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VOLUME 103, NUMBER 1

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

United Way effort hits \$250,000 mark

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

With the 2007 United Way campaign deep into its final stages, officials are confident that its goal can still be reached.

The local UW of Big Spring and Howard County drive is still about \$50,000 short of its stated goal of \$300,000, but many large contributors have yet to be heard from, Executive Director Cynthia Scott said.

And the really good news,

should far out-strip last year's campaign.

"We're going to exceed last year by at least \$20,000 to \$25,000 — at least," Scott said. "And I'm very confident that

we'll reach our goal." Most UW divisions are on target to reach their goals for this year, but she noted that the

Scott added, is that Loaned Executive division this year's effort which annually pulls in the biggest share of donations still has several annual contributors yet to finish their cam-

> That, plus overall response to this year's campaign, left Scott feeling good about the drive's chances of reaching its goal.

> "I think we're doing really well," she said. "Donations are coming in a lot faster than last year ... The people who (annually) donate are giving more

getting a lot of first-time donations, as well."

Scott hopes to have the drive wrapped up in the next week or

The UW allocation committee will meet Dec. 6 and 7, at which time it will figure final allocations to beneficiary agencies.

Agencies assisted by the United Way include: YMCA, Victim Services, Girl Scouts, Westside Day Care Center, Westside Community Center, springherald.com.

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

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

AFTER-THANKSGIVING SALES



Friends Gwen Waight, left, and Rayla Rucker get an early start on their Christmas shopping as they shop for clothes at Beall's in Big Spring Mall Friday morning. Officials reported steady sales on the first day of the Christmas shopping

Group gets serious about raising funds for teens' Christmas

□ To help, contact Pat Hardison at 270-8277.

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area residents can help out a worthy cause and take a shot at winning a brand new rifle, as the local Community Angels program kicks fundraising efforts into high gear for the holiday season.

According to Pat Hardison, spokesperson for the Community Angels effort, a local gun dealer has donated a rifle to help the group's effort to provide Christmas gifts for area low income teens.

"Bruce Broughton has donated a Winchester 30/30 rifle to help us raise money for the program." said Hardison. "Broughton is an amaz-

ing gunsmith and even

tors in the Olympics. He's been an angel for us this year, and the

Hardison giveaway has already brought in more than

builds rifles

for competi-

really

\$300. Hardison said the rifle will be given away Dec. 15, with tickets available for \$5 each or \$20 for 5

tickets. "We managed to raise approximately \$400 from our recent Oz fundraiser at the Heritage Museum, so things are really moving along nicely this said Hardison. year, "First Presbyterian Church recently picked up 30 of our teen angels, so we have a little more than 30 left to buy gifts

See TEENS, Page 3A

U.S. troops find reason to give thanks

By HANNAH ALLAM

McClatchy Newspapers

AL-TAJI CAMP, Iraq – For American soldiers serving in the most dangerous place on Earth, Thanksgiving brought gratitude for life's pleasures: an autumn leaf mailed from home, a love note in an e-mail inbox, the taste of pumpkin pie.

The dining halls of this outpost in central Iraq transformed were Thursday into a cozy shelter from the war that raged outside. The walls were bedecked with streamers in fall's golden hues, chow lines overflowed with turkey and

"I'm just thankful for my health and that I made it through," Stewart said. "And I'm thankful for my friend. We pray together and keep our spirits up."

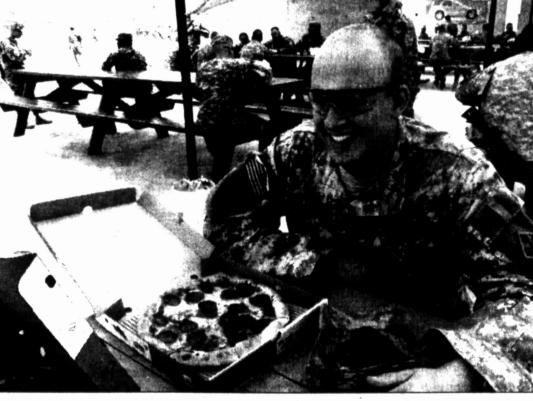
dressing, and soldiers toasted their survival with dainty plastic flutes of cranberry juice.

Not far away, a series of car bombings and mortar strikes in the Shiite

Muslim stronghold of Sadr City killed as many as 160 Iraqis and wounded more than 200 in one of the deadliest sectarian attacks since the war began. Guards at the Iraqi Health Ministry Baghdad fought off a violent insurgent takeover attempt. The U.S. military announced the deaths of three Marines during combat operations in Anbar province, bringing to 52 the number of American troops killed

this month. It was yet another bloody day in Iraq, and all the more reason to give

See TROOPS, Page 3A



Trying to avoid the long lines for the traditional Thanksgiving meal, Sgt. John Adams of Orlando, Fla., opts for pizza at Camp Taji in Iraq. Adams is with the Army's 1st Cavairy and

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To reach us:

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

SANTA LETTERS

The Big Spring Herald traditionally publishes Letters to Santa Claus near Christmas Day as a service to the com-

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

All letters should be received by Friday, Dec. 8. Each letter should contain the child's name as well as school or classroom affiliation. Submit letters to the Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431 or e-mail composing@bigspringherald.com

For more information, call 263-7331.

COAT DRIVE ONGOING

is in the early stages of a year-long deployment.

1955 Hyperion Club is sponsoring a coat drive.

The dropoff points are Al's and Son Barbecue, Harris Lumber and Hardware and Specs and Co. The drive will last approximately one month.

The club will distribute these coats to as many different organizations as possible. depending on how many coats are received.

Some of the organizations will be West Side Community Center, North Side Community Center, Big Spring State Hospital and public schools. Comet Cleaners and Classic Cleaners have volunteered to clean the coats.

SANTA COMING TO MALL

Big Spring Mall will welcome Santa beginning Dec. 2.

Santa will be available for children from

noon until 4 p.m. Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23. Also on those dates, the Salvation Army will have a gift wrap area for donations.

December 9, the Big Spring High School and Big Spring Junior High choirs will perform from noon until 3 p.m.

Mall shoppers are also invited to view an art display presented by the Big Spring Evening Lions Club on behalf of junior high students.

Shoppers are also encouraged to participate in a food drive hosted by Sears. Donations will go to local food bank.

Obituaries

Christine Stewart

Christine Stewart, 83, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Nov. 23, 2006, in an Abilene hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-10-25. Bonus Ball: 23. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$700,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-4-11-13-15. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-6-9

Support Groups

· Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-

TUESDAY

- The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.
- The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

WEDNESDAY

- · RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.
- Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or nonalcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at 263-0027, ext. 236 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

COAT DRIVE. The dropoff points are Al's and Son Barbecue, Harris Lumber and Hardware and Specs and Co. The drive will last approximately one month. The club will distribute these coats to as many different organizations as possible, depending on how many coats are received. Some of the organizations will be West Side Community Center, North Side Community Center, Big Spring State Hospital and public schools. Comet Cleaners and Classic Cleaners have volunteered to clean the coats before distribution.

- A LOCAL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB IS FORMING NOW. All makes and models will be welcome. We are planning fun for the whole family while enjoying the outdoors and visiting trails both near and far. For more information contact Jimmy Hobdy at (432) 935-2351 or Donny Booth at 816-9748.
- DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES will be giving flu shots Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$10 or no charge if you bring your Medicad or Medicare card. Flu shots will be offered to everyone. For more information, call 432-263-9775.
- DAV AUXILIARY WILL HAVE A SILENT AUC-TION Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall. Proceeds will be used to provide Christmas for the fifth floor at the VA Medical Center.
- A MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR ESTHER LOPEZ has been established at Howard College by J.O. and Annabel Barker. To make a contribution, contact Jan Foresyth at 264-5051.
- THE POWWOW COMMITTEE OF BIG SPRING is planning its 2007 Powwow and is in need of new members and volunteers. Anyone interested in Native American dancing or just interested in helping to bring an exciting weekend event to Big Spring is encouraged to contact Robert Downing at 263-3255 or Randy McKinney at 267-4843.
- CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COL-LECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS.

Coronado Hills Apartments

1 Bedroom · \$375 • 2 Bedroom · \$475 • 3 Bedroom · \$575

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Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn. 2-3 Bedroom



Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

- · JACOB ANDREW FERRO, 26, of 448A Armstrong, was arrested Wednesday on charges of criminal trespass, driving while license invalid and a local citation.
- · MARY KATE NELSON, 45, of Lorraine, was arrested Wednesday on charges of failure to identify, possession of marijuana, burglary of a building and two warrants from Midland County.
- · JOHN SCHEDLOCK, 46, of 1304 Madison, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxica-
- WESLEY JAMES SHOUP, 38, of 1301 Colby, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct -
- JOE CRUZ GUTIERREZ, 19, of 701 South Bell, was arrested Thursday on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and resisting arrest.
- · JENNY JUAREZ, 22, of 701 South Bell, was arrested Thursday on charges of public intoxication, possession of marijuana and three local warrants. • ROY CERVANTES, 27, of 409 South Goliad, was
- arrested Thursday on charges of aggravated assault, Class C assault and resisting arrest.
- DANIEL FLORES, 17, of 1603 Tucson, was arrested Thursday on a local citation.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa. RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANS-**PORTATION** was reported:
- in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- in the 400 block of Seventh Street. POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 400 block of Fourth
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 400 block of Fifth Street.
- ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 400 block of Fifth Street.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs around 70. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper

40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Sunday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

South winds around 10 mph. Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 50. Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 70.

Tuesday night...Mostly clear. Colder. Lows in the mid 30s. Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the mid

50s. Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 40s.

them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

- · ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.
- NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free

Call 264-0771 for more information

- THE PET PATROL helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).
- 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.
- HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.
- ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.
- THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM that delivers

Cordially Invite You to Attend our Services TRINITY BAPTIST

810 11TH PLACE 267-6344

The person who has stopped being thankful has fallen asleep in life. (Robert Louis Stevenson)



on your dial

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Sunday School......10:00 a.m. Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m

Bulletin Board

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

MONDAY

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 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. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- · 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.

 The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

- · Optimist Club neets 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 in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- · Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.
- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard Collége Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.
- The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

citizens are invited.

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in
- the Big Spring Country Club. · Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior

• 1955 HYPERION CLUB IS SPONSORING A These are given to new mothers who cannot afford meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

- · LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.
- BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.
- SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy. Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

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Friday, November

BIG SPRING HERA

CHICAGO (AP) female hostage we

hour standoff on t

police said Friday. The gunman a hostage and then h "At no time did Department fire a

Superintendent Da The gunman an neighbors, were tl in the apartment the gunman and t

ond hostage was al The standoff be after an armed r neighbor hostage i building.

Police SWAT tea the apartment jus after officers hear said.

hostage were pron pital. Police have identities. Sherry McKenzi

The gunman

Cooks, 22. She said Cooks phone to call her g

one of the hostages

TROOPS

Continued from Page

thanks, said soldie the Army's hom 4th Infantry Divis the recently retur Cavalry Division.

"Most of them thankful to be able vive each day. thinking about the lies, but they'r thinking about t sion," said Brig Vincent Brooks, commander of Cavalry Divisior Thanksgiving vis troops. "They're t turn the violence but this country on the edge. Ir enormous potenti ple, would stop

each other." The rigors of wa pall even over the ties at al-Taji where troops v "blackout," bann making holida home because o dier's suicide ear week. Blackouts dard procedure to prevent relative learning pren about a soldier's

injury. Two of the med responded to the sat at picnic tal side to avoid the hungry troops at ing hall. A day av returning hor Florida, the pair pizzas and conte their year in Iraq responders on t line, they were who collected bo and tended to the

TEENS

Continued from Pag

Hardison sa Community An gram began seve ago when seve residents realize were being left of of local youth helped by the annual Angel T gram.

"Several years group got involv the Salvation Angel Tree pr Pat H said spokesperson Community Ange "And they do a of making sure dren have prese they provide foo

holidays to the and fathers. How felt like it left teenagers hangii

Hardison said

the wind."

Police: Gunman, hostage die in 23-hour standoff in Chicago

female hostage were killed during a 23hour standoff on the city's South Side,

police said Friday. The gunman apparently shot the hostage and then himself, police said.

"At no time did the Chicago Police Department fire a weapon," 1st Deputy Superintendent Dana Starks said.

The gunman and victim, who were neighbors, were the only people found in the apartment — despite reports from the gunman and the victim that a second hostage was also inside, Starks said.

The standoff began early Thursday after an armed man took his young neighbor hostage inside their apartment building.

Police SWAT team members entered the apartment just after 1 a.m. Friday after officers heard a shot fired, Starks said.

The gunman and his 22-year-old hostage were pronounced dead at a hospital. Police have not yet released their identities.

Sherry McKenzie said Thursday that one of the hostages was her niece, Tasha

She said Cooks used the apartment phone to call her great-grandmother ear-

CHICAGO (AP) — A gunman and a lier in the day. Asked if she was OK, emale hostage were killed during a 23- Cooks responded, "Not really," and hung up, according to McKenzie.

The gunman's sister pleaded with her brother to cooperate with authorities Thursday afternoon. Later, frustrated relatives and neighbors began shouting at police to do more to end the standoff.

Jazz singer Anita O'Day dies at 87 at Los Angeles hospital

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Anita O'Day, whose sassy renditions of "Honeysuckle Rose," "Sweet Georgia Brown" and other song standards that made her one of the most respected jazz vocalists of the 1940s and '50s, has died. She was 87.

O'Day died in her sleep early Thursday morning at a convalescent hospital in Los Angeles where she was recovering from a bout with pneumonia, said her manager Robbie Cavolina.

"On Tuesday night, she said to me, get me out of here," Cavolina said. "But it didn't happen."

Once known as the "Jezebel of Jazz" for her reckless, drug-induced lifestyle, O'Day lived to sing and she did so from her teen years until this year when she released "Indestructible!"

"All I ever wanted to do is perform,"

The Associated Press.

"When I'm singing, I'm happy. I'm doing what I can do and this is my contribution to life."

Sony finds defect in some digital cameras, will repair for free

TOKYO (AP) - Sony said Friday it found a defect in some of its popular Cyber-shot compact digital cameras and offered to repair affected cameras free of

The liquid crystal display screens of eight camera models might not display images correctly, images could be distorted or cameras might not take photos at all, Sony Corp. said in a statement.

Affected are eight Cyber-shot models sold between September 2003 and January 2005 in Japan and in a similar period globally, according to Sony spokesman Chisato Kitsukawa.

Sony will repair for free only cameras that show signs of the problems, Kitsukawa said.

He refused to say how many cameras might be affected.

It's the second time in just over a year that Tokyo-based Sony announced defects in its digital cameras. It cited

she said in a June 1999 interview with similar problems with 20 other digital camera models last October and offered free repairs.

Retailers usher in the holiday season with expanded hours

The nation's retailers ushered in the start of the holiday season Friday with expanded hours, generous discounts and free money in the form of gift cards.

In a slowing but still steady economy, retailers like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. were increasing the sales pitch to shoppers, hoping to grab customer dollars. A growing number of stores and malls threw open their doors at midnight to jump-start the season, and CompUSA Inc. and BJ's Wholesale Club Inc. even opened on Thanksgiving for the first time to grab customer dollars before the competition does.

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer,

which promised its most aggressive price strategy ever this holiday season, is using heavily discounted flat-screen TVs like Viore 42-inch plasma TVs for \$988 to attract shoppers to its doors for its 5 a.m. opening on Black Friday, so named because it was traditionally when the surge of shopping made stores profitable.

to boost her morale. "Oh,

TROOPS

Continued from Page 1A

thanks, said soldiers from the Army's homebound 4th Infantry Division and the recently returned 1st Cavalry Division.

"Most of them are just thankful to be able to survive each day. They're thinking about their families, but they're also thinking about the mission," said Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks, deputy commander of the 1st Cavalry Division, on a Thanksgiving visit to his troops. "They're trying to turn the violence around, but this country is right on the edge. Iraq has enormous potential if pèople would stop killing each other.'

The rigors of war cast a pall even over the festivities at al-Taji Camp, where troops were on blackout," banned from making holiday calls home because of a soldier's suicide earlier this week. Blackouts are standard procedure intended to prevent relatives from learning prematurely about a soldier's death or injury.

Two of the medics who responded to the suicide sat at picnic tables outside to avoid the crush of hungry troops at the dining hall. A day away from returning home to Florida, the pair dug into pizzas and contemplated their year in Iraq. As first responders on the front line, they were the ones who collected body parts and tended to the wound-



Sgt. Nuala Taylor of Savage, Minn., eats a Thanksgiving meal with fellow soldiers from the Army's 1st Cavalry at Camp Taji in Iraq.

ed after mortar hits, roadside bombs and other insurgent violence.

"I guess this is it. Until next year," Sgt. John Adams of Orlando, Fla., said with a sigh. "I've been here about 12 months now.'

"347 days," corrected Sgt. James Register, 35, of Tallahassee, Fla.

"I just want to be able to go home and not worry

road and having a bomb go off or getting shot at. That gets old," Adams

said. Many soldiers said they tournaments, poker games, football watch parties, spy novels and prayer to take their minds off the family din-

ners they were missing at home. Others looked

about going down the inward, seeking refuge in memory.

"My favorite, favorite season in Minnesota is fall," said Sgt. Nuala Taylor, 32, of Savage, relied on PlayStation Minn., whose son mailed her two stones and a leaf



go to the apple orchards, eat seasoned honey sticks. And I love the color of the leaves." Back in Chief Warrant Officer Shealeana

Lake Minnetonka. We'd

Stewart's hometown of Pass Christian, Miss., near Biloxi, her family would just be waking up to prepare a feast that blended traditional fare with the seafood of the Gulf Coast.

Stewart, 32, would soon join them after spending a year in Iraq overseeing a warehouse stocked with engine parts, spare tires and other potentially lifesaving equipment. Her friend, Chief Warrant Officer Tera Thomas, 34, of Havre, Mont., arrived last month to take over supervision of the warehouse.

With rifles slung across stood in a long line for gazed at the table. trays of turkey and talked about the sisterhood of female soldiers. They shared tips for streamlining supplies as well as hints on finding moisturizer in a war zone.

"I'm just thankful for my health and that I made it through," Stewart said. "And I'm thankful for my friend. We pray

CINEMARK **CINEMA 4** ADURT MATTHEE BEFORE 6PM \$4.00 / ADURT \$4.00 / CHR.D/SR \$4.00 ◆ MAPPY FEET (PG) 1:20 4:20 7:10 9:40 STRANGER THAN RETION (PG-13) 1:10 4:10 7:20 9:50 DECK THE BALLS (PG) 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:10 CASMO BOYALE (PG-13) 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00 ALID 11/24 Thru 11/25/06

IDVANCE TICKET SALES • NO PASSES NO SUPERSAVERS

together and keep our spirits up.'

Soldiers agreed they rarely divulge the extent of the bloodshed in Iraq during precious calls to their families. Instead, they fill the phone lines with mundane talk of bills, birthdays, homework, anything to avoid

the tough questions: When are you coming home? What's life like over there?

"I leave most of that to myself," said Pfc. Daniel Bogucki, 22, of the 172nd Stryker Brigade out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

In the dining hall, Bogucki ate a slice of pumpkin pie and declared it no match for his grandmother's. It was his second Thanksgiving in Iraq and, he hoped, his last.

... When asked to describe the hardest part of his 16month tour of duty, he their backs, the friends put down his fork and

"Losing my, losing my

Tears streamed down his face, and he didn't finish the sentence.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 William

C. "Bill" Bennett. died 78. **Funeral** Tuesday. Services were at 10:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Judy Allen, 65, died Graveside Tuesday. services will be at 3:30 PM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

TEENS

Continued from Page 1A

Hardison said the Community Angel program began several years ago when several area residents realized teens were being left off the list of local youth being helped by the charity's annual Angel Tree program.

"Several years ago our group got involved with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program," Pat Hardison, said spokesperson for the Community Angels effort. "And they do a great job of making sure the children have presents, and they provide food for the holidays to the mothers and fathers. However, we felt like it left the area teenagers hanging out in the wind."

Hardison said the need

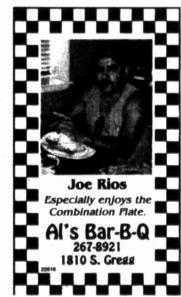
DREXEL HERITAGE. 2101 West Wadley Midland, TX 432-682-0029

to provide Christmas gifts for local low-income families with teens was quickly answered.

"We saw a problem and we decided to go out and solve it," said Hardison. "We had the Salvation Army pass the teen angels onto us and we began gathering donations and gifts. It went so well, we've done it every year since. Last year we not only got presents for the teens, we also adopted several of the angels that were left on the Salvation Army's tree at the end of

the adoption process." For more information on the giveaway or to make a donation, contact Hardison at 270-8277.

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



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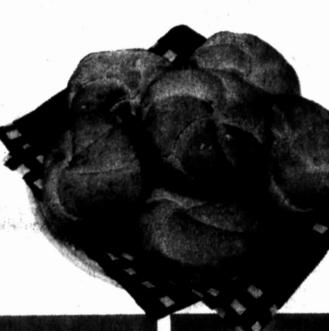
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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ronnie Cupstid

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:

- Former local resident and Big Spring High School graduate Brint Ryan, who resides in the Dallas area, for making plans to purchase the Settles Hotel. A public announcement concerning the sale is expected sometime Monday.
- The No. 2-ranked Garden City Bearkats, who open their run in the six-man football playoffs tonight after having drawn a bye in the first round of postseason play.
- Keep Big Spring Beautiful volunteers who conducted their second annual e-waste collection day on Saturday.
- Howard College officials following the dedication of the Howard Cottage Playground Laboratory.
- The Big Spring Independent School District in general, and Kentwood and Marcy elementary schools specifically, on receiving grants of \$50,000 from the Investment Capital Fund, which was established by the Texas Education Agency to help schools improve student achievement.
- Big Spring High School drama students Nick Ross and Cody Carnes on taking top honors in the duet acting category at the recent International Thespian Society state convention in Corpus
- The parishioners at St. Mary's Episcopal Church for their 5th annual St. Andrew's Day Evening Prayer and Scottish Music Festival which drew more than 350 people from around the area Sunday Night.

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.

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We can accomplish more with You, Lord.

Amen

Hemingway and having hope

ello, fellow caffeine addicts! This week's cup of "Jehovah Java" comes brimming with hope and loaded with strong content. I had the privilege of spending last week 'suffering for Jesus' on a Carnival Cruise ship as we toured through the Caribbean. It was our eighth annual marriage conference and brother, we had a time and half.

Before we climbed Mount Zion in Jamaica and picked up conch shells on Grand Cayman, our incredible ship was delayed for five hours because sadly, somebody jumped overboard in an apparent suicide.

As I sat on my balcony looking out at the dark blue ocean, I thought a lot about our jumper and it made me think of Ernest

Hemingway.

Hemingway is famous for the Pulitzer Prize, the Nobel Prize and for breeding six-toed cats in Key West. Besides being an incredible writer, he also has the ominous distinction of being a suicide statistic. Hemingway "jumped ship" in Idaho with a shotgun back in 1961.

For Whom the Bell Tolls

You might have already known that Ernest Hemingway committed suicide but did you know that his father, Clarence, did the same thing? Would it surprise you, as it did me, to learn that Hemingway's granddaughter, Marguax, also

you to learn that Hemingway's sister, Ursula, and his brother, Leicester, also ended their own

You see, way before Hank

Williams Jr. sang about his "family tradition," Hemingway privately and inwardly sang about his, and it was a very sad song. It appears that the Hemingway life was a way without hope for better things and it breaks my heart to think about it. I wish I could have 30 minutes with brother Ernest to encourage him for much better things, but since I don't, let me encourage you instead.

The Killers

The Bible says that when we put off hope it makes our hearts sick. I hate it when people don't have hope. The fact of the matter is that hopelessness will kill even a Nobel Prize winner, much less those mere mortals that you and I tend to be. I am not a Marvel Comic super hero; I am a man from Johnson County who desperately needs hope.

Hope is not just the Arkansas town where our 42nd president was born. Hope is a place in our hearts that is fundamental to life itself. You've got to have hope, so let the Brewer pour you a cup for you to sip on.

I embrace Christianity because of a number of reasons but let me brag on the hope that I have. Because my worldview is based on Jesus Christ I actually believe that your best days are not behind you. I really believe that there is a purpose and a destiny for your life. It

committed suicide? Would it shock is a fact that I think God is a God of better things as the book of Hebrews says, and as long as we have Him we can fully expect better and better. Not easier and easier, but yes, better and better.

A Farewell to Arms

Let me encourage you to not give up. Keep fighting the fight. Your life makes a bigger difference than you think it does. You are much more significant than you think you are. God says you are important and valuable. If God is the only one in your corner, you've got enough to make it through another day and to be victorious at the **end of it**.

Galatians, Chapter Six, and verse nine says, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest

if we do not give up."

You don't want to miss the best things that God has for you by giving up right before you walk in those things. Frankly we don't want to miss you either. Whether those around you know it or not, we need you in the tapestry of God's great plan. So keep fighting the fight, my friend, and even if you have never been recognized, let me say "thank you" for making the difference your incredible life does. God sees you and I hope that you're able to see Him.

"You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me." Genesis 16:13

Troy Brewer welcomes your comments. He can be e-mailed at FreshFromTheBrewer@OpenDoorM inistries.org or call him at 817-297-

264-3635.

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Latino? Stay out of Farmers Branch

egal discrimination should be an oxymoron, a relic of racist times, but not so in Texas today. We're hanging onto prejudice with both fists clenched, or maybe just one raised, here in the South — and darn proud of it, in some cases. Anti-illegal immigration ordinances are the nascent outlet for bigotry, locally and nationally.

The city of Farmers Branch, a suburb of Dallas, is playing a game of peek-a-boo with discrimination: Now you see it, now you don't. The intended victims de jour are not the African-Americans of the 1960's civil rights



grants (if you are a **CLEMENTS** political moderate or

a compassionate conservative, read: undocumented Hispanic workers).

The weapon of this and all discrimination is always the law. Otherwise, prejudice is just some guy's warped opinion of others different from him.

Legalizing discrimination confers a pseudo, man-made morality upon racism.

Hatred becomes right when legislators codify, judges certify, and the Republican Party Almighty sanctions it.

It's a three-step plan to instituting discrimination.

The proposal by a city councilman in Farmers Branch is sadly no different from ones considered, and in some cases passed by 50 other municipalities across the country.

These proposals are the local response to frustration at the perceived federal government inaction at curbing the illegal influx

from across the border. Buoyed by constituent ignorance, and fear of changing demographics in their quaint, formerly all-white hamlet of some 28,000 residents, Councilman Tim O'Hare played the race card. He requested city attorneys draft an ordinance that would make English the official language, and would fine companies who do business with and landlords who rent to illegal immigrants.

Farmers Branch is currently about 37 percent Hispanic, legal and illegal, a little too brown in a wave of white for O'Hare and his City Council compatriots.

The City Council unanimously passed O'Hare's proposal last week, the first municipality in Texas to do so.

It's an unworthy distinction and an even worse legacy. Farmers Branch might consider changing its city slogan to "Bigots Welcome; Brown Faces Not.'

Here's a bedtime story for Mr. O'Hare to tell his grandchildren: "Once upon a time, Grandpa was a bigot. When he was on the City Council here in Farmers Branch, Grandpa managed to pass a law running all illegal immigrants out of town. These people were doing bad things like wanting decent jobs, safe housing, quality medical care, and good schools for their children, and were willing to do whatever it took. Some of them didn't even speak English. We forced them back across the border, where, in most cases, they'll live in poverty for the rest of their lives. Grandpa was a hero to prejudiced white folk. He preserved our American way of life, and now we all can live happily ever after."

"Be not proud, ye racists," should be should be a Biblical admonition.

Out, out damm immigrants! You can clean our homes but can't live near us. You can take care of our children but yours can't attend school with or receive the same health care services as ours. You can work menial jobs as domestics, laborers, and lawn boys, but we'll block your social mobility legally. You can be bilingual, but we'll force you to speak English. You're not one of us, an "American," and we'll make your distinctiveness, your heritage illegal; we'll make you a "them."

The crime in question? Immigrating into the country illegally. The punishment? Deportation. The defacto crime in Farmer Branch? Being of Mexican or Latin American descent. The punishment? Banishment from the city limits.

Such anti-immigration proposals and ordinances perpetuate stereotypes of a race, ethnicity, or nationality: All Hispanics reside in this country illegally. All Hispanics commit crimes. All Hispanics usurp costly social services. All Hispanics are bad; therefore, all whites are good.

New Testament lepers have a new face, and it's Hispanic. Farmers Branch has a new crime today, and it's being non-Caucasian. Discrimination is legal once again. Bigots should be

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the "Lufkin Daily News: in Texas. She is presently attending law school. She can be contacted at cynthiahallclements_mmm@yahoo.com. Distributed by MinutemanMedia.org.

BIG SPRING HERA Friday, November

Police say handdispute led to st

FORT WORTH (assailant charged bar parking lot, s because he appare one of the men did

the bathroom. Police responding Sports Bar early found Eric Jennir restrained by seve bar.

Kisiah had confr friends at the bar about one of the hands after using ing to a police repo

Witnesses told called the men nan they were dirty. B he threatened to one of the men tole Kisiah was hidi

side the bar and

they left. After the realized Morgan soaked in blood stabbed, according Jackson, 25, was tion Thursday eve hospital after u Police say he was s

his left torso and o Police found an 8 appeared to be bl attack.

Kisiah was arre aggravated assa weapon.

ued searching Thu who they believe utility vehicle th dead body inside. A Dallas County

Corpse found in

ROWLETT (AP)

sign in Rowlet

noticed the SUV sp

ALLEN (AP) -Sean Humphrey minutes to pick or articles of clothin Polo Ralph Laure — and that was a.m. Friday, marl mythical begins

holiday shopping Humphreys was hundreds who arr the midnight ope the Premium Ou ter located about north of do

Dallas. "I wanted to could get anythir he said. "Stuff get through pretty qu

Within an ho open-air center's resembled mid rather than mid shopping. Cars jammed

> roads leading to ter, where slight than 60 percen retailers opened ately after midni Customers sear

the best parking sometimes creat own space when spots were unava They arrived, them in bedroom

and quickly four

selves standing 3 the checkout line "It's crazy," sa Pease, who met h er Betty Skow for ing that began w to Banana Repu Kenneth Cole expected a few pe

I didn't expect th It was a rare opening, but on slowly gaining in ity among nationwide.

Chelsea the Outlets, expe owner, with the early year and mo tripled the numb ticipating cent year, including its Texas outlets

Shoppers drov 60 miles to get f at sales reachin at some clothing While Humph

ed out his cho Saephan was fir with her purch shirts for her da

News briefs

Police say hand-washing dispute led to stabbing

FORT WORTH (AP) — Police say an assailant charged a group of men in a bar parking lot, stabbing one of them, because he apparently grew angry that one of the men didn't wash his hands in the bathroom.

Police responding to the Tumbleweeds Sports Bar early Thursday morning found Eric Jennings Kisiah, 27, being restrained by several men outside the bar.

Kisiah had confronted a group of three friends at the bar because he was upset about one of them not washing his hands after using the restroom, according to a police report.

Witnesses told police that Kisiah called the men names and told them that they were dirty. Before leaving the bar, he threatened to "slash their throats," one of the men told police.

Kisiah was hiding near a shrub outside the bar and charged the men as they left. After the fight, the friends realized Morgan Jackson's shirt was soaked in blood and he had been stabbed, according to the police report.

Jackson, 25, was listed in good condition Thursday evening at a Fort Worth hospital after undergoing surgery. Police say he was stabbed three times in his left torso and once in his back.

Police found an 8-inch knife with what appeared to be blood on it nearby the

Kisiah was arrested on suspicion of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Corpse found in vehicle

ROWLETT (AP) — Authorities continued searching Thursday night for a man who they believe was driving a sport utility vehicle that held the owner's dead body inside.

A Dallas County sheriff's deputy first One employee was injured and treated noticed the SUV speeding through a stop for first- and second-degree burns over sign in Rowlett and followed it 15 percent of his body.

Wednesday night. But the driver didn't stop after the patrol car flashed its lights.

In a rural part of northeast Dallas County, the SUV pulled into a long driveway and the passenger and driver fled the vehicle on foot. The deputy saw a gun fall from the rear waistband of the driver, said Deputy Raul Reyna, a Dallas County sheriff's spokesman.

That led to the discovery of the dead man inside the SUV.

"If they had stopped, the officer probably would have written a ticket, and that would have been it," Reyna said. "The body was on the floorboard, behind the rear seats. Unless he had searched through the (SUV), he probably wouldn't have seen it.'

The victim was wrapped in a plastic tarp and apparently died from bluntforce trauma to the back of his head. He was identified as Gonzalo Hernandez, 27, of Dallas.

Investigators think Hernandez, who had a criminal record with drunken driving, assault and drug charges, may have been killed during a drug deal, Reyna said.

Authorities found Sergio Cardenas Gonzalez, 37, hiding in a creek Wednesday night not far from the SUV. Gonzalez told investigators he was a hitchhiker and had no idea there was a body in the car.

Investigators study plant blaze

PASADENA (AP) — State investigators are examining a chemical plant's railcar loading area after a fire broke out this week.

Texas Commission The Environmental Quality investigation resulted from a blaze at the Albemarle Corp. plant along the Houston Ship Channel on Tuesday, said Steve Hawkes, the company's environmental manager.

The fire engulfed a railcar and sent flames more than 30 feet into the air. Black smoke rose from the tank car and could be seen for miles from the plant, which is in the Houston suburb of Pasadena. The Houston Ship Channel was temporarily closed because of the

A leak at the end of a sampling of aluminum alkyls from the railcar is thought to have started the fire. The substance, often used to make plastics, ignites if exposed to air, Hawkes said.

Plant officials will begin repairs after the area is completely secured, Hawkes said.

"Everything looks like it is being handled properly," TCEQ spokesman Terry Clawson said. "The water is being contained and on site and will be treated."

Man's conviction thrown out over questions about cell phone

HOUSTON (AP) — The whereabouts of a cell phone played a role in the state's highest criminal court throwing out the conviction of a man who served about half of a 15-year prison sentence for aggravated assault.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals granted a writ of habeas corpus Wednesday to 29-year-old Gilbert Amezquita, who has been in prison since his 1998 conviction in the brutal beating of a Houston woman who was in a coma for 10 days after the workplace attack.

When she regained consciousness, Kathy Bingham couldn't tell police who attacked her, but when asked again later, she whispered "Gilbert," according to court records. She also testified during the trial that Amezquita, a coworker, was her attacker.

Roland Moore, Amezquita's attorney, argued on appeal that Harris County prosecutors failed to consider another co-worker named Alonzo Gilbert Guerrero, who the appeals court said exchanged Bingham's cell phone for drugs shortly after the attack.

Guerrero, who had a criminal record that included assault at the time of the attack, is serving a seven-year sentence for a burglary.

When police asked her about the missing cell phone, Bingham said she hadn't noticed it was gone. The appeals court faulted Amezquita's trial attorney for not raising the issue.

"While there is no direct evidence that Guerrero was the attacker, the circumstantial evidence supports such a conclusion," the appeals court wrote in its 5-4 ruling.

According to testimony from the trial, Guerrero argued around the day of the attack with Bingham's brother about Guerrero's alleged harassment of her. But Bingham also had a heated argument with Amezquita about the same

Harris County Assistant District Attorney Baldwin Chin said prosecutors will meet next week to decide whether to release Amezquita or retry the case. Moore said his client could be released on bail as early as next week.

"This is the best present I've ever gotten," Moore said of the ruling.

Man gets life sentence for shooting East Texas trooper

TYLER (AP) - A man accused of being involved in a shootout with authorities during a car chase pleaded guilty Wednesday to seriously injuring a state trooper.

Francisco Saucedo was expected to receive a life sentence in exchange for pleading guilty to aggravated assault of an officer.

The charge stems from the shooting of Department of Public Safety Trooper Steven Stone.

Saucedo and Ramon Armando Ramos were accused of shooting Stone after he pulled them over for speeding in March.

Stone was shot at least three times, including in his chest and shoulder. The altercation was captured on a video camera in Stone's patrol car.

Texas shoppers respond to midnight opening

ALLEN (AP) - It tookSean Humphreys four I've done something like figures his costs will rise minutes to pick out seven this and I just wanted to articles of clothing at this Polo Ralph Lauren store - and that was at 12:04 a.m. Friday, marking the mythical beginning of holiday shopping season.

Humphreys was among hundreds who arrived for the midnight opening at the Premium Outlet center located about 25 miles downtown north of Dallas.

"I wanted to see if I could get anything early, he said. "Stuff gets picked through pretty quickly."

Within an hour, the open-air center's activity resembled midday rather than midnight shopping.

Cars jammed feeder roads leading to the center, where slightly more than 60 percent of the retailers opened immediately after midnight.

Customers searched for the best parking spot, sometimes creating their own space when marked spots were unavailable.

They arrived, some of them in bedroom slippers, and quickly found themselves standing 30 deep at the checkout lines.

"It's crazy," said Missy Pease, who met her mother Betty Skow for the outing that began with visits to Banana Republic and Kenneth Cole stores. "I expected a few people, but I didn't expect this.'

It was a rare midnight opening, but one that is slowly gaining in popularity among retailers nationwide.

Premium Chelsea Outlets, the center's experimented owner, with the early start last year and more than tripled the number of participating centers this year, including three of its Texas outlets.

Shoppers drove as far as 60 miles to get first crack at sales reaching half off at some clothing stores.

While Humphreys sorted out his choices. Kae Saephan was first in line with her purchase, three shirts for her daughter.

check it out," she said while her three sisters hit other stores. "I love shopping and I wanted to see what deals were out there."

determined

Raghupati arrived with a coupon and left the Haggar store with seven sweaters and fleece pullovers picked out and paid for within 20 minutes.

considering he has a newborn son.

Meanwhile, Eric and Julie Ezar wasted little time in a KB Toys store. where Eric left hoisting a clear bag full of games Others arrived with a and toys over each shoulder and loaded the tamily's Ford Expedition before moving on to

another store. The couple traveled about 50 miles and quickly paid out about \$250 for toys to be wrapped for

"We're almost done,"

267-6335

"This is the first time he'll spend this year, but that the early shopping is equally successful by hit-away from stores where typically left to his wife. ting four clothing stores "That was easy. Kinda fun, too."

Andre Hamilton was

and spending about \$450 within 45 minutes.

"I pretty much stayed been that bad."

the lines had 30 or 40 people," he said.

"Otherwise, it hasn't

WOW teens with your generosity.

This season, support the Marines and Toys for Teens at Best Buy". Make a monetary donation to help make the Holiday a little brighter for teens in need.

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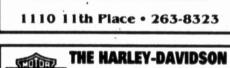
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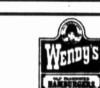
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Friday, November

Baptist Church The members inv to worship with th 1512 Birdwell

are at 10:55 a.m. p.m. Midweek se are at 7 p.m. Wedi Nursery is provide For further infor or a ride to church

267-7157 or 267-8214

Sunday worship s

First United Methodist Churc The congregati

First United Me Church would love come you to our se We regularly m Sunday morning f ship at 8:30 a.r again at 10:50 a.r. Sunday, our past Shane Brue will our message, "Cl Conflict Reso scripture Matthey 17. Sunday school ages will begin a.m. The G.I.G., grades, will meet p.m. Baker's Chap Church will ho Joint Area Worsh Sunday at 6 p.m pastor, Donita Lea will be no youth

to sing, you are in take part in this production of The Christmas Tree Living Christmas Dec. 2-3 which is the public but e will need a tick they are now avai the church office. First United M Church is loca

And for those w

Monday.

Religiou By BRIAN MURPH

AP Religion Writer Hardly an hour without Thomas or one of his sleuths checkin

eBay has to offer. They're not hur bargains and nev a bid. Their int bone shards, bits ened flesh and a porary twist on th and the profane: ancient trade in coveted religiou has moved into the flea market of on

ding.

"You can find b ments supposed St. Augustine hawked on the along with trinl antiques. There thing very wron said Serafin, a pr al photograph Catholic activist Los Angeles, who an expanding of since the late block the online objects purporte tain the rem

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Church News

United Country Heart of the City Realton

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The members invite you to worship with them at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Nursery is provided.

For further information or a ride to church, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First United **Methodist Church**

The congregation of First United Methodist Church would love to welcome you to our services. We regularly meet on Sunday morning for worship at 8:30 a.m. and again at 10:50 a.m. This Sunday, our pastor, Dr. Shane Brue will deliver our message, "Christian Conflict Resolution," scripture Matthew 18:15-17. Sunday school for all ages will begin at 9:45 a.m. The G.I.G., for 4-6 grades, will meet at 1:30 p.m. Baker's Chapel AME Church will host the Joint Area Worship this Sunday at 6 p.m., with pastor, Donita Lea. There will be no youth meeting Monday.

And for those who like to sing, you are invited to take part in this year's production of The Living Christmas Tree. The Living Christmas Tree is Dec. 2-3 which is free to the public but everyone will need a ticket, and they are now available in the church office.

First United Methodist Church is located in peace on Earth and Let it Rev. Donita Lea from

doors, Open minds, Open come by the Center.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from John 18:33 - 37 at worship service Sunday. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take Ten starts at 10:35 a.m.

week include: Sunday is Pot Luck Sunday. Members are encouraged to bring their favorite dish and stay for lunch after church. Following Church luncheon, "Hanging of the Greens" will be held and the church will be decorated for Christmas. Tuesday, the Presbyterian Women will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday, the youth group will meet from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Also Wednesday, Bible study is held at 5:17 p.m. and choir practice is 6 p.m.

Members are reminded to bring non-perishable food to donate to less fortunate families during the Holiday season. Those items are to be placed in the grocery basket in the narthex.

Presbyterian Church is located on Runnels between Seventh and Eighth.

Friends of Unity

December 2006 as World Healing Month. The theme is "Let there be

Friends are proclaiming

downtown Big Spring at begin with Me." For infor-Fourth and Scurry. Open mation, call 263-6311 or

St. Mary's **Episcopal Church**

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Fr. James Liggett's sermon will be "Christ the King."

For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201 or www.stmarysbst.org. St. Opportunities for the Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist

The Angel Food North. Ministries of United Birdwell Methodist Church will be orders for taking December this Saturday from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at West Side Center and Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the church, located at 2702 North Birdwell Lane.

For those who already have a menu, please note that the Lakewood Christmas CD is not counted as a special. You may order it in addition to one special for each regular order.

December delivery will be on the 16th between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Any orders not picked up during that time will be decorated and will be sold.

The Area Methodist meeting will be Sunday, beginning at 6 p.m. at Baker's Chapel A.M.E. at 911 North Lancaster. The

Coahoma UMC will be the speaker. A time of fellowship will follow the service.

The annual Christmas program at North Birdwell UMC will be Dec. 10 at 5 p.m. The Gospel Jubilees will be presenting a program of gospel and Christmas music. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Worship services are Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school classes for all ages are available at 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul **Lutheran Church**

St. Paul Lutheran Church is located at 810 **Scurry Street**

Sunday worship services are at 9 a.m. Sunday school and Bible classes are at 10:15 a.m.

Advent services December are scheduled on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. These will be on Dec. 6, 13 and 20. The Christmas Eve service will be at 6 p.m. Christmas Day worship services are at 10 a.m.

Don't forget Operation Ongoing Support. November's care package items are non-medicated eye drops, pens (black ink), stationery or postcards, instant oatmeal (fun flavors, individual servings), Christmas hard candy and ATT Phone card fund.

Salem Baptist Church

Salem Baptist Church meets Sundays at 10 a.m. for Sunday school, 11 a.m.

Young People's church. and again at 6 p.m. for evening service. Nursery services are available for all Sunday services.

The Wednesday evening service is held at Parkplace at 6 p.m. Please join us this Sunday or Wednesday.

Salem is pastored by Bro. Monroe Teeters and is located at the corner of Salem Road and Old Colorado City Highway. For information, call 394-4655.

Baker's Chapel AME Church

Baker's Chapel AME Church, located at 911 N. Lancaster, will celebrate its 80th year in service to Big Spring and the surrounding communities Sunday, Dec. 10, at 4 p.m. We invite all past mem-

for morning service and bers and friends to join in the celebration of our his-

tory. If you have any photos or memorabilia of any kind that may be displayed during this time, contact Gladys Thompson at 267-2939 or Willia

East Side

Baptist Church

Ledford at 268-8233.

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Morning praise and worship is at 10:45 a.m. Afternoon praise and worship is at 1:45 p.m. Wednesday, Youth 4 Christ meets at 6 p.m. and mid-week Bible study is held at 7 p.m.

The Toney Brothers are in concert on Friday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

East Side Baptist is located at 1108 E. Sixth St. and Settles. For more information, call 267-1915.



By Steve Becker Bidding Quiz

ested only in game, he would have You are South in each of the folowing three hands. What would you bid at the point where the question

1. ♦ 74 ♥ A32 ♦ A84 ♠ AJ953 North East South Pass Pass

2. ♦ AQ85 ♥ 92 ♦ AQ7 ♦ Q1094 Pass 3 🌩 3. ♦ 93 ♥ 764 ♦ AQ109532 ♣ 8 North East

1 NT

Pass

1. Six spades. There is the distinct aura of a slam when partner opens one spade and neet james to three spades without knowing you have three aces. The one thing certain is that you should not stop short of six. Alternatively, you could bid four hearts - a cuebid of West's suit and thus suggest the possibility of a grand slam as you wend your way to of these two hands for his three-

spade bid: ♠ AKQ1083 ♥ 6 ◆ K92 ◆ K74 **♦** KQJ1075 ♥ 94 **♦** KQ **♦** KQ6, and six spades is odds-on to make on

2. Four diamonds. Partner's fourclub bid is a slam try; if he was inter-

bid four spades. Since you have the ace of diamonds and about as good a hand as you could be expected to have, you must cooperate with part-ner by bidding four diamonds. Partner could have either of these hands **♦ KJ9642** ♥ A5 ♦ J4 **♦** AK3 ♠ KJ1073 ♥ A8 ♦ K9 ♠ AJ85,

and you would certainly want to be in six spades in both cases.

3. Three notrump. It's true that you have only six high-card points, that you don't have notrump distribution, and that declarer ordinarily needs 26 or more points to have a good play for three notrump. Nevertheless, the winning bid is three notrump because the odds heavily favor making that contract. In hands of this type, where there'

an excellent chance you're starting partner off with seven diamond tricks, you can well afford to shortchange him in high-card points because you have lots of tricks to your life that partner will make three notrump, but over the long haul you'll gain much more than you'll lose by leaping directly to game. It would be wrong to bid two diamonds, asking partner to pass, or three diamonds, which is forcing but aims for the wrong contract.

Tomorrow: The one that got away. C2006 King Features Syndicate

Religious relic crusader battles online auction giant Christian saints. They are taking the same body parts — remains a

By BRIAN MURPHY

AP Religion Writer

Hardly an hour goes by without Thomas Serafin or one of his cybersleuths checking eBay has to offer.

They're not hunting for bargains and never place a bid. Their interest is bone shards, bits of wizened flesh and a contemporary twist on the sacred and the profane: How the ancient trade in the most coveted religious relics has moved into the global flea market of online bid-

"You can find bone fragments supposedly from St. Augustine being hawked on the Internet along with trinkets and antiques. There is something very wrong here," said Serafin, a professional photographer and Catholic activist based in Los Angeles, who has led an expanding campaign since the late 1990s to block the online sale of objects purported to contain the remains of

group, the International opened a new front that's and Goliath metaphor: a call to boycott eBay.

It seeks to pressure the world's largest online auction site to close alleged loopholes used to bypass its ban on allowing bids for human remains.

Jose, Calif.-based company is "very willing to reopen talks" with Serafin's group about its concerns after discussions broke off about a year ago.

"As far as the boycott, well, we've really seen no impact to speak of," said Durzy. "We don't know if it's even still in place."

But Serafin said the symbolism is what's important.

"Yes, it's just a blip on the screen," he said. "But we want to make a point.

position as Judas. They Last month, Serafin's are selling out the Crusade for Holy Relics, church."

truly worthy of a David rimony of all types — Web's worldwide mall. from icons to stained glass - has soared in items are on eBay at any recent years, along with time. Most are ordinary the blockbuster novel "The Da Vinci Code," the Christian-themed "Left Behind" series and major museum exhibits devoted to art and spirituality. At Hani Durzy, spokesman the same time, a flood of for eBay, said the San ecclesiastical items has entered mainstream antiquarian markets from once-flourishing churches that were closed because of shrinking congrega-

neighborhoods. But the sale of so-called "first-class relics" and fragments of other

murky subculture, one that's increasingly shifting from the back rooms Interest in religious pat- of dealers' shops to the

Dozens of religious objects such as icons, medals or prayer cards. But Serafin believes the strongest interest is for the first-class relics, which he says has accounted for up to 40 percent of the eBay relic listings at times.

"This is where the real action is," he said. "This is where our fight is."

Serafin describes his tions or population shifts motivation as part conaway from older city scious raiser and part consumer crusader.

He calls the sale of such relics deeply offensive to bone, flesh, hair, nails believers in their sancti-

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World briefs

Car bomb blast kills 22 in northern Iraq, following bombings in Baghdad slum

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A car bomb exploded in northern Iraq on Friday, killing at least 22 people and wounding 26, police said.

It was the first major attack by suspected insurgents since bombings in Baghdad's Sadr City Shiite district killed more than 200 people the day before during widespread sectarian violence in the capital.

Friday's blast outside a car dealership in Tal Afar, 260 miles northwest of Baghdad, came as funeral processions began for the scores of Iraqis who were killed on Thursday by car bombs and mortars in Baghdad's largest Shiite neighborhood, the deadliest attack since the war began.

Followers of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr warned they will suspend their membership in parliament and the Cabinet if Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki meets U.S. President George W. Bush in Jordan next week, a member of parliament said.

Bush and al-Maliki were scheduled to meet Wednesday and Thursday in Amman, the Jordanian capital. The al-Sadr bloc in parliament and government is the back bone of al-Maliki's political support, and its withdrawal, if only temporarily, would be a severe blow to the prime minister's already shaky hold on power.

Poll shows Chavez with big lead ahead of Venezuelan presidential vote

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez holds a wide margin over his main challenger as he seeks a third term in Dec. 3 elections, according to an AP-Ipsos poll that also revealed many government opponents are worried they could face reprisals for how they vote.

About 59 percent of likely voters said they would vote for Chavez for a third term, while 27 percent said they would support opposition candidate Manuel Rosales. Thirteen percent of those surveyed by the polling firm Ipsos for The Associated Press said they were undecided or wouldn't answer.

Since Chavez was first elected in 1998, the leftist president has become perhaps Latin America's most

controversial leader while gaining notoriety worldwide as an outspoken critic of the U.S. government.

At home, he has presided over a society sharply divided by politics and along class lines. After the opposition tried unsuccessfully to oust Chavez in a 2004 recall referendum, lists of petition-signers for the recall circulated on the Internet and CDs sold on the streets. Some Chavez opponents complained they faced discrimination or were fired from government jobs.

The poll showed 57 percent of respondents were at least somewhat concerned that people could face reprisals for how they vote — 79 percent of Rosales supporters and 46 percent of Chavez supporters.

Nine months after her escape from airport, award-winning dog becomes urban legend

NEW YORK (AP) — In the nine months since escaping her travel cage at Kennedy Airport, Vivi the wayward whippet has joined the Central Park coyote, high-rise tiger, Harlem Meer caiman and Molly the fugitive feline in New York's ever-growing pantheon of urban animal legends.

She was reported dozens of times, roaming cemeteries with other dogs, or hanging around stores in the borough of Queens, in some cases miles from the tarmac where she disappeared while awaiting a flight home to California on Feb. 15. A day earlier, she had won an Award of Merit at the annual Westminster Kennel Club show.

Owners Jil Walton and Paul Lepiane offered a reward for Vivi's return but have kept a low profile. This week, their lawyer, Joyce Randazzo, said they still hope to recover the sleek, 4-year-old brindle and white whippet, formally known as Champion Bohem C'est la Vie, and the reward, an unspecified amount, still stands.

According to a map published Nov. 18 by The New York Times, Vivi was reported at more than 45 different locations before Aug. 7, when the sightings suddenly stopped, raising fears that she might be dead or left the area.

Richard Gentles, director of administration for Animal Care & Control of New York City, said his organization dispatched rescue teams after "five or six calls" on Vivi in the past several months, but all proved negative.

"For a dog like that to be able to survive this long would be very difficult unless somebody picked it up," Gentles said. "I hope it's true that somebody has the dog and doesn't recognize it. It does happen."

Former New York Times managing editor Gerald Boyd dies of lung cancer at 56

NEW YORK (AP) — When Gerald M. Boyd was named managing editor of The New York Times, he knew he would set precedents. He was the first black journalist to hold that post, one of the top jobs at one of the world's most distinguished newspapers.

"I'm not about to dwell on the firstness of all of this," Boyd said when he was appointed in 2001, "but if somewhere a kid of color who reads about this can smile tomorrow or dream a little bigger dream, then that makes me very happy."

Boyd died Thursday at his home in Harlem. He was 56. His wife, Robin Stone, said he had been diagnosed with lung cancer in February but had kept the condition private from most of his friends and colleagues.

The Times made unwelcome headlines during Boyd's tenure — two years after his appointment, he resigned amid a reporter's plagiarizing scandal.

"Every wife would say she'd want her husband to be known as a great person, wonderful husband, father and good citizen," his wife, a fellow journalist, said from her home. "But as I've said before, as a journalist, he was my hero; and I know he was a hero to many journalists in the profession."

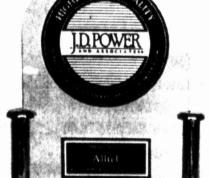
Thousands watch Thanksgiving Day parade

NEW YORK (AP) — Wind and rain could not keep thousands of spectators from crowding Manhattan streets to see Big Bird, Snoopy and other signature balloons and floats of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The weather, however, prompted city officials to order the balloons flown lower than usual, none rising beyond 17 feet, for safety. But that didn't seem to bother 9-year-old Sarah Barker.

"It means a better view," she said. She wasn't kidding — Snoopy made his way downtown past her, his right paw seemed to almost touch the wet street.





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making their

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against Texas drew the second-l crowd in Alamo history.

Youth basketball registration beginner

Registration for YMCA Youth Bask League is available boys and girls in through sixth grad. The registration line is Friday, I and the fee is \$ player.

Practices will Dec. 11 and game be held on Satu starting Jan. 13. For more inform

contact the YM 267-8234.

Big Spring bask officials are need

The Big Sprin ketball Off Association is lof for officials at this Anyone interest officiating the using 2006-07 seaso Junior High, Fres and Sub-Varsity ball games shoultact Adam Rodrig 517-0300 or 263-873

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Six-Man football playoff pairings

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Garden City vs. Wellman-Un 2), 7 p.m. to Klondike. Meadow (11-0) v Davis (9-1), tonight, Crane. Paducah (8-3 Throckmorton, 7: tonight, Aspermo Newcastle Trinidad, 7:30 tonight, Hico. (10-0) May Richland Springs p.m. Comanche. Santa Anna Calvert (10-1), 7: tonight, Gatesvill Dell City vs. County (7-4), 6: Saturday, Pecos. Sanderson vs.

4), 7:30 p.m. S
Silverton.
Cotton Cente
Samnorwood (6p.m. tonight, Silve
Region III and R
Vernon Northsid
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tonight, Avalon.
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Hamilton.
Paint Rock vs. G
p.m. tonight, Risin
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7:30 p.m. tonight,

(8-3), 7:30 p.m. Tunnell Field, Len Whitharral vs. L

lowa accepts Alamo Bowl bid invitation

Iowa accepted a bid Tuesday to play in the Dec. 30 Alamo Bowl in San Antonio.

The Hawkeyes (6-6), making their third Alamo Bowl appearance, will face a Big 12 opponent.

In 2001, Iowa's win against Texas Tech drew the second-largest crowd in Alamo Bowl history.

Youth basketball registration begins

Registration for the YMCA Youth Basketball League is available for boys and girls in first through sixth grade.

The registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 1 and the fee is \$40 per player.

Practices will begin Dec. 11 and games will be held on Saturdays starting Jan. 13.

For more information contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Big Spring basketball officials are needed

The Big Spring basketball Officials Association is looking for officials at this time. Anyone interested in officiating the upcoming 2006-07 season for Junior High, Freshman and Sub-Varsity basket-ball games should contact Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300 or 263-8731.

Youth basketball tournament update

The Mid America Basketball Youth Winter Tournament covering seven states, is now taking applications. The local tournament is

available for a \$125 discount package. Anyone interested in participating should contact MAYB at (316) 284-0354 or e-mail mayb@mayb.com

Six-Man football playoff pairings

Garden City (10-0) vs. Wellman-Union (9-2), 7 p.m. tonight, Klondike.

Meadow (11-0) vs. Fort Davis (9-1), 6 p.m. tonight, Crane. Paducah (8-3) Throckmorton, 7:30 p.m. tonight, Aspermont.

Newcastle Trinidad, 7:30 p.m. tonight, Hico. (10-0) May Richland Springs (10-0), 7:30 p.m. tonight,

Comanche. Santa Anna (8-2) vs. Calvert (10-1), 7:30 p.m. tonight, Gatesville. Dell City vs. Borden

County (7-4), 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Pecos. Sanderson vs. Jayton (8-3), 7:30 p.m. tonight, Tunnell Field, Lenorah.

Whitharral vs. Lefors (7-4), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Silverton. Cotton Center vs.

Samnorwood (6-5), 7:30 p.m. tonight, Silverton. Region III and Region IV Vernon Northside (10-1)

vs. Apple Springs, 1 p.m. onight, Avalon. Woodson (7-4) vs. Milford, 7:30 p.m. Friday,

Paint Rock vs. Gustine, 6 .m. tonight, Rising Star Zephyr vs. Iredell (9-2), :30 p.m. tonight, DeLeon

Romo serves Thanksgiving feast, 38-10

QB sets record for TDs

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING - The more Tony Romo plays, the stranger it seems that he spent the first 3 1/2 years of his career on the bench.

Having won NFC offensive player of the week honors and outplaying Peyton Manning in his last two starts, Romo took his growing reputation even higher Thursday by tying a Dallas Cowboys record with five touchdown passes in a 38-10 victory over Tampa Bay.

It was the ninth time it's happened in team history and the first time on Thanksgiving. More impressive: Troy Aikman never did it in regulation and Roger Staubach never did it.

As wild as it seems to mention Romo with those Hall of Famers - especially because this was only his fifth start - he's certainly proving worthy, especially to the fans chanting his last name during Fox's postgame show.

Dallas has won three straight for the first time this season and is 4-1 since Romo took over for Drew Bledsoe. Now 7-4, the Cowboys go into the weekend with a half-game lead over the New York Giants in the NFC East and are second only to Chicago in the conference.

Tampa Bay (3-8) drove 80 yards for a touchdown on the first drive of the game, but got only a 46-yard field goal the rest of the game. Rookie Bruce Gradkowski threw two interceptions, both of which resulted in Dallas touchdowns.

Romo led the Cowboys to five touchdowns in a span of six drives from late in the first quarter to the middle of the third. They



The Dallas Cowboys' Tony Romo looks to pass against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Thursday, in Irving. Romo and the Cowboys won 38-10 behind behind five touchdown passes — a new Dallas record.

from Mike Vanderjagt on the next series.

Romo was 22-of-29 for 306 yards.

might've gotten a sixth TD, but He completed 13 straight passes settled for a 22-yard field goal in one stretch and was 8-of-9 in the second half: he's 28-of-30 after halftime over his last three

Having come into the game 0.5

See ROMO, Page 2B

No. 1 versus who? BCS college shuffle

few weeks back the talk of who should play for the BCS National Championship in Arizona heated up, with only a

handful of games left this season, the topic has never been hotter. Ohio

State is the clear No. 1, but after that, nothing is certain in the

Bowl Championship Series mess. Michigan, currently ranked No. 2 and having completed its schedule, is waiting to see if it will be invited to the Tostito's Fiesta Bowl for

MIKE

GRIMES

Buckeyes. With two games remaining for Southern California — one of

a rematch of last week's

road loss to the

which is against No. 5 ranked Notre Dame there is a strong possibility that the Trojans will leap the Wolverines and earn the right to play for the title.

Despite having the most impressive loss of all the one-loss teams, the Wolverines should need for USC and Florida to both lose again before they punch a ticket to the desert.

For the Trojans it is simple. Destroy Notre Dame this weekend and garner additional votes from the human pollsters, just as they did on Nov. 12 when they knocked off Oregon by 25-points.

That win launched USC past the Florida Gators and into the third spot in the polls. With a road game to end the season at UCLA, the Trojans have a grand opportunity to play for in the their third

See BCS, Page 4B



No 1 ranked Ohio State's Antonio Pittman eludes the Michigan defense for a touchdown during third quarter action in Columbus, Ohio, Saturday. The Buckeyes defeated the Wolverines 42-39, and earned the right to play in the Flesta Bowl for the national champi-

Woods wins PGA Grand Slam title

By JAYMES SONG

AP Sports Writer

POIPU BEACH, Hawaii It started shaky but ended the same way for Tiger Woods - surrounded by hula dancers on the 18th green, wearing a floral lei and posing with a trophy.

Woods rallied to win the **PGA Grand Slam of Golf** for a record seventh straight time, closing with a bogey-free 6-under 66 on Wednesday to beat Jim Furyk by two

strokes. The British Open and PGA champion, who started the day three

shots behind Furyk, finished the 36-hole tournament with an 8-under 136 total to earn \$500,000, giving him more than \$3 million in career Grand Slam winnings.

"I certainly played better than I did yesterday," Woods said. "Gave myself some chances. ... Overall, I really hit the ball crisp and clear today, which was nice."

Furyk, the world's No. 2 golfer behind Woods, closed with a 71 to take home \$300,000. U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy (74) was six strokes back and earned \$250,000. Mike Weir (74) was last at 1

over and made \$200,000. Woods has owned Poipu, also winning in 1998, '99, '00, '01, '02 and '05. He finished second to Ernie Els in '97 in his only other appearance in the event.

Last year, Woods closed with a 64 to win by seven strokes over Phil Mickelson, despite losing six pounds because of a stomach virus.

"I've always loved coming here," he said.

Furyk opened with a 67 for a one-stroke lead over Ogilvy and a three-stroke lead over Woods. But he

SEE PGA, Page 2B



MCT photo/Lew Stamp/Akron Be Tiger Woods grins as he accepts the Gary Player Cup after his win at the WGC Bridgestone invitational earlier this

BIRDIES AND BOGIES

Is Aussie Pa

really that se

NBC announcer Johnny Mi

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described Australian Craig Pa

national TV two years ago as

for his bulging forearms, is so

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school, we won't see him on t

The star was the course

Trump the Extravagant wa

talented Tom Watson, Annika

Natalie "Perfect Wheels" Gul

brightest star of the Manhatt

a charity skins game, was the

Governors Island, positioned

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built to protect New York in (

The golf course is very short

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The Governors Island cour

golf course in New York state

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Players from Au

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Golf writer Dave Seanor

American golf. And the Un

including basketball, socci

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League baseball, world

baseball, rugby and luge makes us "luge-ers" a

GOLF BY THE NUMBERS

The most cuts made on the

record is held by veteran Ja

is currently a "young gun"

Champions Tour. That's an

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Championship at Medinah

shot 75-68, the same total he

GOLF SPOKEN HERE

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But now

Dolphins enjoy Thanksgiving win at Detroit, 27-10

AP Sports Writer

DETROIT — The NFL's worst team since 2001 might have just hit rock bottom.

Detroit has lost a lot of games in the past 5 1/2 seasons, but it's difficult to imagine one as devastating as the latest - on national TV against a player it drafted and gave

Joey Harrington threw three touchdown passes to help the Miami Dolphins erase a 10-point deficit Thursday in a 27-10 victory over the Lions.

Detroit has lost three straight games during a stretch that some players had predicted would give the Lions their first three-game winning streak in a season since team president Matt Millen arrived.

"Everyone tells us to keep our heads up because we're better than our record, and maybe we are, but we're still 2-9," wide receiver Roy Williams said.

matters worse, To make Harrington felt sorry for the team that drafted him third overall in 2002 and traded him in May for a conditional pick.

The aisles were packed with people heading home for Thanksgiving dinner when the Dolphins were leading 27-10 early in the fourth

quarter, and the stands were nearly TDs and an interception. empty when the game ended.

"I watched the heads of the players on the other team and watched people leave and it was tough to keep my emotions in check," Harrington said. "I was thinking, 'I remember being on that sideline. I remember what that felt like.' More than anything, there are guys over there that deserve to win, and I really hope they get this turned around.'

Detroit, which is an NFL-worst 23-68 since Millen took control of the franchise in 2001, only has the whole country watching once a year in its annual showcase game. Coach Rod Marinelli insisted that didn't make the loss any tougher to

"In anything I do, whether it is this game here or playing marbles outside the building, if I lose, I'm going to be embarrassed," he said.

played Harrington Thanksgiving in Detroit for the fifth time and had his best game on the holiday, perhaps because he doesn't play for the Lions anymore.

The former Oregon star entered the game 1-3 in Detroit's traditional game with no TDs, five interceptions and an average of 153 yards passing - a total he surpassed in the first half alone.

Harrington finished 19-of-29 for a Thanksgiving-high 213 yards, three

"It's nice to have that feeling in this building," he said. "As much as I tried to downplay it and needed to downplay it for the sake of this team, there was still a lot of emotion coming here."

In an effort to fire up the crowd. Harrington's face was splashed across the video boards while Billy Joel's "Piano Man" played — a jab at the quarterback's piano playing.

Harrington said the song meant to mock him was clever, not a cheap shot, but he did find it interesting that he was the only Miami offensive player the public-address announcer introduced before the

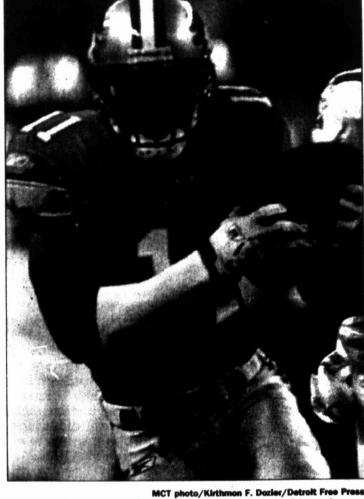
"It was for all those people that wanted to boo me," he said. "And, they did."

Not for long.

By the third quarter, with the Lions trailing 17-10 after another poor possession by their offense, Harrington said his lineman told him they didn't need silent counts because they could hear him from the shotgun.

That's because the fans stopped booing Harrington and directed their frustration at Millen with the loudest "Fire Mil-len!" chants of the

After Detroit lost to Atlanta last year on Thanksgiving, Millen fired coach Steve Mariucci.



The Detroit Lions' Roy Williams (11) pulls in a 41-yard pass against the Miami Dolphins Thursday. The Lions lost the contest 27-10.

ROMO

Continued from 1B

behind Manning as the NFL's top-rated passer, Peyton is going to need a heck of a game this weekend or else the new league leader is going to be the former undrafted Division I-AA MVP from Eastern Illinois.

"I'm impressed by the fact he didn't turn the ball over," Cowboys coach Bill Parcells said. "He's managing the game well. And that's what he's supposed to do. He's a football guy and he's interested in playing well. But we've away, OK?"

Terry Glenn caught the first two TD passes, of 30 and 2 yards. Marion Barber III caught the next two, giving him an NFCbest 11 touchdowns.

The record-tying fifth touchdown went to Terrell Owens and he capped it in holiday style by depositing the ball into one of the Salvation Army prop for the charity's ently this time. annual holiday fund-raising campaign.

Dallas' final drive ended with a kneel-down with 31 seconds left. Owens smiled and patted Romo on the head as they walked back to the sideline, already thinking got a ways to go here. So - about how much fun the put the anointing oil next five weeks might be. Coincidentally,

Cowboys had the same record coming out of last year's Thanksgiving game, but won only two more games and missed the playoffs.

With Romo rolling, and three of the remaining five games at home, Parcells, team owner Jerry Jones and all fans of "America's Team" red kettles being used as a expect things to go differ-The Buccaneers had the

game's final snap, but didn't even bother trying a play - symbolic of how their season has gone. After losing their first

three games and losing quarterback starting Chris Simms, little has gone right for the Bucs. This was their fourth loss the in five games; it also was second TD.

their third game in 10 days, two of them on the road.

Gradkowski went 10-of-20 for 120 yards. He had completions of 43 and 16 yards to Joey Galloway on the first series, but only made it past midfield once more, on the drive that ended with a field goal by Matt Bryant.

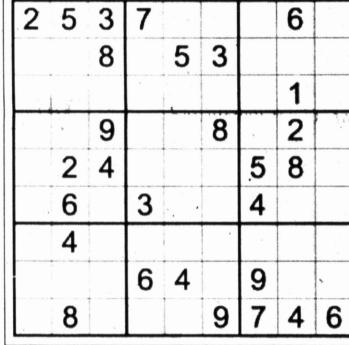
Galloway, playing at Texas Stadium for the first time since the Cowboys traded him for Johnson, Keyshawn caught only one more pass the rest of the game and finished with 71 yards.

Owens finished with 107 yards and eight catches. He also had a drop in the end zone before Glenn's

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com



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PGA

Continued from 1B

wasn't able to apply any pressure on his opponents, missing several fairways.

"I wasn't firing on all cylinders and not swinging at it nearly as well as I would like to," Furyk said.

Woods used a strong short game to make up for his struggles off the tee during Tuesday's opening round. The 12-time major winner chipped away at the lead until he holed a 25-foot chip on No. 9 to tie Furyk for the lead at 6 under.

After his 6-iron shot landed short and left of the pin, Woods' chip bounced a few feet from the cup, checked because of the backspin and rolled straight in.

He shook his fist and smiled as the gallery cheered wildly.

"A lot of luck," Woods said. Everyone could sense

Woods' momentum build-

"He played smarter and smarter, almost like he got smarter during the tournament," said Ogilvy,

making his Grand Slam

debut. Woods took sole possession of the lead on the next hole when Furvk skated his 5-footer for par to the left for his first bogey of the tournament. It was Woods' first lead in the tournament since birdieing the second hole

of the opening round. "I've never been on the course and thought, 'Wow. It's really slipping away,'" Furyk said. "You're always plugging away, always trying because you never know

what's going to happen. "He might make a bogey, you could make a birdie and get two shots side layout were sunny

real quick," he said. and took a two-stroke lead with a 12-foot birdie putt on No. 15. Furyk was par-4 13th. They hid inside Woods, but twoputted from 6 feet.

early, sinking short putts on Nos. 2 and 3 for birdie. pulling within a stroke of Furyk. "I thought that was

probably the most ideal start I could have had, is to able to pick up two shots that fast," Woods strokes behind the pace. said. The Americans both

to pull away from Ogilvy and Weir.

start the round but loosened up before the turn. Conditions at the ocean-

and much windier than Woods reached 7 under the opening round. The players were soaked by a sudden shower on the under umbrellas held by their caddies for a few Woods made his move minutes until the rains passed.

Ogilvy began the day a stroke behind Furyk but couldn't get a grasp of the tricky greens. The 29year-old Australian bogeyed three of the first seven holes, falling five

Weir, who was followed by about a dozen friends birdied the 573-yard sixth from his native Canada, never was able to challenge for the lead with Unlike previous events two birdies, two bogeys where Woods was relaxed and a triple bogey on the chatty, Woods 179-yard seventh that appeared more serious to dropped him to 2 over on

the day.

His 9-iron tee shot fell short of the green and plunged into the water. He then missed a 3-foot putt for double bogey after stepping away because of the gusty Weir and Furyk were

selected as alternates based on their performances in the four majors. Two spots were open because Woods claimed two majors and Masters winner Phil Mickelson declined to play.

Furyk won the 2003 Grand Slam, beating Weir by eight strokes.

The tournament concludes Woods' dominant year that saw eight wins on tour but marred by the death of his father, Earl, who died of cancer May 3.

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groundhog, gopher o may take a free drop

animal. But a hole ma such as a dog, is not unless so marked as

get free relief.



By T.J. TOMASI

BIRDIES AND BOGIES

Is Aussie Parry really that scary?

NBC announcer Johnny Miller is not one to mince words, so it wasn't shocking when he described Australian Craig Parry's swing on national TV two years ago as "bad enough to



make Ben Hogan throw up." Miller got his just desserts, though, when Parry not only went on to win the Doral Ford Championship, but did so by holing a 6-iron on 18 for an eagle to win in a playoff, prompting Miller to swallow some "humble pie." But now the popular

Aussie, known as "Popeye' for his bulging forearms, is so far down on the money list that he won't make the top-125 exempt list, and since he refuses to go to Qschool, we won't see him on the PGA Tour as

The star was the course

Trump the Extravagant was there, so were talented Tom Watson, Annika the Great and Natalie "Perfect Wheels" Gulbis, but the brightest star of the Manhattan Golf Classic, a charity skins game, was the golf course.

The game was held last month on Governors Island, positioned 800 yards off the tip of Manhattan, in the middle of New York Harbor. Also located on the island is Fort Jay, built to protect New York in Colonial times. The golf course is very short, and uses multiple tees for its six greens. One tee is in the fort

Did you know?

The Governors Island course is the only golf course in New York state with a Manhattan ZIP code.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Players from Australia, Italy and Scotland have won three of the last four U.S. Amateur Championships. America regularly gets pummeled in the Ryder Cup. Great Britain and Ireland have won four of the last six Walker Cups, and The No. 1 player in American college golf is from Spain."

Golf writer Dave Seanor on the state of American golf. And the United States has lost in most other sports this year, including basketball, soccer, tennis, Little League baseball, world professional baseball, rugby and luge. I guess that makes us "luge-ers" all around.

GOLF BY THE NUMBERS



The most cuts made on the PGA Tour. This record is held by veteran Jay Haas (above), who is currently a "young gun" ripping up the Champions Tour. That's an average of 19 cuts a year, and he's maintained his scoring ability over 31 years. After two rounds of the PGA Championship at Medinah this August, Haas shot 75-68, the same total he shot at Medinah in the 1975 U.S. Open.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME





Since you're using a three-quarter swing, the danger is you'll push off your back foot, trying for power. Coming back to the ball, your back foot should remain on the ground even though your weight is in your front hip. Notice in the photo at left how Nationwide Tour player Scott Hend's trail foot hasn't flipped up yet here and he's halfway to impact. In the photo at right Hend's three-quarter follow-through matches his three-quarter backswing. Why? Because the long irons off the tee are accuracy clubs. Save the power swings for the driver.

Stay in control with long irons

Thatever else golf is, it's a game of control, and all good players have a shot in their arsena! Jesigned to accomplish this.

Johnny Miller gives some good advice: "If amateurs played every hole and never hit any thing off the tee except a 5-wood and just plunked it down the middle, I think they'd be shocked at how they would score. Everyone thinks they have to belt it out there nine miles, but there's still room on tour for

a huge living." The "go-to" shot I'm suggesting you develop off the tee is the long iron, and it can be a score

guys who hit the ball 250 to make

Long irons have regeived a bad rap from most observers, but under the correct circumstances. your 2-, 3- and 4-irons can be very accurate off the tee. I don't recommend them off the fairway unless you're a good player, but contrary to popular belief, the long irons off a tee don't have as large a variance pattern as a driver. So when you need to get the drive on the short grass, the long iron might be the play.

Technique

DON'T MISS IT

It all starts with your address.

Not everyone can go to Florida

where it snows, here's an indoor

putting green that will keep your

putting touch sharp while you

Challenger Putting Green from

brochure, the Challenger's " ...

for the winter, so if you live

wait for the spring. It's the

According to the sales

Gibas Golf Products.

ABOUT THE WRITER



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is a teaching professional at Nantucket Golf Club on Nantucket Island, Mass. To ask him a TJInsider@aol.com.

Take your normal stance, with the ball off your left cheekbone, then simply move your trail foot a couple of inches back until the ball is located off the logo on your shirt. The tendency is to play the ball too far forward and then slide to get to it, but you can't slide and hit the long-iron shot correctly.

The swing itself is simply a three-quarter motion with a big chest turn while you keep your knees flexed and level. The common error here is to straighten the back leg, but this must be avoided in order to bring the clubhead to the ball on a shallow, rounded arc that will keep the shot low and hot. At the top of the swing, your hips are level with your belt buckle pointing well behind the ball.

Starting down, take care to shift your weight to your front leg and resist the urge to turn on

adjustable feet on the base set up

those difficult side angle breaks

to practice on and perfect for im-

The Challenger is 18 inches

www.gibasgolf.com by clicking

wide and 9 feet long, and rolls up

proved scoring during actual

for easy storage. Find it at

on Practice Accessories.

the power. And don't jump off your trail foot — it's not until impact that the rotation of your: front hip unplugs your back

Notice how straight touring pro Scott Hend's left arm is in the photos above. It's perpendicular to the clubshaft, forming an angle of power. It's that way because he's kept everything moving. Any stopping or slowing of the chest and your arms will flip the club over, causing a bad pull, or worse, a pull hook.

There are two "big keys" and a "heads up" for this specialty

Big Key No. 1: Keep your arms even with your shoulders both at the top and at the finish of the swing. You should create a symmetry between the backswing and your follow-through.

Big Key No. 2: Make sure your right arm (trail arm) is straight at the finish. The only way to do this is to keep your chest rotating through the shot.

Heads up: This is a shot that can't be muscled, so don't try to overpower the ball. If it wants to fade, then let it. I've found that for most golf swings that's the most comfortable ball flight i.e., low and cutting, but you'll find that out through practice.

TEEING OFF Tempo should remain steady

for every swing

In 1970, Englishman Tony Jacklin was in position to become the first British player to win the U.S. Open since 1920. Leading the field after three rounds, he arrived at his locker on Sunday morning to find a sign posted on it by his good friend Tom Weiskoff. The message was brief: TEMPO.

Jacklin won going away.
"Tempo" is probably one of
the most misunderstood words in golf. Most everyday golfers confuse tempo with swinging slowly, when in fact, tempo means to swing the club at the same pace throughout your swing.

This is an important distinction because some people can't do anything slowly, and if they think they have to swing the golf club slowly, it screws up their game. The key is to swing at a consistent rate so your motion doesn't have one of those tension-creating moments where you try to speed the club up or slow it down.

The way to set your own personal tempo is to adapt the pace of your everyday life into your golf game. If you do things quickly copy Tom Watson's tempo. If you're laidback, copy someone like Fred Couples. As long as you keep the pace consistent throughout your swing, you'll always have good tempo

Putting also demands good tempo, and it should match your personality, too. For example, if you're an aggressive long putter, you can't be concerned about facing the inevitable short putts back to the hole after you've run the first one past it. These short ones don't bother a good putter because he keeps the club moving at the same pace through the ball.

Remember: Never changing your pace is what good tempo is all about.

SCHEDULE

All Times EST PGA TOUR CHALLENGE SEASON Skins Game

Site: La Quinta, Calif. · Schedule: Saturday-Sunday

· Course: Trilogy Golf Club at La Quinta (7,085 yards,

Purse: \$1 million (Nos. 1-6, \$25,000 each; Nos. 7-12, \$50,000; Nos. 13-17, \$70,000; No. 18. \$200,000).

 TV: ABC (Saturday-Sunday, 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m.).

· Players: Fred Funk, Fred Couples, John Daly, Stephen

· Last year: Funk won in his first appearance in the event, taking the final 15 skins to finish with \$925,000.

AUSTRALASIAN PGA TOUR/PGA EUROPEAN

Australian Masters Site: Melbourne, Australia. Schedule: Thursday-Sunday

 Course: Huntingdale Golf Club (6,980 yards, par 72). • Purse: \$1.15 million. Winner's share: \$208,000.

• TV: The Golf Channel (Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, 11 p.m.-2 a.m.; Friday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.-noon).

JAPAN GOLF TOUR Casio World Open Site: Kochi, Japan. · Schedule: Thursday-

· Course: Kochi Kuroshio Country Club (7,220 yards, par 72). · TV: None.

GOLF SPOKEN HERE

'Burrowing animal'

Under the rules of golf, a "burrowing

animal" makes a hole for habitation or shelter. These include a rabbit, mole, Gopher groundhog, gopher or salamander. You may take a free drop from a hole made by a burrowing animal. But a hole made by a non-burrowing animal, such as a dog, is not an abnormal ground condition unless so marked as "ground under repair," so you don't get free relief.

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Winter putting practice

Use your playing profile to determine which club to use in every situation

Here's a handy way to review the relative strengths and weaknesses of your game in preparation for creating your strength and weakness profile. Take a yellow pad and draw a line down the middle, then label the two columns "strength" and weakness." Down the left side, list all the shots you hit during a round - short irons, fairway woods, lag putts, etc. and evaluate each one, annotating it in the appropriate column.

Keep a running list for 10 weeks until you have a handle on your play-

ing profile. What do you do with this information? You use it to play the game by evaluating each situation and then choosing a club that is on the strength side. For example, reviewing your stats, you discover that you're not very accurate with your

So when it's time to lay up on a par-5, the smart move is to lay up so you have a 6-iron (a mid-iron you hit well) left to the green vs., say, a 9-iron, even though the nine iron is supposed to be easier to hit.

ASK THE PRO

Q: How do I find out what ball I should play? — B.A., from the Web A: Assuming your clubs are fitted properly, you can best find your ball by testing various balls with launch equipment. The ideal spin rate and launch angle will maximize not only distance off the driver, but also accuracy with the irons.

But there is more to golf than the long game. Buy three major brands of balls that have the characteristics you've identified on the launch moni-tor and take them to a practice area. Play some pitch shots, hit some chips and roll a whole bunch of putts, all the while monitoring the balls for feel and control. Select the one that feels best.

(To Ask the Pro a question about golf e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.)

BIG SPRING HERAL

Friday, November

South Florida Sun-Se Living with an e

disorder was easy. Alisa Fliss could age on 290 calorie vomit 15 times a da

to keep her body this What she's doing n

tough. That's eating nor and keeping food o while balancing he as a divorced moth two and a language teacher at Cl

McAuliffe Middle Sc Sitting in a coffee recently, Fliss, 32, p petite and looking tries to reconcile woman she is now the one in that film one starving herse death.

"Recovery is so harder," says Fliss, four women featur "Thin," a recent HB umentary. "Someti feel the worst I've felt in my life. But n feels better than fe nothing.'

The film followed of Delray Beach, Fla three others th treatment at the Re Center, an inpatier ing disorders cent Coconut Creek, Fla. "Each time I see

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the camera follow and the others a gossip, break the and even compete the sickest and thinnest. It plays the center's man tree-lined campus treatment, often o by insurance, ca \$1,500 a day.

Because of confidence ty and the subject's tivity, Renfrew tool opening its doors Gayle Brooks, vice dent and clinical d of The Renfrew Florida. But the was worth it.

"I found the film ful, dark and edg says. "But I think trayed the truth."

Though the four struggled after release — one tries therapy - "many do remarkably Brooks says.

Though Fliss has both anorexia and ia, the docum focuses more bulimia. Though appears thin, she look as emaciated

others. the film In describes a bir which she consu dozen doughnut muffins and thre

food biscuits, plus Then she vomited She speaks about ultra thin as an plishment, as if it sales award. "If

She talks about when a pediatrici her mother the daughter was fat.

it," she says.

dying to get there

Jets' Ferguson ready to meet with Texans' first pick Williams

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.

AP Sports Writer

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. -D'Brickashaw Ferguson first met Mario Williams early in their college careers. The two were reacquainted a few months ago at the NFL draft.

They're about to get a lot closer.

The New York Jets' rookie left tackle will be engaged in one of the intriguing more matchups Sunday when he lines up against the Houston Texans' defen-

sive end. "I'm going to practice and prepare as if I'm going against Jason Taylor or anybody else I would face," Ferguson said in his usual soft, even-keeled tone. "I think he's a very talented athlete and I have to prepare accordingly.'

Ferguson was the No. 4 draft selection out of Virginia in May, going to the Jets three picks after Texans chose Williams out of North Carolina State. After last facing each other as sophomores in college, both were in New York on draft day and spoke briefly during the event.

"I don't think our focus at that time was, 'I want to go against you in the future," Ferguson said.

"We were just happy for each other getting the opportunity to play in the National Football League and support each other."

Not surprisingly, both players have had moments of inconsistency in their rookie seasons. Ferguson has mostly held his own each week facing some of the best pass rushers in the game, including Miami's Taylor, Indianapolis' Dwight Freeney and New England's Richard Seymour.

"Every week, I'm going to have a matchup,' Ferguson said. "For me, that's what I've come to expect - that's what I know. Next week or the week after, you can ask me the same exact question and I'll still be here saying, 'Well, I've got another quality opponent I have to go against.' But I know that every week, I'm going to get somebody who's at the top of their game."

Although he isn't exactly in that class yet, Williams still presents a daunting task for offenses. He has 28 tackles and leads Houston with 4 1/2 sacks, but has been struggling with an inflamed arch the past few weeks. He was listed as probable on the Texans' injury report Thursday, although he didn't fully participate in practice. Williams has also had to deal with the overwhelming expectations that come with being a No. 1 overall pick - especially when so many fans were hoping the Texans drafted Reggie Bush.

"He went through a three- or four-week span where he played really well," Houston coach Gary Kubiak said. "I don't want to say that's dropped off the last two weeks, but he has struggled physically."

Jets coach Eric Mangini said Williams might also line up against veteran Anthony Clement on the other side of the field at

"Mario moves around a little bit, so it won't necessarily always be with D'Brickashaw," Mangini said. "He would be working against both Brick and Anthony, so both guys need to get ready for that."

At 6-foot-6 and 312 pounds, Ferguson is considered somewhat small when it comes to offensive tackles. Mangini jokingly said Thanksgiving might present a good opportunity for Ferguson add some extra

"I've got to find out what kind of turkey he's eating," Mangini said

Chiefs beat Broncos in NFL's first Thanksgiving tripleheader

By DOUG TUCKER

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt was one of the millions of football fans that felt frustrated because they couldn't get the Denver-Kansas City game on television.

Hunt had lobbied the NFL for the game for 37 years, but couldn't watch it as the Dallas-area hospital he was admitted to on Wednesday did not have the NFL Network, which carried the game as its first live game telecast to about 40 million of America's 111 million television homes.

So Sharron Hunt Munson placed the telephone next to her TV at home and her dad listened to the game that way.

"I know how disappointed he was when he couldn't be here," said Chiefs president Carl Peterson.

No doubt Hunt got a lift when quarterback Trent Green dedicated the 19-10 victory on Thursday to the Chiefs' owner, who had lobbed the league to let someone besides Detroit and Dallas host a Thanksgiving game.

"Lamar, I hope you're feeling better," an emotional Green said. "This win is

Hunt, 74, who has missed only a handful of games since founding the franchise, was not hospitalized in an emergency situation, said his son, Clark Hunt.

"He's doing much better," said Clark. "He had a lung issue and needed to go to the hospital and let them take a look at it. This game has been important to him really going back to the AFL days. He's worked since the merger to try to get the game back here."

From his bed, Hunt listened as NFL rushing leader Larry Johnson gouged Denver's fifth-ranked run defense for 157 yards and Lawrence Tynes kicked four field goals for the Chiefs (7-4), who charged into a second-place tie with the Broncos (7-4) in the AFC West.

Johnson, raising his league-leading rushing total to 1,202 yards, consistently burned the Broncos with 8- and 10-yard gains, using his usual assortment of power moves and start-and-stop elusiveness. The Broncos came in giving up a shade better than 90 yards per game on the ground.

"I felt real good," said Johnson. 'Overall, it's just your energy. You know that the whole nation is going to be watching you. It's the only game at night and it feels like a Monday night football game."

Johnson scored the Chiefs' only touchdown on a 1-yard vault late in the second quarter following a crucial mistake by the Broncos' Ebenezer Ekuban, who was called for roughing the passer on a failed third-and-4 play from the 9.

"There were a lot of crucial situations when we didn't step up and make the plays when we should," said Denver cornerback Champ Bailey. "One thing we've got to realize is we've got a lot of football left to play."

Making the night even more festive was an in-house standing-room-only crowd of 80,866, the largest since 1972, the year the Chiefs opened the facility that many call the loudest outdoor stadium in the league.

"Our fans were awesome," said Chiefs defensive end Jared Allen. "We took energy from them all night."

Broncos quarterback Jake Plummer tossed a 1-yard pass to Stephen Alexander for Denver's only TD and dropped to 0-6 in six starts in Kansas City. He was 25-for-39 for 216 yards and no doubt speculation will pick up steam over whether rookie Jay Cutler is about to be promoted.

Plummer was asked who he figured would start in 10 days against Seattle. "Can I just not answer that question

please?," he asked reporters. "When I find out, I'll find out whenever and whatever it is."

10 bowl-eligible teams. straight national champi-

> against Arkansas on Dec. 2, they need to win out with style.

they put on Western Carolina may be needed to be duplicated unless the Trojans slip this weekend. If not, Florida will be left out of the mix extends its two invita-

Opinions as to who should be ranked No. 2 and be granted the right to play for the mythical title are as different as the mascots of these three universities. With each of these teams having one loss, and a few other teams I refuse to mention, a case can be built for each one.

If all else fails, I say the team with the highest GPA of the three should go play the Buckeyes. That would make more sense than



BCS

Continued from 1B

onship game. **Assuming Southern Cal**

completes the season at 11-1, with victories against 10 bowl-eligible teams, including Arkansas, Nebraska and Notre Dame — they should have the right to challenge Ohio State.

The Florida Gators are in the toughest football conference (Southeastern) in the country and they have

one loss — on a questionable referee call, no less on its resume.

The Gators have beaten With a road game against Florida State this weekend and a SEC Championship game

The 62-point thrashing when the Fiesta Bowl

Body-image references still dot woman's conversation in recovery

By LIZ DOUP

South Florida Sun-Sentinel Living with an eating

disorder was easy. Alisa Fliss could manage on 290 calories or vomit 15 times a day, all to keep her body thin.

What she's doing now is tough.

That's eating normally and keeping food down, while balancing her life as a divorced mother of two and a language arts teacher at Christa McAuliffe Middle School.

Sitting in a coffee shop recently, Fliss, 32, pretty, petite and looking fit, tries to reconcile the woman she is now with the one in that film. The one starving herself to death.

"Recovery is so much harder," says Fliss, one of four women featured in "Thin," a recent HBO documentary. "Sometimes I feel the worst I've ever felt in my life. But misery feels better than feeling nothing."

The film followed Fliss, of Delray Beach, Fla., and three others through treatment at the Renfrew Center, an inpatient eating disorders center in Coconut Creek, Fla.

"Each time I see it, it's different," says Fliss, whose reactions swing from pain to pride. "The first time, I didn't like the person I saw there. I was so alone, so into myself. The disorder was my best friend."

But she's proud to be part of a film that spotlights a life-threatening problem affecting 5 million people in the United States. Anorexia and bulimia — binging, then purging the food - are mental disorders. Controlling food is used as a coping mechanism to numb emotional pain and feel a sense of control.

There's no quick fix as-Fliss knows. She's been through multiple hospitalizations and, within the past seven years, three treatment programs. But she's doing well now.

"I want to be recognized for my recovery," she says. "There's hope. I'm proof of it."

At the Renfrew Center. the camera follows Fliss and the others as they gossip, break the rules and even compete to be the sickest and the thinnest. It plays out on the center's manicured, tree-lined campus where treatment, often covered by insurance, can cost \$1,500 a day.

Because of confidentiality and the subject's sensitivity, Renfrew took a risk opening its doors, says Gayle Brooks, vice president and clinical director of The Renfrew Center Florida. But the result was worth it.

"I found the film powerful, dark and edgy," she says. "But I think it portrayed the truth."

Though the four women struggled after their release - one tries shock therapy - "many women do remarkably well," Brooks says.

Though Fliss has battled both anorexia and bulimia, the documentary focuses more on her bulimia. Though she appears thin, she doesn't look as emaciated as the others.

In the film, she describes a binge in which she consumed a dozen doughnuts, two muffins and three fastfood biscuits, plus more. Then she vomited it up.

She speaks about getting ultra thin as an accomplishment, as if it were a sales award. "If it takes dying to get there, so be it," she says.

She talks about being 7, when a pediatrician told her mother that her daughter was fat. At 14,

tives to quickly eliminate so she can vomit, even as food. Then diuretics. Then restricting what she ate or eating, then vomiting. Her journal shows a daily diet of 290 calories. One egg white. Five pieces of candy. A bite of

chicken. Coffee ... Most dramatically, the camera follows Fliss home after treatment. At one point, she gently removes her Maltese,

Fliss began using laxa- Beau, from the bathroom, was before (this aired)." the camera rolls.

Before the filming, Fliss worked as a pharmaceutical rep. Had she been a trying to deplete enough teacher at the time, she wouldn't have done the film, she says. She's confrom her students and their parents though she has already reassured her classes: "I've told them, 'I'm the same teacher I

After the film was made in 2004, Fliss continued to struggle. At one point, she overdosed on diuretics sodium to provoke a heart

attack. "I thought I was doing cerned about reaction this for my children and family, that their lives would be easier," she says. "They could say, She died of an eating dis-



Alisa Fliss, 32, of Delray Beach, Fla., is featured in an HBO film on women who were treated at Renfrew Center, which treats eating disorders.

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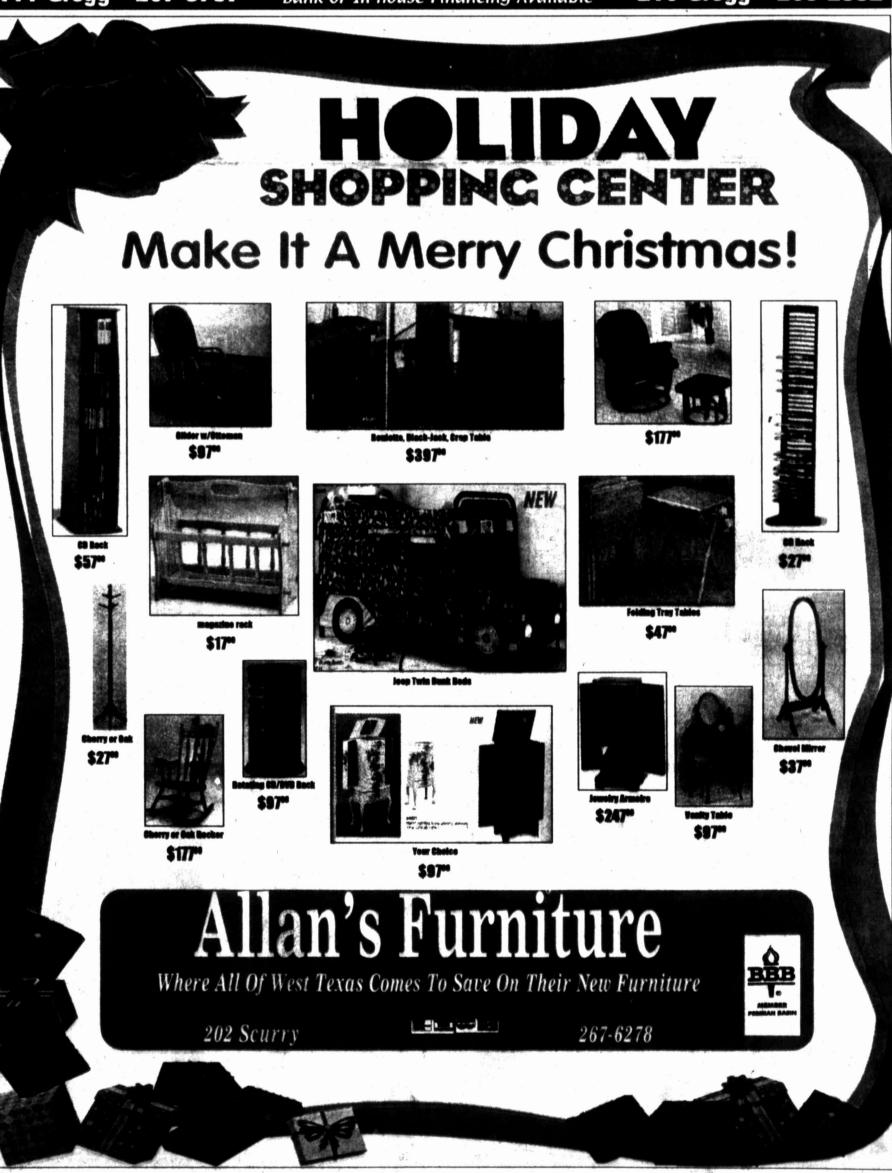


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DENNIS THE MENACE



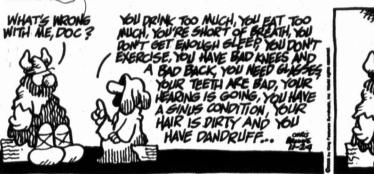
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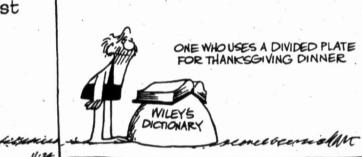




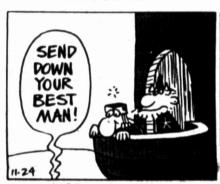


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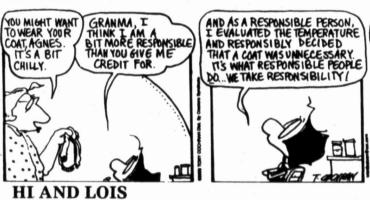
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AGNES













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SNUFFY SMITH





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This Date In History

Today is Friday, Nov. 24, the 328th day of 2006. There are 37 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 24, 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television.

On this date: In 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory

of evolution.

In 1863, the Civil War battle for Lookout Mountain began in Tennessee: Union forces succeeded in taking the mountain from the Confederates.

In 1944, during World War II. U.S. bombers based on Saipan attacked Tokyo in the first raid against the Japanese capital by landbased planes.

In 1969, Apollo 12 splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1971, hijacker "D.B. Cooper" parachuted from a Northwest Airlines 727 over Washington state with \$200,000 in ransom — his fate remains unknown.

In 1985, the hijacking of an EgyptAir jetliner parked on the ground in Malta ended violently as Egyptian commandos stormed the plane. Fifty-eight people died in the raid, in addition to two others killed by the hijackers.

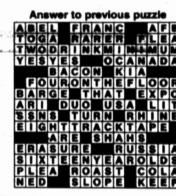
In 1987, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to scrap shorter- and medium-range missiles.

Today's Birthdays: William F. Columnist Buckley is 81. Country singer Johnny Carver is 66. Rock-and-roll drummer Pete Best is 65. Rock musician Donald "Duck" Dunn (Booker T & the MG's) is 65. Actor-comedian Connolly is 64. Former White House news secretary Marlin Fitzwater is 64 **Motion Picture Association** of America President Dan Glickman is 62. Dwight Schultz is 59. Actor Stanley Livingston is 56.

Rock musician Clem Burke (Blondie; The Romantics) is 51. Record producer Terry Lewis is 50. Actress Denise Crosby is 49. Rock musician John Squire (The Stone Roses) is 44. Rock musician Gary Stonadge (Big Audio) is 44. Rock musician Chad Taylor (Live) is 36. Actress Lola Glaudini is 35. Actor Colin Hanks is 29. Actress Katherine Heigl is 28.

Thought for Today: "Slander injures three: the slanderer, the person who hears the slander, and the person slandered." — From the Talmud, a collection of writings that constitute the Jewish civil and religious

2006 The Associated Press.



Newsday Crossword

ACROSS 1 Classroom

- fixture 5 Permanent
- thing 9 Breakfastbuffet selection
- 14 Picnic spoiler
- 15 Somewhat 16 Still in the
- game
- 17 Farm unit
- 18 Cole Porter
- alma mater **19** Stiff
- 20 December
- **23** Born
- **25** Put up
- 29 Smug smile
- 34 Guarantee
- 38 Laughing at
- 41 At this point
- Sullivan
- princess
- 43 Arden,
- 44 Afore
- 47 Calgary
- 48 Greenland
- founder 49 Neighbor of
- 58 Payroll

- 60 Prime-rating **61** Catalyst
- 62 Mideast leader
- 63 Former

59 Fuss

- 64 Motto of the Seabees
- 65 Proof of purchase

2 A pop

3 Lineage info

5 Gotham City

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6 Weakens

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66 Vet's concern

DOWN 1 "Rats!"

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39 Learned

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GAS CONTRACT Administrator Assistant needed. Natural gas contract and/or TIPS Data base experience required. Salary DOE. Benefits include 401K and Cafeteria Plan, Mail resume to Gas Contracts, 211 North Colorado, Midland, TX 79701 facsimile or 432-682-4024 or e-mail to employment@ westtexasgas.com

Maintenance Positions Available

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has openings for Maintenance Workers in Big Spring, Snyder, Stanton, Midland and Odessa.

A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. District benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. The Districit is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by calling 432-267-6341.



NEEDED COOKS *SERVERS All shifts available Apply at: 1710 East Third Street E.O.E.

Help Wanted

GREATER OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PERMIAN BASIN INC. Project Head Start has the following position available: Teacher Aide: Must be 18 years of age and have a High School Diploma or GED. Must be able to attend training and participate in child development classes and occasionally attend out-of-town training.

LVN: Must have a current State License as an LVN or RN. Must have 2 years experience delivering patient care to pre-school children.

All applicants must;

Be 18 or older. Pass a pre-employment drug screen.

Post-employment Criminal History check must be clear of felony convictions to continue employment with the agency.

Agency offers OJT, benefit package for all full and part-time employees. Applicants may apply at Lakeview Head Start 1107 NW 7th St. Big Spring, Tx. Will begin taking applications November 27. 2006. Positions will be opened until filled. Applications available on line www.gopb.org. All interviews will be held at the Administration Office at 206 W. 5th in Odessa, Tx.

HOUSEKEEPING APPLICA-TIONS are now being taken. Pickup application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford

JOURNEYMEN. **ELECTRICIANS** and **HELPERS**

Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

NEED EVENING Dishwasher part-time. Must be 16 yrs. old. Apply in person, Red Mesa Grill, 2401 S. Gregg.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION

JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction.

Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to: GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND, TX 79711

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ply in person at 3200 Parkway

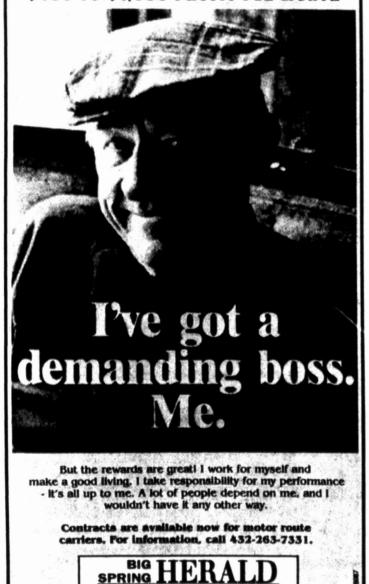
Come join our team! Be part of our devoted staff providing resident care. Now Hiring for LVN's, which offers competitive pay, great benefits and a fantastic working environment. Ap-

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NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSI-TIONS, APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

POLLARD CHEVROLET is taking applications for the parts department. Computer knowledge & experience in automotive preferred. Some heavy lifting. Benefits: Health & Life insurance, 401(k). Apply at 1501 East 4th St.

PORTER NEEDED at Bob Brock. Contact the service department.

TexaStone Quarries is hiring full time laborers to work in the plant and also in the quarry. Benefits available. Apply in person 1400 Sherrod Road, City Garden or 432-354-2569.

The Martin County Hospital District of Stanton is seeking personnel for a housekeeper on an as needed basis. Please contact Paul McKinney, CEO or Alison Israel, CFO at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or call (432)756-3345.

WANTED: 29 Serious people to work from home using a computer. Up to \$1500 or \$5000 PT/FT.

www.WorkNowNotLater.com WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store.

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QUEEN \$139 Pillowtop/orthopedic ma tress set. Plastic wrapped. Warranty. Call 806-549-3110.

6-PIECE BEDROOM set: All wood, complete bedroom. List \$2250. Sacrifice \$750. Call 806-549-3110. ALL NEW Mattress Set, Full

Size still in packaging. Sell for \$119. Call 432-349-4043. **BRAND NEW** Queen pillow top

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furnished.

nished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom. 405 GALVESTON. Very clean. 2 bedroom, central air, ceramic tile floors. Referenced required.

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(432)213-2319, 267-8, 87.

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Southeastern Career Institute

Real Estate for Rent

712 JOHNSON. 1 bedroom, very clean, hardwood floors, refrigerated air, central loca-References. (432)213-2319, 267-8787.

COAHOMA 3 Bedroom 2 bath, CH/A, fenced, storage, carport. \$500 month, \$250 deposit, Call (432)394-4780.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE at 421 Main for rent. Approx. 3,000 sq. ft. includes executive offices, reception area, file storage and break room. Call (432)263-7676.

FOR LEASE 40x120 Building with 2 offices, 4 over head doors on 2 acres, fenced land. 1514 Hwy. 30. \$750 Month + deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

OFFICE SPACE for rent in professional building. Great location. Very affordable rates. Water paid. 1510 Scurry. Call (432) 816-6316.

SEVERAL OFFICES available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656. UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Sunset Ridge Apartments 2911 W. Old Hwy 80 1 & 2 Bedrooms 800-323-8481

Real Estate for Sale

14 VAL Verde. Completely remodeled, 3/2, barn, carport, 4.33 acres, 2144 sq. ft. Coahoma School District. \$147,000.00. Will pay \$3,000 closing cost. towards (432)264-8944, 263-8254.

1804 & 1806 Owens. Move in Ready. Owner Finance Available, \$2,000.00 Down. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart City Reality 432-213-2842.

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath house for sale by owner. 400 Westover. (432)264-6675 517-0800.

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

NEW HOUSE: 517 Foster Ave. (Coahoma), 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, study, custom cabinets, jacuzzi tub master bath, large closets, large utility, stained concrete floors through out, approx. 2400 sq. ft. (432)517-0515, 517-0604.

OWNER ANXIOUS - 10 acres with office building & warehouse. Prime location N. Hwy. 87. Could be used for Oil Field Office or Construction yard. Home Realtors (432)263-1284.

SMALL PARTIAL land for sale. 5 miles south of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles west of Coahoma. Owner will Finance Veterans. Texas (432)263-8785.

Vehicles

(2) New 2005 7 Passenger Vans *9,500 Off! Bob Brock For**d** 500 W. 4th 267-7424

1992 FORD van. 113,000 excellent condition. \$4,500.00. See at 2607 Rebecca, (432) 263-3367.

2002 HONDA Accord, 2 door SE Special Edition, 64k, moonroof, CD. Extended warranty available. \$12,995.00. (806)239-5108, (432)270-4279.

2004 FORD Mustang Coupe, Black, 21K, standard, MP3/CD, 40th Anniversary \$12,500. Call 432-268-1840 or 213-0381.

su do ku Puzzles by Pappocom **ANSWERS**

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Legals RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

DISTRICT 08 DATE OF ISSUANCE: Nov 8, 2006 Rule 37 Case No. 0249594 Status/Permit No. 628520

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GROWNQUEST OPERATING. LLC, [RRC Operator No. 191554] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 14, Bk. 32, T1N, T&P RR CO. Survey, A-<N/A>, BIG SPRING (CANYON LIME) and B.C. (CANYON) Fields, HOWARD County, being 6 miles N direction from BIG SPRING, Texas. The location and identity of the well is as follows: FIELD: BIG SPRING (CANYON LIME)

Lease/Unit Name: DRIVER Lease/Unit Well No.: 1 Lease/Unit Acres: 80.0 Nearest Lease Line (ft): 210.0

Lease Lines: 870.0 F. South L, 940.0 F. West L Survey Lines: 210.0 F. South L. 1600.0 F. West L

FIELD: B.C. (CANYON)

Lease/Unit Name: DRIVER Lease/Unit Well No.: 1 Lease/Unit Acres: 80.0 Nearest Lease Line (ft): 210.0

Lease Lines: 870.0 F. South L, 940.0 F. West L Survey Lines: 210.0 F. South L. 1600.0 F. West L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows: BIG SPRING (CANYON LIME): OIL Statewide rules 467/1200, 40.0 B.C. (CANYON): Special Rules

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9300 feet. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the

467/1200, 80.0 acres.

Applicant's representative. Donna Harmon, at (512)477-1976. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted without a hearing if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected

persons include owners of record and the operator of lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed will than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the ap-plicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, lease contact the Commission at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, Please contact the

Commission at (512)463-6701. IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICA-TION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMIS-SION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY Dec 8. 2006 AT 5:00 p.m., IF NO PRO-TEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED AD-MINISTRATIVELY

> Advertisement for Sealed **Proposals**

#5151 November 10, 17, 24 &

December 1, 2006

The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting proposals for the following RFP# 07-001

SWCID Internet Upgrades Documents may be obtained from Chris Olson, Purchaser, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2006, in the Administrative Annex, room A2, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the proposals submitted. The final determination of pro-

ture board meeting All questions should be directed to Chris Olson, Purchaser, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail colson@howardcollege.edu. (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #5162 November 24 & 30, 2006

posal award will be made at a fu-

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OIL AND GAS DIVISION

one associated with Sagittarius is "I per-ceive." This is the time of year to Ho expose yourself to new perceptions, open your mind and really them in. This pra increases your produ

BIG SPRING HERALI

Friday, November

BY HOLIDAY MAT

The Sagittarius

mission is under

There's

phrase for

each zodiac

sign, and the

never absorbed. ARIES (March 21-19). States of mind infectious. It feel though someone feelings, desires or ups have been transf to you. But what yo with this is to unique.

ty, since it's impossi

reflect out what

TAURUS (April 20 20). You radiate mat You let others need instead of needing

Annie

Dear Annie: I've b member of a local ch of a prominent nat organization for a over three years recent months, "Clai member of our ladies iliary, has been ve her frustrations a over her perceived ment from other lad the group. I've lister her when she want get something off chest, but lately I'm wondering if these trations are real or ined.

When I see Claire these other wome sense no animosity even told Claire that her, and I also like of the women who su edly give her a hard and I don't want to sides.

I've spoken to our ter president about worried that Claire quit. We need all th unteers we can get. Claire's husband, w very supportive and able to our organiz would undoubtedly as well. The pres said he would spe Claire and her hus but in the mean should I remain a " ing post" next tim vents? Imp

Listener Dear Impartial: may be hypersensit minor slights, she want attention, o may, in fact, not get with these women. can allow her to without regis approval (nod ab while she goes on would probably Claire see you as a If you don't want to her complaints, ho it's perfectly OK tance yourself as p

Dear Annie: One adults has arthriti there are 300,000 ch with arthritis. Arthritis Foundat the largest private profit contributo arthritis research. doing our best information to the munity. Some types of ar

as possible.

include: Osteoarthritis, a erative joint disea which the cartilag covers the ends of in the joint deteri causing pain and movement as bone to rub against bon the most prevalen of arthritis.

Rheumatoid art an autoimmune dis which the joint becomes inflamed of the body's immu tem activity. Rheu

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS The Sagittarius solar mission is underway. ful person's confidence.

phrase for each zodiac sign, and the one associatwith Sagittarius is "I per-ceive." This is the time of year to HOLIDAY expose your-

MATHIS self to new perceptions, = open your mind and really soak them in. This practice increases your productivi-

ty, since it's impossible to

reflect out what was

never absorbed.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). States of mind are infectious. It feels as far-off future. Time is the though someone else's feelings, desires or hangups have been transferred to you. But what you do with this is totally unique.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You radiate maturity.

For this reason, you're learn to take care of themchosen for an important job or taken into a power-

GEMINI (May 21-June steps. 21). Life is guesswork. You'll guess wrong a few times today, but so what? So you don't get what you expect, and life is much more interesting because of this!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's a simple but spiritual time for you. You're not alone - even when you are, technically, alone. You're swimming it. This is the way genius in an ocean of living energy and in constant communication with all of the forces around you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The stars favor your financial dealings, especially if they involve the most important factor in your financial plan. Figure out a way to make time work for you by stashing a little money away every day.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You want to take care

selves. You can, however, help by teaching others practical and spiritual

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're embracing what's new and different. It keeps you alive and fresh! After all, active change prevents the passive change of gravity exerting its heavy plan. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). Just as you slip into a familiar rhythm, something startles you out of gets born. Your inventive mind needs a wake-up call every now and again the stars provide it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If someone has the nerve to enter into your private life, learn your secret or mentally pluck a molecule from your spirit, you'll enjoy them more. You're at ease with audacity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You get so wrapped up in what you know and what's normal

way is normal to everyone. It's not. You're fascinating, especially to a Pisces or Taurus person.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're busy with the business of making your deeds as dashing and chivalrous as possible. In other words, living large. All your risk taking is attractive to a conservative person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You voice a happy tone in spite of inconvenience or discomfort. It's like you're singing in the rain. It's just one of the ways you enforce and nurture your outstanding character.

LOVE WEEKEND FORECAST: The Sagittarius sun pushes us out the door and into the world for new spices to add to our love soup. ARIES: Being in love keeps you up at night, a head full of ideas that may or may not be true. TAURUS: Your traditional approach to dating is officially stale. Get new You let others need you of everyone, but sooner or to you that you may mis- information and a differinstead of needing them. later everyone has to takenly assume that your ent approach. GEMINI:

with your crush, it becomes less of a crush and more of an actual relationship. CANCER: You make initial contact. all-important. It's However it goes, the rest of the relationship follows suit. LEO: Avoid even mentioning your "ex." At all. VIRGO: You're down to earth, sincere and funny. What more could a partner want? You're perfect! LIBRA: You and a partner have differing ideas about what's romantic - go with your partner's idea. SCORPIO: Little gestures tell on you. When you love someone, you can't help but give this person your undivided attention. SAGITTAR-IUS: You watch for a signal to proceed in love, and you're very successful because you're willing to wait. CAPRICORN: When you're comfortable, you can enjoy yourself. So get comfortable. Let yourself warm into romantic situations. AQUARIUS: Love feels like a bungee jump. PISCES: Friendship is the DICATE, INC.

When you spend time

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: There's a bit of a rub between zodiac neighbors Sagittarius and Scorpio. Sometimes it's contentious friction, and other times, like this weekend, it's delicious friction - the stuff chick flicks are made of. You don't have to believe the same things to fall deeply in love. Arguing can be courtship, as long as nei-ther takes the subject too seriously. This weekend,

they play love like a

game.

anchor that keeps a

romance alive and well.

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

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Annie's Mailbox .: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I've been a member of a local chapter of a prominent national organization for a little over three years. In recent months, "Claire," a member of our ladies auxiliary, has been venting her frustrations at me over her perceived treatment from other ladies in the group. I've listened to her when she wanted to get something off her chest, but lately I'm left wondering if these frustrations are real or imag-

When I see Claire with these other women. I sense no animosity. I've even told Claire that I like her, and I also like some of the women who supposedly give her a hard time, and I don't want to take

I've spoken to our chapter president about this, worried that Claire might quit. We need all the volunteers we can get. And Claire's husband, who is very supportive and valuable to our organization, would undoubtedly quit as well. The president said he would speak to Claire and her husband. but in the meantime, should I remain a "listening post" next time she vents? — Impartial Listener

Dear Impartial: Claire may be hypersensitive to minor slights, she may want attention, or she may, in fact, not get along with these women. If you can allow her to vent without registering approval (nod absently while she goes on), that would probably help Claire see you as a friend. If you don't want to hear her complaints, however, it's perfectly OK to distance yourself as politely as possible.

Dear Annie: One in 31 adults has arthritis, and there are 300,000 children with arthritis. The Arthritis Foundation is the largest private nonprofit contributor to arthritis research. We are doing our best to get information to the community.

Some types of arthritis include:

Osteoarthritis, a degenerative joint disease in which the cartilage that covers the ends of bones in the joint deteriorates. causing pain and loss of movement as bone begins to rub against bone. It is the most prevalent form of arthritis.

Rheumatoid arthritis. an autoimmune disease in which the joint lining becomes inflamed as part of the body's immune system activity. Rheumatoid



MARCY SUGAR

arthritis is one of the most serious and disabling types, affecting mostly women.

Gout, which affects mostly men. This painful condition most often attacks small joints, especially the big toe. Fortunately, gout almost always can be completely controlled with medication and changes in diet.

Ankylosing spondylitis, a type of arthritis that affects the spine. As a result of inflammation, the bones of the spine grow together.

Juvenile arthritis, a general term for all types of arthritis that occur in children. Children may develop juvenile rheumatoid arthritis or childhood forms of lupus, ankylosing spondylitis or other types of arthritis.

Systemic lupus erythematosus (lupus), a serious disorder that can inflame and damage joints and other connective tissues throughout the body.

Scleroderma, a disease of the body's connective tissue that causes a thickening and hardening of the skin.

Fibromyalgia, in which widespread pain affects the muscles and attachments to the bone. It

affects mostly women. Arthritis is not just an "old person's disease." Arthritis and related conditions cost the U.S. economy nearly \$86.2 billion per year in medical care and indirect expenses. The Arthritis Foundation wants you to know who we are. We look forward to meeting new faces and building relationships. For more information, log on to www.arthritis.org or call the Arthritis Foundation nearest you.

Jacksonville, Fla. Dear Carla Bourg: Thanks for writing. We hope our readers will log on to your website for more information or contact their local founda-

Carla

Bourg,

Dear Annie: I have been

married for 23 years and asked if they could spend have three beautiful children. We live in the same city as my mother-in-law. Mom rarely attends our children's activities, but drives two hours to see the other grandchildren's soccer games and ballet recitals. She only calls when she needs something and then demands that we come over immediately and mow her lawn or change a light bulb.

one, but what's most not to include them, but painful is how hurtful she is to our children. Last their faces. month, all the cousins Grandma. Our children clothes we wear, you vince her to change her N.H.

Name

the night, and she said no. it would be too many kids. She promised to call and have them come over later, but it didn't happen. The day before the cousins went home, they showed up in my backyard eating ice cream and told my kids about all the fun things they did with Grandma. Our children were never invited to go swimming, to the park or Mom is rude to every- mini golfing. How cruel how nasty to rub it in

Mom criticizes our spent the week with home, our activities, the However, if you can't con-

name it. I try to be polite and mostly avoid her. I have thought about standing up to her, but she has a very quick tongue and is a master at manipulation. Any suggestions on how to cope with the monster-in-law? — Outlaws in Iowa

Dear Iowa: How does your husband feel about this? Can he stand up to his mother? She should absolutely know that her blatant favoritism is ruining her relationship with the grandchildren, not to mention with her son and daughter-in-law. ways, keeping your distance is the best option. Your children should not be subjected to such unkindness.

Dear Annie: Can you do one more on having a lot female children? Coming from a family of four girls, I remember my father responding to goodnatured ribbing by saying, "Before I was married, I spent all my money on cars, clothes and girls. Now that I have children, I spend all my money on cars, clothes and girls." Poor man, all he ever wanted was his own bathroom. - Portsmouth,

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BIG SPRING

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By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Director

Michael Bell, inter West Texas VA He since July, has been of the facility.

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Krystal Hughes of m show this Christman

Shopp By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

No sales records but local retailers to-good sales du stages of the Chri season.

Sales are not up

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Staff Writer

Efforts to bring County Jail into with state regulat hopefully back into with the Texas Cou Jail Standards — focus of county co meeting Monday n

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