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BIG SPRING HERALD



INSIDE
Fairley's 24
leads HC
past Hardin-
Simmons
JV at home
Page 1B

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 310

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

United Way makes plea for area agencies

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With little more than a week left before the end of the annual United Way campaign, project coordinators are asking Howard County residents to put the \$300,000 goal aside and start thinking about the real stakeholders in the effort — the agencies that benefit from the local charity.

"Right now we have about \$152,000," said Cynthia Scott, director of the local United

Way. "That's a little more than half the goal we set this year. It's been really slow coming in."

Scott said the charitable organization will wrap up its fund-raising efforts for 2006 soon, and while the group is still a long way from its goal for the year, that won't stop the process by which the money is divided among 15 area

agencies.

"It should be finished by Dec. 2 because we have our allocations program set to begin Dec. 6," said Scott. "We have a committee that meets for two nights, and they hear every agency's presentation. At the end of that, they write down what they think each agency should receive."

"The agencies make a request for a certain amount, and when they come in and make their presentation they will explain why they need that much. The

"We don't want people's Christmas money. All we want is for them to make a pledge for what they can give after the first of the year. That's all."

Cynthia Scott, United Way director



committee will basically kick out the low and high numbers submitted and average it up, and it usually comes really close to what they're asking for."

Agencies assisted by the United Way include the YMCA, Victim Services, Girl Scouts, Westside Day Care Center,

See **UW**, Page 3A

Online focus

Howard College officials look to enhance presence on Web

To look at HC's Web site, go to www.howardcollege.edu.

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The school's Web site, along with several other ongoing programs and projects, were the focus of Monday afternoon's meeting of the Howard College board of trustees.

Shirley Lee, director of communications and marketing, said the college's Web site, located on the Internet at www.howardcollege.edu, is being redesigned to a very strict standard.

"We want the pride that we have in Howard College to be reflected in the Web site," Lee told the board. "We want it to be designed primarily for the students — both the ones we have now and prospective students — and all of it be relative to the district."

Lee said each of the Howard College campuses in the district — which includes the Big Spring campus, SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) and the San Angelo campus — will have its one place on the site.

"Each campus will have its own place on the Web site, but we'll try to keep the look and feel of it the same throughout," said Lee. "We'll stay with the same color schemes — except for SWCID, which has its own colors — and the same idea. Also, each department will be responsible for updating and maintaining their part of the site."

Lee said there is also an ongoing effort to involve the Hawks athletic department more in the Web design process.

"We're working with the coaches for the athletics part of the site," said Lee. "We want to feature more on the athletes themselves — more about the students — than we have in the past."

"We want the site to be very eye-catching, but also easy to navigate, and I think we've accomplished that."

"The Internet is a very important tool for Howard College because it allows the students to access the front door of the institution," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, college president.

Trustees also heard reports on the college's computer conversion

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3A



Shirley Lee, director of communications and marketing for Howard College, gives trustees a sneak peek at the college's new Web site, currently under development.

Sales tax rebates up 7.31 percent for Howard County, Comptroller says

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

Sales tax rebates were generally up across the area for November, though by varying degrees, according to the Texas Comptroller's Office.

Big Spring received \$447,904.67 this month, up 7.31 percent when compared to the \$417,357.42 taken in during November of 2004. After the first 11 months of 2005, Big Spring is nipping at the \$4 million

mark. The city has collected \$3,971,352.48, an amount ahead of last year's collections by 6.07 percent.

Coahoma received \$8,196.67 for the month, up a whopping 35.13 percent when compared to the \$6,065.40 received a year ago. For 2005, Coahoma has received \$57,529.92, a pace that is 14.21 percent higher than 2004.

Forsan continues to witness major fluctuations in its sales tax rebates — but positive ones. The

Howard County community received \$7,574.44 this month compared to \$5,381.13 in November 2004. That's a mammoth 40.75 percent increase. For the year, Forsan has received \$69,706.35, up 23.41 percent. Only Lubbock and Stanton — both of which passed sales tax rate hikes this time a year ago — have shown stronger improvement.

Rebates went up 5.73 percent for Abilene, comparing November 2005 rates of \$2,763,118.08 to

November 2004 rates of \$2,613,358.68. For the year, Abilene has received \$27,002,828.17, up 8.35 percent.

After enjoying back-to-back double-digit increases, Andrews witnessed a down month in November. The community took in \$93,316.25 this month, a 4.71 percent decrease compared to the \$97,930.19 collected in November 2004. For the year, the city has collected \$949,076.25, up 16.82

See **REBATES**, Page 5A

Hostages talk shooter down, help disarm him after hours of fear

By **CURT WOODWARD**
Associated Press Writer

TACOMA, Wash. — After hours as a hostage in a suburban shopping mall, Jon Black saw the distraught young gunman toying with the clip of his assault rifle.

"I was thinking, OK, he's either flipped — or we're getting out of here," Black recalled Monday.

Then the gunman, with the look of "a scared kid," removed the clip

and emptied the chamber. Black, 32, and another hostage stepped in to end the ordeal.

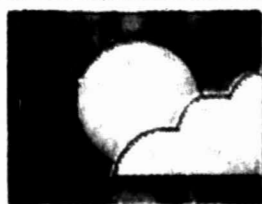
"He had tears in his eyes when we were taking the weapons away from him and he was in tears as we were taking him out," said Black, an active duty Army soldier.

It was the end of a shooting rampage that erupted Sunday afternoon during a busy shop

See **HOSTAGES**, Page 5A

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To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

MERKEL ELECTED

BERLIN (AP) — Angela Merkel was elected today as Germany's first female chancellor, taking power at the helm of an unwieldy alliance of the right and left that now officially has the job of turning around Europe's biggest economy.

Lawmakers voted 397 to 202 with 12 abstentions to make Merkel Germany's eighth leader since World War II, succeeding Gerhard Schroeder, whose seven-year government of Social Democrats and Greens was ousted by voters Sept. 18.

Schroeder was the first to walk over and congratulate a smiling Merkel after the vote was announced.

SANTA LETTERS SOUGHT

The *Big Spring Herald* traditionally publishes Letters to Santa Claus near Christmas Day as a service to the community.

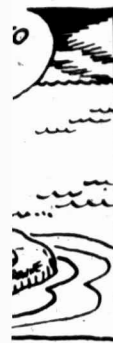
Letters from children in kindergarten, first and second grade, public, private and home schooled, as well as those in preschool, day care and Head Start may be submitted for publication.

All letters should be received by Friday, Dec. 9. Each letter should contain the child's name as well as school or classroom affiliation. Submit letters to the *Big Spring Herald*, P.O. Box 1431 or e-mail composing@bigspringherald.com. For more information, call 263-7331.

THAT WOULD HURT

FORT MYERS BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Police accidentally hit a naked man in the genitals with a Taser after he was caught breaking windows and asking women to touch him, authorities said.

Jeremy J. Miljour, 26, tried to run away when sheriff's deputies approached so one of them shot their Taser, said Cpl. Matt Chitwood. But one of the gun's prongs accidentally hit Miljour's genitals and got stuck. "The Taser is relatively accurate, but when someone is moving like that, it doesn't matter if you have a Taser, or a pistol. (Officers) can't aim," Chitwood said. Miljour was treated at a hospital before being taken to jail.



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Obituaries

Lynn Leamon Henson

Lynn Leamon Henson, 81, of Stanton died Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Police blotter

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

- **GARY JAMES MIEARS**, 29, of 607 W. 18th Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of aggravated assault against a public servant.
- **RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION** was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 100 block of 10th Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 2500 block of Gregg Street.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet.
- **ASSAULT ON A PUBLIC SERVANT** was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1300 block of 11th Place.

Sheriff's report

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

- **THEFT** was reported at Cline Construction and the 200 block of Wilson Road.
- **MILES LESLIE BUSBY**, 36, was transferred to the county jail from BSPD after being arrested on a Liberty County warrant charging assault.
- **JOHNNY OCHOA**, 35, was transferred to county jail from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of failure to identify fugitive from justice.
- **ROSALINDA FLORES**, 41, was transferred to county jail from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of theft.
- **ERICA MORENO OCHOA**, 26, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for theft.
- **KRISTOPHER GARCIA**, 22, was arrested by sheriff's deputies on a charge of no liability insurance and violating promise to appear.
- **JORGE ANTONIO ESCAJEDA**, 30, was transferred to county jail from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **SELESTINO HERNANDEZ III**, 20, was transferred to county jail from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- **KRISTOPHER JULIAN BURKE**, 32, was arrested by sheriff's deputies on a charge of theft by check.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of East Sixth. Service was refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2100 block of Main. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Austin. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

- **FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE** needs a cow, sheep, goats and donkeys on loan for the Drive-Thru Nativity. Call Vicki at 263-0203 or 816-9039.
- **HOWARD COLLEGE LUMINARIA** at 6 p.m. Dec. 1 in the Administration Courtyard.
- **HOWARD COLLEGE JURIED STUDENT ART SHOW COMPETITION** Dec. 1 in the Howard College library.
- **BENEFIT FOR GARY DANIELS** is set for Dec. 10 beginning at noon at the Ice House, 1612 E. Third St. Daniels has been diagnosed with cancer and proceeds are to help with medical expenses. The benefit features barbecue plates for \$6, live music, a chance to win a 12-gauge pump shotgun, an auction and a 50/50 drawing. For more information, call Danya James at 816-6141 or Tom Cox at 393-5888.
- **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.
- **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.
- **POTTED FALL MUMS TO BENEFIT THE BSHS CARNEGIE HALL BAND TRIP** are on sale now at Johansen's Nursery for \$15 while supplies last.
- **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.
- **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.
- **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week

Weather

Tonight—Clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Light and variable winds.

Wednesday—Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Light and variable winds.

Wednesday night—Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s. Light and variable winds.

Thanksgiving day—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. North winds around 10 mph shifting to the east in the afternoon.

Thursday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Friday—Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Friday night—Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 40s.

Saturday—Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the lower 60s.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.

Sunday—Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the lower 60s.

Sunday night—Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows in the upper 30s.

Monday—Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the mid 50s.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 15-17-31-35 (numerical order). Bonus Ball: 33.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$250,000.

Winning ticket(s) sold in: Hallettsville.

Number matching four of four: 9. Prize: \$1,113.

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$200,000.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-9-25-29-35.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-4-3

Support Groups

TUESDAY
• The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m. Dec. 13 in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

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

FRIDAY
• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• **RAILROAD MUSEUM** at the corner of Second Street and Main Street is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday. Free admission. Call 432-559-3409 for more information.

• **POTTON HOUSE**, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

• **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

BIG SPRING HERALD
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Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1105 Birdwell Lane. For more information, call Tracey Pounds at 268-4948.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY, Nov. 24

- Thanksgiving Day.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.
- Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Around Town

through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.



Holiday Hours

The Big Spring Herald office will be closed Thursday, November 24th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please expect your Thursday paper to be delivered by 7:00 a.m.

Watch for fantastic sales all over town to kick off the Christmas shopping season.

Classified advertising deadlines are adjusted as follows:

- Deadline for ads in Thursday's paper 2:00 pm Tuesday
- Deadline for ads in Friday's paper 12:00 noon Wednesday

Retail advertising deadlines are adjusted as follows:

- Deadline for Thursday's paper 10:00 am Tuesday
- Deadline for Friday's paper 3:00 pm Tuesday
- Deadline for Sunday's paper

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

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General Motors to cut 30,000 manufacturing jobs, close plants

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors Corp.'s Craft Centre facility had "always been a plant that survived," UAW Local 1618 President Dan Fairbanks said.

On Monday, he learned the Lansing, Mich., site, which employs an estimated 400 workers, was expected to close next year as part of a plan to cut 30,000 North American hourly jobs by 2008.

"There is a sadness because this work force, this family you've been with so long no longer will be at the same place," said Fairbanks, 51.

The world's largest automaker, hammered by declining sales and rising health care costs, said it was eliminating the positions as it tries to stem losses that approached \$4 billion in the first nine months of this year.

"The decisions we are announcing ... were very difficult to reach because of their impact on our employees and the communities where we live and work," GM Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner said. "But these actions are necessary for GM to get its costs in line with our major global competitors."

The cuts represent 17 percent of GM's North American hourly and salaried work force of 173,000.

The plant closings are part of a plan to shave \$7 billion off its \$42 billion annual bill for operations by the end of next year. That includes a \$3 billion cut in health care costs, \$1.5 billion in manufacturing cuts and \$1 billion in savings on materials. Wagoner said the job cuts will come primarily through attrition and early-retirement packages.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1A

program, which has made a great deal of headway since its implementation in March of 2004. Several software modules are still in the process of being installed and brought online, including access to billing information and the ability to make payments over the Internet for SWCID.

Dr. Amy Burchett, vice president for educational programs, reported on the school's partnership programs, which pairs Howard College with several area universities.

"We work closely with other universities to assure transfer opportunities for our students," said Burchett.

"We've had 22 graduates as a result of our partnership with Lubbock Christian University, which started in April of 2002. They have gone through the bachelor of science and Organizational Management program and only had to go to Lubbock a couple of times. They were able to earn that degree right here at this campus. We hope to see another 26 graduate by August of 2006 and another group of students should begin then as well."

Burchett said partnership programs also exist between Howard College and the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), Texas Tech University and the University of Texas at Permian Basin.

"The transfer program with UTPB is called Direct

Connect," said Burchett. "This was just a way of formalizing what the students sign — it's basically a little contract — which assures them if they follow these pathways through the UTPB program, everything will transfer. They also get extra assistance with admissions."

Burchett said in addition to the direct connect program, the recent award of Title V grants to Howard College and UTPB will allow the pair to enlist the services of a counselor, who is expected to spend approximately 80 percent of their time on Howard campuses helping students with these types of concerns.

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

UW

Continued from Page 1A

Westside Community Center, Salvation Army, Northside Community Center, Isaiah 58, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, CASA of West Texas, Council on Aging, Buffalo Trail Council of Boy Scouts of America, Big Spring Humane Society, Boy's Club of Big Spring and American Red Cross, West Texas Chapter.

Scott said there are several major contributions from area companies — including Western Container, Cornell Corrections, Howard College and the VA Medical Center — that have yet to be tallied into the effort.

"We still have some major contributions — some as much as \$20,000 — yet to come in," said Scott. "They could certainly make a big difference in whether or not we make our goal, but I really think the goal shouldn't be as important as funding these agencies.

For many of them the funding they receive from the United Way can make or break them."

Scott said the response from the public has been mixed, with some organizations and businesses collecting less than last year.

"I think the hurricanes have had an impact on how much people can give, but at the same time I've seen situations where groups that donated to the relief efforts are giving more this year than they did last year," said Scott. "We're still hopeful that we'll be able to make our goal this year, but if we don't that's not nearly as important as funding the agencies that rely on us."

Scott said she hopes area residents understand that although the United Way campaign will end in several days, collection of the funds won't actually begin until after Jan. 1.

"We just want to remind people we don't start actually collecting the money until after the first of the year," said Scott. "Right now, what we're looking for is a pledge, for people to say they will pledge to

donate so much money next year. And if something happens and they can't donate what they've pledged, we understand."

"I know a lot of people have given everything they can for the hurricane relief efforts, and right now they're looking at Christmas and wondering how they're going to buy presents. We don't want people's Christmas

money. All we want is for them to make a pledge for what they can give after the first of the year. That's all."

"There are a lot of different ways to make a donation. The most painless way to donate is through payroll deduction. Even if you only have \$2 taken out of your paycheck — that's a couple of sodas — it makes a

big difference. You can also have it set up to be directly debited from your bank account, whether it's a one-time donation or you want to give a set amount each quarter."

For more information on how to donate to the local United Way, contact Scott at 267-5201.

Contact Staff Writer

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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BEALLS

Pre-Thanks Wednesday

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Everything Regular Price, Sale or Clearance!

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
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News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

The Internet
under fire
from abroad

Some 12,000 people convened last week in Tunisia for a United Nations conference about the Internet. Many delegates want an end to the U.S. Commerce Department's control over the assignment of Web site addresses (for example, www.washingtonpost.com) and e-mail accounts, such as johndoe(at)aoil.com.

The delegates' argument is that unilateral U.S. control over these domain names reflects no more than the historical accident of the Internet's origins. Why should the United States continue to control the registration of French and Chinese Internet addresses? It doesn't control the registration of French and Chinese cars, whatever Henry Ford's historic role in democratizing travel was.

The reformers' argument is attractive in theory and dangerous in practice. In an ideal world, unilateralism should be avoided. But in an imperfect world, unilateral solutions that run efficiently can be better than multilateral ones that don't. It may be theoretically undesirable that the United States provides most of the security in global shipping lanes, but in practice this allows commerce to get done. Scrapping the U.S. Navy in favor of a naval police led by the United Nations would be unlikely to help anyone.

The same is true of the Internet. The job of assigning domain names offers huge opportunities for abuse. Whoever controls this function can decide to keep certain types of individuals or organizations offline (dissidents or opposition political groups, for example). Or it can allow them on in exchange for large fees.

The striking feature of U.S. oversight of the Internet is that such abuses have not occurred. Any organization that wants to register a domain name can do so, provided that the name hasn't already been claimed. Opportunistic cyber-squatting has been brought under control. The cost of registering a Web address has fallen.

It's possible that a multilateral overseer of the Internet might be just as efficient. But the ponderous International Telecommunication Union, the U.N. body that would be a leading candidate to take over the domain registry, has a record of resisting innovation—including the advent of the Internet. Moreover, a multilateral domain-registering body would be caught between the different visions of its members: on the one side, autocratic regimes such as Saudi Arabia and China that want to restrict access to the Internet; on the other side, open societies that want low barriers to entry. These clashes of vision would probably make multilateral regulation inefficiently political.

You may say that this is a fair price to pay to uphold the principle of sovereignty. If a country wants to keep certain users from registering domain names (Nazi groups, child pornographers, criminals), then perhaps it has a right to do so. But the clinching argument is that countries can exercise that sovereignty to a reasonable degree without controlling domain names. They can order Internet users in their territory to take offensive material down. They can order their banks or credit card companies to refuse to process payments to unsavory Web sites based abroad. Indeed, governments' ample ability to regulate the Internet has already been demonstrated by some of the countries pushing for reform, such as authoritarian China.

The sovereign nations of the world have no need to wrest control of the Internet from the United States, because they already have it.

THE WASHINGTON POST

What Latin America really needs

The biggest surprise of all at the recent Summit of the Americas in Argentina was not the anti-Bush demonstrations, the anti-American rhetoric, or the refusal of delegates to move forward with the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas, but the fact that there were no real surprises.

With just a few exceptions, the countries of Latin America have reverted back to nationalistic populism that makes people feel better, while rejecting free-market growth strategies. That way they can feel good while doing poorly.

The Summit of the Americas was preprogrammed for failure, just as the many market-oriented reforms of the past decades were doomed to failure in the region, despite their soundness.

The real problem in Latin America is that, with few exceptions, the rule of law — particularly with regards to private property rights — doesn't exist as we know it. Decision-making is marred by corruption and cronyism and mired in bureaucracy.

Most people know this. A recent public opinion survey in Argentina by the Fundacion Libertad and FORES, two nonprofit organizations, and the law school at Torcuato Di Tella University indicated that 82 percent of the public rates the country's judicial system as ineffective and 89 percent believes justice is applied unfairly.

Venezuela is little more than "Cuba light." The rule of law in Mexico is "an empty, superfluous and even suspect concept," says Dr. Luis Rubio, president of the Center of Research for

Development, a well-respected Mexican think tank. And in Brazil, legal institutions have been in a "permanent state of crisis ... (eroding) public confidence in values such as democracy and the rule of law," observes law professor Augusto Zimmermann. The list goes on.

When the rule of law is weak and there is no respect for private property, efforts to promote free trade — and thereby spur economic growth and reduce poverty — are dubious at best. It is difficult to promote trade and investment in a country whose legal institutions are weak and corrupt; the risks are too great.

The results are beginning to show. Despite economic growth rates in Latin America averaging more than 5 percent in 2004 and similar growth anticipated this year, "capital flows" are negative, meaning more money is leaving the region than going in. This is not only the result of Latin American foreign debt, but the result of a continued lack of confidence among long-term investors. Not surprisingly, as Latin America expert Andres Oppenheimer has noted, "only 1 percent of the world's investment in research and development currently goes to Latin America."

If economic progress is the goal, the U.S. government and multi-lateral institutions like the World Bank need to push the region to take legal reform seriously. Every country in the region needs a legal system and regulatory environment that defines and protects property rights.

As a first step, political leaders should consult the work of economist Hernando de Soto of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy in Lima, Peru.

In capitalist economies, De Soto has shown, business operations rely on legal definitions of property and enforceable rules governing

transactions. These concepts are alien in much of Latin America.

Indeed, De Soto has found, what people physically own in such countries frequently isn't regarded as their property.

"Unlike assets in Western nations," De Soto's colleagues observe, real estate and equipment in the developing world frequently serve "only as physical shelter or tools; they cannot be leveraged to produce additional wealth." In effect, they are "dead capital," leaving up to 70 percent of the people in some countries cut off from the economy, condemned to poverty.

The property rights reform program he developed for Peru resulted in the legalization of an estimated 300,000 businesses that previously operated off-the-books, moved 560,000 workers from the underground economy to the legal economy and generated some \$300 million a year in additional tax revenues.

That should wake up the politicians.

If the U.S. government and multi-lateral institutions would refocus their attention on reforms that promote the rule of law and protect private property, future Summits of the Americas might look quite different. Instead of wasting time, Latin American leaders might embrace the kind of policies that would help the poorest of the poor while promoting democracy and human rights.

In that type of environment, a Free Trade Area of the Americas would be seen as a welcome and mutually beneficial development.

Alejandro Chafuen is founder and president of the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, a conservative, free-market think tank. Readers may write to the author at: AERF, 2000 North 14th Street, Suite 550, Arlington, Va. 22201; Web-site: www.atlasusa.org..

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Withdrawal: Help Iraqis help us leave

By TRUDY RUBIN

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Should we set a timetable for leaving Iraq?

This has become the hottest topic in Washington. Last week, U.S. Rep. John P. Murtha, D-Pa., a decorated former Marine and respected defense hawk with close ties to many military commanders, called for full withdrawal in six months. No Cindy Sheehan he.

Senate Republicans rejected the Democrats' plan for a timetable, and both parties vetoed a call on Friday for an immediate pullout. But even Republicans demanded that the administration clarify its Iraq plans. So is it time to set some dates? Or should we follow President Bush's repeated call to "stay the course"?

Neither of those options will work.

"That's the false choice the country has fallen into," says Paul Rieckoff, a former stockbroker who served in Iraq and now heads Operation Truth, a group of Iraq veterans. I agree with Rieckoff that a third option is needed.

Before we get to option three, however, let me tell you why the first two won't work.

Bush's Iraq policy is floundering, but a timeline would make a bad mess worse. We broke Iraq's old system; we have a moral and legal responsibility to restore a minimum of stability before we leave there.

Some Americans believe that the fighting would die down if our troops left the country soon. I disagree. Many Iraqis are indeed fighting against occupation, but the insurgency's core consists of Baathists and Islamists who are seeking to grab power. A timetable would inspire them to fight harder.

Others ask: Why not let Iraqis fight their civil war to the end? If their country splits into three pieces — Kurdish, Shiite and Sunni — that's their problem. However, their problem became ours when we invaded.

If Iraq splits, the bloodshed in mixed areas will dwarf what you see now. Kurds will retreat to the north, and a religious Shiite statelet to the south will fall under Iran's sway. The Sunni region in the west will become an even bigger training ground for Islamist terrorists who seek to overthrow their Arab neighbors. Having created this Islamist haven, we would probably have to return to Iraq to quash it.

So should we "stay the course"? President Bush says U.S. troops will stand down as the new Iraqi security forces we are training stand up. Sadly, that formula is wishful thinking.

It's hard to create a new, effective army in a bitterly divided country, where, right now, there is no sense of a nation. Military forces are more loyal to ethnic and religious communities than to something called Iraq. Relatively few Sunnis even join the security forces, making it harder to fight insurgents on their home turf. Iraq's military can't defeat the insurgents.

That's why we need Option Three: a political strategy to help the Iraqis help us leave.

U.S. military commanders believe the best hope of undercutting the insurgents is political, not military. A good chunk of the Sunni minority must be wooed into the political system and away from military struggle.

Sunnis are set to participate fully in Dec. 15 elections, after boycotting the vote last January;

that should produce new Sunni leaders. U.S. efforts in the next six months must center on cajoling and pressing Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds to devise a form of federalism that will hold the country together. Amendments to the new constitution will be needed.

Sunnis must be given a sufficient economic stake — including a share of future oil revenues — to make them split with the insurgents. Neighboring Arab countries and the United Nations must be enlisted in the effort to work out this modus vivendi.

But Iraqis should be warned that if they fail to reach an internal accord within the coming six months, American public opinion will demand a troop drawdown. For all their bluster about occupation, Sunnis know a speedy U.S. exit would leave them exposed to Shiite revenge. If they can help curb the insurgents, however, the Americans can go home.

The goal should be to get Sunnis to police much of their own region, as Shiite forces are already doing in the south and Kurdish militias in the north. American troops could then pull back from the cities and provide backup support for Iraqis to battle diehard Baathists and Islamists. Iraq's parliament would have to approve the U.S. troop presence.

All U.S. decisions on timetables should be postponed until mid-2006 to see whether the Iraqis can deliver. If they can't, there are no good options left.

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at trubin@phillynews.com.

REBATES

Continued from Page 1A

percent. Brownfield took in \$89,313.66 this month compared to \$81,402.93 a year ago, for an increase of 9.71 percent. For the year, Brownfield has taken in \$820,947.75, an increase of 8.84 percent. Colorado City collected \$48,872.48 for November 2005. That's a 27.18 percent increase when compared to the \$38,427.49 the Mitchell County seat collected in November 2004. For the year, Colorado City has collected \$412,304.75, which is up a scant 2.17 percent. Fort Stockton collected \$140,286.63 this month, a 22.67 percent increase over the \$114,355.80 taken in during November 2004. For the year, Fort

Stockton has received \$1,391,964.02, up 6 percent. Kermit continued its rollercoaster ride, bringing in \$44,005.96. That's a 30.76 percent increase compared to \$33,653.73 a year ago. The previous month, the city witnessed a decrease of 33.38 percent. For the year, Kermit has received \$323,611.81 and is still ahead of the game by 6.71 percent compared to 2004. Lamesa took in \$96,762.12 this month, an increase of 7.3 percent when compared to the \$90,171.01 received in November of 2004. For the year, the Dawson County seat has received \$844,844.26, up 7.24 percent. Lubbock, which increased its sales tax from 1.25 to 1.5 cents one year ago, saw rebates soar 43.71 percent this month.

The city received \$4,058,645.63, compared to \$2,824,012.83 in November 2004. For the year, Lubbock has received \$37,925,083.41, up 37.42 percent. Midland collected \$2,423,814.54 this month, up 8.02 percent compared to the \$2,243,714.17 collected a year ago. For the year, Midland has received \$22,484,660.93, up 11.71 percent. Monahans witnessed rebates go down 17.33 percent, comparing this month's collections of \$66,722.21 to November 2004's \$80,717.05. For the first 11 months of 2005, Monahans has received \$932,299.78, an increase of 9.39 percent. Odessa received \$1,676,194.33 this month, a 4.45 percent decrease when compared to the \$1,754,385.98 received in

November 2004. For the year, Odessa has received \$15,569,231.79, up 10.05 percent. Pecos collected \$76,504.29 this month, 3.12 percent less than the \$78,975.06 received in November 2004. For the year, Pecos has collected \$809,647.15, up 8.99 percent. San Angelo brought in \$1,425,598.94 in the year's 11th month, up 6.37 percent when compared to the \$1,340,170.53 received in November 2004. For the year, the Tom Green county seat has collected \$14,167,482.88, up 5.58 percent.

Snyder collected \$233,531.84 this month, up 38.97 percent when compared to the \$168,041.95 the Scurry County seat received in November 2004. For the year, Snyder has struggled to recover from some early deficits. After this month, however, the \$1,632,668.28 collected for the year is now in the black by 2.92 percent when compared to the first 11 months of 2004. Stanton, which raised its tax from 1 cent to 1.75 cents in November 2004, continues to experience strong increases in sales tax rebates. The Martin

County seat collected \$25,955.90 this November compared to \$18,265.38 a year ago — an increase of 42.1 percent. For the year, Stanton has received \$256,872.99, up a whopping 88.96 percent. Sweetwater received \$229,913.37; a 13.36 percent hike when compared to the \$202,813.22 received in November 2004. The Nolan County seat has received \$2,077,463.63 for the year, up 13.36 percent.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

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HOSTAGES

Continued from Page 1A

ping weekend at the Tacoma Mall, leaving six people wounded, one critically. Dominic Sergio Maldonado, 20, of Tacoma, pleaded innocent Monday to charges of first-degree assault, kidnapping and unlawful firearm possession. He was ordered held on \$2 million bail. Police said they got a call just before the shootings erupted, with the caller saying he was armed with two assault weapons and was about to start firing. When the dispatcher asked the man where he was, he replied, "Just follow the screams," court documents said. Maldonado told detectives he had been humiliated during a troubled childhood and that recent problems made him want to be "heard," according to the court papers. A text message to his ex-girlfriend minutes before the rampage said he was about to show the world his anger, the woman said. Plans for making bombs and the poison ricin were later found in Maldonado's bedroom, prosecutors said. The documents also said Maldonado denied intending to actually shoot anyone, but was trying to

draw media attention. Deputy Prosecutor Phil Sorensen said he doubted that story. "I'm surprised we're not looking at multiple fatalities," Sorensen said after Monday's hearing. "I don't believe he was trying to wing anybody." Defense lawyer Sverre Staurset said he was eager to find out what drove Maldonado to go to the mall with guns. "The thing to try to figure out here is, how does an otherwise attractive young man, 20 years old, end up on a Sunday in a mall with a gun? Something like this has got to have a genesis," Staurset said. Police said Maldonado fired more than 20 shots. One of the six wounded remained in critical condition Monday, suffering paralysis and internal injuries, prosecutors said. The others had been released from hospitals. Maldonado surrendered about four hours after ducking into a music store and taking four hostages, all of whom were released unharmed, authorities said. One hostage, a boy about 10 years old, was released early in the standoff. Two music store employees — Joe Hudson and Katherine Riggans — and Black remained for hours, talking with Maldonado and attempting to get him to surrender. Court papers said

Hudson, who had served as an Army medic in Iraq, told police "that he was more frightened inside the store than he ever was in Iraq." Tiffany Robison, 20, Maldonado's ex-girlfriend, told ABC's "Good Morning America" that he sent her a text message shortly before the shooting that said: "Today is the day that the world will know my anger." Her mother, Mary Simon, 47, of Tacoma, said she was at home when her daughter got the troubling cell phone text message. "When she got the message, she freaked out and took it very seriously," Simon told The Associated Press by telephone from her home Monday. "And then when she heard about the shooting, she knew in an instant that it was him." Later, Robison got a call from Maldonado at the mall during the shooting spree and hostage standoff. "He just said, 'Well, I just shot up the mall, and I'm busy now. I'm still in the Sam Goody,'" Simon said. Of the couple's breakup, Simon said her daughter told her Maldonado had "made a lot of changes and said a lot of things that spooked her, and so she broke it off. He was reaching out for help and nobody was listening, was what she said."

Prosecutors say girl willingly joined suspect after parents shot

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — David Ludwig told detectives that after he fatally shot his 14-year-old girlfriend's parents and started to drive away, he noticed the girl running down the road toward him, prosecutors said in court documents. Kara Borden then got into his car and

said she wanted to "get as far away as possible, get married, and start a new life," Ludwig, 18, told investigators. Ludwig's statement — bolstered by Borden's own story, that she left with him of her own free will — means prosecutors will drop abduction charges. He still faces murder charges.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2005

REVENUES	
Local and Intermediate Sources	\$3,985,038
State Program Revenues	1,140,893
Federal Program Revenues	273,820
Total Revenues	5,399,751
EXPENDITURES	
Current:	
Instruction	2,605,698
Instruction Resources & Media Services	165,460
Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	17,430
School Leadership	248,735
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	94,575
Health Services	895
Student Transportation	359,637
Food Services	274,355
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	338,704
General Administration	307,463
Plant Maintenance & Operations	596,858
Security & Monitoring Services	2,246
Data Processing Services	94,486
Community Services	12,111
Debt Service:	
Principal On Long-Term Debt	234,160
Interest On Long-Term Debt	4,833
Capital Outlay:	
Facilities Acquisition & Construction	1,695,051
Intergovernmental:	
Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts	78,739
Payments to Juvenile Justice Alternative Ed Program	9,946
Total Expenditures	7,141,382
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over(Under) Expenditures	(1,741,631)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):	
Capital-related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	4,900,000
Transfers In	64,143
Prepaid Interest	17,794
Transfers Out (Use)	(64,143)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	4,917,794
Net Change in Fund Balance	3,176,163
Fund Balance - Sept. 1 (Beginning)	2,931,013
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	712
Fund Balance - Aug. 31 (Ending)	\$6,107,888

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IN BRIEF

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.

Sign-ups for YMCA basketball underway

Registration for the Big Spring YMCA youth basketball league is taking place now until Dec. 3. The league is for boys and girls ages 5-12. Some 13-year-olds may play depending on their date of birth.

Practices are scheduled to begin Dec. 19. Kids who played last season may play on the same team from last year.

All games are scheduled to be played Saturdays beginning Jan. 7.

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

Big Spring sets volleyball clinic

A volleyball clinic for girls aged third through eighth grade has been set up for Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Clinic will take place at the B.S. Junior High and it will be instructed by J.E. Thomas, who is the Midland College assistant coach. The cost is \$25 per player.

For more information or to register, contact Della Partee at 267-4038.

Fischer stable after suffering seizure

DETROIT (AP) — Red Wings defenseman Jiri Fischer collapsed on the Detroit bench late in the first period of a game against the Nashville Predators and was hospitalized in stable condition.

The team announced that Fischer had a seizure and was doing fine. Red Wings coach Mike Babcock later said Fischer's heart had stopped and was restarted at the arena.

Fischer was also given CPR at the bench by team physician Dr. Tony Colucci before being removed on a stretcher.

Fischer logged 4 minutes, 52 seconds of playing time, and was on the ice when Nashville's Greg Johnson scored the game's only goal.

No makeup date was immediately announced.

Seattle reaches deal with foreign catcher

SEATTLE (AP) — Catcher Kenji Jojima and the Seattle Mariners agreed to a \$16.5 million, three-year contract.

Jojima will be the first Japanese catcher to play in the major leagues.

Hawks record easy victory against JV

Howard women improve to 3-7 after home win against Hardin-Simmons

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Latoya Fairley's 24 points led the Howard College women's basketball team to an easy win against Hardin-Simmons' JV Monday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Hawk women dominated the first half and held on in the final 20 minutes despite seven 3-pointers from the Cowgirls.

Howard won the game 81-59 and improved to 3-7 on the early season.

The first half was all Howard as the starting five built a 22-8 lead early. Freshmen Sara Rondeau and Chanel Jones-Delas started the game with a 3-pointer and a layup, respectively, and then Fairley and sophomore Jennifer Pena traded baskets to push the advantage to 19-8 before another 3-pointer by Rondeau.

Freshman Chrystle

Childs' putback and Rondeau's third 3-pointer of the game pushed the Hawk lead to 27-8.

Hardin-Simmons stopped Howard's first run with a basket to pull within 29-11, but the Hawks went on a 19-2 run after that, pushing the advantage to 48-13.

Jones-Delas scored seven points during the span, while Fairley put in five points.

Fairley ended the half with four straight points as Howard led at the break 52-17.

Rondeau began the second half like she started the game — with a 3-pointer — and another Fairley basket pushed the advantage to 57-19.

Hardin-Simmons began to heat up on offense in the second half as the Cowgirls hit seven 3-point shots and often traded baskets with Howard.

The Hawks led by 28 points with just under 10 minutes to play in the game. Hardin-Simmons traded baskets on the next four possessions before scoring

See HOWARD, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Latoya Fairley puts in two of her game-high 24 points Monday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum as the Hawk women defeated the Hardin-Simmons JV, 81-59.

Grady blows out Midland Trinity, Tubb leads with 19

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
MIDLAND — The Grady boy's basketball team had no trouble with Midland Trinity on the road last Friday as the Wildcats cruised to their first win of the year.



TUBB

Sophomore Justin Tubb scored as many points (19) as the entire Trinity team as Grady won the game, 63-19.

The Wildcats led 25-8 at halftime and outscored Trinity 19-9 in the third quarter and 19-2 in the final frame.

Jonathan Tunnell, Clay Mitchell and Justin Pribyla each scored eight points behind Tubb's 19. Tommylee Rivas added six.

Taylor Fields and Brody Pinkerton each put in five for Grady, as well.

Trey Burns led Trinity with 10 points.

Lady Kats down Bulldogettes

Hirt, Lopez lead Garden City girls to win over Coahoma

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

GARDEN CITY — The Garden City girl's basketball team remained undefeated on the season Monday as the Lady Kats took down Coahoma at home, 39-29.

Garden City started the game with a 9-6 advantage after one quarter and then extended the lead to eight at halftime.

The Lady Kats outscored Coahoma 7-4 in the third quarter, but the Bulldogettes were able to win the fourth quarter,



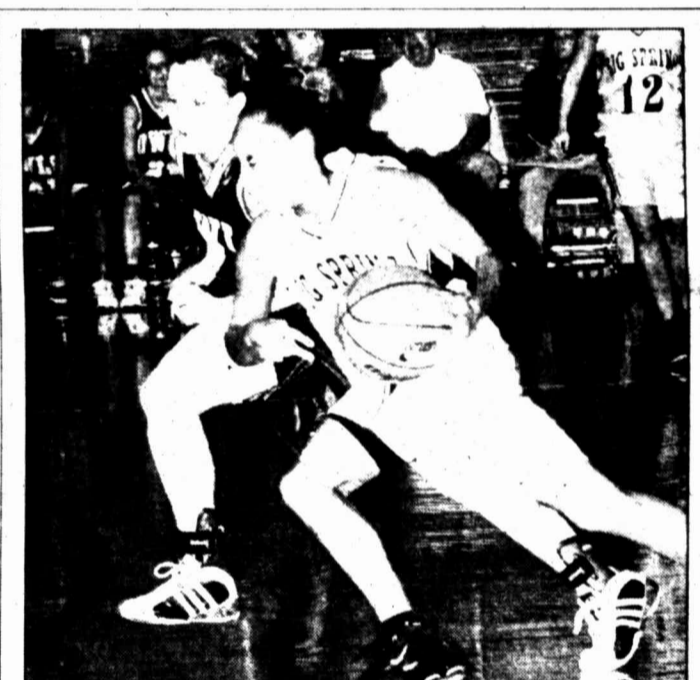
HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Coahoma sophomore Janice Gonzales puts up a shot in action earlier this year. Coahoma lost to Garden City, 39-29, Monday.

11-10. Liz Lopez led the Lady Kats with 16 points, while Erin Hirt, who is averaging more than 20 points on the season, was held to just 12.

Coahoma was led by freshman Laci Sterling's 15 points, while sophomore Christie Rich scored six.

The Bulldogettes dropped to 2-2 with the loss.

Garden City travels to Forsan tonight to take on the Lady Buffaloes. The game begins at 6:30 p.m.



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Big Spring senior Jaleaza Terrell goes to the basket against Big Lake last week. The Lady Steers lost to Odessa High Monday, 46-38. The girls travel to Greenwood tonight, while the Steers travel to Snyder.

Aldridge saves Texas against West Virginia

No. 2 Longhorns to meet No. 18 Iowa in Guardians title game

By STEVE BRISENDINE
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — So far, the formula is simple: When LaMarcus Aldridge hits double digits in points and rebounds, Texas wins.

His career-high 14th rebound and final basket Monday night couldn't have come at a better time for the second-ranked Longhorns, either.

Aldridge made a putback with 3.6 seconds left and blocked a last-second shot, lifting Texas to a 76-75 victory over No. 13 West Virginia in the semifinals of the Guardians Classic. It was his third double-double in as many games this season.

"I don't remember anything but getting the basketball and going up," said Aldridge, who finished with 15 points.

Daniel Gibson hit six 3-pointers and scored 20 points to lead Texas (3-0), which will meet No. 18 Iowa in Tuesday night's championship game. The

Hawkeyes beat No. 7 Kentucky 67-63.

P.J. Tucker added 19 points for the Longhorns.

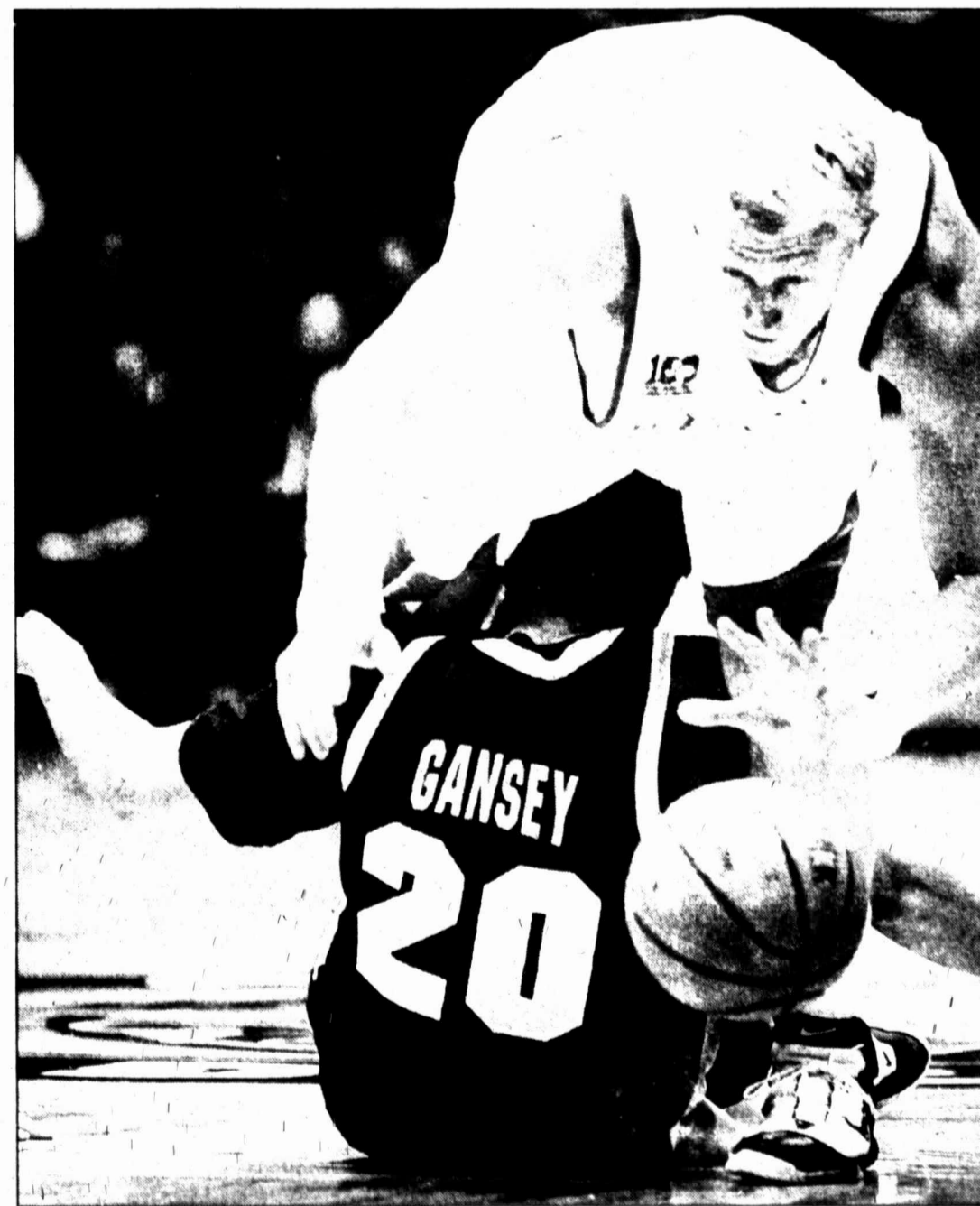
Texas, which trailed by 10 points early in the second half, went up 72-71 on Kenton Paulino's 3-pointer with just over 2 minutes left. But Frank Young answered with a basket 25 seconds later and Mike Gansey hit a layup with a minute to go, giving West Virginia a 75-72 lead.

After the Mountaineers' Johannes Herber and Kevin Pittsnogle missed the front ends of 1-and-1 opportunities, Tucker's follow shot got Texas within 75-74 with 15.4 seconds remaining. Pittsnogle missed another 1-and-1 with 14.7 seconds to go, and Aldridge converted after misses by Paulino and Brad Buckman.

"Our usual trademark is to make foul shots down the stretch, and tonight we didn't," West Virginia coach John Beilein said. "We had two of our best free throw shooters at the line."

After his game-winning putback, Aldridge

See GUARDIANS, Page 2B



KRT photo/Rich Sugg, Kansas City Star
Texas' Brad Buckman goes over West Virginia's Mike Gansey as they battle for a loose ball in the Guardians Classic Monday. Texas defeated West Virginia and will face No. 18 Iowa in the championship game tonight.

GUARDIANS

Continued from Page 1B

blocked a last-second layup attempt by Gansey, who led the Mountaineers (2-1) with 28 points.

"We've run that play for years, and it's never been that wide open," Beilein said. "We had a clear layup. I don't know where Aldridge came from."

Replays appeared to show Aldridge leaving his feet and making contact, but no foul was called.

"The referee made the right call," Gansey said. "Texas made a great defensive play. At the end of the game, the referees don't want to determine it and kind of let us play. It was the right call not to make the call."

Aldridge declined to comment on the no-call, but Texas coach Rick Barnes said there was no foul.

"I saw it. It was a clean block," Barnes said. "There's no need to talk any more about it."

Buckman also had a double-double, with 12 points and 11 rebounds, as the Longhorns outbounded West Virginia 41-22. Texas won despite committing 24 turnovers, which the Mountaineers turned into 24 points.

Gibson was 2-for-11 from long range and scored 10 total points in Texas' first two victories. Monday night, he went 5-for-6 from 3-point range in the first half and 6-for-7 overall.

But after hitting a 3-pointer 24 seconds into the second half, he didn't score again.

Gansey hit three 3-pointers but was more dangerous close to the basket — repeatedly cutting inside for layups and cherry-picking on breaks after turnovers by the Longhorns. But he also struggled offensively late in the game, scoring just two points in the final 12 minutes.

West Virginia closed the first half with a 12-4 run, taking a 40-35 lead at the break on J.D. Collins' 3-pointer with 1 second left, and led 48-38 after Gansey's 3-pointer with just under 17 minutes to go.

But Buckman dunked 30 seconds later and then whipped a behind-the-back pass to Aldridge for a layup and a 3-point play, igniting a 13-0 run that put the Longhorns up 51-48 on Paulino's 3-pointer with 14:15 left.

Herber finished with 16 points for West Virginia, while Pittsnogle was held to nine points — less than half his 18.5-point average.

No. 18 Iowa 67,
No. 7 Kentucky 63

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Greg Brunner had 17 points and 12 rebounds, and No. 18 Iowa made a flurry of clutch defensive plays and free throws to beat No. 7 Kentucky in the semifinals of the Guardians Classic.

Gibson was 2-for-11 from long range and scored 10 total points in Texas' first two victories. Monday night, he went 5-for-6 from 3-point range in the first half and 6-for-7 overall.

Mike Henderson went 7-for-9 from the line and added 15 points for the Hawkeyes (3-0), who will meet No. 2 Texas in Tuesday night's championship game. The Wildcats (2-1) will play the Mountaineers for third place.

Wildcats point guard Rajon Rondo had a career-high 19 rebounds, a Guardians Classic record, but was held to five points — 13 below his season average.

A wild final 72 seconds capped a back-and-forth battle in which neither team ever went up by more than seven points — and both shot horribly from the floor.

No. 9 Arizona 61,
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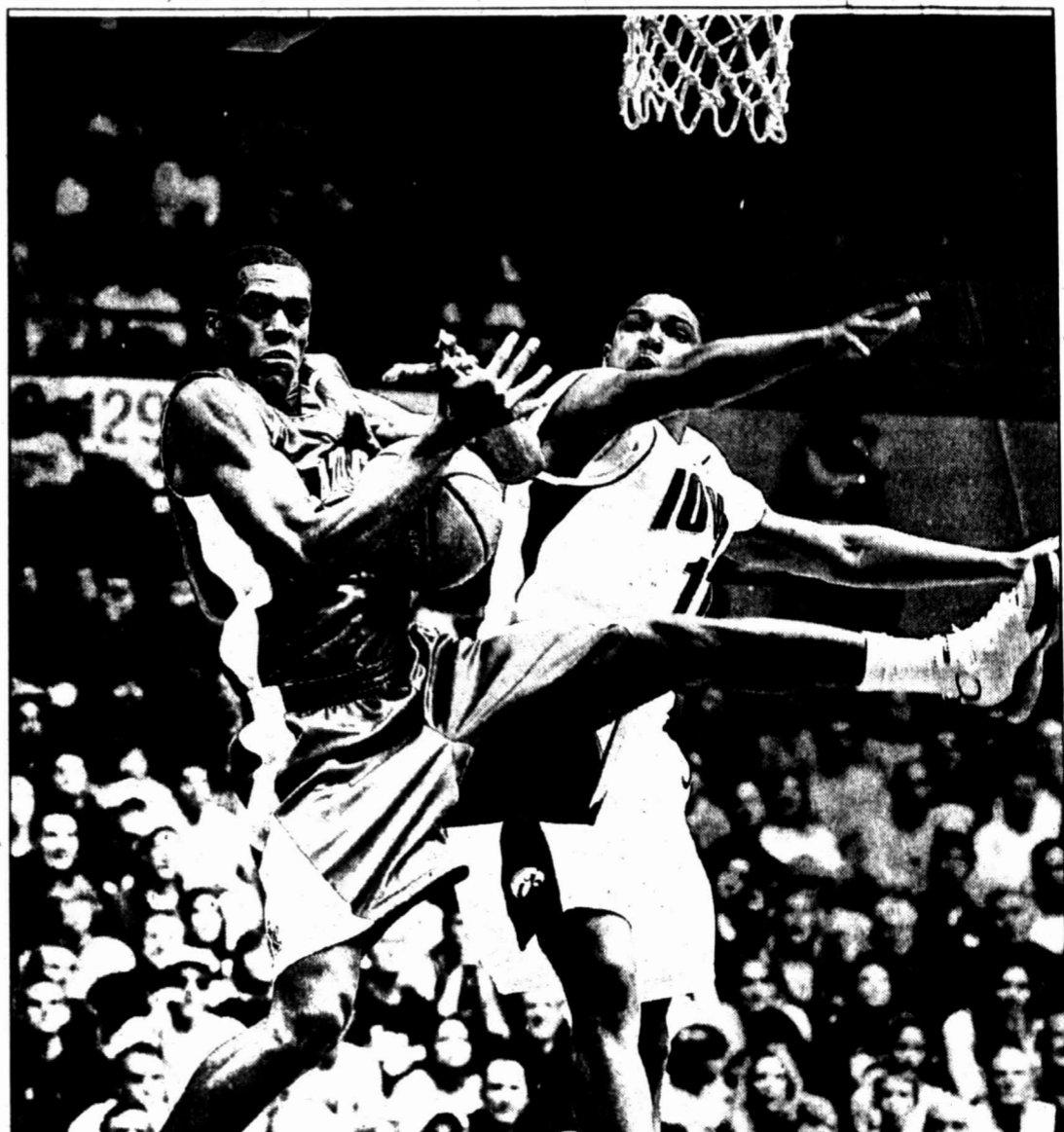
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Despite shooting 28.3 percent (17-for-60), the Wildcats (1-0) advanced to Tuesday's semifinals.

Mustafa Shakur and Kirk Walters each had 13 points for Arizona with Walters' total a career high for the junior forward.

Hassan Adams had 10 points on 3-for-16 shooting, Chris Rodgers had 12 on 3-for-10 shooting and Ivan Radenovic was 1-for-9 and had two points.

Sasha Kaun had 12 points for Kansas (1-1).



Kentucky's Rajon Rondo, left, tries to control a pass in front of Iowa's Tony Freeman in the Guardians Classic Monday.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

six straight points to close the gap to 21. Howard freshman Felicia Kohli was part of the Hawks' offense during the stretch as she put in three straight baskets for Howard.

Head coach Earl Diddle played with just one starter in the game with five minutes to go and then had no starters left on the court with 2:42 to



play as Howard got a much-needed win. Fairley scored 15 of her 24 RONDEAU points in the first half, while Rondeau finished with 15 points on five 3-pointers. Pena hit three 3-pointers and finished with 11 points, while Jones-Delas and Kohli scored nine and seven points, respectively.

Freshman Kendra

Marney was injured with 12:22 to play in the first half for the Hawks and did not return to action. The injury is not serious.

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Bedtime Stories

IT'S THANKSGIVING, AND I HAVE NOTHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR!

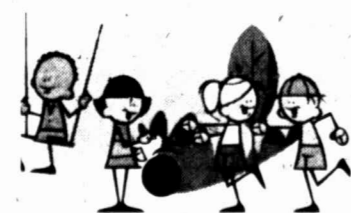
A very long time ago, when I was just a little boy, Thanksgiving meant nothing to me. It was just another day, like all the other days, except we seemed to have an extra big meal on that day. We always had friends and almost all of the family join us for lunch that one day of the year. Does this happen at your home, too? It took me a very long time to really understand exactly what that day really meant!



I do remember waking up, from a nice sleep, in a warm bed, on one of those Thanksgiving days. I remember putting on my nice clothes, putting on my new shoes, and walking down the stairway of my pretty home, and seeing my wonderful parents, with their warm

smiles, waiting to give me that "special hug" that only a mommie or daddy can give. I remember my brothers waiting for me to go outside and play. I remember we were all healthy and loved to play outside all the time, even when it was raining.

I remember my friends calling me on the phone, wanting me to come to their homes and play, or sometimes, they wanted to come to my home and play. I remember my



dad not letting me go to some places, when I wanted to. I see now that he would not let me go because he wanted to protect me. He always knew when a place I wanted to go was not a good place for a little child to be. He always seemed to know that I might get hurt there and he wanted to

protect me. He wanted to protect me because he loved me.

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I remember my mom scolding me when I did something wrong. But, her scolding me never hurt me, because I could always see the love for me in her eyes and hear her love in her voice. That alone made me want to do the right things all the time.

I remember jumping on my shiny bike and riding it over to one of my friend's houses. I remember when it was too far to ride a bike to another friend's house, my older brother would drive me, and then come back later that day to pick me up and take me back home. I see now that my older brother did these things because he loved me, too.

And then, as I became a

little older, I began to understand some things and see things that I had never seen before, even though they were right in front of me the whole time!

I saw that one of my friends did not have a shiny bike, like I did. I saw that he did not have a warm, comfortable bed, like I did. I saw that he did not have new shoes, like I did. I saw that he

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did not have a pretty house to live in, like I did. I saw that he did not have any brothers or sisters, like I did. I saw that he did not have a phone to call his friends, like I did. I saw that he did not have two parents to love him, like I did. I saw that he never seemed to have any new clothes to wear, like I did. I saw many, many things that I had never seen before,

because I wasn't really looking around me at all! I saw that there were many of my friends who did not have the things I had.

As Thanksgiving came again, I finally saw what it was all about. I gave my shiny bike to my little friend who had never had a bike. After all, the old bike I had was still a



pretty good bike. My other friend, who never had a new pair of shoes, was happy to get my new ones as I happily gave them to him. I asked my mom to give my other friend new clothes for his birthday, because he never had parents to buy presents for his birthday, and give him those wonderful, warm hugs.

What do I have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving? My warm home! My good clothes!

My wonderful parents! My great bothers and sisters! My good friends! My old bike! The delicious dinner I will have! But, most of all, the

IT IS THE SEASON, TO SAY, "THANKS!"

thing I am most thankful for is that now I can see why I should be thankful! I owe all of this to my parents and family. I will try to be a better person now!

Yes, I do have a lot to be thankful for!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Bob



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Qualified applicants are encouraged to come to the JOB FAIR at the Gail Court House (117 East Wasson St) on Wednesday, November 30th from 9am-4pm or to the Sweetwater Workforce Center (606 East Broadway) on Thursday, December 1st from 9am-4pm. You may also apply on-line at www.dhblattner.com, or call 1-888-356-2307 to request an application.

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GUARDIANS

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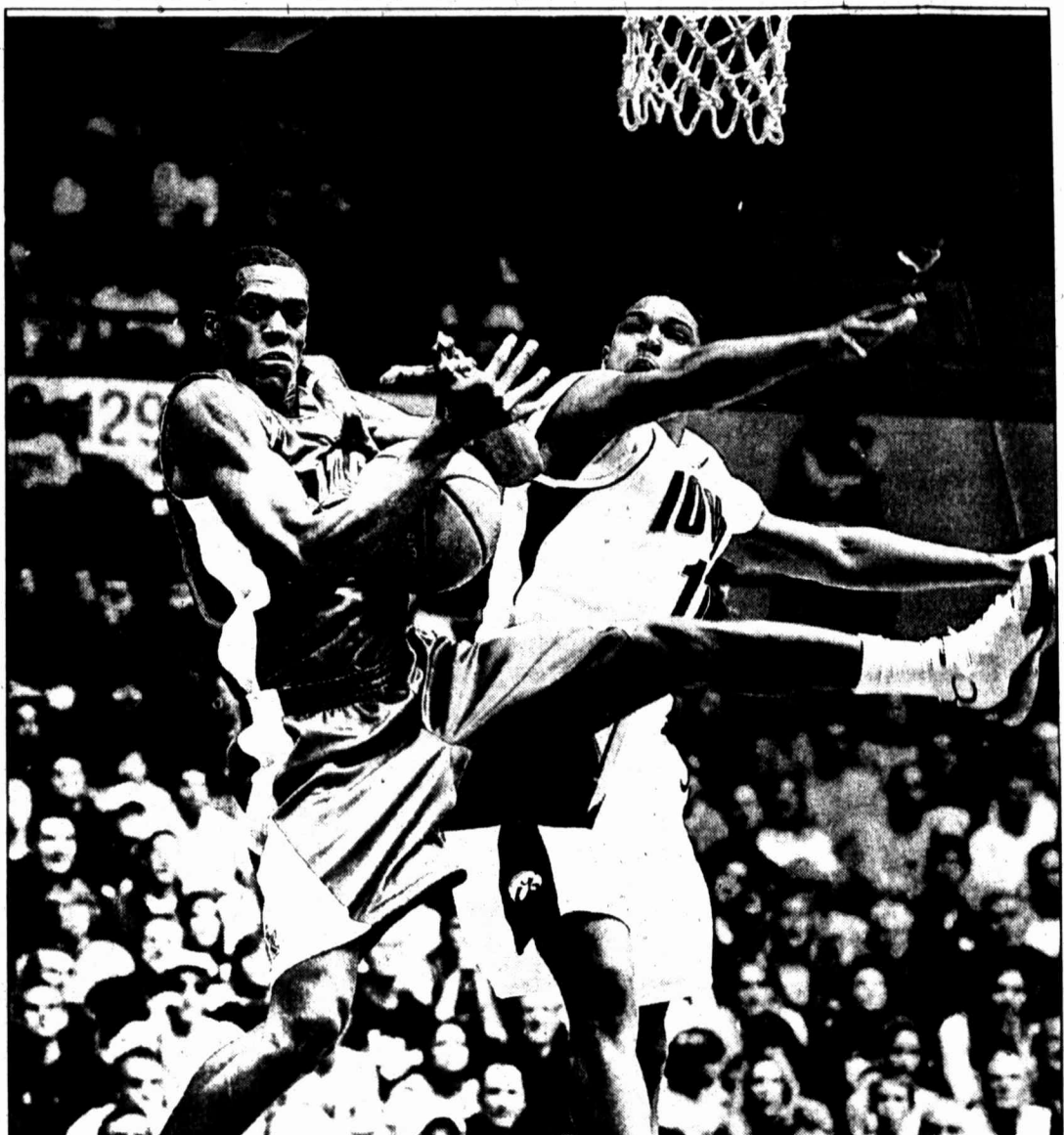
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HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

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HENRY BACKES

Bedtime Stories

IT'S THANKSGIVING, AND I HAVE NOTHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR!

A very long time ago, when I was just a little boy, Thanksgiving meant nothing to me. It was just another day, like all the other days, except we seemed to have an extra big meal on that day. We always had friends and almost all of the family join us for lunch that one day of the year. Does this happen at your home, too? It took me a very long time to really understand exactly what that day really meant!



I do remember waking up, from a nice sleep, in a warm bed, on one of those Thanksgiving days. I remember putting on my nice clothes, putting on my new shoes, and walking down the stairway of my pretty home, and seeing my wonderful parents, with their warm

smiles, waiting to give me that "special hug" that only a mommie or daddy can give. I remember my brothers waiting for me to go outside and play. I remember we were all healthy and loved to play outside all the time, even when it was raining.

I remember my friends calling me on the phone, wanting me to come to their homes and play, or sometimes, they wanted to come to my home and play. I remember my



dad not letting me go to some places, when I wanted to. I see now that he would not let me go because he wanted to protect me. He always knew when a place I wanted to go was not a good place for a little child to be. He always seemed to know that I might get hurt there and he wanted to

protect me. He wanted to protect me because he loved me.

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I remember my mom scolding me when I did something wrong. But, her scolding me never hurt me, because I could always see the love for me in her eyes and hear her love in her voice. That alone made me want to do the right things all the time.

I remember jumping on my shiny bike and riding it over to one of my friend's houses. I remember when it was too far to ride a bike to another friend's house, my older brother would drive me, and then come back later that day to pick me up and take me back home. I see now that my older brother did these things because he loved me, too.

And then, as I became a

little older, I began to understand some things and see things that I had never seen before, even though they were right in front of me the whole time!

I saw that one of my friends did not have a shiny bike, like I did. I saw that he did not have a warm, comfortable bed, like I did. I saw that he did not have new shoes, like I did. I saw that he

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did not have a pretty house to live in, like I did. I saw that he did not have any brothers or sisters, like I did. I saw that he did not have a phone to call his friends, like I did. I saw that he did not have two parents to love him, like I did. I saw that he never seemed to have any new clothes to wear, like I did. I saw many, many things that I had never seen before,

because I wasn't really looking around me at all! I saw that there were many of my friends who did not have the things I had.

As Thanksgiving came again, I finally saw what it was all about. I gave my shiny bike to my little friend who had never had a bike. After all, the old bike I had was still a



pretty good bike. My other friend, who never had a new pair of shoes, was happy to get my new ones as I happily gave them to him. I asked my mom to give my other friend new clothes for his birthday, because he never had parents to buy presents for his birthday, and give him those wonderful, warm hugs.

What do I have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving? My warm home! My good clothes!

My wonderful parents! My great bothers and sisters! My good friends! My old bike! The delicious dinner I will have!

But, most of all, the

thing I am most thankful for is that now I can see why I should be thankful! I owe all of this to my parents and family. I will try to be a better person now!

Yes, I do have a lot to be thankful for!

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!

Bob



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DOMINOS PIZZA Drivers needed. Hourly + mileage + tips. Competition says better commission, but you can't make commission doing dishes for the sit down lobby. Go by 2111 S. Gregg or call (432)267-4111.

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DUE TO New Ownership and Management, Parkview Nursing & Rehab. Center, 3200 Parkway (previously Comanche Trail) is expanding it's Nursing Staff. We are currently accepting applications for Certified Nurse Aids. Please apply in person, 3200 Parkway.

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EXPANDING ENVIRONMENTAL Housekeeping Services at Parkview Nursing Rehabilitation. Now hiring for Janitorial position. Apply in Person at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

CITY OF Big Spring is accepting applications for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic through January 4, 2006. Testing will be on Saturday January 7, 2006. Applications may be obtained at City Hall (432-264-2346) 310 Nolan St., Big Spring, TX 79720 or from website: www.ci.big-spring.tx.us The City of Big Spring is EOE.

Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENING for Full-time and Part-time Cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

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M-F, EOE

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CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Parks Maintenance Worker. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 310 Nolan (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

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Big Spring, Texas 79720
(432)267-3955 or 268-3251

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Saturn, the strict old teacher, goes retrograde. It's the astrological equivalent to the review before the SATs. Upon reflection, some "material" you supposedly learned seems entirely unfamiliar, while other lessons are entirely too familiar! No worries. There's plenty of time to assess what you know - this transit lasts until April 4, 2006.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You hate feeling supervised but don't mind being put in a position to supervise others at all. You have an eye for how to complete tasks simply and correctly and a talent for relaying to-the-point information. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Patience and planning pay off - you'll be rewarded handsomely! This gives you the guts to embark on an all new journey into the unknown. Settle accounts with loved ones first. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Happiness depends on conflict resolution. You do so because it's your objective to do so. (Others who are less successful in this endeavor care more about winning than reaching an agreement.) **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You forgo what is practical and useful for what is just plain fun. You may have extended your life with this decision - laughter and levity have a way of improving your health. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll face dilemmas that not only vex you but define you as well. Will you forge ahead with the information you have or wait to check in with the powers that be? Think like a leader. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Cindy Sheehan smiled big as she was being arrested at a recent war protest. The photo-effect made her look more like a person crowd-

surfing a rock concert than being carried away by police. You'll pull off such an illusion today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Detach yourself from the outcome of a problem - again. (You thought you were already detached, but if that were so, you wouldn't be so wound up about what's going to happen next!)

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Safety, health and well-being have slipped from the top of your list in order to accommodate demands at work. Restore harmony to your body and personal life, and your work situation eases up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you give up the need for total security, you'll feel an immediate rush. You're really living! You might be so bold as to let yourself feel the ecstasy of true love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The stars are perfect for getting smart. There are many ways to educate yourself, from the formal (signing up for a correspondence course) to the informal (taking a savvy friend to lunch and picking his or her brain).

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're so hyper-aware of your health that you may imagine symptoms you don't have or exaggerate the ones you do. Perhaps the healthiest thing you can possibly do now is focus on something other than your health.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Good ideas come gracefully and quietly into your life. So don't expect to be dazzled by brilliant shafts of light piercing through the clouds with the arrival of the right answer. Instead, it flutters in and lands softly on your heart.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I noticed that you don't pair Aries and Libra together. Is there a reason? I (born March 26, 1966) have been dating a Libra (born Sept. 27, 1964) for almost three years. Things are great, but what do you see long term? I appreciate your insight."

There's not a reason in the world that Libra and Aries can't make a fabulous match, both in the long term and in the short term. They are both what's called "cardinal" signs. This means that they are the initiators of the zodiac, not afraid to start projects or relationships and ready to build where no person has built before. You are a very independent person, and your Libra is more of a team player, so you avoid the power struggles that many couples endure. Usually your Libra defers to you, and you feel so relaxed in the relationship that you don't mind giving up the reins whenever Libra wants to lead. I can see your partnership extending into the realm of business as well, especially businesses that involve a quick profit turnaround, such as flipping properties, construction, day trading, etc. Best of luck!

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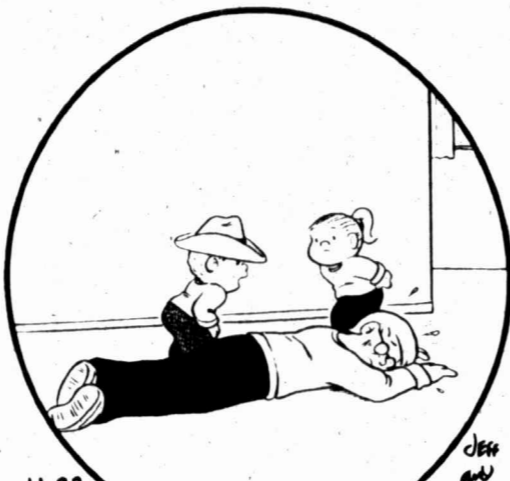
NOV. 22

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KOCV (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6 PM	News (CC) Ent. Tonight	News Wheel-Fortune	Piel de Otono	My Wife-Kids Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Booker John Hagee	News- Lehrer	MythBusters (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investg	PGA Golf PGA Grand	Live Access	That's Raven That's Raven	College Football	College Basketball	Firefly (CC)
7 PM	2005 American Music Awards (CC)	2005 American Music Awards (CC)	Contra Viento y Marea	House (CC)	Amazing Race Family Edition	Corazon Parido	Name Is Earl The Office	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Light of the Southwest	Nova (CC) (OVS)	SOS: Coast Guard Rescue	Movie: The Natural (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investg	Slam of Golf First Round	The Ultimate Hustler	Movie: Beethoven (CC)	Toledo at Bowling Green (CC)	College Basketball	Firefly (CC)
8 PM			La Esposa Virgen	My Wife-Kids 70s Show	Threshold (CC)	Decisiones	Law & Order SVU	Serinfeld (CC) Serinfeld (CC)	Independent Lens (CC)	MythBusters (CC)			Las Vegas (CC)	Comicview	American Drgn Sister, Sister	College Basketball	EA Sports Mau	Firefly (CC)	
9 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ	Becker (CC) 70s Show	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	Serinfeld (CC) Serinfeld (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	I Shouldn't Be Alive	Movie: Memphis Belle (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	That's Raven That's Raven	Guardians Class: Final	Invitational SportsCenter	Movie: The Call (CC)	
10 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora Derbez	Becker (CC) Malcolm-Md	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night: Conan O'Brien	10 Movie: Grumpier Old Men (CC)	Joe McGee Rabbi Richman	Sign Off	SOS: Coast Guard Rescue	12:15 Movie: Heartbreak	CSI: Crime Scene Investg	The X-Files (CC)	Jame Fox Jame Fox	2005 World Series of Poker	NBA Fastbreak SportsCenter	Twilight Zone	
11 PM	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	King of the Hill	The Insider	Mana Celeste Pagado	Conan O'Brien Serinfeld (CC)	Update/Israel Biblical Israel					Blind Date Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Luzze McGure Proud Family	2005 World Series of Poker	NBA Fastbreak SportsCenter	Twilight Zone

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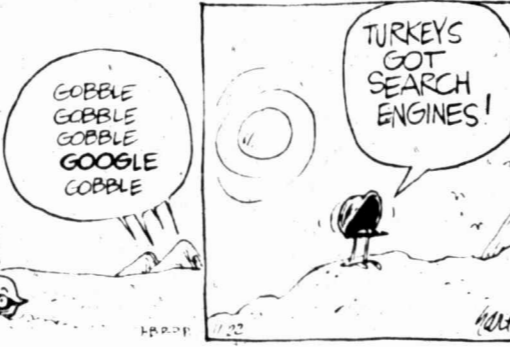
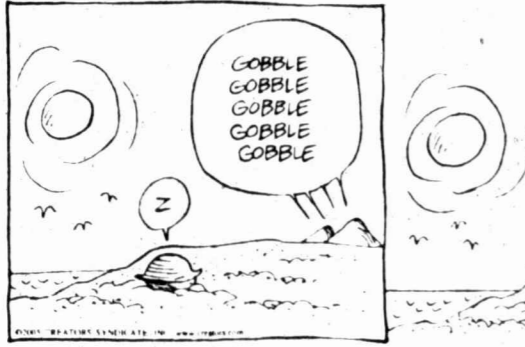
"DID MR. WILSON'S FOREHEAD ALWAYS REACH TO THE BACK OF HIS HEAD?"

"The horse at the mall always comes back to life when you put in a quarter."

BLONDIE



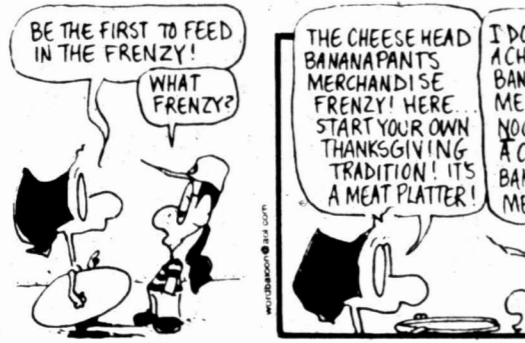
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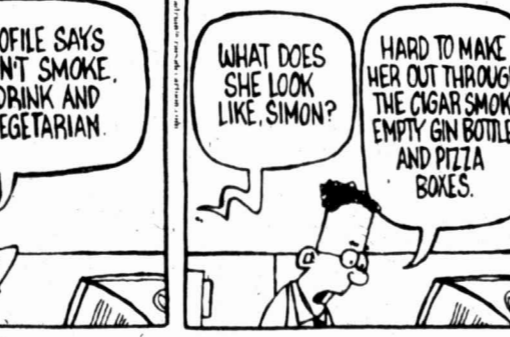
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 22, the 326th day of 2005. There are 39 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 22, 1963, President Kennedy was shot to death while riding in a motorcade in Dallas, Texas. Suspect Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested.

On this date: In 1718, English pirate Edward Teach — better known as "Blackbeard" — was killed during a battle off the Virginia coast.

In 1906, the "SOS" distress signal was adopted at the International Radio Telegraphic Convention in Berlin.

In 1928, "Bolero" by Maurice Ravel made its debut in Paris.

In 1935, a flying boat, the China Clipper, took off from Alameda, Calif., carrying more than 100,000 pieces of

mail on the first trans-Pacific airmail flight.

In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek met in Cairo to discuss measures for defeating Japan.

In 1975, Juan Carlos was proclaimed King of Spain.

In 1977, regular passenger service between New York and Europe on the supersonic Concorde began on a trial basis.

In 1990, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, having failed to win re-election of the Conservative Party leadership on the first ballot, announced her resignation.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., is 87. Movie director Arthur Hiller is 82. Actor Robert Vaughn is 73. Actor Michael Callan is 70. Actor Allen Garfield is 66. Animator and movie director Terry Gilliam is 65. Actor Tom Conti is 64. Singer Jesse Colin Young is 64. Astronaut Guion S. Bluford is 63. Tennis player Billie Jean King is 62. Former baseball player Greg Luzinski is 55. Rock musician Lawrence

Gowan is 49. Actor Richard Kind is 49. Actress Jamie Lee Curtis is 47. Rock singer Jason Ringenberg (Jason & the Scorchers) is 47. Actress Mariel Hemingway is 44. Actor Stephen Geoffreys is 41. Rock musician Charlie Colm is 39. Actor Nicholas Rowe is 39. Actor Mark Ruffalo is 38. Tennis player Boris Becker is 38. Actress Scarlett Johansson is 21.

Thought for Today: "If we are strong, our strength will speak for itself. If we are weak, words will be no help." — From the address President Kennedy never got to deliver in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

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Answer to previous puzzle

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MEND LIES RANGE

Newsday Crossword

REPTILE HOUSE by Shirley Soloway

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Give an appraisal
 - 5 Map book
 - 10 Jury member
 - 14 Mellowed, as wine
 - 15 Interrogate aggressively
 - 16 Sondheim's *the Woods*
 - 17 Fender blemish
 - 18 Young Montague
 - 19 Datum, for short
 - 20 Avocado
 - 23 Authority defier
 - 24 Senator Kennedy
 - 25 Swiss peak
 - 28 Subterfuges
 - 32 Tennessee Ford
 - 34 1200, to Caesar
 - 37 Some sweaters
 - 40 Hawaii's most populous island
 - 42 Paperless letter
 - 43 Podiatrist's concerns
 - 44 Indian ceremonies
 - 47 Dentist's deg.
 - 48 Sultan's pride
 - 49 Clay target
 - 51 Actor Wallach
 - 52 Charged atom
 - 55 Narratives
 - 59 Eyeglass-frame material
 - 64 Send a package
 - 66 "Deck the Halls" plant
 - 67 Not busy
 - 68 "Oh, sure!"
 - 69 Come after
 - 70 Pigeon—
- DOWN**
- 71 Throw carelessly
 - 72 Paper quantities
 - 73 Travelers' stops
 - 12 Greek vowel
 - 13 Go bad
 - 21 Oversupply
 - 22 Biblical garden
 - 26 Was fond of
 - 27 Annoyances
 - 29 Took to court
 - 30 Humorist Bombeck
 - 31 Getz and Laurel
 - 33 Wrestling official
 - 34 Dayan of Israel
 - 35 Suez or Panama
 - 36 Fund-raiser beneficiaries
 - 38 Defeat, so to speak
 - 39 General Robt. —
 - 41 Luau instrument
 - 45 Arab *pance*
 - 46 Full collections
 - 50 Part of French Polynesia
 - 53 Turn the *cheek*
 - 54 Not a soul
 - 56 Gave a false impression
 - 57 Comic DeGeneres
 - 58 Winter vehicles
 - 60 Selects, with "for"
 - 61 *Casablanca* heroine
 - 62 Urban blight
 - 63 Mr. Potato Head pieces
 - 64 Command to a dog
 - 65 *The Sopranos* network

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Wacky Facts

■ During World War I and World War II, the American Red Cross launched nationwide, volunteer-driven knitting campaigns to supply soldiers and civilians with warm clothing.
—RedCross.org

KID NEWS

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Chatter Box

"Knitting is so relaxing. Sometimes there are holes in my scarves, but they're supposed to be different. They're authentic!"
—Singer Ashlee Simpson, on her hobby, in Teen People.



In The News

How the latest lingo makes it into the big book

Do you Google in the snain? Don't bother to look for these words in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Snain, meaning "a mix of snow and rain," never caught on. Google, meaning "to search the Internet," may be added in 2006.



LIVING LANGUAGE

Some 1,000 new words or usages enter the English language each year. Some go into the dictionary. Others fade from use. "Our language is a living thing," Jim Lowe, an editor at Merriam-Webster, told Time For Kids. "It keeps growing."

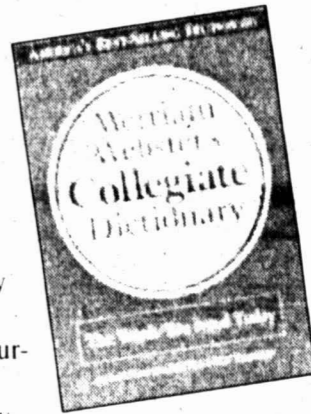
Merriam-Webster first published the Collegiate Dictionary in 1898. Since then, at least 100,000 words have been added. As the world changes, we need new words to describe it.

The dictionary's editors look in everything from catalogs to comic books for the latest lingo. New words go on index cards that note when and where they first appeared.

DICTIONARY MAKEOVER

Lowe reviews these words for the edition's annual updates. Every 10 years, the dictionary gets a total makeover. Lowe and the other editors review the 1 million or so new terms they have found. About 10,000 make it in. For a word to be added, it must show up regularly in a lot of places.

Lowe is no longer surprised by the words he finds. "When I first saw spam, I thought it was unusual," he says. "It's hard to associate meats with e-mail." But there it is on page 1,195, in black and white.

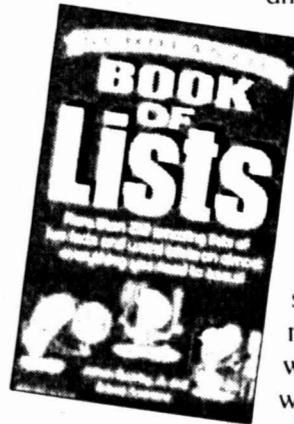


—Lathyn Satterfield
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Reading Rack

Full of facts

Ever wanted to know what ranks soldiers go through from private to general? How about the different sciences and what each studies? If so, here's the book for you.



"Scholastic Book of Lists" (Scholastic Inc., \$8.95) has more than 250 lists on topics such as history, weather, science, sports and many more. You can become a whiz at many subjects with this book full of interesting facts, even some Mom and Dad may not know!

—Amanda Blakely

BY BECKY SHER
Knight Ridder/Tribune

ere's a bit of pre-holiday math for you: Take the amount of money you've stashed away from various

lawn-mowing gigs, baby-sitting jobs and weekly allowances this year, and divide by the number of friends, sibs, cousins and teachers you plan to buy gifts for.

What do you come up with?

Not much, right? That's what we thought. So what's a kid to do? Here's what: Learn a craft. And we're not talking about macaroni necklaces here. Knitting, crochet and embroidery have been gaining popularity among adult crafters, and there's no reason kids can't get in the game, too. Once you learn the basics of each craft, you can turn out some pretty cool stuff that you'll be proud to give to family and friends.

Plus, it doesn't take a lot of cash — one skein of relatively inexpensive yarn is enough to make several gifts. And once you've invested in a few different types of hooks or needles, you're set for many kinds of projects.

And if you think knitting and crochet are for grandmothers, just do a quick Google search to see how many cool things you can make. (But if you have a grandparent or other family member who knows a craft, ask for a lesson — learning from somebody more experienced is a great way to get started.)

Kelli Ronci, the author of "Kids Crochet," started playing with yarn when she was 10.



FROM KIDS EMBROIDERY COURTESY OF STC CRAFT

"We were having a rainy summer at the beach, and my grandmother gave me a ball of blue yarn to play with," Ronci said in an e-mail interview. "I began to knot and braid the wooly string into bracelets and kept on going until I had used up the entire ball. I must have made about a hundred bracelets by the end of the summer!"

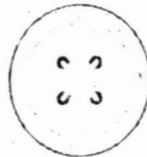
Ronci's grandma taught her to knit soon after that, but don't worry if you don't have someone crafty to learn from. There are plenty of books that teach the basics, and some good Web sites, like www.stitchguide.com. (See our list for more

resources.)
Once you know what you're doing, the sky's the limit. You'll find inspiration in magazines, catalogs and stores. (And you'll be excited to learn that the scarf that costs \$30 in a store only costs you \$5 to make!)

"By using your imagination to experiment with color, texture and shape, you can create your own designs that reflect your own unique personality," Ronci said. Don't feel frustrated if you have trouble at first — it can be awkward to learn how to hold hooks or needles.

"Take one step at a time and have fun," said Ronci, who's taught lots of kids to do different crafts, including crochet for her book. "It's very common to feel awkward holding the hook at first, and to get confused about what to do next, but learning to crochet is very similar to learning how to ride a bike, or how to play an instrument. With a little practice and patience it will soon become like second nature."

Once you master the basics of a craft, making great gifts is a piece of cake



RESOURCES

Here are a few resources to get you started, along with our picks for the best projects in each:

• "Kids Crochet," by Kelli Ronci (STC Craft, \$19.95): A great introduction to the craft of crochet, with lots of fun details, like a primer on where yarn comes from. The how-to illustrations are easy to follow, and the patterns are some of the best we've seen.

PERFECT PROJECT: Cupcakes are hot right now, and the book's cupcake pincushion, top left, is so cute. Give it to a teacher to hold pushpins, or turn it into a hanging ornament.

• "Kids' Embroidery," by Kristin Nicholas (STC Craft, \$19.95): You can do all kinds of cool stuff with a needle and thread, and this book shows you how. The instructions and illustrations are clear and easy-to-follow, and the projects aren't the least bit fuddy-duddy.

PERFECT PROJECT: Felt journal covers, left, are a simple gift.

• "The Knit-It Kit for Kids," by Jennifer Traig (Chronicle Books, \$16.95): Want to learn to knit? This kit has everything you need: an instructional book, a circular needle, yarn and 10 pattern cards, perfect for taking along on a car trip or in your backpack.

PERFECT PROJECT: Your pet needs to keep warm, too. Knit him up a little scarf, or give it to friend who pampers her pooch.



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