape Canaveral aboard the Mercury-Atlas 5 spacecraft, which orbited earth twice before returning. In 1963, President Lyndon

sion headed by Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy. In 1981, actress Natalie Wood drowned in a boating accident off Santa Catalina Island, Calif., at age 43.

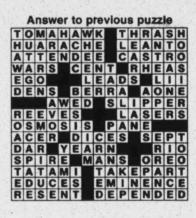
Johnson named a commis-

in 1986, actor Cary Grant died in Davenport, Iowa, at age 82.

In 2001, former Beatle George Harrison died in Los Angeles following a battle with cancer; he was 58.

Ten years ago: The House passed the revised General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade by a vote of 288-146. Fighter jets attacked the capital of Chechnya and its airport hours after Russian President Boris Yeltsin demanded the breakaway

republic end its civil war. Today's Birthdays: Hallof-Fame sportscaster Vin Scully is 77. Blues singermusician John Mayall is 71. Composer-musician Chuck Mangione is 64. Pop singer Denny Doherty Mamas & Dapas) is 64. Country singer Jody Miller is 63. Actress Diane Ladd is 61. Pop singer-musician Felix Cavaliere (The Rascals) is 60. Olympic gold medal skier Suzy Chaffee is Comedian Garry Shandling is 55.



Newsday Crossword

ACROSS 1 Synagogue

leader 6 Former

10 Repertory group

name

houseplant

might like 19 Impolite

machine 22 Andes pack

26 Monastery

29 All amazed 33 Angry 34 Dress of India

topping 37 One of Santa's reindeer

39 Chauffeured vehicle

41 Large crowd

45 Refer to 46 Sawyer's pal Huck

50 Transmit

51 Some

newspaper

pages

remover

dessert

59 Cost of a

60 Step inside

for words

Miss__

DOWN

1 Sprint or

marathon

2 Actor Alda

3 Swallow or

sparrow

4 Tavern

62 At a

63 Driving

poker hand

54 Wrinkle

Russian ruler

14 Fictitious

15 Farmland unit 16 Succulent

17 Dessert that **Bugs Bunny**

20 Deadstreet

21 Weaver's

animals 24 Baseball hats 25 Appear

leaders

Strauss & Co. 36 Pretzel

38 James of The Godfather

40 Paradise

42 Tangles up 44 See 44 Down

47 Bologna alternative

SEE SWEETS by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

5 Quarantine 6 Salsa-topped

shells 7 Swindle 8 Biblical boat

55 Puddinglike 9 Landed, as a fish 58 Starring role 10 Crunchy

glazed snack 11 College grad 12 Soft drink

13 Golf pegs 61 Lord's spouse 18 Outdoes 23 General

Grant's foe 24 Circus snack 25 Warning signal

26 Theater walkway 27 Smart one, informally

28 Skin soothers 29 Polishes 30 Long (for)

31 Sidestep 32 Roadside eatery

34 Move furtively 37 Not horizontal 41 Large bill

43 Goal **44** With 44 Down, "Proud Mary"

singer 46 Merry celebrations

47 Window ledge 48 Neighborhood 49 Washer batch

50 Retired airplanes: Abbr. Overture

follower 52 Membership

fees 53 Nimble

56 Numero 57 Genetic letters

