



## Sales tax rebates up for most of this area, comptroller figures show

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**  
News Editor

Sales tax rebates were up for most of the Crossroads area at the beginning of the year, according to the Texas Comptroller's Office.

Big Spring witnessed an 8.5 percent increase in rates, comparing this month's receipts of \$318,848.65 to the \$293,864.05 received in January 2005. Because this is the first month of the year, the year-to-date total is also \$318,848.65.

Coahoma received \$4,218.75 for the month, up 38.31 percent when compared to the \$3,050.16

received a year ago.

Forsan was one of only a couple of communities that witnessed a drop in rebates. It is common, however for small cities to undergo large "swings" in receipts throughout the year. Forsan received \$4,604.17 this month compared to \$7,033.32 in January 2005. That's a 34.53 percent decrease. Last month, the city witnessed a 77.26 percent upswing, leaving the city ahead for 2005 by almost 27 percent.

Rebates went up 11.86 percent for Abilene, comparing January 2006 rates of \$2,274,638.71 to January 2005

rates of \$2,033,393.10.

Andrews had approved a significant sales tax increase in November — from 1 cent to 1.75 cents — and will no doubt post record rebates all year. The city received \$156,438.50 this month compared to \$67,320.20 for January 2005, an increase of 132.37 percent.

The Texas state sales and use tax rate is 6.25 percent, but local taxing jurisdictions (cities, counties, special purpose districts and transit authorities) may also impose sales and use tax up to 2 percent for a total maximum com-

bined rate of 8.25 percent.

Colorado City collected \$37,469.87 for January 2006. That's a 23.82 percent increase when compared to the \$30,259.35 the Mitchell County seat collected in January 2005.

Fort Stockton collected \$130,432.79 this month, a 22.87 percent increase over the \$106,148.27 taken in during January 2005.

Kermit brought in \$65,192.37. That's a 5.72 percent increase compared to \$25,891.35 a year ago.

Lamesa took in \$64,481.53 this month, an increase of 15.65 per-

cent when compared to the \$61,662.70 received in January of 2005.

Lubbock, which raised its sales tax a year ago in November, began to see a leveling of rates last month that continued in January. The city received \$3,208,658.11 this month, compared to \$2,897,628.69 in January 2005, a 10.73 percent increase.

Midland collected \$2,178,655.37 this month, up 23.52 percent compared to the \$1,763,904.59 banked a year ago.

See **REBATES**, page 3A

## HOWARD COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW



All Knight grooms her animal at the Howard County Junior Livestock Show Thursday night. The show continues through Saturday at the county fairbarns.

## Rabbits an ideal 'starter kit' for show participants

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Rabbits — they're cute and cuddly, they're what's for dinner.

While many animals at livestock shows are farm and ranch mainstays — cattle, pigs, goats, lambs, etc. — to most, rabbits are viewed more as farm pests than pets.

But rabbits are also amazingly low-maintenance animals, which makes them ideal as a sort of "starter kit" for children interested in raising livestock, according to officials with the Howard County Junior Livestock Show, which runs through Saturday at the county fairbarns.

More than 100 of the small, furry critters were on display Thursday night. Under the watchful eye of judge Justin Nash, both animal and handler were carefully scrutinized.

Nash, a county extension agent in Paducah, has raised rabbits for more

than 20 years, and he said the animals are a perfect fit for youngsters just entering the world of livestock shows.

"First of all, for young kids just starting in 4-H, these are the kind of projects they can handle," Nash said. "Also, they're great for people who don't have the space to keep a large animal ... And they make sense, economically, as well. A lot of people just don't have the money to care for larger animals like pigs or cattle."

And, unlike other livestock show animals, rabbits require little pampering. Basically, you just feed them and stand back and watch, he said.

"Don't even bother exercising them," he said. "A lot of it is just genetics; it's just the luck of the draw. Genetically, they're going to be what they will be."

That's not to say there's not some degree of care that goes into showing rabbits. Young Zachary King was participating in his second Howard County

show Thursday night, and he said there is some work involved in raising rabbits.

"They need lots of feed and lots of water," he said. "And you have to clean their feet every day. If you don't, they'll step all over their food and ruin it."

Until recently, the King family had a brood of about 30 rabbits. Unfortunately, an abandoned dog jumped the fence of their pen and killed most of the animals. But Zachary had four survivors on display Thursday night.

Nash judges the animals with a particular eye toward their marketability. That is, he looks less at aesthetics and more at how much meat they'll put on the dinner table.

He said a good show rabbit will be smooth along the top and firm in the hindquarters, ending with a "full skirt" effect in the bottom hindquarters.

See **RABBITS**, page 3A

## Cheney: No plan to boost threat level

*New bin Laden tape surfaces; suggests negotiated truce*

By **LARA JAKES JORDAN**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The U.S. has no plans to raise the security threat level because of a new tape of Osama bin Laden saying al-Qaida is planning attacks, counterterrorism officials said Thursday.

The White House firmly rejected bin Laden's suggestion of a negotiated truce. "We don't negotiate with terrorists," Vice President Dick Cheney said in a television interview. "I think you have to destroy them."

Counterterrorism officials said they have seen no specific or credible intelligence to indicate an upcoming al-Qaida attack on the United States. Nor have they noticed an uptick in terrorist communications "chatter" — although that can dramatically increase or decrease immediately before an attack.

The audiotape, released by the Arab television network Al-Jazeera, brought new attention to the al-Qaida leader after a yearlong lull in his public statements.

The Homeland Security Department said it would not raise the national threat alert at this time. But the tape prompted increased security at Los Angeles International Airport and other precautions at the city's port and water and power facilities.

"At this time, we lack corroborating information suggesting that al-Qaida is prepared to attack the United States in the near term," said Homeland Security spokeswoman

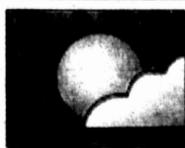
**"We don't negotiate with terrorists. I think you have to destroy them."**

Vice President  
Dick Cheney

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## BSHS BAND BENEFIT

Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys will perform at a dance Saturday with proceeds going to help the Big Spring High School band raise money for a trip to Carnegie Hall.

The dance will be held at the Stampede on State Highway 350 (the Snyder Highway). Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. and the dance will be held from 9 a.m. until midnight.

The BSHS band needs to raise about \$200,000 to finance the trip, scheduled for early June. The band is currently about halfway to its goal.

Tickets are \$10 per person at the door. For more information, call 267-2060.

## BANQUET TICKETS

Tickets for the Big Spring area Chamber of Commerce banquet are on sale now.

The banquet is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Tickets are \$22 per person before Jan. 23 and \$27 per person from Jan. 23-28.

No tickets or reservations will be accepted after Jan. 28. Tickets will not be available at the door.

Guest speaker will be Pat McGaughey of McGaughey Enterprises Inc. on "Maximizing Your Chamber Membership." RSVP or pick up tickets at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Third, or call 263-7641.

## LEADERSHIP BIG SPRING

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Big Spring program will get under way next month with the first class set to be held Thursday, Feb. 9, at 8:30 a.m. in the chamber board room.

## TRAFFIC CLOSING

Today through Monday at 7 a.m., Union Pacific Railroad will be closing the area on either side of the railroad crossing located on Birdwell Lane north of College Park Shopping Center.

The closing will prohibit all through-traffic until 5 p.m. daily pending completion of track maintenance.

## Obituaries

### Raye McGregor

Raye McGregor, 90, of Colorado City died Thursday, Jan. 19, 2006, at her residence in Colorado City. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with the Rev. Jess Colegrove and the Rev. Bob Manning officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. today at the funeral home.

She was born Aug. 14, 1915, in Mills County and married John W. McGregor Dec. 12, 1949, in Las Cruces, N.M. He preceded her in death Dec. 18, 2003.

Mrs. McGregor had taught school for 32 years and was a social worker in New Mexico for six years. She enjoyed people, her church, children, family, flowers and her work.

She was a great wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Colorado City.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Pat and Shirley McPhaul of Colorado City; one brother, Nath "Son" Goode of Vista, Calif.; three grandchildren, Ricky and Tracey McPhaul of Big Lake, Randy and Kelly McPhaul of Colorado City and Julie and Ronnie Rogers of Littlefield; and eight great-grandchildren, Chase McPhaul, Calen McPhaul, Callie Raye McPhaul, Zach McPhaul, Stephanie McPhaul, Aaron McPhaul, Ryan Rogers and Reese Rogers.

She was also preceded in death by one brother, D.G. Goode and one sister, Mabel Johnson.

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

*Paid obituary*

### W.T. 'Bill' Morris



W.T. "Bill" Morris, 80, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 19, 2006, in a local nursing home. Funeral services are 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Chaplain Walter McCall with Odyssey Hospice officiating and the Rev. R.T. Havener, pastor of First Assembly of God Church, assisting. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

He was born July 15, 1925, in Missouri, Texas and married Una Lee Herren April 4, 1948, in Knott. She preceded him in death July 13, 2003. Mr. Morris served 22 years in the United States Navy and then drove an oil transport truck for 15 years. He owned farmland in the Knott Community and was a member of First Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include three daughters and two sons-in-law, Nelda and Darrel Reagan of Big Spring, Linda Holman of Plano and Judy and Delwyn Davis of Snyder; two brothers and sisters-in-law, T.W. and Lou McWhorter of Bandera and Glen and Nova Morris of Deer Park; a brother-in-law, Alfred Herren of Knott; three grandsons; and six granddaughters.

The family suggests memorials to the First Assembly of God Church, 310 W. Fourth, Big Spring 79720.

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

### Lee Harrison Sears Jr.



Lee Harrison Sears Jr., 47, of Rutledge, Tenn., formerly of Big Spring, died Jan. 16, 2006, from complications of diabetes. A celebration of life is planned for 4:30 p.m. Jan. 29, 2006, at First Baptist Church in Nolan with the Rev. Vic Myers officiating.

He was born April 14, 1958, in Rotan.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lee Harrison Sears Sr., his mother, Vonnie Mize Sears, his sister, Terri Lynn Sears and his brother, Stephan Michael Sears.

He is survived by his sisters, Susie Gartman and Jan Hayley of Big Spring, Rhonda Eve of Blackwell and Starmie Steele of Knoxville, Tenn.; one brother, Thomas Sidney Sears of Rutledge, Tenn.; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

## Take Note

• **SPRING CITY SENIOR CENTER** offering class to make pressed-flower book marks at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, sponsored by Mountain View Lodge.

• **THE 17TH ANNUAL BOSS HOGG CHILI COOKOFF** begins at 9 a.m. Saturday for cooks and judging begins about noon at the Big Spring Harley Davidson Shop, 908 W. Third.

• **FISH FRY AT THE AMERICAN LEGION No. 506** starts at noon Saturday. Delivery available from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Call 263-2084 or stop by 3203 W. Highway 80. Carry out also available.

• **DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR LEADERSHIP BIG SPRING** is Wednesday. Contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641 or obtain an application at the chamber office, 215 W. Third.

• **AARP 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 available. For more information on the program, contact 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.

## Police blotter

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

• **MIKE MANZANAREZ**, 23, of 302 Circle, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **MISTY MICALE BRYAN**, 25, of 4059 Vicky, was arrested Thursday on charges of interfering with an emergency phone call and burglary of a habitation.

• **TIODORO DIAZ**, 37, of 407 State, was arrested Thursday on three local citations.

• **JOHN ANTHONY MIER**, 17, of 1603 S. Runnels, was arrested Thursday on a local citation.

• **CHRIS RODRIQUEZ**, 18, of 1908 S. Settles, was arrested Thursday on a local citation.

## Sheriff's report

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

• **FAYE JEAN MCGEE**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **JESSE DELGADO JR.**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• **DERRICK MALCOLM MORGAN**, 36, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and possession of a controlled substance.

• **MARTIN RUEDA ORTIZ**, 31, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear.

• **CODY RAY THOMPSON**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and procession of adjudication.

• **JOSE ADAM BENAVIDEZ**, 30, was arrested Thursday by DPS on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.

• **MISTY MICALE BRYAN**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a habitation and interfering with an emergency phone call.

## Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Mulberry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3600 block of Bethel. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Settles. Service was refused.

## Support Groups

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

**SATURDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. 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 at 6 p.m. Monday. For more information, call 398-5522.

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

## Bulletin Board

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

**TODAY**  
• 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 seniors are invited.

**SATURDAY**  
• Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.  
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.  
• Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

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

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

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.  
• Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome.  
• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

**TUESDAY**  
• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

**WEDNESDAY**  
• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.  
• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

## Weather

Today...Mostly sunny. Cooler. Highs in the lower 60s. Northwest

Winds 10 to 20 mph.

Tonight...Mostly clear. Colder. Lows in the mid 20s. Northeast Winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Light and variable winds.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Light and variable winds.

Sunday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs around 50. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 50.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s.

## Lottery

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Thursday by the Texas Lottery: 1-2-4-14-36

The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Thursday by the Texas Lottery: 6-12-18-30. Bonus ball 19.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-8-7

## Correction

Public records for the Jan. 14-15 weekend edition of the Herald incorrectly listed the age in the marriage licenses. The corrected listing should read: Alvin Glenn Johnke, 63, and Joy Miller Bryant, 63, both of Big Spring.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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## Rabbit

Continued f

"When I'm the top of can feel going impressed mal," he ing for n depth of b Looking adorable might be d ine them white mea a fact of show part Zachary Ginger, s son's an heading table any added the cooked r two.

And, a guess, "th chicken,"

Friday 2006 How Livestock!

GOATS Grand (Keaton Mc Reserve Shelby Jo Class 1 Nichols; Burchett; Class 2 Nichols;

## Bos

By THOM

Staff Writ Braggi hundred prize m the line Big S Davidsor the 17th Hogg Ch Shop c coordina Walker cook-off ferent tl filled w ury betw more de any man could sh "It's al rights, p said Wa around

## Reba

Continues

Monaha rebates cent, month's \$90,491. 2005's \$6 Odess \$1,146.2' scant increase to th receiver Pecos \$69,337. percent \$63,727. Januar: San A \$1,232.7 first m

**Rabbits**

Continued from page 1A

"When I'm rubbing over the top of the bunny, if I can feel bone, I'm not going to be very impressed with the animal," he said. "I'm looking for nice width and depth of body."

Looking at these adorable creatures, it might be difficult to imagine them as the next white meat, but that's just a fact of life for stock show participants.

Zachary's mother, Ginger, said none of her son's animals will be heading for the dinner table anytime soon, but added that she has tried cooked rabbit a time or two.

And, as you might guess, "they taste just like chicken," she said.

Friday results from the 2006 Howard County Junior Livestock Show:

**GOATS**  
Grand Champion: Rusty Keaton Martin.  
Reserve Champion: Shelby Jones.  
Class 1 — First: Garrett Nichols; Second: Trevor Burchett; Third: Alex Hill.  
Class 2 — First: Garrett Nichols; Second: Morgan



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Participants in the rabbit show line up their animals for judging during the Howard County Junior Livestock Show Thursday night. The show continues through Saturday at the county fairbarns.

Keaton Martin; Third: Rebecca McEndree.  
Lightweight Medium Wool — First: Rusty Keaton Martin; Second: Jessie Rose Morgan; Third: Jessi Rose Morgan.  
Mediumweight Medium Wool — First: Laurel Nix; Second: Jess Brooks; Third: Dee Fryar.  
Heavyweight Medium Wool — First: Brittnee Nix; Second: Shelby Jones; Third: Rusty Keaton Martin.  
NOTE: Results from the rabbit show were unavailable at press time.

**Boss Hogg Cook-off: It's about the bragging**

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Bragging rights and hundreds of dollars of prize money will be on the line Saturday, as the Big Spring Harley-Davidson Shop presents the 17th annual Boss Hogg Chili Cook-off.

Shop owner and event coordinator Howard Walker said this year's cook-off should be no different than the past — filled with plenty of rivalry between the cooks and more delicious chili than any man, woman or child could shake a stick at.

"It's all about bragging rights, plain and simple," said Walker. "The cooks around here take this

competition deadly seriously."

Walker said first prize for the cookoff is \$150, with second place garnering \$75 and third placing bringing in \$50, with the remaining profits set to go to a local charity.

"We'll be offering 10 places on this chili cookoff," said Walker. "There will be cash prizes for the first three places. It's going to be a lot of fun for everyone. It's really a very festive atmosphere. So if you want to enjoy some great chili and live music, it's going to be the place to be."

Cooking is set to get under way at 9 a.m., with all chili cooks expected to

turn in their offerings at noon.

"Once we've got the chili for the judges to sample ready, each team will be able to start serving to the public," said Vickie Walker Howard's wife and chili-cooking partner. "The entry fee per team is \$20, and for those that would rather eat instead of cook, tickets will be \$5. They can sample as much as they would like."

"We have a few judges lined up, but we can always use more. We're always looking for more judges, however, so if anyone is interested they should contact us so we can get them signed up,

or just show up to the cookoff by 11 a.m. The earlier you get here, the better your chance of being a judge."

For more information on the cookoff, contact the Walkers at 263-2322.

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

**Rebates**

Continued from page 1A

Monahans witnessed rebates go up 46.59 percent, comparing this month's collections of \$90,491.77 to January 2005's \$61,727.36.

Odessa received \$1,146,274.65 this month, a scant 2.01 percent increase when compared to the \$1,123,639.72 received in January 2005.

Pecos collected \$69,337.38 this month, 8.8 percent more than the \$63,727.20 received in January 2005.

San Angelo brought in \$1,232,782.72 in the year's first month, up 9.52 per-

cent when compared to the \$1,125,609.23 received in January 2005.

Snyder deposited \$139,258.65 this month, up 21.05 percent when compared to the \$115,033.48 the Scurry County seat received in January 2005.

Stanton, received \$15,552.73 this month, down 9.57 when compared to the \$17,199.41 received

in January 2005.

Sweetwater received \$180,190.38, a 15.81 percent hike when compared to the \$155,579.31 received in January 2005.

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

**Threat**

Continued from page 1A

Michelle Petrovich. "But we recognize that al-Qaida remains committed to striking the homeland."

The FBI has asked the 103 joint terrorism task forces and intelligence units at its 56 field offices to re-examine its cases and investigative leads in light of the bin Laden tape. "Do you see something in your area of operation that might be assessed as more significant than it was the day before?" said an FBI official on condition of anonymity because he was discussing an internal FBI communication.

The national terror threat level currently stands at yellow, the middle of five grades, signifying an elevated risk of attack. The government has raised the alert level to orange, signaling a high threat risk, seven times since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The tape, which Al-Jazeera said was recorded this month, represents bin Laden's first public communication since December 2004. Since then, al-Qaida's No. 2 leader, Ayman al-Zawahri, has served as the terror network's public face.

The recording was released only days after U.S. missile attacks in Pakistan said Pakistani officials said killed four senior al-Qaida operatives.

CIA analysts verified the recording as bin Laden's voice.

They offered no details about how they reached that conclusion, but in

the past the agency has verified authenticity in part by comparing new recordings to earlier messages.

Cheney said the tape showed that al-Qaida has been hobbled, because "they didn't have the ability to do anything on video" and because it had been so long since bin Laden had been heard from.

Still, "I think we have to assume that the threat is going to continue for a considerable period of time," Cheney said.

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Daily: 7:10, 9:10 Sat. & Sun. 4:50  
\*PASS RESTRICTED

**CINEMA 4**  
Casanova (R)  
Daily: 4:30, 7:10  
Fri. 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 1:40  
Hoodwinked (PG)  
Daily: 4:50, 7:30  
Fri. 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 2:00  
Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13)  
Daily: 4:40, 7:20  
Fri. 9:50 Sat. & Sun. 1:50  
Chronicles of Narnia (PG)  
Daily: 4:20, 7:00  
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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Organizers and participants in the activities honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., including those at the Big Spring VA Hospital and those involved with the annual march.

- The Big Spring VA Hospital and Howard College — especially recreational therapy director Scott Willis and veteran's certifying officer Lisa Currie — on teaming to help veterans overcome addictions to earn certificates or two-year degrees. What a great, positive program.

- The city of Big Spring, for giving away free wood chips at its composting facility.

- The Howard and Martin county junior livestock boards for all the hard work leading up to and during this week's annual stock shows in Big Spring and Stanton. Putting one of these on is a major operation and we salute what you do for our youth and our communities.

- Sharon Arnold, organizer of a huge relief effort for victims of wildfires near Cross Plains, and everyone who has helped or donated food, clothing, appliances and furniture to this very caring effort.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

"Dear Lord: Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Amen."

## 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@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

## LETTER POLICIES

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

# A curious form of optimism

Unlike our president, who spent Martin Luther King Day paying respectful tribute to MLK and Abraham Lincoln, Democratic Party notables, Hillary Clinton and Albert Gore, used the holiday as another opportunity to characterize assassinate President George W. Bush.

Just when we were beginning to think Hillary Clinton had found her voice — albeit a decidedly phony one — as a mature, seasoned politician poised for a presidential run, she reverts to those cacophonous utterances that find little resonance beyond her embittered but indispensible base.

If one could momentarily suspend his powers of discernment, he could almost sympathize with a woman saddled with the dilemma of trying to sound reasonable without permanently alienating that cabal of reliably unreasonable malcontents. But alas, Hillary obviously has no real beef with her base on principle, and from time to time, it insists she demonstrate her loyalty by paying homage to its cynicism and hysteria.

During a speech at the Canaan Baptist Church of Christ in Harlem, she wasted no time critiquing the president and Congress.

She said, "We have a culture of corruption, we have cronyism, we have incompetence. I predict to you that this administration will go down in history as one of the worst that has ever governed our country."

And, never passing up a chance for political exploitation, Hillary offered up some racially charged red meat to the Hurricane Katrina evacuees in attendance. She apologized "on behalf of a government that left you behind, that turned

its back on you" — a government, I suppose, she denies being a part of when it suits her immediate interests.

But as regrettable as Hillary's remarks were, they were anemic compared to the rantings of that poster boy for instability Albert Gore, who, you may recall with horror, came within one state's electoral vote of being president. Gore, remembered for declaring that "there is no controlling legal authority" when caught with his hands directly in the middle of a fundraising scandal, was quick to call for an independent investigation into "President Bush's spying program," about which there truly may be no clearly controlling authority.

Of course, Gore doesn't need to wait for an independent investigation. He has already concluded that "the president of the United States has been breaking the law repeatedly and insistently." Despite the incontrovertible fact that Bush briefed congressmen on his surveillance program, Gore shamelessly said he "secretly assumed that power anyway, as if congressional authorization was a useless bother."

Further displaying his unique gift for chutzpah, Gore yelled, "A president who breaks the law is a threat to the very structure of our government." He must be making exceptions for serial perjury, suborning perjury, obstruction of justice and, yes, criminal violations of campaign finance laws. Indeed, this proud vice president under the president who made a sport of mocking the rule of law said, "It is imperative that respect for the law be restored."

Then, picking up on the Democrats' latest mantra demonizing President Bush as a megalomaniacal dictator, Gore characterized Bush's attempts to intercept Al Qaeda phone calls for the purpose of protecting America's security as a "constitutional power-grab by the president."

Continuing with this theme,

Gore said, preposterously, "The president's judicial appointments are clearly designed to ensure that the courts will not serve as an effective check on executive power." I just have to wonder if Gore really thinks enough people are impressionable enough to believe that President Bush, who will leave office in three years, is appointing judges to augment his power rather than to restore integrity to the Constitution.

And, though separate bipartisan commissions concluded the Bush administration did not pressure the CIA or other intelligence agencies to exaggerate their reports of Iraqi WMD, Gore brazenly accused the administration of silencing dissent, censoring inconsistent information and demanding conformity from all executive-branch employees. He said, "CIA analysts who strongly disagreed with the White House assertion that Osama bin Laden was linked to Saddam Hussein found themselves under pressure at work and became fearful of losing promotions and salary increases."

After accusing President Bush of virtual tyranny and depicting America as on the brink of ruin, Gore closed by protesting, "I am filled with optimism that America is on the eve of a golden age!"

Old Albert could have fooled me. He sounds more like George Bernard Shaw's description of a pessimist — one who "thinks everybody is as nasty as himself, and hates them for it."

Either way, I just hope Albert and Hillary continue to spread their contagious optimism between now and November 2008.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com). And to read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

It is being said by certain people that Woody Jumper is wanting a large high-dollar jail on the outskirts of town. That

couldn't be further from the truth. I know for a fact, if the citizens of Howard County agree, that Mr. Jumper wants a smaller jail close to the district and county courts. He said that safety comes before almost any

thing.

The bottom line, I am quoting from Mr. Jumper, "The people will decide what they want and when they want it."

I am not asking you to vote for Mr. Jumper. However, I think he

would be a good choice; I am saying to those very few who are spreading this gossip to hurt Mr. Jumper, you need to get your facts straight.

Sincerely,

MARVIN WISE  
BIG SPRING

# Don't wait on wussy politicians

It takes a Texas Republican to get that fine, hairline reading on the ethical sensitivity scale we all prize so highly.

Thus, it comes as no surprise that a couple of six-packs of Texas Republican congressmen have signed up to endorse Rep. Roy Blunt, Tom DeLay's chosen successor, in the House leadership fight. Glad to see they're taking this ethical stuff seriously.

Why else support a man of whom the director of CongressWatch observes, "(His) tenure in Congress has been marked by exchanges of favors between himself and special interests, and a deep embrace of lobbyists. He is an architect of today's sleazy, big-money politics, not the agent of change that Congress so desperately needs right now to regain credibility with the public." Just the man for our delegation.

Texas Republicans are now being led by Rep. Joe Barton of Ennis, chair of the critical Energy and Commerce Committee. DeLay sits in on their meetings by speakerphone. Barton, just the man for the job in these ethically sensitive times. He's going to spend next weekend aboard a private train with lobbyists who pay \$2,000 for the privilege. After a seven-hour run from Fort Worth to San Antonio, there will be cocktails, an evening tour of the Alamo, dinner and breakfast Sunday.

The Dallas Morning News reports the invitation reads, "During the ride, we'll have lots of time to talk, play some Texas Hold 'Em and enjoy some great down home Texas food. This is about as good as it gets."

It's the delicatessen of the invite that I appreciate, and I think the price is right, too — only \$2K for hours of uninterrupted access to the chairman whose committee has jurisdiction over about half of

what Congress does — including oil policy, pro baseball, Medicare and environmental regulation.

Barton's campaign manager told the Morning News, "It's just a normal fund-raiser. You've got to have a fund-raiser if you're going to raise money and have a campaign. Everybody does it."

That's always been one of my least favorite excuses, "Everybody does it." You can't find a mother who will let her 5-year-old get away with that, but politicians often whip it out as though it held moral water.

In this unhappy case it has the advantage of being true: Yup, pretty much everybody does do it. The root of the rot is the way federal (and most state) campaigns are financed. The hoary political saying is, "You got to dance with them what brung you," meaning you vote with the people who paid to get you there. And that would be organized economic special interests, PACs and lobbyists.

Tom DeLay made his pact with the devil when he signed on to expand the Newt Gingrich/Grover Norquist "K Street Project" to turn the entire lobby into an arm of the Republican Party. Members of the lobby were literally called in by Republican leaders to act as auxiliary whips, assigned to recalibrate members from districts with a special economic vulnerability to a particular special interest.

The corruption of Congress has reached such a noxious level, the country is simply falling down a hole. Tax cuts for the rich! Reckless spending on everyone but those who need it most! Not a grown-up in sight. There is no sense of responsibility. The Republicans' response is to elevate

Mr. Blunt, a man who represents zero improvement. Talk about not getting it: Tom DeLay is losing in his own district, 36 percent to 49 percent for "any Democrat."

Wouldn't you think Texas congressmen would sit up and take notice of something like that?

I think we can rely upon the Democrats to seize the moment and punt. Their best play, of course, is to take the reform issue and own it, to go long, for the whole reform package every go-go group in America has been agitating for years — starting with public campaign financing for Congress. The package should include changes in House rules, lobby rules — and even though it is done at the state level, proposals for non-partisan redistricting.

I can almost hear the condescending cynics: "You don't really think you can get the money out of politics, do you?" I guarantee you can do it for several cycles — and do you know what happens when it starts to creep back in again? You reform again! Perpetual reform, a truly great concept. No human institution is ever going to remain perfect, they have to be watched and adjusted like any other mechanism. Why use that as a defeatist excuse for doing nothing at all?

What matters here is not what the Republicans or the Democrats do — it's what you do before November. Sit up, join up, stir it up, get online, get in touch, find out who's raising hell and join them. No use waiting on a bunch of wussy politicians.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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# Tests of gulf fish show no negative impact

Special to the Herald

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced today that analyses of the second and third round of toxicology survey results from Gulf water, marine species, and sediment samples show no elevated toxins of bacteria from recent hurricanes.

Agency scientists have been collecting samples since two weeks after Katrina made landfall. The initial samples contained no elevated toxins or bacteria. The latest analyses also found no cause for concern.

The samples were tested for toxins that might have been released into the marine ecosystem after hurricane flooding, such as PCBs, pesticides, and fire retardants. All samples show the levels of these compounds are well below federal guidelines for safe seafood consumption.

The samples also were tested for potential bacteria such as E. coli, which is associated with human fecal contamination. None of the samples harbored the bacteria, although other vibrio bacteria that normally inhabit the marine environment were found.

Dr. Steven Murawski, director of scientific programs at NOAA Fisheries Service, said that the

presence of vibrio bacteria is expected, and the FDA recommends that fish, crab and shrimp be thoroughly cooked prior to consumption.

The survey results are consistent with similar findings recently announced by the FDA, the EPA, and the States of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, which concluded Gulf seafood was deemed safe for human consumption. NOAA continues its sampling program in the Gulf of Mexico to detect potential trends or changes that might occur over time.

Also, a just completed NOAA survey also shows that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita did not cause a reduction in fish and shrimp populations in offshore areas of the Gulf of Mexico.

NOAA's annual survey of shrimp and bottomfish — completed in November 2005 — shows some species, such as the commercially valuable and overfished red snapper, had a higher population in 2005 than in 2004. The survey found that the Atlantic croaker population doubled in 2005.

"Marine life in the Gulf of Mexico is resilient and well-adapted to the natural environment," said Bill Hogarth, director of NOAA Fisheries Service.

"We had some concerns about the possible impacts of the Gulf hurri-

canes on fish and shrimp populations in the region, particularly in wetlands and nursery areas, but we've found that the fish stocks withstood the country's most devastating natural disaster."

Hogarth noted that there have not been any reported fish die-offs in the Gulf due to the hurricanes. He also said that the reduction in fishing activities in the Gulf of Mexico since the hurricanes could be a contributing factor to the population up tick for some of the shorter-lived species.

The agency will continue to monitor potential population changes due to damaged habitats, nursery areas and wetlands.

Overall abundance of shrimp and bottom fish increased by about 30 percent from 2004 levels, with increases in Atlantic croaker, white shrimp and red snapper contributing much of the change.

Agency scientists have conducted the survey, known as SEAMAP, every year since 1972. Information from the annual survey is compared to survey results in previous years and the data are used in fish stock assessments.

Fish and shellfish populations are designated each year as either overfished or not overfished based on these assess-

ments.

NOAA Fisheries Service is dedicated to protecting and preserving our nation's living marine resources and their habitat through scientific research, management and enforcement. NOAA Fisheries Service provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources.

Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners and nearly 60 countries to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes.

On the Web — NOAA: www.noaa.gov.

NOAA Fisheries: www.nmfs.noaa.gov.

# Celebrating 100 days of school

Special to the Herald

During the next few weeks, more than 80 million students and teachers in the U.S. will celebrate 100 days of learning in the classroom.

In Big Spring, the 100th day of school is Jan. 30.

The folks at SmileMakers (www.smilemakers.com) have compiled a list of the top 20 things to do in the classroom on the 100th day of school.

These include:

• Donate 100 cans of dog or cat food to the animal shelter.

• Write about what it would be like to be 100 years old.

• Fill in the blank... "I wish I had 100..."

• Create a 100-dot drawing.

• Exercise — Do 100 jumping jacks. Take 100 steps. Hop 100 times.

• Collect 100 good deeds in a journal to share with the class.

• Say hello in 100 languages.

• Compile a list of 100 people who have made a difference in the world.

• Write a book of 100 words and share it with the class.

• Read the book "100 Hungry Ants."

• Count to 100 in different languages.

• Be absolutely silent for 100 seconds.

• Challenge your classmates to find out how many hours, minutes and seconds are in 100 days.

• Measure 100 steps from your classroom and see how far it takes you.

• Lick a tootsie pop 100 times to see if you can get to the center.

• Make a snack with different types of food using 100 pieces of each (Cheerios, M&M's, marshmallows, peanuts, chocolate chips and any other small item that would work).

• Make a list of 100 positive things about a fellow classmate.

• Make a time capsule to open in 100 years.

# Tips, resources to keep Super Bowl celebrations safe

Special to the Herald

With the college bowls settled, it's time for serious football fans to plan their Super Bowl celebrations.

"We'd like to help fans of all ages keep their celebrations safe and memorable whether they are partying at home or in a bar," said National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Regional Administrator Georgia S. Chakiris in Fort Worth.

"During the 2004 Super Bowl weekend, 158 people died due to impaired drivers with blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels of .08 and higher, according to NHTSA data. Alcohol-related injuries and deaths can be prevented.

If you plan on using alcohol in one of these gatherings, act responsibly by designating a sober driver before the big game begins," she said.

If you are attending a Super Bowl party:

• Avoid drinking too much alcohol too fast. Pace yourself; eat, take breaks, alternate with non-alcoholic drinks.

• Designate your sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys;

• If impaired, don't even think about getting behind the wheel. Ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you; or stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober;

• Remember, Fans don't Let Fans Drive Drunk. Be a real hero of the game. Take the keys.

If you are hosting a Super Bowl party:

• Serve lots of food, particularly high-protein dishes, and be sure to include lots of non-alcoholic beverages;

• Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game and begin serving coffee and dessert;

• Be sure all of your guests designate their drivers in advance, or help arrange ride-sharing with sober drivers;

• Keep the numbers for local cab companies handy and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving while impaired.

For Super Bowl safety posters, napkins, coasters and much more, visit, www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/superbowlplanner/planner/index.cfm.

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on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Board of Trustees of Howard College will hold a public hearing to receive public input in regard to the following proposed changes to the current trustee election system.  
1) Proposed Change to the Voting System: Howard College is proposing a change to the Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting system similar to the Howard County voting system for in-person voters during Early voting and on Election Day. Hand counted "Paper Ballots" will still be used for Early Voting by Mail and Provisional Ballots. Under the current system, Howard College uses a hand counted "Paper Ballot" voting system.  
2) Proposed Change in the Election Day Joint Polling Place: For Election Day voting, Howard College is proposing to move the Polling Place for Vincent and Sand Springs elections to the Coahoma Community Center located at 306 North Avenue, Coahoma, Texas. The Coahoma Polling Place will continue to be at the Coahoma Community Center. Under the current system the Coahoma Polling Place is at the Coahoma Community Center, the Vincent Polling Place is at the Vincent Baptist Church, and the Sand Springs Polling Place is at the Sand Springs Community Center.  
3) Proposed Change To Contract for Election Services: Howard College is proposing to contract with the Howard County Elections Administrator for all future elections, and to give the Elections Administrator the authority to hold joint elections with the Coahoma Independent School District and the City of Coahoma.  
A public hearing is scheduled for the above changes on Monday, January 23, 2006, at the East Room of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, corner of Birdwell Lane and Kentucky Way, Big Spring, Texas, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The Board of Trustees will receive public comments regarding changes in the trustee election system.  
**AVISO PUBLICO**  
La Junta Directiva de Howard College llevara a cabo una audiencia publica para recibir la entrada publica en respeto a los siguientes cambios propuestos por el directivo para el sistema corriente de votacion.  
1) El Cambio Propuesto para el Sistema Electoral: Howard College propone un cambio para el sistema de votacion Directo Registrando Electronico (DRE) parecido al sistema electoral de Howard County para electores que votan en persona en el Dia de Eleccion y durante el Voto Temprano. Todavia se usaran Balotas de Papel contadas por mano para la persona que votan Temprano y pro Correo y Balotas Provisionales. Bajo el sistema corriente, Howard College usa el sistema de votar Balotas de Papel contadas por mano.  
2) Cambio Propuesto en el Dia de Eleccion Junta Encuestando Lugar: Para votar en el Dia de Eleccion, las siguientes entidades estan haciendo una proposicion a mover el Lugar de Junta Encuestada para la Ciudad de Vincent y la Ciudad de Sand Springs Elecciones al Centro Comunidad de Coahoma localizado en 306 North Avenue, Coahoma, Tejas. Bajo el sistema actual, la Junta Encuestando Lugar para la Ciudad de Coahoma esta ubicado en el Centro comunidad de Coahoma, la Junta Encuestando Lugar para la Ciudad de Vincent esta ubicado en la iglesia de Bautista de Vincent, y la Junta Encuestando Lugar para la Ciudad de Sand Springs esta ubicado en el Centro Comunidad de Sand Springs.  
3) Para Contratar los Servicios para la Eleccion: Howard College propone contratar con el Administrador de Elecciones de Howard County para todas las elecciones futuras y para celebrar elecciones comunes con el districtor Independiente de la escuela de Coahoma y la ciudad de Coahoma.  
Una audiencia publica esta programada para los cambios arriba en lunes, 23 en enero, 2006, en el East Room del Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, en la esquina de Birdwell Lane y Kentucky Way, Big Spring, Tejas, empezando a las 12:30 p.m. La Junta Directiva recibira comentarios publicos. La Junta Directiva recibira comentarios publicos respecto a cambios en el sistema de las elecciones de la Junta Directiva.

**Community Education**  
**Introduction to Computers**  
This foundation course starts you off quickly and is a prerequisite to most Computer courses in our curriculum. Learn basic information including computer parts and terminology, what goes on inside, how to use a mouse, and understand the window and menus. Learn basic computer theory, starting programs, control panel, and explore the basic features of word processors, spreadsheets and other applications.  
ITSC 1012, 20 Hours, 2.0 CEU's  
January 23 - February 15 Monday, Wednesday 6:00 - 8:30 pm  
Cost: \$68.00  
**Windows XP**  
This course is the natural follow-up to Introduction to Computers. Learn to interface with menus, dialog boxes, and icons. Use My Computer and Windows Explore to manage files and folders; run and install programs; and customize the desktop.  
ITSC 1006, 20 Hours, 2.0 CEU's  
January 24 - February 16 Tuesday/Thursday 6:00 - 8:30 pm  
Cost: \$68.00  
**Watercolor I**  
Learn to use water media to create paintings. Basic rules of design and composition will be emphasized, as well as basic drawing techniques of subject matter. You will learn at your own pace through one-on-one instruction during the hands-on period of each class. Materials are furnished for the first class session and a supply list will be provided for paint supplies needed for remaining sessions.  
January 26 - March 16 Thursday 6:00 - 9:00 pm  
Cost: \$80.00  
**Watercolor II**  
A review and continuation of watercolor painting principles covered in Watercolor I, with further emphasis in the principles and elements of art. Materials are furnished for the first class session and a supply list will be provided for paint supplies needed for remaining sessions. Prerequisite: Watercolor I and its usage.  
January 24 - March 14 Tuesday 6:00 - 9:00 pm  
Cost: \$80.00  
**Medication Aide Certification\***  
Medication aides now may administer medications in nursing homes and state correctional facilities. They must hold a permit issued by the Texas Department of Health. Medication aides are a cost effective option now open to Medicare skilled nursing facilities as well as Medicaid nursing facilities.  
NURA 1013, 140 Hours, 14.0 CEU's  
January 25 - May 19 WF 6:00 - 10:00 pm  
Cost: \$485.00  
\*Must be employed as a CNA to take course  
**HOWARD COLLEGE**  
1001 Birdwell Lane  
www.howardcollege.edu  
264-5131 or 264-5077

## WTCMHMR CHILI COOKOFF WINNER



**Tommy Tilley holds his first place plaque for winning the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 3188 annual Chili Cook-Off Jan. 7 in Big Spring. More than \$6,000 was raised for the West Texas Centers for MHMR Children in Need Fund. The fund helps purchase school supplies, clothing, tuition for summer camps and helps meet other financial needs of special children who are receiving services from West Texas Centers for MHMR. Pictured with Tilley are Landon Sturdivant, WTCMHMR Associate CEO, Sheley Smith, LMSW, WTCMHMR CEO and Janet Payne, LCSW, WTCMHMR Director of Mental Health Services.**

Courtesy photo

## Coahoma UIL academic teams compete, place

Special to the Herald

**COAHOMA** — The Coahoma High School Academics Team recently returned from a meet in Andrews, and several team members fared well.

Trey Thorton took home a second-place medal in social studies, while Rebecca McEndree placed third in persuasive speaking.

Other top finishers for CHS included Ryan Green and Amy Holleman (fourth and fifth, respectively, in informative speaking), Chris Weiher (fourth in persuasive speaking and sixth in current issues and events) and Simon Stolarczyk (10th in mathematics).

Also competing for CHS were Sarah Dunn, Stephen Ewing, Randi Gerstenberger, Tabatha Medina, Colter Morgan and William Reilly.

### Policies for life! submissions

The *Big Spring Herald* accepts submissions for publication in the Friday and weekend edition.

Church and Club News should be concise and may not be written in first person. The goal of Church News is to inform the public about upcoming church events and opportunities. Club News is published to inform the public about meeting times and locations as well as activities. All submissions should contain a contact name and telephone number.

Wedding, 50th anniversary, engagement and quinceañera announcements with photos are published within three months of the event in the *Big Spring Herald's* weekend edition at no charge.

Birth announcements, Who's Who and In the Military, with or without photos are also published free of charge.

All submissions are due by noon each Wednesday for Friday or weekend publication and will be edited for content, style and space.

An information sheet for submissions is available at the *Herald* offices.

The *Herald* is not responsible for any misspellings of handwritten submissions.

Call 263-7331 or submit articles to [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com).

## Club News

### Tops #TX 21

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. TX 21 met at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third with leader, Hughetta Roberts presiding.

Olnee Menges voiced the opening prayer, followed by the TOPS and the Keep Off Pounds Sensibly pledges and fellowships song.

Wanda Lee gave the only reading for the night, titled, "I am a Senior Citizen."

Genay Bertran, weight recorder, called the roll and members answered with their loss or gain for the week. Seven of the TOPS members and four of the KOPS members weighed in, with Roberts being the best loser of the TOPS and Lynne Criswell being the KOPS best loser. Each one received the gainers award and a certificate.

Duffy Yancy presented a

new contest that began with the weigh-in for this night. The contest is titled "Walk Your Way to Beauty." Each member has a chart moving one step for each loss and a step backward for each gain; a step forward for keeping a food chart and a step backward for not keeping one; and the same process for daily exercise.

State Recognition Days are scheduled for April in the Dallas area. Members are making plans to attend.

Interested in learning more about TOPS? Call 1-800-392-8677 or locally 263-0391 or 263-1758.

### Capt. Elisha Mack Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

The Capt. Elisha Mack Chapter of the DAR met Jan. 14 in the Big Spring Country Club. Regent

Katie Lara presided.

Instead of a program, yearly reports were completed during this annual business meeting.

Carole Lawson, Charlene Ragan and Lora Mae Pollard were appointed as a nominating committee to present a slate of officers during the April meeting.

"Mayflower Births and Death," volumes 1 and 2 will be placed in the Howard County Library's genealogy room in memory of Helen Cobean Dawson and Olive Ruth Cowden.

Mary Schuelke was elected the delegate to the 2006 TSDAR State Conference, scheduled for March in San Antonio. Alternates selected were Lawson, Sara Tipton, Pollard and Sue Ann Damron.

June Reid won the door prize — a flag tote bag.

The next meeting is Feb. 11 in the Big Spring Country Club.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Trustees of Howard College will hold a public hearing to receive public input in regard to the following proposed changes to the current trustee election system.

1) **Proposed Change to the Voting System:** Howard College is proposing a change to the Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting system similar to the Howard County voting system for in-person voters during Early voting and on Election Day. Hand counted "Paper Ballots" will still be used for Early Voting by Mail and Provisional Ballots. Under the current system, Howard College uses a hand counted "Paper Ballot" voting system.

2) **Proposed Change To Contract for Election Services:** Howard College is proposing to contract with the Howard County Elections Administrator for all future elections, and to give the Elections Administrator the authority to hold joint elections with the Forsan Independent School District and the City of Forsan.

A public hearing is scheduled for the above changes on Monday, January 23, 2006, at the East Room of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, corner of Birdwell Lane and Kentucky Way, Big Spring, Texas, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The Board of Trustees will receive public comments regarding changes in the trustee election system.

### AVISO PUBLICO

La Junta Directiva de Howard College llevara a cabo una audiencia publica para recibir la entrada publica en respeto a los siguientes cambios propuestos por el directivo para el sistema corriente de votacion.

1) **El Cambio Propuesto para el Sistema Electoral:** Howard College propone un cambio para el sistema de votacion Directo Registrando Electronico (DRE) parecido al sistema electoral de Howard County para electores que votan en persona en el Dia de Eleccion y durante el Voto Temprano. Todavia se usaran Balotas de Papel contadas por mano para la persona que votan Temprano y pro Correo y Balotas Provisionales. Bajo el sistema corriente, Howard College usa el sistema de votar Balotas de Papel contadas por mano.

2) **Para Contratar los Servicios para la Eleccion:** Howard propone contratar con el Administrador el Elecciones de Howard County para todas las elecciones futuras y para celebrar elecciones comunes con el districtor Independiente de la escuela de Forsan y la ciudad de Forsan.

Una audiencia publica esta programada para los cambios arriba en lunes, 23 en enero, 2006, en el East Room del Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, en la esquina de Birdwell Lane y Kentucky Way, Big Spring, Tejas, empezando a las 12:30 p.m. La Junta Directiva recibira comentarios publicos. La Junta Directiva recibira comentarios publicos respecto a cambios en el sistema de la elecciones de la Junta Directiva.

Due to the tremendous response, we're continuing our

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267-8491

### East Four Baptist Church

Located Fourth, the Sunday service begins with at 9:45 a.m. groups. The service starts with Acteens Royal Amb in Action Friends Babies and children ages Sunday Choir practice Sunday evening service p.m.

Wednesday is offered adults at 7 For more call Amy at

### First United Methodist Church

Worship 8:30 a.m. Sunday Methodist Sunday. T Greenwood Westbrook sent her "Looking Future with Scripture Old Testament 29:11.

Sunday a.m. The Praise Band 3 p.m. Re children's Sunday at p.m. until high youth p.m. and youth m Sunday Building.

From January there is singing and Women's turing Be Patriarch the God Isaac and

The Thursday group meets until 10 Thursday meets at care is provided

Monday Family/P Commitment p.m. and Class February p.m. Tuesday is from 3: p.m. and Class Wednesday

Children a.m., Luis at Hispanic Bible study the Men's

Alsdorf handbell p.m., C Bible Study and C Rehearsal

Special observed Thursday Friday a First United Church

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NEWS

**East Fourth Street Baptist Church**

Located at 401 E. Fourth, the church offers Sunday services beginning with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. for all age groups. The worship service starts at 11 a.m. Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children and youth of all ages Sunday nights at 5. Choir practice begins Sunday night at 5. The evening service is at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Bible study is offered for youth and adults at 7 p.m. For more information, call Amy at 267-2291.

**First United Methodist Church**

Worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sunday is United Methodist Women's Sunday. The Rev. Rhonda Greenwood from Westbrook UMC will present her sermon titled "Looking Toward the Future with Faith." The Scripture text is from the Old Testament, Jeremiah 29:11.

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. The Centered in Praise Ensemble meets at 3 p.m. Rehearsals for the children's musical begins Sunday afternoon, from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Junior high youth meet at 5:30 p.m. and senior high youth meet at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Partee Building.

From Jan. 26 - April 13, there is Thursday morning and Thursday night Women's Bible Study featuring Beth Moore's "The Patriarchs Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

The Thursday morning group meets from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. and the Thursday night group meets at 6:45 p.m. Child care is provided. Monday nights, the Family/Parish Life Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. and the Open Door Class Fun Night is at 7 p.m. Tuesdays Kid's Club is from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. and the Disciple I Class meets at 6:45 p.m.

Wednesdays begin with Children's Day Out at 9 a.m., Lunch/Bible Study is at noon and the Hispanic Ministry has Bible studies at 6 p.m. in the Men's Bible Class.

Also, Wednesdays is handbell practice at 6 p.m., Combined Youth Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. and Chancel Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Special prayer times are observed in the chapel Thursday at noon and Friday at 7 a.m.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

**First Baptist Church**

Saturday evening, "Kidz Blitz Live" begins at 6 p.m. for children of all ages. Free admission. Parents are encouraged to attend this event with their children.

Among other special events scheduled in the future are concerts presented by the Stamps Quartet Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 19, the Singing Women of West Texas will share at 6 p.m. No tickets are need for these concerts. Love offerings will be taken.

The Family Life Center is open Thursday evenings for families to enjoy. Bowling, ping pong, air hockey, basketball and other activities are available between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The pastor continues his sermon series Sunday morning on physical disabilities with "Laryngitis: What You Didn't Say Is What I Heard."

A mission trip to Houma, La., is being planned to assist the hurricane victims. Anyone who would like to be a part of this mission endeavor may attend a meeting Sunday at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

First Baptist Church is beginning a new program that targets women who have left the work force to stay at home with their children. This program begins Monday, called "Right at Home." For more information, call Debby Corgan, 267-4267 or e-mail her at ddcorgan@msn.com.

**First Presbyterian Church**

Services Sunday are 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. Services Jan. 29 are a Talent Sunday with all kinds of talents from those participating.

Small group Bible studies are "Genesis" Monday at 7 p.m.; "Hebrew" Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.; "Lord, I want to know you" Wednesday at noon; "The case for Christ" Friday at 6 a.m.; and "Acts" Sunday at 6 p.m. Call the church for locations.

There is a "fragrance free" area at the front of the church for those with allergies. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has cookbooks for sale for \$10, proceeds for the high school Bible classes. They are raising funds for a church bus.

For more information, call the church office at 263-4211.

**Iglesia de Cristo**

Iglesia de Cristo Anderson y Green, con Predicador, Miguel Bustillos. Domingos servicios 10 a.m., Miercoles 7 p.m. Telefonos 432-689-6374 y 432-684-7852.

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**McGee Chapel Church of God in Christ**

New leaders are Bennie and Debra Johnson. Sunday school is 10:30 a.m. and morning worship is 11:30 a.m. Wednesday service is 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 1000 N.W. Third St. For more information, call 267-6605 or 325-944-4891.

**Life Church**

There are two contemporary worship services Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Children's ministry is provided during both services, such as Noah's Ark for children age 0-3, Zoe Land for children age 4-9 and God's Squad for preteens age 10-12. Church meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. Small groups, including college, young adults and senior high meet throughout the week.

Bean's World Cafe is open for business at the Boxcar in downtown Big Spring. For more information, call 432-263-7714. Life Church is located at 600 E. FM 700.

**YoungLife**

YoungLife is a non-profit Christian organization for high school students that meets at 7:59 p.m. each Monday night of the school year. WydLife, a junior high school outreach, meets at 7:13 p.m. every other Tuesday.

Both clubs meet at the YoungLife building, 13th and Owens streets. Volunteer adult leaders are needed. For more information, call director Shelly Warren at 213-4819.

**New Covenant**

New Covenant also offers an exciting mid-

week service, featuring a Young Ambassador's program every Wednesday at 6 p.m. Game nights, study-hall session and Bible drills are some of the activities. Sunday morning worship services are 11 a.m.; the doors open at 10:30 a.m.

The church is located at 1607 E. Third street. For more information, call 264-0015 or e-mail nccwcl@yahoo.com.

**Cornerstone Church**

Cornerstone offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship. Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities. Childcare is available for newborns through preschool.

The church is located at 12th and Owens streets. Call the Rev. Craig Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

**Spring Tabernacle Church**

Spirit-filled renewal services are set to begin at 8 p.m. Jan. 27 and continue at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Jan. 28 and Jan. 29.

Speakers from northern Canada include Frank Peterson, Albert Hannigan and Terry Miller of Sharon Schools and Children's Homes out of North Battleford, Saskatchewan, site of an "ongoing spiritual revival and outpouring of the Holy Spirit that has gone around the world and crossed all denominational lines," according to Miller.

The Canadian encyclopedia calls the Sharon Schools, a renewal movement active the past several years, as "Canada's greatest contribution to Christianity in the 20th

**Century."**

This event is sponsored by Global Missions International. Spring Tabernacle is located at 1209 Wright St., off Highway 80 West. The Rev. Arnold and Mona Lou Tonn are the pastors. For more information, contact the church at 267-5321.

**Birdwell Lane Baptist Church**

Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214. Birdwell Lane Baptist Church is located at 1512 Birdwell Lane.

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

Holy Communion is celebrated Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages is at 9:30 a.m.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrews has its monthly meeting and breakfast at 8 a.m. Saturday in the chapel. The Episcopal Church women meet in the church library after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist Sunday.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit the web site at www.stmarysbst.org. The church is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

**House of Hope Community Church**

A barbecue dinner starts at 11 a.m. Saturday. Donations from the barbecue will be used for the needs of the church. The Rev. Floyd and Sandra Green are pastors of the church, located at 200 W. 17th St., in Colorado City.

For more information, call 432-816-1703 or 432-816-1710.

**Friends of Unity**

The center is a place where seekers of the truth meet in comfort and joy and thanksgiving. For more information, call 267-8783.

**East Side Baptist Church**

Sunday Fun Time, an opportunity of learning using illustrated lessons with crafts, is at 9:45 a.m. Family worship begins at 10:45 a.m. Evening praise and worship is at 6 p.m.

A Bible study begins at 7 p.m. each Wednesday. East Side Baptist Church is located at 1108 E. Sixth St. Call 267-1915 for more information.

**Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church**

Shane Nix of Fort Worth is scheduled as the guest minister for the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. at the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St.

Bible study and prayer meeting are scheduled each Wednesday night at 7 p.m.

For more information, call John Wayne Metcalf at 394-4067 or Dennis Walker at 264-1363.

**Salem Baptist Church**

Sunday school is at 10 a.m., morning service is at 11 a.m., and evening service is at 6 p.m. A nursery is available at all services.

The Wednesday evening service is at Parkplace at 6 p.m. There is a Fifth Sunday Sing Jan. 29 beginning at 6 p.m. with a fellowship meal after the performances.

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to the Lord, to sing  
praises to the Most High.

Psalm 92: 1

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Pastor Craig Felty

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1512 Birdwell Lane  
CALVARY BAPTIST  
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401 East 4th 267-2291  
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Knot  
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E. I-20 263-6274  
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403 Trades

### MT. BETHEL BAPTIST

630 Sgt. Paredez 263-4069

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### PRIMERA BAUTISTA MISSION

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### PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

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### ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC

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### IN BRIEF

#### BSHS announces mini cheer clinic

The Big Spring cheerleaders will be hosting a mini cheer clinic for girls in grades first through sixth Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Steer Gym.

The cost for the clinic includes a T-shirt, shorts, socks and a bag.

There will be late registration taking place Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Steer Gym and the cost for late registration is \$35.

For more info, contact Shannon Stuteville at 264-3641 ext. 166.

#### Garrand match set for Sportsman Club

The Western Sportsman Club will be hosting a M1 Garrand match Sunday, Feb. 5, at 1 p.m. at the club range nine miles out on the Andrews highway (Highway 176).

For more information, contact 263-1345.

#### League suspends Davis five games

NEW YORK (AP) — Knicks forward Antonio Davis was suspended five games by the NBA for entering the stands during a game in Chicago to confront a fan he thought was harassing his wife.

While the penalty showed the NBA accepted Davis' argument that he believed his wife was in trouble during Wednesday night's game, it also made clear that entering the stands would not be tolerated, no matter the circumstances.

#### Summitt reaches 900 wins with Vols

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee coach Pat Summitt got her 900th victory in her first shot at the milestone, as the Lady Vols rallied from their biggest deficit this season to beat No. 19 Vanderbilt.

Summitt, the NCAA's winningest coach, ran her record to 900-172 in 32 seasons at Tennessee.

#### Roddick cruises at Aussie Open

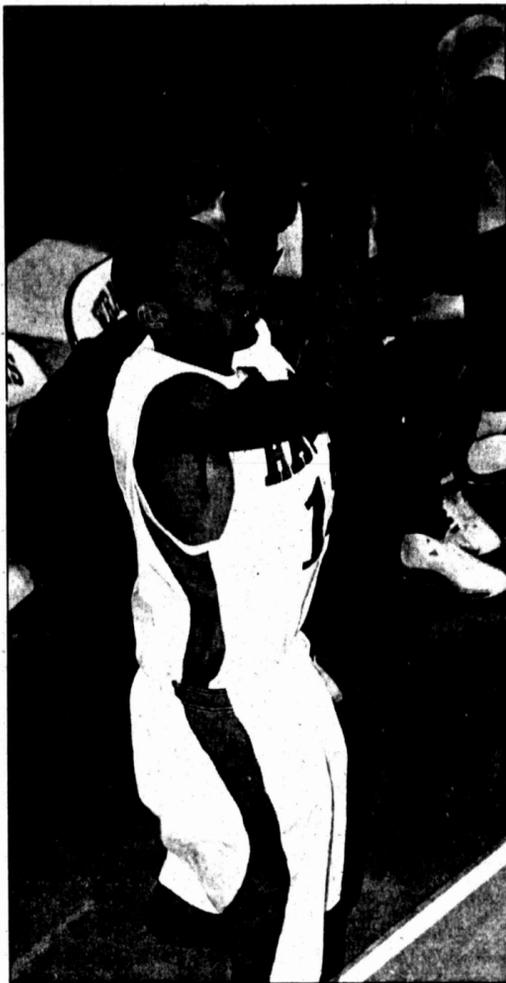
MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Andy Roddick had 17 aces in a 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 win over French qualifier Julien Benneteau Friday, hustling through the third round as temperatures started rising at the Australian Open.

His next opponent is Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus, who beat Denis Gremelmayr 6-2, 6-1, 6-2.

Women's No. 1 Lindsay Davenport held off Maria Kirilenko 6-4, 4-6, 6-2, and Maria Sharapova routed Jelena Kostanic 6-0, 6-1, setting up a possible fourth-round showdown with Serena Williams.

No. 6 Nadia Petrova and Svetlana Kuznetsova had straight-set wins.

## Sluggish effort still brings win for Howard men



HERALD file photo/Troy Hyde  
Howard College sophomore Louis Rodgers puts up a shot from the baseline in Odessa back in November. The Hawks improved to 2-0 in the WJCAC Conference Thursday after taking down New Mexico JC in Hobbs, N.M.

### Valentine's 25 points leads Hawks past T-Birds in Hobbs

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

HOBBS, N.M. — It wasn't the best of efforts for the No. 1 ranked Howard College men's basketball team, but it was enough to get an easy win.

The Hawks had four players reach double-figures and hit 10 shots from behind the 3-point line Thursday in an 82-66 victory over conference rival New Mexico Junior College.

"We didn't play well, but it was good enough to win," said Howard head coach Mark Adams. "Its good to play poor and still be able to come out on top."

Howard (18-0) played even with New Mexico early on in the first half, but took control of the game on two big runs.

The Hawks' first spurt was a 10-2 run, which included five points from sophomore Charles Burgess. The second run was 9-0 and it was highlighted by two 3-pointers from freshman Benny Valentine. Valentine hit five 3-pointers in the game and finished with a game-high 25 points and three steals.

"My teammates were able to get me the ball when I was open tonight," said Valentine. "If you take open shots you have

to hit them. It was a good team effort tonight."

After the two runs, the Hawks led 28-14 and were never really challenged after that. Howard pushed the lead 39-20 minutes later after an 8-2 spurt. Valentine scored five more points during that run, including his third 3-point of the game. A 3-pointer by sophomore Dezmon Harris a few minutes later kept the lead at 19 points and the Hawks led by 48-31 at the break.

"We are going to challenge the guys to keep New Mexico under 50 points," said Howard assistant coach Jason Sautter at halftime. "We just don't give up 31 points in a half. That is not Howard basketball."

The challenge was not met by the top-ranked Hawks, however, as New Mexico was able to score 35 more points in the final 20 minutes.

"We couldn't stop them tonight," said Adams. "We definitely need to play better defensively."

The Howard lead grew to 20 points early in the second half as the Hawks scored on back-to-back baskets by sophomore Louis Rodgers and Burgess. New Mexico was able to cut the Howard lead to 13 moments later, but another mini-run pushed the advantage back to 20 following a 3-pointer from sophomore Richard Forbes.

Burgess converted back-to-back baskets with just under nine minutes to play in the game to push the advantage to 23. Valentine's final two 3-pointers of the game came two minutes apart late in the game and the shots kept the lead above 20.

"It was a win and we'll just leave it at that for now," said Adams.

Burgess finished with 17 points, four steals and four assists in front of his future head coach Bobby Knight of the Texas Tech Red Raiders. Knight was in attendance watching Burgess and looking for other future Division I talents. Burgess will play for Texas Tech next year.

Rodgers ended the game with 12 points and seven rebounds, while Forbes scored 10 points off the bench for the Hawks. Harris added seven points for the winners.

The Hawks will have to no doubt play better to get past their next challenge as No. 13 Midland College invades the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday. The Chaps have also begun the Western Junior College Athletic Conference season 2-0 after their 10-point home win over Clarendon.

Howard will welcome Marcy Elementary to the game Monday as children who attend the school will have the chance to see the game for free.

The contest begins at 7:50 p.m.

## Late rally falls short for HC women in WJCAC opener

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

HOBBS, N.M. — Too many turnovers and two big runs from New Mexico Junior College proved to be too much for the Howard College women's basketball team to handle Thursday night as the Hawks dropped their Western Junior College Athletic Conference opener, 91-78.

The game was much closer than the score, however, as the final eight points from the Lady Thunderbirds were scored from the foul line and Howard trailed by just seven points with just under three minutes to play in the game.

"I thought we had a great effort," said Howard women's head coach Earl Diddle. "We turned the ball over a little too much on the road, but we can build on this effort and move on."

The Hawks committed 24 turnovers in the game — 15 in the first half — and leading scorer Latoya Fairley, one of only two sophomores on the team — only played 16 minutes because of foul trouble.

"We can't afford to lose Latoya to fouls," said Diddle. "We just don't score well enough for that to happen."

The offense wasn't as much of a problem Thursday night as the defense was. The Hawks nearly scored 80 points, but gave up 91 points in the game and 47 in the first half.

Howard (6-13, 0-1), jumped out to an early 6-0

advantage and led 9-8 with 14:49 to play in the first half before New Mexico started to take advantage to Hawk miscues. New Mexico scored back-to-back baskets off two Howard turnovers and grabbed its first lead of the game. They didn't stop there as a 12-0 run gave the Lady T-Birds an 18-9 advantage.

Fairley picked up her third foul with 10:42 to play in half and was forced to sit on the bench until the second 20 minutes.

With Fairley on the bench, New Mexico went on another big run — this time 11-0 — and quickly led 30-13. The Hawks trimmed the lead to 11 points after a 6-0 run.

Freshman Kim Garcia provided a solid effort off the bench for the Hawks as she kept the game within reach for Howard with two free throws and a layup sandwiched between a basket by freshman Kim Gilyard. The layup by Garcia trimmed the lead to 10.

"Kim Garcia stepped up and gave us nice lift off the bench," said Diddle.

New Mexico JC answered Howard's run late in the half with a run of its own as they outscored the Hawk women 12-5 in the final four minutes. The Lady T-Birds led 47-28 at half-time.

After five fast points by New Mexico JC, the Hawks started a big comeback with an 8-2 run. All eight points were scored by Fairley and freshman Tomisha Martin. Fairley, however, had to go back to the bench with 15:11 to play in the game after picking up her fourth foul.

Another 8-0 run by the

Hawk women — capped off by a Jennifer Pena 3-pointer — cut the lead to 62-46. Fairley returned to the game with 12:37 on the clock and helped Howard close the gap even more. The team trimmed its deficit to seven points with a 12-2 run. The run was highlighted by Fairley and Martin. Fairley started the run with back-to-back baskets and Martin hit a 3-pointer, scored on a put-back and connected on a free throw. Freshman Chanel Jones-Delas concluded the run with back-to-back jumpers.

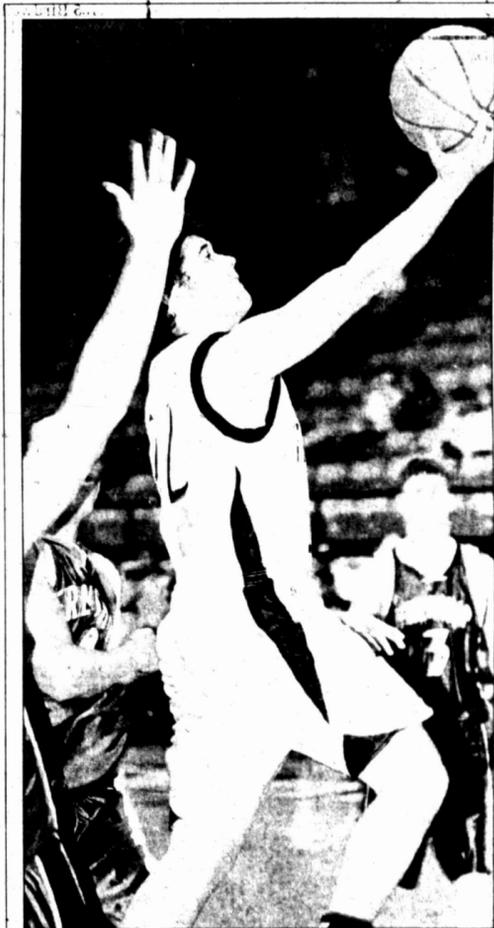
Shortly after the run, Fairley fouled out on a questionable call. New Mexico was able to get the lead back to 11 after the Fairley left the contest. However, Pena hit four straight free throws and Jones-Delas added another shot from the charity stripe and the Hawks were within six with 5:50 to play.

Turnovers would prevent the Hawk women from getting any closer, but they did get the lead to seven or eight on three different occasions. Garcia hit a 3-pointer to close within eight and a Pena jumper with just under three minutes to play cut the New Mexico lead to seven.

The final difference was 13 points and the Hawks missed 13 shots from the foul line.

Fairley finished with 17 points in 16 minutes. Jones-Delas added 16 points, while Pena had 13 points. Martin and Garcia added 12 and 10 points, respectively.

The Hawk women will attempt to get a WJCAC win Monday as they host 1-1 Midland College at 5:50 p.m.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde  
Big Spring junior Rondell Trevino goes up for a contested layup against Frenship Tuesday. The Steers upset the Tigers at home and will look to improve to 2-1 in District 4-2A with a win at Plainview tonight. The girls begin at 6:30 p.m., while the boys tipoff at 8 p.m.

### WJCAC Standings

Women			Men		
Odessa	2-0	17-0	Howard	2-0	18-0
Frank Phillips	1-1	13-5	Midland	2-0	16-2
Clarendon	1-1	9-11	South Plains	2-0	15-3
Midland	1-1	16-4	Clarendon	1-1	10-7
New Mexico	1-1	10-7	Odessa	1-1	13-5
Howard	0-1	6-13	Frank Phillips	0-2	11-7
South Plains	0-1	13-3	New Mexico	0-2	10-8
			NMMI	0-2	4-12

Thursday's results		Thursday's results	
New Mexico 91, Howard 78	Midland 68, Clarendon 55	Howard 82, New Mexico 68	Midland 87, Clarendon 77
Odessa 90, Frank Phillips 58	South Plains did not play	South Plains 75, NMMI 38	Odessa 78, Frank Phillips 68

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Aquarius sun encourages unconventional behaviors and highlights the wonderful diversity around you. Bring your inner "weirdo" to the lunch-table discussion, and enjoy greater acceptance of your eccentricities. Tonight, discussions are heated and debates are downright competitive. It's nothing personal, so don't take it that way.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Things not to say at a dinner party: "Did you cook this or order out?" "Your last party was so much bigger." Remember, everyone is doing his or her best. As are you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Movies, art and music have the beautiful gift of being able to stand to the test of time. But not everything should last forever - take care not to simply endure a situation, a habit or a practice unless its eventual goal is worthy.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Crows are fascinated by shiny objects. But all that glitters is not gold, not even gleaming pyrite (known as "fool's gold"). The stars urge you to look beyond the sparkle to see what lies beneath.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). What you hear over the proverbial grapevine is not ignored. Someone who puts on a strong front and refuses to hide anything no matter what people are saying is someone worthy of your friendship, your business and your respect.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Practical matters come into play. If you've been denied credit, this is an excellent day to try again. Ask for records, make valid complaints, and do what you can to set things straight. It's the little things that have the biggest influence.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). In matters of love, you don't always have the answers, but sometimes silence is best. You are a powerful role model for children and should be aware that they are watching you. Tonight, someone else picks up the tab.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The planets align to highlight your mercy. Someone close to you really needs it. If you can tame the anger in the pit of your stomach, you can conquer just about anything!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The stars show you finding your balance as a leader of people. Baseball great Tommy Lasorda likened managing people to holding a dove in the hand: "Squeeze it too hard, you'll kill it. Not hard enough, it'll fly away."

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your thoughts turn to love, romance, passion or some form of all of the above. This happens both at inopportune times and also at extremely opportune times.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Just being able to breath in and out, with your heart continuously beating, is one of nature's many miracles. What seemingly small miracles have gone unnoticed in your midst lately? Now is good to think about this.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** Platonic love has been underrated. This weekend, you'll see how important it really is. ARIES: You think the last thing you need is another "friend," but you're wrong about this. TAURUS: Return calls promptly or you risk losing someone's affection. GEMINI: Don't understand what you need. Don't take your advice about love. CANCER: Getting to know new people is easy, but getting deep takes more effort. LEO: Your luck in romance gets hotter when you read the latest books, studies and opinions on the topic. VIRGO: Be strategic about love, and you won't waste energy. LIBRA: You'll have a change of heart. Your new plan of action proves far superior to the last one. SCORPIO: So many people want your attention. Cut to the quick. SAGITTARIUS: You'll be taking a pretty big risk with your heart. CAPRICORN: The right love builds your confidence, and the wrong one tears it down. AQUARIUS: You finally accept a situation you cannot change. PISCES: Financial issues could detract from your romantic feelings. Perhaps it's better to ignore them, just for this weekend.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Libra and Aquarius are two air signs whose time has come. This weekend features an instant attraction and almost telepathic communication. But do the violins play? Do the roses bloom? Does the wine mellow? This connection will stray from any conventional idea of romance, but it will be romantic in its own way. Shared interests become a shared passion for each other.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE TO Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.**

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# Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

# Dear Prudence

Dear Annie: I have a 14-year-old daughter who has been a dream since the day she was born — that is, until recently.

Over the last year or so, "Kristien" has tended to gravitate toward kids who lack respect for authority and are always in trouble. She has begun to lie to me, and frankly, I do not trust her anymore.

Kristien sees these kids only during school hours, because I drive her to school and she has to catch the bus immediately after. Though she spends just a short time with them, their influence is overwhelming.

How do I convince Kristien that she is going to have major problems because of the friends she associates with? I believe it comes down to self-esteem. If she had a higher level of self-esteem, she would not gravitate toward kids who have problems. She would want to be with kids who are positive. My husband disagrees.

Kristien is a wonderful child at home, except for the lying. We have grounded her from everything and talked until we are blue in the face. How can I help her see the light? — Worried Mom

Dear Worried: Kristien's attraction to these kids is her way of testing new waters. It can be appealing to think you're living on the wild side.

Instead of threatening and grounding her, try explaining, lovingly, why her recent behavior upsets you so much. Tell her that teen years can be challenging, and some kids lose their way and can't get back. Also, explain why trust is a very elusive necessity, easy to throw away, but difficult to regain.

If you say these things with heartfelt affection, she is more likely to respond. Don't badmouth her friends or she will become defensive, even if she agrees with you. In fact, invite one or two of these friends over for dinner so you can get to know each other. You also might try to casually encourage her involvement in activities that don't revolve around these friends — perhaps a school play, student government, band, athletics — and best, some outside volunteer work. Hang in there, Mom.

Dear Annie: What is the right way to prepare to die? Recently, my uncle, who has terminal cancer, was told he had only about six



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

months. He went home and built a new patio at his house and did many other projects before the illness took its toll.

On the other hand, my cousin, "Ted," was told he has a very bad heart problem and could die within the year. Ted went home and watched TV 14 hours a day. That was over two years ago, and he's still sitting on the sofa, watching TV.

What is behind these very opposite attitudes toward death? — Confused Shirley

Dear Shirley: A person's response to a death sentence varies depending upon his level of denial, depression, inner strength and, often, religious beliefs. We think Ted became depressed and gave up. Your uncle, however, was determined to make the most of what he had left. There is no single "right" way to prepare for death, but we hope Ted will discuss his depression with his doctor.

Dear Annie: Please tell "Rachel in San Francisco" to SAVE, SAVE, SAVE her grandmother's journals.

My husband's Aunt Betsy gave him his great-grandmother's memoirs because Betsy thought they were boring. They were not. The historical society from her little town in New York was thrilled to get a copy, as was the New York Historical Society. As for being too personal, I wish I had journals from my own great-grandmother. She was a sweet little old lady by the time I knew her, but in her youth she was positively scandalous. She rode horses without a sidesaddle! — Antoinette from Mississippi

Dear Antoinette: We, too, hope Rachel will reconsider shredding those journals. Some day, someone may find them fascinating.

Dear Annie: I am the mother of a 2-year-old girl. The father left three months after she was born, and we had to fend for ourselves.

I am 23 years old, juggling college and working full time to be able to support my daughter. Thank God for my parents, as I live with them to help me get by.

My daughter's father had a drug and alcohol problem that I found out about later in the relationship. I considered taking my ex-boyfriend to court for child support, but after discussing it with a lawyer, I was told my ex may get visitation rights in exchange. My ex is very abusive. I have scars from him that no one knows about because he threatened to hurt me if I told anyone.

What is our legal system coming to? If I ask for child support, my little girl would be going into a dangerous household. My

ex didn't show up at the hospital when she was born, and he denies her as his daughter, but I can guarantee he will demand visitation if he must pay. What do I do? — Concerned Single Parent

Dear Concerned: The legal system assumes that a man who pays child support will want to be part of his child's life. Since no one knows about the abuse, you cannot expect it to be taken into consideration, but it's time you spoke up. Discuss it with your attorney, along with your ex's record of drug and alcohol abuse, and ask if visitation could be under supervision only. If the answer is "probably not," figure out if you can raise your child on your own by getting help from your parents until you finish your college education and get a better-paying job.

Dear Annie: Please help me spread the word about the availability of objective, easy-to-understand information on the new Medicare prescription drug benefit. While stories on this new program's availability have dominated the media in recent months, there are still eligible seniors who have yet to enroll in the program, which took effect Jan. 1.

Seniors have until May 15 to sign up without facing a late-enrollment penalty, but with each day that goes by, these retirees are missing out on benefits that could save them hundreds (and for some, thousands) of dollars each year.

Many are concerned or confused about the numerous options from which to choose. Medicare Today — a national coalition of more than 375 organizations representing seniors, patients, health care groups, employers and others — is working to make things easier.

We are currently holding informational and enrollment events in communities across the country, providing seniors with opportunities to talk one-on-one with Medicare experts about their options.

A state-by-state listing of Medicare Today's educational events, easy-to-understand information about the new benefit and more, is available free of charge at [www.MedicareToday.org](http://www.MedicareToday.org).

Mary R. Grealy, President, Healthcare Leadership Council

Dear Mary Grealy: Thank you so much. Many seniors are totally bewildered by the new benefit and have no idea what their choices are or how to go about signing up. We hope they will visit your website today so they can make a decision before late-enrollment penalties start kicking in after May 15.

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

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Dear Prudence: I have been with my wonderful boyfriend for two years. I have good expectations as to the direction our relationship will go. My problem is not with him, but his 6-year-old niece.

I believe the little girl has a crush on him. My reason for thinking this? She is extremely rude to me. I have been informed by her that I have a "huge bum," I smell bad, that I'm an "idiot" ... I'm sure you get the picture. I have ignored the insults and name-calling for some time now; she is, after all, a child. But now things have progressed.

On a recent outing, I was repeatedly shoved aside by this kid, who, while shoving, loudly proclaimed that it would be she, not me, holding his hand. When it came time to be seated at a restaurant, she gave me a shove and loudly declared that she would sit next to him, not me. Suggestions by her parents that he sit in the middle were ignored.

There were comments made to my boyfriend by the kid that later in the evening he should bring me home and come back by himself! He finally made the astute observation that he thinks she gets jealous when I am around. Well, duh.

We agreed that he would talk to his sister about the problem. Her answer was that I need to "develop a thicker skin." My boyfriend thinks talking to his niece will embarrass her, because "she is only 6 and does not know what she is doing." Help! — Sick of Dealing With It

Dear Sick: The 6-year-old sextop knows exactly what she is doing. This child not only needs a parent to lower the boom, but a therapist, as well. Any 6-year-old kid with a crush on an uncle is unusual enough, but shoving — along with announcements that it should be she, not you, as the "date" — is kinda creepy and in no way age-appropriate.

Someone in that family is going to have to deal with this soon, or they will have a lot worse to deal with in just a few years. Tell your boyfriend that until someone gets hold of this situation, you choose not to be anywhere near this mouthy little horror. — Prudence, unwaveringly

Pru: It seems I've committed the sin that befalls so many wives: I snooped. I saw a folder in my husband's e-mail account labeled with a female name (an acquaintance of mine), and I let my curiosity overcome me. The typical story of snooping follows.

I would've been much happier being ignorant about the information this folder contained. The e-mails are in no way subtle; they talk blatantly of sex. Not of having it, mind you, but of wanting it (very badly) with each other.

These e-mails are dated when my husband and I were engaged. This was almost a year ago, and I do not believe they are continuing in this manner any longer. However, I do not understand why my husband would keep such incriminating e-mails. Should I bring the matter up with him? — Remorseful Snoot

Dear Re: If you and your husband communicate well, you might ask about the timing of the steamy e-mails ... but then be prepared to defend your prying. As to why they are still there, Prudence doesn't know about you, but there are tons of outdated files on old Pru's computer.

If you are able to put your questions and concerns aside and gauge his actual behavior — now — do that, and move on. Because you sign yourself "remorseful," let your penance for snooping be to say nothing, and go forth and snoop no more. — Prudence, reparationally

Dear Prudence: My brother is engaged to a delightful, bright, attractive woman who does not wear a bra. She has very small breasts, so it's not as if she is falling out of her shirts, but she is always "nipping" (as they say). I don't believe she is trying to be provocative, but after she and my brother leave large social gatherings, there is often talk of the prominent nipple outline she displayed. This upsets me because a) I truly like her, and don't want people to remember her for her chest area, and b) it can be very distracting when one is talking to her; it makes men uncomfortable to see, and it makes our wives even more uncomfortable for their men to see.

In general, I don't feel it's anyone's place to criticize another person's attire, but I wonder if there is a tactful way to send a message that we'd appreciate seeing a bit less of her. — Getting an Eyeful

Dear Get: Prudence was surprised by two things in your letter: the new word she learned, and that the letter writer was a man! There really is talk that people have trouble averting their gaze from this woman's shirt? In this day and age of letting it all hang out, fashionwise, it is a little unusual to find that a small-busted woman going braless is a distraction.

In any case, if you feel you must try to get this woman into a bra, your best bet would be to tell your brother that he might want to suggest underthings to his fiancée because, as things are now, she makes it difficult for people to maintain eye contact. Be prepared for him to tell you to mind your own business. — Prudence, figuratively

Prudence: I am a 28-year-old, well-educated woman. The small company I work for is growing and recently hired a new manager in a separate department from mine. I do not work directly for this man, but I do have some interaction with him. I can deal with his winking at me like we're old buddies because I get the feeling he thinks that's how to relate, and he does it with all the staff — except his superiors. What I cannot handle is his calling me "hon" or "honey" when thanking me for something. I'm far from being a feminist, but I find his tone incredibly belittling. He's only a few years older than me and doesn't qualify for the reminds-me-of-my-grandfather exemption when making such an unprofessional remark. No other men in the office speak like this to any of the women.

I'm tempted to say something like, "You're welcome, Sweet Cheeks!" but I'm not sure how that would go over. Please advise. — Sweet but No One's Honey

Dear Sweet: This is perhaps a generational thing ... at least on the receiving end, because Prudence both calls people "honey" and is not offended when people call her by that name. Sometimes this bit of conversational familiarity is meant to be friendly, and occasionally it simply means the other person cannot remember your name! This second possibility seems unlikely in your case.

If you feel the need to put a stop to this sobriquet because it annoys you, tell this chap politely that you don't find "honey" a suitable name for the office and you'd appreciate it if he called you by your given name. Prudence thinks the "sweet cheeks" retort would not be a good idea. — Prudence, moderately

Dear Prudence is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to [dearprudence@creators.com](mailto:dearprudence@creators.com). Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

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# The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.

Call today  
**(432) 263-7331**

BIG SPRING HERALD  
Friday, Jan. 20, 2006

FRIDAY

6:30 PM  
7:30 PM  
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12:30 AM

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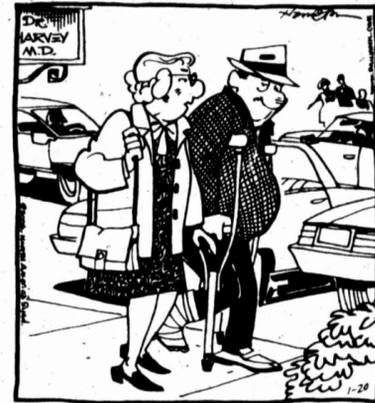
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FRIDAY

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6	News (CC) Ent. Tonight	News Wheel-Fortune	Piel de Oloro	My Wife-Kids Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	N. McBride John Haggie	News-Laher	Ramones: Wash of God?	Hustle	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET com	Zack & Cody Zack & Cody	With Smith NFL Matchup	NBA Basketball	John Doe (CC)
7	Dancing-Stars Hope & Faith	Dancing-Stars Hope & Faith	Contra Viento y Marea	Bernie Mac Malcolm-McL	Ghost Whisperer	El Cuerpo del Deseso	Outrageous Friends (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Updates/Travel Alan Granger	Wash. Week NOW (CC)	Ramones: Wash of God?	Moviel: Uncle Buck	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie	Movie: High School Musical	Boxing: Friday - Pereira vs.	NBA Basketball	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
8	In Justice (CC)	In Justice (CC)	Alborada	Trading Spouses	Close to Home (CC)	Corazon Pura Decisiones	Da sine NBC (CC)	Movie: Erin Brockovich	Light of the Southwest	Sol. Frontiers Tavis Smiley	Egypt Unfold	Friday the 13th: The Final Night	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	Movie: Dumaine	Comoview	Zack & Cody Sister, Sister	Tennis: Australian	Heat (CC) NBA	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
9	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Rodrigo Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Tulsas y Mas	News Tonight Show	Movie: The Hour of Healing	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Ramones: Wash of God?	Chapter 45 Movie:	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	Movie: Jerry Maguire (CC)	In Living Color That's-Raven	That's-Raven That's-Raven	Open - Early Round - Day	Basketball: Los Angeles	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
10	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Movie: Fin de Semana en	Becker (CC) Malcolm-McL	Letterman Late Late	Laura Al Rolo Vivo	Late Night (CC)	Trapped (CC)	OCM Ministries Sam Peck	Sign Off	Ramones: Wash of God?	Friday the 13th - A New	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	Maguire (CC)	Jamie Foxx: Mead Sports	Phil of Future Kim Possible	6 (CC)	Lakers at Phoenix Suns	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
11	AM Live (CC)	AM Live (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Garibaldi	Becker (CC) King of the Hill	Show The Insider	Conan O'Brien Santfeld (CC)	Daisy-America	Updates/Travel Dinah Christian	Egypt Unfold	Beginning Movie:	Rial TV Blind Date	CSI: Crime Scene Invg.	BET After Dark	That's-Raven	NFL Matchup	SportsCenter (CC)	Batman Galactica	Batman Galactica
12	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I suppose you'll think twice before you let Dennis talk you into sliding down the banister again."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'll pour my own! You're a terrible cook."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 2006. There are 345 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: Twenty-five years ago, on Jan. 20, 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency had passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan. On this date: In 1801, John Marshall was appointed chief justice of the United States. In 1841, the island of Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain. (It returned to Chinese control in July 1997.) In 1887, the U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base. In 1942, Nazi officials held the notorious Wannsee conference, during which they arrived at their "final solution" that called for exterminating Jews. In 1945, President

Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term. In 1954, "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial," a play by Herman Wouk based on part of his novel "The Caine Mutiny," opened on Broadway. In 1986, the United States observed the first federal holiday in honor of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. In 1986, Britain and France announced plans to build the Channel Tunnel. Five years ago: George Walker Bush became America's 43rd president after one of the most turbulent elections in U.S. history. One year ago: Anti-Bush demonstrators jeered the president's motorcade during the inaugural parade. Today's Birthdays: Country singer Slim Whitman is 82. Actress Patricia Neal is 80. Comedian Arte Johnson is 77. Former astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin is 76. Actress Dorothy Provine is 69. Singer Eric Stewart is 61. Movie director David Lynch is 60. Actor Daniel Benzali is 56. Rock musician Paul

Stanley (KISS) is 54. Rock musician Ian Hill (Judas Priest) is 54. Comedian Bill Maher (M.A.R.) is 50. Actor James Denton ("Desperate Housewives") is 43. Country singer John Michael Montgomery is 41. TV personality Melissa Rivers is 38. Singer Xavier is 38. Singer Edwin McCain is 36. Actor Skeet Ulrich is 36. Rap musician Busta Rhymes (The Roots) is 35. Rock musician Rob Bourdon (Linkin Park) is 27. Actor Evan Peters is 19. Thought for Today: "By the time you're eighty years old you've learned everything. You only have to remember it." - George Burns (1896-1996).

Answer to previous puzzle

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T	E	D	D	I	P	A	R	T	Y					

Newsday Crossword

GRAMMAR LESSON by Richard Silvestri  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Deck out
  - 6 Vocal fanfare
  - 10 Kid
  - 14 Squirrel's cartoon friend
  - 15 Census data
  - 16 Dangerous whale
  - 17 Trattoria serving
  - 18 Win going away
  - 19 Hathaway competitor
  - 20 Start of a quip
  - 23 Motor lodge
  - 24 Top pitcher
  - 25 Artisan
  - 30 International treaties
  - 35 "For \_\_\_ a jolly..."
  - 36 Work in Vegas
  - 37 Achieve
  - 38 Mean business
  - 40 Middle of quip
  - 42 Wagnerian goddess
  - 43 Cash in, as coupons
  - 45 "Summer of '42" pianist
  - 47 Symbol of sturdiness
  - 48 Sad poem
  - 49 Attractive
  - 51 Female in the fold
  - 53 Jaws sighting
  - 54 End of quip
  - 61 Be next to
  - 62 Davenport site
  - 63 Below, to Byron
  - 65 Actress Russo
  - 66 Pipe section
- DOWN
- 1 Bit of current
  - 2 Buffalo do it
  - 3 Sub \_\_\_ (secretly)
  - 4 Pippi Longstocking creator
  - 5 Had longings
  - 6 Scarlett's home
  - 7 All excited
  - 8 Humble
  - 9 Molded jelly
  - 10 Take part
  - 11 Type of
  - 17 Across
  - 12 Renfrew resident
  - 13 Gave birth to
  - 21 Clothing line
  - 22 When the NFL season starts
  - 25 Limerick starter, often
  - 26 Carouse
  - 27 Covert comment
  - 28 Cow's stomach
  - 29 Single-handedly
  - 31 Downed a sub
  - 32 Chocolate substitute
  - 33 Of ebb and flow
  - 34 Plumber's tool
  - 37 Without purpose
  - 39 Trouser half
  - 41 Scale notes
  - 44 Seeing things
  - 46 Gets one's bearings
  - 49 Mississippi River explorer
  - 50 Toughen
  - 52 Jackknife dive hinge
  - 54 Wild goat
  - 55 Salad ingredient
  - 56 List entry
  - 57 Water vessel
  - 58 Mention explicitly
  - 59 24 bottles of beer
  - 60 Novel conclusion
  - 61 Verb for you
  - 64 With it, once

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# Golf Insider

By T.J. TOMASI

## BIRDIES AND BOGEYS

### Good defense

Going on a golf vacation? Be sure to take your sunscreen — with an SPF of 30 or greater. And no matter how expensive it is, don't scrimp on how much you use. One study showed that the average person uses only one-quarter of the amount needed to achieve the protection rating, which is approximately 1.25 ounces (about the amount that would fill a shot glass). Use less than that and the actual SPF will be less than the label promises.

## GOLF SPOKEN HERE

### "BOUNCE"

The curve on the bottom of your sand wedge.

The optimum degree of bounce depends on the condition of the sand on the course you're playing. Judge the sand by how much raking you have to do after the shot.

If the sand is soft and fluffy (lots of post-shot raking), you'll do best with a high-bounce wedge, i.e., above 14 degrees. If you're playing under normal raking conditions (raking back and forth as if you were planting potatoes), use a standard bounce (10 degrees to 14 degrees.) If your rake leaves shallow teeth marks that hardly seem worth the trouble (but are), you need a bounce less than 10 degrees.

## SCHEDULE

All Times EST

### PGA TOUR

**Bob Hope Chrysler Classic**  
• Site: Palm Desert, Calif.  
• Schedule: Wednesday-Sunday  
• Courses: The Classic Club at Northstar (7,305 yards, par 72), Arnold Palmer Private Course at PGA West (6,930 yards, par 72), LaQuinta Country Club (7,060 yards, par 72) and Bermuda Dunes Country Club (6,927 yards, par 72).  
• Purse: \$5 million. Winner's share: \$900,000.  
• Television: USA (Thursday-Friday, 4-6 p.m.) and ABC (Saturday, 3-6 p.m.; Sunday 3:30-6:30 p.m.).

### Junior competition

Since 1978, the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA), a non-profit organization, has run national junior golf tournaments where juniors compete in age-group classifications. It's a class operation where the kids come first — a great experience for any junior.

The spring schedule is below. The rest of the schedule and more information is available from: American Junior Golf Association, 2415 Steeplechase Lane, Roswell, GA 30076; (770) 998-4653; www.ajga.org.

#### April 7-9

• AJGA Preseason Junior at Black Bear, Black Bear Golf Club, Eustis, Fla.

• AJGA Craig Ranch Junior, Tournament Players Club at Craig Ranch, McKinney, Texas

#### April 13-16

• Mizuno Junior at Chateau Elan, Chateau Elan Resort — Chateau Course, Braselton, Ga.

• PING Junior at The Woodlands, The Woodlands Resort & Conference Center — Panther Trail Course, The Woodlands, Texas

• Heather Farr Classic, Longbow Golf Club, Mesa, Ariz.

#### April 14-16

• AJGA Preseason Junior at RTJ Grand National, Grand National Golf Course — Lake Course, Opelika, Ala.

#### April 21-23

• AJGA Durham Junior, Treyburn Country Club, Durham, N.C.

• AJGA Preseason Junior at Norman, Belmar Golf Club, Norman, Okla.

#### April 28-30

• AJGA Preseason Junior at Rhode Island, Newport National Golf Club, Middletown, R.I.

## IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME



At impact, Fred Funk's hips have rotated about 45 degrees, so you can just about see his left back pocket, yet his shoulders are almost parallel to the target line. This relationship keeps him on plane, on time and approaching the ball from the inside.

# Find that Funky feeling

There is nobody who hits a golf ball more accurately than Fred Funk, and in the photos here you can see why. Look at his shoulders. There isn't much difference in their position at address and impact because Funk does what all good ball strikers do: He starts the club down with his arms before he allows his shoulders to turn.

The hands must travel much farther than the shoulders from the top of the swing, so they must move with dispatch. But — and this is where most golfers go wrong — while both the arms and hips are fast, the shoulders are slow, setting up a power-packed two-fer: The hips outrun the shoulders, creating maximum coil during the downswing. And the arms outrun the shoulders, creating maximum release.

Check out Funk's hips in both photos. At impact, his hips have rotated about 45 degrees, so you can

## ABOUT THE WRITER



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is director of instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Conn. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: [TJinsider@aol.com](mailto:TJinsider@aol.com).

just about see his left back pocket, yet his shoulders are almost parallel to the target line. This relationship keeps him on plane, on time and approaching the ball from the inside.

To get this Funky feeling yourself, do the Cover Drill. Take your normal address with a 7-iron and remove your right hand from the club (left if you're left-handed), leaving the club soled behind the ball.

Next, simulate a backswing by

swinging your right arm to the top, using your trail hand as your club face. Make sure to turn your right shoulder behind your neck and shift your weight just as you would in a real swing. Pose for a moment at the top, then come back to the ball with your hand and stop at the club shaft.

The thing to notice is that before impact, your front shoulder has moved forward (away from your chin) and upward, but your back shoulder has not moved around in front of you.

In other words, your shoulders have not spun open, so your front shoulder still covers, or looks at, the ball at impact. It's only after impact that your front shoulder rotates leftward and your back shoulder chases it, ending up with your chest facing the target.

"Covering" is an important part of a good swing, so if your shoulder action is less than perfect, give this drill some practice time.

## DON'T MISS IT

### The AccuHit

Does your hand pressure soar when you grip the club? Then don't miss the AccuHit Grip, a slip-on teaching aid that helps you apply just the correct amount of pressure while you swing. Most golfers strangle the club, squeezing the handle so tightly that

they can't cock their wrists correctly during the backswing. This means a big power leak on the downswing — you can't release through impact if you haven't set the club correctly at the top of your swing.

Take the pressure off by putting the AccuHit on for \$13 at [www.golfaroundtheworld.com](http://www.golfaroundtheworld.com).



## TEERING OFF

### Just dial '9 Juan Juan'

In the era of carbon copy swings and choreographed personas, the golf world misses the class and showmanship of Chi Chi Rodriguez. The winner of eight regular and 22 senior tour events, Chi Chi was a member of both Ryder Cup and World Cup teams and a recipient of numerous honors, including two of golf's most prestigious, the Graffis and the Bob Jones awards.

Not bad for a kid born dirt poor into a family where the most his father ever earned was \$18 a week. I talked with Chi Chi a few years ago, before a heart attack took him off the tour, and here are some classic Chi Chi-isms.



RODRIGUEZ

### On Being a Role Model

"I grew up very poor, but very proud. A lot of people think that being born poor is a handicap. I think being born poor is a blessing because when you work hard, you get stronger. So I tell the kids, work hard and use me as a model, because if Chi Chi can do it, you can too."

### On Hard Work

"Opportunity isn't enough. You've got to do something about it. Everything I have, I've earned with my own sweat."

### On the Best Ball Striker Ever:

"That's Sam Snead. Jack Nicklaus was the greatest player, but Sam was the Michelangelo of golf. Ben Hogan was second, with Byron Nelson very close to both of them."

### On Exercise

"I lie down whenever I can. I see people jogging and wiping themselves out, but the body was not meant to run. The body was meant to do natural things, and the natural thing is to walk and to lie down a lot."

### On Diet

"I eat a lot of grain because elephants eat a lot of grain and they are very strong. I won't eat anything fried, and I have one pizza a year, but it's a big one with the works."

### On His Image

"I got plenty of recognition. I was the little guy that went from Poor Street to Wall Street."

### On Golf as Entertainment

"Golf is like show business. One Hogan is box office, 144 of them is like watching the grass grow."

### On Hitting a Golf Shot

"I play like I see the shot in my brain. To be a good ball striker you have to paint the shot in your brain. What I see is what I hit."

### On Relaxation

"I go to the beach and watch the pelicans. They dive from the sky for the fish and hit the water so hard that their eyes eventually go bad, and when this happens, they can't fish anymore and they die. So, when I'm feeling sorry for myself because I work so hard, I go watch them do their work, and by comparison, I feel a lot better."

### On His Youth Foundation

"Those kids call that place home. When school is over, they want to stay with us, and I wish they could because when I'm around them I'm an emotional millionaire."

## THE GOLF DOCTOR

### Foot flare/release match

A series examining the most common mismatched swing elements that make golf hard. You and your teacher should be on the lookout for these mismatches in your swing.

If you have a problem with hooking or slicing, the problem may be a bad match between your foot flare and release.

The less front foot flare you have, the sooner the club face will close; with more flare, the face will close later. If you're hooking, your club face is too closed at impact and by flaring your front foot out, you'll delay the release so the club face stays open longer. If you're slicing, do the opposite: Decreasing the flare of your target foot makes the toe of the club rotate over the heel sooner, something a slicer can use to square the face at impact.

Bottom line: If you're a slicer, try less flare; if you tend to hook the ball, experiment with more flare.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Before, I was always thinking, 'Am I going to be carted off the golf course?' I'm very happy to say I don't think that anymore."

— David Toms after his successful operation, a procedure called "radio frequency ablation," in which the nerves to his heart that were causing it to beat irregularly were zapped with hot radio waves. Fortunately, Toms' heart is working perfectly now, and so is his golf swing as he recently won the Sony Open in Hawaii.

## ASK THE PRO

**Q:** I'm currently taking lessons to improve my swing, but I'm not doing very well. I understand what I should be doing, but I just can't get it done. I've had three lessons so far. Should I keep going? — Mary, from the Web

**A:** I'm often asked this question, Mary, so you're not alone. You haven't had enough time yet to "install" the software for your new swing, so you're experiencing what I call transition trauma, an almost universal phenomenon when the learner is in the incubation period.

Surprisingly enough, it's not always better physical talent that allows one student to learn to play golf while another struggles with the game. After giving more than 50,000 lessons, I can tell you that some students are great learners and some are not. One of the deciding factors is how the stu-

dent as a learner handles chaos — the feeling when you're learning something new that everything is turned upside down; nothing feels right.

This is a critical juncture. You're stranded between the old and the new with nothing to show for your effort. This transition trauma is an inevitable part of learning to play the game.

When that period of transition between your old and new swings becomes traumatic enough, your fight/flight response will be triggered and you'll be flooded with anti-learning chemicals that break the learning cycle.

If you're having trouble learning golf, grit your teeth and remind yourself that "chaos is good." It means you're learning, and if you're learning, sooner or later you'll get the hang of it.