



Forsan band headed back to state, Steer band edged out

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

For the fourth time in eight years, the Forsan High School band will be strutting its stuff at the state marching contest.

The Buffalo Band, under the direction of Jim Rhodes, placed second at Saturday's Class 1A Area contest in Plainview to earn a spot in the state competition.

This marks the fourth straight time that Rhodes' charges have qualified for the state contest, which will be held

next week in San Antonio. State competition for Class 1A bands is held every other year.

Competing against 16 other Class 1A bands and cold, blustery weather, the Buffalo band placed first in preliminaries, before finishing second to Sundown in the finals. Sudan High School also qualified for the state contest.

"We're absolutely thrilled," Rhodes said. "It was a really challenging day because of the weather and the number of bands we had to compete against ... It really kept us busy all day."

The Big Spring High School band,

directed by Rocky Harris, was not as fortunate at the Class 4A Area contest in Lubbock Saturday. The Steer Marching Band placed eighth (out of 19 bands) at the competition, leaving it out of the running for a spot at the state contest.

The top four 4A bands at the contest qualified for the Austin meet. They were El Paso Andres, El Paso Del Valle, Frenship and Plainview.

"There were a lot of great, great bands there ... The competition was very, very tough, and the weather was a little unfavorable, but not that bad," Harris said. "They did their best, and that's all you

can really ask from them."

Forsan will compete against 14 other Class 1A bands in San Antonio's Alamodome next Monday. The Buffalo Band will perform in a morning preliminary round and, if they qualify for the finals, again that evening.

Two years ago, competing in Class 2A, Forsan placed fourth, its highest-ever finish at the state contest.

The goal this year, Rhodes said, is to finish at least one spot higher.

"Our goal is to medal," he said. "But

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Bush nominates Alito for court

Second choice sure to be more popular with conservatives

By RON FOURNIER
AP Political Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush, stung by the rejection of his first choice, nominated veteran judge Samuel Alito on Monday in a bid to reshape the Supreme Court and mollify his conservative allies. Ready-to-rumble Democrats warned that Alito may be an extremist who would curb abortion rights.

"Judge Alito has served with distinction on that court for 15 years, and now has more prior judicial experience than any Supreme Court nominee in more than 70 years," Bush said, drawing an unspoken contrast to his first choice, Harriet Miers.

Unlike her nomination, which was derailed Thursday by Bush's conservative allies, Alito faces vocal opposition from Democrats.

"The Senate needs to find out if the man replacing Miers is too radical for the American people," said Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada.

Alito's nomination is



President Bush introduces Judge Samuel Alito, of the Third U.S. Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, as his new nominee for the post as associate justice to the Supreme Court of the U.S. at the White House.

one step in Bush's political recovery plan as he tries to regain his footing after a cascade of troubles rocked his presidency. His approval rating in the polls has tumbled to the lowest point of his presidency and

Americans are unhappy about high energy prices, the costly war in Iraq and economic doubts. Bush also has been hit by a criminal investigation that reached into the office of Vice President Dick

Cheney and led to the indictment of I. Lewis Libby, the vice president's chief of staff, on perjury and other charges in the CIA leak investigation.

On top of it all, Miers' nomination angered

Bush's conservative backers. Most welcomed the Alito pick.

So consistently conservative, Alito has been dubbed "Scalito" or "Scalia-lite" by some

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Stanton youngster dies from his injuries

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

An 11-year-old Stanton boy died late Saturday from injuries sustained in a vehicle-pedestrian accident Friday morning.

Michael Almanza, 11, a student at Stanton Junior High School, died Saturday in a Midland hospital, where he had been transferred following the accident.



According to Department of Public Safety Trooper Jimmy Mathis, the accident occurred while Almanza and another youth were crossing the Interstate 20 north service road near their home to board a school bus.

The driver of an eastbound vehicle, 35-year-old Stanton resident Julie Luna, apparently didn't see the stop lights of the school bus and struck the two boys.

"We're still investigating whether or not the (bus) lights were on," said Mathis. "Some witnesses are telling us the lights were on while other witnesses are telling us they weren't. If the stop lights on the bus weren't lit, it certainly

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CRMWD says water projections, quality good signs

Special to the Herald

For the Colorado River Municipal Water District, two-year water supply projections and water quality are up dramatically compared to last year, giving rise to hope that the trend will continue.

"Oh, what a difference a year can make," General Manager John Grant told the board of directors at their October meeting.

The District has about 250,000 acre feet more than at the same time last year when the District's reservoirs held less than 20 percent of total capacity. Supplies were at about 464,000 or 36.5 percent of capacity when the board met. The inflows were especially welcome at the E.V. Spence Reservoir and Lake J.B. Thomas, both of which were critically low from the prolonged impact of the drought.

The contents of Lake Thomas

have more than doubled and the Spence Reservoir is almost 2.5 times better than at the same time last year. The O.H. Ivie Reservoir has also gained, rising from just under 30 percent full a year ago to about 54 percent today. The extra water at Spence and Thomas will help the District to consume less power for at least the next two years even without any additional inflows.

"Other than debt service, pumping power is the District's

largest single-item expense," Grant said. "It costs a lot more to pump water 157 miles and 1,400 feet uphill from Ivie to Odessa than it does to pump it from Lake Thomas or the Spence Reservoir. We have estimated that we can use about 10 percent less electric power over our 2006 fiscal year than we predicted for 2005 because we have water to use from Thomas and Spence."

That represents savings of \$975,000 for the budget year at

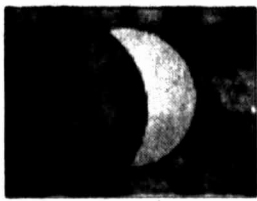
the price CRMWD currently pays for power and the actual amount could easily double depending on negotiations under way for a new contract on about half of the District's load.

"The current power contract expires next month, and at this point in negotiations, all we know for certain is that if we were to sign the fixed price/fixed term contracts we

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RELAY RECEPTION SET

The Howard-Glasscock Relay for Life, which raises money for the American Cancer Society, will hold its 2006 community kickoff reception at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall.

Relay co-chairman Howard Stewart added that organizers are actively recruiting cancer survivors to help with the 2006 campaign.

"Statistics show that 3 percent of the population are cancer survivors, but we don't have that many on the books (in Howard and Glasscock counties)," he said. "So we're reaching out to them to try and get them more involved."

CONTEST WINNERS



Two-year-old Mikayla Paredez, 4-year-old Maggie Mendez, 8-year-old Marcela Norman and 12-year-old Robert Barlow were named the winners of their respective age

divisions in the Big Spring Herald's Halloween Coloring Contest.

Paredez, Norman and Barlow are pictured their prizes on Page 7A.

SOARING HOPE, DEBATE

Once considered unsightly medical waste, a baby's tough, slippery umbilical cord now is a precious commodity that can be used to treat



diseases such as leukemia, sickle cell anemia and immune deficiencies.

But while the blood inside the cord is rich with potentially lifesaving stem cells, the cords often are still tossed into the trash because most women don't know how or where to donate. Page 8A.

Obituaries

Christina Mai Rainwater

Christina Mai Rainwater, Big Spring, passed away Oct. 27, 2005. She is survived by her mother, Danielle Rainwater, Big Spring, grandmother, Nina Rainwater, Midland, uncle, Robert Schaaf, Midland, great-grandparents, Bob and Sue Schaaf, Midland. Also aunts, uncles and cousins. Her mother will always love her. Private family services will be held at a later date.

Paid obituary

Michael S. Almanza



Michael S. Almanza, 11, of Stanton died Saturday, Oct. 29, 2005, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services are 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2005, at the Stanton High School auditorium in Stanton with the Rev. Thomas Vempala, pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church, officiating. Interment will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Stanton. Rosary is at 7 p.m., today at the St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He was born April 28, 1994, in Snyder. Michael was a student at Stanton Junior High. He loved football and was active in Peewee Football. He was a Catholic. Survivors include his parents, Angie and Mike Rodriguez of Stanton; two brothers, Jonathan and Brandon Almanza, both of Stanton; paternal grandfather, Manuel Rodriguez of Stanton; and numerous aunts and uncles.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Stanley Harbin

Stanley Harbin, 71, of Big Spring died Monday, Oct. 31, 2005, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

• **THE HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD** seeks Christmas help for the 69 children in foster care. To "adopt" a child or family for the holidays, contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or 268-4550.

• **BENEFIT AUCTION FOR TRISTIN RANGEL** at the Event Center on East Third Street from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday. Tristin was diagnosed with leukemia when he was 5 and funds are needed to cover ongoing medical expenses. Live entertainment and chuckwagon-style cooking part of the scheduled events. Call Linda Brown at 816-6096, Carla Oliva at 816-4574 or Mike Oliva at 816-5527 for more information.

• **CANTERBURY ARTS AND CRAFTS BAZAAR** is set for 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Dec. 3 and booth space is limited. Call 263-1238 to reserve a booth.

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM IS HAVING A WREATH DECORATING EVENT.** Any theme is acceptable and wreaths will be displayed at the museum during the Christmas season. Wreaths should be turned into the museum by Nov. 29. For more information, call 267-8255.

Harvest Time

• **HAUNTED HOUSE** sponsored by the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Relay for Life team is in the old Texas Surgery Department of Malone and Hogan Clinic, set for 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. today. Admission of \$5 goes to Relay for Life fund-raising.

• **BSHS THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT PRESENTS "THE HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN" AT 6:30 P.M. TODAY AND "THE HOUSE OF DRACULA" AT 8 P.M.** Tickets are \$1.

• **RELAY FOR LIFE SPOOK HOUSE** in the old College Heights Elementary School on Goliad is set for 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. today. Cost is \$5 per person.

• **BIG SPRING MALL ANNUAL TRICK OR TREAT EVENT** is set for today. The event is free to the public and prizes will be awarded. A costume contest is set for 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. and trick or treating with the mall merchants is set for 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Call Kathy Lusk at 267-3853 for more information.

• **TRICK OR TREAT AT THE BIG SPRING POST OFFICE** from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. today. The window service area will be decorated and window clerks will be in costume. Children should say trick or treat to receive candy.

• **FREE POPCORN BALLS AT 410 COLLEGE ST. IN COAHOMA** from Bettye Parrish after 1 p.m. today.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-8-17-25-27. Bonus Ball: 10. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: None. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$13 million.

Police blotter

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

- **BIANCA ARGUELLO**, 23, 1803 State, was arrested on local warrants.
- **MARCUS ANDERSON**, 24, Camalot Inn, was arrested on local warrants and a charge of failure to identify.
- **EUGENIO ARELLANO**, 42, 114 Hooser Road, was arrested on a local warrant.
- **MARTIN ALVARADO**, 24, 1607 Stadium, was arrested on a Howard County warrant.
- **SANDY HERNANDEZ**, 23, 900 S. Aylesford, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief and a Tarrant County warrant.
- **JOSEPH MORENO**, 43, 2505 Hunter, was arrested on charges of public intoxication and possession of marijuana.
- **JOSEPH TREVINO**, 41, 500 N.W. Seventh, was arrested on a Howard County warrant.
- **TYSON SMITH**, 25, 903 Sgt. Paredez, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify.
- **JOE BRITO**, 19, 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested on a charge of theft.
- **BOBBIE DEJESUS**, 24, 3202 Auburn, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid and a Howard County warrant.
- **SUMMER TEETERS**, 23, 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested on a Hale County warrant.
- **FABIAN SALAZAR**, 39, 1316 Utah, was arrested on a local warrant.
- **JASON DALTON**, 22, 2612 Fairchild, was arrested on a Mills County warrant.
- **MARIA HILARIO**, 53, 1611 Bobby, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **TONY RODRIGUEZ**, no age given, Lamesa, was arrested on a charge of DWI.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported on the 1300 block of Lamar.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported on the 1400 block of Oriole.
- **DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED** was reported on the 400 block of FM 700.
- **DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID** was reported on the 1000 block of Baylor.
- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY** was reported on the 1400 block of Highway 87.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA** was reported on the 2500 block of Langley.
- **THEFT** was reported on the 1200 block of 11th Place.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Monday:

- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 2000 block of Monticello. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of 15th and Johnson streets. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 500 block of South Birdwell. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 1800 block of Highway 87. One person was transported to VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 2600 block of Monticello. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 1500 block of Johnson. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 400 block of East Fourth. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 300 block of Avenue F in Forsan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 1800 block of East 15th. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 900 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 300 block of Tulane. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 800 block of East Third. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 8200 block of Gilliam Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 3900 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Tonight — Mostly clear. Colder. Lows in the upper 30s. North winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Tuesday — Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Tuesday night — Clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds.

Wednesday — Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night — Mostly clear. Lows around 50.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs around 80.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Monday:

- **OLEGARIO MELENDEZ JR.**, 17, was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- **BLAKE RYAN LYLE**, 24, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for evading arrest.
- **ADELA PEREZ DEANDA**, 37, was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- **CARLOS DANES**, 31, was arrested on a warrant charging failure to appear.
- **JASMINE EUGENE HORNSBY**, 20, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of assault on a public servant.
- **MARIBEL GUTIERREZ RAMINEZ**, 17, was arrested by DPS on a charge of minor in consumption of alcohol.
- **ISREAL RENE DELEON**, 18, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving under the influence.
- **THOMAS RIOS**, 23, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for theft from the person.
- **JOSHUA HYDEN**, 30, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on charge of theft and burglary of a vehicle.
- **TRELLA BURTON**, 32, was arrested on a charge of theft of service.
- **MARK ENGELE**, 35, was arrested on a charge of terroristic threats.
- **VANESSA ROBLES**, 22, was transferred from BSPD after her arrest on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **KYLE JAMES CONLEY**, 17, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of possession of alcohol by a minor/enhanced.
- **JESSE LENDELL VANDERBILT**, 20, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of assault.
- **FRANKLIN KYLE CASEY**, 44, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **SALLIE SOLIS**, 35, was transferred from BSPD after her arrest on a charge of DWLS.
- **ELVIERIA BRITO**, 46, was arrested on a charge of no driver's license.
- **CLETE MATTHEW STONE**, 22, was arrested on charges of failure to identify, and possession of a controlled substance.
- **ISRAEL LUCIO**, 40, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **DANIEL ADAM WARD**, 19, was arrested on a charge of minor in possession of alcohol.
- **MARC ANTHONY SALAZAR**, 20, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **RAYMOND ROLAND ANGLIN**, 22, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **JEFFREY CLARK FORSHEE JR.**, 19, was arrested on a charge of minor in consumption of alcoholic beverage.
- **RANDALL RAY TODD**, 44, was arrested on a charge of DWI.
- **JUSTIN MARK KACZYK**, 24, was arrested on a charge of DWLI.
- **MISTY NICOLE BABCOCK**, 21, was transferred from BSPD after her arrest on two charges of theft by check.
- **JOVITA CARDENAS RODRIGUEZ**, 25, was transferred from BSPD after her arrest on a charge of issuance of a bad check.
- **RANDY MIER**, 27, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on charges of DWI and evading arrest/vehicle.
- **MARTIN ALVARADO**, 24, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation.
- **ADRIAN VANDERPOOL**, 25, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on charges of DWI and evading arrest/vehicle.
- **JOSEPH SAIZ MORENO**, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- **JOSE BRITO**, 19, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of theft.
- **MARCUS JOE ANDERSON**, 24, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of failure to identify a fugitive from justice.
- **TYRONE DEION SMITH**, 25, was transferred from BSPD after his arrest on a charge of failure to identify.
- **SUMMER DAWN TEETERS**, was transferred from BSPD after her arrest on a motion to adjudicate guilt for credit card abuse.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported on the 3500 block of East Interstate 20.
- **THREATS BY PHONE** was reported on the 3000 block of North Lamesa Highway.
- **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE** was reported on the 4200 block of Old Colorado City Highway.

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WATER

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have seen, we would pay double our current rate. The board is working now to find an acceptable alternative but it is certainly good to have ample supplies available at Thomas and Spence to cut our power consumption." Water quality has also improved at all three reservoirs. Lake Thomas and the Ivie Reservoir showed some improvement but the most significant change was at the Spence Reservoir where blended chloride levels dropped to 230 ppm in the middle of the lake, a reading that is near the reservoir's 20-year low. He said much of the credit goes to watershed improvements through the District's diverted water system

and reservoir management policies to release poor quality water. Spence had been compromised in the mid 1980s by intense rainfall and runoff from the salt lakes in western Howard County. Grant said the District increased its physical capacity to divert and evaporate poor quality water for the future, and took immediate action to release much of the poor water stored in Spence. "We maintain a lot of different data on chlorides, and a little background is important to interpret what those numbers mean," Grant said. The District maintains data on the chlorides at the intake stations, and on the chlorides in the overall body of the lakes. Readings at intakes located in the upper end of the

water-filled portion of a reservoir fluctuate more under the influence of slugs of water or low flows coming down the river. With the Spence Reservoir low, chlorides measured at the intake vary significantly over a period of weeks or months, so trends are harder to identify. Readings from the body of the lake tend to be more buffered over time, and are more reliable when discussing overall water quality. They fluctuate for a few weeks immediately after an inflow event, but show more continuity once inflows homogenize with the stored water. CRMWD analyzes the homogenized waters at least twice each year and Spence is clearly improving. "In August 2001, chloride readings were about

1,160 ppm in the middle of the reservoir," Grant said. "They were still about 1,000 in August 2002 but began to show significant progress beginning with good inflows in June 2003. From August 2003 through August 2004, the readings ranged from a low of 447 ppm to a high of 620 ppm." "When we performed the lake analysis this year in September after the lake homogenized from those August rains, the chlorides were only 230 ppm in the middle of the lake," Grant concluded, as he again commented on the water releases that were partly responsible for the improvement. "No one could have predicted the length and severity of the drought that began in the fall of 1992. The impact of the water releases was magni-

fied by low inflows and high evaporation from the drought and Spence ultimately fell to its lowest point since the early period after the dam was built," Grant said. "Looking back, all of us lost a little sleep and worried over the wisdom of those water quality releases from Spence in the 1980s and 1990s. In the light of what we are seeing now, those were absolutely the right decisions." Taste is improving along with the falling chlorides, although Grant says it may be a little longer before the impact is fully noticeable due to the way the system works. Moss Creek Lake is the storage reservoir for the Spence pipeline. It is a city recreation park, but also serves as the District's local storage

reservoir for Big Spring and as one of several storage facilities for the pipeline to Odessa. Its waters are still at 540 ppm chlorides and short of pumping it way down, Grant says there is no way to speed up the process of improvement. "The Spence releases were the right decision, but I don't see any significant benefit to new releases there or to drawing down Moss Creek Lake any more than we normally do in the winter months when storage is less critical," Grant said. "That water is blended with the lower chloride water from Thomas before it goes to Big Spring or anyone to the west, so those municipalities are already seeing some improvement and should see more as Moss gradually gets better."

ALITO

Continued from Page 1A

lawyers because his judicial philosophy invites comparisons to conservative Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. But while Scalia is outspoken and is known to badger lawyers, Alito is polite, reserved and even-tempered. "The Supreme Court is an institution I have long held in reverence," said the bespectacled judge, a former prosecutor and government attorney who has argued 12 cases before the Supreme Court. "During my 29 years as a public servant, I've had an opportunity to view the Supreme Court from a variety of perspectives." From the bench, Alito

has staked out positions supporting restrictions on abortion, such as parental and spousal notification. If confirmed by the Senate, Alito would replace retiring justice Sandra Day O'Connor, a decisive swing vote in a host of affirmative action, abortion, campaign finance, discrimination and death penalty cases. Alito favors more restrictions on abortion rights than either the Supreme Court has allowed or O'Connor has supported, based on a 1992 case in which he supported spousal notification. Bush said he wanted Alito confirmed by year's end. Wasting no time, the White House arranged for Alito to go to the Capitol after the announcement. The schedule called

for Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist to greet him and accompany the nominee to the Capitol Rotunda to go to the coffin of the late civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks. "The president has made an excellent choice today which reflects his commitment to appoint judges in the mold of Scalia and Thomas," said Kay Daly, president of the conservative Coalition for a Fair Judiciary. Conservative activist Gary Bauer who had challenged Miers' nomination predicted Democrats will fight Alito. "At least now the president is having a battle with his political opponents and not with his friends," Bauer told CNN. "I will help him any way I can." Alito signaled his alliance with Daly and

other conservatives, speaking of the "limited role the courts play in our constitutional system." Reid, who had jumped to the support of Miers, promised to give Alito a "hard look." Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., pulled no punches. "Rather than selecting a nominee for the good of the nation and the court, President Bush has picked a nominee whom he hopes will stop the massive hemorrhaging of support on his right wing. This is a nomination based on weakness, not on strength." The Planned Parenthood Federation of America immediately called on the Senate to reject the nomination. "Judge Alito would undermine basic reproductive rights," said

Karen Pearl, interim president. "It is outrageous that President Bush would replace a moderate conservative like Justice O'Connor with a conservative hardliner." Miers bowed out last Thursday after three weeks of bruising criticism from members of Bush's own party who argued that the Texas lawyer and loyal Bush confidant had thin credentials on constitutional law and no proven record as a judicial conservative. Senior administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the deliberations, said Alito was virtually certain from the start to get the nod from the moment Miers backed out. The 55-year-old jurist was Bush's

favorite choice of the judges in the last set of deliberations but he settled instead on someone outside what he calls the "judicial monastery," the officials said.

BANDS

Continued from Page 1A

state is going to be tough. We're one of only 15

bands still standing, and we're thrilled to still be in the hunt." Past experience at the state meet should be helpful, he added. "Their goal was to avoid

being the first band (in eight years) not to go to state," Rhodes said of the band. "This is something they've talked about all year. We feel like we have a really good show, and

that we can compete with it down there." Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

YOUTH

Continued from Page 1A

could have contributed to the accident." The other youth, a 14-year-old boy, received only a scratch on his leg after being grazed by the car. Almanza, however, was transported to the

Midland hospital with critical injuries. Almanza was the son of Angie and Mike Rodriguez of Stanton. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Stanton High School auditorium. Complete funeral information can be found on Page 2A.

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◆ We will NOT have a taste testing this year ◆

GRAND PRIZE: CURIO CABINET FROM ALLAN'S FURNITURE

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BLUM'S JEWELERS - American Flag Pin

RECIPE ENTRY DEADLINE:
Friday, November 4, 2005
Limit 3 recipes per person.

Winners will be published in the cookbook on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2005.

HOW TO GET YOUR ENTRY TO US:
Mail to: PO Box 1431, BS, TX 79721
Bring to: 710 Scurry, Big Spring
Fax to: (432) 264-7205 or
Email to: advertising@bigspringherald.com

Official Entry Form

Yes! Enter my recipe(s) in the 6th Annual Holiday Cookbook Contest.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Please type or print your recipe legibly and submit it with this form.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Evangelina Alcantar, infant, died Thursday. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel.
Olga Olague, 43, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 1:30 until 3:30 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Stanley Harbin, 71, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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- USE ONE DICE FROM ONE OF YOUR BOARD GAMES.
- YOUNGEST PLAYER GOES FIRST.
- ADVANCE YOUR PIECE AHEAD ACCORDING TO THE NUMBERED ROLL.
- FOLLOW ANY INSTRUCTIONS ON INDIVIDUAL SPACES.
- IF SOMEONE LANDS ON YOUR SPACE, GO BACK 3 SPACES.
- BE THE FIRST TO REACH THE "SAFETY HOUSE" AND WIN.
- HAVE A FUN & SAFE HALLOWEEN! LEARN THE SAFETY RULES.

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW THESE RULES

- Never Trick-or-Treat alone. Small Children should be accompanied by an adult.
- If you do go Trick-or-Treating, only go to the houses of people that you know.
- Show your manners ... say "Thank You."
- Only accept treats at the front door, never enter a stranger's home or car for any reason.
- Don't limit your vision with a mask, face paint is better, or a close fitting half-mask with large eye openings.
- Don't eat any treats until you have them carefully inspected.
- White clothing or reflective tape will increase visibility. Costumes and wigs and beards should be fire resistant.
- Be careful around neighborhood pets. Although they may know you, your costume may scare or confuse them.

THE SAFELY GAME

<p>WITCH'S BREW</p>	<p>WITCH'S BREW</p>	<p>WITCH'S BREW</p>	<p>Express Care 1602 Gregg 263-7021</p>	<p>87 Auto Sales 111 Gregg • 267-8787 210 Gregg • 263-2382</p>	<p>State National Bank 901 Main 432-264-2100</p>	<p>YOU LEFT WITHOUT SUPERVISION GO BACK TO START!</p>
<p>OFF TO A SAFE TRIP!</p>	<p>COWBOYS Steak House Friday Catfish All-You-Can-Eat 101 E. FM 700 263-0181</p>	<p>BOO!!</p>	<p>Bob Brock Ford - Lincoln Mercury - Nissan 500 W. 4th • 267-7124</p>	<p>YOUR CHOICE WALK ACROSS BRIDGE OR OR SKIP AHEAD 2 SPACES</p>	<p>Water Water, Inc. your hometown culligan dealer 1509 E. FM 700 Big Spring 263-8781</p>	<p>SONIC America's Drive-In Happy Hour 3:00 pm-4:30 1200 Gregg 263-6790 601 E. FM 700 263-2700</p>

<p>YOU SAID THANK YOU! SKIP AHEAD 3 SPACES</p>	<p>BIG SPRING MALL MONDAY - OCT. 31 • COSTUME CONTEST • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • TRICK OR TREATING • 7:00 - 8:00 pm 1801 E. FM 700 • 267-3853</p>	<p>Serendipity Ice Cream & Coffee Shoppe Inside Big Spring Mall 264-1544</p>	<p>The Bookworm Book Store Affordable Reading With Friendly Service M-F: Mon.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm Closed Sat. & Sun. 1001 S. Lancaster 263-4554</p>	<p>LANDED IN THE PUMPKIN PATCH GO BACK TWO SPACES</p>
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<p>JUMP OVER THE MARSH TO THE NEXT SPACE AND ROLL THE DICE AGAIN</p>	<p>Rainbow Christian Pre-School 409 Goliad 267-4515</p>	<p>KLASSIC KLEANERS "Professional Dry Cleaning" Open: 7:00 am-6:30 pm M-F 2107 Gregg 263-7004</p>	<p>DROPPED YOUR CANDY WRAPPER GO BACK 2 SPACES</p>	<p>A-1 Bail Bonds 24 Hour Service 213 East 3rd St. 432-268-1005 866-419-1800</p>	<p>Comet DRY CLEANERS AND LAUNDRY SERVICE FM 700 & Virginia 267-2584</p>
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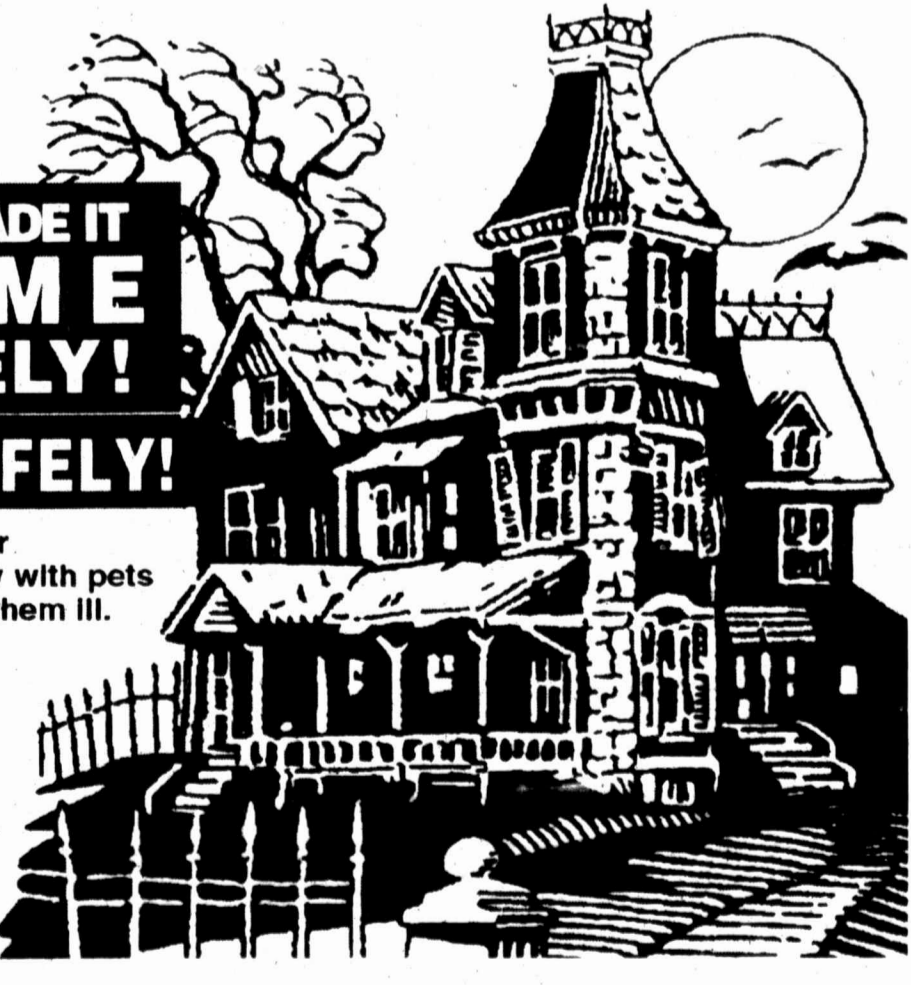
<p>Comanche Trail Nursing Center 3200 Parkway (432) 263-4041</p>	<p>C & M GARAGE 3301 W. Hwy. 80 263-0021</p>	<p>Pizza Inn. BOO-FET MONDAY 5 pm-9 pm Kids Eat \$1.99 w/Drink 1702 Gregg • 263-1381</p>	<p>YOU DIDN'T LOOK BOTH WAYS GO BACK 3 SPACES</p>	<p>TRIO FUELS Ackerly Oil Co., Inc. Propane • Diesel Gasoline • Lubricants 267-9434 1-800-848-8746</p>
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<p>OT TO K YOU? K 2 ES</p>	<p>Fish Optthalmology Clinic, PA 207 E. 7TH 267-3649</p>	<p>Glasscock Co. Bank Lobby Hours 9 AM-3 PM Mon.-Fri. Member FDIC 354-2595 333 N. Main • Garden City, TX.</p>	<p>Happy Halloween</p>	<p>Big Spring Auto Glass Co., Inc. Auto Glass • Window Tint Free Mobile Service 110 Johnson (432) 267-5247</p>	<p>YOU CROSSED AT THE CORNER GO AHEAD 3 SPACES</p>	<p>Dr. Jose Chavez Infant • Child Adolescent Care 1501 W. 11th Place (2nd Floor) 714-4700</p>
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<p>Co-Op 605 West 4th St. Big Spring, TX. 79720 263-0747</p>	<p>YOU FORGOT YOUR FLASHLIGHT! GO BACK 2 SPACES</p>	<p>ATS TELCOM 504 E. 3rd 263-8433</p>	<p>YOU MADE IT HOME SAFELY!</p>
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WITH THESE RULES ON HALLOWEEN...GET HOME SAFELY!

- Don't eat any treats until you get home and have them carefully inspected.
- White clothing or reflective tape will increase visibility. Costumes, wigs and beards should be flame resistant.
- Be careful around neighborhood pets. Although they may know you, your costume may scare or confuse them.
- Respect other people's property as well as your own.
- Observe all traffic rules. Only cross streets at intersections. Remember to look both ways before stepping off the curb.
- Trick-or-Treat in an area you know well.
- Cross only at corners. Never dart between parked cars or in the middle of the block. Don't forget to look both ways.
- Don't share your chocolate candy with pets — It may make them ill.
- Don't go to the homes that have the porch light off.
- DON'T EAT ALL YOUR TREATS AT ONCE!



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

OTHER VIEWS

One provision in refinery bill isn't good idea

We've certainly taken issue with Rep. Joe Barton on his push to ease various parts of the Clean Air Act, moves we believe would slow down how quickly North Texas cleans up its dirty air. But we are just as certain that a key recommendation from the Energy and Commerce Committee chairman deserves national support. It's the refinery provision in post-hurricane energy legislation that the House passed earlier this month and that now rests in the Senate.

Introduced by Mr. Barton, the measure is designed to increase the nation's refining capacity. And, given national security concerns, that's a good idea.

Before the hurricanes, the nation's 148 active refineries were churning at nearly full capacity. Then Katrina and Rita revealed a weakness in our system, as they temporarily idled more than 30 percent of the nation's capacity to refine crude oil into gasoline and heating oil, driving gasoline prices to over \$3 a gallon.

The Barton provision would allow the Department of Energy to coordinate the refinery-permitting process if a governor requests it or if the president designates a site as potentially suitable for a refinery. It doesn't suspend environmental reviews, but prevents an indefinite process that could stall projects.

We're far less excited about another portion of the same bill, a provision that would allow communities like Houston and Dallas which aren't currently adhering to federal clean air rules to postpone their compliance date if they show their efforts have been hurt by emissions from other areas.

The Senate would be wise to remove this provision, which is a step backward for clean air. Energy policy involves give and take, a strategy Mr. Barton is executing well. He has some good ideas regarding increasing the nation's refinery capacity. We urge him to focus on those.

THE MORNING NEWS
DALLAS

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We ask, Lord, and You answer.

Amen

Spotting where it all went wrong

When, if ever, George Bush gets to wondering when the bottom fell out of his presidency, he need look no further than his attempt to reform Social Security.

Privatizing Social Security was going to be the jewel in the crown of Bush's second term. It, and not the quagmire of Iraq, would be his legacy to the nation. It would be what historians would remember him for.

By revamping the most popular federal program in American history, he would put an end to the legacy of Franklin Roosevelt and pound the final nail in the coffin of Big Government.

But Bush couldn't sell it. He could not sell his claim that Social Security was in imminent danger. He could not sell the notion that his plan would save it.

We had heard that imminent danger argument before. The nation was in imminent danger from Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction, and the invasion and occupation of Iraq was the only thing that could save us.

When it sunk in to the public at large that the excuse for the Iraq

war was untrue, the "political capital" that Bush bragged about possessing after his re-election disappeared.

In attempting to sell the Social Security plan, his spin-masters used their ace-in-the-hole, their ultimate weapon: a nationwide speaking tour by the president himself. The president's face and voice would fill TV screens night after night, preaching the need for this reform, even threatening that, without it, taxes would have to go up.

Nobody bought it. The privatization plan simply had no constituency — not with seniors, not with baby boomers, not with the young, not with academics, not with Congress.

Its only backers were the tiny group of conservatives who flutter around Bush like moths around a flame. They had told Bush that he could sell his plan to the nation because he had the charm, the political savvy and the public support to sell anything.

But he didn't. Neither the public nor the Congress was going to allow itself to be "Iraqified" a second time.

Enter Harriet Miers. The nomination of Harriet Miers came from the same hubris that Social Security privatization came from. Bush acolytes in the White House took the wrong lesson from the nomination of John Roberts. They

decided they were the geniuses, and not Roberts.

But with Miers, Bush went a nomination too far. The howls from conservative critics were vocal. George Will said of George Bush: "He has neither the inclination nor the ability to make sophisticated judgments about competing approaches to construing the Constitution."

Which is a fancy way of saying that George Will doesn't think George Bush is too darn bright.

Harriet Miers disagrees. She once told David Frum, a conservative columnist and resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, that Bush "was the most brilliant man she had ever met."

I doubt that even Bush's wife, mother or father would make that statement. They certainly might say he is the most decent or the most sincere or the most good-hearted. But the most brilliant man they have ever met?

Either Miers is just another moth around the flame, or she really hasn't met that many people.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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ROGER SIMON

AARON BEACON JOURNAL ©OC

ROK



Dubya does 'Reagan' and hangs on

Sometimes, the only thing a president can do is hang onto history — the promise of that day when he has his library and all his critics have transformed into admirers who gloss over his many stumbles only to stand in awe of his accomplishments, when the naysayers and nitpickers cannot be heard, as the ears before him hear only an uplifting soundtrack of Aaron Copland.

President Bush clearly was dreaming of that day as he stood at the grand opening of the Reagan Library Air Force One Pavilion, with wife Laura and Nancy Reagan by his side. He beheld the faces of a sea of survivors of the Reagan administration.

Former California Gov. Pete Wilson, once vilified, is now how held up as an example for GOP Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Reagan's former attorney general, Ed Meese, endured a spate of scandals that would humble Bush guru Karl Rove. Former Reagan speechwriter Ken Khachigian weathered many brutal political campaigns.

Time allows the survivors to put it all behind them — Iran-Contra, the god-awful Beirut-barracks bombing that left 241 American servicemembers dead, a massive deficit, ketchup as a vegetable. Today, the world remembers the Westminster speech in which he laid out his belief that freedom would triumph over communism, the Normandy speech and the day an American president uttered the words, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down

this wall."

Today, Republicans hear the words Ronald Wilson Reagan and they smile. No wonder, then, that Bush used the occasion of this ceremony to jump on the Gipper's bandwagon. Conservatives (rightly) are angry that Bush allowed the federal government to balloon and (foolishly) miffed that he chose a nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court who wasn't a member of their club.

The left, of course, is hitting Bush for the deficit, as well. And from all sides, there is the constant carping on Iraq — from those who want more troops, a withdrawal date — and who barely give a nod to a successful voter-approval of the Iraqi constitution.

And so Bush reminded the people before him about how his term will look if America succeeds in Iraq. U.S. Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., picked up the theme, when he said after the Bush speech that both residents had the "spirit to take on an -ism" — communism and terrorism.

Having been belittled for calling terrorists the "evildoers," Bush reminded the audience how Reagan defeated "the evil empire." And Dubya didn't need to remind this crowd of the ridicule Reagan endured for using that term.

Nancy Reagan made an unwitting connection when she recalled her final flight with Reagan on Air Force One as they left the White House in 1989. "As the champagne was poured and glasses were raised, someone shouted: 'Mission accomplished, Mr. President. Mission accomplished.'" Former state Sen. Jim Brulte, R-Rancho Cucamonga, remembered the days when he was a "flunky

junior nobody" in the Reagan administration. "The first Gorbachev summit," he noted, "ended in 'failure' because Reagan wouldn't give away the store." But it wasn't failure.

It was an episode in a campaign won, Bush noted, because of Reagan's "resolve." While Bush is different in many ways — Reagan was supremely confident in himself and secure in his skin; for all his bluster, Bush is less self-assured — they both shared a vision of what this world could be.

And so as political heat blasted this administration, amid stories of a petty feud with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and as serious legal problems threaten top White House aides, Bush had reason to dream of the day when the rancor is past — the day when a president's children are no longer the stuff of negative stories, his work habits no longer the stuff of derision and his speech no longer fodder for late-night talk shows.

How America sees Bush depends completely on what happens in Iraq and the war on terrorism. While the outcome is uncertain, the goal, to Bush, is clear.

Dennis Revell, the widower of Maureen Reagan, mused: "History is seldom an instantaneous pat on the back. That time will come for this president, as well."

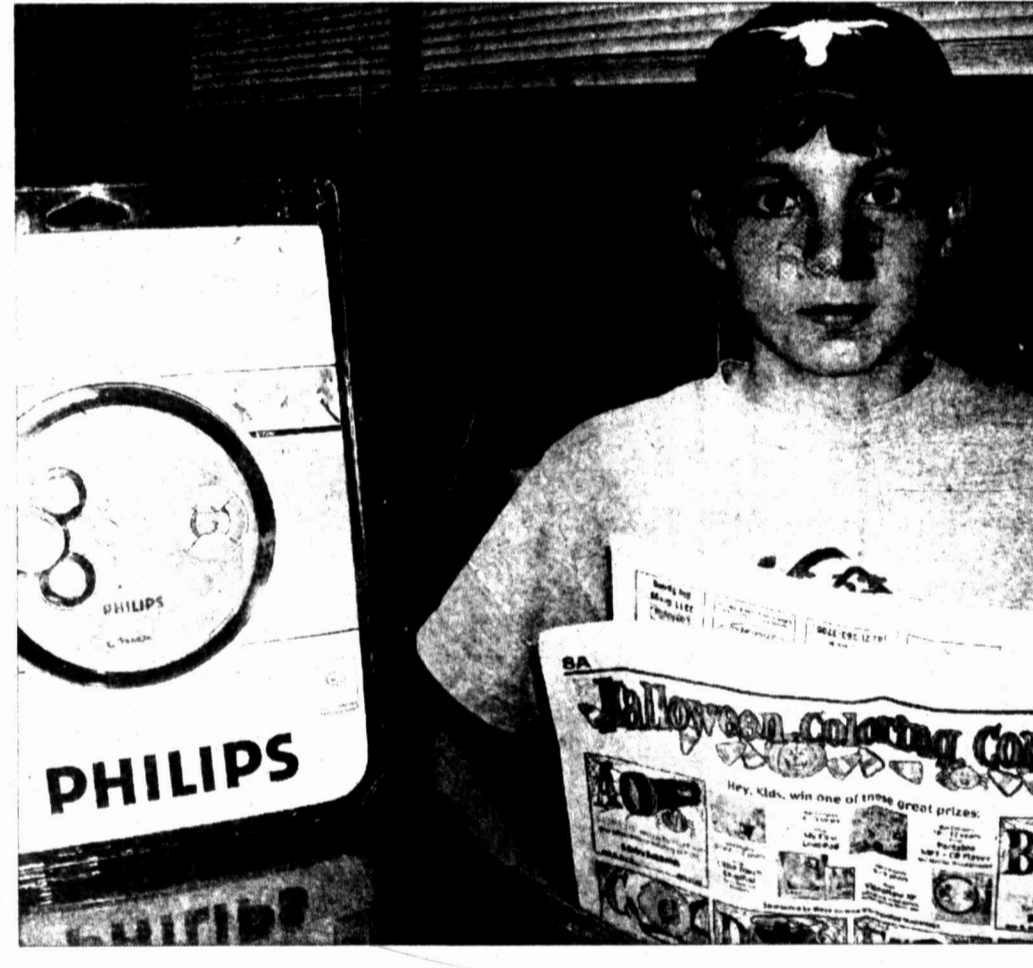
E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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CONTEST WINNERS



Herald photos/Steve Reagan
Mikayla Paredez, 2, above, Marcela Norman, 8, at left, and Robert Barlow, 12, below, are shown with their prizes after winning their respective age group divisions in the Herald's Halloween Coloring Contest. Not pictured is Maggie Mendez, 4.



Homeland Security committee members assess Rita damage

NEDERLAND (AP) — Members of the House Security Committee on Homeland Security got a firsthand view Sunday of damage to Southeast Texas' landscape, where tarps cover homes and businesses damaged by Hurricane Rita.

"I flew over a sea of blue tarps and uprooted trees and a lot of uprooted lives," Rep. Bill Pascrell, D-N.J., said at Southeast Texas Regional Airport, where the delegation landed after a helicopter tour. "We mustn't forget that Mother Nature plays its games and we've got to be prepared."

Pascrell said in some ways the nation is ready for natural disasters such as hurricanes Katrina and Rita. But in other ways, the government has a lot of work to do and

has a serious problem on its hands, he said.

"We are going to go back and we are going to do something about it," Pascrell said. "Whether it's power, whether it's water, whether it's deciding whether FEMA is into an area early enough and whether it has enough teeth now that it has been incorporated into the Homeland Security Committee."

The two hurricanes struck the Gulf Coast within weeks of each other. Katrina devastated much of New Orleans while Rita took aim on the Texas-Louisiana border, coming ashore Sept. 24.

Pascrell said he also wants to know if money is getting to those who need it. Many Southeast Texans have complained

it isn't.

"People in this area can count on the fact that we are going to respond and we are not going to go back and forget about this," he said. "We didn't take a Sunday off to come here and play games."

Many in Southeast Texas, including Jefferson County Judge Carl Griffith, have said they felt forgotten by the federal government in Rita's wake. Some areas of Southeast Texas went weeks without power. Food, water and other supplies were also slow in reaching those who needed them most.

U.S. Rep. Kevin Brady, R-The Woodlands, served as a tour guide for the committee members and said he wants to make sure Rita "is not the forgotten hurricane."

Country Style Pork Ribs.....	\$1.49 LB.
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Select New York Strips.....	\$5.99 LB.
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Shurfine Breakfast Sausage Regular or Hot....	\$3.99 2-LB. \$2.00 LB.
Iceberg Salad.....	\$1.29 LB. BAG
Towntalk Round Top or Sandwich Bread.....	99¢ 24-OZ.
Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup or Tomato.....	99¢ 10 3/4-OZ. CAN
Del Monte Assorted Fruits.....	\$1.29 24-OZ.
Shurfine Fruit Punch.....	2/\$4.00 128-OZ.
Shurfine Assorted Non Dairy Creamers.....	\$1.89 8-OZ.
Shurfine Assorted Gelatin.....	2/\$1.00
Kern's Apple, Apricot, Peach and Pear.....	69¢ 11 1/2-OZ.
Aunt Jemima Syrup.....	\$3.75 24-OZ.

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Livingston is proud to introduce Kay Potter to Big Spring! For more than 15 years, Kay has been helping people with nerve type hearing loss. During this special event, she will be demonstrating the newest in hearing aid technology. Call to schedule a no-obligation hearing check-up and free demonstration of this new technology!

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How you can lower breast cancer risk

By BARBARA QUINN
Knight Ridder News

Don't get me wrong, my gynecologist is a great doctor. I just don't consider my routine visits to her office the highlight of my year. Ditto for the mammogram screenings she orders for me.

I just remind myself the technicians compress because they care. And they assure me this is the most effective way to detect early (and treatable) breast cancer.

We can't control all the factors associated with breast cancer, such as being a woman or getting older. Some we can control however, such as how we eat and exercise. I can make better decisions in these areas:

—I can choose to eat real fruits and vegetables. These

foods naturally contain potent cancer-fighting substances. Overwhelming scientific evidence shows the more fruits and vegetables people eat, the lower their rates of cancer, including breast cancer. However, when substances from fruits and vegetables are isolated and studied for their protective effects, the results are not as convincing.

Scientists believe the best cancer protection comes from the vast array and balance of nutrients and phytochemicals found in real food.

—I can choose to manage my weight, especially after menopause.

Extra fat cells produce extra estrogen — a hormone that nourishes certain types of breast cancer.

Interestingly, the risk for

breast cancer is higher for women who became overweight as adults. It is also higher for women with "apple" shapes who carry extra weight around the middle instead of hips or thighs. "Apples" are also at a higher risk for heart disease and diabetes if weight gets out of control.

—I can abstain from alcohol or drink moderately. Women who drink more than one alcoholic drink a day (one drink equals 5 ounces of wine or 12 ounces of beer or 1 ounce of liquor) increase their risk for developing breast cancer.

—I can choose to eat less fat. We still don't know if fat is really a risk factor for breast cancer, but it is interesting that breast cancer is lowest in populations of people who eat less fat.

—I can choose to move it, move it! Exercise increases the activity of infection-fighting T-cells and may increase survival for women who have gone through chemotherapy, according to research conducted at Pennsylvania State University.

Another recent study found that women who exercised moderately three to five hours a week were less likely to die of breast cancer than women who exercised less than an hour a week.

—I can choose to eat soy foods sensibly. A recent review in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association states that soy foods may be protective against breast cancer, especially when consumed from an early age over many years, such as in Asian populations. Highly processed soy foods

may not have the same beneficial effect, however. And some studies suggest that soy foods may promote breast cancer in susceptible women. Most of these studies, however, used isolated soy protein or isoflavones in much higher doses than are found in traditional soy foods such as tofu.

—I'll choose to go by the American Cancer Society's recommendation: "Breast cancer survivors should consume only moderate amounts of soy foods as part of a healthy plant-based diet and should not intentionally ingest very high levels of soy products."

Barbara Quinn is a registered dietitian at the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. E-mail her at bquinn@chomp.org

Cord blood presents soaring hope, debate

By JULIE DEARDORFF
Knight-Ridder News

CHICAGO — Once considered unsightly medical waste, a baby's tough, slippery umbilical cord now is a precious commodity that can be used to treat diseases such as leukemia, sickle cell anemia and immune deficiencies.

But while the blood inside the cord is rich with potentially lifesaving stem cells, the cords often are still tossed into the trash because most women don't know how or where to donate.

Meanwhile, families who do save umbilical cords often pay companies to store them for their own possible future use rather than giving them to public banks where they could be used now for people in need of stem-cell transplants.

Non-profit public banks say the lack of awareness and the explosive growth in private cord storage is hampering their effort to increase donations and diversify the national donor pool. The National Marrow Donor Program, a coordinated network of 14 public banks that provides a registry and search database for both cord blood and bone marrow, is working to have 150,000 blood units available in the U.S. by 2007. Currently about 43,000 units are available.

"Private banks are big, they have a lot of advertising, and it's a high-pressure sell," said Sharon Bolster Mills, manager of the stem-cell program for the Institute of Transfusion Medicine (ItxM) Clinical Services in Glenview, Ill., the public bank for the Chicago area. "Many of the women having their first baby receive the information in the mail and are

afraid not to do it."

But for-profit private banks say that they are providing an important insurance policy and that there is no telling what medical breakthroughs will bring for the private route.

"Our clients are looking to bank for what we know cord-blood stem cells can successfully treat today, in addition to the future potential value over the next 5-, 10- to 15-year horizon for therapies that may go far beyond bone-marrow transplants," said Mercedes Walton, chairwoman and interim chief executive officer of Cryo-Cell, a private family stem-cell bank based in Oldsmar, Fla., with 100,000 customers.

Both public and private storage provide benefits, but the difference often is misunderstood. Private cord-blood storage, which is discouraged by the American Academy of Pediatrics, is considered expensive biological insurance. It costs \$1,000 to \$2,000 upfront and about \$100 annually to store cord blood.

The chances of a child needing a transplant are 1 in 20,000 to 25,000, said Patrick Stiff, director of hematology and oncology at the Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Ill.

Regardless, families hang on to their child's cord — a perfect genetic match — gambling that the stem cells someday will help cure diseases such as diabetes, Parkinson's and



Maggie Wade, with son P.J., in Chicago, donated the umbilical cord from P.J.'s birth to a public bank.

Alzheimer's. But so far applications are limited.

The public banks, which could get a boost from federal legislation that would set up a National Cord Blood Bank network, collect cord blood free of charge. The only catch is that the expectant mother must make arrangements before her due date. The cord blood, immediately available for needy patients, most often is used to treat young leukemia patients who don't have matching DNA from a brother or sister.

These cancer-stricken children wouldn't necessarily benefit from private storage of their own cord blood because those stem cells also would be contaminated with the disease, an important point that critics of private companies say is overlooked.

"Parents should privately store the umbilical cord cells if they have another child who is affected with a genetic or hematological disorder or

a cancer for which a transplant is a potential option," said Loyola's Stiff, director of the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center. "For all other cases, there is no reason to (privately) store umbilical cord-blood cells because much of the benefit of a transplant comes from the development of a new immune system that is different than the one the patient has."

Cord blood has two main advantages over bone marrow, the traditional source of cells used to treat patients with blood disorders. It doesn't require a perfect match and is more readily available.

Though the procedure most often is used with children because only a small amount of blood can be collected, Chicago's Rhonda Kottke received a double cord-blood transplant at age 29 through ItxM to treat acute myeloid leukemia. Her doctors feared her body would reject a bone-marrow transplant.

"It was a complete rebirth," said Kottke, 33, a strategic planner for a marketing communication company in Evanston, Ill., who recently celebrated the three-year anniversary of her transplant. "My immune system is as normal as anyone who never had leukemia."

Chicagoan Maggie Wade, 35, heard about Kottke through a friend and decided to donate the cord of her second child, P.J., now 5½ months. Though Illinois has passed legislation to increase awareness of cord-blood donation, Wade couldn't get any information from her doctor's office. Through her own research she found ItxM.

"I've told every pregnant woman I know across the country to do it," Wade said.

To donate to a public bank

Mothers must call the ItxM Cord Blood Program (877-GIV-CORD) before their due date. There is no cost, no pain and no interruption to the delivery process. LifeSource (go to www.lifeforce.org and then click on "special programs") and the National Marrow Donor Program (www.marow.org) also provide information on public cord-blood banking.

To privately store your child's umbilical cord

Three of the larger private storage companies are Cord Blood Registry (www.cordblood.com); Cryo-Cell (www.cryo-cell.com) and Viacord (www.viacord.com).



Every two minutes, a woman in the United States is diagnosed with breast cancer. In fact, breast cancer is the leading cancer among Caucasian and African American women. Mammography screenings are a woman's best chance for detecting breast cancer early, so get yours today.

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Leukemia is a cancer of the white blood cells. There are four major types of leukemia: Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia, Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Half of all leukemia deaths are caused by leukemia.

Sponsored by:

West Texas Cancer Center
600 N. Grant Street
Odessa, Texas 79761
(432) 335-8275



Ovarian cancer is the most deadly of all cancers of the female reproductive system, killing approximately 50 percent of American women diagnosed with the disease within five years. Early detection is a woman's best line of defense, making annual testing vitally important.

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Allison Cancer Center
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Midland, Texas 79701
(432) 687-1949



Cancer, not heart disease, is America's number-one killer. No matter what your age, gender or race, you could be at risk for developing cancer. Early detection can save lives, so get screened today as part of your commitment to a healthy lifestyle.

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IN BRIEF

Quarterback sets meetings
The Big Spring football booster club will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at the ATC through the football season. For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

Flag football league to begin Nov. 6

The Midland Flag Football League will begin play Sunday, said Wayne Brandt. The eight-on-eight tournament costs \$250 per team and takes place every Sunday through the middle of January. For more information, contact Brandt at 432-230-5255.

Basketball officials needed for new year

Basketball officials are needed for the 2005-2006 basketball season involving junior high, freshman and junior varsity games in Coahoma, Forsan, Garden City and Sterling City. If interested in officiating, contact Adam or Mandi Rodriguez at 263-8731 (after 6 p.m.), 517-0300 or 816-1963.

C.G.A. cancels its final toumey of year

The Chicano Golf Association has announced its final tournament of the year — the Grand Tournament — has been cancelled due to unknown health reasons inside the organization.

Olesen announces free tennis clinic

Big Spring tennis pro Ted Olesen has announced a free junior tennis league at the Figure 7 Tennis Center at Comanche Trail Park for students in second and third grade.

The league will start Tuesday and will continue for three weeks after that on Tuesdays. It goes from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. each night.

Interested participants may bring a racket, but one may be provided if available. There is no specific start date as participants can show up on any Tuesday.

The first week will concentrate on forehand and backhands, the second week will cover volleys and overhands, the third week will focus on serves and the fourth week will consist of matches.

For more information, contact Olesen at 806-236-8901 or visit bigspringtennis.com.

Sixty-two MLB stars file for free agency

NEW YORK (AP) — Less than 24 hours after helping the Chicago White Sox win their first World Series since 1917, Paul Konerko was among 62 players who filed for free agency.

Philadelphia's closer Billy Wagner and Florida's pitcher also filed.

Big Spring earns third straight title

• Rodriguez wins first district title, Steers take team trophy

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor LUBBOCK — Big Spring head cross country coach Randy Britton can add another district title to his resume after his Steers ran their way to the District 4-4A championship Saturday in Lubbock.

The team placed five runners in the top and also scored finishes at 11th and 12th.

Junior Michael Rodriguez, who placed 11th at the state meet last year, recorded his first individual district title as he crossed the line in 15:43, five seconds ahead of second place Travis Westbrook of Lake View. Frenship's Jeremy Butler took third and Andrews' Ryan Roberts grabbed fourth as both were a ways off the top two.

Roberts defeated Rodriguez earlier this year, but Rodriguez got the best of the Andrews runner Saturday and will try to win the regional title next Saturday.

Big Spring's Zach Dawson had an excellent

run as well as he took fifth with a time of 16:24. Chris Salazar, Jessie Sanchez and Dylan Yarbrough finished seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively. Salazar crossed the line in 16:44, while Sanchez and Yarbrough scored times of 17:16 and 17:23, respectively.

Junior Chris Martinez placed 11th with a time of 17:35 and freshman Shane Allen had a strong finish, as well, as he crossed the line in 17:48.

Big Spring won the team race for the third straight year, scoring 33 points and defeating second place Frenship by 22 points. Lake View was third, followed by Andrews, Plainview and Lubbock Estacado.

Both Big Spring girl runners ran hard, but did not quite have enough to qualify for regionals. Sophomore Mistie Aguilar defeated her sophomore teammate, Esther Tobar, by 11 seconds. Aguilar placed 12th overall, while Tobar took 14th.

The race was won by Lake View's Shayla Vodron in 12:23. Alyssa Preston of Frenship took second with a time of 12:29. The Frenship girls won the team title over Andrews by 31 points.

The Steers will run in the regional tournament Saturday in Lubbock.



DAWSON



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Big Spring junior Michael Rodriguez runs in the Big Spring Invitational last month. Rodriguez led the Steers to their third straight district title Saturday, as he won the race in 15:38.

Preseason hype finds Hawk men

• Howard hopes to build on regional championship game

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The Howard College men's basketball team surprised a lot of people last season during its run to the regional championship game in Lubbock, but this year, the Hawks have no one fooled.

The Hawks, led by sophomore Texas Tech recruit Charles Burgess, have definitely got the attention of preseason voters this year as Howard is picked to finish second in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) and are ranked No. 30 to start the year.

Howard's rival — Midland College — is picked to win the league and is also ranked in the top 15 to start the year. The Chaps defeated Howard in the regional title game last year and advanced to the national tournament. The Hawks' run to the national tournament this season will most likely go through Midland at some point in the year.

Second year head coach Mark Adams, who also serves as the school's athletic director, has Burgess and two other sophomores back this year to help guide the team.

Burgess is on a lot of publications' preseason lists as a top JUCO player and will be counted on to do many things this year for Howard. He averaged nearly 19 points per game last year. He also average six rebounds, four assists and two steals.

It is safe to say, Burgess has high hopes for himself and his team this year. He wants to average four more points per game this year and maybe even average a triple-double. He also wants to win the conference, regional and national championships with his teammates this season.

"I want the team to be the best we can be," said Burgess. "It'd be nice to average a triple-double. As much as I like to score, I am not a selfish player and love to get my teammates involved."

"This season, I want to be a better leader, shooter and play smarter and make first team all-American."

The other two sophomores expected to help carry the load are Louis Rodgers of Lubbock Estacado and Dezmon Harris of Forth Worth. Rodgers is a 6-7 guard who possesses strong athletic ability. He will be asked to score from outside and inside this season as the Hawks begin the year thin inside.

Harris will play both guard positions this year and will most likely make up one of the five starting positions on the court. He is quick and can shoot the ball very well.

The reason why Howard is thin inside

See HOWARD, Page 2B

Hereford sweeps BSHS out of playoffs

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Big Spring volleyball came out with a lot of energy and punch Saturday and played No. 19 Hereford point for point in the first two games of their bi-district playoff match at Lubbock Christian University, but the Whitefaces used momentum in key points of the match and swept the Lady Steers out of the playoffs.

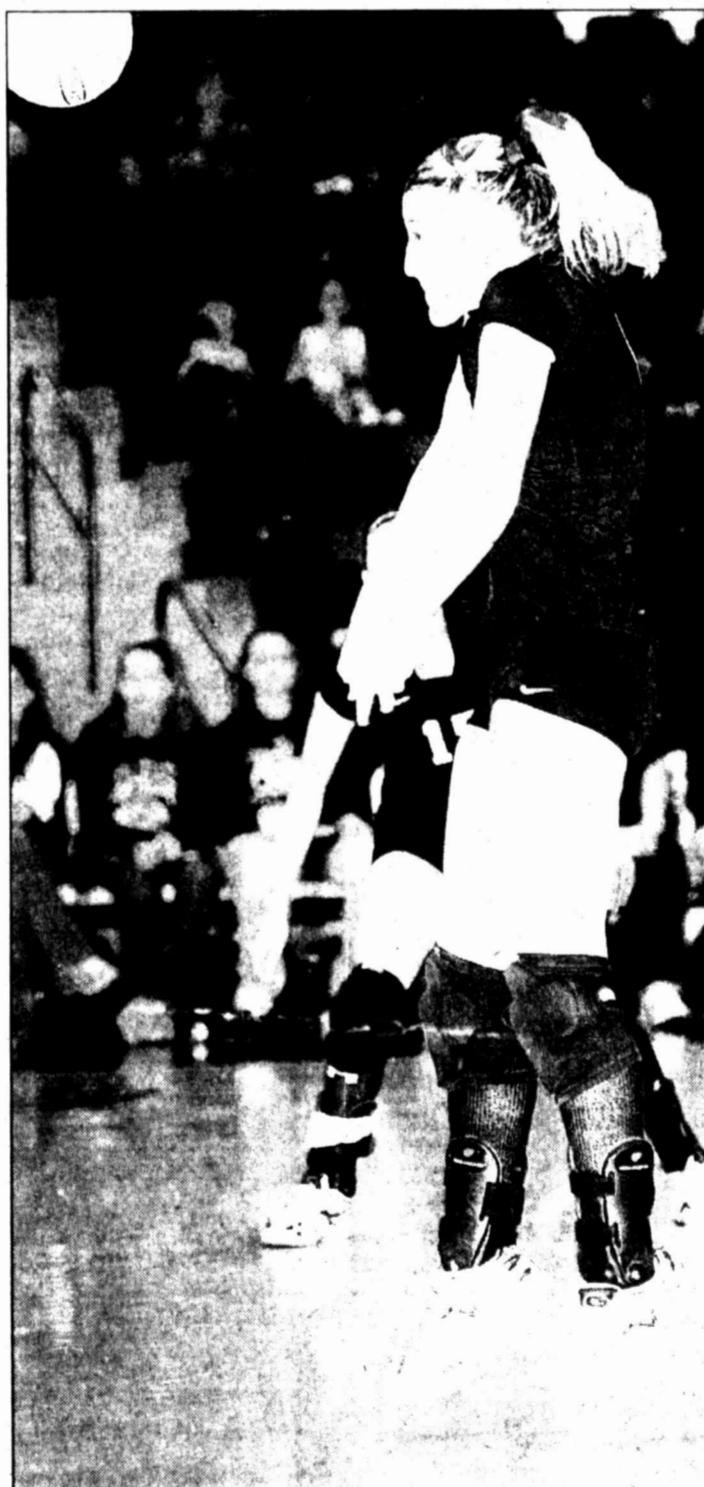
Hereford won the match 27-25, 25-21 and 25-17. It was the second straight year Big Spring has been swept out of the first round of playoffs.

"Hereford's good and they have been down the postseason road many times," said Big Spring coach Jason McAden. "They were able to capitalize on our mistakes and used the momentum they got to win the match."

Big Spring and Hereford and very even first game. The Whitefaces grabbed a 9-5 lead early, but a timeout by Big Spring and some adjustments allowed the Lady Steers to tie the score at 9-9. The game was also tied later at 10, 11, 13, 14, 15. Big Spring built a 19-16 lead before Hereford countered with a timeout and then it was able to adjust and push the game back to a 19-19 tie.

"Both teams did a good job of getting back into the game after timeouts, but I have to credit my girls for that," said McAden. "I didn't tell them anything they didn't already know."

Hereford came back to take the lead by two, but after another timeout, Big Spring tied the score at 21-21 and eventually grabbed the lead at 24-23. The lead by the Lady



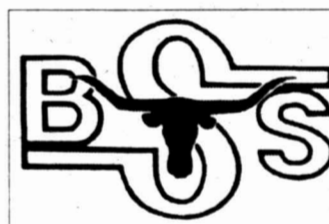
HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Big Spring senior Raegan Ritchey bumps the ball in play during the Lady Steers' playoff loss to Hereford Saturday at Lubbock Christian University.

Steers triggered another Hereford timeout and they got the advantage, grabbed the momentum and captured the first game.

Big Spring's seniors kept the team in the game in the opening stanza.

Brenn Swinney and Raegan Ritchey picked up four kills in the game, while Krista Chesworth smashed home three winners.

"This game is all about momentum and Hereford got it when it mattered



most," said McAden. "If we played this year like we did (Saturday) we would have had more confidence heading into the match and might have been able to get more breaks."

The second game was similar to the first one in that each team match each other point for point. The game featured several ties as the Big Spring seniors kept the fight on for their team. The game was tied at 10-10 midway through the frame and again at 12-12. After Hereford took a two-point advantage, Carmen Lewis and Ritchey came away with back-to-back kills to even the game at 14-14. Ritchey and Swinney recorded a combo block to give the Lady Steers a one-point lead and then Ritchey scored a kill and an ace on back-to-back points to later put her team up 17-15.

Hereford continued to battle, though. It was down by three at a crucial point in the match, but a timeout again sparked another Whitefaces rally. They scored three straight points to tie the game and took the lead for good at 22-20. Big Spring called timeout at that point, but Hereford won three out of the next four points and won 25-21.

Big Spring came jumped out to a 4-1 lead early in the third game, but Hereford quickly tied the game at 5-5 later before pulling ahead 10-6. A Big Spring timeout did nothing for the Lady Steers as

Dallas rookie Barber leads Cowboys to win over Cards

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys didn't have to worry about the final few minutes this time, and got the victory that Bill Parcells stressed was so important.

With rookie Marion Barber running for 127 yards and two touchdowns on 27 carries in his first start and new kicker Shaun Suisham making two short field goals, the Cowboys beat the Arizona Cardinals 34-13 on Sunday.

Arizona lost its 14th straight game at Texas Stadium since 1989.

All week, Parcells talked about this game being "a little more important." For good reason.

With the victory, the Cowboys (5-3) hit the midpoint of their season with a winning record and stayed on pace in the jammed NFC East. They also had a good performance going into their bye week, which comes before they have to play three games in 11 days.

The Cowboys didn't have a penalty and scored in a variety of ways, going three plays for 80 yards the first time they had the ball. They also had two long sustained scoring drives, ran and

threw for touchdowns and got Anthony Henry's 58-yard interception return in the fourth quarter that eliminated any late drama.

Except for a 33-10 victory over Philadelphia, every other Cowboys game was determined in the final four minutes.

A week ago, Dallas lost 13-10 at Seattle after the Seahawks scored 10 points in the final 46 seconds. The week before that, in their last home game, the New York Giants tied the game in the final minute before the Cowboys won in overtime.

Early Sunday, one fan held up a sign that said "The game is 60 minutes long." At least, the final 20 or so in this one were used to savor a victory.

Barber took over for Julius Jones, who missed his third straight game with a sprained left ankle and has missed 11 of his 24 career games because of injuries. The rookie earned the start after running for 95 yards on 22 carries in Seattle.

After Neil Rackers kicked a 52-yard field goal to give the Cardinals (2-5) a 3-0 lead, Barber picked up 18 yards on Dallas' first play. Drew Bledsoe then threw a short pass

that Jason Witten turned into a 34-yard gain before Barber twisted his way through several defenders for a 28-yard TD.

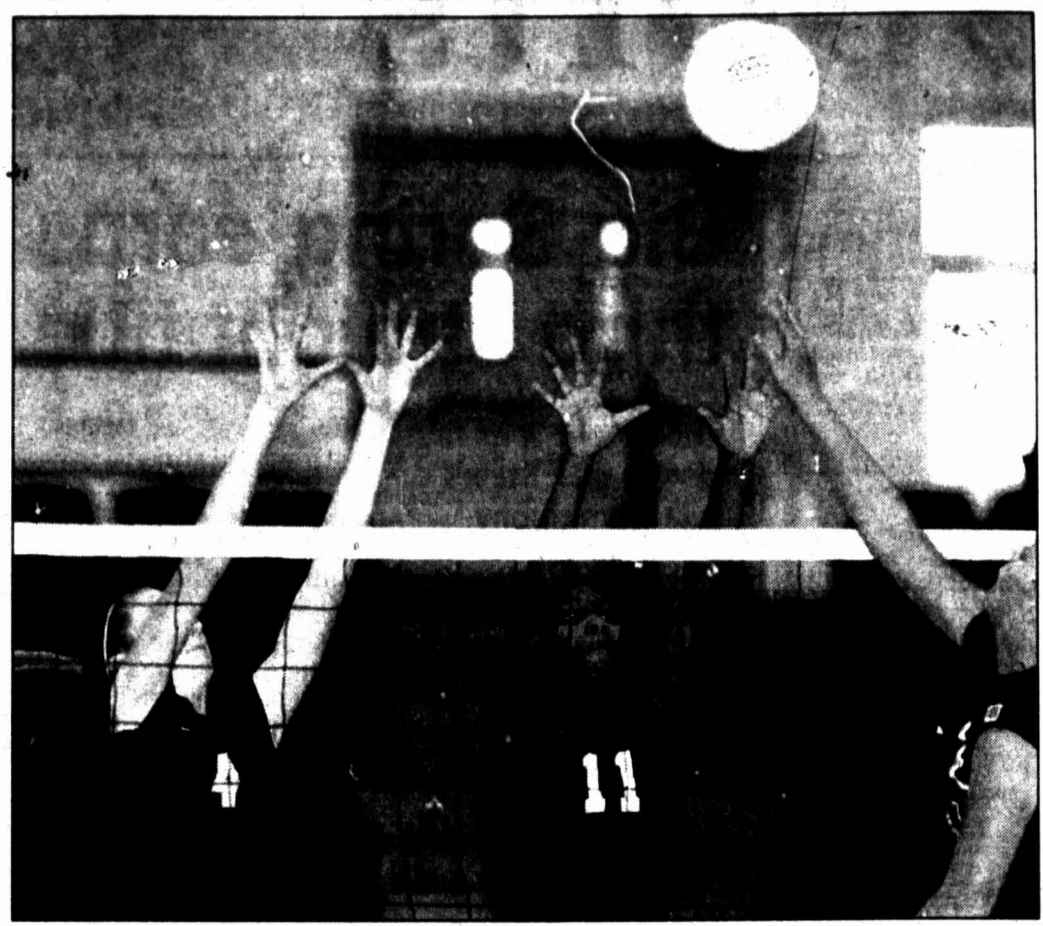
Barber put the Cowboys up 24-10 with his second TD, a 10-yarder just before halftime. He took a handoff to the left, then cut back and once inside the 5 dived between three defenders, stretching into the end zone.

Josh McCown, still starting for Kurt Warner, completed 16 of 33 passes for 161 yards, with a 44-yard touchdown pass to Anquan Boldin, who beat Henry in the second quarter to tie the game at 10. He also threw two interceptions.

The Cowboys went ahead to stay late in the first half when they drove 75 yards in 11 plays, with Bledsoe hitting Keyshawn Johnson for a 5-yard TD. Bledsoe hit 19 of 24 passes for 220 yards.

Suisham, a rookie signed off the practice squad after the Cowboys cut Jose Cortez this week, kicked a pair of 21-yard field goals. He also made all four extra points.

Rackers added a 47-yard field goal. He's made all 22 of his field goal attempt this seasons, the consecutive streak a Cardinals record.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Big Spring freshman Shelbi Stewart, left, and senior Carmen Lewis get up high for the block against a hitter from Hereford Saturday. The Lady Steers lost to the Whitefaces in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

BIG SPRING

Continued from Page 1B

the Whitefaces continued to pull away. Big Spring got a point here and there, but Hereford scored more times than not and eventually built a 20-12 lead.

A serve error by Hereford, a Lewis kill and a Ritchey block pulled the Lady Steers to within 24-17, but Big Spring did not score after that.

"The girls proved to themselves tonight that they can play the way that I ask them to play," said McAden. "Its disappointing to be done, but I can't say I have any regrets. "We are going to miss the seniors. They are all solid kids and they taught our young kids a lot of things this year."

regrets. "We are going to miss the seniors. They are all solid kids and they taught our young kids a lot of things this year."



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
The Big Spring cheerleaders get the crowd into the match Saturday at LCU during the Lady Steers bi-district playoff match against Hereford.

Jones inactive again Sunday

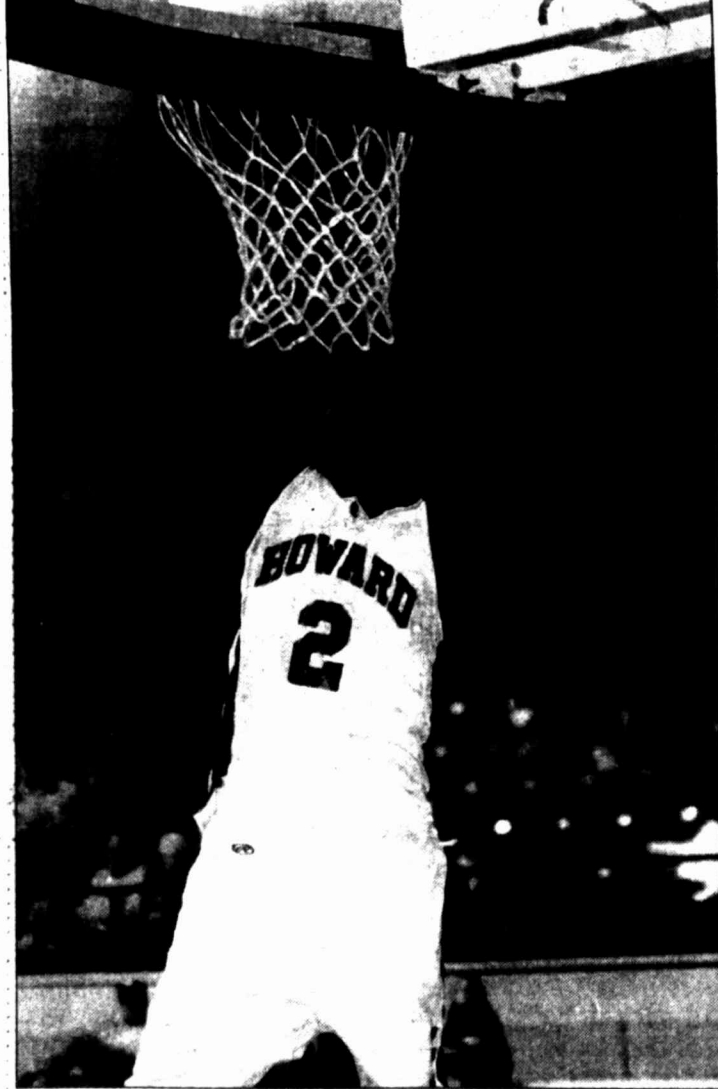
IRVING — Dallas Cowboys running back Julius Jones was inactive Sunday for the third straight game because of a sprained left ankle.

Rookie Marion Barber

started in Jones' place against the Arizona Cardinals.

The Cowboys are hoping that Jones, who has now missed 11 of the 24 games in his career due

to injuries, can be ready to play Nov. 14 at Philadelphia after their open date. It was in the first half against the Eagles on Oct. 9 that Jones was hurt.



HERALD file photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Louis Rodgers dunks the ball for two points during a basketball game at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum last year.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

this year is because of the loss of sophomore James Barrett, who is ineligible to play this year after a red-shirt season went bad at another JUCO school.

Barrett committed to Southern State last week and not having his presence on the floor will hurt the Hawks this year.

"We are going to be thin inside now," said Adams. We won't only miss his leadership and scoring, but also his presence off the court. We can't really replace him."

Adams will try to replace Barrett with Herve Banogle and Benson Akpan, who stand 6-8 and 6-9, respectively.

The Hawks also have high hopes for guards Benny Valentine, Richard Forbes, John Claborn and Catrell Currie. Also figuring into the mix on the court in several different positions will be Bougari Konate and Phil Murphy.

Besides not having Barrett, Howard will also be without three other starters from last year. Munir Shakir graduated, Brandon Sampay transferred to NAIA Xavier and Rashad Mintz signed a Division I scholarship with Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

"We go from being a veteran team with four starters back to a group with one starter and mostly freshman who now must compete for us," said Adams.

Adams also said the team, like last year, will expect to win games with defense, but this year's squad could be a better

shooting team. The Hawks open the season Tuesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum against the University of Texas Permian Basin's JV team, but, unlike last year, don't expect to see too many JV teams on Howard's schedule this year.

The Hawks will travel to Colorado for a tournament shortly after its opener and will also take part in the South Padre Island Tournament and the Odessa Thanksgiving Shootout later this month. The Hawks will also play regional rival Weatherford College, host their own tournament and take part in a New Year's tournament in Florida before playing as a favorite in the tough WJAC conference.

Hawks projected starting lineup

1. Benny Valentine
2. Dezmon Harris
3. Charles Burgess
4. Louis Rodgers
5. Herve Banogle

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Howard men's schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 1	UTPB JV	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 4-5	@Trinidad State Classic	TBA
Nov. 8	@Weatherford College	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 18-20	@South Padre Island Tourney	TBA
Nov. 24-26	@Odessa Thanksgiving Shootout	TBA
Dec. 3	Weatherford College	4 p.m.
Dec. 9-10	Super 8 Motel/Hawk Shootout	TBA
Jan. 2-4	@Polk College New Year's Classic	TBA
Jan. 16	*@New Mexico Military Institute	8:30 p.m.
Jan. 19	*@New Mexico JC	8:50 p.m.
Jan. 23	*@Midland College	7:50 p.m.
Jan. 26	*@Odessa College	7:50 p.m.
Jan. 30	*@South Plains College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 2	*@Frank Phillips College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 6	*@Clarendon College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 9	*@New Mexico Military Institute	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 13	*@New Mexico JC	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 16	*@Midland College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 20	*@Odessa College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 23	*@South Plains College	7:50 p.m.
Feb. 27	*@Frank Phillips College	7:50 p.m.
March 2	*@Clarendon College	7:50 p.m.
March 9-12	NJCAA Region V Tournament	TBA
March 21-25	NJCAA National Tournament	TBA

* denotes conference games

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Western Container offers a great compensation package, including med/dent/vision/prescription; 401(k) w/company match; vacation; holidays and more. Send resume: Fax 432-263-8075; Mail: 1600 1st Avenue, Big Spring, TX 79720 or email wccjobsbs@wccpet.com, all attn: HR.

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CITATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
NOTICE TO: All Persons interested in the Estate of James Charles Anderson, An Incapacitated Person

The application for Account For Final Settlement by Loy Harold Anderson, applicant, was filed in the Probate Court of Howard County, Texas on the 14th day of October, 2005, for the guardianship of James Charles Anderson, numbered G-72, and entitled "In The Guardianship of James Charles Anderson, An Incapacitated Person".

The Court will hear such application at 10:00 AM on the first Monday after the expiration of 10 days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published, which will be Monday, the 31st day of October, 2005, in the County Courtroom in the County Courthouse of Howard County in Big Spring, Texas.

All of the persons named or identified above and all persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Howard County, Texas in Big Spring, Texas.

The officer serving this citation shall, in compliance with the law, serve it by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in this county, in which such proceeding is pending, for not less than 10 days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the date of publication.

#4756 October 31 & November 7, 14, 21, 2005.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION
DISTRICT 08

DATE OF ISSUANCE:
OCTOBER 21, 2005
RULE 37 CASE NO. 0244814

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] had made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 27, Bk. 36 T2S, T&P RR CO Survey, A-387, SPRAYBERRY (TREND AREA) Field, GLASSCOCK County, being 18.9 miles NW direction from GARDEN CITY, Texas. The location and identity of the well is as follows:

FIELD: SPRAYBERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/ Unit Name: BOTTS
Lease/ Unit Well No.: 2
Lease/ Unit Acres: 160.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft): 416.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft): 1205.0
Lease Lines: 443.0 F NORTH L, 416.0 F WEST L
Survey Lines: 2239.0 F SOUTH L, 416.0 F WEST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:
SPRAYBERRY (TREND AREA):
GAS Special Rules 660-933, 80.0 acres.

OIL Special Rules 660-933, 80.0 acres.

OIL Optional Rules 660/933, 160.0 acres.

OIL Optional Rules 660/933, 40.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9500 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jenna Staggs, at (972)969-3971.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted without a hearing if no protest to the application is received.

An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance.

If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Proponent should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case.

The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6848.

If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6701.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY Dec. 2, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

#4776 October 31 & November 7, 14, 21, 2005.

DONT LET SOMEONE MAKE YOUR DECISIONS FOR YOU.

VOTE!

This Halloween is also the new moon eve. The Libra moon goes void in the afternoon, bringing listless energy for a few hours. The effect is a spooky stillness — that kind of eerie anticipation before something or someone jumps out and says, "boo!" Then the Scorpio moon brings a supremely macabre tone to the evening's events.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're feeling playful today and approaching things more like it's April Fools' Day than Halloween! Your Halloween alter ego: a celebrante or a member of the current Hollywood Brat Pack.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you're surprised by images you usually only see in your dreams, deep wells of creativity awaken in you. Your Halloween alter ego: a winged creature — angel, bee, bat, fairy, etc.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The exceptional thing you did for a friend is

now repaid — what an unexpected delight! Your Halloween alter ego: a classic super hero, especially Superman or Wonder Woman.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You feel like an open book with nothing to hide. But giving away too much information could be detrimental. Hold back — be mysterious. Your Halloween alter ego: a character from the realm of science fiction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). An exciting change in your environment is just the thing you needed to jump-start your romantic life. Your Halloween alter ego: a billionaire like Martha or Donald, or a world leader.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What starts as a compelling idea soon takes over your schedule. You could lose time, since you're totally engaged in your "work." Your Halloween alter ego: a furry animal, especially a bunny or a bear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You wake up feeling peppy, sociable and imaginative. You could go a long way to please friends. Give an impromptu party. Your Halloween alter ego: a scary doctor or a sexy

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Wisdom is your star-gift. You've got enough of it for you and a partner who isn't thinking clearly at all. Your Halloween alter ego: a fruit, vegetable or plant — like a pumpkin or a chili pepper.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone warm and inviting wants the same niceties from you. Tonight, make some noise. Singing or playing an instrument relaxes you. Your Halloween alter ego: a mythological creature like a minotaur or a unicorn.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your day improves as it progresses. Family matters come to the fore, and everything gets sorted out. Your Halloween alter ego: someone with magical powers, like a witch or a warlock.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're in one of your wacky and spontaneous moods. Invite the gang to your house tonight for maximum fun. Signs to laugh with are Gemini or Libra. Your Halloween alter ego: a monster or a gory creature.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March

20). Flirtation (especially with a co-worker) could have dire consequences, so watch out. Your Halloween alter ego: a character from a novel or a person from history.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:

A Scorpio reader asks: "Don't Scorpions get a bad rap with Halloween as their big holiday? A friend of mine had her cards read by a tarot card reader who said that the card most associated with Scorpio is the 'death' card. Isn't that taking it a bit too far? I'm not creepy or dark and gothic. Some people say I'm cheerful! Am I hiding my true nature, or am I in denial?"

Neither. Western cultures attach such a negative connotation to death that it's hard to see symbols of death (including the "death" card in a tarot deck) as anything but a bad omen. I'm not saying that one should celebrate things related to death, but there are cultures that do. The death card in the tarot deck represents transformation — and death is the ultimate transformation. From the tiniest blade of grass to the biggest star, all things

will change into something other than what they are. Instead of thinking of Scorpio as the ruler of all things macabre, maybe it would help you to think of Scorpio as the agent of inevitable, natural and beautiful change. This Halloween night, acknowledge that there is more to existence than the physical realm.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Bubbly blonde bombshell Jenny McCarthy embodies Scorpio independence.

Recognizing a dearth of female leads, this self-proclaimed non-writer took it upon herself to pen her own movie script — the recently released "Dirty Love." McCarthy continues to show initiative this year, helming film, television and book projects and mentoring young women in all vocations to take charge.

If you would like to write to *Holiday Mathis*, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the *Holiday Mathis* page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am 45 years old, married 11 years. My wife and I were both married before and have grown children from our first marriages. We have a 10-year-old son together.

Here's the problem. My wife treats me like I am 15 years old. She expects me to come home from work and sit in front of the television. I have friends who I am not allowed to socialize with, nor am I permitted to go to any of their homes. I have been invited to go fishing with the guys, which includes an overnight stay, and she said I can't go (although it is fine if I take my son fishing, just the two of us).

My wife likes to have time to herself, but it's a no-no for me. I can go to bed early while she stays up, but if she is tired, I

have to go to bed when she does. I am not allowed to stay up by myself. I even have to go to the store when she goes.

I am tired of it and have no intention of living the rest of my life like this. What do you suggest? — Not 15 in Nebraska

Dear Not 15: Your wife needs to control everything you do because she is terribly insecure. Worse, for the past 11 years, you have given her the impression that she can get away with it. Your wife must learn that even with more freedom you won't betray her, so assert yourself in a firm, non-threatening way. ("No, I'm not tired yet. I'll come to bed later.") Repeat. Overnight trips with your buddies will be harder to finesse.

Some marriage counseling would

business etiquette. What do you say? — Fed Up in Oregon

Dear Oregon: Of course your co-worker should eat with his mouth closed, as should everyone. This is especially annoying in a small office where you cannot avoid hearing and seeing. Since your supervisor will not intervene, you may as well speak to your co-worker directly. Say nicely, "Bob, I'm sure you don't realize that you eat with your mouth open. Would you mind keeping the sound effects down, please?" If that doesn't help, invest in some headphones and turn your chair away.

Dear Annie: A few years back, after a long hard day at work, I took off all my clothes when I got home and realized how great it felt to be naked. Since I lived alone, I continued to be nude while at home. I have shades that provide privacy, and I keep a robe handy in case I need to answer the door.

The problem is I have fallen in love with "Jim," and we are talking about marriage. His thoughts on nudity is OK only in bed or in the shower. I won't force him to be naked if he doesn't want to, but I am not prepared to give up my nudity, either. Indeed, I often am uncomfortable even in

loose-fitting clothes.

This is our only major area of disagreement. What should I do? — Connecticut Cutie

Dear Conn.: Tell Jim how you feel, and ask if he'll join you, or at least not object to your nudity at home. If he is unwilling to bend on this issue, either the nudity goes, or Jim does.

Dear Annie: I just received an invitation for a "Father-To-Be" shower for a friend who will be a first-time dad. The mother-to-be is hosting the party, and she has three children from two previous relationships.

Is this a new thing? Showers for men? I have absolutely no intention of going unless you tell me I am wrong. — Outraged Friend

Dear Outraged: Etiquette rules change with the times, and while

still not common, it's perfectly OK for men to be honored with a baby shower. Usually, such a shower honors both parents together, since having two separate showers for the same parents, same child, is asking a lot from the guests. We could be picky about Mom hosting the shower (that is still inappropriate), but we say not to penalize your friend, the father, or his new baby Go, and try to have a good time.

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KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

probably be useful, so each of you can express your needs to an impartial third party. It's certainly worth looking into before your resentment boils over completely.

Dear Annie: I work with a man who is constantly eating at his desk. All day long, there are bowls of cereal, fruit or salad and boxes of crackers, and in between, he chews gum or slurps cans of pop. While none of these things is particularly pleasant, what's impossible to ignore is that he never closes his mouth except to smack his lips.

My supervisor says this is my problem, and he has no plans to ask the man to stop eating at his desk. He says I should "grow up and get over it." I say it's bad manners on my co-worker's part and he needs to develop some

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DENNIS THE MENACE



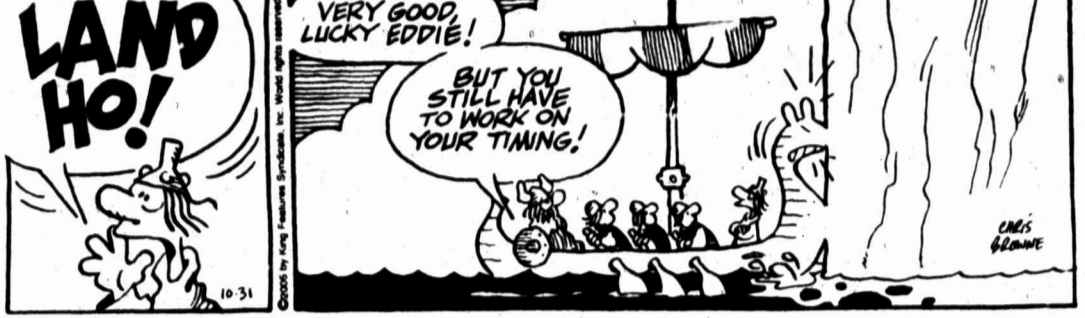
"He's definitely OVERQUALIFIED FOR THAT JOB."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"This would get me lots of candy 'cause I'd look really hungry."

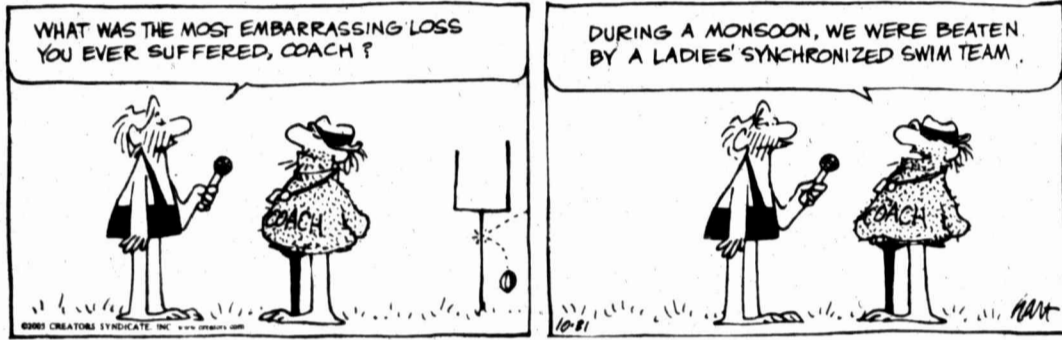
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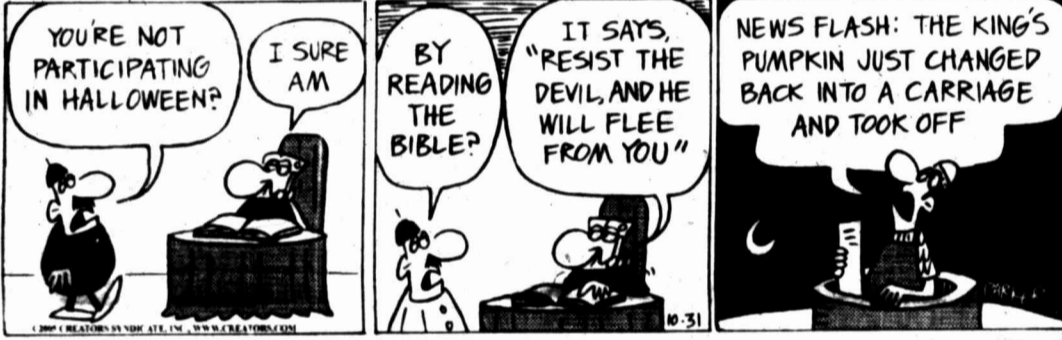
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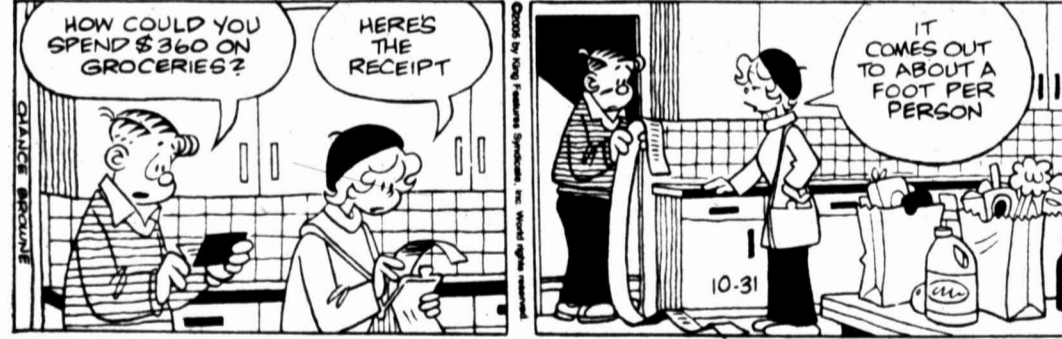
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



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This Date In History

Today is Monday, Oct. 31, the 304th day of 2005. There are 61 days left in the year. This is Halloween. Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Palace church, marking the start of the Protestant Reformation in Germany. On this date: In 1926, magician Harry Houdini died in Detroit of gangrene and peritonitis, resulting from a ruptured appendix. In 1941, the U.S. Navy destroyer Reuben James was torpedoed by a German U-boat off Iceland with the loss of 115 lives, even though the United States had not yet entered World War II. In 1955, Britain's Princess Margaret ended weeks of speculation by announcing she would not marry Royal Air Force Captain Peter Townsend. In 1968, President Johnson

ordered a halt to all U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, saying he hoped for fruitful peace negotiations. In 1980, Reza Pahlavi, eldest son of the late shah of Iran, proclaimed himself the rightful successor to the Peacock Throne. In 1984, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh security guards. In 1994, a Chicago-bound American Eagle ATR-72 crashed in northern Indiana, killing all 68 people aboard. In 1999, EgyptAir Flight 990, bound from New York to Cairo, crashed off the Massachusetts coast, killing all 217 people aboard. Today's Birthdays: Former Attorney General Griffin Bell is 87. Author Dick Francis is 85. Former Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk is 83. Movie critic Andrew Sarris is 77. Former astronaut Michael Collins is 75. Actress Lee Grant is 74. Former CBS anchorman Dan Rather is 74. Actor Ron Rifkin is 66. Actor David Ogden Stiers is 63. Actress Sally Kirkland is 61. Singer Kinky Friedman is 61. Actress Deidre Hall is 57.

Talk show host Jane Pauley is 55. Movie director Peter Jackson is 44. Rock musician Larry Mullen is 44. Actor Dermot Mulroney is 42. Rock singer-musician Johnny Marr is 42. Actor Rob Schneider is 41. Rap musician Adrock is 39. Songwriter Adam Schlesinger is 38. Rap performer Rob Van Winkle (formerly known as Vanilla Ice) is 37. Rock singer Linn Berggren (Ace of Base) is 35. TV host Troy Hartman is 31. Actor Eddie Kaye Thomas is 25.

Thought for Today: "There are very few monsters who warrant the fear we have of them." - Andre Gide, French author and critic (1869-1951).

* 2005 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like RECESS, ARRESTED, ADROIT, BEANPOLE, etc.

Newsday Crossword

WORD FOR TODAY by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.