



BIG SPRING

HERALD

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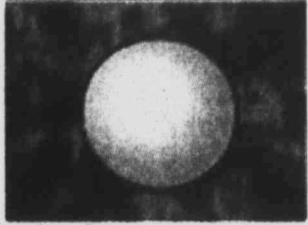
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY

December 1, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 29°-32° TOMORROW 48°-52°

BRIEFLY

VAMC to turn on lights Friday night

Lou Ann Atkins, director of the West Texas VA Health Care System, has announced that the VA Lighting of the Holiday Lights ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. Friday.

The Nursing Home Care Unit choir will sing carols, refreshments will be served and Santa will visit with all children.

The community is invited to participate in the turning on of the lights.

College group collecting toys

The Mexican-American Student Association at Howard College is collecting toys to give to homeless children all around Howard County.

Toys should be brought to the college library, administration building, STEPS lab, student services office or the registrar's office.

Off-campus collection points are the Big Spring Herald and KBYG.

Gifts for children of any age will be accepted. The toy drive will run through Dec. 15.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



INDEX

- Classified 4-5B
Comics 6B
Features 6A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A
Sports 1-2B

Vol. 101, No. 5

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.

Parade shaping up to be the best yet

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

Another Christmas season will officially start Saturday afternoon when the 19th annual Big Spring Herald's Community Christmas Parade begins its long procession north on Gregg Street at 5:30.

"It's pretty obvious that the community takes as much interest in the parade each year, because it seems that your entries continue to get better and better."



Susanne Reed

ning to compete for the three cash prizes that are being offered this year.

A \$100 cash prize will be awarded to the entry selected as the winner of the Best of Show Award for the best interpretation of the theme "100 Years of West Texas Christmases."

The winner of the Mayor's Trophy for the best use of lighting will receive a \$75 prize, while the winner of the Grand Marshal's Award for best costuming will receive \$50.

Bobby McDonald and Linda Conway will serve as grand marshals for the event.

See PARADE, Page 3A

Ridge resigns

New Homeland Security chief faces fight to unify nation's anti-terror efforts

By TED BRIDIS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Tom Ridge's successor as chief of the Homeland Security Department will have to unify a sprawling bureaucracy, a deadly serious job where failure could put the United States at risk of another terror attack.



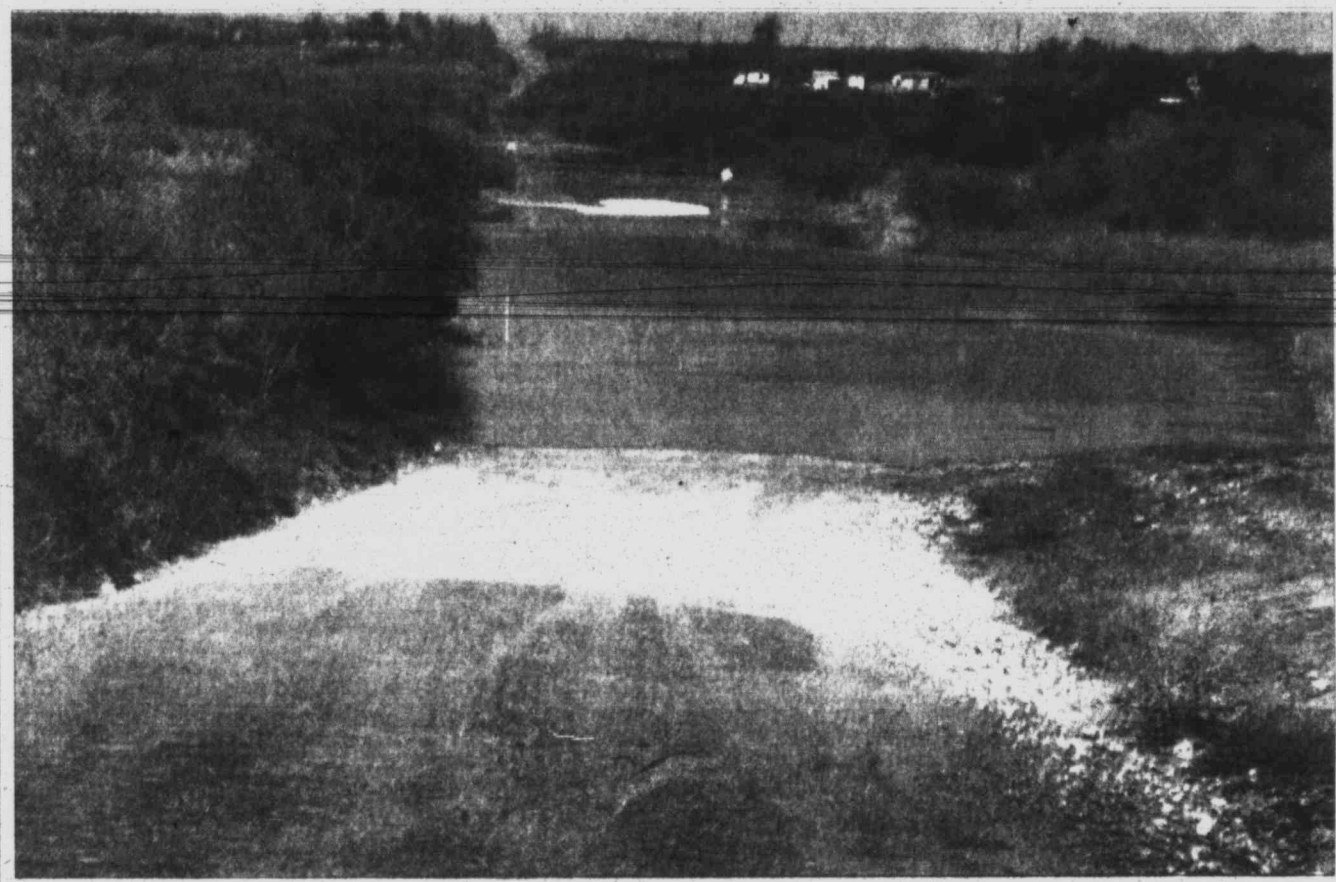
Tom Ridge, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, announces his resignation on Tuesday.

half a decade, a job critics say remains largely incomplete. "I like going to work every day," Ridge said, before adding, "There are certain days I've enjoyed it even more."

Ridge said he will remain in the job until Feb. 1, unless the Senate confirms his successor earlier. Among those cited as potential candidates are Bernard Kerik, the former New York City police commissioner who helped rebuild Iraq's police force; former

See RIDGE, Page 3A

LAKES ON THE RISE



Colorado Municipal Water District Photo

The Colorado River at Murphy School Crossing. This is actually in the upper basin of Lake J.B. Thomas, but has not been inundated in years.

CRMWD lakes at higher levels than they have been in years

Special to the Herald

For the first time since the mid-1990s, barge-mounted pumps aren't necessary to keep pump station intakes submerged at Lake J.B. Thomas or E.V. Spence Reservoir, it was reported Tuesday.

It's the latest encouraging news from the Colorado River Municipal Water District, which has benefited greatly from November's abundant rains.

"I am happy to report that our recreation users will also see substantial benefits from this rainfall."



John Grant

"These unusual November rains were good for the District in both quantity and quality of the water we

received," said John Grant, CRMWD general manager. "Although the rainfall subsided almost a week ago, inflows continued through the holiday weekend because of saturated ground conditions and the fact that Lake Colorado City was still spilling Thanksgiving morning."

Grant said substantial gains to both Thomas and Spence have allowed the District to pull out an intake barge.

See CRMWD, Page 3A

SAYING SO LONG



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Pat Anderson, a deputy clerk with the Howard County Clerk's office, opens a gift during her retirement party at the Howard County Courthouse Tuesday afternoon. Anderson is retiring after nearly two decades with the county clerk's office.

Unemployment remains steady for Howard County

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

While the unemployment rate in Howard County remained steady for October, Texas Workforce Network officials report a substantial growth in the civilian labor force, thanks to the holiday season.

Howard County reported an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent, the same rate reported in September, but down more than 1 percent from October 2003's 4.5 percent.

Virginia Belew, director of the Big Spring Workforce Network, said although the rate stayed steady, there are still some very important factors to take into consideration.

The civilian labor force began to increase as individuals have begun to re-enter the workforce for the holiday seasonal

employment period," said Belew. "The number given says we have approximately 700 more worker actively employed or seeking jobs than we did at the same time last year."

"The current labor force is comprised of 13,296 employed workers and 452 job seekers, and the availability of work should increase again this month."

The unemployment rate for the city of Big Spring is 3.7 percent, according to Belew.

While the current statistics look rather favorable considering the season, Belew said recent layoffs at StarTek have yet to make their way into the reports.

"The unemployment figure for October does not include the workers recently laid off by StarTek," said Belew, "but we can expect them next month. These affected workers continue to actively seek re-entry into

See JOBS, Page 3A

DECEMBER 1 2004



Obituaries

Oralia Holland

Oralia Holland, 73, of Temple, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, at her residence. Funeral services were 10 a.m. today, Dec. 1, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Arnold Tonn, pastor of Spring Tabernacle Church, officiating. Interment followed in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 19, 1931, in Rodarte, N.M. and married Marvin H. Holland April 8, 1950, in Albuquerque, N.M. He preceded her in death June 28, 2002.

Mrs. Holland loved to volunteer her time, and had volunteered for more than 30 years at the VA Medical Center. She loved her family and was very dedicated to them. She was a wonderful mother and grandmother.

Mrs. Holland was a member of Spring Tabernacle Church and a member of the Rebekah Lodge.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Ronald and Terri Holland of Temple and Mervin and Marjorie Holland of Vancouver, Wash.; one daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Ernest Baumia of Temple; five grandchildren, James Cramer and wife, Ann, of Ferndale, Calif., Michael Cramer of Temple, Lavana Holland, Oralia Holland and Elijah Holland, all of Big Spring; two great-grandchildren; three sisters and one brother.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

*Paid obituary*

Mary Jo Potter



Mary Jo Potter, 67, of Ashland, Ky., formerly of Big Spring, died Nov. 20, 2004, in King's Daughter's Medical Center in Ashland, Ky. Services were Nov. 23, 2004, at Carman Funeral home in Russell, Ky., with the Rev. Stan Williams officiating.

She was born June 21, 1937, in Quitaqua, to Joseph and Olene Shannon Arnold. She married Kenneth W. Potter Nov. 7, 1952, in Big Spring.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth W. Potter of Ashland; her son, Kenneth W. Potter and his wife, Karen, of Farmers, Ky.; her daughter, Kathy Porter and her husband, Harry, of Ashland; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and three sisters.

Arrangements were under the direction of Carman Funeral Home in Russell, Ky.

Take note

VA MEDICAL CENTER LIGHTING OF THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS is set for 6 p.m. Friday. Christmas carols sung by the nursing home care unit choir, refreshments and a visit with Santa Claus are part of the festivities. The community is invited.

HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM AFTER CHRISTMAS PARADE RECEPTION Saturday in the museum, 1911 Apron Dr. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served. Call 264-1999 for more information.

THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF HOWARD COLLEGE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE is set for Dec. 1-15. Bring toys to the Howard College library, which is open from 7:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Toys may also be taken to the administration building, the STEPS lab, the student services office or the registrar's office. Gifts for children of any age are appreciated, especially for children 13-15.

THE BIG SPRING BASS CLUB is serving a barbecue plate dinner from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. Saturday at the Eagle's Lodge, 703 W. Third St. To-go plates available for \$5. All proceeds go to the family of Robert Seago and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Call Gary Gillihan at 264-6528 or Jerry Jones at 263-4329 for more information.

BIG SPRING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS brisket burrito sale, \$2 each, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday at the east door of Wal-Mart.

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH OF GOD, 603 Tulane, has chicken fried steak dinners for sale Friday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch pickup. From 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., there is free delivery for dinner plates, which are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Call 267-8593 to place an order.

CHRIS' 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 Sherry or Rose Ann at 264-7599 for more information.

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.

LETTERS FROM SANTA ARE AVAILABLE FROM SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER as

Police blotter

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

KAILEE MICHEL RADLOFF, 18, of Robert Lee, was arrested Tuesday on local traffic warrants.

Note: An activity log for Tuesday at 8 a.m. until 8 a.m. today was not available.

Sheriff's report

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

RANDY HERNANDEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less in a drug free zone.

JESSE JAY JUAREZ, 20, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

Support groups

THURSDAY

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

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 Shoppe.

Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.

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 Lancaster.

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 Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

FRIDAY

Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Golliad streets. Members may bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

Correction

In Monday's edition of the Big Spring Herald, an editorial encouraging the community to attend the community production of "Oliver!" this weekend, Eric Barton, who plays the role of Fagin, was identified as a student at Coahoma Elementary School. He is in fact a 17-year-old senior at Coahoma High School.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-13-16-27-30. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$17,883. Winning tickets sold in: Hooks, Pampa. Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-4-2

Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear. Lows near 30. Southwest winds near 10 mph.

Thursday - Partly cloudy. Highs near 50. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. East winds near 10 mph.

Friday - Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Light and variable winds.

Friday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows near 30.

Saturday - Partly cloudy. Highs near 60.

Saturday night - Partly cloudy. Lows near 40.

Sunday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs near 60.

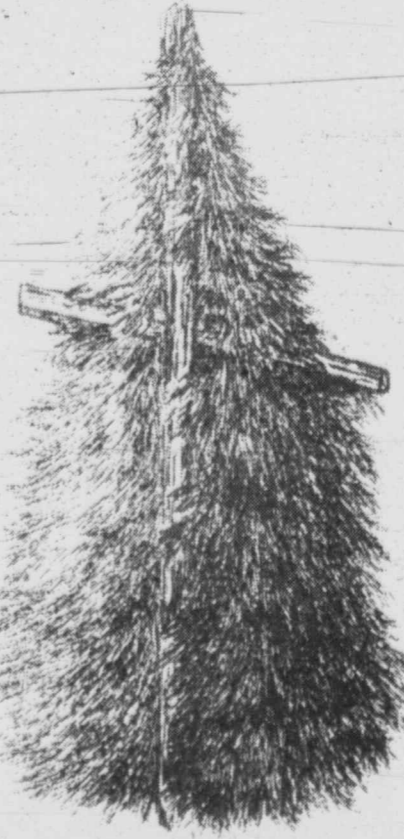
Sunday night - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows near 40.

Monday - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Monday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Tuesday - Partly cloudy. Highs near 60.

The Living Christmas Tree



First United Methodist Church

December 4th & 5th, 2004

8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

Dress Rehearsal Open To Public

Saturday, December 4th at 2:00 P.M.

Tickets available in church office

(Free) Limited Seating Nursery available

BIG SPRING HERALD

[www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

Reflecting A Proud Community

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

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"Remember...you deserve the best!!"

CRMWD

Continued from F

"At one or location — or we have needed the water up-dams at the keep them st Grant said, r was the first about 1996 District has b remove and barge at t intake stati operations hav radically st stopped since. Spence Reserv

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Governor h

HUNTSVILLE Wednesday board's rare i murderer Fr; fourth woma War.

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KILLEEN (the Thanks including th videotaped t the shooting Tuesday.

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Neither Sr afternoon, a According 18, and Tab Tabler shoo amine Rahn Zayed, 28, c dancers wer

It was not seen the vi Dan Smith r ment on the Smith said tims were p after he wa said Tabler more target

Amy E. D.D.S. 432-26



CRMWD

Continued from Page 1A

"At one or the other location — or at both — we have needed to pump the water up-river over dams at the intakes to keep them submerged," Grant said, noting this was the first time since about 1996 that the District has been able to remove and beach the barge at the Snyder intake station. Barge operations have been sporadically started and stopped since 1997 at the Spence Reservoir.

Inflow from November's rains reached 131,110 acre-feet over the weekend. That brought the yearly total for CRMWD reservoirs to approximately 190,000 acre-feet, or 89.86 percent of the annual average. Total reservoir storage Monday morning was 370,500 acre-feet, which is 29.13 percent of maximum storage.

"The way this large slug of water arrived at the

Rising lake levels allow boaters to access ramps

Special to the Herald

Area boaters may be happy to know that the recent rains have made access easier to reservoirs within the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

"I am happy to report that our recreation users will also see substantial benefits from this rainfall," said John Grant, CRMWD general manager. "We have been chasing water levels with temporary boat ramps at two of the three reservoirs for about five years. As a result of these inflows, we were able to pull the temporary ramps and reopen permanent ramps at

Spence and Thomas."

At Lake Thomas, the effects of the drought on recreation were dramatic. Bull Creek Park was closed. White Island and Southside Park were kept open but all three permanent ramps were impassable at some time during the drought. A temporary ramp was necessary to allow boat launching at Southside Park. Today, Bull Creek Park and that ramp remain closed, but permanent ramps at White Island and Southside are finally under water.

At the Spence Reservoir, all of the parks except Rough Creek remained open through the drought, but a temporary ramp was necessary because none of the

permanent ramps were under water. Today, Paint Creek Park boat ramp is under water and another five feet of water would permit use of the ramp at the Wildcat Park.

If no further rains are received in the near future, Grant said recreation crews would begin searching for a suitable location for the temporary ramp at Wildcat.

"Due to construction and design, boat ramps at the Ivie Reservoir will remain passable as long as there is any appreciable amount of water in the lake but this additional 60,000 acre-feet brought the lake's edge a lot closer to our recreation facilities," Grant said.

submerged and eliminating the need to blend water for quality purposes should result in lower pumping costs.

"For all practical purposes, Lake Thomas is the highest it has been since the onset of the current drought," Grant said, as he listed the status of each reservoir.

Lake J.B. Thomas gained 10.52 vertical feet and captured 33,640 acre-feet of water during November. The lake now contains 62,400 acre-feet and is 31.11 percent full, its highest level since February of 1993.

E.V. Spence Reservoir rose 10.06 vertical feet and captured 37,070 acre-feet of water. The reservoir contains 78,850 acre-feet and is 15.24 percent full, its highest level since March 2001.

O.H. Ivie Reservoir has risen 6.48 vertical feet and captured 60,400 acre-feet of water. The reservoir contains 229,300 acre-feet and is 41.36 percent full, marking its highest point since July 2002.

reservoirs should produce a significant improvement in quality," Grant said. "The District's diversion system serves to protect the Spence Reservoir from the river low flows and the early flows of rain events which are high in dissolved solids. Because of the system and the cumulative effect of years of quality management

efforts, we are able to intercept the poor quality water for sale to oilfield applications or evaporation before it reaches the reservoir.

"In West Texas, chlorides are one of the most significant components that impact water quality," Grant said, pointing out that chlorides at the pump station intakes were around 60 ppm at

Lake Thomas, about 230 ppm at the Spence Reservoir and 200 ppm at the Ivie Reservoir. Grant said the District will not take quality samples at the reservoirs until the incoming water disperses and mixes with the existing supply, but the chloride readings are early indicators of improvement.

"Our supplies at Spence

and Thomas practically doubled, so the impact of that quantity of high-quality water will be substantial," Grant predicted.

"Improvements in the location and quality of our supplies also translate into savings," Grant said, explaining that having adequate supplies at the closest reservoir, eliminating pump-back operations to keep intakes

disperse around the courthouse area.

"The parade route is pretty long and that's good because it gives lots of people an opportunity to view the parade," Reed said, adding that she hopes everyone in the community has an opportunity to either enter the parade or view it.

"It looks like the weather's going to be pretty nice, but people need to remember that it gets cold pretty quickly once the sun begins to set in December," she added. "So, remember to dress warmly, bring a thermos of coffee or hot chocolate and head downtown in plenty of time to get a good vantage point. We really think you won't want to miss this parade and we don't want you to miss it either."

In comparison, surrounding counties reported the following unemployment rates: Andrews, 3 percent; Borden, 2.3 percent; Dawson, 5.1 percent; Ector, 5.1 percent; Glasscock, 3.4 percent; Martin, 3.5 percent; and Midland, 3.2 percent.

TEXAS BRIEFS

Governor holds fate of condemned woman

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry considered Wednesday whether to accept the Texas parole board's rare recommendation that he keep convicted murderer Frances Newton from becoming only the fourth woman executed in the state since the Civil War.

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles voted 5-1 Tuesday, favoring the 120-day reprieve sought by Newton and her lawyers. Perry could concur with the recommendation and postpone Newton's scheduled trip to the death chamber Wednesday evening or ignore it.

"The case is still under review," Perry spokeswoman Kathy Walt said late Tuesday.

Newton, 39, was scheduled for lethal injection for the slayings of her husband and two young children more than 17 years ago.

"I didn't kill my family," Newton told The Associated Press in a recent interview from death row. "I just have to believe the truth is going to come out. And I've kept that hope all this time, and I still keep that hope."

Her husband, Adrian, 23; son Alton, 7; and daughter Farrah, 20 months, were found shot to death at the family's Harris County apartment in April 1987.

Prosecutors said she hoped to collect \$100,000 in life insurance benefits on policies she recently had purchased.

Newton's lawyers argued for the extra time to investigate claims she may be innocent, that evidence should be retested and that she had poor legal representation at trial.

Police continue to investigate slayings

KILLEEN (AP) — A Fort Hood soldier suspected in the Thanksgiving weekend slayings of four people, including three strip club employees, told police he videotaped two of the killings while another man did the shooting, according to court documents released Tuesday.

Timothy D. Payne, a private with the 4th Infantry Division, and Richard L. Tabler, a former customer at Teazers Gentlemen's Club, were arraigned Tuesday on capital murder charges and ordered held on \$4 million bond each, Bell County District Attorney Henry Garza said.

Neither Smith nor Payne had attorneys by Tuesday afternoon, a court clerk said.

According to the arrest warrant affidavits, Payne, 18, and Tabler, 25, used a video camera to capture Tabler shooting the strip club's manager, Mohamedamine Rahmouni, 25, and his friend, Haitham Frank Zayed, 28, on Nov. 26. Two days later, two female dancers were fatally shot.

It was not immediately clear if investigators had seen the videotaped slayings. Bell County Sheriff Dan Smith referred calls to Garza, who declined comment on the evidence in the case.

Smith said Monday that authorities believe the victims were part of a revenge plot hatched by Tabler after he was asked to stop visiting the club. Smith said Tabler drew up a "hit list" of as many as nine more targets.

Attorney looks into mom's disorder

DALLAS (AP) — A woman who admitted killing her baby by severing the girl's arms had several invasive brain surgeries as a youngster, her attorney said Tuesday.

Attorney David Haynes said he's requesting decades-old medical records to see if the procedures could have affected the mother's mental state.

Dena Schlosser, 35, faces a capital murder charge in the death of her 10-month-old daughter, Margaret. Haynes said his client remained disoriented and was not competent to stand trial.

"She knows Maggie is dead, but what she understands beyond that, I'm not too sure," said Haynes, who said he has met with the Plano mother three times since he was appointed last week.

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

Reed stressed that the Herald takes great pride in sponsoring each year's Community Christmas Parade and employees strive to make every procession just a little better than that which came before.

"Last year was my first in Big Spring and I can't begin to tell you how impressed I was — not only in the quality and number of entries, but how almost the entire community turns out to watch," Reed noted.

"It's pretty obvious that the community takes as much interest in the parade each year, because it seems that your entries continue to get better and

better," she added. "From what I understand, that's certainly been the case since the parade was changed to an evening start and lighted entries encouraged."

This year's procession, set to stroll down Gregg Street at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, will have 53 registered entries. However, Elizabeth Flores, the Herald's coordinator for the event, stressed that late comers are welcomed to get their entries decorated and show up to be included in the parade. Only registered entries will be judged for awards and plaques.

"This is the community's parade," Flores explained. "So even if you weren't able to register an entry, but want to take part in the parade, we

encourage you go come join us in getting the Christmas season started with a bang."

Flores did note that all parade participants are asked to make sure they do not block the driveways of homes in the process of lining up for the event and to make sure they clean up any litter created during last-minute preparations.

Participants will begin lining up for the procession at 4 p.m. The Big Spring High School and Forsan High School bands will need to arrive at 5 p.m.

The parade will start at the corner of East 24th and Gregg streets, moving northward on Gregg Street, take a right on Sixth Street, go all the way up to Main, take a left on Main Street and

JOBS

Continued from Page 1A

the workforce.

"Employers should be reminded the availability of these workers includes training and experience in customer service and

computers. Employers can call the workforce network for assistance and to list jobs, or they can log on at www.workintexas.com to manage the system themselves."

While the unemployment rate in Howard County stayed the same

between September and October, the Permian Basin's rate dropped from 4.4 percent to 4.2 percent. The statewide rate also dropped, sliding from 5.5 percent to 5.3 percent, while the national rate remained the same at 5.1 percent

RIDGE

Continued from Page 1A

Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Allbaugh; Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt; and White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend.

Others are also believed to be interested in the job, including Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security in the Homeland Security Department.

Critics said Ridge's legacy is mixed at Homeland Security, a collection of 22 disparate federal agencies with more than 180,000 employees. It includes Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Customs Service, the Coast Guard, the Secret Service and the Transportation Security Administration, with a combined budget of \$36 billion.

"He was dealt an impossible hand," said Richard Clarke, the former top counterterrorism adviser to President Bush who resigned last year. "He was not allowed to make some of the key decisions about the beginning of the department. I think anyone would have failed

under those circumstances."

Although the Homeland Security Department originally was envisioned as a broker of intelligence after the 2001 terror attacks, the Bush administration opted to establish a new terrorist screening center and terrorist threat integration center, set up at the FBI and CIA respectively.

"Ridge is a personality. He engendered extreme loyalty in headquarters staff," said Dan Prieto, a research director at Harvard University and

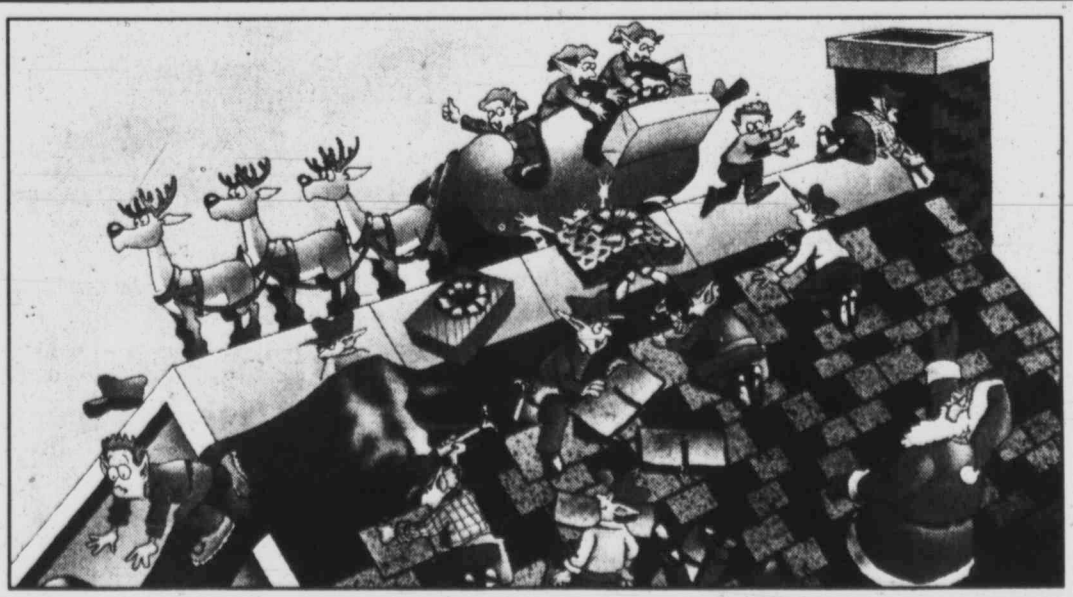
former Democratic staff member for the House Homeland Security Committee. "Was he the right person to go out on a limb, knock heads and make sure the department achieved this goal? I would argue that he wasn't."

Even loyalists to Ridge acknowledge the next secretary must work to unify the organization, which still uses hundreds of different computer networks for systems such as intelligence, accounting, procurement and hiring. Auditors have complained about the depart-

ment's spending controls and the security of its own computer networks.

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Jan Noyes, 71, died Sunday. Funeral Services were at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.  
Robert Seago, 48, died Sunday. Funeral Service were at 4:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial was at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.



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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Don't miss out on one of our best traditions

One of our favorite — and longest lasting — holiday traditions is this weekend. It's the 26th year for the Living Christmas Tree, you'll want to be sure and take the whole family to the event.

It takes place beginning Saturday and Sunday in the First United Methodist Church sanctuary. Many Crossroads area residents have seen this highly inspirational production before, but for those who have not, it is truly a holiday tradition not to be missed.

An orchestra, more than 30 actors and some 100 singers will be perform, with the show centered around "Hope Comes Home," which was written by Big Spring's Sue Partee.

There is no charge to attend either of the two 8 p.m. performances of The Living Christmas Tree. However, tickets must be obtained in advance to ensure that there will be enough seating for those planning to attend. A nursery will be available. Tickets always go quickly, so don't waste time getting yours.

Something else to note, there is also a 2 p.m. dress rehearsal on Saturday which is open to the public. No tickets are required for attendance.

Tickets may be obtained at the church's office, located at 400 Scurry, or by calling the church at 267-6394.

The Living Christmas Tree is one of Big Spring's most wonderful holiday traditions. Don't miss it.

ADDRESSES

**• GEORGE W. BUSH**  
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The White House  
Washington, D.C.

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The glorious days of the Fudgesicle

The other night, just before dropping off to sleep, my wife said she wanted a Fudgesicle. I asked her if a Dumbo would do instead. She said no, she wanted a Fudgesicle.

Dumbo is the name of an ice cream treat we had the first night we were married. August 26, 1963. We were in Chihuahua, Mexico on our way to Mazatlan for our honeymoon destination. We had just finished a meal of chateaubriand and beer and were taking a walk in the neighborhood around the hotel. We saw a man pushing an ice cream cart with the name Dumbo painted on the side of it. We strolled over and bought a Popsicle. As I recall, the flavor resembled root beer. We kept the popsicle wrappers for years as souvenirs.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Back to the other night. I told her my favorite ice cream treat was a bananasicle. It was like a fudgesicle, but it had a banana flavor.

My dad had a grocery store, so when I was growing up I had all the sweet goodies I wanted. Anytime I felt like a bananasicle, I just went to the ice cream box and got one. But it wasn't the same as getting an ice cream goody from the ice cream man who sold his wares from a cart or truck.

The pushcart was my favorite. It had bells hanging from the push bar. When my playmates and I heard the bells, our mouths began to water as we anticipated the good taste we were about to enjoy. When the ice cream man finally got to our street, we ran to it with nickels in hand.

There is no sound like the sound of the lid being opened on an ice cream cart. It kind of thumps as the man grabs the round handle on top and slowly pulls it up and leans it back. As he does, swirls of deliciously fragrant cold air

drift out from the depths of the ice box. "What'll you have, boys?" he asks.

That starts an ice cream shopping spree that can last as long as five minutes. It takes a long time to figure out the exact taste we want. After all, Popsicles come in a number of flavors.

I remember them being frozen so hard we had to wait a second or two for them to thaw out. Then we tore off the wrappers and started enjoying the good taste of summer.

It didn't take long to consume a Fudgesicle. About the time you got the first lick in, it started melting and you had fudgesicle residue around your moth, your hands, sometimes down to your elbows. But so what? It comes off easy.

No, I didn't get up and go get my wife a Fudgesicle. But if I would have done so, you can bet I would have got a bananasicle for myself. I promise the next time she asks for a midnight Fudgesicle, I will accommodate her.



Inside report: Gramm for treasury

With Treasury Secretary John Snow's continuation in office uncertain, the White House is seriously considering former Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas as his possible successor.

President Bush has never been an intimate of Gramm's, and did not think of him for Treasury four years ago when he made the disastrous choice of industrialist Paul O'Neill.

However, according to sources close to the president, he is giving his fellow Texan a serious look this time. Gramm is now an investment banker.

Snow at the Treasury has been a hard worker who loyally presses the Bush program. However, there are complaints inside and outside the administration that the ex-railroad executive is not equipped for many Treasury duties, especially international monetary affairs. Gramm is a Ph.D. in economics and a former professor.

Contrary to Capitol Hill rumors, House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner did not reject President Bush's plea to yield on the 9/11 intelligence reform bill. Instead, they agreed on a compromise that was rebuffed by senators.

Bush, on his way to Chile, telephoned Sensenbrenner and asked him, because of Senate opposition, to drop the provision forbidding driver's licenses to illegal aliens. Sensenbrenner agreed, in return for the president's approval of other immigration and law

enforcement provisions. However, Sen. Susan Collins, the lead senator on the 9/11 Senate-House conference, refused to go along.

As a result, the conferees accepted a bill similar to the Senate version that is dead on arrival in the House. Speaker Dennis Hastert pulled the bill last weekend after the House Republican Conference expressed opposition. Congress will try again to agree after it returns following Thanksgiving.

To show that President Bush is serious about reducing government spending, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is asking government departments to propose deep cuts.

Each agency is supposed to prepare a budget 5 percent lower than last year's request for all non-Defense and non-Homeland Security spending. They also are preparing an extreme ("nuclear") option proposing 10 percent reductions.

A footnote: As expected, President Bush has retained Joshua Bolten as OMB director. That is another disappointment for outgoing conservative Rep. Patrick Toomey, who lost his campaign to oust Sen. Arlen Specter in the Pennsylvania primary after Bush supported Specter. Toomey, a strong fiscal conservative, wanted the OMB post.

Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, who will become Democratic leader in the next Congress, won a battle of wills in the lame-duck session by getting his science adviser, Gregory Jaczko, a seat on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) without being confirmed by the Senate.

Jaczko, a 34-year-old physicist, like Reid opposes the Yucca

Mountain nuclear waste repository in Nevada. With Jaczko opposed by the nuclear industry and nearly all Republican senators, Reid in retaliation held up dozens of President Bush's nominations in the lame-duck session.

Reid released his hold after the White House agreed to put Jaczko on the NRC with a recess nomination made when Congress is not in session. That will not please Sen. James Inhofe, chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, who refused to give Jaczko a hearing. According to administration sources, Yucca Mountain will not be taken up during the first of Jaczko's two years on the NRC.

Sen. Lincoln Chafee, who declared he was not voting for George W. Bush's re-election and considered leaving the Republican Party, may face trouble in Rhode Island's 2006 GOP primary.

Chafee's conduct upset Rhode Island Republicans, who may support Cranston Mayor Stephen Laffey in a possible Senate bid. Laffey, who describes himself as a populist and is more conservative than Chafee, won re-election by a landslide in heavily Democratic Cranston after cleaning up its finances.

Independent voters, comprising about half of Rhode Island's electorate, can vote in the Republican primary to save Chafee. But many will be attracted to a multi-candidate Democratic contest to oppose conservative Republican Gov. Donald Carcieri.

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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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, may we take Your advice to our hearts.

Amen

Death toll

sugarcane

SANTA CRUZ, Costa Rica — More than 200 rabbits were killed by flames. Eleven adults died, being treated.

Workers on Monday night cleared debris from the practice.

Adults aged from 5 to 10 years fled with spread, said spokesman.

Firefighters fused the vi-ping off the toward the escape the sugar corn children until they l

The 40-acre Choluteca Cruz, 100 Honduran

On Tuesday people gathered and friends plants bes men in cov into the gr

Ukraine p

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KIEV, Ukraine — Parliament approval of Yanukovich as internat-ered in the spiral peaceful re

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By DAVID I

AP Television

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What he anymore, game wi came to episode Tuesday, play his fa

"I miss Jennings Associate n't really was going part. I th part would

He seem that when estate age beat him, audible audience.

As some has prepa returns, tripped Jeopardy Most of tl seasonal employee months a Zerg h reply: "Block?" guessed I





**Death toll from Honduran sugarcane fire rises to 15**

SANTA CRUZ, Honduras (AP) — More than a dozen people hunting rabbits being smoked out of a Honduran sugarcane field were engulfed by the fast-moving flames. Eleven children and four adults died, and an 18-year-old was being treated for burns.

Workers deliberately set the fire Monday night to clear the sugarcane fields of animals and other debris before harvest, a common practice.

Adults and children ranging in age from 5 to 17 were in a nearby field waiting to catch rabbits as they fled when the blaze suddenly spread, said Security Ministry spokesman Leonel Saucedo.

Firefighters said the fire confused the victims, who began stripping off their clothes and running toward the blaze in an effort to escape the heat. Employees of the sugar company were not aware the children and adults were nearby until they heard their screams.

The 40-acre field belonged to the Choluteca sugar company in Santa Cruz, 100 miles south of the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa.

On Tuesday evening, about 150 people gathered to bury nine of the children. Weeping family members and friends laid flowers and potted plants beside the coffins before men in cowboy hats lowered them into the ground.

**Ukraine parliament brings down government**

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's parliament brought down the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on Wednesday, approving a no-confidence motion as international mediators gathered in the capital to try to bring the spiraling political crisis to a peaceful resolution.

The dramatic vote came only days after the Election Commission certified Yanukovich as winner of Ukraine's disputed presidential run-off, though opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko has said the vote was fraudulent, an allegation backed by Western governments and tens of thousands of opposition supporters.

Outgoing President Leonid Kuchma must now appoint a caretaker government, if he is to follow constitutional procedure. Kuchma,

minutes before the vote, announced he supported holding an entirely new presidential election, not just a revote of the disputed second round.

Ukraine had a first round of voting in which no candidate received more than half the votes, setting up a runoff between Yanukovich and Yushchenko. The Nov. 21 vote provoked a national standoff when the opposition cited voter fraud, a charge backed by many international monitors. Yushchenko supporters called for a revote.

**U.N. election chief: Iraq's January vote on track**

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Preparations for the Jan. 30 national election are on track despite continuing violence and calls for delaying or boycotting the vote, the U.N. election chief in Iraq says.

"I won't say I am happy, but I am satisfied with the process," Carlos Valenzuela told The Associated Press in an interview. "People tend to have these very unrealistic expectations about elections. ... They are not a panacea, but they seem to me at least at this moment the one way to go that would help the transitional process" in Iraq.

Valenzuela heads a team of 20 U.N. staff in Iraq and 15 more in neighboring Jordan who are giving technical assistance to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, which was set up earlier this year with the help of the United Nations.

The Jan. 30 vote is for a 275-member assembly that will appoint a government and draft a permanent constitution. If adopted in a referendum next year, the constitution would form the legal basis for another general election to be held by Dec. 15.

Leading Sunni Arab clerics have called for a boycott of the vote to protest both the recent U.S. military offensive against the Sunni insurgent stronghold of Fallujah and the continued presence of American forces in Iraq.

Last week, more than a dozen political groups, including major Sunni and Kurdish parties, called for a delay in the vote to try to widen participation. Shiite parties, which are expected to win the election, insisted the vote be held as scheduled. The Shiites' influential clergy threw its weight behind

those parties.

**Peterson watches as former mother-in-law screams at him**

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — Scott Peterson simply watched as his former mother-in-law rose out of the witness chair and screamed at him for killing his pregnant wife, Laci.

Sharon Rocha, wearing a gold heart-shaped pendant with a picture of her daughter in it, took the stand Tuesday in the penalty phase of Peterson's murder trial. She wrapped up the state's case the same day it began, giving the most emotional testimony of four family members called to the stand. Laci's older brother, younger sister and stepfather also spoke.

"She wanted to be a mother. That was taken away from her," Rocha said to Peterson, who was convicted Nov. 12 for the 2002 murders of his wife and the 8-month-old fetus she was carrying.

Rocha went on, her voice crackling.

"Divorce was always an option — not murder," Rocha said in a voice so loud that some jurors jumped.

At one point, Peterson dabbed his eyes with a tissue. Jurors will recommend whether the 32-year-old former fertilizer salesman should be executed or get life in prison without the possibility of parole for the 2002 murders.

The defense was expected to begin presenting its case Wednesday. Witnesses testifying on Peterson's behalf can speak about anything that might show him in a favorable light as his attorneys try to convince jurors his life is worth sparing.

**Death toll rises to 166 in coal mine explosion**

BEIJING (AP) — The death toll in a massive coal mine explosion in central China rose to 166 on Wednesday, government radio reported, making it the deadliest accident in the country's disaster-plagued mining industry in years.

The report on the Web site of China National Radio came after officials said rescue efforts were blocked by fires and toxic fumes in the Chenjiashan coal mine, which was hit by an explosion on Sunday. "All 166 miners in the mine are dead," the report said.

**Bush thanks Canadians for helping stranded Americans on Sept. 11**

OTTAWA (AP) — When the United States closed its airspace after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, more than 200 airliners were diverted to airports across Canada, where stranded travelers were welcomed into homes.



President Bush was traveling Wednesday to Nova Scotia to give the Canadians a belated "thank you" for helping Americans in their hour of need — a gesture aimed at warming frosty ties between the neighboring nations.

"Immediately, Canadians opened their homes and their hearts," Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin said in toasting Bush at a dinner in Ottawa Tuesday night. "Three days later, on September the 14th, 100,000 Canadians spontaneously gathered on Parliament Hill in what was and is the largest vigil ever seen in our capital."

Both Martin and Bush are seeking to rebuild U.S.-Canada relations, which cooled under Martin's predecessor, Jean Chretien. The dialogue became especially strained when Chretien

decided against sending troops to Iraq — a decision supported by more than 80 percent of Canadians. Thousands of Canadians protested Bush's visit.

"We don't always agree, and we won't always agree," Martin said, acknowledging Bush's unpopularity in Canada. "But there is a spirit of renewal in the relationship between our two countries."

After his daylong official visit to Ottawa on Tuesday, Bush was using Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Canadian equivalent of Ellis Island, as a backdrop Wednesday to talk about U.S.-Canadian relations, border security, efforts to spread democracy and the battle against terrorism.

"On September 11th, it was a Canadian general, holding the chair at NORAD, who gave the order to initiate our defenses," Bush said Tuesday evening about the North American Aerospace Defense Command.

"In an era of new threats, American and Canadian law enforcement and intelligence agencies are working more closely than ever before, and our peoples are more secure because of it."

**'Jeopardy!' whiz finally meets his match**

By DAVID BAUDER  
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK — Following his remarkable run as the "Jeopardy!" whiz, Ken Jennings is famous enough to be trailed by a fan in the subway, is penning a book and, of course, has \$2,520,700 in winnings to decide how to spend.

What he doesn't have anymore, after his 74-game winning streak came to an end in an episode televised Tuesday, is a chance to play his favorite game.

"I miss it quite a bit," Jennings told The Associated Press. "It didn't really hit me that that was going to be the hard part. I thought the hard part would be the loss."

He seemed so invincible that when California real estate agent Nancy Zerg beat him, there was an audible gasp from the audience.

As someone who always has prepared his own tax returns, Jennings was tripped up in Final Jeopardy by this answer: Most of this firm's 70,000 seasonal white-collar employees work only four months a year.

Zerg had the correct reply: "What is H&R Block?" But Jennings guessed Federal Express,

and he was a "Jeopardy!" loser for the first time.

The final score was Zerg \$14,001 to Jennings' \$8,799.

Even before that, she had needed an unusual display of Jennings fallibility to stay in the game. He twice answered wrong on Daily Double questions, which cost him nearly \$10,000.

Maybe that's why he paused, ever so slightly, when asked in the AP interview Tuesday whether he had lost or been beaten. He then graciously gave Zerg credit.

"It was a big relief to me that I lost to someone who played a better game than me," said Jennings, a

computer software engineer from Salt Lake City. "There were no recriminations or remorse."

Zerg, a former actress who lives in Ventura, Calif., told the AP that she psyched herself up before the game by repeating to herself: "Someone's got to beat him sometime, it might as well be me."

Hanging out backstage with fellow contestants, she saw some Jennings opponents had essentially lost before the game. She heard one person say that it looked like he was playing for second, and another just wishing not to be humiliated.

"I heard another one say, 'It's no great sin to

lose to Ken Jennings,' and they went in and lost to Ken Jennings," she said. "I thought, 'That's no way to play the game.'"

The loss is actually a distant memory and not really a secret: The show was taped in early September and news leaked right away.

Video clips of his loss appeared Monday on the Internet.

Some stats: Jennings' average daily haul was \$34,063.51. He toyed with the previous daily record of \$52,000 — tying it four times — before shattering it with a \$75,000 win in Game 38. He gave more than 2,700 correct responses.

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## Library News

The Genealogy Society of Big Spring will meet in the library at 7 p.m. Thursday.

After a short business meeting, Anita Kimbrough will speak about the Old Record Shop. A local establishment, it has achieved quite a lot of notoriety far beyond the bounds of Big Spring and Howard County.



HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

New books that have recently come in are in the large print format. All books mentioned today are in that format. Large print books benefit both the visually impaired, but also the reluctant reader.

Studies have shown large print books enable students to have more confidence in their reading, improve their letter and word recognition skills and improve comprehension.

New titles that have arrived include a two-volume set of James Clavell's "Gai-Jin" - this is the third volume in the Shogun quartet, continuing the story of Malcolm Struan and Lord Yoshhi. I have not read this particular series, but understand that it is very interesting.

It is not uncommon for someone to come to my office and find me in tears. Some of the books that come in are just simply so heart stopping that I cannot help myself.

Janice Holt Giles is a writer from Kentucky. She died in 1979, and the most recent book received is a collection of her shinningly-best writings.

Filled with fiction, non-fiction, autobiography and fictionalized autobiography, it is a treasure. The variety of characters and locales of Kentucky and Oklahoma tell of the humor, the tragedy and the lives of those who lived there.

Do check out "Wellspring" (LP F GIL J) by Janice Holt Giles. Another neat book is "A Can of Peas" (LP F DEP T) by Traci Depree.

It is about a grandson who comes back to the farm when his grandfather died to take on the task of farming corn and the tremendous task of being a dairyman in Minnesota.

Simon Bret writes the Mrs. Pargeter series and we have received "Mrs. Pargeter's Point of Honor" (LP M BRE S); also in is Dana Stabenow's "A Fatal Thaw" (LP M STAB D).

Katherine Hall Page writes a cute, lighthearted mystery series with minister's wife Faith Fairchild. Three of that series are in - "The Body in the Vestibule" (LP M PAG K); "The Body in the Lighthouse" (LP M PAG K) and "The Body in the Bonfire" (LP M PAG K).

These are very easy reads. A couple of quilt books have been donated; "365 Fun-to-Stitch Quilt Blocks" (746.460 STA J) compiled by Jeanne Stauffer; and Sandra L. Hatch and "Noodle Soup" (746.460 CAF D) by Debbie Caffrey.

In Debbie's book, all of the quilts are made from two-inch wide strips. It is amazing what can be made with just a little bit of fabric.

A third book on quilting that was also donated is "The Big Book of Quilting" (746.46 MAI S) published by the Main Street Book Company. It is chock full of ideas, techniques and different quilting styles for both the beginner and the experience quilter.

These books can be found in the regular, non-fiction shelves. Calling all science teachers! We have just purchased a binder from Facts on File that has 60 science experiments. They are from the fields of biology, chemistry, earth science, physics, environmental science and astronomy.

They do not require a lot of preparation and are easy to set up for both teachers and students. The title is "Science Experiments on File, Vol. 1" (REF 507.8 FAC D). This is a reference book and cannot be checked out. However, a parent can come in and look at the book with their child to choose a project. All projects can be reproduced for non-profit, educational or private use. When I taught, students in grades four to the nine were required to participate in science fairs and I found this binder to be invaluable.

The Howard County Library is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. The internet/video room closes one-half hour before the library and is closed Saturdays from noon until 1 p.m. The library is located at 500 S. Main St.; the phone number is 264-2260; the Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us; the online catalog should be working; the e-mail address is howardcountylibrary@hotmail.com.

Hollis McCright is the Howard County librarian.



Herald photo/Marsha Sturdivant

Big Spring Area Community Foundation vice president Tommy Churchwell and secretary Drew Mouton presented Pat Simmons a grant check for \$500 for the Festival of Lights organization. Foundation grant committee member Jane Jones and foundation board member Joe Conciene attended the presentation in Comanche Trail Park. This is the first of three grants the foundation will award this December, funded through the efforts of the two-year-old organization dedicated to providing grants funded through contributions of community members.

## Holiday Calendar

This holiday season, the Big Spring community has a variety of activities from which to choose to create annual family traditions.

### Thursday

- "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.

### Friday

- Asleep at the Wheel with Jody Nix and the West Texas Cowboys at the Stampede. Doors open at 8 p.m. music begins at 9 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person.
- "Oliver" at 7:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

### Saturday

- Canterbury Christmas Bazaar 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Winter's Blessings Christmas and Hannukkah exhibit from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Heritage Museum.
- Christmas Parade watch on the patio.

- Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade 5:30 p.m.
- Hangar 25 Air Museum, 1911 Apron Dr., After the Parade reception. Hot cocoa and cookies served.
- Living Christmas Tree at the First United Methodist Church, 8 p.m.
- "Oliver" at 7:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

### Sunday

- Gale's Sweet Shoppe Gingerbread Houses at Dora Roberts Community Center, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$15 for all the decorating material and the house. Call 263-2253 for a ticket.
- Living Christmas Tree at the First United Methodist Church, 8 p.m.
- "Oliver" at 2:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.



COURTESY PHOTO/KRT

A painting of the Red Room of the White House by Cindi Holt is featured on the 2004 White House Christmas card.

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## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



### Holiday cake ideas

Looking for a great dessert recipe for the holidays? We've got five delicious traditional cake ideas with a twist. Have fun and enjoy! Plus, a technology gift guide and fresh apple bread.



Help Make a Child's Christmas Merrier...  
Donate a new toy to the annual  
**Salvation Army Toy Drive**

Just bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Big Spring Herald office at 710 Scurry before 5 p.m., Thur., Dec. 16

Toys will be give to the Salvation Army for distribution before Christmas

Sponsored by the Salvation Army, the Big Spring Herald and KBYG

**BIG SPRING HERALD**  
710 Scurry, Big Spring  
432-263-7331

## IN B...

### Basketball n...

The Crossri is looking fo ball official 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...

The YM announced t basketball re for the upco son will through Frid.

The orga meeting for a would like 1 group coord still sched Tuesday and Everyone int coaching mu one of these 1 uted meeting

The teams formed Satu well.

The games uted to begin Jan. 8.

For more tion, call the 267-8234.

### B.S. football set for Dec.

The Big Sp ball banquet set for Mor 13, at 6:30 p Big Spring J Cafetorium.

The meal \$10. For mor tion, call th Training Cer 3662.

### Sign ups no Coahoma 'c

The sign-u Coahoma Dribblers League will today Thursday Coahoma Ju Gym. Today will take p 5:30 p.m. t while the c begin at 6 p. at 8 p.m.

The league and girls gra grade thro grade. The c \$25.

### Class 3A ri in huge pla

Snyder Sweetwater off at 7:30 p at Big Memorial s the Region II Quarterfi Class 3A pla

The two te the same d have ahead year as t defeated s home 35-25.

The game to bring at fans. Pre-s are \$5, but can purch for \$7 at However, pi ets can on chased in Sweetwater

### ON TI

Sports Broad  
Event, Time...  
Sports vs. 7:00 p  
Event, Time...  
Sports vs. 5:30 p  
Event, Time...  
Sports @ 7:00 p



### IN BRIEF

#### Basketball referees needed for season

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

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

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

#### YMCA extends youth 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, Jan. 8.

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 Big Spring Junior High Cafeteria.

The meal will cost \$10. For more information, call the Athletic Training Center at 264-3662.

#### Sign ups now set for Coahoma 'dribblers'

The sign-ups for the Coahoma Little Dribblers Basketball League will take place today through Thursday at the Coahoma Junior High Gym. Today's 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 grades fourth-grade through sixth-grade. The cost is only \$25.

#### Class 3A rivals meet in huge playoff game

Snyder and Sweetwater will face off at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Big Spring's Memorial Stadium in the Region I, Division II Quarterfinals of the Class 3A playoffs.

The two teams are in the same district and have already met this year as Sweetwater defeated Snyder at home 35-25.

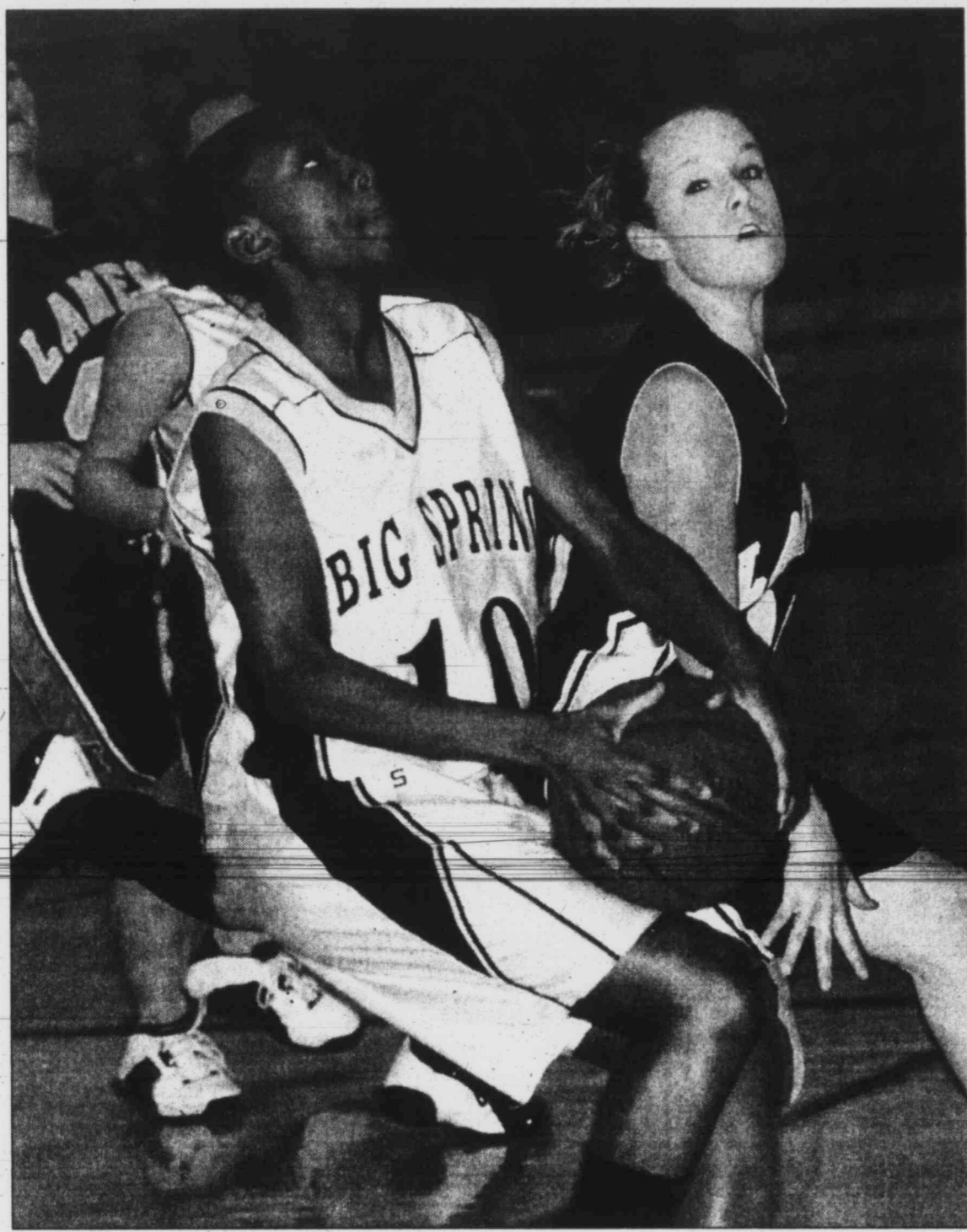
The game is expected to bring at least 7,000 fans. Pre-sale tickets are \$5, but spectators can purchase tickets for \$7 at the gate. However, pre-sale tickets can only be purchased in Snyder or Sweetwater.

### ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event	Time	Station
Soyuz vs. 76ers	7:00 p.m.	1490
Soyuz vs. Pistons	5:30 p.m.	1490
Soyuz vs. Bulls	7:00 p.m.	1490

## Lady Steers weather early storm, beat Lamesa



Big Spring junior Carmen Lewis attacks the basket on a fastbreak despite being heavily guarded by a defender from Lamesa Tuesday during the Lady Steers' 56-47 win over the Lady Tors at the Big Spring Junior High.

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

BIG SPRING — The Lady Steers fought back after an early shooting barrage by Lamesa and recorded their second straight victory Tuesday at the Big Spring junior high.

They won the game 56-47 and outscored the Lady Tors by eight in the final quarter.

"I was really impressed with our play," said Big Spring head coach Tim VanHecke. "It was a total team effort."

Lamesa took the lead early in the first quarter after five consecutive 3-pointers. Bailee Harris hit five 3-pointers in the game and finished with a game-high 17 points.

"We found the girl that was hot for them early," said VanHecke. "We became very unselfish in the second quarter. We ran our offense and got the ball to the girl that was open."

Lamesa led 23-12 after the first quarter, but cooled off in the second, which allowed Big Spring to get back into the game.

Four consecutive baskets inside cut into the Lamesa lead and only missed free throws kept the Lady Steers from closing even more.

Raegan Ritchey's basket off a fastbreak pass from Alex Watkins and Watkins' fastbreak layup

cut the lead to one. Lamesa's first basket in the second quarter did not come until there was less than two minutes left on the clock.

Lamesa came back strong and a buzzer-beater pushed its lead to 28-23 at the break.

The game went back-and-forth early in the third quarter before



RITCHY

Codye Burt's basket with 2:40 left tied the game at 34-34. The Lady Steers grabbed their first lead since early in the game with seconds to go in the third.

Big Spring then never trailed again as they continued to up the lead as the fourth quarter rolled on. A pair of free throws by Cyceelye Tuitt put the Lady Steers up 46-41.

Sophomore Mallory Dunn's free throw with less than 10 seconds to play iced the cake for the Lady Steers as they recorded the nine-point win.

"Our defense was wonderful in the second half," said VanHecke.

Ritchey led Big Spring with 14 points and five rebounds and Carmen Lewis pitched in with 12 points, seven rebounds.

See LADY STEERS, Page 2B

## Physical battle leads to loss for Big Spring

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

BIG SPRING — The second meeting with Lamesa turned out much like the first one did for the Big Spring boys basketball team as the Steers ended up on the short end Tuesday night at the Steer gym, losing 76-54.

The Steers played close through two quarters as they led by one point after the first quarter and trailed by four at halftime. However, the Tors outscored Big Spring 20-9 in the third quarter and 21-14 in the fourth frame to claim the victory.

"They came out on fire in the third quarter," said Big Spring head coach Jim Kinnear. "They are a streaky team and when they shoot the ball like they did they become hard to defend."

"We dug ourselves a hole and it was hard to overcome, but we didn't quit. The kids deserve credit for that."

Lamesa took a 7-2 lead to start the game, but Big Spring answered back with back-to-back baskets by junior Kyle Piercefield. A few minutes later senior Nathan Teeters connected on his third and fourth field goals to put the Steers up 12-7.

The Tors took the lead back with just over one minute to play, but a steal and an easy layup by sophomore Ryan Tannehill off a Lamesa turnover gave Big Spring a 20-19 lead after one period.

The second quarter was a back-and-forth battle as each team answered the other on several different occasions. Tannehill put Big Spring on top on two different occasions, the second coming on an inside basket with 5:05 left until halftime.

The game continued to

be tight as junior Kalin Whitehead made one out of two free throws to cut Lamesa's lead to two points with 1:15 to go in the quarter.

"Lamesa was expecting us to play man on defense, but we changed things up a bit and gave them a few zone presses and some matchup zones and they took awhile to adjust," said Kinnear.

The third quarter proved to be a turning point for both teams as Lamesa surged forward with hot shooting and never looked back. They scored the first seven points of the quarter and pushed the lead to 12 with 3:30 on the clock before eventually pulling ahead by 16 a few minutes later after Austin Hunter sank a free throw.

"I think we still had them on their heels in the third quarter, but they just made the shots when they had open looks," said Kinnear. "I think they probably missed four shots in the quarter."

The Tors pulled away for good in what proved to be a crazy fourth quarter. The game got out of hand a bit with fouls. Big Spring (1-4) was called for two technicals and one intentional foul in the quarter. The first technical was called on freshman Jordan Kinnear for apparently making contact with an elbow and the second was whistled on Coach Kinnear for slamming the ball down on the floor after the referee made a no-call on a play that saw a Big Spring player get knocked into his own bench. The intentional foul was called against Brandon Boling.

After all the madness, the Tors pushed the lead



Big Spring sophomore Ryan Tannehill puts up a shot during the Steers' loss against Lamesa Tuesday at the Steer Gym. Tannehill led Big Spring with 11 points. Big Spring trailed by five points at halftime before being outscored 41-23 in the second half. Austin Hunter and Jordan Chapman led Lamesa with 18 and 17 points, respectively.

## Big Spring freshmen roll to win over Tors

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

BIG SPRING — The Big Spring freshman basketball team recorded its third victory of the year Tuesday after cruising to a 50-13 win over Lamesa at the Steer Gym.

"They are improving each week," said freshman coach Nick Roberson. "They play hard and get after it."

The Steers led 20-7 at halftime as they held their opponents to less than six points per quarter. Lamesa only scored one point in the final quarter, as well.

The win was the second victory recorded against Lamesa this season for the freshman. They are 3-1 so far this year and got its other win against Merkel. Big Spring's only loss came at the hands of Seminole.

Terrance Clemons led the Steers Tuesday with 13 points, while Jason Walker added 10 points, including two 3-pointers. Zach Dawson scored six points. Justin Wilson led the defense with six blocks and Kyle McDaniel also played well defensively, said Roberson.

The freshman team's next game will be played next Tuesday at Midland Greenwood beginning at 4:30 p.m.

### Corrections

The photo of Justin Green in Monday's issue of the Herald was improperly identified as Matt Hilarlo.

Also, the Big Spring boys basketball team defeated Snyder Tuesday, Nov. 30. An earlier issue improperly stated that the team had lost.

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See STEERS, Page 2B



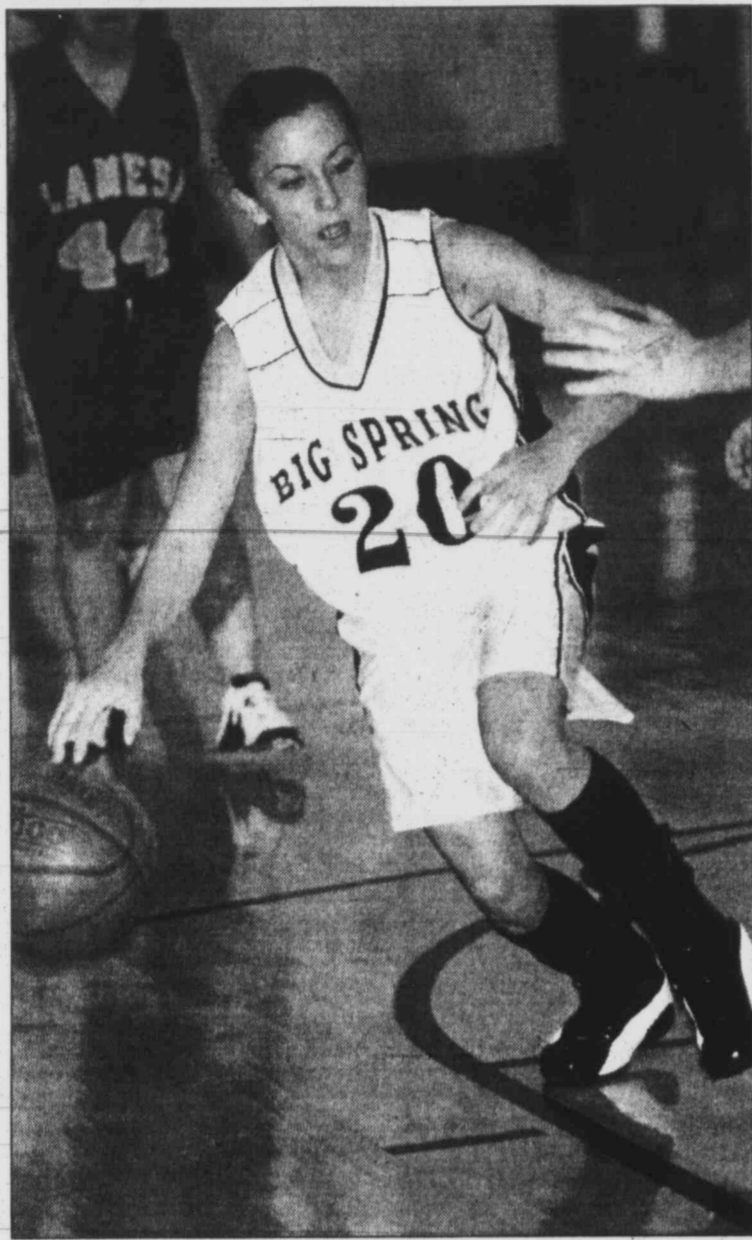
LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

four assists and two steals. Watkins scored 10 points, grabbed three rebounds and delivered four assists, while Tuitt accounted for eight points, five rebounds and four assists, as well.

Eight of the nine members of the Big Spring team scored points and the team improved from the four line, making 15 out of 28.

The Lady Steers will take part in the Concho River Classic in San Angelo Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Big Spring begins the tournament against Sante Fe at the Central gym at 4:30 p.m. Thursday. They will play at 10 a.m. Friday with a win, but a loss would result in an 11:30 a.m. Friday start time. The other teams in the Big Spring bracket include Hereford, San Antonio Marshall, San Angelo Central and El Paso Austin.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde  
Big Spring's Codye Burt tries to find a hole in Lamesa's press Tuesday during the Lady Steers' victory at the Big Spring Junior High.

Lady 'Kats roll past Eagles

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor  
STERLING CITY — Megan Niehues and Lauren Plagens scored 18 points apiece Tuesday night and helped the Garden City girls basketball team improve to 7-0 on the season as they knocked off Sterling City on the road, 54-39.

Garden City used a 13-4 first quarter start to roll to the win. They also finished strong with a 22-13 advantage in the final frame.

K'Lann Niehues added 13 points, while Erin Hirt pitched in with 11 points.

Garden City will challenge Christoval at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Bearkat Booster Club Tournament in Garden City. The tournament runs through Saturday.

Grady dominates Spade as Tubb scores 20 points

SPADE — Two big quarters was all the defending small school champions needed Tuesday as the Grady boys basketball team picked up a road win against Spade.

The Wildcats — who won the game 74-41 — outscored Spade 41-13 in the second and third

quarters en route to the win.

Freshman Justin Tubb led Grady with 20 points, while senior Andrew Villa added 13 points and Doug Rutledge scored 10.

Grady's next game will take place at 4:30 p.m. Thursday at the FM211 Tournament in Wilson. The Wildcats will take on the winner of the Ropes/Dawson matchup.

Strong first half sends Stanton past Pecos

STANTON — A fast start Tuesday propelled the Stanton boys basketball team to a 61-45 home victory against Pecos. The Buffaloes outscored Pecos 31-14 in the first half and won in convincing fashion.

Stanton had three players in double figures as sophomore Michael Washington had 16 points, including two 3-pointers. Junior Matthew Ruiz added 11 points (three 3-pointers), while Jeremy Esparza added 10.

The Buffaloes hit seven 3-pointers in the game. Pecos outscored Stanton by six in the final quarter.

Stanton will take on the Seminole junior varsity

team at the Coahoma Tournament Thursday beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Buffaloes will play at 4:30 p.m. Friday regardless of a win or loss. If they win, they meet the winner between Greenwood and the San Angelo Central sophomores and if they lose, they would meet the loser of the above contest. The tournament runs through Saturday.

Bailey's season-high leads Buffs to big victory

MIDLAND — Adam Bailey scored a season-high 34 points to lead Forsan to a convincing 42-point victory against Midland Trinity Tuesday.

The Buffaloes scored 20 or more points in each of the final three quarters and held Trinity to 12 points or less in all four quarters.

The game was tight after one period as the Buffaloes led by four. However, they opened the game up in the second quarter after outscoring Trinity 21-9 in the second.

Junior Tye Baker hit three 3-pointers and finished with 15 points, while senior Trey Paredez scored 10.

Piercefield leads Big Spring past Snyder

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor  
BIG SPRING — The Steers boys basketball team recorded its first win of the season Tuesday, Nov. 23, at home

against the Snyder Tigers despite trailing 13-8 after the first quarter.

The Steers outscored the Tigers 16-13 in the second quarter 33-21 in the second half in the win.

Junior Kyle Piercefield scored 22 points and pulled down a team-high seven rebounds to lead the Steers, while sophomore Ryan Tannehill added 15 points.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

to 27 points and recorded the 22-point win when it was all said and done.

Tannehill led the Steers with 11 points, while Piercefield and Teeters put in eight apiece. Teeters and Piercefield scored all but two of their points in the first half. The Steers

shot 18-for-26 from the charity stripe, while Lamesa connected on 12 out of 21.

Hunter led Lamesa with 18 points — 11 of which came in the first half. Jordan Chapman pitched in with 17 points, while Slade Seal added 10.

The Steers travel to Andrews this weekend for a tournament which takes place Thursday,

Friday and Saturday. Their first game will be played at 2:30 p.m. Thursday against Fort Hancock and a win would set up another game at 8:30 p.m. that night against Fabens, which received first-round bye. If Big Spring loses, they will play Friday at 1 p.m. against the Snyder/Americas matchup.

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Immediate need for:  
**PUMPER/LEASE OPERATOR AND BACKHOE OPERATOR** (must have current class A CDL).  
Vacations  
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Work is in the Big Spring Area. **Blakely Construction** (432)381-3540.

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Must be 18  
Monday-Saturday  
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**ALL BILLS PAID**  
Renovated 1 bedrooms  
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**1311 TUCSON.** Newly remodeled. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, one car garage, CH/A, washer/dryer hookup. Fenced yard. \$410. month, \$295. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

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

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**\$1,000 TOTAL** M On 1306 Marjio. room, 2 bath, home. Reasonab required, lowerc to Qualified Bu (432)520-9848 C ments Inc.

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**NICE LARGE 3 bedroom,** 2 bath brick home on one acre. Just outside city limits. North Birdwell. \$600 month. References required. Call (432)263-4597 leave message.

**OFFICE SPACE** for rent. Approximately 700 sq. ft. 400 E. FM 700. Water and electricity paid. \$500.00 a month. Call (432)267-9455.

**SPACIOUS, FURNISHED** one bedroom apartment. CH/A, washer/dryer connections, carport, huge walk-in closet. No Pets. Lease. \$225. McDonald Realty. (432)263-7615, (432)263-4835.

**SUNSET RIDGE APTS.**

2911 W. Hwy 80  
Big Spring  
New Management  
Family Friendly  
Central A/C  
Cable TV  
Large Rooms  
Move In Special  
(432)263-2292

**Real Estate for Sale**

**NO DOWN Payment** on 2-3-4-5 & 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. 2 Bedroom homes that need work starting at \$9,000.00 to \$10,000.00 and \$25,000.00 to \$27,500.00 that need no work. We can adjust your monthly payments to fit your Budget. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

**OWNER WILL FINANCE!** 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Just remodeled! Great condition! 1209 Sycamore and 1214 Ridgeroad. LOW DOWN, LOW MONTHLY! Tadlock Realtors (432)580-4883.

**PERFECT** for Single or couple- 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, Central H/A, single garage, large backyard with deck, new carpet. Possible Owner Finance. Call (432)263-6887, 270-1743.



**SPACIOUS TWO-STORY** home. 2150 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, office, 2 living areas, ash cabinets, fireplace. Gazebo, 2 storage bldgs., 3/4 acre, secluded. Lovely yard. \$110,000. Call (432)263-4080.

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

**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS**

There are no exact aspects to speak of in the heavens today, and that is, in and of itself, remarkable. It's an opportunity for viewing a million shades of gray in the spectrum between black and white. Since we can never really know what it's like to experience life as someone else, extending the benefit of the doubt is the natural thing to do.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You and a colleague have substantial differences, but you cannot deny your admiration. Be sure to acknowledge others for their contributions, and your way is made easier. Tonight, challenge someone to take action.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). The world is not black and white. But you do need to make choices in life, and sometimes, the choices have obvious consequences. Desensitizing yourself to the minutiae will make doing what you have to do easier.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll be in a position to say something meaningful. Choosing the exact right words will be key. Otherwise, your subjects miss the point. At work, do your research, and make sure you're not raising a moot point.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). What you've got is terrific. Admire it! Praise

it! Cherish it! Avoid thinking about the great job/date/apartment you didn't get. There will always be another better job/date/apartment that you don't have.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). A contribution you'd like to make may feel very, very small indeed. You may even be embarrassed and therefore tempted to not even bother to do it. But do it anyway. Small gestures are what make your character so remarkable.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The step you've been thinking of taking can be achieved. Look hard at your beliefs about money. The fastest way to improve your income is to seek work that gives you a greater sense of purpose.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're a fair leader, but your leadership will be challenged nonetheless. You'll be dealing with a strong-willed significant other, stepchild or parent. Gain control of your emotions, and keep your focus on the problem at hand.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Other people's dreams seem outrageous, but don't laugh and if anyone else laughs, spring to the dreamer's defense. People who don't have dreams don't have much. By the end of the day, you'll believe in love at first sight.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know those questions you've been asking other people? Well, it's time to pose the same questions to yourself. You may just be surprised how smart you can be when talking to an intellectual equal!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Keep fun on the to-do list, and don't let it take the bottom slot. In fact, what do you think would happen if you put fun first? You just might wind up enjoying your work so much that you've never been so productive in your life.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What you're aiming for should be obvious to everyone around you and, of course, to yourself. Verbalize your goal. You may have to futz with the wording or the thrust of it for a while until it's perfectly clear to everyone.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your partner's needs and your own could polarize now. Stay calm. The stars nurture your thought processes and help you tap into your unconscious mind for the solutions. Also, a Libra can help you find the compromise.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "If my birthday is May 19, a Taurus on the cusp of Gemini, should I be reading both Taurus and Gemini forecasts?"

Why, yes! I'm glad you asked. Whether you are a Gemini or Taurus depends not only on the date but on the year, place and exact time of your birthday. You see, the sun transits into each sign at a slightly different time every year, and this can vary within a few days. So the dates listed in the column for each sign are based on the average day the sun enters and leaves a sign. Actually, you're probably a Taurus because the sun tends to go into Gemini on the 21st or later, not earlier. But

there is a great likelihood that you have other planets in Gemini, since planets that are close to the sun, like Mercury and Venus, are either the same as or only a couple of signs away from a person's sun sign. So reading both forecasts is one way to get the biggest benefit from your horoscope. Note which forecast seems to speak to you more directly, and you'll probably find that each speaks to different aspects of your life. For instance, if your Venus is in Gemini, the Gemini forecast will probably apply more to your love life. Happy reading!

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Lively Bette Midler is a Sagittarian fireball. From her signature red hair to her sparkly jazz hands, she lives her sign to the fullest. Her Sagittarian enthusiasm for travel translates into having created one of the most complex and successful stage shows in recent touring history — and one of the few musical acts that has actually made a big profit in 2004, a difficult time for musical tours.

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

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**Real Estate for Sale**

**\$1,000 TOTAL Move in Cost.** On 1306 Marijo. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Reasonably good credit required, lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. Call now (432)520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

**FOR SALE** By Owner: Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, will work with income tax refund, low monthly. 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Fenced yard. 1505 South Johnson. Call Kelly (432)425-9994.

**1612 BLUEBIRD.** Owner Financing. Buy for \$277.00 month or Rent \$375.00 month. Call (432)264-9907.

**3309 CORNELL.** Lease to Own. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, garage, CH/A, large fenced backyard. Recently remodeled inside. \$525.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)268-8353 or (325)699-1042.

**4048 VICKY.** Just like New - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, fireplace, in-ground pool. \$80s. Call (432)263-7653.

**BY OWNER.** Highland South. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, corner lot. By appointment only, call 432-264-7053. Home warranty. \$100s.

**FOR SALE** by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, will work with income tax refund, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1216 Ridgeroad. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

**FOR SALE** by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, will work with income tax refund, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1321 Mulberry. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

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

**HOWARD COUNTY**

20 acres West of Big Spring on Hwy 176. 7.4% interest, \$268/Mo., Owner Finance Forest American Group, Buyer's Agent 800-275-7376

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

**Vehicles**

**2003 Dodge Crew Cab Dually SLT - Loaded.** Priced Below Wholesale. \$27,950

**1996 Dodge Ext-Cab SLT - 73,000 Miles.** Local One Owner. \$6,950

**2002 F150 Supercrew XLT - New 18 In. Tires.** Sharp. \$18,950

**2000 Chevrolet Suburban 4.5 4x4 - New Car Trade-In.** \$15,950

**2002 Chevrolet Avalanche Z-66 - Midland New Car Trade-In.** Sharp. \$17,950

**1999 Toyota 4 Runner SR5 4x4 - Priced Well Below Wholesale.** \$12,950

**87 Auto Sales**  
111 Gregg 210 Gregg  
267-8787 263-2382

**'04 Freestar Vans \$6000 Available Rebates**  
**Bob Brock Ford**  
500 W. 4th 267-7424

**2000 HITCHHIKER,** 32 foot, 5th wheel. Excellent condition with 2 slides. Call (432)267-5420 for more information.

**Legals**

**ATTENTION COX COMMUNICATIONS SUBSCRIBERS**

Beginning on January 1, 2005, the following monthly service rate charges will be in effect for Big Spring and Coahoma residential customers: Limited Basic will change from \$17.15 to \$18.30 and Expanded Basic will change from \$24.84 to \$25.35. In addition the price for the Digital Hispanic Tier will increase from \$3.00 to \$6.00. All prices quoted do not include franchise fees and/or sales tax. Inquiries concerning these changes or any other cable-related issue can be made at Cox Communications, 2006 Birdwell Lane or by calling 267-3821. #4389 November 30 & December 1 & 2, 2004

**Notice of Sealed Bid**

The City of Big Spring Airport is now accepting sealed bids for a Conдор II Ultralight Aircraft. To view aircraft and obtain bid packet.

Air Terminal  
3200 Rickabaugh Dr. West  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
(432)264-2362  
#4391 November 29  
December 1 & 3, 2004

**NOBODY ASKS FOR IT**

Help STOP Sexual Assaults  
**Call 263-3312**  
Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

**Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need**

Dear Annie: Do you think ostriches are emotionally healthy? I ask because I want to hide my head in a hole.

I come from a family with five adult children. Dad passed away a few years back, and, as I write this, Mom has been in the hospital for a month. Her hospitalization has caused an awkward reunification of the siblings.

During a lengthy phone call with my younger sister, she revealed that she and my youngest brother were repeatedly sexually abused by my oldest brother. Although I urged her to seek professional help, I am having difficulty digesting this 40-year-old information.

My relationship with my older brother hasn't been good for years. (He was a Vietnam vet, and I was a war protester.) Still, I always respected and looked up to him. Now, I feel the big brother I once loved is a sham.

I live in another state with a wonderful husband and two great children. I want to wash my hands of the lot of my siblings and the dirty family secrets they have kept. My mother, however, wants her family around her. I don't think she is aware of my brother's incestuous behavior, and if she did know, I suspect she put it away somewhere deep in the recesses of her memory.

Should I keep up appearances until my mother passes on (which could be in 10 years or 10 minutes)? This goes against every grain of my being. Should I confront my brother? Can I run away from home? Please help. — Disillusioned Sister

Dear Sister: If you are 100 percent certain that your sister's accusations are true, you should confront your brother. But don't blame your other siblings for what happened. It is unfair to estrange them all because



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

you are angry with one. And it would be self-serving and hurtful to create a family rift while your mother is hospitalized. You sound like an intelligent woman. Surely you can find a way to work through this without burying your head in the sand.

Dear Annie: I would like to comment on your advice to "Freakin' Out in Philly," who resented that her parents left the family business to her brothers. She sounds like a victim of her own making.

If the sisters really want a piece of the business, why don't they act like businesswomen and approach their brothers about investing or becoming partners, instead of harassing their elderly parents about fairness? Parents often base such decisions on who they think would be most likely to carry on the business in the spirit in which it was created. Obviously, the sons are doing a good job if their wives and children are bragging about "living the good life." This woman needs to find a way to respect her parents' decision. — Wife of an Inheritor

Dear Wife: Your perspective has merit, but so does this one:

Dear Annie: When I read "Freakin' Out's" comments, I thought I was reading my life story. We had a large family, and there never was money to help the girls

buy cars, go to college or get started in a business. Curiously enough, there were tens of thousands of dollars for the boys to do those very same things. Several of my brothers became wealthy, living in huge homes with expensive cars, while two of my sisters still live in poverty. None of my brothers' wives likes my parents. I know they will not help care for them when their health begins to fail.

My life experiences have made me a better person. I try to make sure my children understand that I love them as they are. I never will be able to earn my parents' love, and there is some freedom in that. "Freakin' Out's" brothers are still tightly bound by their inherited business. I wish her the best. — Better Off Without the Dough

Dear Annie: My mother, my husband and I are co-raising my younger sister's two wonderful boys. My sister has many issues (drugs being one of them) and only wants to be a mom when it is convenient. My mother wants to be a grandma but will not help discipline the kids. Basically, she wants to be liked.

My husband and I adore the boys, but unfortunately, we are their only disciplinarians, and the boys tend to resent that. Also, we have a child of our own, and he adores his cousins, but we are afraid that he may start to act like them.

I've talked to my Mom about this, and she believes she is doing her part, but in a more relaxed manner. She allows the boys to ransack her home on a daily basis and believes that I'm too stern and impatient.

How do we resolve this without losing the boys to the dark side, and how can we get my mom on the same program? — Arizona Auntie

Dear Annie: My niece recently was married in a civil ceremony. Now she is planning a big wedding for next February. My son will be the best man, and my daughter is the maid of honor. My niece expects them to give a couple's shower as well as arrange the bachelor and bachelorette parties. This seems excessive to me. And isn't it deceptive to invite hundreds of guests to a wedding that already has taken place? — Aunt in San Bernardino, Calif.

Dear Aunt: Many couples who have had civil ceremonies later have religious weddings and/or large receptions. It also is OK to have a couple's shower if there were no other showers. However, it's a bit late for bachelor and bachelorette parties, and we hope your children can talk the bride out of those.

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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DECEMBER 1 2004

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1988 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."  
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



WEDNESDAY

DEC. 1

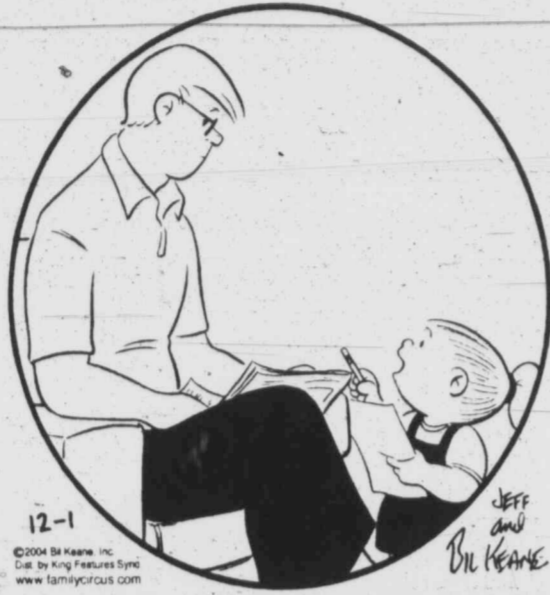
Table with 25 columns representing different TV stations and their programming schedules for Wednesday, Dec 1. Columns include WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, and TMC. Rows show time slots from 6:30 PM to 12:30 AM.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"SORRY, SPORT... I CAN'T ARREST A GIRL JUST FOR TALKING TOO MUCH."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"A, E, I, O and U are vowels and the other letters are continents."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 1, the 336th day of 2004. There are 30 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Dec. 1, 1904, the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis closed after seven months and some 20 million visitors.

On this date:

In 1824, the presidential election was turned over to the U.S. House of Representatives when a deadlock developed between John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, William H. Crawford and Henry Clay. Adams ended up the winner.

In 1913, the first drive-in automobile service station opened, in Pittsburgh.

In 1934, Sergei M. Kirov, a

collaborator of Josef Stalin, was assassinated in Leningrad, resulting in a massive purge.

In 1942, nationwide gasoline rationing went into effect in the United States.

In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin concluded their Tehran conference.

In 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. Mrs. Parks was arrested, sparking a yearlong boycott of the buses by blacks.

In 1958, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Flower Drum Song" opened on Broadway.

In 1965, an airlift of refugees from Cuba to the United States began in which thousands of Cubans were allowed to leave their homeland.

In 1969, the U.S. government held its first draft lottery since World War II.

In 1973, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime

minister, died in Tel Aviv at age 87.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Picerno is 82. Former CIA director Stansfield Turner is 81. Actor Robert Symonds is 78. Singer Billy Paul is 70. Actor-director Woody Allen is 69. Singer Lou Rawls is 69. Golfer Lee Trevino is 65. Singer Dianne Lennon (The Lennon Sisters) is 65. Comedian-actor Richard Pryor is 64. Country musician Casey Van Beck (The Tractors) is 62. Television producer David Salzman is 61. Rock singer-musician Eric Bloom (Blue Oyster Cult) is 60. Actress-singer Bette Midler is 59.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like BATCH, IRAS, WEPT, ARENA, DONT, HERO, LEANS, TUTU, IRAN, EAR, STATIC, CLING, SLUG, CREEKS, RATHER, SLOE, ALOE, ILIE, SNUBS, STILL, NOT, OUT, OF, FIT, HOLLY, TENN, MONA, RABBIT, SLED, IDLE, CHATTER, PEA, NOON, ELIE, NEEDY, GRAD, NONE, EERNIE, SETS, STAR, RANTS.

Newsday Crossword

SNOW JOB by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 For face value, 6 Make a run for it, 11 Comedian's bit, 14 Word ending for the fearful, 15 Hispaniola nation, 16 Plumbing joint, 17 Make a run for it, 19 Unfilled, on a sched., 20 Western toppers, 21 Jingle writers, 23 Vein yield, 24 Ticked off, 26 Take back, 30 Did garden work, 31 Pro-shop set, 32 Safari boss, 33 Stick up, 36 Dust and grime, 37 Konica competitor, 38 Trevi coin, once, 39 Poetic adverb, 40 Suit material, 41 Like some yogurt, 42 Charlatans, 44 Push rudely, 45 Senate spectators, 47 U.S./Canada's Canals, 48 Tickle pink, 49 Flows forth, 54 Lodge member, 55 Go sprawling, 58 Call on, 59 Calculus pioneer, 60 Golf great's nickname, 61 USNA grad, 62 Lease anew, 63 Paired, as oxen, DOWN: 1 Urban dwellings: Abbr., 2 "\_\_\_ does it!", 3 Pig's proverbial place, 4 Help in crime, 5 Thinks logically, 6 Was brilliant, 7 Ravens' calls, 8 Unburden, 9 Wolfed down, 10 The Tempest character, 11 "Understand?", 12 The Zoo Story playwright, 13 Thyroid, e.g., 18 Left, at sea, 22 Buck's mate, 24 Briskly, to the Bard, 25 Granny, 26 Hitcher's hope, 27 Lake near Niagara Falls, 28 Breakfast bowlful, 29 Picnic invader, 30 Big gulps, 32 Currant, for instance, 34 Non-written test, 35 Make less intense, 37 Groucho glance, 38 Alamos, NM, 40 Biting bug, slangily, 41 12:00 p.m., 43 Cockpit fig., 44 Rivers of comedy, 45 Skein fliers, 46 Annie Hall director, 47 Quick-witted, 49 Blunted blade, 50 Spheroid, hairdo, 51 Propane holder, 52 Fashion designer Saab, 53 Downhill racer, 56 Feel sorry about, 57 Out of sorts.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-63 indicating starting positions for words.



# HOWARD COUNTY BUYERS' GUIDE

## FREE

DECEMBER 1, 2004

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #30  
Big Spring, TX 79720

CR-Rt. Sort  
Postal  
Patron

**Announcements**  
MAJOR INVESTOR seeks packages on selling Institutions. Att: Crozier Corporation, P.O. Box 13, Winters, TX 79567.

**Business Opportunity**  
THIS NEWSPAPER is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified ads. Before investing money in a business/employment opportunity with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at 703-276-0100 or visit www.bbb.org

**Cemetery Lots**  
SPACES 3 & 4, Trinity Memorial Park, Garden of Bethany. \$1380 each. Reduce to \$900 each. Call (325)773-3029.

**Help Wanted**  
**ACT NOW!!**  
Work From Home  
Earn \$500-\$1500 PT  
FREE Information  
Call: 1-888-278-2856

**PROPERTY MANAGER.** Base plus bonus. Housing provided. Call (432)816-1783.

**Help Wanted**  
**CLERK III:** State Park, Cust. Svc., sales, accounting, reports, computer apps. 20 hrs/wk., \$8.43/hr. Closes 12-4-04. Apply at TX. Workforce, State of TX application. Call (432)263-8373. EEO.

**COOK, Chinese Food:** Plans menus and cooks Chinese dishes, dinners, desserts, and other foods. 2 yrs. exp. Contact Nancy of Hunan Chinese Restaurant at 1201 Gregg St., Big Spring, TX 79720. (432)267-4500 (T) (432)267-4509 (F).

**DRIVER WANTED:** Bob Tail Transport Driver. Excellent starting pay. All benefits - Medical & Retirement. Must have Class A CDL & good driving record. Call for appointment (432)263-0033.

**HOWARD COLLEGE** is seeking applicants for a full-time coliseum Custodian. High school graduate and 1 year related experience required. Pre-employment physical exam and background check required. Flexible work schedule. Excellent benefits. Please apply at Howard College Human Resources Office.

**Help Wanted**  
**DUNCAN DISPOSAL** - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Please come by the Duncan Disposal office/yard at 1104 N.W. Broadway, Coahoma, Tx - Monday-Thursday 2p-4p and on Fridays 1p-3p to apply in person. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon.-Fri.; with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**SALES ADVISORS**  
PDS, a food demo co. for HEB is now hiring **P/T Sales Advisors**. Ideal candidates will be friendly & enthusiastic with good communication skills. Great pay, flexible work schedule, working in the Big Spring store. 401k available to PT employees. **Positions available immediately.** Weekend Work is required. For more information please call 800-292-9655.

**Help Wanted**  
**EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN**  
Position available in West Texas for an Equipment Tech to assist in the operation, maintenance and repair of all water treatment equipment, medical equipment, and mechanical/electrical systems.

Individual is required to attend all technical training programs mandated by state/federal regulations and FMC policy. Experience a plus, but not required.  
We offer a competitive salary and benefits package, including medical/ dental/ life, 401K, profit sharing, tuition reimbursement, and much more! Interested candidates please contact Lisa Coleman, Clinical Manager at BMA West Texas #1921, 501 E. Birdwell, Suite #10, Big Spring, Texas 79720; Phone: (432)267-2903, Fax: (432)267-1756 or e-mail your resume to Elizabeth.Coleman@fmc.na.com

**EOE**  
**FAR WEST** Children and Family Services is now hiring day and night staff to work with boys ages 5-17. To inquire call (432)353-4464.

Taking applications for Counter Help. Must be very enthusiastic. Duties include filing, computer, phone and etc. Benefits include paid vacation, health insurance & retirement. Apply in person, **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

**LABORERS NEEDED.** Call (432)354-2569 for application.

**Help Wanted**  
Immediate need for: **PUMPER/LEASE OPERATOR AND BACKHOE OPERATOR** (must have current class A CDL).  
Vacations  
Holidays  
Insurance  
401K  
Safety Bonuses  
Work is in the Big Spring Area. **Blakely Construction** (432)381-3540.

**LONG JOHN** Silvers, Day and evening shifts available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls, please.

**LOVE TO SHOP?**  
Mystery Shoppers needed in your local area. PT/FT. Make your own hours. Training provided. Must have internet access. (800)619-0531.

**NOW HIRING** spray applicator driver. Class A-CDL license and farm experience helpful. Excellent benefits. Excellent pay. Apply in person to Helena Chemical Company, 100 S. St. Peter, Stanton, Tx.

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**BIG PAY INCREASES**  
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**ALL NEW SWIFT!**  
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Tuition Reimbursement  
**SWIFT TRANSPORTATION**  
1-866-333-8801 EOE  
www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com

Pollard Chevrolet is seeking an **ACCOUNTING CLERK**. Accounting experience required. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

**WANT** Mechanic at natural gas plant, northeast of Big Spring. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or fax (432)399-4290.

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY**  
person needed to move furniture. Must be motivated. Good driving record required. Must be 21. Paid vacation & holidays. Apply in person, **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls!

**Items for Sale**  
Refrigerator with ice maker, vintage double wall oven, 4 burner electric cooktop, unique wooden entry door, glass storm door, 5hp 2 seat go-cart \$600. Call (432)263-7961, 770-0159.

**Jobs Wanted**  
**NEED HELP** with Christmas Lights/ Decorations??? Call Adam (432)267-6122 for more information.

**Lost and Found**  
**FOUND** Boston Terrier in the vicinity of the Scenic Mountain Hospital. Call (432)466-1845 to identify.

**LOST FEMALE** black Lab with red collar. Approximately 2 years old. Vicinity of Hillcrest Daycare, (432)398-5489.

**Miscellaneous**  
**WEDDING CAKES!!** Silk floral, arches, candelabra. **FREE** Throw Away Bouquet with Cake order. Call The Grishams now for appointment and more INFO (432)267-8191.

**Mobile Homes**  
**1983 SINGLE** Wide. 2 Bedroom, 2 bath. Great Condition \$5,500.00. To be moved. Call (254)442-2300.

**National Ads**  
**\$\$ FREE MONEY \$\$** for 2004! Private-Government Grants for Personal bills, School, Business, etc. Never Repay. Live Operators. \$47 billion dollars unclaimed 2003. 1-800-410-2613 ext. 31

**\*\*FEDERAL POSTAL Jobs\*\***  
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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASSIFIED AD**

Write one word on each line:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Up to 25 words:** Sunday Only \$19.50 One weekday only \$12.25 Two Consecutive Days \$16.50 Three Consecutive days \$20.25 Four Consecutive Days \$23.50 Five Consecutive Days \$25.75 Six Consecutive Days \$27.00 Two weeks \$51.00 Three Weeks \$64.50 Four weeks \$75.00 Garage Sales (3 days) \$16.75  
Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day.

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Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>DEADLINES:</b> 12 noon Fri. for Sunday; 4:15 Fri. for Monday; 12 noon Mon. for Tues; 12 noon Tues. for Wed.; 12 noon Wed. for Thurs.; 12 noon Thurs. for Fri.	<b>CLASSIFICATIONS:</b> Announcements; Business Opportunity; Cemetery Lots; Financial; Garage Sales; Help Wanted; Instruction; Items for Sale; Jobs Wanted; Lost and Found; Miscellaneous.; Mobile Homes; National Ads; On the Farm; Pets; Public Notice; Real Estate for Rent; Real Estate for Sale; Services Offered; Vehicles; Legals
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