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BIG SPRING

WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

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VOLUME 116, NUMBER 308

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Thank a Veteran Day



Local sports writer Dustin Pope served in the U.S. Military as a Corpsman from 1999 until 2014. He earned the rank of Petty Officer First Class.

See **HONOR**, Page 3



Courtesy image/KBest Media

"WHEREAS, the City of Big Spring, in recognition of the courage, honor, devotion and sacrifice of our service men and women, hereby establish the 15th day of every month as "Thank a Veteran Day", and this day shall forever stand as a day to honor those that have selflessly served each citizen of this Great Nation."
 The Big Spring Herald stands in support of all Veterans. The above is part of a proclamation presented by the Big Spring City Council in honor of everyone that has served our Country. Please take a moment today to thank a Veteran. This proclamation was presented by Mayor Larry McLellan on behalf of the Big Spring City Council on Tuesday, April 10th, 2018.
 God Bless our veterans!
 If you know a veteran we should recognize, please send the information to editor@bigspringherald.com.

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Council approves budget, tax rate Tuesday

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

During a three-and-a-half-hour meeting Tuesday evening, the Big Spring City Council unanimously approved their budget and tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year.

The budget passed by the city features total receipts of \$21,621,906 and total budgeted expenditures of \$23,036,520, for a deficit on the year of \$1,414,614. The shortfall will bring the city's fund balance from \$11,150,132 to \$9,735,518.

Regarding the city's ad valorem property tax rate, Financial Director Sandy Smith pointed out an error on the documentation that had been presented to the city council. The error had also been published in public notifications regarding the proposed rate.

"In your budget book, it has an incorrect tax amount. It has 0.69 and some change (\$0.691440 per \$100 valuation)," Smith reported. "That was a clerical error on my part. It should have been 0.673163. That is the amount that is in the budget...that we put in the budget. We did publish this 0.69... it was the one that was published on the website, and that's the amount we published in the paper. So that was a clerical error, but the correct amount is 0.673163."

The rate means Big Spring's property owners will pay the city 67.3163 cents for every \$100 of real estate they own within the city limits during the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The amount is the "No New Revenue" rate, Smith said, which is the tax rate required to bring in the same amount

of tax revenue as the city earned in the previous fiscal year.

Smith said the tax rate is calculated at "100 percent of the pro- tested

the topics.

Other items discussed during the meeting were more contentious. Big Spring property owner Donnie Reid requested a zoning change of his undeveloped property on North Goliad

Street from SF3 (Single-Family Dwelling) to LI (Light Industrial). The property is located at 504 N. Goliad, and it is a 2.122-acre tract in Sec. 42, Blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey.

Reid had presented his zone change request to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which rejected his proposal.

"The motion was denied the other day, and I didn't feel like it was a fair decision because I feel like the biggest part of that block is already zoned Light Industrial and I'm trying to get rid of the property," he said. "I spent quite a bit of money cleaning the property off. Had a dozer clean all the property off of it."

Public Works Director Shane Bowles said that 24 letters were sent to property owners within 200 feet of Reid's property and one letter was received protesting the zone change. More opposition to the change was voiced at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting earlier this month.

The council voted to overturn the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission, approving the zone change by

See **CITY**, Page 3

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value."

"That means that, if 100 percent of the people that have protested their property values win, that amount of property value is reduced from the total tax roll," she said. "This year, it was in excess of \$154 million. So we reduce property values by that amount, calculate the No New Revenue rate, and that is the amount that will be collected to bring the same amount of revenue and property taxes that we had in the prior year."

The council also approved a \$5,000 homestead exemption on property taxes for the year.

At the start of the meeting, the council held public hearings on both the budget and the tax rate, but no one spoke on

Applications being accepted for recently vacated Board of Trustees seat

Special to the Herald

For those who would like to serve on the Howard County Junior College District Board of Trustees, Thursday is the final day to submit a letter of interest and resume to take over a recently vacated seat.

The seat was left vacant when Patricia Bennett of Coahoma resigned the spot as she is moving out of the area.

The Junior College Board voted at its last meeting to accept applications of local residents desiring to take over the seat.

According to Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks, applications - which should include both a letter of interest and a resume - must be received by Thursday, Sept. 16, at 5 p.m.

The college will arrange interviews with college staff and members of the College Board on Sept. 20. Dr. Sparks said the board should choose the new board member by the end of that day, and will swear in and seat the new trustee at its regular meeting, scheduled Monday, Sept. 27.

The new board member will serve until the May election, when voters will have the opportunity to weigh in, electing a candidate to complete the remaining four years of Bennett's six-year term. Bennett's appointed replacement may run as a candidate for the seat at that time.

To submit your letter of interest and resume for the position, either bring it to Dr. Spark's office at Howard College in person, or submit it by e-mail at cspark@howardcollege.edu, no later than 5 p.m. Thursday.

For more information, contact the college at 432-264-5000.



HOWARD COLLEGE
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Big Spring Homecoming Court announced for 2021 Parade set for Friday afternoon



Courtesy photo

This year's Court includes: Brin Watkins, Gracie Rodriguez, Natalia Lopez, Jha'Niah Johnson, Libby Everett, Karl Karabanoff, Isaiah Holloway, Joshua Mireles, Roman Perez and Marco Rios.

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

The hallways of Big Spring ISD have been filled with Disney magic this past week, as students across the campuses - and teachers - are preparing for the Big Homecoming Game this Friday. The theme is "Disney - Where the Magic Begins."

The week kicked off with those participating in spirit week dressing up as their favorite Disney character. The activities continued Tuesday with an Alice in Wonderland theme: "We are all MAD here for the Steers." Students had an opportunity to dress with "crazy, wacky and goofy" hair and clothes. On Wednesday, the focus shifts to the South Seas and a Polynesian flair in the wonderful world of Moana. The theme is "The Steers will board the boat, sail across the sea, and restore the heart of Big Spring." Hawaiian or beach attire is the spirit-approved dress code of the day.

For those who haven't jumped in on the fun, there is still time with two spirit days left: Thursday's theme is A Tale as

See **BSHS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Deborah Harbuck

Deborah Harbuck, 67, of Big Spring died Saturday in Big Spring. Visitation will be Tuesday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. With funeral service Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Midway Baptist Church.

Deborah was born Dec. 14, 1953, in Corpus Christi to James Berkley Ward and Mary Leuna Hallies.

Deborah owned Warehouse Café, then went to work at Cowboys for 23 years, then at Mary's Café in Coahoma for three years. She collected many things such as crosses, angels, and little chefs. She had many plants and loved taking care of them. She had a passion for decorating and was always doing it.

Deborah loved everyone equally, she didn't believe in step anything. Family was family in her eyes. Everyone knew her by Nanny or Aunt Debbie, she didn't meet a stranger. She loved to get together with her family and was always in the middle of the room watching everyone have a good

time during them. She enjoyed spending time with family, especially her grandkids and great grandkids.

Deborah is survived by her husband; Derle Harbuck of Big Spring; son; Shannon Feaster and wife Tarie of Big Spring; daughter, Zundalane and husband Domingo Rodriguez Jr. of Big Spring; son; Michael Feaster and husband James Clark; two sisters; Della Riffe of Andrews and Mary Havens of Colorado City, two brothers; Freddy Ward of Big Spring and James Ward of Big Spring, 17 grandkids and 21 great-grandkids.

In addition to Deborah's parents, she is preceded in death by a sister; Bernell Pigott, two brothers; Donald Ward and Joe Ward; a grandson, Terry; and great granddaughter Gabriella.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers Domingo Rodriguez III, Christopher Osborn, Brandon Feaster, Tracey Feaster, Quinten Feaster, and Trenton Clark.

Paid Obituary

William "Scott Miller III

William "Scott" Miller III, 63, Big Spring, passed away Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021. Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17, 2021 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Due to the increase in Covid cases, face masks are requested.



He was born Sept. 8, 1958, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to William Scott Miller, Jr. and Elizabeth Marie Meisburger Miller.

Survivors include his wife, Connie Miller; a daughter, Monica Rosenberry; a son, William Scott Miller IV; a grandson; and a sister, Michele Miller.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

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

Roy Lee Myrick

Roy Lee Myrick was born Feb. 21, 1952, in Big Spring, Texas. He went to be with the Lord on Sept. 11, 2021.

The celebration of his life will be Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, at The Salvation Army, 811 West 5th in Big Spring.

Please wear your camo in honor of him. He worked in the refinery business for many years, in Big Spring, Texas, and Galena Park, Texas.

He was passionate about hunting and fishing. He was always so proud of his cars and his catches. Whether it be a girl, fish, deer, turkey, or a hog! He loved his nieces and nephews so much!

We were always told he had children, but he always said "Not true". He always refused it. So us kids were like his very own, and of course his dog. Growing up his 'Nooch' started calling him Jack--, us younger kids only could call him Uncle Donkey. He inherited this nickname because he loved to play jokes on us and pull our hair. This is what we will miss the most, showing his love by being tough.

He carried on this tradition with all the kids, down to the babies. He fought a very hard battle with Dementia, he did not like it, It was a very hard battle but his long fight is over as he is now promoted to glory. Thank you, Toby, for everything you did for us, and him.

Please remember him for being full of life!

He is survived by his brother James Myrick and his wife of Hallettsville. His sister in law, Debra Myrick of Big Spring, TX. His nieces Samantha 'Sambodee Jody' and her husband Toby of Big Spring, Texas. Kristie Kay 'Nooch' and Kerri Myrick of Hallettsville. Nephew Christopher 'ChrissyBoy' and his wife Christina of Big Spring, Texas. Also, many great nieces and nephews; Dustin, Christopher and wife Trista, Christena and husband Albert, Kyler, Kaden, Mathew, Maliah, Brysen, Kaiden, Jusiah, Kane, Ambra, Avery Grace, Jaxleigh, Alianna, Ryleigh. As well as, his extended family through Melody, his wife. He was preceded in death by his mother & step father, Mary Jo and Floyd Smart. Father, Cleve Dwayne Myrick; one brother Don Myrick, his wife Melody Gay, and one nephew. Also his dog Saddie!

Paid Obituary

Ray "Radiator Man" Rutledge



Ray "Radiator Man" Rutledge, 77, of Big Spring died Sept. 6, 2021. A memorial service will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Ray was born Aug. 14, 1944, in Fort Stockton to Edley Sylvester Rutledge and Clara Mae McMahon. He spent most of his life in Big Spring expect for his time in Midland and Odessa for 16 years.

Ray was a veteran of the U.S marines. First Medical Battalion, Ambulance Driver servicing in Vietnam. He was also a pumper and truck driver for Laredo & Price Construction.

Ray loved fishing and the outdoors. Watching the news, history, and family genealogy.

Ray is survived by his wife; Kathy, four children Jayce Piper, Rusty Rutledge, Rodney Rutledge, & Joy Peterson.

In addition to his parents, Edley Sylvester & Clara Mae Rutledge, 1 sister; Betty Laverne Rutledge, and one stepdaughter Leslie Smith

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respect online at www.myersand-smith.com

Paid Obituary

Henry Smith

Henry Smith, 72, of Midland passed away Sept. 8, 2021. Graveside service will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, Sept. 17, 2021 at Fairview Cemetery in Midland.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **NO ARRESTS** for Sept. 13, 2021
- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the area of 7th and Abrams.
- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the area of 3rd and Birdwell.
- **WELFARE CONCERN** was reported in the area of Mesa.
- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 1600 block of E. 16th Street.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2500 block of Chanute.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2500 block of Albrook Drive.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 2300 block of S. Gregg Street.
- **WELFARE CONCERN** was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th Street.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 2600 block of Ent Drive.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 2200 block of Williams Road.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 700 block of Ohio.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3600 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the I-20 MM 182. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Chanute. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 100 inmates at the time of this report.

- **DONNIE RODRIGUEZ**, 29, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of theft of service between \$100 and \$750.

- **SHERIE ANN THOMPSON**, 36, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of assault family/house member impede breathing.

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CITY

Continued from Page 1

a 4-3 vote. Council members Nick Ornelas (District 1), Diane Yanez (District 2) and Troy Tompkins (District 5) dissented the decision.

Another item which drew some dissent but was ultimately approved during the meeting involved the rules governing the board of directors of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation.

One sticking point was a requirement that EDC directors must: serve, or have served, as the chief executive officer of a company; serve, or have served, in a position of executive management of a company; serve, or have served, in a professional capacity; or have experience equivalent to any of the other qualifications.

Another bone of contention was a proposed rule stating that "The Mayor, the City Manager and the City Attorney of the City of Big Spring shall have the right to speak at board meetings." The issue was that city council members are not included in the list.

Mayor Shannon Thomason offered two amendments to the proposed resolution; the first stipulating that directors "should" (rather than "shall") meet one of the four qualifications listed above, effectively changing the rule to a guideline for the council going forward; and the second inserting "the City Council" into the list of people with the right to speak at EDC board meetings, so that the rule reads "The Mayor, the City Council, the City Manager and the City Attorney of the City of Big Spring shall have the right to speak at board meetings."

The first proposed amendment passed 5-2, with Cody Hughes (District 3) and Troy Tompkins (District 5) dissenting. The second proposed amendment passed 6-1, with Maury Smith (District 6) dissenting. The final amended resolution passed 6-1 with Tompkins dissenting.

In other business, the city council held a public hearing on a proposal to continue the city's campaign of consolidating rules governing committees and boards into one article of the cities code. The body under consideration Tuesday was the Planning and Zoning Commission. No members of the public chose to speak during the hearing.

City Manager Todd Darden spoke on the Large Item Pickup being held today in District 3; and reported that the contracted seal coat project is currently on hold because the company performing the work currently has several employees ill with COVID-19, and is unable to work on the project.

The council approved vouchers for Aug. 26 in the amount of \$907,574.38; for Sept. 2 in the amount of \$355,539.98; and for Sept. 9 in the amount of \$861,905.68.

The council approved a stop-loss agreement with Companion Life Insurance Company. The agreement involves insurance coverage the city carries which allows it to self-insure its employees but protects the city if insurance claims soar too high.

"At first, we were hit with a 23 percent increase

overall on the stop loss, which is basically insurance that protects our self-funded plan," said Assistant City Manager John Medina. "It's \$90,000 for each claim. Anything that goes beyond that, it covers the addition to that. It's designed to keep us from going bankrupt on our insurance plan."

Medina said the city sought other providers for the stop loss plan, and was able to find one through the Texas Municipal League Health Benefits Pool offering only a 9.6 percent increase.

The council unanimously approved annual bids on materials and services. Medina noted that most of the items on the list have seen marked price increases since last year's budget. All bids accepted were from the lowest bidder in the process. The items include \$202,500 to Chameleon Industries Inc. of Mesquite for Aluminum Sulfate, up 19.8 percent since last year; \$67,420 to DPC Industries of Sweetwater for Anhydrous Ammonia, up 9.2 percent; \$174,460, also to DPC Industries, for Liquid Chlorine, up 35.5 percent; \$59,600 to Polydyne Inc. of Riceboro, Ga., for Polymer, no change since last year; \$28,840 to DPC Industries for Sulfur Dioxide, up 31 percent since last year; \$625,475.98 to Core and Main of San Angelo for Valves and Fittings, up 28.9 percent since last year; \$43,199.48 to Criterion Commercial Cleaning of Big Spring for Janitorial Services, down 9.2 percent since last year; \$8,699.88, also to Criterion Commercial Cleaning, for Janitorial Services at the Dora Roberts Community Center, up 6.9 percent; and \$8,400 to Evans Janitorial Services for Janitorial Services at the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark offices, up 3.6 percent.

In New Business, the council: Accepted a gift to the city of Big Spring from Gunsight Mountain Wind Energy Center for \$1,500; acknowledged receipt of minutes of the March 18 and April 15 Big Spring McMahan-Wrinkle Airport and Industrial Park Development Board regular meetings, the Aug. 3 and Aug. 24 Planning and Zoning Commission meetings, and the July 20 Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors meeting; approved the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation's annual budget for 2021-22; approved a water rate increase in response to a rate increase from the Colorado River Municipal Water District; approved 3 percent pay increases for employees of both the Police Department and the Fire Department; approved an application for a 50-50 matching grant totaling \$500,000 - \$250,000 payable by the city - from Texas Parks and Wildlife for improvement of city parks; unanimously approved a resolution joining with the State of Texas and other political subdivisions of the state as a party in the Texas Opioid Settlement secured by the Office of the Attorney General; approved its annual agreement with the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for meal services for Big Spring's elderly residents; approved Carolyn Mills as the new Traffic Commission member for District 6; and approved Amy Hernandez as the new Parks and Recreation Board member, also for District 6.

At the close of the meeting, Council, city employees, and visitors stood as Mayor Thomason recited the names of 13 U.S. Servicemen and women killed

during an attack at the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan: Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David L. Espinoza of Rio Bravo, Texas; Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole L. Gee of Sacramento, Calif.; Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin T. Hoover of Salt Lake City, Utah; Army Staff Sgt. Ryan C. Knauss of Corryton, Tenn.; Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez of Indio, Calif.; Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum of Jackson, Wyo.; Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.; Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui of Norco, Calif.; Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo of Lawrence, Mass.; Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto A. Sanchez of Logansport, Ind.; Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared M. Schmitz of St. Charles, Mo.; Navy Hospital Corpsman Maxton W. Soviak of Berlin Heights, Ohio; and Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan W. Page of Omaha, Neb.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-860

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people deal with a loved one's death. There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the Grief-Share Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call 432-466-3583 for information.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Deborah Harbuck, 67, died Saturday. Funeral service will be 2 PM Wednesday at Midway Baptist Church. Burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Ray Rutledge, 77, died Monday. Memorial service 2 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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HONOR

Continued from Page 1

While his entrance into a military career was not his first option, it was an option that forever changed his life. Military life provided the structure that he seemed to be missing in life.

"It's not very often you develop a brotherhood like you do when you serve with other people who are going through the same things you are going through," Pope said.

He continued, "I hate to say it, but it helped change my life for the better. No telling where I would have ended up without that structure."

BSHS

Continued from Page 1

Old as Time "Song as Old as Rhyme, the Steers will knock the Cubs back in time." Students can show their school spirit by dressing in throwback attire from their favorite decade.

The week will conclude with Spirit Week Friday and allow students to cheer on the Steers with the theme "Remember the Steers" based on the Disney movie *Remember the Titans*. Students are asked to proudly wear their black and gold attire.

Voting for the Homecoming King and Queen will conclude Thursday, and the Homecoming Bonfire will be at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Anderson Accelerated School campus.

Steers will celebrate Homecoming most

of the Friday, with a pep rally at 3 p.m.; the Homecoming Parade at 4:30 p.m.; and the Homecoming game vs. Brownfield at 7:30 p.m., featuring the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen as part of the half-time activities.

This year's Homecoming King nominees were Gabriel Baeza, Matthew Doll, Robert Fierro, Isaiah Holloway, Karl Karabanoff, Matthew Martin, Joshua Miramontes, Joshua Mireles, Braxton Pearson, Roman Perez, Jayson Primrose, Gavin Redlin, Marco Rios, Benjamin Robertson, Sean Tan, and Peyton Woellert.

Homecoming Queen nominees are Paris Castaneda, Mireya Cervantes, Libby Everett, Kirstyn Gusman, Jha'Niah Johnson, Elisabeth Jones, Nadia Landin, Jullianna Lopez, Natalia Lopez,

Isabella Marquez, Kyla Matthews, Isabella Miller, Avarielle Nuno, Arin Owens, Chloe Paredes, Gracie Rodriguez, Addison Smith, Jennifer Smith, Tristan Smith, Ryan Terrazas, Vanessa Viasana, Brinly Watkins, and Julianna Nava-Willborn.

Homecoming Court finalists were announced Friday during the pep rally. This year's Court includes: Brinly Watkins, Gracie Rodriguez, Natalia Lopez, Jha'Niah Johnson, Libby Everett, Karl Karabanoff, Isaiah Holloway, Joshua Mireles, Roman Perez and Marco Rios.



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Nicholas crawls into Louisiana from Texas, dumping rain

By **JAY REEVES and REBECCA SANTANA**

Associated Press

POINTE-AUX-CHENES, La. (AP) — Nicholas weakened to a tropical depression as it crawled from Texas into southern Louisiana on Wednesday, unleashing heavy rain across a landscape where Hurricane Ida destroyed thousands of rooftops now covered with flimsy tarps.

Forecasters said Nicholas would slow to a stall over central Louisiana through Thursday, with plenty of water still to dump east of its center, drenching the Gulf Coast as far as the western Florida Panhandle. Southeast Louisiana faced the biggest flooding threat, and Gov. John Bel Edwards warned people to take it seriously, even though Nicholas was no longer the hurricane that made landfall in Texas on Tuesday.

"This is a very serious storm, particularly in those areas that were so heavily impacted by Hurricane Ida," Edwards said.

Forecasters warned people along the central Gulf Coast that up to 20 inches (50 centimeters) are possible through Friday in places across a region still recovering from Category 4 hurricanes — Ida weeks ago and Laura last year.

Galveston, Texas, recorded nearly 14 inches (35 centimeters) of rain from Nicholas, the 14th named storm of the 2021 Atlantic hurricane season, while Houston reported more than 6 inches (15 centimeters). The New Orleans office of the National Weather Service said late Tuesday that as much as 10 inches (25 centimeters) of rain could fall in parts

of Louisiana, with some areas seeing particularly intense periods of 2 to 3 inches (5 to 8 centimeters) of rainfall per hour.

In the small Louisiana community of Pointe-aux-Chenes, Ida peeled open the tin roof of Terry and Patti Dardar's home, leaving them without power and water for more than two weeks since. Nicholas made the damage that much worse, soaking the upstairs. But it also provided them with badly needed water, which their son Terren and grandchildren collected in jugs and poured into a huge plastic container through a strainer. From there, a pump powered by a generator brought the water inside.

His mom, Patti, said the family didn't have anywhere else to go after Ida, so members were doing their best during Nicholas.

"We ain't got no other place," she said. "This is our home."

Gov. Edwards noted that 95,000 electric customers were still without power more than two weeks after Ida hit. And he said the new storm could mean some who had regained power might lose it again. Homes already badly damaged by Ida were not yet repaired to the extent that they could withstand heavy rain, Edwards added.

Energy companies working to restore power to remaining areas in the state said Wednesday that they were watching Nicholas closely but didn't expect it to affect their restoration times.

A spokesman for Entergy Louisiana said Nicholas so far has not caused any delays to previously announced times to restore power. Crews cannot operate when lightning is within 10 miles (16 kilometers) and can't put bucket trucks in the air

at winds greater than 30 mph (50 kph), said Jerry Nappi. But once conditions improve they would quickly resume work.

Joe Ticheli, manager and CEO of South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association, said rain really doesn't stop the linemen, who are outfitted with slicker suits and grit.

"These are tough guys, and they relish all of this," he said. The coop services about 21,000 customers across five parishes including parts of the hard-hit Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes. Ticheli said the coop has returned power to about 75% of its customers with the remaining 25% mostly in the hardest-hit parts of southern Terrebonne parish.

In the weather-battered city of Lake Charles, in southwestern Louisiana, Mayor Nic Hunter said ahead of Nicholas the city prepositioned assets should they be needed, and city crews scoured the drainage system to keep it free from debris that might cause clogs and flooding.

Lake Charles has been hammered. Hurricane Laura caused substantial structural damage across the city of nearly 80,000 residents. Weeks later Hurricane Delta ripped through the same area. Freezing temperatures in January burst pipes across the city, and then a May rainstorm swamped houses and businesses yet again.

The mayor says he's naturally worried about how his people are coping.

"With what people have gone through over the last 16 months here in Lake Charles, they are very, understandably, despondent, emotional. Any time we have even a hint of a weather event approaching, people get scared," he said.

Boy Scouts settlements reached with major insurer, Mormons

By **RANDALL CHASE**

Associated Press

DOVER, Del. (AP) — One of the primary insurers of the Boy Scouts of America announced Tuesday that it has reached a tentative settlement agreement with the organization and with attorneys representing tens of thousands of men who say they were molested decades ago by scoutmasters and others.

Under the agreement, insurance company The Hartford will pay \$787 million into a fund to be established for the men, the company said in a news release. In exchange for the payment, the Boy Scouts organization and its local councils have agreed to release The Hartford from further liability regarding sexual abuse claims.

Under a separate settlement, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has agreed to pay \$250 million into the fund for abuse claimants, said church spokesman Eric Hawkins. The denomination, commonly known as the Mormon church, was the largest single sponsor of Boy Scout troops before ending its partnership with the BSA at the beginning of last year.

The proposed settlements are part of an ongoing effort by the Boy Scouts, which declared bankruptcy in February 2020, to forge a reorganization plan that must win approval by a majority of abuse victims and the court. Attorneys are still trying to negotiate a settlement with the Boy Scouts' other major insurer, Century Indemnity.

The proposed settlements are opposed by the official victims committee appointed by the U.S. bankruptcy trustee, as well as law firms separately representing hundreds of men who have filed sexual abuse claims. Representatives of the official victims committee described the proposed settlements as "grossly unfair."

"The only winners in this latest proposal are the Boy Scouts, their local councils, the Mormon Church, and the Hartford insurance company," Michael Pfau, an attorney whose firm represents more than 1,000 abuse claimants in the bankruptcy, said in a prepared statement.

"The Boy Scouts are offering abuse survivors a fraction of what their cases are worth and the assets available to pay them," Pfau added. "The Mormon church is reported to have roughly \$100 billion in assets, but it is offering a paltry \$250 million to compensate the thousands of abuse survivors who were abused in Mormon Boy Scout troops by Mormon Scout leaders."

The proposed settlements will be incorporated into a new reorganization plan that attorneys for the Boy Scouts were expected to file late Tuesday night.

The new agreement with The Hartford was negotiated after the bankruptcy judge last month rejected two key provisions of an \$850 million deal that the BSA had reached with attorneys representing a majority of abuse claimants.

Judge Laura Selber Silverstein denied the BSA's request as part of that deal for permission to withdraw from a previous \$650 million settlement it had reached with The Hartford. The Boy Scouts sought to withdraw from that April agreement after attorneys for abuse claimants repeatedly insisted that their clients would never vote for a reorganization plan that included it.

Silverstein also rejected a proposal for the Boy Scouts to pay millions of dollars in legal fees and expenses of attorneys hired by a coalition of law firms that represent tens of thousands of abuse claimants. The judge noted that any such payment would come out of the pockets of abuse claimants themselves.

The new settlement with The Hartford was the product of negotiations that included attorneys representing an ad hoc group called the Coalition of Abused Scouts for Justice. Law firms affiliated with the group represent more than 60,000 sex abuse claimants.

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Sitting out preseason helped some QBs, hurt others

By JOSH DUBOW AP

Pro Football Writer

Sitting out the preseason did nothing to slow the start to the season for guys like Matthew Stafford, Russell Wilson and Dak Prescott.

For guys like Aaron Rodgers, Ryan Tannehill and Matt Ryan, there appeared to be some rust.

In all, nine quarterbacks who didn't take a snap in the preseason started Week 1, and there was no consistent pattern on whether that decision helped or hurt.

Four of the nine quarterbacks ended up on the winning side, with Wilson's Seahawks beating Carson Wentz's Colts in the only game featuring two starting QBs who sat out the preseason. The combined 95.2 passer rating for the quarterbacks was slightly lower than the league average of 99.6.

Perhaps the most impressive performance came from Stafford, who went 20 for 26 for 321 yards and three TDs in a win against Chicago in his debut with the Rams. The 156.1 passer rating was the highest ever in Week 1 for a player on a new team, as the lack of preseason work didn't seem to have a negative impact.

Prescott and Las Vegas' Derek Carr each threw for more than 400 yards in the opener, with Prescott losing to the Cowboys and Carr leading a wild comeback for a 33-27 overtime win against Baltimore thanks to a walk-off 31-yard TD pass to Zay Jones.

Wilson had four TDs and no interceptions in his first game under new play-caller Shane Waldron. His 11 games with at least four TDs and no interceptions are the seventh-most ever.

On the other side was Rodgers, who went 15 for 28 for 133 yards and two interceptions in a 38-3 loss to New Orleans for a 36.8 passer rating that was the lowest ever for a reigning NFL MVP in Week 1.

He even threw a red zone interception for the first time since Oct. 14, 2019, against Detroit, ending a streak of 50 TD passes in the red zone without an interception, including the playoffs.

Ryan and Tannehill struggled in new offenses after sitting out the preseason, with Ryan throwing for only 164 yards in a 32-6 loss to Philadelphia in his first game with Arthur Smith as coach in Atlanta.

Tannehill missed Arthur Smith, his former offensive coordinator, in Tennessee's opener against Arizona. He went 21 for 35 for 210 yards with a TD, an interception and six sacks in his first game with Todd Downing as offensive coordinator.

WEST IS BEST

The eight teams in the West divisions all won their openers this season. This marked the first time since the merger that every team in two separate divisions won every game in the same week.

Since the current eight-division format started in 2002, this marked the third and fourth times that a division went 4-0 in Week 1 with the AFC West doing it in 2002 and the AFC East in 2015.

The NFC West was more dominant with the 65-point combined margin of victory compared to plus-28 for the AFC West. The NFC West had the biggest Week 1 margin of victory under this current format.

On the other side of the equation was the NFC North, whose teams went 0-4 and got outscored by 66 points.

GO FOR IT

Fourth-down aggressiveness for coaches keeps increasing with the 52 attempts the second-most ever in a week dating to 1991.

But where the increased aggressiveness really shows is earlier in the game, when the tie and score makes the decision less obvious.

The 33 fourth-down attempts in the first three quarters were the most in any week as far as SportRadar records go back to in 2000. Teams converted 18 of those tries.

The change in approach has been stark in recent years. Teams averaged just 10 fourth-down attempts per week in the first three quarters of games in 2014, when it took until Week 5 to hit the 33 mark achieved in the opener this season.

The best decision of the week was made by Cincinnati's Zac Taylor, whose decision to go for it on fourth-and-1 from his 48 in the final minute of overtime increased the Bengals win probability by 11.2 percentage points, according to EdjSports. Joe Burrow's 32-yard pass to C.J. Uzomah set up the game-winning field goal.

FAMOUS JAMEIS

Jameis Winston had a remarkably efficient first start in New Orleans. The risk-taking quarterback who made history with the first 30-touchdown, 30-interception season in Tampa Bay in 2019 made another mark in Week 1.

He threw five TD passes against Green Bay despite throwing for only 148 yards. That's the fewest yards in a five-TD game since at least 1948 with Dallas Eddie LeBaron holding the previous low with 158 yards on Oct. 21, 1962, against Pittsburgh.

SUPER SEPTEMBER

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs once again got off to a fast start in the season.

Mahomes threw three TD passes in a 33-29 win over Cleveland to lead the Chiefs to their 15th straight September win. Mahomes has been the starter for 11 of those games, throwing 35 touchdowns and no interceptions in those contests.

His 35 straight passing touchdowns without an interception in September is the longest streak in any month by any quarterback in NFL history, according to ESPN.

AP source: 6 Saints coaches have positive COVID-19 tests

By BRETT MARTEL

Six unidentified members of the New Orleans Saints coaching staff, a player and a nutritionist have tested positive for COVID-19, two people familiar with the situation said.

The people spoke with The Associated Press on Tuesday on condition of anonymity because the team and NFL had not made a public statement about the matter. The people said the entire Saints coaching staff had been vaccinated.

Later Tuesday, Michael Thomas — who already was ineligible to play the first six games while on the club's physically unable to perform list — was placed on New Orleans' COVID-19 reserve list.

The names of most others who tested positive were not expected to be released in the short term because of federal medical privacy laws.

It is unclear how long those who tested positive will remain isolated from the team before they may return to the field or in-person meetings.

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NFL Schedule Week 2

Away Team		Home Team	TIME
N.Y. Giants	@	Washington	8:20 PM Thurs
N.O. Saints	@	Carolina Panthers	12:00 PM (FOX)
Houston Texans	@	Cleveland Browns	12:00 PM (CBS)
Cincinnati Bengals	@	Chicago Bears	12:00 PM (FOX)
L.A. Rams	@	Indianapolis Colts	12:00 PM (FOX)
Denver Broncos	@	Jacksonville Jags	12:00 PM (CBS)
Buffalo Bills	@	Miami Dolphins	12:00 PM (FOX)
N.E. Patriots	@	N.Y. Jets	12:00 PM (CBS)
San Francisco 49ers @		Philadelphia Eagles	12:00 PM (FOX)
Las Vegas Raiders	@	Pittsburgh Steelers	12:00 PM (CBS)
Minnesota Vikings	@	Arizona Cardinals	3:05 PM (FOX)
Atlanta Falcons	@	Tampa Bay Bucs	3:05 PM (FOX)
Dallas Cowboys	@	Los Angeles Chargers	3:25 PM (CBS)
Tennessee Titans	@	Baltimore Ravens	3:25 PM (CBS)
Kansas City Chiefs	@	Salt Lake City	8:20 PM (NBC)
Detroit Lions	@	Green Bay Packers	8:15 PM Mon

NFL Results Week 1

Away Team		Home Team	Final Score
Dallas Cowboys	@	Tampa Bay Bucs	29-31 Bucks
Pittsburgh Steelers	@	Buffalo Bills	23-16 Steelers
Jacksonville Jags	@	Houston Texans	37-21 Texans
Arizona Cardinals	@	Tennessee Titans	38-13 Cardinals
LA Chargers	@	Washington	20-16 Chargers
Philadelphia Eagles	@	Atlanta Falcons	32-6 Eagles
Seattle Seahawks	@	Indianapolis Colts	28-16 Seahawks
Minnesota Vikings	@	Cincinnati Bengals	27-24 Bengals
San Francisco	@	Detroit Lions	41-33 San Fran
Cleveland Browns	@	Kansas City Chiefs	17-16 Dolphins
Miami Dolphins	@	New England Patriots	17-16 Dolphins
Denver Broncos	@	NY Giants	27-13 Denver
Green Bay Packers	@	New Orleans Saints	38-3 Saints
Chicago Bears	@	LA Rams	34-14 Rams

NFL Standings

Team	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away
AFC South							
Texans	1	0	0	37	21	1	0
Colts	0	1	0	16	28	0	0
Jags	0	1	0	21	37	0	0
Titans	0	1	0	13	38	0	0
AFC North							
Steelers	1	0	0	23	16	0	0
Bengals	1	0	0	27	24	0	0
Browns	0	1	0	29	33	0	0
Ravens	0	1	0	27	33	0	0
AFC West							
Broncos	1	0	0	27	13	0	0
Chiefs	1	0	0	0	33	29	0
Raiders	1	0	0	0	33	27	0
Chiefs	1	0	0	0	33	29	0
AFC East							
Dolphins	1	0	0	17	16	0	0
Bills	0	1	0	16	23	0	0
Patriots	0	1	0	16	17	0	0
Jets	0	1	0	14	19	0	0
NFC South							
Bucks	1	0	0	31	29	0	0
Panthers	1	0	0	19	14	0	0
Saints	1	0	0	38	3	0	0
Falcons	0	1	0	6	32	0	0
NFC North							
Bears	0	1	0	14	34	0	0
Lions	0	1	0	33	41	0	0
Packers	0	1	0	3	38	0	0
Vikings	0	1	0	24	27	0	0
NFC West							
Cardinals	1	0	0	38	13	0	0
Rams	1	0	0	34	14	0	0
SF	1	0	0	41	33	0	0
Seahawks	1	0	0	28	16	0	0
NFC East							
Eagles	1	0	0	32	6	0	0
Cowboys	0	1	0	29	31	0	0
Giants	0	1	0	13	27	0	0
Washington	0	1	0	16	20	0	0

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Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Wanda Lee Roman, Deceased, were issued on September 9, 2021, in Cause No. P-15215, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Terri Blackshear.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Terri Blackshear, Executor Estate of Wanda Lee Roman 6855 John Gee Court Granbury, Texas 76049

DATED the 9th day of September, 2021.

/s/R. Shane Seaton
R. Shane Seaton
Attorney for Estate of Wanda Lee Roman State Bar No.: 24060918 P.O. Box 2211 Big Spring, Texas 79721 Telephone: (432) 264-1800 Facsimile: (432) 264-0785 E-mail: eservice@bigspringlaw.com

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BIG SPRING HERALD
710 SCURRY
432-263-7331

WEDNESDAY

SEP. 15

Table with 18 columns (channels) and 24 rows (time slots) listing various TV programs and their corresponding channels.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Variation on a theme

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

The bidding: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Opening lead — ace of diamonds. Most players are familiar with the suit-preference signal that can be used when returning a suit that partner can (or may) ruff.

Annie's Mailbox

Unplug With a 'Pioneer Night'

Dear Annie: You recently printed a letter from two physicians with an alcoholic daughter. Al-Anon is the organization that supports friends and families of alcoholics, and Alcoholics Anonymous is support for the individual with a drinking problem.

Dear Relieved Mother:

Thank you for sharing a suggestion that saved your daughter's life. Hopefully, it can help others struggling in similar situations. The next letter is from another reader whose family also struggled with addiction.

Dear Trust Again:

Very true words. I was not the cause of my adult child's recovery; that is between the person and God. But I was able to help, and there were moments when I was the catalyst for a step in the right direction.

Dear Friend in Pennsylvania:

Thank you for your letter. It brings up an important flaw in the "hit bottom" theory, which is that by the time some people reach it, it is too late for them. My hope is that anyone struggling feels your friendship and hope for them that they have the courage to change.

Dear Trust Again:

Thank you for your letter. I love your family tradition of literally unplugging everything. Maybe when the kids and grandkids come to visit, you can have another pioneer night. I hope your letter inspires other families to do the same.

Dear Trust Again:

Very true words. I am grateful today that my child lives with sobriety, grateful more than I can express. My heart goes out to other parents and partners of suffering people. I have intact adult children and a beautiful grandchild.

Dear Friend in Pennsylvania:

Thank you for your letter. It brings up an important flaw in the "hit bottom" theory, which is that by the time some people reach it, it is too late for them. My hope is that anyone struggling feels your friendship and hope for them that they have the courage to change.

Dear Trust Again:

Thank you for your letter. I love your family tradition of literally unplugging everything. Maybe when the kids and grandkids come to visit, you can have another pioneer night. I hope your letter inspires other families to do the same.

Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie

is now! Annie Lane's debut book -- featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearianne@creators.com.

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GARAGE SALES Hidden treasures? Junk? Recycle your unwanted items! Call 263-7331 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

PIGSKIN PICKS

Football Contest

Brought to you by

Big Spring Herald

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants!



Bargain Mart

1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Stanton
7. Westbrook
8. Sterling City
9. Grady
10. Cowboys



Franklin & Son

1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Stanton
7. Water Valley
8. Sterling City
9. Grady
10. Cowboys



Hull's Meat Co.

1. Brownfield
2. McCamey
3. Eden
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Sundown
7. Water Valley
8. Sterling City
9. Grady
10. Chargers



Porter's

1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Colorado City
5. Whitharral
6. Sundown
7. Westbrook
8. Sterling City
9. Bronte
10. Cowboys



Sonic

1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Stanton
7. Westbrook
8. Sterling City
9. Grady
10. Cowboys



Wild West Wingz

1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Whitharral
6. Sundown
7. Water Valley
8. Sterling City
9. Grady
10. Chargers

Official Game Rules:

Find this week's games between the merchant's ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win, and fill in the official entry form on this page with your team choices. Clip the entry form out of the page and drop it in the Pigskin box at one of the listed merchants.

Do not drop your entry form at the Big Spring Herald office.

*The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50!

You must be 18 to enter. *No photo copies accepted.*

*In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner.

For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win.

If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points.

*Decisions of the judges are final.

*Employees and family of the Big Spring Herald are ineligible.

*All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1pm Friday of the week played.

*Winners will be announced on the next week's Pigskin Contest Page.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

TIE BREAKER-
Circle the winner and note total points scored

TEXANS -VS- BROWNS

Total Score: 50 +

= 50

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____



Increase Your Chances To Win!!

SUBMIT MULTIPLE BALLOTS PER GAME!

**Don't Drop the ball!
Drop Your Picks Here!**



500 N Birdwell Ln • (432) 267-7781

1. BIG SPRING -VS- BROWNFIELD

**Drop Your
Entries At These
Locations!**

2. FORSAN -VS- MCCAMEY

1408 Runnels (432) 267-6337

Drop your entries Here!!
Voted Best Tire Dealers 2018 & 2019

3. GARDEN CITY -VS- EDEN



**Drop Your
Picks Here!**

506 E. 4th St.
(432) 517-4368

4. COAHOMA -VS- COLORADO CITY



HAPPY HOUR
Half Priced Soft Drinks
Monday-Friday 2:00-4:00 PM

1200 Gregg • 263-6790 601 E. FM 700 • 263-2700
1218 Lamesa Hwy-Stanton

5. SANDS -VS- WHITHARRAL



For All Your Grocery Needs

**Drop Your Pigskin Entries Here
For A Chance To Win A \$100
Gift Card At The End Of The Season!**

501 Birdwell Lane We Accept (432) 296-4540

6. STANTON -VS- SUNDOWN

**SCORE
SUPER
SAVINGS!**

403 RUNNELS
MONDAY-SATURDAY
9AM-6:30PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS

7. WESTBROOK -VS- WATER VALLEY

8. BORDEN CO. -VS- STERLING CITY



**WE ♥ OUR
TEAMS!**

9. GRADY -VS- BRONTE

10. COWBOYS -VS- CHARGERS

WEEK 3 WINNER

★ Richard Schafer ★

PRIZE MAY BE PICKED UP FRIDAY AFTER 12 PM

\$50

\$50