

Finance Pic.
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost
Lost



Country is 56.
-actress
Actress is 48.
eila E. is
an Eric
(Doctors)
musician
no (Nine
Jennifer
Actress
is 36.
Hank
Actress
1. Model

day: "To
do noth-
be noth-
Hubbard,
and pub-

ed Press.
puzzle
DAILY
OLDIE
GLEAM
TEARS
A
GMP
SOUL
STOR
STUNED
ENSES
E

abowski
Newman
ords.com
pera
it
er
of a
ful
v secret

the
a city
(novel)
one
eficiary

r
gains:

12	13

29 30

53
60

12/12/06

BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 18

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2006

COPYRIGHT 2006

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND



INSIDE
Steers run
past rival
Mustangs in
non-district
play

Page 1B

Anticipation mounts for 'The Nutcracker'

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Managing Editor

The Big Spring Symphony will renew a tradition Saturday with its presentation of "The Nutcracker" — a ballet featuring the music of Russian composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

For several years, the symphony joined with the Lubbock Ballet in presenting the traditional holiday production, but had opted for providing other programs for the last few seasons.

This year, however, "The Nutcracker" is returning to Big

Spring when the orchestra and the Midland Festival Ballet combine to present a performance set for 8 p.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

Returning "The Nutcracker" to the symphony's holiday schedule is something that Music Director and Conductor Dr. Keith Graumann has considered for some time.

"I'd been thinking of a 'Nutcracker' performance for a while," he explained. "We have presented a variety of Christmas season concerts in

the past and all of them were well-received. We've performed a variety show called 'The Symphony is Christmas' several times and our performance of Handel's 'Messiah' two years ago was a huge success. I think the time is right for us to present 'The Nutcracker.'"

In 1892, Tchaikovsky composed "The Nutcracker" and it was first performed at Russia's famous Maryinsky Theatre, today's home of both the Kirov Ballet and the Kirov Opera. The ballet has been trilling audiences during the Christmas sea-

"We are excited that we're once again going to present what may be the world's most well-known ballet. The production of 'The Nutcracker' was an annual event for the Big Spring Symphony, but we have not performed it during my tenure. Tchaikovsky's music for the ballet is magnificent and much of it will be recognizable to the audience."



Graumann

son ever since. "We are excited that we're once again going to present what may be the world's most

well-known ballet," Graumann added. "The production of 'The Nutcracker' was an annual event for the Big Spring Symphony, but we have not performed it during my tenure. Tchaikovsky's music for the ballet is magnificent and much of it will be recognizable to the audience." See **NUTCRACKER**, Page 3A

Looking to the future

Coahoma ISD trustees to begin renovation plans

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

COAHOMA — School trustees here are expected to begin laying the ground work for projects authorized by the recent school bond election when they hold their regular meeting at 8:30 p.m. Thursday in the administration building board room.

School district voters recently authorized almost \$14 million in renovation and construction projects across the district. While actual construction is not expected to begin until next summer, officials have already started taking their first steps in that direction.

Superintendent Jerry Johnson said one of the first things to be done is to decide how they want the projects managed and delivered.

Among many options, trustees are expected to go with the traditional method of choosing a contractor via sealed competitive bids, Johnson said.

"Competitive bidding is what we're looking at," he said. "That way, we're dealing with just one amount ... and there's only one person (the contractor) we're dealing with. We're not trying to locate and talk to three or four subcontractors. I think that will make the

See **CISD**, Page 3A

HOLIDAY WONDERLAND



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

This house on the corner of Lancaster and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. is ablaze in holiday lighting. Many homes in Howard County have been putting their best feet forward this Christmas season.

A good problem to have

Increase in enrollment has BSISD looking for more teachers

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Some problems are better than others.

Big Spring Independent School District officials will discuss recently discovered problems concerning enrollment and planned improvements when trustees hold their regular meeting at 5:15

p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The enrollment problem is one that any school administrator would like to have — simply put, early grade classes are bursting at the seams.

Superintendent Michael Downes said officials will soon add another kindergarten teacher to the district payroll to handle

larger-than-expected enrollment, and adding more instructors in the other elementary grades is a distinct possibility, as well.

Overall district enrollment has surpassed earlier projections, and nowhere is that more evident in the elementary grades, Downes said.

Enrollment at the end of

the second six-week reporting period stood at 3,603, way above the 3,500 students officials anticipated at the start of the school year.

Most of that increase can be traced to the elementary grades, Downes said, especially in kindergarten and first grade.

Kindergarten enrollment has almost sur-

passed the state-mandated student-teacher ratio of 22 to 1, facilitating the hiring of another teacher at midterm of this school year. And enrollment at other elementary grade levels is beginning to bump up against state requirements, as well.

Regardless, Downes said

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Military: Iraqis need more training, equipment

By JENNIFER LOVEN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

President Bush has decided the general direction he wants to take U.S. policy on Iraq and has asked his staff to work out the details as he wraps up a highly public review of the war and its aims.

Military commanders who met Tuesday with Bush sought more advisers to train the Iraqis, not more U.S. combat troops in Iraq. They also urged the administration to pour significantly more funding into equipment for Iraqi security forces, according to a defense specialist familiar with

the meetings.

Gen. John Abizaid, top U.S. commander in the Middle East, and Gen. George Casey, the top general in Iraq, want more armored vehicles, body armor and other critical equipment for the Iraqis, said the defense specialist, who requested anonymity because the

discussions were private.

Abizaid has told the Senate Armed Services Committee that troop levels in Iraq need to stay fairly stable and the use of military adviser teams expanded. About 140,000 U.S. troops and about 5,000 advisers are in Iraq.

The message to Bush, the defense specialist

said, is that the U.S. cannot withdraw a substantial number of combat troops by early 2008, as suggested in the Iraq Study Group report, because the Iraqis will not be ready to assume control of their country. Bush is delaying making

See **IRAQ**, Page 3A

INDEX

Classified 3-5B
Features 5A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A
Sports 1-2B



Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com

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.

POLAR EXPRESS DRIVE

Coahoma Elementary will be hosting the Third Annual Polar Express Drive Through as a gift to the community. The drive through will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday.

The drive through, located at Coahoma Elementary School, will consist of 10 decorated and animated scenes which depict the story of the "Polar Express" Christmas book.

The entrance to the drive-through is located on the north side of the school. The PTA will be selling hot cocoa and cookies to enjoy during the storybook ride. Donations will be accepted.

For more information, call 394-4323.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Coahoma High School Band will present its annual Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. Thursday in the high school auditorium.

The concert program will begin with the sixth-grade beginner band performing, followed by an appearance by the junior high band.

The high school band will then take the stage to conclude the concert.

Band Director Shane Faucett and his assistant, Carey Karvonen, will perform a "shared solo" on trumpet and French horn, respectively.

Admission is free. For more information, call 394-4535.

12 Shopping Days Til Christmas



Bargain Mart

403 Runnels Hrs.: Mon.-Sat. 9-6:30

Obituaries

Polly Froman



Graveside services for Polly Froman, age 65, of Lamesa, will be held Thursday Dec. 14, 2006, 10 a.m. at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with the Rev. Nathan McBride officiating. Memorial will follow at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Polly passed away Dec. 11, 2006, in Lubbock. She was born July 30, 1941, in Lamesa to Jefferson and Leta Cave.

Polly graduated valedictorian from North Fannin High School in 1959. She married Derrell Froman Nov. 25, 1960, in Bonham.

She was a beloved mother and grandmother and excellent cook and homemaker. Her hobbies were gardening and working in her yard and was a longtime member of the local garden club. Polly was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church and was active in her community.

She was preceded in death by her parents J.P. "Doc" and Leta Cave.

Survivors include: husband, Derrell Froman of Lamesa. Sons: Joey Froman and wife, Gloria and their children, Nicole and Troy of Cypress and Jade Froman and wife, Sonia and their children, Jackson, Mason and Nicole of Seminole.

Daughter: Jill Taylor and husband, Greg and their children, Madison and Ty of Lubbock.

Two Brothers: John Paul Cave of McKinney and William Everitt Cave of Dallas.

Visitation will be held Wednesday from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

Freyda Griffin

Freyda Griffin, 70, of Coahoma died Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2006, at a Lubbock hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

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 non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at 263-0027, ext. 236 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

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.

Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Take Note

HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS, part of the Big Spring Heritage Series, are available for the holiday season; however, only a few remain. Sales of the ornaments supports community history and the museum. For information, contact Hangar 25 at 264-1999 or come by 1911 Apron Drive.

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 before distribution.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES is 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 Medicaid or Medicare card. Flu shots will be offered to everyone. For more information, call 432-263-9775.

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 COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford 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 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.

Police blotter

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

- JASON LEE BULLARD, 23, 2908 Cherokee, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- SHERRY ANN FELTS, 50, 1511 S. Main, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- NINFA GARCIA, 50, 1406 S. Young, was arrested on a charge of assault/family violence.
- ROBERT SANCHEZ, 42, Colorado City, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- LAURA YANEZ, 27, 1511 Stadium, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- FRANK LEE JACKSON, 48, 809 Wyoming, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct/language.
- ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 4100 block of Parkway and the 1500 block of Main.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of Ridgelea.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 300 block of Jones.
- DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID was reported in the 1600 block of Harding.
- THEFT was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson and the 1800 block of Gregg.

Sheriff's report

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

- TEODORO DIAZ, 52, was arrested by sheriff's deputies on a warrant charging possession of a controlled substance.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported at the Big Spring VAMC. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2400 block of Carlton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to VAMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$30 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$22 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 20, 30, 31, 35 and 49. The Mega Ball number was 23.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-7-8-13-21. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$26,420. Winning ticket sold in: Victoria. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night, in order: 0-5-1

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday afternoon, in order: 9-7-5

LOOK

Auto Collectibles Real Estate Employment
Appliances Computers Jewelry Baby Items
Consultants Collectibles Autos
Furniture Collectibles Electronics
Contractors Computers Jewelry Baby Items
Furniture Collectibles Electronics Autos

Classifieds
I have a car
Looking for a new house?
An affordable computer
2nd hand just what you need and want
Electronics
Contractors Computers Jewelry Baby Items

Big Spring Herald Classifieds
Definitely Worth A Look
To place your classified ad, call
263-7331

Weather

Today - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Light and variable winds becoming west around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s. Light and variable winds.

Thursday - Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. Light and variable winds becoming southwest around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Light and variable winds.

Friday - Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Saturday - Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

Saturday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Coronado Hills Apartments
1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575
801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500
Big Spring, Texas 79720

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

"Remember...you deserve the best!"

TOMMY CHURCHWELL
FARMERS®
New Homeowners Policy
LOW RATES

2303 Gollad (432) 267-3857

BIG SPRING HERALD
www.BigSpringHerald.com
Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

432-263-7331 Missed Your Paper: 432-263-7335
(Main Switchboard) (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m.)
432-264-7205 (Fax) (Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

Ronnie Cupstid Publisher... Ext. 250
John A. Moseley Managing Editor... Ext. 230
Rick Nunez Advertising Manager... Ext. 229
Duane McCollum Circulation Manager... Ext. 244
Tony Hernandez Production Manager... Ext. 256

The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

State briefs

Democrat defeats 7-term Republican Rep. Bonilla in Texas runoff election

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Democrat Ciro Rodriguez's victory over seven-term Republican incumbent Henry Bonilla was another blow to Republicans who lost control of Congress five weeks ago.

"I think (it was) the trend throughout the country," Rodriguez said after his 54 percent to 46 percent victory in Tuesday's runoff. "I think they're fed up ... they elect us to go out there and solve problems, not create any more."

Encouraging partisan turnout was the refrain for both campaigns. Bexar County, the district's population anchor, extended its early voting period. While early voting tends to be Republican, Rodriguez carried the early vote.

Rodriguez said a last-minute visit from former President Clinton that drew hundreds of supporters on Sunday provided an important boost to his campaign.

Man praised for saving kids convicted of arson charge

ABILENE (AP) — A man once hailed as a hero for rescuing children from a burning apartment complex was convicted Tuesday in connection with the blaze.

Kristopher Leija, 26, was convicted of arson of a vehicle, a second-degree felony, after the jury deliberated almost four hours. Leija was acquitted on a charge of arson of a habitation, a first-degree felony, and arson of a building, a second-degree felony.

"The jury spoke, and they didn't feel he intentionally tried to burn down the complex," defense attorney Monte Sherrod said in a story in Tuesday's online edition of the Abilene Reporter-News.

Leija could face two to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. The judge ordered a pre-sentencing investigation, and sentencing is expected in about six weeks.

Leija gained national attention in 2003 after television news footage showed him helping four children to safety from the apartment complex fire, which left about 70 families homeless but did not injure anyone.

Dallas business execs unite against TXU plan for coal plants

DALLAS (AP) — Several Dallas business executives have formed a political action committee to oppose TXU Corp.'s plan to build 11 coal-fired power plants.

Leaders of Texas Business for Clean Air say pollution from the proposed plants could hurt economic development by boosting health care costs and making it more difficult to attract workers.

"We are not against TXU. We are all for companies making money. But you've passed off some of your costs on the public in terms of dirty air, in terms of kids showing up at Children's Hospital," said David Litman, a group founder and chief executive of Consumer Club Inc.

About 20 prominent Dallas business leaders have endorsed the group. Other businessmen who helped form the committee were Garrett Boone, chairman of The Container Store, and real estate developer Trammell S. Crow. Litman said the group will seek support from its associates across the state.

TXU says the proposed plants will meet the state's growing demand for power, give an economic boost to small towns and reduce toxic emissions by replacing older, less efficient plants.

NUTCRACKER

Continued from Page 1A

Nutcracker' was an annual event for the Big Spring Symphony, but we have not performed it during my tenure. Tchaikovsky's music for the ballet is magnificent and much of it will be recognizable to the audience. I hear excerpts daily on television and radio. Much of the music is also very difficult, but our orchestra is very capable and anxious to perform it for our community. And exposing the wonderful plot onstage through dance will definitely make for a memorable evening."

"The Nutcracker" story is well known: It's Christmas Eve and Herr Drosselmeier, the magical toy maker, attends a party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum and his godchild, Clara. He brings gifts for all the children, and after teasing Clara, finally presents her with a wonderful Nutcracker doll.

In the midst of the party, her handsome Nutcracker is broken, but Drosselmeier mends it with a ribbon from Clara's hair and the party resumes.

When the guests depart, Drosselmeier transports Clara into a world of fantasy where time is suspended. With the aid of toy soldiers, Clara and the Nutcracker battle the Mouse King and his army of mice. Together they slay the Mouse

King and the Nutcracker is transformed into a handsome prince. The Prince leads Clara on a journey through the Land of Snow to the Kingdom of Sweets where, upon their arrival, they are greeted by the lovely Waltzing Flowers and reigning Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier.

After the Prince tells the story of how he and Clara defeated the Mouse King, they are entertained with dances from many lands.

Drosselmeier reappears and returns a sleepy Clara back to her home.

It is a show that's nothing short of magical, Graumann said.

Corporate sponsors — Citizens Federal Credit Union, Alon USA and an anonymous private donor — have helped make the show financially feasible, Graumann added. "And as always," he continued, "we owe a debt of gratitude to the Dora Roberts Foundation for its help in making our entire symphony season possible."

Tickets for the show — priced at \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students — are available at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Faye's Flowers, the Heritage Museum, Blum's Jewelers, the First Bank of West Texas and the Big Spring Herald.

To contact Managing Editor John A. Moseley, call 263-7331, ext. 230, or e-mail him at editor@bigspringherald.com

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

officials will be more than happy to deal with the situation.

"It's a nice problem to have," Downes said.

Not as nice, however, is recent developments dealing with planned renovations at the high school parking lots and the Blankenship Field track.

When trustees approved this

year's budget, money was included to address both situations, but estimates are exceeding the amounts set aside for repairs, Downes said.

The track, for example, could end up costing the district much more than anticipated.

Erosion has caused problems with the base of the track, meaning that simple resurfacing is no longer a viable option.

Also, hopes for expanding the track so that the district could

host track and field meets in the future are in doubt, Downes said.

"To host a track meet, we'd need an eight-lane track (Blankenship's track is currently seven lanes)," Downes said. "The addition of an eighth lane would be a major undertaking."

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

- The district's nomination to the county appraisal district board.
- Contract renewal to the San

Angelo firm that conducts student drug testing services.

- Personnel matters.
- Reports on state plans for online testing, elementary and junior high math curriculum, food services and the district's improvement plan for this school year.

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

CISD

Continued from Page 1A

process go a lot smoother, and you usually get a lot better bids by dealing with just one amount and not bidding out individual

items."

Allan Wolf, the architectural consultant for this project, also will be on hand Thursday to discuss preparation for the construction projects.

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

- Accepting an oil and gas lease bid.

The district's nomination for the county appraisal board.

- Reports on enrollment and TAKS scores.
- Personnel matters.

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

IRAQ

Continued from Page 1A

public his new Iraq policy plan in part to allow officials to work out the funding, he said.

Bush scheduled a session Wednesday with senior defense officials at the Pentagon. He already has visited this week with State Department officials to review options, hosted a few outside Iraq experts, and met with Iraq's Sunni vice president, Tariq al-Hashemi. Last week, the president held talks with the leader of the largest Shiite bloc in Iraq's parliament, Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, and with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the president's staunchest war ally.

Iraq has proposed that its troops assume primary responsibility for security in Baghdad early next year and that U.S. troops be shifted to the capital's periphery, The New York Times reported on its Web site Tuesday night.

Iraq's national security adviser, Mowaffak al-

Rubaie, told the Times that the plan was presented during Bush's meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in Amman, Jordan, on Nov. 30.

Bush's meetings at the Pentagon were expected to cap his high-profile outreach effort, which surrounded last week's presentation of the Iraq Study Group report, a blistering review from an independent, bipartisan commission.

The Iraq Study Group recommended most combat troops be withdrawn by early 2008 and the U.S. mission changed from combat to training and support of Iraqi units. It also called for an energetic effort to seek a diplomatic solution to Iraq's violence by engaging its neighbors, including Iran and Syria.

Bush, cool to both of the commission's central ideas, had been expected to follow his information-gathering with a pre-Christmas announcement of his own altered blue-

print for U.S. involvement in Iraq. But the White House, citing the president's request for more time to refine and game out new policies, said Tuesday that Bush would wait until early next year.

"It's not ready yet," White House press secretary Tony Snow said. "There may be some areas on which there are still going to be debates, but most have kind of been ironed out."

Dissatisfaction with the president's handling of the war is at an all-time high. Democrats take control of Congress on Jan. 4 because of midterm elections that turned in large part on that issue.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., about to become Senate majority leader, criticized Bush's decision to delay unveiling the new Iraq plan.

"It has been six weeks since the American people demanded change in Iraq. In that time Iraq has descended further toward all-out civil war and all

the president has done is fire Donald Rumsfeld and conduct a listening tour," Reid said. "Talking to the same people he should have talked to four years ago does not relieve the president of the need to demonstrate leadership and change his policy now."

The White House first began suggesting the pre-Christmas goal a month after outgoing Pentagon chief Donald H. Rumsfeld resigned and Bush nominated Gates to replace him. Gates plans to go to Iraq shortly after he is sworn in next Monday.

Snow said Bush told his staff Tuesday that he wanted more information about the ramifications for the U.S. military, Iraq's internal politics, regional relations and other matters.

Bush showed no indication of his leanings.

"Our objective is to help the Iraqi government deal with the extremists and the killers, and support the vast majority of Iraqis who are reasonable, who

want peace," the president said Tuesday, al-Hashemi at his side. He took no questions.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Freyda Griffin, 70, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

DREXEL HERITAGE
Welcome Home
2101 West Wadley Midland, TX
432-682-0029
www.drexelheritage.com

CINEMARK
The Best Seat in Town
CINEMA 4
1801 East FM 700 (432) 263-2232
ADULT MATINEE MOVIE OPEN SALON / ADULT SALON / CHILDREN SALON
• UNACCOMPANIED MINORS (PG) 5:00 7:30
• HAPPY FEET (PG) 4:30 7:00
• BECK IN THE HALLS (PG) 4:50 7:20
• THE HATFUTY STORY (PG) 4:40 7:10
VALID 12/11/06 THRU 12/14/06
ADVANCE TICKET SALES • NO PASSES NO SUPERSAVERS
Showtimes available at cinemark.com

Midland Medical Group
Gustavo Fierro, M.D.
Board Certified Internal Medicine
Now Accepting New Patients
Offices In Big Spring and Midland
Call For Appointment
264-6860

BIG SPRING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
DIRECTED BY DR. KEITH GRAUMANN
PRESENTS
TCHAIKOVSKY'S NUTCRACKER BALLET
WITH MIDLAND FESTIVAL BALLET
SAT. DECEMBER 16 - 8 PM
Big Spring City Auditorium
CORPORATE SPONSORS
CITIZEN'S FCU AND ALON USA
TICKETS:
ADULTS \$15 SENIORS \$10 STUDENTS \$5
BS HERALD, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, HERITAGE MUSEUM, FAYE'S FLOWERS, BLUM'S JEWELERS, FIRST BANK OF W-TEX.
OR AT THE DOOR AT SHOWTIME
432-263-4033
WWW.BIGSPRINGSYMPHONY.COM

Harlen & Doris Hulbregtse
Come to eat every Friday. She enjoys the Salads & He enjoys the Sliced Beef Sandwich & Homemade Ice Cream.
Al's Bar-B-Q
267-8921
1810 S. Gregg

Please don't forget.
This Christmas season please help poor and suffering souls in our community. Your gift today will let someone in desperate need know they haven't been forgotten.
Remember to give.
YES, I want to help provide food and shelter for needy people in our community:
 \$20 to help feed a hungry person.
 \$35 to help provide toys for needy children.
 \$50 to help feed and shelter a hurting family.
 \$ to help as much as possible.
DOING THE MOST GOOD
Please send your tax-deductible gift to:
The Salvation Army
P.O. Box 1248
Big Spring, TX 79721
1-800-SAL-ARMY
CLIP AND MAIL WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ronnie Cupstid
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Share the magic at Big Spring's Festival of Lights

While workers may still be in the process of putting the finishing touch to their displays, and final repairs necessary due to the thoughtless acts of vandals, there's little doubt the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park will once again be a major attraction for Big Spring during the Christmas season.

The giant poinsettias that line the Comanche Trail Lake dam are among the most striking displays, but there's much, much more for visitors to the park each night during the festival.

Poinsettias, arranged around and reflected in the waters of the historic Big Spring and those lining the dam along U.S. 87 grab the eye, but they are just a few of the attractions at this year's new and improved Festival of Lights.

Even more poinsettias have been added for this year's display.

In fact, long-time visitors will notice a few changes this year. Gone from the entrance is the lighted U.S. flag and in its place will be a 20-foot silhouette of the Settles Hotel, framed by two pink poinsettias.

And the diorama, formerly chock full of candy canes, is now a "poinsettia pasture."

This holiday season, as in recent years, numerous businesses, civic groups and individuals have again been invited to take part in decorating for the festival and they've come through with even more magnificent efforts than they ever before.

The festival begins Friday night and will continue through Dec. 31.

The Festival normally draws thousands of visitors from several states and countries and Festival of Lights chairperson Pat Simmons hopes to attract more than 20,000 — which would be a record — this year.

Remember, admission is free, but donations from visitors are gratefully accepted — making it possible to not only maintain the displays, but expand them each year.

Be sure to take a few moments this holiday season, pack up the family or a few friends and take a tour through the park and enjoy the almost magical display volunteers have created.

We're convinced you'll be pleased with what you see and glad you took the time.

We always are.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We enjoy our moments, Lord, when we trust in You.
Amen

Pinochet leaves debatable legacy

To the world's leftist extremists, he was an easy target — the stereotypical caricature of a Latin American strongman, the personification of repression and human rights violations.

But to those who have lived under communist oppression and cruelty all over the world, and to those who enjoyed the prosperity he brought to his homeland, Augusto Pinochet was a hero.

The former Chilean dictator, who died Sunday from heart complications at the age of 91, will be remembered in very different ways by both extremes of the political spectrum.

Some will cite the 3,000 people who were killed or "disappeared" during his 17-year rule. Others will say he saved Chile and Latin America from the spread of communism in the 1970s.

And both sides will be right. Some will complain that he gained power through a 1973 U.S.-backed coup against the democratically elected government of leftist President Salvador Allende, and that he presided over a police state that thrived on repression and even torture.

Others will say that in 1980 the Chilean people gave him a vote of confidence when they approved a new constitution that allowed Pinochet to remain in power for almost another decade. They will also say that Pinochet became one of the world's only dictators who relinquished power peacefully when voters rejected his 1988 bid for another eight-year term as president.

And again, both sides will be correct.

That's why in Chile, the announcement of Pinochet's death was met with both widespread mourning and celebrations Sunday.

Some held his picture, prayed and cried. Others chanted "Carnaval, Carnaval, se murio el general" (Carnaval, Carnaval, the general is dead).

Some called him a liberator, responsible for decades of economic prosperity, and others said he was a murderer, responsible for decades of suffering.

To Patricio Lerzundi, a New York-based Chilean journalist who interviewed Pinochet exclusively shortly before voters rejected an extension of his regime in 1988, Pinochet was the consummate military man.

"His aides had advised him not to greet me in his general's uniform, and so he was wearing a suit," Lerzundi said. "But he was still wearing army boots."

And when Lerzundi told him that his life had been threatened upon his arrival in Santiago, Pinochet dismissed it nonchalantly.

"That happens to me every day," the journalist was told.

Lerzundi said he found that Pinochet was in denial about the huge number of Chileans who opposed him.

"He made sure that the elections were clean because he was totally convinced that he would win," Lerzundi said. "And he insisted that protection of human rights was a constant concern for his government."

Of course, Pinochet was wrong on both counts. Although he continued to head the armed forces for eight years after he gave up the presidency in 1990, when he

traveled to Britain in 1998, he was detained and charged with human rights violations against 79 Spanish citizens who died in Chile during his regime. Spanish authorities sought his extradition for more than a year and British courts ruled that although he was a former head of state, Pinochet was not entitled to immunity.

Yet, claiming he was too ill to stand trial, Pinochet's lawyers convinced the British government to let him return to Chile.

However, two years later, the Chilean Supreme Court stripped him of the immunity from prosecution he had enjoyed in his homeland, forcing him to fight numerous legal battles to stay out of prison until the day he died.

His death without punishment left his enemies hungry for justice. Some of them burned vehicles in protests on the streets of Santiago. Some even waved the hammer and sickle red flag of the former Soviet Union, which is precisely the reason why others supported him.

Pinochet's followers believe he rescued Chile from Cuban-style repression and regression. They point to Cuba's constantly decaying society and cite Pinochet's numerous reforms that led to extraordinary economic developments in Chile.

"Thanks to him we are not another Cuba," said one of the mourners outside the hospital where Pinochet died.

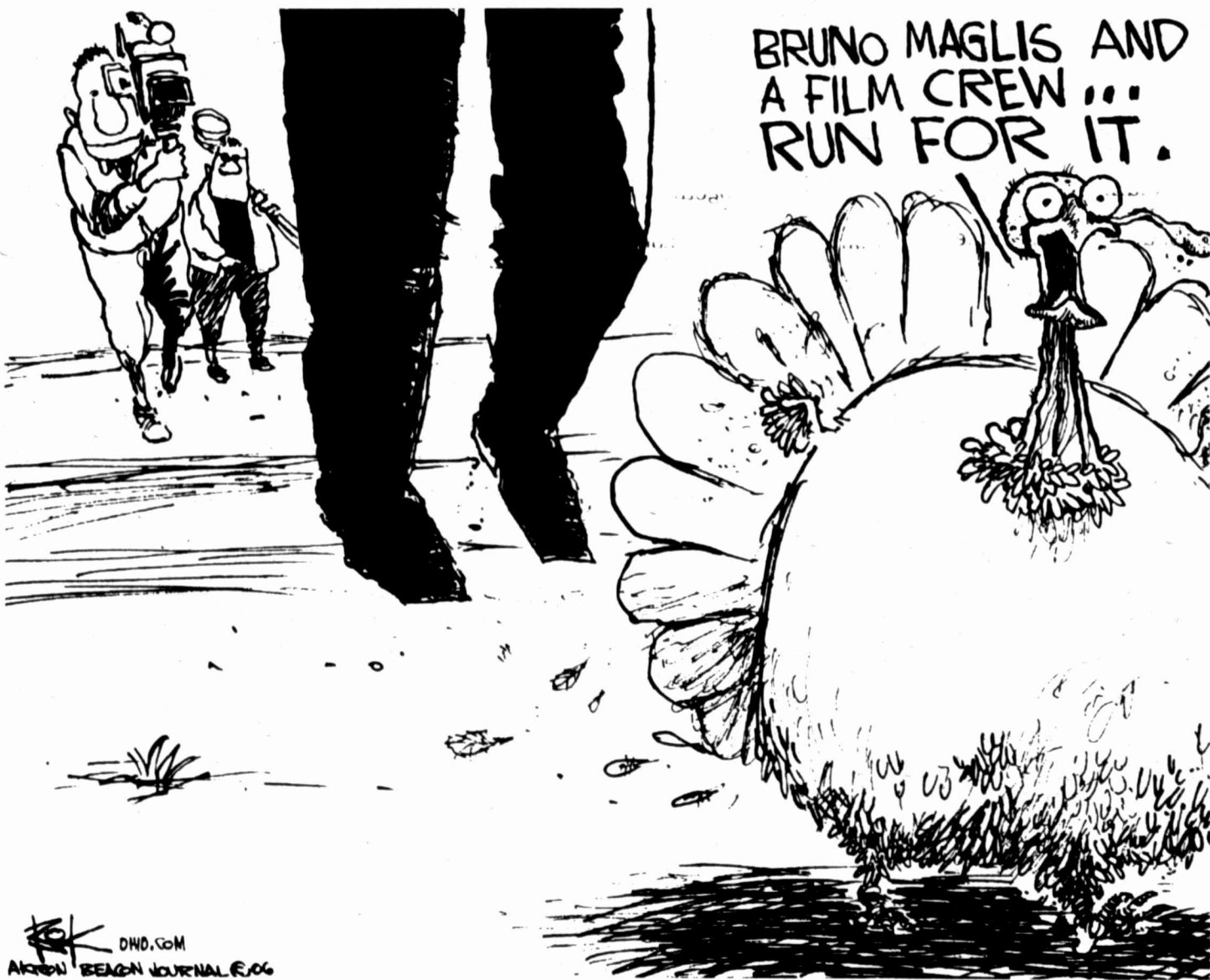
Even after his death, Pinochet evokes strong emotions. For many years, he will continue to divide Chilean society between those who loved him and those who hated him.

That's the legacy he leaves.

COPYRIGHT 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.



MIGUEL PEREZ



Predicting rainfall with an onion

On the last day of every year, Butch Sohm of Hamilton prepares a rain forecast for the coming year. "My grandpa and uncle used to do it and I just picked up the tradition," says Sohm. "I've been keeping it going for a long time now. It's pretty accurate."

He uses a white onion to do the forecast. He showed me how he does it.

"You've got to cut the onion in half, trying to get as close to the middle as you can, so that each half of the onion will be equal in size. You've got to wait until Dec. 31 to do it. That's the way my uncle and grandpa did it. I always start about 15 or 20 minutes before midnight on Dec. 31."

He peels off the layers of onions and creates twelve little onion bowls. Each one represents a month. He arranges these in two rows of six. The top row repre-

sents January to June; the bottom row represents July to December.

The biggest bowls are on the left, then they gradually get smaller, with the smallest ones on the right.

"There's a fine piece of skin inside the onion that you have to peel pretty hard, but once you get the hang of it, it's pretty easy. Then you get a teaspoon and some salt. Put a teaspoon of salt in each one of these, and never touch them after you put the salt in. Then let them sit for 45 minutes to an hour. Then you take a look. Some of those little onions will be full of water and running over and some onions will be dry and cracked. Those are the months that'll be real dry. The ones with water in them will be the wet months."

"Some of them will have just teardrops in them. That means a little bit of rain for that month. But you can look at each one and you'll have the rain forecast for the whole year, whether it'll be wet or dry. I've seen some of those onions just pour out the water. I remember one year all the onions

had water in them and it turned out to be a very wet year. People were wishing it would stop raining."

Butch has some land and depends on his onion to tell him when to plant and fertilize.

He says it's real important to make sure that that fine piece of skin is removed from each little bowl. They won't draw the moisture if that's still there.

Butch does his forecasting in an unheated room inside his house. He usually lays out his onion pieces on a board. As the new year approaches, he carefully looks at each one, writes a forecast for each month, then throws away the onions.

Butch and his wife own a barbecue place in Hamilton called the Smoke Shack. Customers, especially around the first of the year, are anxious to get Butch's rain forecast.

"I show them the piece of paper I wrote the forecast on. Sometimes they get out a pencil and make their own copy. If the onion indicates it's gonna be dry, they want me to make it rain. But I can't."



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Planned a holiday guests a your ch next lev

Instead cubes s picks, assortm cheeses.

batches and go cheeses blue, gr

gray, course, lively g

alities r low and rambun ionated.

Artisa quite th world.

zoomed America concept eating food ma

instead rations. are serv and TV

spotligh their m

As a tion of a \$6.4 b

2003, in faster th consum

2004, a Califorr Board.

Servin "tells y interest

some th to wake and giv

fun," Devere tor for t board.

WH The h assem

is decid to serv

About are pr

varietic and Ca

ing da there a

varietic Europe

making traditio

inct fl the ar

farm's of the

cheeser But c

Expert: ing mo

five ch fusing.

"You whelm

do wa palate

Devere The

thumb that ar

flavor, color a

Ben and ch

sor for

OVER 80 \$24! PICK ONE

SWITCH TO DVD STAND EQUIPMENT

Tommy's Big Spring

For holiday parties, give cheese a chance

By GAIL BORELLI

McClatchy Newspapers

Planning the spread for a holiday party? Do your guests a favor and take your cheese tray to the next level.

Instead of bland orange cubes speared on toothpicks, serve a colorful assortment of artisan cheeses. Made in small batches from cow, sheep and goat milk, these cheeses come in shades of blue, green, brown, white, gray, red — and, of course, orange. They're a lively group, with personalities ranging from mellow and well-mannered to rambunctious and opinionated.

Artisan cheeses have quite the buzz in the food world. Interest has zoomed as more Americans embrace the concept of eating fresh, eating local and eating food made by real people instead of faceless corporations. Top restaurants are serving cheese plates, and TV food programs spotlight cheeses and their makers.

As a result, consumption of specialty cheeses, a \$6.4 billion industry in 2003, increased five times faster than overall cheese consumption from 1994 to 2004, according to the California Milk Advisory Board.

Serving artisan cheeses "tells your guests you're interested in giving them something new. You want to wake up their mouths and give them something fun," says Lynne Devereux, cheese educator for the California milk board.

WHAT TO SERVE?

The hardest thing about assembling a cheese tray is deciding which kinds to serve.

About 110 cheesemakers are producing specialty varieties in Wisconsin and California, the leading dairy states. Then there are the hundreds of varieties imported from Europe, where cheesemaking is a centuries-old tradition. Each has a distinct flavor that reflects the animals' diet, the farm's microclimate, age of the cheese and the cheesemaker's skill.

But choose you must. Experts agree that offering more than three to five cheeses can be confusing.

"You don't want to overwhelm the guests, but you do want to push their palate a little bit," Devereux says.

The general rule of thumb is to serve cheeses that are diverse in origin, flavor, texture, intensity, color and age.

Ben Hathaway, cheese and charcuterie supervisor for Dean & DeLuca

gourmet grocer in Leawood, Kan., suggests beginning with a cheese that's simple and mild. "Then throw in something that's a little off the beaten path," he says.

Ryan Sciara, managing partner at Cellar Rat in Kansas City, Mo., likes a soft Brie for starters. A semisoft cheese like Petite Basque from France, a hard cheese such as Parmigiano-Reggiano and a blue cheese — "always a blue" — would round out the tray nicely, he says.

Guests should be encouraged to sample the mellow, younger cheeses first. Aged cheeses should be tasted last so their sharp, pungent flavors don't overpower the palate.

In his book "The Cheese Plate" (Clarkson Potter), Max McCalman recommends placing the mildest cheese at the 6 o'clock position on the plate and proceeding clockwise with the more complex cheeses. "Then there's absolutely nothing wrong with jumping around, experimenting, even going backward," he writes.

Another option is to offer a "flight" of similar cheeses, says Ron Shalinsky, owner of the two Kansas City, Mo., area Better Cheddar stores. The tray might contain all blue cheeses, all Italian cheeses, all sheep's milk cheeses. Or guests could taste the differences between a youthful Cheddar and others that have been aged 6 years and 9 years.

When in doubt, ask for help. The people who work in specialty food stores love to talk about cheese and are there to help you put together a tasty, well-rounded tray.

Shalinsky often recommends Prince de Claverolle, a French sheep's milk cheese with a nutty flavor; Piave, an Italian cow's milk cheese with pineapple undertones; Cotswold, an English Cheddar with chives; and St. Agur, a French blue cheese that is buttery and mild. "Even people who think they don't like blue may find they like this one," he says.

How much cheese should you buy? It all depends on what time of day the party is and how much other food is being served. If it's a cheese party, plan on 2 to 4 ounces of cheese total per person, Shalinsky says. If you're serving a lot of other foods, 1 or 2 ounces per person should be enough.

Remember that artisan cheeses are so flavorful that it doesn't take much to satisfy. And be warned



MCT photo/Bonnie Trafelet/Chicago Tribune

Getting a wine and cheese pairing just right takes a little experimenting.

that handcrafted cheese comes at a price — an average \$16 a pound, compared with \$4 a pound for grocery store Cheddar.

SERVING TIPS

To maximize guests' enjoyment of the cheese tray:

Slice cheese while it's still cold. But resist the urge to cut up everything. Large hunks of cheese are dramatic, even beautiful, and should be left intact to anchor the plate.

Bring cheese to room temperature before serving. This may take an hour or more. Keep it wrapped while it warms so it doesn't dry out.

Cheeseheads are divided on whether to remove rinds before serving. According to the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, rinds hint at the cheesemakers' craftsmanship and add textural interest and deserve to stay. However, some rinds are inedible, and "it's not going to be a good experience later on if you eat it," Hathaway says. He advises cutting them off.

Eating the bitter rind on Brie is a matter of personal taste. Some people like it; some don't. So leave on the rind, and if you see that guests are digging out the middle of the cheese, you can always cut it off midway through the party, Devereux says.

Serve cheeses on a wooden cutting board, marble or granite slab, ceramic platter, bamboo tray or other flat surface.

Use a separate knife or spreader for each cheese.

Make signs to help guests identify unfamiliar cheeses. Kitchen stores sell erasable ceramic markers for just this purpose; the budget alternative is to letter cardboard labels in your best handwriting. (For the photograph on today's Food cover, we burned the names on balsawood tags.)

The new book "Real Simple Celebrations" (Time Inc. Home Entertainment) takes a fun, casual approach. Paper name tags are stuck to toothpicks and labeled: "Hello My Name Is ... Mountain Gorgonzola, and I'm earthy, sharp and soft."

Sidekicks

Cheese and crackers go together like... well, like cheese and crackers. But don't get anything too wacky, Sciara says, or the crackers' flavor may compete with the cheese. Neutral water crackers are always a safe bet. Biscotti, flatbread, crusty baguettes and pita chips are other options.

Don't stop there. Dried fruits (dates, apricots, cherries) and nuts (toasted almonds, candied walnuts, hazelnuts) are classics. Fresh fruits, including ripe berries, pears and grapes, are divine. Olives and cured meats such as prosciutto also add variety to the cheese plate.

Cheeses play well with condiments, too. Sciara likes to put a honeycomb

on the tray; it's terrific spread on blue cheeses, he says. Fig paste and mostarda, a cooked-down citrus rind with mustard seeds, are other Sciara faves. Shalinsky likes to drizzle high-quality olive oil or aged balsamic vinegar over harder cheeses such as Parmesan and Piave.

Devereux suggests get-

ting the party started by making up a little plate of samples, maybe an aged Cheddar on a cracker with a dollop of chutney.

"Some people need permission to experiment," she says. Once they get the idea, though, stand back.

So go ahead and invite

See CHEESE, Page 6A

Contract Bridge

Win a Lot, Lose a Little

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ 10 8 7
♥ 10 6 4
♠ A J 8 5 3
♦ Q J
WEST
♦ 9 6 3
♥ K 8 5
♠ K 9 2
♦ 10 9 8 5
EAST
♦ Q J 9 3
♥ Q 10 6 4
♠ A K 7 3 2
SOUTH
♦ A K Q J 5 4 2
♥ A 7 2
♠ 7
♦ 6 4

The bidding:
South 1♦ West Pass North 1NT East 4♣

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

Declarer's objective in most deals is to make the contract, and if — in attempting to reach this goal — he goes down an extra trick while trying to do so, it should not really bother him.

Take this case where South is in four spades and West leads a club. East cashes the A-K of clubs and shifts to the queen of hearts. Declarer ducks the queen but wins the next heart with the ace.

South is now at the crossroads of the hand. He has a heart loser and must formulate a plan to get rid of it. The only way this can be done is to try to establish an extra diamond trick in dummy, which necessitates ruffing three of dummy's diamonds and finding the suit divided 4-3.

There is also another hitch. Dummy's fifth diamond will be of no value if there is no entry to dummy to cash it. For this reason, declarer must adopt a somewhat unusual line of play.

At trick five, he leads a diamond to the ace, then ruffs a diamond high. He next leads the spade deuce and finesses the seven! When this wins, South ruffs another diamond high, then finesses the eight of spades. This is followed by a third diamond ruff high, after which dummy's ten of spades provides the entry to cash the jack of diamonds and make the contract.

It is true that declarer risks going down an extra trick — 100 points — by finessing the spade seven. But it is also true that if the finesse succeeds and the diamonds are divided normally, he scores 620 points for winning the rubber game. Since the finesse can gain a lot and lose only a little, it is clearly the right play.

Tomorrow: A delectable concoction.
©2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

ODESSA-MIDLAND
DISH Network now has your local channels.

OVER 80 CHANNELS STARTING AT **\$24.99** INCLUDING YOUR LOCAL CHANNELS

Save \$135 over Cable! (over 10 months)

PICK ONE PREMIUM MOVIE PACKAGE AND SAVE!

3 MONTHS FREE
FREE \$50 GAS CARD

SWITCH TO DISH NETWORK AND YOU'LL ALSO GET:
FREE DVR or HD Receiver Upgrade (model dependent)
FREE Standard Professional Installation (up to 1 hour)
DISH Equipment to Buy

DON'T WAIT ANOTHER MINUTE. SWITCH TO DISH NETWORK NOW!

Textronics
Serving Odessa, Midland & surrounding areas
Big Spring (432) 263-3474
Tel-Fax 800-791-3474
www.textronics.com

And you have emergency service?

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

May your Christmas be rich with family love, warm with friendship, happy with life's goodness and blessed with the joys of the season.

Full Moon Roofing, Inc.

Save Up to 30% On A New Roof!
20 yr., 30 Yr., Shingle Roofs • Flat Roofs
Modified Gravel • 26 Gauge U-Panel Metal
Most Colors Available!!

FULLMOON, INC. ROOFING
Commercial • Residential • Industrial • Insured • Bonded • Three Million General Liability

REASONS TO CALL

- Ranked Top 25 Roofing Contractors In Texas
- Owners Calling Preferred Contractors
- Save \$100's to \$1000's On Your Next Roof

VOTED BEST ROOFING CO. IN BIG SPRING

FREE ESTIMATES
(432) 267-5478 • BIG SPRING, TX
HENRY BACKES

Drought keeps Texas cotton crop down, but still fourth-largest

By **BETSY BLANEY**

Associated Press Writer
LUBBOCK — West Texas cotton producer Rickey Bearden lost all 4,000 of his dryland acres to drought, and the lack of rain made his irrigated crop just average.

"I'm considerably down from last year," he said. "Just lack of rainfall."

Growers across Texas, the nation's leading producer of the fluffy fiber, suffered from the drought. Despite the dry conditions, Texas is on track to harvest 5.7 million bales, the state's

fourth-largest crop ever, 32 percent below 2005.

The estimates for this year's crop were released Monday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and were virtually unchanged from last month. They follow back-to-back record years for Texas producers. Last year, the state produced 8.5 million bales, about 700,000 bales more than 2004.

Nationally, the forecast called for 21.3 million bales to be harvested, down 11 percent from last year. Cotton is grown

across the nation's Southern tier from Virginia and the Carolinas to California.

When compared with 2005, yields are down in all cotton-producing states except Arizona, Arkansas, California, Tennessee, and Louisiana.

Monday's USDA report projected improved yields from last month for Georgia, Louisiana and Tennessee.

Steven Brown, a cotton specialist at the University of Georgia, said he had expected the

heat and drought to reduce average yields in his state to about 500 pounds per acre — barely enough to make one 480-pound bale on an acre.

"If the USDA is right, we're going to make a respectable crop," Brown said.

The report says Georgia growers should average 765 pounds per acre, 97 pounds more than the November estimate. It's 85 pounds less than the record 850 pounds last year, but 51 pounds more than the five-year average of 714 pounds.

"We felt like we were on the verge of a disaster," Brown said. "In midsummer, it was very, very depressing. It's good to be better than we thought."

Growers in Arkansas and Tennessee were projected to have record-high production.

The yield average across the U.S. is 798 pounds per acre, down from 831 last year.

"I don't think anybody in the trade will be too surprised," said Gary Adams, an economist with the Memphis, Tenn.-based National Cotton Council. "It was not as good a year as 2005."

The USDA report shows Texas yields at 651 pounds per acre, up from October estimate of 620 pounds. Both well below last year's 724 pounds.

CHEESE

Continued from Page 5A

some artisan cheeses to your next get-together. They just might be the life of the party.

STORAGE TIPS

Natural cheese is a living food that needs to "breathe."

Some tips:

Soft cheeses such as Brie should be eaten sooner rather than later. Harder cheeses such as Parmesan will be OK for weeks in the refrigerator.

Blue cheeses can be wrapped in foil. Most other cheeses should be wrapped in parchment or wax paper and then wrapped tightly in plastic. Use new plastic whenever you rewrap the cheese.

Store cheese in the produce bin, which is warmer and more humid than the cheese bin.

Cheese absorbs odors, so store it in the opposite corner of the refrigerator from stinky foods.

If cheese gets moldy, cut off and discard the mold and eat the fresh cheese underneath.

Do not freeze cheese. It compromises the flavor and texture.

— Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board

WHICH WINE?

White wines are generally easier to pair with cheese than reds.

If you plan to serve just one wine with several cheeses, some experts suggest it be Riesling, a fruity white. If your one wine must be red, make it Pinot Noir. Sparkling wines also go nicely with cheese.

Whatever you do, don't stress out about finding the one perfect wine, says Ryan Sciara, managing partner at Cellar Rat in Kansas City.

"There won't be any wines that totally don't work," he says. "Nothing will be as bad as drinking orange juice after toothpaste. But obviously, some matches are made in heaven."

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

		3	1		
	9			4	
5		1	7	6	8
7	6	9	3		
9		7	2		4
		5	6	3	7
6	2	8	5		3
	4			8	
		1	2		

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Nature's holiday dressing

Where did the poinsettia come from and why is it so connected to the holidays? Read all about this colorful plant and the family that gave it us for Christmas. Plus, finding a home contractor and make-ahead snacks.



Bob Brock Ford Pre-Owned Vehicle Center's Christmas Red Tag Sale Event Save Thousands!!!

<p>*** 2007 & 2006 ***</p> <p>★ Ford, Lincoln & Mercury Program Vehicles ★</p> <p>2007 Ford 500 Limited - Silver Birch w/Black Leather, 3.0 V-6, Keyless Entry, Heated Seats, It Is Fully Loaded, 11,200 Miles. MSRP When New \$26,525 Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2007 Ford 500 SEL - Silver Birch w/Shale Leather, 3.0 V-6, Fully Loaded w/11,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$25,800 Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Windveil Blue w/Pebble Leather, 3.0 V-6, All Power, Loaded w/10,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,205 Was \$18,395 NOW \$17,995</p> <p>2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Arizona Beige w/Pebble Premium Leather, 3.0 V-6, Power, Moonroof, Fully Loaded, Only 13,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$25,100 Was \$18,395 NOW \$17,995</p> <p>2007 Ford Taurus SE - Gold Ash w/Pebble Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, Only 8,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$21,680 Was \$16,395 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2007 Ford Taurus SE - Windveil Blue w/Flint Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, Only 8,500 Miles. MSRP When New \$21,680 Was \$16,395 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2007 Ford Freestar SEL - White w/Flint Leather, 4.2 V-6, Quad Bucket Seats, 3rd Row Stow In Floor, Dual Air/Heat, Too Many Options To List, 11,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$28,775 Was \$21,995 NOW \$20,995</p> <p>2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Lt. French Silk, Stone Leather, All Power, Moonroof, 16,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$47,120 Was \$30,995 NOW \$28,995</p> <p>2006 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. Premium - Arizona Beige w/Camel Leather, All Power, 13,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$31,060 Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Mercury Grand Marquis - White w/Camel Leather, All Power, 12,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$31,060 Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Mercury Milan Premier - Vivid Red w/Camel Leather, 2.3-4 Cyl., All Power w/21,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2.3-4 Cyl., 12,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Dark Red, Gray Leather, 3.0 V-6, Moonroof, All Power, 12,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,870 Was \$16,395 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Taurus SEL - White w/Flint Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 10,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,870 Was \$16,395 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 18,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$22,430 Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Taurus SE - White w/Flint Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 14,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$21,450 Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Mustang V-6 - White w/Black Leather, Sport Pkg., 6 Disc CD w/MP3, Spoiler, All Power, 12,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Mustang V-6 - Satin Silver w/Graphite Cloth, All Power, Spoiler, Sport Pkg., 21,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Freestyle SEL - White/Beige, Pebble Leather, 3.0 V-6, Fully Loaded w/12,000 Miles, Moonroof. Was \$23,995 NOW \$20,995</p> <p>2006 Ford Freestyle SE - Redfire Metallic, Cloth, All Power, 10,000 Miles. Was \$21,995 NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>*** CARS ***</p> <p>2005 Ford Mustang GT - White w/Black Leather, 5 Speed, Shake 1000, All Power, Local One Owner w/37,000 Miles. Was \$25,995 NOW \$24,995</p> <p>2004 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Silver Frost, Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/27,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$22,995</p> <p>2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Skylight, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver Metallic w/Leather, All Power, Skylight w/41,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Satin White, Leather, All Power, Moonroof, Local One Owner w/45,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2004 Ford Focus 4-DR SE - Tundra Green, Cloth, Automatic, All Power, One Owner w/46,000 Miles. Was \$11,995 NOW \$10,995</p> <p>2004 Ford Focus ZTS 4-DR - Black, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. Was \$13,995 NOW \$11,995</p> <p>2003 Lincoln Town Car Executive - Black w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/53,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995</p> <p>2003 Mazda MX-5 Miata Convertible LS - Silver, Fully Loaded, Leather, Local One Owner w/40,200 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995</p> <p>2002 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Edition - Pearl White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995</p> <p>2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Silver w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/57,000 Miles. Was \$13,995 NOW \$12,995</p> <p>1999 Pontiac Grand Prix SE - Green w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned. Was \$6,995 NOW \$5,995</p> <p>1997 Lincoln Continental - Silver, All Power, Locally Owned w/58,000 Miles. Was \$8,995 NOW \$6,995</p>	<p>*** SUV's ***</p> <p>2002 Ford Expedition 4X4 XLT - Red/Tan, Tan Leather, Fiberglass Boards, One Owner w/88,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2002 Cadillac Escalade AWD - Sandstone w/Leather, Fully Loaded, Local One Owner w/41,000 Miles. Was \$29,995 NOW \$25,995</p> <p>2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$18,995</p> <p>2002 Chevrolet Blazer LS - White/Cloth, All Power, 56,000 Miles. Was \$12,995 NOW \$9,995</p> <p>2001 GMC Yukon XL - Pewter w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner. Was \$13,995 NOW \$10,995</p> <p>2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/81,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>1999 GMC Suburban LT - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned, Over 100K Miles. Was \$11,995 NOW \$9,995</p> <p>1999 Oldsmobile Silhouette - Beige, Cloth, All Power, 86,000 Miles. Was \$8,995 NOW \$5,995</p>	<p>*** TRUCKS ***</p> <p>2005 Ford F150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, V-8, Air, Automatic, Local One Owner w/60,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$18,995</p> <p>2004 Nissan Frontier King Cab - Silver, 4-Cyl., Automatic, Air, Local One Owner w/45,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995</p> <p>2004 Ford F150 Supercab STX 4X4 - Yellow w/cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/33,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2004 Ford Ranger Supercrew - Blue, Local One Owner w/53,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/47,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995</p> <p>2003 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4X4 - Blue/Silver, All Power, Local One Owner w/51,000 Miles, Leather. Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Blue/Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/50,000 Miles. Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995</p> <p>2002 Ford Superduty F250 Supercab XLT 7.3 Diesel - Gray w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/only 37,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995</p> <p>2001 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat - Green/Tan w/Leather, All Power, Tonneau Cover, One Owner w/77,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Maroon, 4.6 V-8, All Power, Locally Owned, 87,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - White, 4.6 V-8, All Power, 79,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995</p> <p>2001 Dodge D150 Ram - Maroon, 6-Cyl., 5 Speed, Air, 60,000 Miles. Was \$10,995 NOW \$8,995</p> <p>2000 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT - Red w/Cloth, V-10, All Power, Locally Owned w/85,000 Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$14,995</p>	<p>*** MOTORCYCLE ***</p> <p>2004 Honda VTX 1300 - Red, Chromed Out, Windshield, Saddle Bags, Cobra Drag Exhaust, One Owner w/5,600 Miles. Was \$8,995 NOW \$7,995</p>
---	--	---	---	--

Happy Holidays From Our Family To Yours!!!

Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan

500 W. 4th Big Spring Texas • 1-800-288-3082 267-7121

nybody
be too
Gary
onomist
Tenn.-
Cotton
not as
5."
t shows
at 651
up from
of 620
l below
nds.

Sports

BIG
SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Sports Editor Mike Grimes at 263-7331, ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

IN BRIEF

Big Spring Steers host Greenwood

The Big Spring Steers basketball team will be in action Friday night at the Steer Gym.

This will be the last home game before the semester break and all students, student parents and Big Spring Steer fans are encouraged to come out and support the teams. The game is scheduled for a 7:30 p.m. tip off.

Big Spring Lady Steers junior varsity

The Lady Steers JV team defeated Pecos 52-40 Tuesday night.

Dominique Green was the leading scorer with 17-points. Meredith Morgan had 9-points and Whitney Worthan added 8-points in the non-district win.

Cowboys new home will keep iconic hole

The Dallas Cowboys are taking their distinctive hole-in-the-roof design with them to their \$1 billion new stadium. Only this time, the playground will feature a sliding lid to keep the elements out. That's a must considering there's going to be a 60-yard-long, 50-foot-high scoreboard hanging over the football field.

2008 Olympics in Beijing get 'clean'

A Chinese Communist Party official on Wednesday promised a "clean" 2008 Olympics, one day after the party expelled the Beijing vice mayor in charge of Olympic construction projects, accusing him of bribery and other charges, state media said.

Liu Zhihua, who had been unexpectedly fired in June, took bribes of "several million yuan" and "helped his mistress to seek profit in projects," a state television report said Tuesday, without offering further details.

Texas A&M update, Aggies top Fordham

Josh Carter snapped out of a two-game funk by being more aggressive, and helped his Aggie teammates in the process.

Carter scored 24 points, Antanas Kavaliauskas added 19 and No. 13 ranked Texas A&M beat Fordham 84-61 Tuesday night.

The Aggies (8-2) bounced back from losses last week to No. 12 LSU and top-ranked UCLA — their first non-conference losing streak since Billy Gillispie arrived as coach more than two years ago.

Comanche Trail Golf Course to close

The city of Big Spring will be closing the front nine holes of Comanche Trail Golf Course on Dec. 31, 2006.

This is part of the new golf course improvement project.

Big Spring Steers dunk the Mustangs

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

Jason Walker led the Big Spring Steers over Sweetwater by dropping a double-double on the visiting Mustangs Tuesday night.

From the first two points scored, a baseline dunk by Walker — over two defenders, the Steers intimidated the Mustang team and rolled to a 70-48 non-district win.

Moments after the rim rattling dunk, Walker (15 points and 10 rebounds) sped down the court and sent a sure Mustang layup off the backboard for an apparent blocked shot.

The ball was ruled to have been touched by Walker on the way down; thus giving Sweetwater the basket, but the message had been delivered.

At that point the Steers led 15-9, but 40 seconds later BSHS went on a 9-0 run and the Mustangs found themselves down by 15 points.

With under a minute to play in the half, the Steers had pushed the lead to 37-20. By the time the two schools headed to the locker rooms, the Mustangs were down 15 points and looked ready to board the bus and head home for finals.

"They never really quit," said Walker, sitting at the score table after the game. "They just couldn't handle the pressure we applied. Our transition defense was the key ... when we play as a team and with that type of energy we showed on the court tonight, we're tough to beat."

In addition to Walker's all-around performance, the Steer's bench provided valuable minutes and refused to allow Sweetwater



Big Spring's Hayden Phillips (44), Darius McCallister and Lance Gross trap the Mustangs. This type of defensive pressure led the Steers to a 70-48 victory over Sweetwater Tuesday night at the Steer Gym.

back into the game.

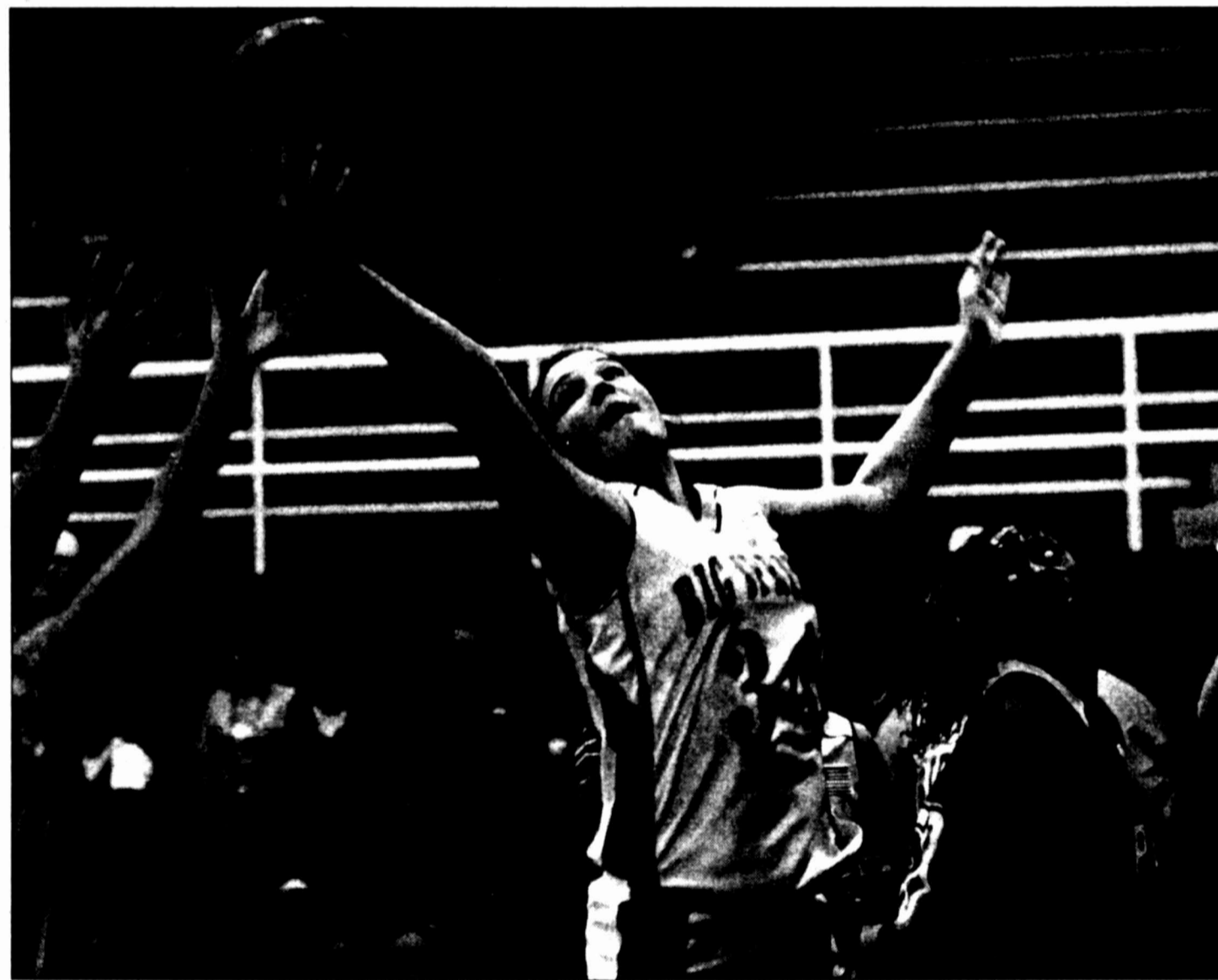
In the final 2:30 of the third quarter, the Mustangs hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead down to 12 points. Coach Joey Martin wasted no time in getting Walker and

Rondell Trevino inserted back into the lineup.

Big Spring returned to its half-court press and caused the Mustangs to turn the ball over on consecutive possessions. After a

Trevino steal and fast break, the Steers had stretched the lead to a game high 20 points and ended the third quarter up 55-35.

See STEERS, Page 2B



Heather Sheppard, the Lady Steers leading scorer this season, grabs one of her 6 rebounds Tuesday night. Sheppard added a game high 25 points and 6 blocked shots in the 71-38 romp over the visiting Pecos Eagles.

Lady Steers get revenge on Eagles

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

Big Spring's Lady Steers exploded for a 23-point first quarter in front of the home fans Tuesday night. Big Spring (5-8) led 23-5 and never looked back in its 71-38 thrashing of the Pecos Eagles.

In a rematch from the Monahans Basketball Tournament two weeks ago, a contest in which the Eagles defeated the Lady Steers by two points, this was one that was never close. BSHS led by 16 points early and after scoring only 11 points in the second quarter, they still led by 13 at the half, 33-20.

Heather Sheppard and Brenna Phernetton made sure that the game was never in doubt.

Sheppard went to the locker room after the first two quarters with 12 points and Phernetton

See BSHS, Page 2B

Rockets' comeback falls short

By CHRIS DUNCAN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Kobe Bryant thought he was done for the night, until he had to go back into the game to help stop the Los Angeles Lakers from blowing a big, fourth-quarter lead.

Bryant scored 23 points and the Lakers overcame the loss of Lamar Odom and the Rockets' near-historic rally to beat Houston 102-94 Tuesday night.

The Lakers led by 27 points — 93-66 — with 9:45 left. Phil Jackson pulled Bryant 3 minutes later and Bryant started wrap-

ping his knees in ice, figuring his night was over.

However, Los Angeles didn't score another field goal until the last minute and the Rockets got within two before the Bryant and the Lakers pulled out the victory they should've sealed long before.

"I found it entertaining," said Bryant, who took off the ice and returned with the other starters with 4 minutes left. "We had to come back out, just play defense and get things under control."

"That was the weirdest game I've ever been a part of. That's the first time I've put the ice on and

had to come back out and play."

Luke Walton added 18 points and seven assists for the Lakers, who shut down Yao Ming in the second half and snapped Houston's six-game home winning streak.

Yao scored 26 points — just five in the second half — to lead the Rockets, who played without Tracy McGrady. The six-time All-Star is out indefinitely with back spasms.

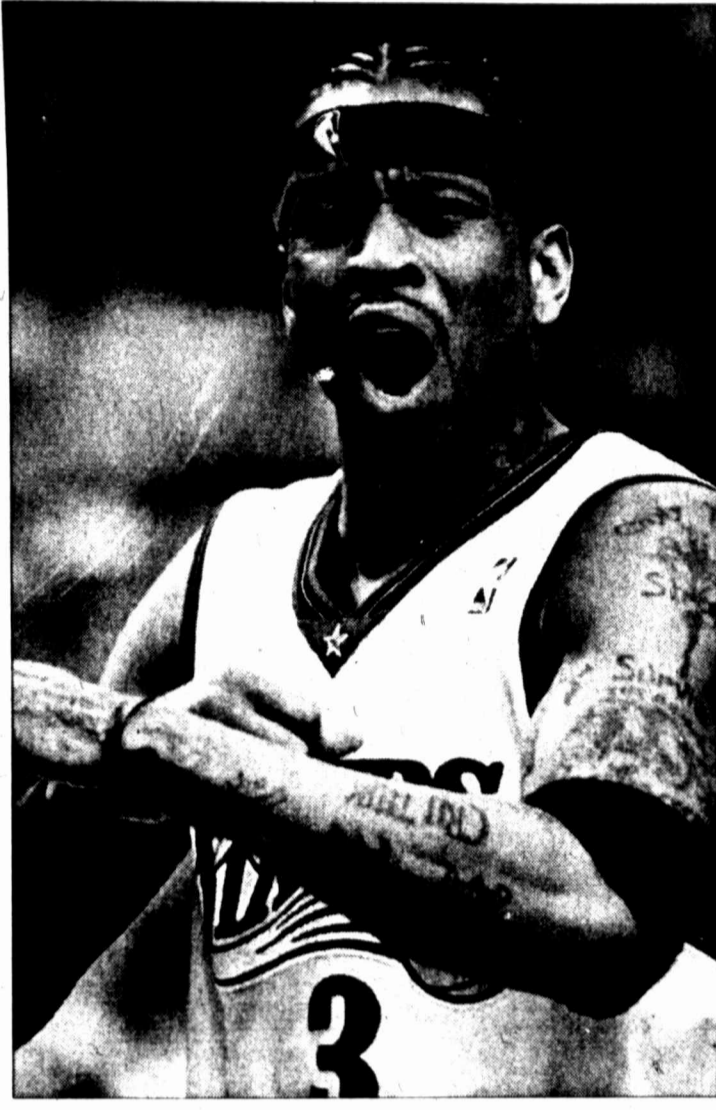
Two minutes into the game, Odom sprained his right knee when Shane Battier blocked him on a



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant heads down court during the Lakers 102-94 win over the Rockets Tuesday night.

See LOSS, Page 2B

No deal yet: 76ers in no rush to trade Iverson



MCT photo/Jerry Lodriguss/Philadelphia Inquirer
Philadelphia 76ers guard Allen Iverson wants a call from a ref, but he doesn't get it, during game action against the Miami Heat. The 76ers defeated the Heat, 107-98, in Philadelphia.

By DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer
PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson began another day with the Philadelphia 76ers.

Unable to swing the right deal for the seven-time All-Star, team president Billy King appeared in no hurry to rush a trade Tuesday. While it seemed likely Iverson would be gone by now after chairman Ed Snider said last week they were seeking to trade him, the search went on for a new home for the point guard and his 31.2 points per game.

Iverson was to be inactive again for Philadelphia's game against Boston on Wednesday night, his fourth straight game on the list.

The Sixers have grown weary of the daily Iverson interrogations, and insisted after Tuesday's practice the only thing they cared about was ending their longest losing streak in nine years.

"I don't really let (rumors) affect me," Sixers center Samuel Dalembert said. "I've been hearing it for six years, on and off. This time, I think it's a little bit more serious, but other than that, we've got to play through it."

The Sixers aren't the only ones dealing with the swirling speculation. Almost every team has been linked in some sort of trade rumor, most of them unfounded, though some appear to be dropping out of contention faster than the Sixers in the Eastern Conference.

Kings owners Joe and Gavin

Maloof both said the club wasn't interested Tuesday, apparently removing Sacramento from the mix. And Charlotte could be involved in a possible multi-team trade, though it's unlikely the Bobcats will end up with Iverson. Even some in Minnesota suddenly seem cautious about taking on "The Answer."

"As things are going well, people are apprehensive to change what got us there," Timberwolves assistant coach Rex Kalamian said.

While a few players, like Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce, said they would openly welcome Iverson on their team, others are more on edge, realizing they could be part of a swap.

"Whatever happens with the Sixers is the Sixers," said rookie guard Randy Foye, a trade option for his potential and for his Philadelphia connection after a college career at Villanova. "He's a great player, but you can't let things like that distract you. You just have to keep on playing."

For all the scoring he brought to the Sixers, not even Iverson could make a difference for a franchise sliding toward another draft lottery. The Sixers were stuck in last place when he was placed on the inactive list Friday, and they're still there after Monday's loss to Portland.

The Sixers take an eight-game losing streak into Wednesday night's game against Boston, their worst skid since April 1997. The

Sixers (5-15) have lost 15 of 17 and are tied with Charlotte for the worst record in the Eastern Conference.

Never mind the trade rumors. Nothing is taking a toll on the Sixers quite like the losing. Coach Maurice Cheeks said he's preaching to the Sixers how much he still believes in them.

Perhaps he should raise his voice. "The last couple of games that we've had, we've had very good games although the outcome hasn't been what we've wanted," he said. "The effort has been very strong. Our play on the defensive end has been strong, passing the ball and utilizing the talents that we have. The guys believe that it's going to turn around. It is going to turn around."

The Sixers, though, play seven of their next 10 on the road where they are a conference-worst 2-10. Maybe they'll run into their ol' pal Iverson. Three of those road games are against Boston, Golden State and Sacramento, three of the most heavily rumored Iverson destinations.

While the Sixers desperately need salary cap relief and/or draft picks in any trade, guard Andre Iguodala wanted some talented players (like Shaun Livingston? Baron Davis?) coming back to Philadelphia.

"I definitely just want to see some guys come in who work hard and love the game and enjoy playing it and just want to come in and help us get better," Iguodala said.

North Texas hires top Texas high school coach

By DAVID JIMENEZ

Associated Press Writer

DENTON, Texas — Todd Dodge was hired as coach at North Texas on Tuesday, making the rare jump from high school to Division I-A after an unprecedented run of success at Southlake Carroll.

Dodge, a former Texas quarterback, has coached Carroll to a 77-1 record in Texas' highest classification. The Dragons have won 46 consecutive games and are two wins from their third straight state title and fourth in five years. They have a 50-game regular-season winning streak and are the only school to

win a state title in their first year in Class 5A.

"I'm representing Texas high school coaches," Dodge said in a news conference in front of about 150 North Texas boosters and fans. "It's not very often that a guy like me gets an opportunity like this."

BSHS

Continued from 1B

scored 12 of her 22 points in the second half. Together the two dominant players hung 47 points on the Eagles.

"We just worked well as a team tonight," said Sheppard, the games leading scorer with 25 points. "We didn't have a lot of unforced turnovers and that's always good for this team. I would have to say that this was one of our best games of the year and it is very rewarding

to come home and beat this team after what happened earlier in the season."

In addition to her offensive performance, Sheppard ended the night with 6 blocked shots and controlled the inside game on both ends of the court.

"Heather really got us started tonight and I was just able to get some rebounds and find a way to get the ball in the basket," Phernetton commented after the Lady Steers win. "I don't think coach ran but maybe two plays for me on the offen-

sive end tonight, but that is my role on this team. My job is to get down in the post and get the rebounds — grab some easy buckets — play tough defense and do whatever it takes to help us win. We just need to keep working as a team right now. We did a good job of that tonight and that's going to be the key for the rest of the season." The rest of the starting five, Jordan Chesworth — Desiree Yanez — and Keonna Ward played shut down defense and came up with just about every loose ball on the court.

Yanez was third in scoring with 12 points.

In the second half the Lady Steers scored 19 points in each quarter and continued to build on the lead. The end result was an all around solid game and a 33-point lopsided victory.

The Lady Steers will not begin district play until Jan. 5, when they go on the road to face Plainview. The next scheduled home game is after the Christmas break, on Jan. 12, against district rival Frenship.

LOSS

Continued from 1B

layup. Odom, the Lakers' leading rebounder and second-leading scorer, was taken to a hospital for an MRI exam. The Lakers said Odom suffered a moderate MCL sprain and Jackson said he'll be lucky to play again before the end of January.

In the other games Tuesday night, it was: Denver 100, Atlanta 87; Milwaukee 94, Seattle 93; and Golden State 126, Sacramento 113.

The Lakers led by three at the half, then outscored the Rockets 30-13 in the third quarter to seemingly take control. They shot 65 percent in the quarter, while the Rockets committed 10 turnovers and missed nine of 13 shots.

"We didn't respond the way good teams respond," Battier said. "Hopefully, that's a lesson we can learn."

In the fourth quarter, the Lakers' lead reached 26 points — 90-64 — with 10:22 left when Houston coach Jeff Van Gundy benched Yao, Battier and starting point guard Rafer Alston. The scrappy Rockets reserves held the Los Angeles leftovers without a field goal for 8 minutes and hit three 3-pointers during a 24-1 spurt.

The largest deficit the Rockets had ever overcome in a game is 23 points, done twice, the last time in 2001. Chuck Hayes' free throws with 1:38 left cut the Lakers' lead to 94-92.

However, Kwame Brown tipped in Bryant's miss, Steve Novak missed a 3-pointer at the other end and Smush Parker scored in the lane to stall the Houston rally.

Luther Head, who started for McGrady, went 4-

for-8 from 3-point range and scored 21 points. Head and Hayes were the only starters on the floor when Houston started its comeback.

"The guys Coach put in at the end, we just said to ourselves, 'We've got nothing to lose,'" Head said. "We had that confidence and we kept playing hard."

Yao played well early, hitting five of his first six shots. But the Rockets missed four of their last

five shots of the half and the Lakers finished with a 13-3 run to take a 54-51 lead at the break.

The Lakers opened the half with a 14-4 run as the Rockets turned sloppy, committing eight turnovers in the first 6 minutes.

"We didn't have the focus you need to have to play those guys," Battier said. "You've really got to be on your game mentally."

STEERS

Continued from 1B

"Our basketball team really rallied behind Raymond Porter tonight," Coach Martin explained after the win. "We got great support out of our bench. They executed and played really well. Porter and Darius (McCalister) gave us all the energy and hustle that we needed. That's a new dimension to our team and it's something that we've been missing this year."

The Big Spring Steers will take the hard-wood

this Friday night when they welcome Greenwood High to the Steer Gym. On Friday afternoon the team will enjoy the first basketball pep-rally of the season.

"I'm not sure if we have ever had a basketball pep-rally here at Big Spring," Martin added. "I just know that if this team continues to think and make split-second decisions like we did tonight, we're going to be a good basketball team and we're going to be tough to beat. That's my concern."

QUICK CASH REBATES

The Quick Way to Payday

We'll cash your personal check in minutes, deposit it on your next payday, up to 14 days, give you the money you need, the long distance you want and the discount you deserve!

Requirements For Service: 1) Valid Picture ID
2) Verification Of Income
3) Most Recent Checking Account Statement

612 S. Gregg Big Spring, Texas 432-263-4400

Subscribe Now And

SAVE 52%
up to
over news stand prices

Subscription Price	News Stand Price
One Year	\$93.42 \$195.00
Six Months	\$51.90 \$97.50
Three Months	\$25.95 \$48.75
One Month	\$8.65 \$15.00

Call for Senior Citizen and Mail Delivery Prices

YES! Start my subscription for _____ months.
Enclosed is \$ _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

HERALD

710 Scurry, P.O. Box 1431
Big Spring, TX 79721 • (432) 263-7331

Card # _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature _____

~ Presents ~

FeedBack

1400 AM

2 Hours Of "TALK"

2 Hours Of "CALLS"

Monday - Friday

1:00 p.m. 'til 3:00 p.m.

NEW: www.feedbackkbyg.blog.com

Big Sp
Wedne
WE
6 30
7 30
8 30
9 30
10 30
11 30
12 30
DEN
"OH, PE
SHOU
BC
"PUT YOU
WIZ.
TH
AGN
DID YOU
TREE U
HOU
HI A
THE
COCK
CS
SNU
BEE
REMEME
YOU WE
SENSTI

WEDNESDAY

Table with 24 columns (WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 7 rows (6-12 PM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"OH, DENNIS, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE."
"THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I TOLD MY MOM."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Now even comic books have too many commercials!"

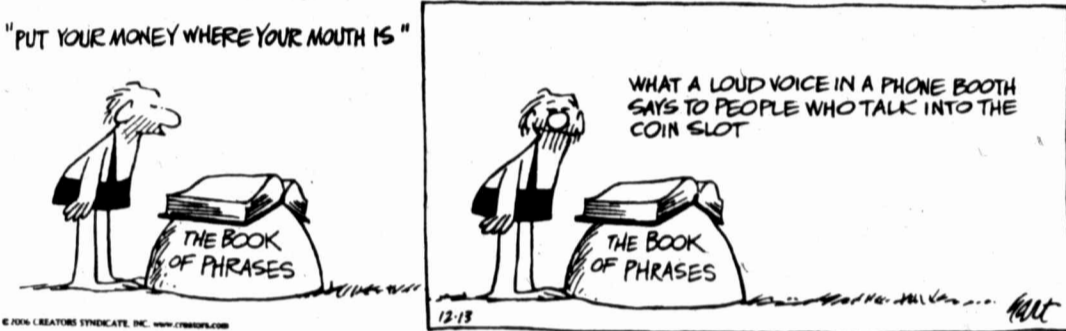
HAGARD



BLONDIE



BC



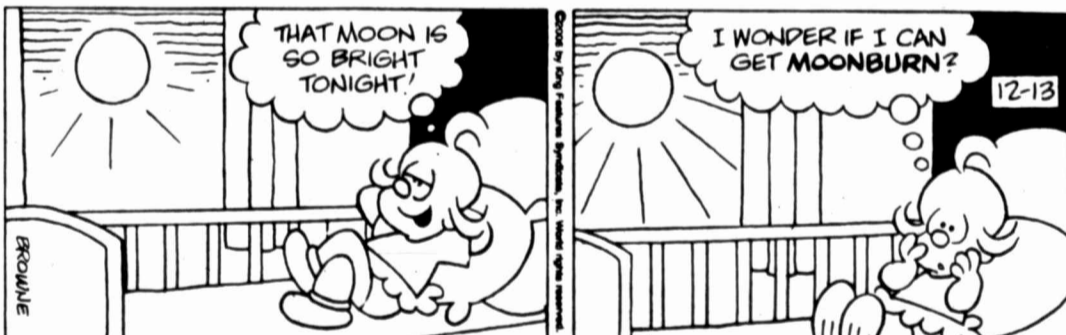
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 13, the 347th day of 2006. There are 18 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 13, 1862, Union forces suffered a major defeat to the Confederates at the Battle of Fredericksburg. On this date: In 1642, Dutch navigator Abel Tasman sighted present-day New Zealand. In 1769, Dartmouth College, in New Hampshire, received its charter. In 1835, Phillips Brooks, the American Episcopal bishop who wrote the words to "O Little Town of Bethlehem," was born in Boston. In 1918, President Wilson arrived in France, becoming the first chief executive to visit Europe while in office. In 1928, George Gershwin's musical work "An American in Paris" had

its premiere, at Carnegie Hall in New York.

In 1944, during World War II, the U.S. cruiser Nashville was badly damaged in a Japanese kamikaze attack that claimed more than 130 lives.

In 1978, the Philadelphia Mint began stamping the Susan B. Anthony dollar, which went into circulation in July 1979.

In 1981, authorities in Poland imposed martial law in a crackdown on the Solidarity labor movement. (Martial law formally ended in 1983.)

In 1994, an American Eagle commuter plane carrying 20 people crashed short of Raleigh-Durham International Airport in North Carolina, killing 15.

In 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Adwar, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

Today's Birthdays: Former Secretary of State George P. Shultz is 86. Actor-comedian Dick Van Dyke is 81. Actor Christopher Plummer is 79.

Actor Robert Prosky is 76. Country singer Buck White is 76. Music/film producer Lou Adler is 73. Movie producer Richard Zanuck is 72. Singer Ted Davidson is 65. Singer John Nugent is 58. Rock musician Jeff "Skunk" Baxter is 58. Country musician Ron Getman is 58. Actor Robert Lindsay is 57. Country singer-musician Randy Owen is 57. Actress Wendie Malick is 56. Country singer John Anderson is 52. Singer-songwriter Steve Forbert is 52. Singer-actor Morris Day is 50. Actor Steve Buscemi is 49. Actor Johnny Whitaker is 47. Actor-comedian Jamie Foxx is 39.

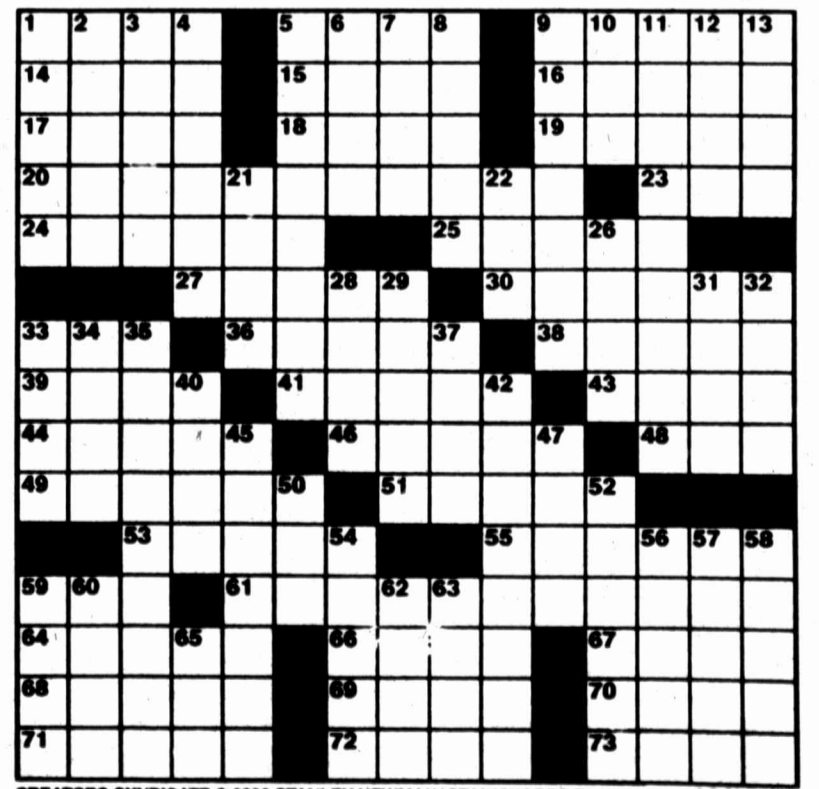
© 2006 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with letters A-Z.

Newsday Crossword

GOOD BREEDING by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Audi alternatives, 5 Backtalk, 9 Type of mustard, 14 Lake bird, 15 Shawl or stole, 16 Wash away, 17 City of India, 18 Concerning, 19 Plants-to-be, 20 Cold symptoms, 23 Iowa hrs., 24 Garment part, 25 "evil," 27 Blue pottery of Holland, 30 Puts up, 33 Mahal, 36 Grills, as a steak, 38 Akihito's home, 39 Mars, to the Greeks, 41 Paint additive, 43 Fictional sleuth Wolfe, 44 Moreno and Coolidge, 46 Some racehorses, 48 Director Howard, 49 Leader of the flock, 51 Table, 53 Hair-raising, 55 Perfect place, 59 In good shape, 61 Briefs alternative, 64 Take apart, as a knot, 66 Earnest request, 67 Hostile parties, 68 Bloodhound's clue, 69 Airline to Ben-Gurion, 70 The Avenger character, 71 Is entitled to, 72 Young fellows, 73 Full of promise, DOWN: 1 Malaise, with "the", 2 Magnate, 3 Less well, 4 Wound around, 5 Turned, as a desk chair, 6 Florence's river, 7 Article of clothing in, 8 Eyeglasses, informally, 9 Pie or pudding, 10 Infuriation, 11 "You Are So Beautiful" singer, 12 Retting info, 13 Cozy abode, 21 Part of YSL, 22 Shoebox letters, 26 "Eat at Joe's" gas, 28 Raise crops, 29 Three-note chord, 31 Rank beginner, 32 By and by, 33 Rain protector, 34 Diva's rendition, 35 Frequent-flying socialite, 37 Bone-dry, 40 Fill to excess, 42 Thumbs-downs, 45 Ices, 47 Clockmaker Thomas, 50 Cruise port, 52 Shingle replacer, 54 Throw out, 56 TV teaser, 57 List components, 58 Prospector's test, 59 Melt together, 60 Ancient Cuzco resident, 62 Singer Fitzgerald, 63 Interpret, 65 Country lodge



CLASSIFIED

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

igottauction.com igottauction.com

Spring City Auction

Independent & Government Auctions
501 Birdwell Lane Big Spring, Texas

View all Auction items @
www.igottauction.com

Kawasaki 185 4 Wheeler, New Items, Refrigerators, Gas Cook Stove, TV, Washer & Dryer, Western Art, Beds, Dressers, Entertainment Centers, Desks, Shelves, Tools, Stereo, End Tables, Coffee Tables, Tables & Chairs, Coins, Roaster, Electric Heater.

Thursday Night • 7 PM
Open To Public - Ya'll Come!

(Christmas Party This Week)
Bring Covered Dish

Scott Emerson TAL: 15051
432-263-1831

igottauction.com igottauction.com

Business Opportunity

THIS NEWSPAPER is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified ads. Before investing money in a business/employment opportunity with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at 703-276-0100 or visit www.bbb.org

Educational

SOUTHEASTERN CAREER INSTITUTE
Midland Campus
Act now for career training from Southeastern Career Institute - Midland. Train in Computer Business Systems, Dental Assistant or Medical Assistant.
1-800-497-1557
www.scinow6.com
4320 W. Illinois Avenue, Suite A, Midland, TX 79703

Garage Sales

AVON CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE!
614 Dallas Street
Sat., Dec. 16th 9a.m.-12p.m
Other hours 2:00p.m.-6:00p.m.
We have many gift giving ideas and stocking stuffers including makeup, skincare, fragrance, bath, jewelry and more! Credit Cards and checks welcome!

Help Wanted

APARTMENTS Maintenance needed. Apartment plus hourly wage. HBAC Certification required. Apply at 801 W. Marcy Drive. M-F 9am-5pm. EOE

ARE YOU Bilingual? Are you interested in working for \$9.50 per hour. If so please call 432-264-2007 leave message.

Assistant Manager trainee. Must have good driving record, 21 yrs old, motivated, paid vacations, health insurance, dental. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

NOW HIRING pushers and hands. Top pay. Must pass drug test. Call (432) 394-4161.

Help Wanted

BACKHOE OPERATOR with at least 1 year experience. Call or go by Rusty's Oilfield Service in Stanton. Call (432)756-2821.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

CLINE CONSTRUCTION is accepting applications for the following: General Laborers, Concrete Workers. Apply at 1807 N. FM 700, OR call (432)267-6006.

BUFFALO COUNTRY FINA now hiring for full time position. Experience preferred but will train. Apply at 4911 South Hwy 87. No Phone Calls.

DELL'S CAFE is looking for part time cook helper. Come by 1608 East 4th Street. Please No Phone Calls.

Help Wanted

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Quality 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

DRIVERS: CDL-A Hot Oil, Vacuum Operators, Home Daily! Excellent Pay, Benefits! Great Company w/lots of work! W Transport 432-570-1911.

PAWN now Hiring 2 part-time SLR's. Need to have High School/GED, pass background, drug test. Come in for application, 1010 Gregg.

FULL TIME Recovery Driver needed, CDL required, willing to train. Pat Gray Towing and Recovery. Call (432)263-0582.

MEDICAL RECORD Clerk needed full time. Experienced from Hospital or Doctors Office. Fax resume to 417-777-8459 or call 1-800-873-1831.

REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract:\$1.58 Per Day
Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!

AUTO CARE G & M Auto Care Locally Owned & Operated Service 1972 263-1091 George & Mary 900 & 3rd St. Big Spring	AUTO PARTS WESTEX Since 1947 • 14 Acres of dismantled vehicles • 20,000 sq ft of Warehouse storage • Specialize in late model quality auto parts • Foreign and domestic parts for cars, trucks, mini-vans, 4x4 and sports utility vehicles Hrs. 8 a.m.-5:30 Wk/day 8 a.m.-12 p.m. SAT 1511 Hwy 350 • (432) 263-5000	CARPET Teal Carpets • Ceramic Tile • Laminate • Wood • Vinyl • Carpet We carry all your carpet supplies 2810 E. FM 700 • 268-0008	CONCRETE Chico and Sons Concrete (432) 466-0573 (432) 816-6561 621 Sgt. Paredet Big Spring, TX 79720	CONCRETE J. T. Builders Remodeling • Drywall Ceramic Tile • Electrical Plumbing • Roofing Brick & Concrete Work Driveways • Sidewalks Fireplaces • Stucco Swimming Pool Decks JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ (432) 213-8882 Cell (432) 263-2110 Res.	CONCRETE All Types Concrete Work Block & Brick Repair Trenching & Tractor Service Campbell Concrete Contractors Call-Tommy Campbell Concrete Contractor (432) 466-0623 (432) 935-3644 2006 Runnels Big Spring, TX 79720
DIRT WORK DECKER'S FARM SUPPLY & NURSERY We do Dirt Work, Brush Hog, Backhoe, Bulldozing, Small Grubbing Jobs and Will Clear Lots. 432-756-3444	FENCES Quality Fence Co. Jimmy Marquez-Owner Finest In Fencing Wood & Chainlink Free Estimates 432-267-3349	FENCES B & M Fence Co. COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE FREE ESTIMATES ROBERT MARQUEZ 263-1613 • 1-800-825-1389 1004 Lammey Hwy. • Big Spring	FIREWOOD Mixed Firewood \$125⁰⁰ Cord Delivered & Stacked Also Sell Mesquite Call (432) 238-6770 or 570-9617	HEATING & AC JOHNSON AC, HEATING & SHEET METAL • Servicing all heaters central & wall • Duct work - all sheet metal work • Registers & Grills We Carry All Heating Parts & Filters, Belts 1408 East 4th 263-2988	HOME IMPROVEMENT DOORS/GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS Home Repair • Carpentry Sheet Work Repaired/Replaced Kitchen & Bath BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK 409 E. 3RD 267-5811
YOUR AD PUT YOUR AD HERE CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD	HOME IMPROVEMENT Day & Day Builders Custom Building • Remodeling • Roofing Tile • Garage Doors • Cabinets Vinyl Siding D. W. Day (432) 457-2289 Cell (432) 270-8783 Dennis Day (432) 816-5080 Box 266 108 West 7th Porsan, TX 79733	HOME IMPROVEMENT Gibbs Remodeling New home Construction • Room Additions Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing Ceramic Tile • Installation & Repair All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home Call 263-8285	HOME IMPROVEMENT AFFORDABLE HOME MAINTENANCE •Renovation •Repairs •Maintenance 7 Day Emergency Service Satisfaction Guaranteed NO JOB IS TOO SMALL! Russ Crain (owner) 432-270-2585	HOME IMPROVEMENT R S HOME REPAIR Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair, Appliances installed 816-3030	JANITORIAL BREATHE-EZ CLEANING SERVICE Chimneys, Maid Service, Home & Office, Carpets, Air Ducts & Much More 432-353-4849
LAWN SERVICE FALL CLEANUP Alleys • Tree Trimming Light Hauling • Odd Jobs CALL 267-5460 CELL 816-6150 Danny Scoggin	NAIL SALON Pro Spa Nail Salon Pedicure: \$21.99 Manicure: \$11.99 Full Set: \$20.00 & up Refill: \$13.99 & up SPECIAL Solar Nails: \$29.00 111 E. Marcy Dr. Ste 110 (432) 263-6245	PEST CONTROL SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL Since 1954 432-263-6514 2008 Birdwell Lane Max F. Moore www.swalpc.com mm@swalpc.com	PLUMBING ADVANCE PLUMBING Drain Cleaning Gas Line Water Leaks Fixtures • Licensed • Bonded • Insured M-37359 263-4973 or 517-9751	RENTALS VENTURA COMPANY 432-267-2655 Houses • Storages Commercial Buildings For rent/sale 610 E. 12th 1003, 1011 E. 11th	REPAIRS Sewing Machine Guy Steve REPAIR AND SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS (432) 935-6380 All Work Guaranteed
ROOFING JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs! Free Estimates!! Big Spring & Surrounding Areas. 267-1110	ROOFING PALACIOS ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured & Bonded Home Phone# 432-263-5430 Cell# 432-213-0363	STORAGE AAA Mini-Storage 1/2 Off First Month Merry Christmas & Happy New Year No Deposit Now Accepting Visa & Mastercard 3301 E. FM 700 263-0732	TREE TRIMMING LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe Villalpando 432-268-6406	WELDING Bar-B-Q Pits Ornamental Iron Work Car Ports • Fences Gates • Handrails Portable Welding V.L. Morris Welding Service 2300 S. Williams Rd. Big Spring, Tx 79720 432-263-8908 270-5109	WINDOWS Rose of Sharon Wood Blinds • Custom Blinds • Shutters • Arches View online www.rosblind.com Rosario Parra 432-688-8886 - Office 432-878-6677 - Cell

Big Sp Wedne

HELP W...
ing for p...
Starting p...
Full-time
Experienc...
property.
Must pas...
Please a...
2900 E...
please.

FULL & P...
available;
state lice...
We also f...
CI
on variou...
time. Co...
benefits f...
informatic...
(806)872-...
son at S...
CENTER
Lamesa,

MAKE UI...
!! Looking...
to mana...
outside E...
19th thro...
vestment...
10am thro...
888-585-1...

MIDWES...
now hir...
days. Ap...
Gregg. N...

NEED E...
HVACR...
Spring a...
Ice Mach...
Willing to...
right pers...
benefits...
paid vac...
sharing...
siderator...
888-229-...
Cary.

NEED E...
desk p...
phone sl...
and Dep...
cation at...
1109 N. A...

NEED E...
part-time...
Apply in...
Grill, 24C

You

• Paid...
• No E...
• Earn...
Stevens...
completh...
drivers! G...
exception...
from the #1

Stev...
EOE

If your r...
and a ru...
We're a...
the follo...

Mecha...
Working...
mainten...
brake ac...

Requir...
• Entry...
• a vocal...
• Ability...
• Weldin...
• Experi...
• Must h...

Benefit...
• Medic...
• Life Ins...
• 401(k)...
• Holida...

For Inv...
please...
BJ Serv...
6165 W...
Odessa...
We suppor...

\$ 4

mak...
i

de

Real Estate for Rent

817 WEST 8th, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CHA, stove & refrigerator furnished. \$425. Month, \$200 deposit. Call 432-267-1543.

FOR RENT, Partially furnished garage apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, like new, 1000 sq. ft., on Street. \$260. Call (432)263-1281.

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.

HIGH PRIVACY one bedroom house. Downtown near church & grocery store. \$265. Smoking & pets prohibited. Credit & background required. McDonald Realty. (432)263-7615 or 263-4835.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT to Qualified Renters on Long Term Lease. 3202 Auburn, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, fenced yard, refrigerator and stove included. \$525.00 a month, \$250.00 deposit. Rent to Own an option. Call (432)270-7086.

VERY NICE 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home for rent. Many recent upgrades with central AC and Heat. \$550 plus deposit. Call Yolanda at 432-816-4485.

Real Estate for Sale

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

ABSOLUTELY DARLING 1211 Lloyd, \$44,900.00 OBO. Owner Financing Available. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully decorated. Just waiting for the right family. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Realty 432-213-2842.

CUTE LITTLE Cottage w/backyard playhouse. \$39,900 OBO. 1108 Mulberry. Owner Finance Available. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Realty 432-213-2842.

Services Offered

WORK WANTED Home Cleaning, window washing, errand running, odd jobs and businesses. Joan Tatum (432)466-1335.

Vehicles

(2) New 2005 7 Passenger Vans \$9,500 Off Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 11th 267-7121

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The moon in Libra loves to negotiate, compromise and coexist. She's always trying to find a way to balance the yin with the yang, the funny with the tragic, and the truth with the embellishments that make it a good story. Be sensitive to the heaviness of things. Since everything weighs in differently, counterbalances must be adjusted.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may ask for advice now, but a wise adviser will take no position at all. Instead you're lead to consider the possible outcome of this choice or that one, and left to your own conclusions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You do your best to navigate through the intrigue at work without

getting too involved. By remaining the silent observer, you're in the best position to see and do what's right.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You fly about like a busy bird, creating your nest egg for the future. But your life isn't all about security, it's also about spontaneous fun. Splurge tonight with a special gift from you to you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's much easier to predict that something will or won't happen than to predict the "when" part. Today you're preparing for an event you know will come — maybe tomorrow, maybe three years from now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There you go again, taking on too many tasks at once. Slow it down.

Relax. Get a cart to carry things instead of trying to hold on to 10 small items. Tonight a Pisces person can help you gather your strength.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's the little, thoughtful actions you take that bring happiness to others. Meanwhile, you're actually delivering bigger joy to yourself in the process. The good vibes continue into the night.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're the inspiration, the muse and the coach. People around you not only discover how effective you can be, but they discover how effective they can be, too, by following your example.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Isn't it strange how the people who are the most able to handle tough obstacles don't usually encounter them? And the people with the most money are given all the free stuff. Today you're trying to rectify life's inequities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The stars remind you to sample everything in moderation. Even laxity, laziness and overindulgence can be positive and productive states when done for a measured amount of time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Listening to naysayers is tempting — if they're right there's no point in going forward with your project, which

right now looks like a lot of work. The thing is, they're not right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're strongly influenced by subtle information. It sticks with you, repeats in your head like a musical refrain and keeps you up at night. You must break the code and decipher the message in order to get some sleep.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've made your best effort to keep the family peace. Now it's time to pull back and let people battle it out for themselves. Don't worry. You can trust that you're still needed.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I am a 34-year-old Aries, born April 13, 1972. I've never had a relationship. Will I?"

First I have to commend you for your bravery, Aries! I get the feeling that it has at times taken a great deal of inner strength to stand alone. I also feel that you've done this in a weird way to protect someone — or at least that's how you have it hardwired in your mind. You almost feel that by being stoic and solitary you can keep key relationships in your life exactly as they are, which brings with it its own comforts. But life isn't about keeping things as they are, and you're starting to realize that there are experiences you'd like to gather that will

require you to change. My advice is for you to approach your love life as a person at age 12 might approach it and work up from there. This could include a rebellion against your parents, developing crushes and special friendships, then a lot of experimentation and risk. Be gentle with your delicate heart — you've had it under fortress for so long that this will definitely be a process!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Ebullient entertainer Jamie Foxx is sure to be the Hollywood awards circle afflutter this upcoming year with two noteworthy and knockout performances in "Dreamgirls" and "The Kingdom." I see this Sagittarian's personal life taking center stage in the New Year, though, as Foxx meets — and eventually marries — a dynamic sweetheart. FYI — Sagittarius is especially well-matched with Leos!

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, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

© 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Legals

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Sealed proposals, addressed to Steve Long, Superintendent, Glasscock County Independent School District, P.O. Box 9, Garden City, Texas 79739 are being received for separate trade proposals for the **New Agriculture Building and Remodel and Renovation of Campus Buildings**. Proposals will be received in the office of the Construction Manager until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 20, 2006. Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 21, 2006, at the Office of Glasscock County I.S.D., at which time the proposals will be opened and read publicly in the Glasscock County I.S.D. Board Room at Garden City, Texas. All proposals mailed prior to this date and all inquiries should be to the Construction Manager.

Instruction to Bidders. Payment and Performance Bond shall be as follows:

For a contract price in excess of \$25,000, the Contractor will furnish a Payment bond and a Performance Bond of not less than one hundred (100%) percent of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying the labor or furnishing the materials used on this project. Cost of the bond shall be paid by the Contractor.

The Contractor will furnish worker compensation insurance in accordance with the Texas Labor Code Chapter 406.

The Contractor will be responsible to pay prevailing wages pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 2258.

Plans and specifications may be secured from D.S.A., Inc., P.O. Box 115, Hermleigh, Texas 79526, 325/863-2489 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday of each week beginning Monday, November 27, 2006.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any formalities or to reject any or all proposals. No proposals may be withdrawn until the expiration of 30 days from the date proposals are opened.

Sealed Proposals: Glasscock County Independent School District Steve Long, Superintendent c/o D.S.A., Inc. (Construction Manager) P.O. Box 115 Hermleigh, Texas 79526

The Pre-Bid Meeting is set for Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Glasscock County Independent School District campus. #5169 November 30 & December 13, 2006

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I don't know if I'm the victim or the perpetrator, but I know what I'm doing is really bad. After 33 years of a lousy marriage, I am in so much emotional pain that I've been breaking things and throwing them at my husband, as well as punching, kicking and biting out of sheer frustration.

I am 55 years old and a size 4. In order to stay that small, I have to eat fewer than 1,200 calories a day. When I eat normally, I gain weight quickly — sometimes as much as a pound a day. I've been to the doctor and have been told I'm fine. Of course, if I reach a size 6, my husband will say, "You could lose a few pounds." I do feel better thin, but I think it's psychological. I've always been attentive to my appearance, always having little procedures done so I can look younger. That's because my husband married a brunette, but looks at

every bottled blonde, young or old. He has also lied to me on several occasions as far back as our first year of marriage, which has made me abnormally jealous and controlling.

It would never occur to my husband to help with dinner or run an errand. He comes home when he feels like it, yet expects dinner to be waiting for him. He totally ignores me. I'm so unhappy, I've developed many health problems.

I can't leave because I don't have a good job or benefits. Most of the time, I want to die, but I'd probably blow that, too. It didn't help that my mother told me I was fat, ugly and stupid my entire life. Do I have good reason to lash out, or am I the problem? — Trapped in Vermont

Dear Annie: Justifying your behavior doesn't excuse it. The point is to change those things that are causing you pain, and to stop hurting yourself and others in the process. Your husband sounds like a bully, and you sound abusive, but you are smart enough to understand the underlying motivations, which means you can work on this. Ask your doctor to refer you to a good therapist. You need help.

Dear Annie: At Christmas, students often give cute little gifts to teachers. As a teacher, I would like to let parents know what gifts would be truly appreciated:

1. Monetary donations to help cover field trip costs for students who lack funds.
 2. Notebook paper, index cards, construction paper, pencils, pens and glue sticks.
 3. Small combs, toothbrushes and toothpaste.
 4. Gift certificates for a grocery store or teachers' bookstore.
- Teachers also would love donations of time. Parents can read books and record stories on tape. They can help file or copy materials. We need parents to support our

dedication to giving their children the best we have to offer. Please pass this along. — Virginia Teacher

Dear Virginia: Parents often wonder what gifts would be most appreciated by their children's teachers. Thanks for your wonderful suggestions.

Dear Annie: I have read with interest the letters about a wife's excuses for avoiding intimacy. Over the years, I responded to my wife's excuses by adjusting my behavior. Showers, mouthwashes, freshly shaved, not too late, no lights, etc. I didn't want a divorce. I wanted a happy sex life with the woman I loved.

I got counseling, which helped me see that my wife could never face the reality that she had no sex drive, which could have then led to some medical or therapeutic intervention. Instead, she just decided sex was not important.

A husband who violates his marriage vows commits adultery. Yet, there is no public disdain for a wife who fails to fulfill the implied marital vows of intimacy. — Too Late Now

Dear Too Late: We agree with you. Spouses should make every effort to maintain intimacy in a marriage. It is crucial to the health of the relationship.

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

© 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

NOBODY ASKS FOR IT Help STOP Sexual Assaults Call 263-3312 Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring



Just In Time For Christmas!

2006 Nissan Sentra

Automatic - CD - Power Equipment
Cruise - Keyless Entry - Much More.

MSRP.....\$16,915
Customer Cash.....\$2,250
Brock Discount.....\$870

Bottom Line Price +TTL \$13,795

*Don't Fall For Out-Of-Town Gimmicks!
We Do Not Add To MSRP*

2006 Nissan Xterra

V6 - Automatic - Power Equipment
CD - Security System - Cruise - More.

MSRP.....\$23,005
Customer Cash.....\$1,000
Bonus Rebate.....\$1,500
Brock Discount.....\$1,510

Bottom Line Price +TTL \$18,995






BOB BROCK Nissan

500 W. 11th St. 267-7121

Legals

MIDLAND: Additions to Scharbauer Sports Complex. AGC General Contractor MID-TEX OF MIDLAND, INC., Construction Manager at Risk, is requesting sub-contractor bids for the following trades: landscaping, structural steel, drilled piers, concrete, paint, playground equipment, baseball equipment and miscellaneous work. Bids must be submitted to Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc., 5206 W. Wadley; Midland, Texas 79707 in a sealed envelope, clearly marked: Additions to Scharbauer Sports Complex, Package 3. Bid Date: December 20, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. Architect: Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, Inc., 5214 Thomason Drive, Midland, Texas. Plans and specifications are available from the office of Mid-Tex of Midland, AGC plan rooms and the Odessa plan room. #5175 December 6 & 13, 2006

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

ANSWERS

8	7	4	6	2	3	1	5	9
1	6	9	8	7	5	2	4	3
2	5	3	4	9	1	7	6	8
7	1	8	9	3	4	5	8	2
9	3	5	7	8	2	6	1	4
4	8	2	1	5	6	3	9	7
6	2	8	5	4	7	9	3	1
5	4	7	3	1	9	8	2	6
3	9	1	2	6	8	4	7	5

HOWARD COUNTY SNAPSHOTS

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #30
Big Spring, TX 79720

CR-Rt. Sort
Postal
Patron

FREE

DECEMBER 13, 2006

change.
or you to
ve life as
12 might
work up
is could
rebellion
parents,
shes and
lips, then
mentation
ntle with
heart —
t under
long that
tely be a

PRO-
nt enter-
xx is sure
ollywood
utter this
with two
knockout
in
and "The
see this
ersonal life
age in the
ough, as
and even-
s — a
heart. FYI
especial-
ed with

d like to
y Mathis,
www.cre-
click on
or" on the
page, or
er a post-
l. To find
Holiday
d her past
e Creators
page at
m.
EATORS
NC.

ving their
t we have
pass this
Virginia

: Parents
what gifts
appreciat-
children's
s for your
estions.
have read
he letters
xcuses for
acy. Over
ponded to
cuses by
behavior.
hwashes,
not too
etc. I did-
ivorce. I
y sex life
I loved.
ng, which
that my
er face the
e had no
ch could
to some
erapeutic
stead, she
x was not

o violates
ows com-
Yet, there
dain for a
to fulfill
rital vows
Too Late

t We agree
ses should
effort to
acy in a
crucial to
e relation-

ox is writ-
itchell and
longtime
n Landers
e e-mail
to annies-
st.net, or
Mailbox,
Chicago,
d out more
Mailbox,
es by other
ate writers
visit the
cate Web
at
m.
EATORS
NC.

S FOR IT
al Assaults
3312
Big Spring



Freebies

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

Business Opportunity

THIS NEWSPAPER is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified ads. Before investing money in a business/employment opportunity with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at 703-276-0100 or visit www.bbb.org

Educational

SOUTHEASTERN CAREER INSTITUTE
Midland Campus
Act now for career training from Southeastern Career Institute - Midland. Train in Computer Business Systems, Dental Assistant or Medical Assistant.
1-800-497-1557
www.scinow6.com
4320 W. Illinois Avenue, Suite A, Midland, TX 79703

Help Wanted

Apartments Maintenance needed. Apartment plus hourly wage. HBAC Certification required. Apply at 801 W. Marcy Drive. M-F 9am-5pm. EOE

ARE YOU Bilingual? Are you interested in working for \$9.50 per hour. If so please call 432-264-2007 leave message.

Assistant Manager trainee. Must have good driving record, 21 yrs old, motivated, paid vacations, retirement, health insurance, salary. Apply in person. **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

BACKHOE OPERATOR with at least 1 year experience. Call or go by Rusty's Oilfield Service in Stanton. Call (432)756-2821.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

NOW HIRING pushers and hands. Top pay. Must pass drug test. Call (432) 394-4161.

Help Wanted

COME JOIN our friendly team at Kate's Fina Mart. Good benefits. Now hiring full & part time. Apply at 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Quality 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. **Call Jay at 888-527-7221.**

DRIVERS: CDL-A Hot Oil, Vacuum Operators, Home Daily! Excellent Pay, Benefits! Great Company w/lots of work! C&W Transport 432-570-1911.

HELP WANTED- We are looking for part time night Auditor. Starting pay \$6.00. Also need Full-time maintenance person. Experience in Commercial property. Starting pay \$7.50. Must pass back ground check. Please apply at Comfort Inn, 2900 E. I-20. No phones please.

Help Wanted

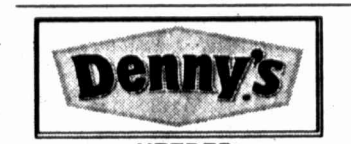
LVNS: \$1000 sign-on bonus
FULL & PART TIME positions available; requires TEXAS state license or Certification. We also have

CNA OPENINGS on various shifts, full or part time. Competitive rates, with benefits for full time. EOE. For information, call Kirby James at (806)872-2141, or apply in person at SAGE HEALTH CARE CENTER, 1201 North 15th St, Lamesa, TX 79331.

MEDICAL RECORD Clerk needed full time. Experienced from Hospital or Doctors Office. Fax resume to 417-777-8459 or call 1-800-873-1831.

Help Wanted

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



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

NEW CHRISTIAN FM radio station needs full time sales person. Start immediately. E-mail resume to tdwork@gmail.com.

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

StarTek
Now hiring Customer Care Representative. StarTek offers great benefits and competitive pay. Come by 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 30 or call 432-264-2700

Help Wanted

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION
Be a part of our devoted staff providing resident care. Now Hiring for Certified Nursing Assistant's, which offers competitive pay, great benefits and a fantastic working environment. Looking for reliable and caring CNA's to join our team. Apply at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION
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. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS. 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.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid training, vacations. PT/FT. 1-800-584-1775 USWA Ref#6901.

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

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, Garden City or call 432-354-2569.

THE BIG Spring Independent School District is accepting applications for Full Time Evening Custodian. Benefits available. Apply in person at the Bus Barn, 3600 E. 11th Place. (432)264-4108.

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.

THE MARTIN County Hospital District of Stanton is seeking a Physician Assistant for employment in a Rural Health Clinic. Please contact Paul McKinney, CEO or Alison Israel, CFO at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or call (432)756-3345.

TRANSIT MIX CONCRETE MATERIALS COMPANY is now hiring MIXER TRUCK DRIVERS. CDL license is required. We offer competitive wages along with an excellent benefit package including medical, dental, 401(k) profit sharing and a pension plan. EOE/AA

Please apply in person at the following location:
Transit Mix Concrete
605 North Benton St.
Big Spring, TX 79720

TRUCK DRIVER
Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. Requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:
Helena Chemical Company
100 S. St. Peter
Stanton, Tx 79782
Pre-employment drug screen required.
EOE M/F/V/H

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. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

High Speed Internet
Where You Live!
Now!



High Speed Satellite Internet
Satellite to You
You to the Satellite
No Phone Line - No Dial Up

\$99.99 Limited Time Offer

Equipment and Installation
(Regularly \$299.99, monthly packages vary)



Call
LEC DEVELOPMENT, INC.
For More Information

1-877-218-2308

HIGH SPEED SATELLITE SERVICES

LEC Development, Inc. is a subsidiary of Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Inc.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS
\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104
Housing Assistance Accepted

Coronado Hills Apartments
1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575
801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500
Big Spring, Texas 79720
Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn.
2-3 Bedroom
"Remember...you deserve the best!"

Save \$\$\$

Look For Money Saving Coupons In This Weekend's **HERALD**

The Spider

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

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

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



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.
Call today
(432) 263-7331

Instructional

SOUTHEASTERN CAREER INSTITUTE
Midland Campus
Act now for career training from Southeastern Career Institute - Midland. Train in Computer Business Systems, Dental Assistant or Medical Assistant.
1-800-497-1557
www.scinow6.com
4320 W. Illinois Avenue, Suite A, Midland, TX 79703

Items for Sale

BACK FROM LEASE - 14'x40' Office Building with 1/2 bath \$399.00 a month. Delivery/Financing. 432-563-3108.

SHELLED PECANS. Pick up at the Fillin' Station, FM 700, Ezell-Key Feed or Big Spring Farm Supply or call (432)267-1180

SPECIAL PURCHASE - 12'x16' Barn/Workshop. \$78.00 a month. Delivery/Financing. 432-563-3108.

WHY PAY Rent? 10'x16' Storage Buildings \$59.00 a Month. Delivery/Financing. 432-563-3108.

Miscellaneous

5 TO 6 person Hot-Tubs as low as \$84.00 a month. Delivery/Financing available. 432-563-3108.

ALL NEW Mattress Set, Full Size still in packaging. Sell for \$119. Call 432-349-4043.

Miscellaneous

BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set. In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. Sacrifice \$149.00. 432-349-4043.

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarios. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

COMFY COUCH and loveseat. Microfiber \$489, Leather \$799. 806-549-3110.

KING PILLOWTOP Mattress Set. Brand New still in Plastic. Full Factory Warranty. Must Sell. \$249. 432-349-4043.

LARGE DINING room table, 6 chairs, buffet, hutch, still boxed \$999. 806-549-3110.

MOVING!!! QUEEN mattress set \$125. Twin mattress set \$99. NEW, CLEAN. Washer \$225. 806-549-3110.

NASA MEMORY FOAM Mattress Set. Conforms to body. New in plastic. List \$1399.00 Sacrifice \$399.00. 432-349-4043.

QUEEN ORTHOPEDIC Mattress Set. New, still in plastic w/Warranty. \$129.00. 432-349-4043.

SACRIFICE; 6 pc sleigh bedroom set. Still boxed. \$499. 806-549-3110.

SLIGHT DAMAGE - 12'x16' Storage Building. Will Deliver. 432-563-3108.

Miscellaneous

URGENT SELL -- King mattress set \$210. Full mattress set \$109. PERFECT CONDITION Microwave \$225. 806-549-3110.

ZERO ACHES, NASA memory foam mattress set. List \$1599. Sell \$399. Warranty. 806-549-3110.

National Ads

\$4,000 - \$500,000 FREE Grants & Government Programs. Never Repay. Medical, Utilities, Personal Bills, Schooling, Business, Housing purchased/repairs. No credit check. Almost everyone qualifies. 1-800-770-1814.

\$50,000 GUARANTEED! Never repay! As seen on TV, Private/Government grants for school, business, home or just pay bills. 1-800-408-5576.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH BENEFITS Under \$155.00 Monthly for the Entire Family. Hospitalization, Prescriptions, Dental, Vision and More! Pre-existing OK! Call 1-866-397-3075 Today.

BLUFF OVER RIO GRANDE 348 Acres \$495/acre. Owner carry. West of Del Rio. 50 miles south of Hwy 90. 5% down. 210-320-3084
www.ranchenterprisesd.com

EARN MONEY working at home!! Fun & profitable! FREE information packet. 1-801-428-4657, 24 hours. www.atlanticfamilypublishing.net

National Ads

CRANE/HEAVY EQUIPMENT Operator training for employment. Dozers, Backhoes,.....more. Huge job demand. Starting pay \$12-\$55/hr. National certification. Job placement assistance. ATS-OKLAHOMA 6125 W. Reno, OKC 888-381-2429.

DIRECTV FREE 4 Room System! NO Credit Card Required! 250+ Channels! Starts \$39.99! FREE DVR or HD Receiver! Also, Dish Network \$19.99! FREE Movie Channels! 1-800-574-2260.

DRIVERS - A Few Good OTR Drivers. Class A CDL. Excellent Benefits & Equipment. Company 35¢ mile up to .40¢ mile. Owner Operators \$1 mile plus. Fink Transportation, Cherryvale KS. 866-525-5623.

EARN UP to \$500 weekly assembling our angel pins in the comfort of your own home. No experience required! Call 1-813-333-5897 or visit www.angelpin.net

FREE DIRECTV 4 Room System! NO Credit Card Required! 250+ Channels! Starts \$39.99! FREE DVR or HD Receiver! Also, Dish Network \$19.99! FREE Movie Channels! 1-800-490-1814.

FREE GRANTS/GOVERNMENT Programs. Up to \$2.5 Million. Use Money for Bills, School, Housing Purchase & Repairs, Business. Never Repay. No credit check! 1-800-770-1814.

National Ads

MAKE \$334 DAILY!! Data entry positions available now! Internet access needed. Income is Guaranteed! No experience required. Apply today. www.dataforcash.com

OWN A Computer? Put it to Work! Earn \$1500-\$7500/mo. PT/FT FREE info package online. www.QISglobal.com

REDUCE-YOUR-CABLE-BILL! GET a 4-Room All-Digital Satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting under \$20. FREE Digital Video Recorders to new callers. SO CALL NOW. 1-800-795-6129.

SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED For Store Evaluations. Get Paid to Shop. Local Stores, Restaurants & Theaters. Training Provided, Flexible Hours, Email Required. 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6273.

Pets

ENGLISH BULLDOG pup 12wks old, beautiful markings, AKC Registered wormed, vet checked. \$500. For more information call (201)795-8201 or email: diane_kindred@yahoo.com

FOR SALE, Blue Heeler puppies, \$50. Call (432)263-8665.

JACK RUSSELL Terrier Puppies, \$100.00 each. Call (432)354-2334 leave message or (432)553-1728.

Real Estate for Rent

104 WEST 13th. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath with garage. \$300.00 month or \$550.00 with All Bills Paid, \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

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

4215 DIXON, 3 Bdrm, 1 bath. Call 432-267-3841 or 517-0642.

4221 HAMILTON. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

608 HOLBERT, clean, 3 bedroom, 1 bath and garage. CHA. Contact information on location.

6305-1/2 EAST MIDWAY RD., 3 bedroom 1 bath Duplex. Sand Springs area. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

817 WEST 8th, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, stove & refrigerator furnished. \$425. Month, \$200 deposit. Call 432-267-1543.

FOR RENT, Partially furnished garage apartment. Remodeled, like new. 305 East 8th Street. \$260. Call (432)263-1281.

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.

HIGH PRIVACY one bedroom house. Downtown near church & grocery store. \$265. Smoking & pets prohibited. Credit & background required. McDonald Realty. (432)263-7615 or 263-4835.

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

Real Estate for Rent

SPECIAL DISCOUNT to Qualified Renters on Long Term Lease. 3202 Auburn, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, fenced yard, refrigerator stove included. \$525.00 a month, \$250.00 deposit. Rent to Own an option. Call (432)270-7086.

VERY NICE 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home for rent. Many recent upgrades with central AC and Heat. \$550 plus deposit. Call Yolanda at 432-816-4485.

Real Estate for Sale

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

ABSOLUTELY DARLING 1211 Lloyd, \$44,900.00 OBO. Owner Financing Available. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully decorated. Just waiting for the right family. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Realty 432-213-2842.

CUTE LITTLE Cottage w/backyard playhouse. \$39,900 OBO. 1108 Mulberry. Owner Finance Available. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Realty 432-213-2842.

FINANCING AVAILABLE on 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas with CH/A. Call (432)268-1375 for appointment.

Services Offered

WORK WANTED Home Cleaning, window washing, errand running, odd jobs and businesses. Joan Tatum (432)466-1335.

ATTENTION

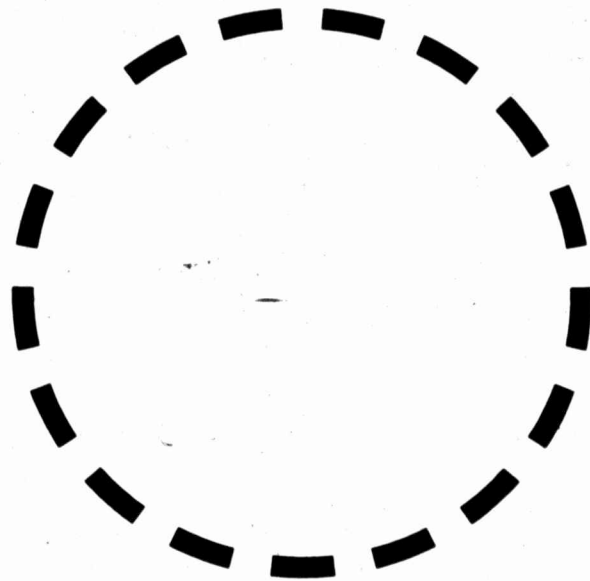
THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

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

DON'T PAY

to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

PUT YOUR COFFEE CUP RIGHT HERE.



NOW TRY TURNING THE PAGE.

Don't you wish your advertising could stop consumers that effectively? Let's face it, most of the time it gets lost in the shuffle.

It takes a certain ingenuity to stand out in a crowd. You've got to be provocative. Unpredictable. A little smarter than the next guy. And you've got to have a real feel for the medium you're working in.

We put those talents to work for our advertisers everyday...and at no extra cost. It works for them. And, you'll have to admit, it just worked for you!

BIG SPRING HERALD

Let us be your advertising specialists.

Call today!

432-263-7331

"LOOK"
The Classifieds Have It!
Looking for a new house? A good car? An affordable computer? Find just what you need and want in the classifieds.
Big Spring Herald Classifieds
Definitely Worth A Look
To place your classified ad, call 263-7331

Consider this a serious net gain.

Get business news 24 hours a day
www.BigSpringHerald.com

A USER'S GUIDE TO

THE

BIG SPRING HERALD

Each day. The *Big Spring Herald* receives calls from readers - just like you - who have important questions about how the newspaper works and the services it offers. For your information and convenience, we have compiled this page of answers to readers' most frequently asked questions.

Save this page for future reference

HOW TO

REPORT THE SCORE

You can report your sports results between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 263-7331, faxing 264-7205 or drop your results at the *Big Spring Herald* office at 710 Scurry, Big Spring.

HOW TO

SUBMIT NEWS INFORMATION

To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editor John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

LOCATE A SPECIFIC STORY

If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the *Big Spring Herald* at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the *Big Spring Herald*.

HOW

OBITUARIES ARE HANDLED

Obituaries, whether paid or non-paid, are provided to the *Big Spring Herald* by funeral homes. Non-paid obits follow a standard form, while paid obits can include virtually anything the deceased's family requests. Any questions should be directed to the Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

GET DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME

Call our office at 263-7335 or come by 710 Scurry. Our subscription rate is \$93.42 per year or \$8.65 per month.

HOW TO

OBTAIN BACK ISSUES

Back issues of the *Big Spring Herald* are kept on file for one year and may be purchased during regular business hours. However, some back issues sell out quickly and we cannot guarantee that any given issue will be available. You may also check with the Howard County Library reference department at 264-2262.

HOW TO

SUBMIT MARRIAGE, ENGAGEMENT OR BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at www.bigspringherald.com. If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 or come by 710 Scurry. Ads can be placed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

HOW TO

PLACE A DISPLAY AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 and ask for a retail advertising sales representative or visit our office at 710 Scurry. Telephone lines are open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BIG SPRING HERALD

Submit your information
by fax at 432-264-7205
Call us at 432-263-7331
Come visit us at
710 Scurry Street
www.bigspringherald.com

BIG SPRING

VOLUME

C
N
g

How
con

By STE

Staff W

The
County
death r
part of
to a fec
ruling t

The 5

Appeal

ruling b

that B

convict

der in

death

Charla

receive

ment tr

The

jurors i

were n

conside

ing cir

they re

tence i

District

Spring

"We

the fac

there is

lihood t

ital-sen

M