INSIDE

Mavericks fall 117-115 in overtime at Madison Square Garden Page 1B

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 42

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

One man released from hospital following alleged stabbing, wreck

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A 19-year-old Big Spring accident victim has been released from the hospital following Monday night's alleged stabbing that led to a high speed crash north of Big Spring.

According to officials

Sheriff's Office, Joseph Olvera was released from Scenic Mountain Medical Center Wednesday after being treated for injuries in the accident.

Olvera's injuries are believed to have been sustained during a vehicle rollover at the intersectruck when it crashed, See STABBING, Page 3A

with the Howard County tion of Old Colorado City Highway and Old Gail Highway.

> According to HCSO Deputy Chief Gary Pritchett, Olvera was involved_in a high-speed of a stabbing in Coahoma.

"Olvera was in the

along with 21-year-old Jesse Juarez Hernandez," Pritchett.

said "Hernandez is still in the intensive care unit at **Covenant Medical Center** in Lubbock, where he chase following the report was life-flighted following the accident.'



Big Spring High School Band members Malle Carrasco, left, and Crystal Ward, both sophomores, were named to the Texas Music Educators Association Class 4A All-State Band.

Best in the state

Two Big Spring sophomores earn top honors

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

In a good year, the Big Spring High School band has one member make the all-state band.

In a very good year, it has two. This is a very good year.

For the first time in seven years, the Steer Band had two members sophomores Malle Carrasco and Crystal Ward — qualify for the

Texas Music Educators Association Class 4A All-State Band.

Clarinetist Carrasco and Ward, who plays piccolo, survived a

See ALL-STATE, Page 3A



Supreme Court nominee Judge Samuel Alito responds to a question during the third day of his Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearings on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Confirmation hearings turn to right-to-die

By JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON (AP) -Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito said today that Americans have a right to designate family members or friends to carry out their right-todie wishes, an issue pushed to the forefront last year by the case of a brain-damaged Florida

woman. On the fourth day of his confirmation hearings, President Bush's choice to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor fielded questions on the courts' role as people face their final hours.

Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, the ranking Democrat Judiciary Committee, cited the case of Terri Schiavo, the Florida woman who was at the center of a fierce fight between her husband and family over her fate

"You're going to serve as an outstanding justice on the United States Supreme Court. and I will be supporting you here in the committee and on the floor."

-Sen. Sam Brownback,

that involved the courts, Congress and even the president.

Leahy asked: If a person has a living will, could he designate some one to decide whether to use extraordinary measures to keep him alive?

"Yes, that's an extension of the traditional

See ALITO, Page 3A

Mayor: City aware of concern over vicious dogs

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Yes, the city is listening. That's the message Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen delivered Tuesday evening concerning a letter to the editor published in the *Herald* pertaining to

efforts to eliminate them. Responding to a letter written

vicious dogs and the city's

Lee, McEwen said the city has taken the fight to allow breedspecific ordinances - which are currently illegal according to the Texas Constitution — to its source in Austin.

"Someone wanted to know if the city council is doing anything about vicious dogs," said McEwen. "In fact, we've gone the Texas Municipal

by Big Spring resident Zona League's resolutions committee and passed a resolution to support legislation that talks about vicious animals and putting more teeth into the laws.

"It also looks at breed-specific legislation. If you look at the vicious dog attacks, they typically come from breeds such as Rottweilers and Pit Bulls. These are the breeds of dogs we have this type of problem

McEwen said the laws, as they exist now, make no sense when it comes to how dogs must be designated as vicious. "Right now, in the state of

Texas, the worst that can happen to a dog-owner whose dog kills someone is a Class A misdemeanor," said McEwen. "It's just such a convoluted system. The rules right now say it has

to be done by what's been designated as a vicious dog, and to be designated as a vicious dog it has to attack someone. It doesn't make sense, the way things are right now.

"We're trying to do something and the city of Big Spring is at the forefront of trying to do that... And I think it will go for

See **DOGS**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Opinion Sports

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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.

MARY POPPINS DRYWALLED IN HOUSE

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (AP) — A basement remodeling project left Jany Chumas with one unsettling question after the drywalling was all done — where's the cat?

Mary Poppins, Chumas' pet cat, was nowhere to be found after the workers installed drywall in a room Jan. 2.

Chumas said the cat is "the sweetest little thing but quite shy," so she assumed at first that she had run away.

As more time passed, she suspected the 7-pound cat could be trapped, and she and her daughter headed for the basement to

"I called her — 'Here, kitty, kitty' — and I could hear this faint, weak meow coming

from behind the walls where they had just drywalled," Chumas said Tuesday.

She called the Eau Claire Fire Department on Friday and a crew went to the home — about five days after the remodeling work.

First they cut a small hole in the drywall near where Chumas heard the cat's cries, but they found only insulation. Later they cut into the ceiling and Chumas called into the hole.

Soon a weak, hungry, tired and dusty Mary Poppins "came tumbling out of the ceiling," Chumas said.

Some food and water put Mary Poppins on the road to recovery.

POLL QUESTION

What do you think?

Do you think the creation of a pre-trial bonding service in Howard County, which would make it possible for more prisoners to bond out, will alleviate overcrowding in the county jail and make the construction of a new jail facility unnecessary?

To vote "yes," "no" or "don't care" go to the Herald Web site at www.bigspringherald.com and look for the poll on the right side of the opening page.

You do not need to be a subscriber to

participate in the poll.

And don't forget, the Herald will accept your photos for Photo of the Week at the same Web address.

Leo Reeves



Leo Reeves, 86, of San Antonio, formerly of Coahoma, died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006; in San Antonio. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 2006, at the Nalley Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with Bill Bates officiating. Private interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. He was born Oct. 24, 1919, in Bolivar,

Before moving to San Antonio, the Reeves had lived in Big Spring since 1933. Mr. Reeves was retired from the Cosden Pipeline Department and had served in the United States Army during World War II. He was a member of Coahoma United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Christine Reeves; one son and daughter-in-law, Edward and Helen Reeves; two granddaughters, Jennifer Reeves and Sheri Sheridan and husband, Scott; and six great-grandchil-

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Jerry L. Phifer



July 8, 1938 - Jan. 10, 2006 The Lord lifted Jerry up to heaven as he slept, in the company of his wife, Brenda and his cats, at his home in Big Spring. For many years, he had been battling bone disease. When cancer struck him last year, he fought a valiant fight once again, outliving the doctors' predictions before he finally succumbed on Tuesday.

Those of us who knew and loved Jerry will miss him very much. He was always on the side of the underdog and the mistreated. He did everything in his power to right the wrongs predicated upon people and animals less fortunate than he.

Jerry made us all proud to call him husband, father and friend. He was a member of the Beverly Hills Church of Christ.

Jerry was born in Dallas. He went into the Army before he was 18, so that he could fight in Korea alongside his brother, because their country needed them. After serving his four years plus a "Truman Year," he went on to become one of the best machinists in the United States. He could do amazing things with an engine lathe; things that can only be done by computer-controlled lathes these days.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Brenda; sisters, Fonscene and Katherine; daughters, Janet and Meloni; son, Phillip; eight grandchildren; six nieces and a nephew; and many, many friends.

No memorial is planned. Jerry asked that anyone who wants to make note of his passing, do so by contributing to a charity of his or her choice.

Although we will miss Jerry, he has joined his father, Truman; his mother, Alyce; his brother, Bob; his in-laws, Rudell and Geneva; and many other family members in everlasting peace and eternal rest. Arrangers under the direction of Nalley-Pickle &

W .. runeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Around Town

- 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.
- 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.

Take note

- EMERGENCY CHAPLAINS CORPS INTEREST MEETING is set for 6 p.m. Monday at the First Church of God, 2200 block of Main, to provide information. New classes for the chaplains corps begin Feb. 6. For more information, call The Rev. Joel Miller at 267-4082 or 213-1221.
- JOHN MOSELEY, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE BIG SPRING HERALD, is receiving treatment at Duke University in Durham, N.C., because of the generosity of friends and this community. He welcomes cards and letters of encouragement. Write to John Moseley, 807 W. Trinity Ave., Apt. 126, Durham,
- DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR LEADERSHIP BIG SPRING is Jan. 25. Contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641 or obtain an application at the chamber office, 215 W. Third.
- REHEARSALS FOR A CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN MUSIC: GEORGE GERSHWIN'S "PORGY AND BESS" with the Big Spring Symphony Chorus begin at 7 p.m. Jan. 17 in the First United Methodist Church's choral rehearsal room. Rehearsal will continue until 8:45 p.m. The concert is scheduled for 8 p.m. April 8 in the Municipal Auditorium. For more information, contact Dr. Keith Graumann, symconductor, at 267-1626 phony or

Police blotter

- The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. today:
- · YESENIA LEDESMA, 18, of 300 Tulane, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- ANGELICA CAZARES, 46, of 8513 El Camino Road, was arrested Wednesday on a local warrant and held for the HCSO.
- DAVID GONZALES, 34, of 507 N. Lamesa ⁰Highway, was arrested Wednesday on three local citations and a charge of failure to identify. • FORTUNATO ALVAREZ, 18, of 1311 Wood, was
- arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- FAILURE TO IDENTIFY GIVING FALSE INFORMATION was reported in the 300 block of Fourth Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road.

Sheriff's report

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

- JENNIE DEE NIX, 46, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by
- IRENE JIMENEZ HINOJOSA, 41, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to adjudicate for hindering the apprehension/prosecution of a known felon.
- CANDICE MARIE KILCOLLINS, 20, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of theft by check.
- ANGELICA MARGARET CARZARES, 46, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- ADRIAN JEROME PERRY, 38, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- DANIEL JESUS LEMON, 37, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of theft with a previous conviction.
- GEORGE MICHAEL BERNHARDT, 57, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- · MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Canary. Service was refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 900 block of Willow. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support groups

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.
- · 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. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. MONDAY
- · Encourager's Support Group meets the first and third Monday each month. For more information, call 398-5522.

TUESDAY

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

Graumann@cox.net. AARP TAX TRAINING IS SET FOR Jan. 17-23 from 8 a.m. until noon at the Spring City Senior Center. Training on the computer aspect of the program is Jan. 24-27, also from 8 a.m. until noon at the Senior Center. Tax preparation will be available at the Senior Center every Monday from 8 a.m. until noon beginning Jan. 30. The AARP program will wrap-up for the year April 10. Electronic filing will be avail-

Gloria Hopkins at 267-6733.

 HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1999 for recipe forms.

able. For more information on the program, contact

- 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.
- ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

Bulletin board

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

- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-
 - · Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- · Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main
- · American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.
- · Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.
- Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-
- · AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane
- · 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 senior citizens are invited.

• Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. in the Event Center, 1607 E. Third.

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

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- 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.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows around 30. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Cooler. Highs in the upper 50s. North winds around 10 mph shifting to the east in

the afternoon. Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s. Light and variable winds.

Saturday...Increasing clouds. Highs in the mid 60s.

South winds 10 to 15 mph. Saturday night...Decreasing clouds: Lows in the lower 40s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Sunday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

Lows in the lower 40s. Martin Luther King Jr day...Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the morning.

Highs in the upper 50s. Monday night...Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the lower 30s.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the mid 50s.

Tuesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 20s. Wednesday...Increasing clouds. Highs in the lower

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-10-18-36-44. Bonus Ball:

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$48

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery: 6-11-19-26-34

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-9-4

www.BigSpringHerald.com

Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

432-263-7331 (Main Switchboard) **Missed Your Paper:** 432-263-7335 (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m. Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

432-264-7205 (Fax) Susanne Reed John A. Moseley

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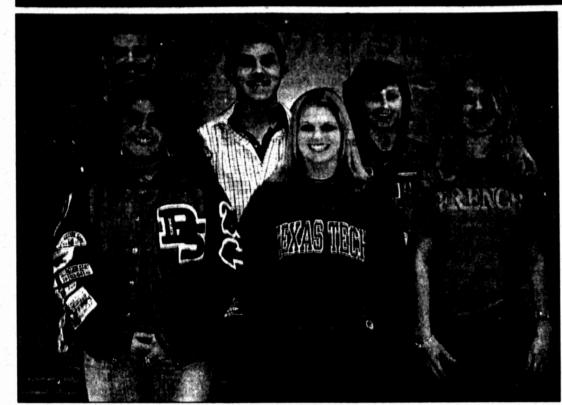
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Big Spring High School Band members, first row, from left: Malle Carrasco, Meagan Smith and Crystal Ward, along with, second row, from left: Ryan Harris, Braden Burchett and Kristen Richard, were named to the Class 5A All-Region Band during recent tryouts. Brittany Galloway, not shown, also was named to the band.

Large group of Steers make All-Region band this year

By STEVE REAGAN

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Os.

A large contingent of Big Spring High School Band members won All-Region honors this school year.

Director Rocky Harris said 53 Steer Band members earned Texas Music Educators Association all-region recognition after tryouts in Andrews last

Of that number, 33 qualified for area band tryouts last Saturday in Odessa, the last step toward earning a spot in the TMEA All-State Band.

Sophomores Malle Carrasco and Crystal Ward earned all-state honors, while senior Brittany Galloway and junior Ryan Harris were selected as

In addition, seven BSHS band mem-reporter@bigspringherald.com.

bers were selected to the Class 5A All-Region Band. This band includes students from the area's largest schools in Odessa and Midland, Harris said.

Carrasco, Ward and Harris were named to the Class 5A honor band, while junior Meagan Smith, senior Braden Burchett, senior Kristen Richard and Galloway were named to the Class 5A concert band.

In addition, Ward qualified for the allregion orchestra, Harris said.

The Class 5A All-Region Band will perform in concert on Saturday at Lee High School in Midland, while the Class 4A All-Region Band will perform in the Big Spring High School auditorium Jan. 28.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at

Bush issues disaster declaration for Texas

DALLAS (AP) President Bush issued a disaster Texas counties where thousands of acres of grassland over the past

The disaster declaration, retroactive to Dec. 1, covers Callahan, Cooke, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Montague, Palo Pinto, Tarrant and Wise counties in North and West The Federal **Emergency Management** Agency said additional counties may be added to the list as damage surveys of damage are com-

pleted. declaration -Bush's declaration orders federal aid to aug-Wednesday for nine ment state and local recovery wildfires have destroyed Individual assistance is homes and blackened available to people affected by the fires in the

> governments will be eligible for public assistance. Wildfires have killed three people, burned more than 250,000 acres and 340 homes since late

> individual counties. Local

December. "I am pleased that federal assistance will reach Texans who have lost so much including homes, loved ones, and businesses as a result of these wildfires," Gov. Rick

Perry said in a statement. "This is also good news for 1dcal governments that have been working efforts. around-the-clock to protect lives and property."

> Hutchison and John Cornyn, both Republicans, applauded the president's actions. The two had sent a letter Tuesday to Bush, asking that Perry's request be approved.

'The president's action is welcome news, and will bring much-needed relief to the most affected counties in our state," Cornyn said in a statement from Washington.

Family Medical Center Spetlight

Dr. Cynthia Rutledge Family Practice Physician

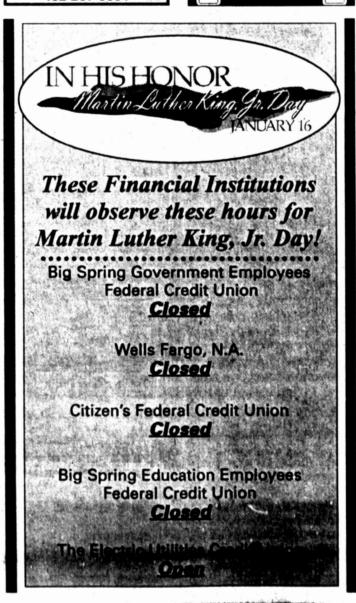
2301 S. Gregg 432-267-5531

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Continued from Page 1A

nerve-wracking series of auditions and tryouts to qualify for the TMEA band, which will perform in concert next month in San Antonio.

Senior Brittany Galloway and junior Ryan Harris were named alternates to the all-state **BSHS** band, Band Director Rocky Harris said.

For Ward, the news was even sweeter. Carrasco learned of her honor at Saturday's area band tryouts in Odessa. Ward, however, was competing against six other regional winners for three chairs in the all-state band, which meant she had to

survive a playoff of sorts. She submitted a tape of her area tryout which was judged against the other regional winners by

a panel of judges in San Antonio. Wednesday, she learned that she had earned the third and final spot in the all-state band.

Between whoops, screams, hugs and tears, she talked about what the honor meant to her.

"I've dreamed about this since I was a little child," Ward said. "I can barely fathom it. I've been worried sick for the past four days ... I really can't believe it, honestly.'

Carrasco, who had four days for the news to sink in, was understandably a bit calmer Wednesday afternoon.

"I was pretty surprised (at the news)," she said. "I

didn't think I had done that great that day, because I was really nervous."

The honor culminates months of practice and preparation on the part of both girls.

"(I spent) countless hours practicing, until my lips were almost bleeding," Ward said. "You have to keep up a strict regimen.'

Both earned first-chair honors at regional band auditions in Andrews last November, which qualified them for Saturday's tryout in Odessa.

Despite all the hours and pressures, both were thrilled with the all-state

really fun," "It's Carrasco. "It was what I was working for.'

ALITO

Continued from Page 1A

right that I was talking about that existed under common law, and it's been developed by state legislatures and in some instances state courts to deal with the living will situation," Alito said.

Sen. Arlen Specter, the committee's chairman, opened the session by announcing that an examination of hundreds of documents from the founder of a controversial college alumni group found no mention of Alito.

The federal judge's membership Concerned Alumni of Princeton, which discouraged the admission of women and minorities at the Ivy League school, has been a divisive issue at Alito's confirmation hearings, which entered a

fourth day Thursday. The questioning so far seems to have done little to alter Alito's prospects for a seat on the Supreme Court, with Republicans confident that the conservative jurist is well-suited for the job while skeptical Democrats warn that could help overturn abor-

Bush selected the 55year-old appellate court replace O'Connor, who has been a decisive vote on issues such as abortion, the death penalty and affir-

Democrats argue that Alito has built a conservative record on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and as a lawyer in the Reagan Justice Department that foretells a rightward approach on the high court.

In days of testimony, Alito has said he has no recollection of his membership in the Princeton group despite highlighting his involvement on a Reagan-era job applica-

Specter said the panel's staff combed through four boxes of documents at the Library of Congress of William Rusher, founder of CAP, and came across nothing that mentioned Alito.

"The files contain dozens of articles, including investigative exposes written at the height of the organization's prominence, but Sam Alito's name is nowhere to be found in any of them," Specter said.

On Wednesday, during a contentious Day 3 of hearings that at one point left Alito's wife in tears, the federal appeals court judge remained unflappable under persistent questioning by Democrats who attacked his credibil-

"Many people will leave this hearing with a question as to whether or not

₹£ KalcidoScoops 1103 E. 11th Place you could be the deciding vote that would eliminate the legality of abortion,' Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois said during Democrats' grilling the nominee about whether he now believes, as he did in 1985, that the Constitution contains no right to an abortion.

Alito refused to say.

"I don't think it's appropriate for me to speak about issues that could realistically come up" before the courts, he said, falling back on a line also used by now-Chief Justice John Roberts and other Supreme Court members during their confirmation hearings.

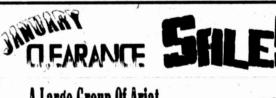
Unlike Roberts, who said at his lower court confirmation hearing in 2003 that he thought Roe v. Wade was "settled law," Alito said it was a precedent that should be respected. He would neither agree nor disagree that it was settled law when asked repeatedly by Durbin.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Jo nson 267-8288

George Campbell, 88, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Pete Johnson, 99, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.



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e lower **DOGS** Continued from Page 1A

> ward in the 2007 legislature, and we'll be working very diligently to get something accomplished."

The city's partnership with TML on the matter comes in the wake of a heated debate concerning a ban on chaining or tethering dogs within the city limits, which passed in July of 2004 and was implemented November 2004.

The ordinance effectively made it a crime to tether or chain a dog without direct supervision from the dog's owner.

"I feel like it has gone really well since day one," said McEwen. "We were concerned there would be some outcry

about it, but there really hasn't been and it has worked well. We don't have dogs chained up in our community anymore, and where there are problems we've addressed them and it's a good thing.

"Dogs that are chained are more vicious than dogs that are not chained. They become more territorial. So that was a very good ordinance that passed and it's working very well."

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

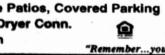


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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Managing Editor

Bill McClellan **News Editor**

OUR VIEWS

Get tickets for chamber banquet now

couple of weeks are all that's left to get tickets for the annual Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet. This year's banquet will feature noteable national speaker and business consultant Patrick McGaughey — a man who has a lot to say and presents it in an entertaining way.

Highlights of the banquet will the include naming of the Man and Woman of the Year, as well as the Business of the Year and Customer Service Employee Award of the Year...

The banquet will be held at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. A meal will be provided. Tickets are \$22 each through Jan. 23 and \$27 each from Jan. 24-28. No tickets will be sold after that and none will be available at the door.

Tickets are available at the chamber office, 215 W. Third or you can a reserve a ticket by calling 263-7641.

Businesses can get involved by securing a table for \$100. Employees can decorate their table and make it more interesting by offering giveaways (pens, pencils or whatever you like with the company logo on them). Then when individuals come into the coliseum that night, they'll be able to sit at your "sponsored" table and learn more about your company. Did we mention you'll also get four tickets you can give to your employees or anyone you wish? Did we mention the Herald is taking advantage of this great offer? We have

We hope you will come out and join us as we salute the chamber of commerce and those staff members and officers, board members and volunteers who have worked so hard to make it a success. The banquet promises to be both fun and educational.

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Remind us, Lord, of the value of patience. Amen

Alito not extreme enough for Left

ut for the seriousness of the nomination of Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court, it would be comical to observe the cries of extremism against Alito from those who argue that he would support President Bush in establishing a near monarchy.

Liberal editorialists and politicians have seized on Alito's alleged expansive view of executive power to oppose his nomination. According to them. Alito would enable the president in his nefarious schemes to torture enemy combatants (and probably domestic liberals) and to incarcerate them

indefinitely, and to permit the government unchecked power to spy on American citizens.

DAVID

LIMBAUGH

How wonderfully serendipitous, given the current flap over the president's warrantless electronic intercepts of Al Qaeda phone calls, that the president's pick happens to have a paper trail revealing his "dangerous" notions about presidential authority. Why, in the words of columnist Robert Kuttner, "(Alito) would give Bush effective control of all three branches of government and the hard-right long-term dominance of the high court.'

Setting aside the left's disturbing tendency to sympathize with everything Al Qaeda these days, don't be fooled by all this noise about runaway presidential powers. They only object to executive largesse when they don't control the presidency, which, with any luck, will remain the case for years to come.

Their real concern — and please excuse me for stating the obvious is over abortion rights. If Alito

is confirmed, it is actually conceivable the Supreme Court could overturn Roe v. Wade and return the issue of the legality of abortion back to the states.

Liberals - you know, the people now complaining about imperialistic presidential authority — are horrified at the idea that the Court might poke a hole in their glorious precedent establishing a federal constitutional right to abortion.

You see, it is not unchecked governmental power they're worried about or encroachments on democratic rights — otherwise they, too, would be outraged at the Supreme Court's disenfranchisement of the states and people on issues like abortion. No, it's not a matter of how much power any particular branch of government has, but whether it will use that power to impose a liberal worldview.

Unless a president is willing to govern like a liberal on most issues, he is a conservative extremist. Unless the Court will continue to usurp the states' and peoples' rights and mandate such things as the nationwide legality of abortion and a strict separation of the Christian religion from government, it is a tool of the reactionary right wing.

Indeed, I have decided to renounce my association with mainstream conservatism. After hearing no less an authority than Sen. Dianne Feinstein expounding on conservative extremism on "Fox News Sunday," I realized the error of my ways. What was I thinking?

Feinstein told Brit Hume, "I think there still is a mainstream conservative movement rather than an activist conservative movement." And anyone who thinks Roe v. Wade was improperly decided by the Supreme Court is outside the mainstream and worthy of being filibustered.

Feinstein then went on to pretend her support for abortion — probably on demand, no less - is based on popular support for the abominable practice. Feinstein said, "The American people, according to the latest ABC poll (are) 60 percent supportive of Roe. This is a pivotal question. And he's in a pivotal spot because of Sandra Day O'Connor's particular position on the court, where she was dispositive in so many 5-4 votes."

Does anyone really think Feinstein or other left-wingers would do a sudden about-face on abortion if public opinion changed? More to the point, how can anyone take seriously such arguments from people who are supportive of a wholly fabricated constitutional "right," established by judicial fiat, that has taken the issue out of the democratic process?

The left's idea of an ideologically extreme, democracy-smothering activist is one who might vote to overturn a case born of ideologically extreme, democracy-smothering activism. A justice who would interpret the Constitution according to its plain meaning and the Framers' original intent is to be damned as an extremist because he would dare to disestablish a "right" that has been crammed down the throats of the states and people by an imperial judiciary.

The left is shameless. It will oppose Alito precisely because he is not willing to support extra-constitutional power grabs by any branch of government against the constitutional rights of the people. It is not extremism, encroachments on the separation of powers doctrine, or infringements on civil or democratic rights they oppose, but those who are unwilling to engage in those very excesses in furtherance of an "enlightened," "progressive" liberal utopia.

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They must think we are morons

he governor of Texas is despicable. Of all the crass pandering, of all the gross political kowtowing to ignorance, we haven't seen anything this rank from Gov. Goodhair since, gee, last fall.

Then, he was trying to draw attention away from his spectacular failure on public schools by convincing Texans that gay marriage was a horrible threat to us all. Now, he's trying to disguise the fact that the schools are in freefall by proposing we teach creationism in biology classes.

The funding of the whole school system is so unfair it has been declared unconstitutional by the Texas Supreme Court. All last year, Perry haplessly called special session after special session, trying to fix the problem, and couldn't get anywhere - not an iota, not a scintilla of leadership.

Instead of facing the grave crisis that may yet result in the schools being closed down, Perry has blithely gone off on creationism + teach the little perishers the Earth is 6,000 years old, that people lived at the same time as dinosaurs and who cares if the school building is falling apart?

Perry faced a potential primary challenge from State Comptroller Carole Keaton Strayhorn. The Texas Republican Party is now so completely dominated by the Christian right, however, that a relative moderate like Strayhorn has no chance against Perry, who has been assiduously kissing the feet, to say the least, of the most extreme elements of the party. So Strayhorn announced she would seek election as an independent. and Perry played the creationism card. Gee, let's all have a big discussion about gays, creationism and covenant marriage - that'll solve the state's staggering problems with schools and health care.

In case you missed it, the court decision everyone has been waiting for on teaching creationism in the schools came out on Dec. 20, and it explains, quite clearly, why creationism cannot be taught as science in this country. Because it isn't science, it's religion.

The decision in the Dover, Pa., school board case by Judge John

Republican and Bush

appointee, is well

worth reading. It

annihilates the case

for teaching creation-

ism. Calling creation-



pathetic.

ism "intelligent design" changes nothing and is disingenu-MOLLY ous to the point of being painful. Perry emphasized the equal-

ly disingenuous notion that there is "controversy" about evolution. supposedly two sides equally worth considering, so we should "teach the controversy." His spokesperson, Kathy Walt, actually said teaching different theories is part of "developing students' critical thinking skills." That's

One hears evolution dismissed as "just a theory," as though all of science weren't based on theory and eternally subject to new evidence to the contrary. In science, gravity is "just a theory" — and if you ever drop something and it falls up, they'll reconsider the whole theory for you. That's just how "theoretical" evolution is constantly subject to evidence and proof. But creationism cannot be tested and proved against evidence using the scientific method — that is why it is not science, it is faith.

Meanwhile, it's heartening to note that political nincompoopery is not limited to Texas. A couple of recent quotes out of Washington, D.C., cause the jaw to drop. Our very own Tom DeLay, upon announcing he would guit as majority leader, said: "During my time in Congress, I have always acted in an ethical manner, within

the rules of our body and the law of our land. I am fully confident time will bear this out." Good grief, the man was sanctioned three times by the House ethics committee last year alone.

Equally stupefying is the ttempted emergence of Newt Gingrich, of all people, as an arbiter of ethics. Gingrich has been going about the media, holding forth on the shortcomings of today's Republicans. Let's see, that would be the same Newt Gingrich who originally started using the lobby as an arm of the Republican Party, right? Same Gingrich had the distinction of being the only House speaker to be reprimanded by his colleagues for ethical wrongdoing? Same Gingrich who was accused of misusing nonprofit organizations for political purposes, personally benefiting from political contributions, cutting a sleazy book deal and giving false statements to ethics investigators? Same Gingrich who was fined \$300,000 for said lying? I thought it was that Gingrich.

They must really think we're morons.

On the general subject of political corruption, do not fall into the fatal error of cynicism. You do your country a great disservice by saying things like: "Eh, they're all crooks. Nothing anyone can do about it. Money will always find a way."

The answer is perpetual reform. Fix it, and if corruption comes back again, you just whack back at it again. The system as it is encourages corruption and must be changed. Public campaign financing is the best answer in the long-term — all this "lobby reform" talk is hopelessly inadequate. Hang in, and raise hell this is a heaven-sent opportunity to clean it up. Don't blow the chance with cheap cynicism.

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Warm Apple Green Tea-ni

2 (8-ounce) servings Prep time: 10 minutes Calories: 110

1 cup water

1 cup apple juice 4 Lipton Decaffeinated Honey Lemon Green Tea bags

2 tablespoons sugar Apple slices (optional)

In small saucepan, bring water and apple juice to boil. Remove from heat and add tea bags; cover and brew 1 1/2 minutes. Remove tea bags; stir in sugar. Pour into tea cups and garnish, if desired, with apple slices. Serve hot.

Cran-a-Granate Toddy

4 (6-ounce) servings Prep time: 10 minutes Calories: 50

3 cups water

5 Lipton Cranberry Pomegranate Green Tea bags

1 (1 to 1 1/2-inch) piece fresh gingerroot, peeled (or 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger) 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar

In medium saucepan, bring water to boil. Remove from heat and add tea bags and ginger; cover and brew 5 minutes. Remove tea bags and ginger; stir in sugar.



Taste Tested Recipes from the Lipton Kitchens

Economy cars go upscale

By MICHAEL ELLIS

DETROIT — The next big thing in cars is, well, small.

General Motors Corp., Nissan Motor Co., Toyota Motor Co. and Honda Motor Corp. are among major automakers planning on launching new subcompact cars next year that deliver high fuel economy and some unexpected features at an affordable price of about \$10,000 to \$12,000.

With gas prices over \$2 a gallon, many drivers are willing to give up space and comfort for economy. For the first time since 1981, cars are outselling the combined results of pickups, SUVs and minivans. And if gas prices again reach or even pass this summer's \$3 a gallon, the trickle of subcompact car buyers could become a rush.

Car buyers may also be lured to the new subcompacts by something they can't get with used cars a new car warranty and the latest features and gadgets, said Ed Peper, Chevrolet general manager.

"Urban areas are getting more congested, making small cars more practical," Peper added.

Make no mistake; these cars aren't the spartan, entry-level cars of years past. Many are larger and offer features that, until recently, were found only on luxury models.

"They're not econoboxes anymore," said Joe Phillippi, principal of AutoTrends Consulting in Short Hills, N.J. "These cars increasingly are no longer what we would call entry-level."

The all-new Chevrolet Aveo, which will be unveiled at the Greater Los Angeles Auto Show in early January, features such standard equipment as a radio input jack for iPod music players, adjustable front headrests, seat-mounted sideimpact air bags and dualstage front air bags.

Optional features include a power sunroof, six-CD changer sound system, steering-wheel mounted audio and cruise control, chrome door handles and heated and power foldaway outside mirrors.

The new Aveo, which will go on sale in U.S.

dealerships in May or June, arrives only about two years after Chevrolet introduced the subcompact in November 2003.

An Aveo with a manual transmission gets 27 miles a gallon in the city and 35 on the highway.

The Korean-made Aveo, one of the featured vehiin Chevrolet's cles "American Revolution' advertising campaign, was an immediate hit after it went on sale.

Peper said that Aveo accounts for 40 percent of U.S. sales in the subcompact segment, and 75 percent of buyers are new to

Through November. U.S. sales for the Aveo totaled 64,706, up 30 percent from the same period in 2004, bettering competitors like Hyundai Motor Co.'s Accent and Kia Motors Corp.'s Rio.

However, the new Aveo will face more competition next year when other models — all with equally offbeat names arrive on the market.

While car buyers in Europe and Japan are already familiar with many of the new subcompacts, high gas prices are now making them an option for American consumers.

Next spring, Toyota is to begin selling the Yaris subcompact, a replacement for the poor-selling Echo. The Echo's bland styling has hampered its sales since it arrived in

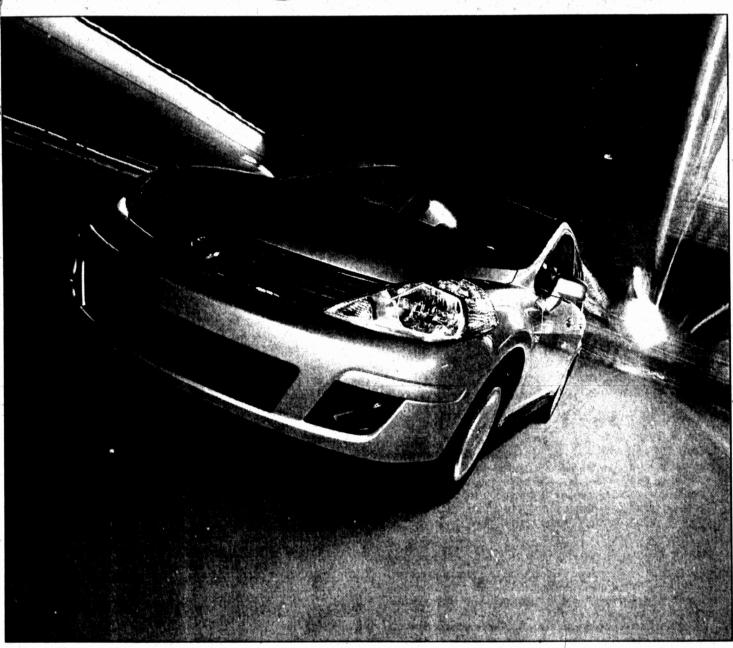
Honda will expand its lineup next year with the new Fit subcompact car. Honda's new Civic small car has grown larger, with more features, making room in the lineup for the more diminutive Fit.

And Nissan's new Versa (short for versatility) will go on sale in June or July next year.

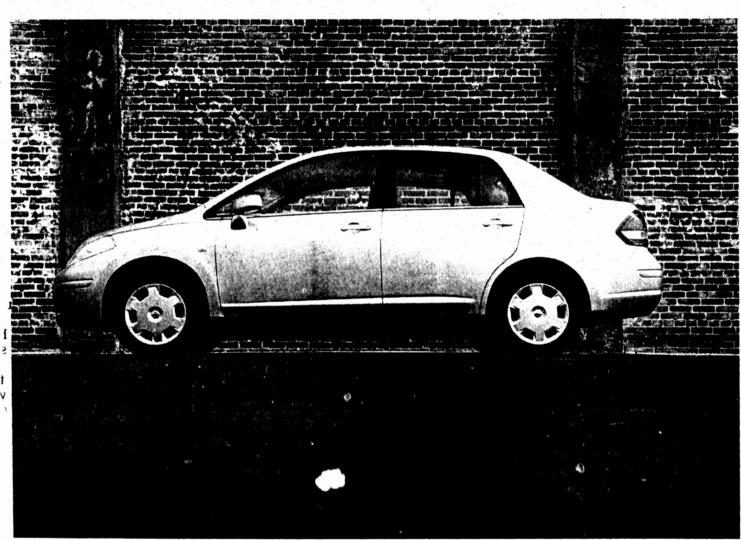
"The timing is good because, while fuel prices have stabilized, it's still on people's minds," said Jed Connelly, senior vice president of sales and marketing for Nissan North America.

All the new choices t could help the segment v grow as much as 5 percent to 6 percent, Chevrolet's Peper said.

"We see the segment maybe growing here a bit here with some new competition coming in," Peper said. "It'll be a very competitive segment."



The 2007 Nissan Versa, short for versatility, will go on sale in June or July. Nissan Motor Company is among major automakers launching new subcompact cars this year that deliver high fuel economy and some unexpected features at an affordable price.



Searching for a six-passenger sedan, safety issues with navigation systems

Q&A

Q. I've been looking for a six-passenger sedan. I searched at the last Chicago Auto Show, but all I could find was a Buick.

However, the seat-belt receptacles in the front seat were so close together that only a toddler could sit between them. If an adult tried, he would be sitting on top of them.

Doesn't anyone besides me want a car that holds six adults?

Another problem. I own a Lexus sedan and a Toyota minivan with navigation systems.

For safety's sake, they can't be adjusted or operated while the vehicles are in motion. If they put the screen on a swivel so could be turned a bil,

the passenger could work

driver continues to drive. - A.C., Deerfield, Ill.

A. Buick offers six-passenger sedans as do Ford with the Crown Victoria and Mercury with the Grand Marquis.

If you are looking for a full-size sedan that will hold six adults in comfort, however, you wou'd have to go back at least a decade and get a Chevrolet Caprice that was popular with cab drivers because it was so wide.

Whether Buick, Ford or Mercury, the bigger the adults, the tighter the fit - and the reason the person in the middle may end up sitting on the belt holders until he grabs them to buckle up.

And, no, not too many people ask for sedans to allow the screen to mai cali mora six adults.

As for navigation sys-

on the screen while the tems, they can be operated when moving once you press the "I agree" button that says you won't try to enter a map setting while the vehicle is moving.

> But, as you say, for safety's sake, you should pull over to set a routing to your destination because some navigation systems are complex and time-consuming to program.

We find the best navigation system to be a paper map that the passenger can read to the

A swivel screen would

add complexity and cost, in addition to raising the question of glare when pointed at the passenger. And what else on the

dash - or behind it would have to be moved swivel?

Chaplains corps classes scheduled

An interest meeting for considering becoming an emergency

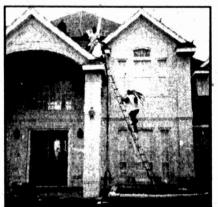
services chaplain is set for 6 p.m. Monday at the First Church of God, 2200 Main.

Those interested in becoming part of the 267-4082 or 213-1221.

Emergency Corps are encouraged to attend the meeting Monday night. Contact the Rev. Joel Miller at

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Page 1B Thursday, January 12, 2006

Lady Buffaloes fall short in 8-A opener

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

FORSAN — The Forsan Lady Buffs opened district play Tuesday night as they welcomed the McCamey Lady Badgers to town and lost a very evenly matched game, 39-

Leading all scorers was Kaylon Stanley, who had 14 points on the night as well as eight rebounds.

The first quarter ended in an 8-8 tie with Stanley and teammate Alyssa Hodnett scoring four

l cheer clinic

cheerleaders will be hosting a mini cheer clinic for girls in grades first through

grades first through aixth Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Steer Gym. The cost for the clinic is \$30 and that includes a T-shirt, shorts, socks and a bag. Registration will be Saturday at the Steer Gym from 2 p.m.

Steer Gym from 2 p.m.

For more info, con-

act Mrs. Stuteville at

3641 ext. 166.

USC RB White will

enter NFL draft

DENVER (AP)

Southern Cal running

back LenDale White declared himself eligi-

ble for the NFL draft. The 6-foot-2, 235-pound junior leaves

USC as the school's career leader with 57

yards in three sea-

sons, during which

the Trojans won two

national champi-

He scored three

touchdowns in USC's

41-38 loss to Texas in

Fellow Trojans tail-

back Reggie Bush, the

Heisman Trophy win-

ner, will announce his

plans Thursday.

Packers nearing

deal with McCarthy

MILWAUKEE (AP)

Packers and Mike

McCarthy were near-

ing a deal to make

him their next head

coach, a person involved in the negoti-

ations told The Associated Press.

The person, who spoke on the condition

of anonymity, expected the team to finalize

an agreement with the San Francisco 49ers'

offensive coordinator

McCarthy worked

with Brett Favre as

the Packers' quarter-

backs coach in 1999.

Alkman makes final

cut for Hall of Fame

CANTON, Ohio (AP)

the late Reggie White

were among the 15 finalists for the Hall of

Fame, joining Thurman Thomas and Warren Moon as final-

ain their nr.
eligibility.
Aikman quarteracked Dallas to
Bowl titles

roy Aikman and

Thursday.

The Green Bay

the Rose Bowl Jan. 4.

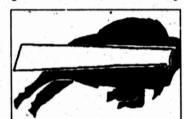
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Spring

each. Both teams heated up a bit in the second with McCamey edging ahead, outscoring the Lady Buffs 16-11 in the period.

The Lady Badgers padded the lead as they



opened the third frame with a basket and as they pushed their advantage to 26-19.

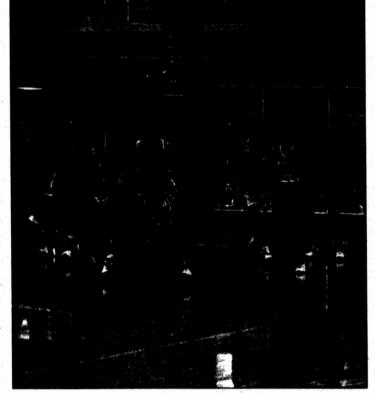
However, **Forsan** answered back with an 8-0 run, on the strength of five consecutive points by Tessa Montgomery, and took a one-point lead.

That lead was short though, McCamey was able to connect on a 3-pointer to end the third and grab the lead back at 29-27.

Two minutes went by in the fourth with no score until Kimmy Berry hit from 3-point range, giving the Lady Buffs the lead, 30-29.

Again the Lady Badgers were able to respond and went on a 6-0 run which gave them a five-point cushion.

With time running out, Stanley was able to complete a 3-point play after she was fouled under the basket, bringing Forsan



Buffs sent McCamey to the line, but they were only able to make one out of two. Down by only two. the Lady Buffs were unable to get off a good shot as time expired.

Hodnett finished the

By BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

of some energy.

points

player on the team.

NEW YORK — Playing

their second game in two

nights and forced into

overtime after blowing an

18-point lead, the New

York Knicks were in need

It came from the oldest

Antonio Davis had four

and

while playing tough

on Wednesday night for

"I think they under-

stand how much I care

about this team and how

badly I want to win," the

37-year-old Davis said. "I

don't want to open the

papers and see the posi-

tion that we're in, and a

lot of times you have to

to know what you can do

and what you can't do.

And what I can do is I can

defend a guy and I can

"When they see me run-

ning after a rebound, or

something like that, they

really understand what

scored 28 points, Jamal

Crawford added 25 points

and Eddy Curry had 21

Marbury

this game is all about."

rebound.

Stephon

their fifth straight win.

three

first Montgomery added four boards to her five points.

Kaliegh Wiley scored 13 for the Lady Badgers and Erin Adams had 10.

HC women can't hang with Trinity at Dorothy

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Howard's first game on the new and improved Harold Davis Court did not result in a win Tuesday as the Hawk women's basketball team fell to No. 3 Trinity Valley Community College, 97-

59. The floor inside the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum revamped over the holiday



break and now features a gigantic Hawk clenching a basketball at center court, but the Hawk women needed more than that on the court and couldn't stay with the third-ranked Lady Cards.

Howard (6-12) led briefly in the game as sophomore Jennifer Pena began the game with a 3pointer and two free throws by sophomore Latoya Fairley put the Hawk women up 5-3 with 18:22 to play in the first half.

The Hawks would score in spurts the rest of the half as Trinity Valley took over. The Lady Cards led 8-7 with 17:15 to play until halftime after Howard's **Tomisha** Martin scored on a putback. Trinity Valley then went on a 22-3 to push its advantage to 30-10 with just under 12 minutes left

in the first half. It was 33-14 at the 10minute mark and Howard went into the locker room down 56-35. Freshman Valerie Burnam provided a spark off the bench for the Hawk women as she scored six points in the final 10 minutes. Fairley led Howard at the break

with 13 points. Pena scored the first six points for Howard in the second half on two 3pointers. The second shot from long range cut the deficit to 18 points, but Trinity Valley pushed its lead back to 25 points with just more than 14 minutes to play in the game and eventually went up 83-53 with eight

Forsan's Kimmy Berry, center, takes the ball up the floor during action Tuesday in Forsan. The Lady Buffs lost their District 8-A opener to McCamey.

Forsan will travel to Iraan Friday night to take

Mavs fall to red-hot Knicks at MSG for the Knicks, who beat one of the NBA's top teams for the second time in two nights and have won five in a row for the

> Feb 8, 2004. "The way approaching the game is different," totally Marbury said. "We have a lot of confidence. We know we're going to

first time since Jan. 30-

win." rebounds in overtime, New York led by at least eight points from midway defense on Dirk Nowitzki, through the first quarter and the Knicks beat the Dallas Mavericks 117-115 until early in the fourth, but was forced to overtime after shooting only 7-of-21 (33 percent) in the

> final period. Nowitzki had 32 points for the Mavericks, who had their three-game winning streak snapped and lost to the Knicks for the first time in eight games.

Curry converted a three-point play after know your role. You have grabbing an offensive rebound, giving the Knicks a 110-109 lead with 3:12 remaining in overtime. Davis' follow pushed the lead to three before Nowitzki hit a 3pointer to tie it for the final time.

> Davis made two free throws with 1:27 to go to give the Knicks a 114-112,

See MAVS, Page 2B

minutes to go. Fairley and Martin

See HOWARD, Page 2B

to within one at 38-37. night with eight points on the Lady Braves at 6:30 and three rebounds, all in Forced to foul, the Lady



KRT photo/J. Conrad Williams Jr., Newsday Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki goes up for a shot against New York Knicks' Eddy Curry, who fouls him on the play, in the second quarter during the Knicks' 117-115 win over the Mavericks at Madison Square Garden in New York City Wednesday.

Garden City secures top 20 spot

SUGAR LAND (AP) -High school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches for the week of Jan. 9:

Class 5A

1. Spring Westfield, 2. DeSoto, 3. Humble Kingwood, 4. Richardson Berkner, 5. Dallas Carter, 6. Duncanville, 7. Austin Bowie, 8. Arlington Bowie, 9. San Antonio Madison, 10. North Crowley, 11. Alief Hastings, 12. Houston Bellaire, 13. Cedar Hill, 14. San Antonio Warren, 15. Killeen Shoemaker, 16. Tyler, 17. Corpus Christi Carroll, 18. Carrollton Newman Smith, 19. San Antonio MacArthur, 20. Edinburg

Class 4A

1. Seagoville, 2. South Oak Cliff, 3. Fort Worth
Dunbar, 4. Angleton, 5. Brenham, 6. Amarillo
Palo Duro, 7. New Braunfels Canyon, 8. Houston
Wheatley, 9. Dellas Lincoln, 10. Boerne, 11.
Crowley, 12. Arlington Seguin, 13. Beaumont
Ozen, 14. Pflugenville Connaily, 15. San Antonio
Breckenridge, 16. Mineral Wells, 17. Wolfforth
Frenship, 18. San Antonio Houston, 19. Dellas
Kimball, 20. Channelview

Class 3A

1. Bullard, 2. Silsbee, 3. Glen Rose, 4. Clyde, 5. Gollad, 6. Fairfield, 7. Abliene Wylle, 8. Ingram Moore, 9. Stafford, 10. Navasota, 11. LaVega, 12. Princeton, 13. West Orange Stark, 14. Bowle, 15. Lytle, 16. Van Alstyne, 17. Liberty Hill, 18. Spring Hill, 19. Jasper, 20. Dallas Roosewell.

Class 2A
1. Clerksville, 2. Floydeda, 3. Kountze, 4. Jarrell,
5. Olney, 6. Shallowater, 7. Hearne, 8. Argyle, 9.
Celina, 10. Peaster, 11. East Chambers, 12.
Taft, 13. San Antonio Cole, 14. Brock, 15. Arp,
16. Schulenburg, 17. Reagan County, 18.
Ponder,:19. Frankston, 20. Wall

Class 1A Div. I

1. Martins Mill, 2. Broaddus, 3. Axtell, 4. Lindsey, 5. Bogata Rivercrest, 6. Gruver, 7. Sundown, 8. San Antonio Stacey, 9. Claude, 10. Memphis, 11. Burkeville, 12. Sabinal, 13. LaPoynor, 14. Loveledy, 15. San Antonio Hawkins, 16. Normangee, 17. Anderson-Shiro. 18. Haskell, 19. Rice, 20. Alvord

Cless 1A Div. II

1. Nazareth, 2. Lipan, 3. Lorenzo, 4. Kamack, 5. Paducah, 6. Silverton, 7. Throckmorton, 8. Goodrich, 9. Chireno, 10. Tenaha, 11. Kennard, 12. Comstock, 13. Grandfalls, 14. Water Valley, 15. Avinger, 18. Garden City, 17. Whitherral, 18. San Isidro, 19. Triridad, 20. Bronte

GIRLS
Class 5A
1. CyFair, 2. DeSoto, 3. Rockwall, 4. Katy Cinco
Ranch, 5. Arlington Bowle, 6. Mansfield Summit,
7. Temple, 8. Duncanville, 9. Plano West, 10.
Houston Westside, 11. Galena Park North
Shore, 12. Corpus Christi Carroll, 13. San
Antonio Warren, 14. Bryan, 15. Pflugerville, 16.
Converse Judson, 17. San Antonio Roosevelt,
18. Spring Westfield, 19. North Crowley, 20.
Spring

Class 4A

1. Fort Worth Dunbar, 2. Arlington Seguin, 3. Del
Valle, 4. Waxahachie, 5. Arharillo Palo Duro, 6.
Lumberton, 7. Houston Jones, 8. Dalles Lincoln,
9. Longview Pine Tree, 10. Waco Mikhwey, 11.
Kerrville Thy, 12. Sherman, 13. Dripping
Springs, 14. Marble Falls, 15. Pflugerville
Connally, 16. Nacogdoches, 17. Dalles Kimball,
18. South Oek Cliff, 19. Denison, 20. Crosby

Class 3A

1. Winnsboro, 2. Carryon, 3. Silsbee, 4. CC West
Oso, 5. Crahdali, 6. Orangefield, 7. Abilene
Wylle, 8. Llano, 9. Texarkana Liberty Eylau, 10.
Navasota, 11. Merkel, 12. Snyder, 13.
Brownsboro, 14. China Spring, 15. Levelland,
16. West Orange Stark, 17. Marion, 18.
Wimberley, 19. Mt. Vernon, 20. Groesbeck

Van Vleck, 12. Nixon-Smiley, 13. Clarksville,
 Honey Grove, 15. Jim Ned, 16. Spearman,
 Italy, 18. Navarro, 19. Edgewood, 20.

Class 1A Div. I

1. Martins Mill, 2. Sudan, 3. Muenster, 4. Port Aransas, 5. Sterling City, 6. Moulton, 7. Stratford, 8. Celeste, 9. Claude, 10. Sundown, 11. Falls City, 12. North Hopkins, 13. Hamlin, 14. Wellington, 15. Big Sandy, 16. Tolar, 17. Thomdale, 18. Lindsay, 19. Alvord, 20. Bogata

Class 1A Div. II 1. Nazareth, 2. Kennard, 3. Priddy, 4. Springlake 1. Nazareth, 2. Kennard, 3. Pridoy, 4. Springlake-Earth, 5. Byers, 6. Knippa, 7. Strawn, 8. Water Valley, 9. Chireno, 10. Tenaha, 11. Follett, 12. Throckmorton, 13. Roby, 14. Köpperl, 15. Whitharrall, 16. Rochelle, 17. Aspermont, 18. Goodrich, 19. DHanis, 20. Knox City

Large Private Schools

1. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 2. Fort Worth
Christian, 3. Dallas Bishop Lynch, 4. Houston
Westbury Christian, 5. Austin Saint Michael's, 6.
Houston St. Agnes, 7. Cerrollton Christian, 8.
Fort Worth Country Day, 9. San Antonio Antonian,
10. Angyle Liberty Christian, 11. Dallas Ursuline,
12. Dallas First Baptist, 13. San Antonio
Cornerstone, 14. Midland Christian, 15. Vistoria
Saint Joseph, 16. Fort Worth Nolan Catholic, 17.
Sain Antonio Incarrate Word, 18. Dallas

Small Private Schools

1. Lake Country Christian, 2. Hallettsville Sacred Heart, 3. Grapevine Faith Christian, 4. Colleyville Covenant Christian, 5. Lubbock Christian, 6. Wichita Fallas Notre Dame, 7. Amarillo San Jacinto Christian, 8. Muenater Sacred, Heart, 9. Waco Texas Christian, 10. Abilene Christian, 11. McKinney Christian, 12. Midland Classical Academy, 13. Conroc Covenant Christian, 14. Ceder Hill Trinity Christian, 15. San Antonio Bellevers Academy, 16. Dellas Parish Episcopal, 17. Carrollton American Heritage, 18. Sherman Texoma Christian, 19. Grand Prarie Shady Grove, me Christian, 19. Grand Prarie Sh

Hole-In-Ones **Comanche Trail Golf Course** Max Coffee (his fifth) 11-25-05 No. 11 with a 6-iron Witnesses: Burl Dennis, Bill Davey and Ed Wilkerson Bill Bauer (his third) 12-6-05 No. 4 with a 6-iron Witnesses: Jack Birdwell, Chris Bravo and Tommy Fletcher John Leonardi (his first) 12-30-05 No. 11 with a 5-iron on Booth, Jimmy Foresyth, Bob Stewart and George Murphy eniel Silen (his second) 1-8-06

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iability



Stephanie Snowden, a 15-year-old from Forsan High School, poses with her first-ever deer last year. Snowden killed the deer in Marble Falls on Thanksgiving Day.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

baskets for traded Howard midway through the second session, but Trinity Valley proved to be too much in the end

Duke rolls

past rival

Maryland

in Durham

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) -

Shelden Williams got his

first career triple-double

and J.J. Redick scored 27

points, helping No. 1

Duke snap a three-game

losing streak to No. 23

Maryland with a dominat-

Williams had 19 points,

11 rebounds and a career-

high 10 blocks for the

Blue Devils (15-0, 3-0

Conference), who scored

the game's first seven

points and led 45-22 at

halftime. They held the

Terrapins (11-4, 1-2) to 29

percent shooting in the

opening 20 minutes while

forcing 18 of Maryland's

Chris McCray had 12

points for the Terrapins,

who lost their second in a

No. 2 Florida 75,

Mississippi St. 60

GAINESVILLE.

unbeaten.

season-high 29 turnovers.

victory

Coast

76-52

Wednesday night.

Atlantic

for the Hawks to handle. Fairley finished with a team-high 19 points, points, including three 3pointers. Martin scored

ished with six.

while Pena added 11 Howard begins confernine points, freshman The team's next home Kim Gilyard added eight points and Burnam finrival Midland.

The Hawk women will travel to Hobbs, N.M., a week from Thursday as ence play against New Mexico Junior College. game will be played Jan. 23 at 5:50 p.m. against



Michigan State's Marquise Gray goes to the basket over Indiana's A.J. Ratliff in the first half during the Spartans 87-73 win over the Hoosiers at the Jack Breslin Student Events

lowing season.

Corey Brewer had 18 points and Lee Humphrey added 13 for Florida.

Center in East Lansing, Mich. Wednesday.

Jamont Gordon led the Bulldogs (11-4, 1-1) with 17 points and seven of their nine assists.

No. 14 Michigan St. 87,

(AP) — Taurean Green No. 9 Indiana 73 EAST LANSING, Mich. scored 20 points, including two 3-pointers with (AP) — Maurice Ager the shot clock winding scored 28 points and Paul down in the closing min-Davis had 23 points and utes, to keep Florida rebounds to lead Michigan State to its first The Gators (15-0, 2-0 Big Ten win.

Southeastern Conference) The Spartans (13-4, 1-2) broke the school record bounced back from two for consecutive wins and straight double-digit lossextended the best start in es because Ager and school history. They sur-Davis were tough to stop passe! the previous mark after struggling in those of 14 straight wins set in setbacks. Ager and Davis 2001-02 and tied the folthe games at No. 7 Illinois

and No. 21 Wisconsin. Marco Killingsworth had 27 points and Robert Vaden added 20 for the Hoosiers (10-3, 2-1), who had won six straight and reached their highest ranking since Dec. 16,

Michigan State pulled away with a 10-0 run that made it 76-60 lead with 3:34 left.

No. 17 George Washington 69, Saint Louis 64, OT

WASHINGTON (AP) — Danilo Pinnock had 19 points, seven in overtime, and 12 rebounds for George Washington.

The Colonials rallied combined for 34 points in from a nine-point second-

half deficit, then blew an eight-point lead before forcing overtime on Omar Williams' layup with 22 seconds left. Danny Brown of Saint Louis had a chance to tie, but his 3point attempt slipped out of his hands at the regulation buzzer.

Washington George scored the first six points of overtime and kept the lead thanks to two offenrebounds Pinnock, including one he tipped in to make it 65with 55 seconds

remaining. Williams and Carl Elliot each scored 10 points for the Colonials (11-1, 2-0 Atlantic 10).

Brown scored a careerhigh 23 points for the Billikens (7-7, 1-1).

For: an JV splits district opener with McCamey

By JEFF

the Herald Special t **FORS**?

 The Forsan JV boy asketball team remaine undefeated, improving to 9-0, by easily handling the McCamey Badgers, 52-33, Tuesday night.

In girl's JV action, the Lady Buffs fought hard five players on the night against the Lady Badgers, due to UIL restrictions



defeat, 55-49.

The ladies used only

in only two games per week. Forsan is hosting a JV Tourney this week-

Sandi Golleher led the Lady Buffs with 19 points while Faith Belew finished the night with 17.

Blake Grantham paced the boys with 11 points as they tuned up for this weekend's tourney.

allowing players to play Jeremy Robbins added nine and Cody Frietag pitched in eight.

The Buffs will open tournament play this Thursday at 8 p.m. Game time for the ladies was not known at press time.

Tournament teams include Garden City, Coahoma, Sands, Water Valley and Borden County.

Texas' Brown wins Bryant Coach of the Year award

HOUSTON (AP) Texas coach Mack Brown by won the Bear Bryant coach of the year award Wednesday after leading his Longhorns to their first national title in 35

The award is presented the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

Texas won its first outright national championship since 1969 with the Longhorns' 41-38 Rose victory Bowl over Southern California.

Brown won the coaching title over 11 other finalists. He is the first Texas coach since Darrel Royal to win the Bear

Bryant award. Auburn's Tommy Tuberville won the coaching award last year.

Also Wodnerday, former Houston coach Jack Pardee received a lifetime achievement award.

Red Raiders suffer big loss, Brown dies of heart attack arrival in 2001. He initialretired from coaching

Special to the Herald LUBBOCK - Texas

Tech assistant football coach Dave Brown passed away late Tuesday afternoon of an apparent heart attack while playing basketball at the on-campus recreation center. He would have been 53 Monday.

Brown was taken to Medical University Center in Lubbock where he was pronounced dead. "Our heart goes out to

Dave's family," Texas Tech head coach Mike Leach said. "Dave lived a great life that anyone could be proud of. He was one of best people I have ever known. He had a tremendous impact on our program based on the kind of person he was. He will be missed, but we are honored to have had the opportunity to know him."

A five-year veteran on the Red Raider coaching staff. Brown coached the cornerbacks since his

in 1998 after a seven-year run as cornerbacks coach for the Seattle Seahawks, but returned to the sideline three seasons later for his only collegiate

position. Brown was active in the Fellowship Christian Athletes and held

weekly bible studies Texas Tech student-athletes. His faith in God and his leadership made him one of the most admired individ-

uals on the Texas Tech

campus.

"This is a tremendous loss to not only the Texas Tech family, but also to the many lives Dave touched throughout his life," Texas Tech Director of Athletics Gerald Myers said. "He had a tremendous influence on everyone he came in contact sons, Aaron and Sterling.

with, including the student-athletes and people he worked with here in our department."

Brown was a two-time All-America defensive back at the University of Michigan, before beginning a 16-year professional career with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1975. Brown participated in the Steelers' Super Bowl X win against the Dallas Cowboys, before being picked up by Seattle in the 1976 expansion draft. The move proved to be a good one for Brown, who spent the next 11 seasons with the Seahawks.

A 1984 All-Pro selection, Brown holds the all-time record in Seattle with 50 interceptions and was enshrined in Seahawk's Ring of Honor in 1992. He finished his NFL career with the Green Bay Packers for four seasons before retiring in 1990.

Brown is survived by his wife, Rhonda, and

Bears begin season with loss to Raiders

By BETSY BLANEY **Associated Press Writer**

LUBBOCK - Baylor coach Scott Drew knows it's going to be a long season with all the youth on his team, even despite a shortened schedule.

another He Wednesday reminder night as the Bears lost their season debut 79-61 to Texas Tech. Baylor was prohibited

from playing any nonconprencegames this season as part of NCAA penalties for numerous violations under former coach Dave Bliss. The violations were discovered after former player Patrick Dennehy was murdered by a former teammate in the summer of 2003.

Jarrius Jackson scored 22 points and some opening-game jitters spoiled Baylor's first game in 307 days.

Tech coach Bob Knight said Baylor was under "a tremendous handicap" coming into the game.

"No matter how much they work at practice and tried to simulate playing on the road, it can't be done," he said. "You never know what you can do or can't do until you

play a little bit."

The Bears' rough edges even after an NCAArecord 89 days of preseason practice apparent in their 15th straight loss. While playing defense, Baylor's Curtis Jerrells had his back to the play and didn't see the ball come loose. It rolled through his legs into the hands of a Tech player. Later, Henry Dugat got careless on a breakaway and missed a dunk.

The Bears couldn't hold onto rebounds and repeatedly scrambled for the ball on the floor beneath Tech's basket. Tech outrebounded the Bears 45-26 and Baylor got only eight second-chance points. The Bears were 23-of-60 from the field.

Tech has struggled to maintain leads but Wednesday's game proved to be different.

Tech (9-7, 1-1 Big 12) built a 17-point lead twice in the second half. Baylor used an 11-4 run to cut the first one to 51-43. But Tech answered quickly, using an 11-2 run to go up 62-45 with 6:52 remaining.

Martin Zeno scored 21 points for Texas Tech.

Continued from Page 1B

pressured then he Nowitzki into a tough miss on the other end. Crawford made three free throws from there.

"I think Tony's played him a lot," Knicks coach Larry Brown said. "For the most part he did a tremendous job on him."

Ahead by 18 points in the first half, the Knicks were still up by four until Devin Harris scored on a drive, forced Marbury into an offensive foul on the other end, and Jason Terry knocked down a jumper to tie it at 101.

After Marbury was for traveling, called Nowitzki's jumper with 1 1/2 minutes gave Dallas its first lead since it was 7-6. Curry's follow dunk tied it at 103, and Marbury answered Terry's drive with two free throws to keep it tied with 27 seconds to play. Nowitzki missed two

ing a 3-pointer just before

the buzzer. "I want to take that one back at the end of regulation that I missed," Nowitzki said. "I kind of rushed that one when the score was tied.'

Terry scored 20 points and Josh Howard had 18 for Dallas. Harris had 15 and Jerry Stackhouse 12 off the bench. Playing one night after

winning at Cleveland, the Knicks seized control minutes into the game. A 17-4 run turned a threepoint deficit into a 21-11 lead, and New York led 35-21 at the end of the first period. Marbury and Curry each scored 10 points in the Knicks' highest-scoring first quarter of the season.

"They were the aggressors in the first half. We really didn't get off the bus," Mavericks coach Johnson said. Avery "We've got some lethargic situations here that I've got to address. It's really disappointing. Just got to crack the whip."

Maurice Taylor's basket pushed the lead to 40-22

the second quarter, and the Knicks were ahead 63-48 at halftime.

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HOME REPAIR Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing.

RS

Minor Electrical FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair,

Appliances installed 816-3030

ROOFING

ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences,

PALACIOS Painting Insured & Bonded Home Phone

432-263-5430

Cell#

432-213-0363

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed.

and Doctor of Repairs! Prop Boths Big Spring & Surrounding Areas

ROOFING

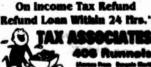
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs

267-1110

Mini-Storage 1 2 Off

Now Have Large or Small Inits Available, We Store it All! opting Vice & Ber

3301 E. FM 700 263-0732



Help Wanted

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.

DOWN HOLE Pump Repair/ Delivery Person. Experience Preferred, but will train. Salary D.O.E. Full Benefits Package. Send Resume to P.O. Box 2234, Big Spring.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

ENVIRONMENTAL PANY needs career minded person with equal mental and physical capabilities. No fear of heights. Computer skills required. Can handle 25 lbs. of equipment all day. Learn and administer EPA rules and regulations that require major responsibility, accountability and dependability. Good pay, benefits and growth. Send resume to mcogdill@efsius.com.

FULL TIME help wanted. Construction experience necessary. Able to work out of town if necessary. Call (432)263-2345.

HOWARD COUNTY Appraisal District Clerk. Requirements:

High school Diploma or GED Previous data entry and customer service experience in fast paced environment

Basic arithmetic problem solv-Salary is contingent on experi-

ence. Comprehensive benefits

package included. Interested parties need to apply at the Workforce Network, 310 Owens with a resume.

IF YOU enjoy a teamwork approach to nursing & have a passion to ensure high quality care to the elderly, we want to meet you!

Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, Now Hiring for Charge Nurse Position. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway.

IMMEDIATE OPENING

Phlebotomist, one year experience preferred. Needed full time at an outpatient clinic in Big Spring, Tx. Criminal and Abuse background check required. Fax resumes to Kelly (817)306-4673.

IMMEDIATE' OPENING Level II Ultrasonic/Penetrant Technician. Will be assigned to work with Inspection in Big Spring refinery. 4 day work week. excellent benefits. E-mail resume to

ken.overstreet@englobal.com or fax to (432)570-5152. For information, (432)561-8324.

Signature

MEDIATE OPENING for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 7 days - 7 days off. Must have own car. Apply 1208 Gregg Street or 208 11th

MAINTENANCE PERSON needed. Retired or other wise. Electrical & plumbing required. Apartment furnished + salary. Call (432)263-6319 Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm for interview.

MARTIN CO. Hospital Home dealth is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff. Must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 fax resume (432)756-4510.

MEDICAL RECORDS FILE CLERK F/T Mon-Fri day shift in Big Spring. No weekends or holidays reg'd. Must have medical office experience or training. Fax resume & salary to 888-999-2594 or history email

contracting@caseproinc.com

MIDWAY BAPTIST Church is seeking a part time secretary. Telephone and Computer skills are essential. You may apply in person at 6200 South Service Road. Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.

Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder,

NEED MECHANIC and/or Machine Maintenance person with hydraulic, gasoline, diesel, and electric engine experience. Must also work with Schematics. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume to (432)354-2669.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY Big Spring Area Routes Midland Reporter-Telegram The Midland

Reporter-Telegram has delivery positions available in the Big Spring Area for both Home Delivery and Retail Outlet distribution. General knowledge of the Big Spring area, good organization for customer tracking, a reliable vehicle and a dependable commitment to early morning deliveries ranging from

If interested please call 432-967-4149

NOW HIRING drivers to transport railroad crews. 25 Years old, pass a drug screen & good driving record. Retired Men and Women are encouraged to apply. Call (972)986-1525 leave message.

SMOTH			
NO.	AVE	52%	
	over nev	vo etena prices	
Subscriptio	n Price	News Stand I	Price
One Year Six Months	TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	*195.00 *97.50	
Three Months One Month	125.95	\$48.75 \$15.00	
Call for Senior	Citizen and	l Mail Delivery Pri	ces
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Big Spring, TX		LD Box 1431 432) 263-7331	13008
Card # Exp. Date:			

Help Wanted

NOW HIRING FOR postal positions. \$18.50-\$59.00+hour. Full Benefits/Paid training and vacations. No experience necessary 1-800-584-1775 reference

NOW HIRING FOR postal posiions. \$18.50-\$59.00+hour. Full Benefits/Paid training and vaeations. No experience necessary 1-800-584-1775 reference **#9020**.

NOW HIRING mental health aide for assisted living facility. Call Amanda at (432)263-2559 between 8am and 4pm for de-

PART TIME help needed. Must be over 21 w/retail experience. Must pass criminal check and history. Call work (432)213-1423 after 10:00 a.m. ask for Mike.

PARTS PURCHASER and **PAINTER** for trucks and heavy equipment, experienced preferred- Salary based on experience, health insurance, 401K. Contact Price Construction, 2701 N Hwy. 350, Big Spring, Tx 79720 or fax resume to (432)263-6012. EOE.

PIZZA INN

Now hiring Delivery Drivers. Earn \$10-\$12 per hour with wages, tips & commission. Full or Part time. Please apply in person at 1702 Gregg St.. No Phone Calls.

REPORTER/ EDITORIAL Staff needed. Temporary, approx. 3 month. Experience h writing, reporting and part or Filme. Call Bill McClellan, Big Spring Herald after 10:30 am (432)263-7331. ROOFING HELPERS (5) Pala-

cios Roofing and Home Im-Temporary provements. 4/01/06 to 12/15/06. \$6.82/hr. OT \$10.23/hr. 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To lift, carry and hold building materials, tools and supplies, to clean equipment, materials, tools and work areas. Entry Level, Will train. Must be authorized to work legally in the U.S. Apply at the Texas Workforce Commission, Big Spring, Texas or send resume to 1117 Trinity, Room 120T, Austin, Texas, 78701, Job posting #TX2414797. Ad paid by an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SALES Producer/ Receptionist needed. Strong computer and organizational skills required. Must have strong people skills and maintain professionalism. Apply at 408 E.F.M. 700. No phone calls please.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirement trett k ground check, day screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Instructional

PIANO & VOICE LESSONS

Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

Items for Sale

CLOTHING SALE, over 200 pieces of excellent quality ladies clothing sizes 16-20, most \$5. each. Call (432)935-1956 after 5:00 p.m. for evening or weekend appointment.

FIREWOOD: Oak Firewood delivered and stacked for \$210.00 a full cord. Call (325)648-281, leave message

Lost and Found

MISSING ROTTWEILER/ German Shepherd Chow/ mixed dog. Large and Black. Last seen in the Edwards & Hillside area. Please call (432)816-3272.

Miscellaneous

2 DUEL Axles, 8 rims, 8 tires & frame for 48' Semi Trailer and Antique 1942 Barber Chair. Make offer. (432)270-4499.

FREE PALLETS. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry

KING PILLOW-TOP mattress set. Brand new, in plastic with \$250. warranty. (806)549-3110.

On the Farm

4640 JOHN Deer Tractor and a 630 John Deer Tamden. Call (432)661-2939 daytime 399-4888 nighttime.

HORSE for SALE. Paint. \$950.00. Call (432)267-1962 after 6 p.m.

1 Bedroom - \$400. month \$200. deposit. All Bills Paid

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

Choose Your Own Monthly Rent Options 299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. Such As ALL BILLS PAID 263-1252

FREE- Cat & 8 wk old kittens.

Can see at 1803 1/2 Lancaster. MUST SALE very loved pets. Bassett Hound pair \$200. **OBO.** Call (432)935-6228.

Real Estate for Rent

Knollwood Heights Apartments 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.

(432) 264-1735 Now Leasing!

Brand New 1, 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts \$385 - \$520 monthly New Appliances & Full Size Washer & Dryer in Apartments

On Site Maintenance Swimming Pool • Fitness Room • 2 Playgrounds **HUD Accepted**

South Plains 432-714-4840

Efficiency Apt. • *175* One Bdr. • *225*

Two Bdr. • *300* w/6 Mo. Lease (*\$300 Deposit)

All utilities Except Electric Paid Free High Speed Wireless On-Site Manager

Laundry & Vending Facility Housing Assistance Accepted

Large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry A. All bills paid (4) month, \$150. Call (432)264-6611.

1505 OWENS. 2 bedroom, 1 No Pets. (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

1505 TUSCON. Four bedroom, two bath, CH/A. \$600.00 Month, \$400.00 deposit. Call (432)270-3848.

1303 MARIJO. Two bedroom, one bath, CH/A. 1807 YOUNG Brick, two bedroom, one bath, CH/A, carport. Each \$385. month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furtions. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

3708 Caroline. 4 Bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced yard, fireplace, appliances furnished. \$550.00 month, \$250.00 deposit. Call (432)978-7119.

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College, 1 Bedroom House. Stove & refrigerator, carport, CH/A. \$350.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

623 CAYLOR Possible 4 bedrooms, 2 bath Stove & Refrigerator furnished Washer/ Dryer connections Fenced backyard

Deposit \$100. Rent \$450.

Call (432)267-2112 Leave message. 712 GOLIAD. 2 or 3 Bedroom. Stove and refrigerater furnished. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$500. month, \$275. deposit. No HUD. Call

(432)267-2296. 802 1/2 Nolan- 1 bedroom. \$400.00 All Bills. 2528 Fairchild 2 or 3 bedroom. \$350/\$450.. 3/2 Trailer- 5600 South Service

Road. Call (432)264-9907. **BUILDING** for **LEASE** for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month +deposit. Call WESTEX

Auto Parts (432)263-5000. CLEAN 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, covered parking, large backyard with shop. \$350.00 Month, \$300.00 deposit. 1107 Barnes Call

(432)263-3778. FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS 403 East 8th Call (432)267-2771

Real Estate for Rent SUNSET RIDGE APT.

Cable TV Free! Playground No Water Bill Paragon Security 24 Hour Laundry On-Site Mgr. & Maint **Family Friendly** 2 BR \$285 1 BR \$185 Call Rhonda

Real Estate for Sale

(432)263-2292

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

3 car carport, den, fireplace on 19 acres w/barn. \$65,000. Will look at all offers. Home Realtors (432)263-1284. 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car ga-

3 BDRM, 2 bath, 2 car garage,

Above ground pool rage. w/deck. Sprinkler system. Home Warranty. (432)264-7513.

4 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 3 acres in Garden City. Updated throughout, hardwood floors, gameroom, office, jacuzzi, double garage w/1 bedroom apartment, large shop, pool. (432)557-0151.

BY OWNER 1906 Morrison. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, dining room, CH/A, utility room, storage building, tile brick fence, circle \$70,000.00. (432)466-2066.

HOME FOR Sale! 507 Culp, Coahoma, TX. New roof, appliances, remodeled kitchen, well & city water, walking distance of school. \$32,000. +closing. (325)949-4345.

OWNER FINANCE. 19605 North Hwy. 87 in Ackerly, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$26,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll 866-894-4591, Free 325-650-5900.

TIME TO sell the Family Farms, Martin Co. approx. 80 acres and 485 acres, to be sold together, no Minerals. Call 756-6573 (432)267-6286.

Vehicles

Several New 2005 Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings Bob Brock Ford

500 W. 4th 2002 DODGE Grand Caravan. (Silver). All power, V6, 70K, has child built in seats. Good

Condition. Smoke Free.

\$11,000.. Call (432)264-6044. TRAILER 5X8, Enclosed, Pace. Excellent condition. Tires like new. Low miles. Sells new for \$1800. asking \$1300. Call (432)816-1473.

Legals

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE **ENTRY INTO FIELDS**

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Section 74.117, cotton producers in the Permian Basin Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of Dawson, Ector, Howard, Martin, and portions of Borden and Midland counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning January 16, 2006. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any treatment, 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 800-687-1212. #4828 January 5 & 12, 2006

ATTENTION COX COMMUNICATIONS SUBSCRIBERS

Beginning February 1, 2006, Cox Communications will be making a change to its Digital Channel Lineup in Big Spring. Pay Per View Movie Channels 510 through 513 will be removed due to the Pay Per View Provider discontinuing programming for these channels. Inquiries concerning this change or any other cable-related issue can be made at Cox Communications, 2006 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720 or Call 432-267-3821. #4835 January 12, 2006

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have een made we will gladly correc the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refund ed and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amoun advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our andards of acceptance

Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The Cancer moon is the mother moon. It highlights the paradox of being vulnerable and tough at the same time finding the strength in tenderness and the tenderness in strength. Seek resolution to a problem you are having with a female in your life. The way to healing is through surrender.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Decide what you need from a relationship. Any half-completed or unclear commitments should be cleared up now. This is probably a "doing" matter as opposed to a "talking" matter.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Activities in several different areas of life will make you well rounded and, actually, happy. So don't let your vision get too narrow. Stray from that to-do list, and you'll have something impressive to add to your "tada!" list.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Defending your maint of view (especially against a Leo or a Sagittarius) is a waste of time and energy today. It's amazing how much more successful you are when you're content to know you are right even when others don't.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Training, discipline and repetition favored. Practice through the discomfort, through self-doubt the and through your limiting ideas. Soon, what was once a throbbing pain turns into the ecstatic throbbing of your heart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). All is as it should be. Really. Fighting against the way things are is tantamount to fighting Earth's rotation around the sun. You must accept the current status before you can change it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Stars urge you to push through limiting ideas about yourself. You could take on travel, fortune or even fame if you believe it enough. Making a great impression socially will contribute to your increasing power.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A change in your attitude toward your work could help you attract the most interesting characters. One connection leads to another, and soon you are moving in the circles you've always dreamed

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Family will respect you more when you learn to entrust them with their share of the duties. Expansion in others means knowing when to let people work it out on their own.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Avoid loading up your schedule with too much to do or you'll feel cheated later. Well-being is more important than any amount of money. Tonight's planets are perfect for dreaming of exciting ways to earn a living. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). Your public persona brings work, friends and romance. But it's how you relate to yourself that brings happiness. That's nothing you can fake! Pay attention to the tone of voice you are using when you speak to yourself. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-

Feb. 18). You'll spend money to make money and then spend it again tonight on fun and entertainment - a worthy cost. Libra and Aries people are especially amorous toward you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are growing stronger and wiser and must be patient with friends who progress at a different rate. Seek a Cancer to do business with, especially if you are trying to sell something you've created.

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK MY DAD'S BEEN READIN'TOO MUCH Z-MAIL."

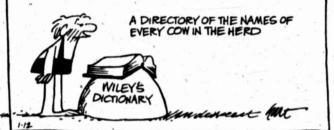
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WILEYS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Will global warming be bad for his health?"



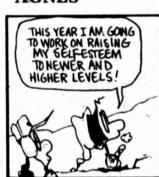
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THE OTHER COAST





SNUFFY SMITH







BEETLE BAILEY





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SORRY, CAN'T



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Jan. 12, the 12th day of 2006. There are 353 days left in the Today's Highlight in

History:
On Jan. 12, 1945, during
World War II, Soviet forces

began a huge offensive against the Germans in Eastern Europe.

On this date:
In 1519, Holy Roman
Emperor Maximilian I died. In 1773, the first public museum in America was established, in Charleston,

In 1915, the U.S. House of Representatives rejected a proposal to give women the right to vote. In 1948, the Supreme Court ruled that states could not

discriminate against lawschool applicants because of In 1964, leftist rebels in Zanzibar began their suc-

cessful revolt against the government. In 1966, President Johnson

said in his State of the Union address that the U.S. should stay in South Vietnam until Communist aggression there was ended. In 1986, the shuttle Columbia blasted off with a

crew that included the first Hispanic-American space, Dr. Franklin R. Chang-Diaz.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Luise Rainer is 96. Former South African President P.W. Botha is 90. Country singer Ray Price is 80. Singer Ruth Brown is 78. Singer Glenn Yarborough is 76. The Amazing Kreskin is 71. Country singer William Lee Golden (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 67. Former heavyweight boxing champion Joe Frazier is 62. Singer-musician George Duke is 60. Rock musician Cynthia Robinson (Sty and the Family Stone) is 60. Actor Anthony Andrews is 58. Movie director Wayne Wang is 57. Radio commentator Rush Limbaugh is 55. Actress Kirstie Alley is 55. Writer Walter Mosley is 54. Country singer Ricky Van Shelton is 54. Radio personality Howard Stern is 52. musician Tom

Broadcast journalist Christiane Amanpour is 48. Rock musician Charlie Gillingham (Counting Crows) is 46. Actor Oliver Platt is 46. Actor Olivier Martinez is 40. Rock singer Rob Zombie is 40. Rapper TBird (B-Rock and the Bizz) is 39. Model Vendela is 39. Actress Farrah Forke is 38. Rock singer Zack de la Rocha is 36. Rapper Raekwon (Wu Tang Clan) is 36. Singer Dan Haseltine (Jars of Clay) is 33. Rock musician Matt Wong (Reel Big Fish) is 33. Singer Melanie Chisholm (Spice Girls) is 32. Rhythm-and-blues singer Amerie is 26. Actor Will Rothhaar is 19. Actor Andrew Lawrence is

Answer to previous puzzk

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Churlish sort
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- 15 Bus-depot
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GAME PLANET by Patrick Jordan Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

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- 62 Señor Guevara
- escapade
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- 30 Pancake-house
- 38 Sand-hauling
- 44 Perform on

- 55 Abandon

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- 29 Forgetful

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- 10 Hole-punching tool
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- 12 Uranium 238, e.g.
 - 13 National Guard concern
 - 18 Without value 19 Gilmore Girls
 - girl 24 Bit of trouble
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Kyle Busch, who drives Hendrick's No. 5

Chevrolets, won rookie of the year honors in

2005. Brian Vickers, who drives Hendrick's

Jimmie Johnson, driver of Hendrick's No. 48,

Edwards, your gut will tell you (if he'll suc-

Jack (Roush) and I have been doing it, it

"After you've been doing this as long as

doesn't take long to see that (a) guy has really

Additional testing could come in handy,

particularly with several members of the 2006

Reed Sorenson has just two Cup starts,

Two-time Busch Series champion Martin

"The thing that I've encouraged NASCAR

Truex Jr. has the most Cup experience of the

group with nine starts over the past two sea-

sons. Joe Gibbs Racing newcomers Denny

Hamlin and J.J. Yeley have seven and six

to do — and the thing I hope they do — is

provide adequate testing for rookies so that

avoidable through just a little more experi-

ence," said team owner Jack Roush.

(the driver) doesn't create a problem that was

Roush added a rookie must be "able to

realize his potential for his sponsor, (because)

Detractors of the new testing policy are not

lacking that, rookies won't be able to get a

limited to rookies, however. Some track offi-

cials have problems with the plan to pre-

Brent Sherman none, David Stremme four

"It's definitely going to make a difference but at the same time when you see a guy with

No. 25 Chevys, was a rookie in 2004 and

debuted his first full season in 2002.

the talent that Kyle Busch has or Carl

ceed)," Hendrick said.

Cup rookie class.

and Clint Bowyer one.

starts, respectively.

got it."

Precious commodity

BY JIM UTTER Knight Ridder Newspapers

n recent years, testing has played a more prominent role in the success of teams in

Several NASCAR teams - particularly the large multi-car organizations - have sent their teams to series and non-series tracks around the country gathering vital data to help all of their teams perform better.

With NASCAR's decision to restrict testing at tracks used in the Nextel Cup and Busch series to just a handful of dates in 2006, track time will become a precious com-

For instance, when the first batch of Cup teams that report to Daytona International Speedway on Monday complete their threeday test, they will be unable to test at the track at any other point during the season.

The Cup series has six tests scheduled this season — at Daytona, Fla.; Las Vegas; Charlotte, N.C.; Richmond, Va., and Homestead, Fla. The Busch Series has four - Daytona, Las Vegas, Charlotte and Richmond.

In 2005, teams were limited to five twoday tests and four one-day tests, with rookies getting seven two-day tests and five one-day tests. Any tests at tracks not used in the series did not count against the limit, a policy that will remain unchanged.

The biggest impact could land on the shoulders of the series' rookies.

Drivers, owners and crew chiefs have lauded additional testing as an important part of a new driver's development. The added track time now will have to come at tracks not used in the Cup or Busch series, or from participation in other series.

"I think (the new policy) is definitely a disadvantage to a rookie. Any of the guys that are running for rookie of the year that haven't run more than seven races I feel should get more opportunities to test," said Hendrick Motorsports owner Rick Hendrick.

"You want to bring fresh blood in and sponsors want to do well. It's not really fair to see a young guy whose first year in the Cup series be limited to those six tests."

Hendrick has had his share of rookie drivers recently in the Nextel Cup series.

New restrictions limit the amount of time drivers get to test at tracks on the **Nextel Cup circuit**



Dale Earnhardt Inc.'s Steve Hmiel, Tony Eury Jr., Martin Truex Jr. and Tony Eury Sr. look on as Dale Earnhardt Jr. runs a test lap at Atlanta Motor Speedway in October 2005. This season, NASCAR will limit the dates teams will have to test at tracks on the Nextel Cup circuit.

Testing schedule

Dates	Event
Jan. 9-11	Nextel Cup Series testing — odd numbers in car owner points
Jan. 13-15 teams	NASCAR Truck Series — all
Jan. 16-18	Nextel Cup Series testing — even owners' points
Jan. 20-22	Busch Series testing — all teams
Las	Vegas Motor Speedway
Dates	Event

Jan. 30-Feb. 1 Nextel Cup Series testing -Feb. 6-8 Busch Series testing - all teams All other test dates will be announced at a

later time.

"NASCAR's new testing policy for the Cup series may be beneficial for teams, but for the speedways it is a lost promotional opportunity," said Texas Motor Speedway president Eddie Gossage.

select all the testing venues.

"Since they are not allowed to test here now, we've lost a critical opportunity for vital pre-race media coverage in a major media market that could very likely hurt our ticket sales and NASCAR's TV ratings."

POLL POSITION

by TreeMec Funding Group, LLC. Actual terms and loan amounts may very. See store for details.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Chevrolet won the 2005 NASCAR Nextel Cup manufacturer title. What brand will lead the way in the coming season?

Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Which Cup team has made the best moves in gearing up for the 2006 season? Number of votes: 10,112

Team	No.	ot vo	tes	Percent
Petty Enterprises	5,	,550		55%
Dale Earnhardt Inc.	3.31	663		16%
Another team	1/1	892		9%
Penalte Racing South	$M \otimes C$	580	34	6%
Bill Davis Racing	- 154	520		5%
Joe Gibbs Racing		430		4-4%
Richard Childress Racing		376		4%
Chip Ganasai Racing		101	300	1%

STOP 'N' GO

KHI names new crew chief to No. 33 team

Kevin Harvick Inc. has named Chris Rice crew chief of its No. 33 NASCAR Truck Series team and two-time Truck Series champion Ron Hornaday for the 2006 season.

Rice previously worked as crew chief for Busch Series driver Stacy Compton at ST Motorsports.

Before 2005, Rice was crew chief at Bill Davis Racing and worked with Elliott Sadler on a Late Model team from 1993 to 1996. Winning at his hometown track, Rice led Sadler and the team to the 1995 South Boston Speedway Track Championship.

Hornaday finished fourth in points in 2005 with the KHI team and earned his second career Truck Series most popular driver award.

"I've known Chris for a number of years," said Hornaday. "He is the last piece to the puzzle to make this race team complete. We are going to go out and run this 2006 season like we did last year, racing as hard as we can for every spot week after week. Chris has the knowledge to lead this team to a championship

- ThatsRacin.com

New Truck series team looks forward to 2006

Rick and Cathy Woodard, along with Eddie Sharp, announced the formation of a new partnership, Woodard & Sharp Racing, with plans Series next season.

The partners have purchased a 25,000square-foot shop in Denver, N.C., from which the team will field Dodge Ram trucks for Rookie of the Year candidate Boston Reid in all 25 Truck Series events in 2006. Patrick Donahue, a 14-year NASCAR veteran, will fill the role of crew chief.

The Woodards and Sharp met last year when both were involved in the Automobile Racing Club of America series. Rick and Cathy Woodard were co-owners of the No. 13 Boca Bay Racing entry in 2005. Sharp, a 20year racing veteran, heads up Dodge's ARCA driver development program.

"I'm excited about the opportunity," said Sharp, who will also serve as the team's general manager. "The Woodards and I are taking our time and doing this the right way. We're building a solid team of quality people, and people will see we're in this for the long haul."

While Woodard & Sharp Racing is a new entity, the team is further demonstrating its commitment by surrounding itself with NASCAR veterans. In addition to the experience Sharp brings, the organization has entered into a technological partnership with Ray Evernham and Evernham Motorsports, who will serve as the team's engine supplier.

Donahue was part of Hendrick Motorsports' championship seasons with Evernham and driver Jeff Gordon in 1995, 1997 and 1998. He later worked with the Gordon/Evernham NASCAR Busch Series team and at Evernham Motorsports. Most recently, Donahue was the crew chief at Robby Gordon Motorsports.

- ThatsRacin.com

Making a resolution to toast great achievements in 2006

earend stories can be clichés, but when you reach this point on the calendar it really is hard not to stop for a minute and take stock.

Next week, I'll arrive in Daytona Beach, Fla., for NASCAR testing. A couple of weeks there, and then a week of the Lowe's Motor Speedway media tour in Charlotte, N.C., will barely leave time to get the laundry done and the car packed to return for Daytona Speedweeks.

This will be my 10th season covering NASCAR for the Charlotte Observer, and for some reason that's had me thinking, too.

While every season takes on its own characteristics, it's easy to fall into a routine and mistake it for rhythm. Every week at the track, I see what happens when good teams let that happen. Good teams don't mean to lose that tiny edge that makes them better

than most, but they do. And it's unbelievably hard to get it back.

So I've been trying to decide if there's anything besides a few new wind shirts and a bunch of empty note-

books needed to start off a new year. What I keep coming back to is the Allstate 400 that Tony Stewart won at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on his way to the 2005 Nextel Cup

championship. After Stewart had celebrated with pretty much everybody in Indiana that Sunday afternoon, he got to the media center and it

was only a matter of time before somebody asked whether he still wanted to win the Indianapolis 500 now that he'd won a stock-car race at the track he'd always dreamed of racing and winning

As it turns out, Stewart said his

father, Nelson, had already brought up

Maybe it had been 20 minutes since he made a lifelong dream come true. Perhaps it was 30.

However long, it wasn't long

Why do we feel compelled to look for the holes in the resumes of people in sports?

It's not just the media, or parents like Nelson Stewart who have shared their child's dreams of winning at some ultimate level. It's all of us, fans of all sports who seem determined to dwell on what a person hasn't done rather than celebrate what has been accomplished.

Dan Marino never won a championship. Until April, Roy Williams hadn't either. Mark Martin still hasn't, not in NASCAR's top series. But my heavens, look at what they have done.

Duke has a marvelous men's basketball team this season. But if the Blue Devils run into a team in the NCAA

tournament that hits 20 3-pointers and beats them, does that make Mike Krzyzewski and his team failures?

I am not saying I plan to be all sunshine and daffodils in writing about NASCAR in 2006. The truth is the truth, and that's what you write. People fall short of expectations and that's

Jeff Gordon won four races, including the Daytona 500, in 2005, but it was a bigger deal in the grand scheme of things that he missed the Chase for the Nextel Cup. Dale Earnhardt Jr. and his team had an awful year, and they don't need anyone to tell them that. Their ability to bounce back and improve will be among this year's big

But I'm resolved to take a new perspective to the track this year, an acknowledgement of just what a remarkable thing it is for anybody to experience the joy of winning a Nextel Cup race — or a World Series game or a PGA tournament.

I keep a chart of birth dates of all who have won Cup races, and have divided that into birth years. Eight men born in 1926 went on to win at least one race in NASCAR's top series. Since 1932, that number has never been higher than five, and since 1941 it has been no higher than four.

Here's the perspective part. In recent years about 2 million male children have been born in this country annually. If it's a good year, maybe four of them wind up winning a race in the Cup series. Those are the incredible odds Carl Edwards, Kasey Kahne and Kyle Busch beat in 2005.

Going back to Indianapolis in August, I asked Stewart if winning at the Brickyard was everything he'd dreamed it would be.

"When you have something like this so big happen in your life, you really just don't want that day to end," he

Here's to more days like that for all of us in 2006.

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