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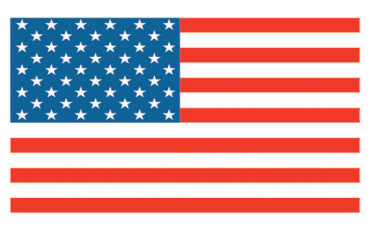
TUESDAY EDITION,
 NOVEMBER 9, 2021

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Upcoming Events

New Life mature adult dance.
 Western-style.
 7 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Dora Roberts Community Center.
 Entry fee is \$5 and a snack will be served.
 Call 517-9097 for more information.

Three Angels Food Pantry food distribution starts Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 4319 Parkway Rd., and the third Thursday of every month after that.

Goliad Elementary's Turkey Trot will be Nov. 19 at 1 p.m. at Blankenship Field. Contact the Goliad Main office at 264-4111 for more information.

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Darby holds Town Hall at Coliseum

State Rep discusses COVID, winter storm, House Dem walkout

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Big Spring's representative in the Texas House of Representatives made a stop in town Monday and held a Town Hall Meeting at Howard College.

Rep. Drew Darby of Texas House District 72 – which includes Big Spring – addressed a variety of subjects including the COVID-19 pandemic, the energy industry and the Public Utility Commission, as well as the Texas House Democrat walkout in mid-July and the upcoming redistricting of State House and Senate



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
State Rep. Drew Darby visits with local citizens who attended his Town Hall meeting at Howard College Monday afternoon.

seats. Darby said after he received his first of a double-dose COVID-19 vaccine, but before his second, he contracted the disease at the end of 2020.

“I actually contracted COVID myself after being vaccinated one time. I contracted COVID from my daughter who is a nurse practitioner that flies for Air Evac, and she actually works out of Big Spring,” he said. “I don't think she contracted COVID here in Big Spring, but she gave it to me between Christmas and New Years.”

See **DARBY**, Page 3

Girl Scout Troop 33918 paying it forward by making care bags for Veterans in honor of Veterans day



Courtesy Photo
Girl Scout Troop 33918 made 18 care package bags filled with PJ's, body wash, lotion, chap sticks, Goody bag with snacks & drink and who can forget 2 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies for our Veteran that reside at our local VA. They will be distributed after the parade.

Commissioners table fire alarm vote again

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners discussed maintenance on the Howard County Courthouse's fire alarm system for a second meeting before deciding to table the issue once again.

The holdup involves whether or not to wait for pricing on inclusion of a carbon monoxide detector for the system, or to go ahead and order the system without the detector and then add it in once the price and parts are available.

Commissioners and county employees were unclear as to whether the new alarm system's receiver box will have the capacity to incorporate the carbon monoxide detector.

In other business, commissioners approved a resolution to participate in a Howard County Leadership Summit with other government and business leaders from around the county at Howard College.

“Howard College would like to host

a Leadership Summit. This is about all of our suggestions about how the three GEO prison systems is going to affect us, and offer any insight or any information that we have or any help that we can think of,” said County Judge Kathryn Wiseman regarding the proposed summit. “They have already scheduled two job fairs at this time, so that's already in the works. In the meantime, she is hoping that we will all meet for a meeting on Dec. 9. It will be at 5:30 p.m. so that the public can attend and each entity will offer something, or their own observations, for how they think it's going to affect the county.”

County leaders voted unanimously to participate in the summit.

Commissioners cast 793 votes to elect Scott Emerson to the Howard County Appraisal District board of directors. Local governmental entities each get votes to elect members to the board based on the amount of

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

Yeats to resign at end of 2022

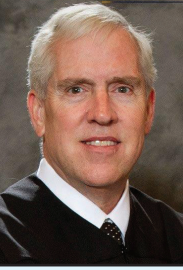
Special to the Herald

118th District Court Judge Tim Yeats has announced that he will not seek re-election to the office, and will finish his term Dec. 31, 2022.

Yeats has served in the position since Jan. 1, 2011. At the end of his current term, he will have served three terms in the post.

“I am honored to have served the citizens of Howard, Martin and Glasscock counties as their district judge for the past 11 years,” Yeats said in a released statement. “I appreciate their confidence in electing me to the position and have enjoyed my years of service. I will complete my current term which expires on Dec. 31, 2022, and then will move on to the next chapter of my life.”

Yeats' successor will be chosen in the 2022 general election. Primaries will be March 1, 2022, while the general election is scheduled for Nov. 8, 2022.



Yeats

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BIG SPRING HERALD 2021 Readers' Choice Awards Winner

Obituaries

Ethel Clark Guthrie



Ethel Clark Guthrie of Tomball, Texas, died on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021, at the age of 92, from cancer.

Ethel loved champagne, bird watching, sun bathing, and eating cake for breakfast. She was a Hospital Volunteer for over 25 years. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family and friends. Her family will miss her laugh and her ability to make family gatherings so memorable, especially at Cherry Mountain.

She is predeceased by her husband, the Rev. John Allan Guthrie Sr.

She is survived by her three sons, Greg Smith and his wife, Gloria Tobias, of Grapeland, Texas, Brian Smith and Dr. Jeanne Stout of La Porte, Texas, and

Deacon Glenn Smith and his wife, Claire Paras, of Bedford, Mass.; her two stepsons, John Guthrie and his wife, Nancy, and Gil Guthrie and his wife, Lizanne; her twin sister, Edna Timmerman; her beloved grandchildren, Thea Junt, Aaron Smith, Christine Pennington, Dr. Ashley Tucker, Dr. Samantha Tutt, Anthony Smith, Alexander Smith, and Rebecca Smith; her step-grandchildren, Robert Guthrie, Elizabeth Guthrie, Kyle Guthrie, Zach Guthrie, Jack Guthrie, and Suzannah Guthrie; and five great-grandchildren.

A Funeral Service will be on Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, at 10 a.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home, 1041 US-79, Rockdale, Texas, with burial in Forest Grove Cemetery in Milam County, Texas.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday from 5-7 p.m.

Paid Obituary

Larry Oster



Larry Oster, 82, passed away in Big Spring on Thursday, November 4, 2021.

With him went a lifetime of stories, quick humor and a wealth of information about makes and models of airplanes and old cars, names of actors on old TV westerns, numerous sports statistics and cooking tips on various foods. Most of all, we will treasure memories of the love he

showed to his family.

He was raised in Southern Illinois and was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

Relatives remembering him include his wife, Deniece Walker; half-brother, Lynn Oster; son, Brent Oster; daughter, Molly Bynum; stepchildren, Anneke Nagao and Adrian Walker; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He also had many friends and acquaintances.

A memorial will be held at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 11, 2021.

Our thanks to Kindred at Home providers, Home Hospice nurses and the VA assistance. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Terri Lee Cate



Terri Lee Cate, 67, of Olden, formerly of Big Spring, was called home on Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

She was born July 10, 1954, in Ranger, Texas, to Bobby and Wanda England. She married Larry Don Cate on August 21, 1972, and they lived in Big Spring for 35 years.

Terri was a longtime resident of Big Spring and had worked for Goliad Middle School Cafeteria for

over 13 years, and also worked at Walmart Supercenter for many years. She moved to Olden in 2015, where she lived until she was called home.

Survivors include her husband, Larry Cate of Olden; her children, Teria Dedmon of Eastland, Dana Hudgins and husband, Shane Shultz, Bubba Cate and wife, Larea Cate, all of Big Spring, Jennifer Cate, and Scott Hohertz of Medins; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; grandson, Hunter Cate; great-granddaughter, Ashley Cate; and two brothers.

Paid obituary

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported on HWY 176 and FM 2599.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported

in the 400 block of Donley. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported 10 miles out of N. HWY 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Alabama. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

ter.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of State Park Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler Drive. 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 109 inmates at the time of this report.

- **RICHARD DEAN ANDERSON**, 54, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of Rider not secured by safety belt, Failure to maintain financial responsibility, possession of drug paraphernalia, and bail jumping.
- **TAHAR SIMON BOUHALA**, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of Public Intoxication.
- **NICHOLAS NEWTON BRYANT**, 25, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of Theft.
- **JOSEPH MATTEW BUCKNER**, 25, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of terroristic threat of Public Intoxication.
- **JOSE ANTHONY CHAVEZ IV**, 25, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Striking unattended vehicle.
- **KAMERON RAY COKER**, 18, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Fraud.
- **LORI ANN COKER**, 38, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Evading Arrest, Tamper with evidence, Fraud.
- **HUNTER LOGAN COX**, 18, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Burglary of Habitation, Harboring runaway child.
- **BRANDI MARIE FLOREZ**, 22, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Driving while intoxicated.
- **ENRIQUE CASTILLO HERNANDEZ**, 19, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of possession of Marijuana.
- **JUAN PABLO HERNANDEZ**, 38, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Driving while intoxicated.
- **GABRIEL ANTONIO LOPEZ**, 28, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Parole Violation.
- **JIMMY LUNA**, 31, was arrested by HCSO, on a charge of Possession of a controlled substance, Bail jumping.

- **ANDREW PAUL QUALLS**, 24, was arrested by DPS, on a charge of Driving while intoxicated.
- **TABER M RHEINCKER**, 29, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Theft of a firearm, Assault of a Peace Officer x2, Resisting arrest.
- **ROYCE DON ROWDEN**, 75, was arrested by HCSO, on a charge of Bond Violation, Protective order assault.
- **KIMBERLY RENE STARK**, 51, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Driving with license invalid, Possession of marijuana.
- **ANTAVIUS JAQUAN TOLER**, 23, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Assault with bodily injury against a family member, Parole violation.
- **LAURO VASQUEZ**, 38, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of No fishing license, Failure to appear, Driving while license suspended, False drug test.
- **TYREN DARNELL YARBROUGH**, 25, was arrested by BSPD, on a charge of Theft of a firearm.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **HUNTER LOGAN COX**, 18, of 15108 E county road 70 in Stanton, was arrested on a charge of Burglary of a habitation, and Harboring a runaway child.
- **GABRIEL ANTONIO LOPEZ**, 28, of 500 NW 9th ST, was arrested on a warrant.
- **ANTAVIUS JAQUAN TOLER**, 22, of 1109 N. Aylesford, was arrested on assault with bodily injury to a family member
- **ROYCE DON ROWDEN**, 75, of 1900 Martin Luther King blvd, was arrested on warrant.
- **UNWANTED SUBJECT** was reported in the 1300 block of Baylor Blvd.
- **UNWANTED SUBJECT** was reported in the 500 block of 9th Street.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 620 block of Colgate ave.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1100 block of N. Aylesford St.

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Within 100 Miles

DARBY

Continued from Page 1

He said the oil and gas industry has had a tough time of it between COVID and the winter storm.

"If you remember, we had complete demand destruction in our oil and gas sector. When you went to negative pricing on oil and gas...never before had we seen that," he said. "That's what we thought we were going to be dealing with, but sometimes the good Lord has other plans for us. That's when the winter storm hit which created a whole different set of challenges facing not only Big Spring and Howard County, but the state of Texas."

One issue the legislature considered was enforcing separation of energy production, distribution and sales, he said. Part of the attempted fix included tinkering with the makeup of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

"We took a look at that, and, as in most cases with a complex issue, a lot of politicians look to take the quick exit and put some lipstick on that pig and trot it out and say 'We fixed it.' That's what I'm afraid happened," Darby said. "We changed the makeup of the PUC. We went from three to five. There were members of the PUC that weren't from Texas...we said 'No, no no! You've got to be from Texas.' So we now have five PUC members that are all from Texas. They don't have to be competent."

Darby said an amendment to the legislation on the House floor would have required competence among commission members.

"There was an amendment on the floor of the Texas House that said - pretty elemental - if you're a member of the PUC, you have to be competent. You can't just be a political appointee," he said. "Sounds right...doesn't it to y'all? It was voted down on the Texas House floor. I voted for that amendment. I think they ought to be competent. I think if you're going to serve on the PUC, they ought to have basic understanding, not just be a political donor. I had the next amendment up, and I said, 'If they're not going to be competent, at least make them rural.' You have to have at least one rural member on the PUC. That passed. But it didn't get into the bill."

Another item of discussion in the House's session was winterization of energy production facilities.

"We talked about winterization, what we saw during the storm. We had a lot of infrastructure go down because it wasn't winterized," he said. "Well, how do you accommodate such a widespread, phenomenal event that kept people from actually going to the wellheads to take water off the wellheads to keep them from freezing up? No amount of electricity to that site matters. It takes a person to go open up the valve. We saw that across Texas."

Part of the problem was that the deep winter weather is unusual across most of the state, he said.

"They've built their generating facilities to where they can withstand the heat of the summer. They're by-and-large located in buildings that don't have any sides. They want to keep them as cool as possible in the heat of the summer," Darby said. "So when you had below-zero temperatures as far south as the Valley, then you know, you had gaug-

es freeze up, you had pumps freeze up, you had all kinds of calamities that prevented that generation from happening. And also, that generation - where it was being generated - wasn't able to get to the people who needed it because we didn't have enough transmission."

Darby said he introduced a bill to provide more transmission capacity for energy, but it was unsuccessful.

"It was killed by the generators. They enjoy high pricing. They enjoy scarcity pricing. They made billions of dollars during that period of time, so why tinker with it? They might not make as much money," he said. "We all support natural gas, but it's an unregulated commodity."

The unregulated nature of natural gas means that it is generally sold to the highest bidder, Darby said.

"Guess what? People paid more for that commodity than people who were generating the electricity for all of you. It went to industrials, where the people are manufacturing widgets. They got that natural gas for their power generations," he said. "They got the natural gas, paid exorbitant amounts of money, and then they cut down their load so that they could sell their generating capacity at even higher dollars. They made out like bandits at your expense. Did we change any of that? No, we didn't. So when this happens again, hopefully it won't happen as widespread, or take over the whole state like it did."

One bright spot: The federal government provided much relief funding between the twin disasters, Darby said.

"The federal government stepped up and paid a lot of money. We had almost \$30 billion that came to Texas," he said. "Part of it came directly to the state, part of it came directly to the schools or cities. We were able to support and fund education. We were able to support and fund almost \$30 billion to the Department of Transportation. We put a lot of money into rural healthcare, rural hospitals. We put money into broadband, telemedicine...all the things that rural Texans depend on out here. We're isolated."

Darby discussed the redistricting efforts, which leaves most of the state's legislative clout in the more densely populated east.

"There's not a lot of representation numerically. I'm one of 17 state representatives that represent two-thirds of the land mass of Texas, that is, west of Interstate 35," he said. "There are 25 state representatives like me that represent Harris County. So right off the bat, we're at a disadvantage, so we have to stand up and represent rural Texas."

Darby said his district will add one county due to the current redistricting efforts.

"In the next census that we just got back, and we're redistricting, my district stays the same. I keep the same nine counties, but I add Coleman County," he said. "The Senate we've changed. Right now, Kel Seliger's district goes all the way from the Oklahoma Panhandle down to El Dorado, Texas. Forty-six counties. Charles Perry has about the same number. It looks terrible on a map, but

that's the reality."

On July 12, Texas House Democrats traveled to Washington, D.C., during the legislative session in an effort to break quorum in the House of Representatives. In both the state House and Senate, two-thirds of the members must be present for the body to be able to conduct business.

"By and large I think it was a productive (legislative session) except for about six weeks where the Democrats went to Washington, D.C., and we weren't able to do our work," he said. "I will tell you, it was a very frustrating time."

Darby discussed the routine during the walkout for the Republican representatives who remained in Austin.

"My work day consisted of getting dressed, meeting at the appointed time - usually 10 o'clock - and we would kick around and see how many we had, see if the Democrats showed up. Then about 10:30 we would pray. We'd pledge allegiance. Sometimes we'd break out in 'America, the Beautiful.' Then we would go up to the front. We'd ask the parliamentarian for a piece of paper that was color coded to the day, and ask for permission to leave the floor of the House, because DPS was stationed at the front and the back entrances, and we could not leave that chamber without that piece of paper. And to get that piece of paper, we had to promise that we'd be back the next day at 10 o'clock. So while we weren't in Washington, we were pretty darn frustrated."

In August the Democratic lawmakers returned to Austin.

"When they came back in the second fall session, about midway, it was a pretty anxious time. There was a lot of animosity to say the least," Darby said. "Those that had left felt

as though they were righteous in their actions, and they were looking to motivate the federal government to pass a national election law. Those of us that were left behind felt betrayed. There were relationships that were harmed. There were traditional alliances...some of my closest alliances in the House are with South Texas Democrats because they believe in public education, so they're naturally aligned with rural Texans in supporting education. Those were all harmed."

Following Darby's address, members of the audience at the meeting - who numbered about 20 - asked several questions before Darby left to head to Glasscock County for his third Town Hall Meeting of the day.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Larry Oster, 82, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Johnny Munoz, 59, died Thursday. Funeral service will be 10 a.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive.

Patsy Miranda, 91, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

tax levies they collect. At a previous meeting, the Howard County leaders nominated Emerson for the position.

The commissioners tabled an item involving a master license and service agreement with Harris Govern for tax software. Howard County Tax Assessor-Collector Tiffany Sayles was not present at the meeting.

County Treasurer Sharon Adams presented her monthly payroll report for October and personnel considerations, both of which were unanimously approved by the commissioners without comment.

County Auditor Jackie Olson presented invoices, purchase requests and budget amendments, which were approved unanimously.

County Road Administrator Brian Klinksiek presented bids for work on County Road 45, and commissioners approved the low bid of \$228,805.45 from Black Jack Energy Services of Snyder.

Klinksiek also presented a revision to his letting schedule for 2022, which was unanimously approved.

Commissioners met in executive session for about 20 minutes to discuss personnel, and took no action on matters discussed during the closed session upon their return to open session.

County Clerk Brent Zitterkopf presented his monthly report, noting that revenue from photo-

copies at the courthouse will be declining in the near future.

"In January, those are going to go down a lot," Zitterkopf said. "Our state mandates what we can charge for copies. They're changing it to where, when they send electronically, which is what we do with almost all copies, the first 10 pages are \$1 a page, and then each additional page - per case, or whatever - is only 10 cents. So right now...like, recently we had one that was 322 pages, and we got \$322. Now, we get \$10 plus 10 cents a page for the rest, so \$31 more dollars. So we'll get \$41 instead of the \$322. We don't have many that are that big, but we have a lot of them that are over 10 pages."

Following Zitterkopf's report, commissioners adjourned the meeting.

Requisitions

- \$3,000 for cleaning supplies at the Howard County Detention Center.
- \$5,000 for inmate supplies, including boots, workforce shirts, pants, food, etc., at the Howard County Detention Center.
- \$2,000 for indigent supplies at the Howard County Detention Center.
- \$1,000 for inmate supplies, including blankets, sheets, towels, etc., at the Howard County Detention Center.

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• \$1,080 for case ammunition for the Howard County Sheriff's Department and Jail.

• \$4,349 for library cards, including set up fee and shipping, for the Howard County Library.

• \$10,361 for 50 winter jackets for the patrol division of the Howard County Sheriff's Department.

• \$3,577 for a 10,000 kilowatt generator, department not listed.

• \$25,735.40 for electric delivery facilities to Oncor to provide electricity to the county's new communications tower, located on Morgan Ranch on South Mountain.



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Big Spring Steer Tennis team win the Regional Quarterfinal Championship



Courtesy Photos

Left: The Big Spring Steer Tennis team poses for a picture after a huge victory to win the Regional Quarterfinal Championship. Right: Ethan Urias wins a huge watch to give the Steers the win.

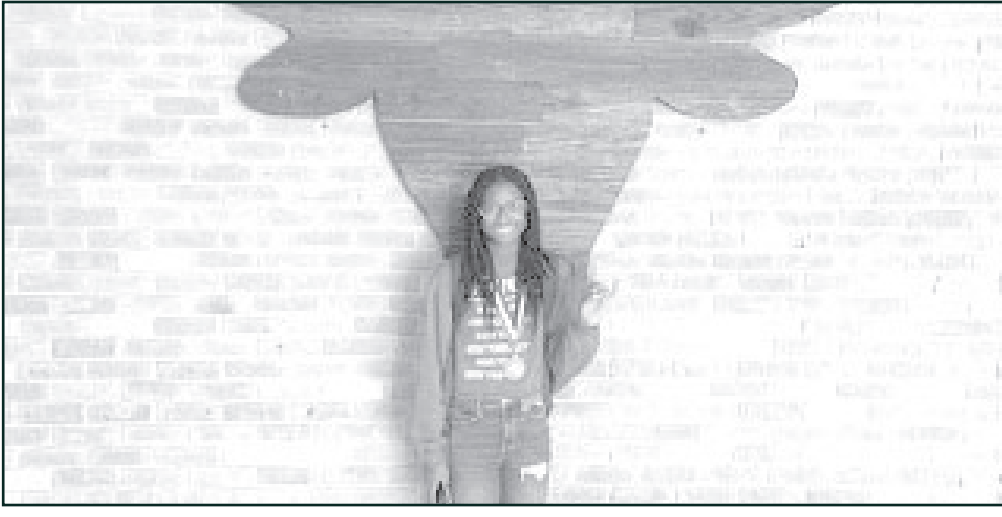
Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Steer Tennis Team took to the courts against the Brownfield Cubs in Andrews in a matchup between two District Champions for the Regional Quarterfinal crown. Big Spring was even with Brownfield through the first six matches but a hot streak by Brownfield put them ahead 8-3. Big Spring fought back by winning four matches in a row to draw to within 8-7. The first team to win 10 matches would be the Regional Quarterfinal champion. Big Spring was faced with having to win 3 of the last 4 matches to clinch the

championship. Lexie Rodriguez and Itzel Garcia-Marquez won their matches but Big Spring's No. 5 boy lost. This tied the match at 9-9 with Ethan Urias being the lone competitor remaining. Ethan was down a set but came back to win the second. The third set super-tiebreaker was quickly tied at 9-9 (10 points wins but you have to win by 2). Ethan toughed out the last few points and won the match 12-10 making Big Spring the Regional Quarterfinal champs.

Big Spring will next play at the Regional Tournament at Rose Park in Abilene against state-ranked No. 2 Argyle.

Big Spring Steer Cross Country Teams does well at State meet



Courtesy Photos

This past weekend the Big Spring boys Cross Country team and individual Steer competitor Elisabeth Jones had the chance to compete in the State cross country meet. Jones had a fantastic run to represent the Lady Steers as she finished 99 out of 152. The Boys team put on a great team effort as they fell just short of the podium with a very respectable fourth-place finish. It was an excellent season for all of these athletes congratulations!

Bears rookie QB Fields nearly has his moment vs Steelers

By DAN SCIFO

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Justin Fields nearly had his moment in the spotlight on "Monday Night Football."

The rookie quarterback guided the Chicago Bears to a go-ahead touchdown against Pittsburgh with 1:46 remaining, but Ben Roethlisberger responded with the 50th game-winning drive of his 18-year career. Chris Boswell hit a 40-yard field goal with 26 seconds left and the Steelers escaped with a 29-27 win.

"For Justin to lead that offense down there and finish with a touchdown was really good, but in the end we didn't finish," Bears coach Matt Nagy said. "We gave them a chance to make that field goal in the end to win it and that's where we're at."

Making his seventh NFL start, Fields completed 17 of 29 passes for an career-high 291 yards with a touchdown and an interception. He also ran for 45 yards, but the Bears lost their fourth straight and fell to 3-6 overall.

Still, the youngster displayed poise and promise in the second half for a Chicago offense — and passing attack — that ranks last in the league.

It was the second straight week of progress for Fields, as the No. 11 overall draft pick described a growing sense of confidence in his own game following an 11-point loss to San Francisco. In that one, the former Ohio State standout threw for 175 yards, rushed for 103 and produced several high-light-reel plays.

One week later, he almost led the Bears all the way back from 14 points down early in the fourth quarter.

"I was just playing football," Fields said. "I felt good."

Boswell gave Pittsburgh a 26-20 lead when he kicked a 52-yard field goal with 2:52 to play.

That's when Nagy saw something in his new quarterback.

"I looked over at Justin and he had a smile on his face where it was like it was his time," Nagy said. "To see that ... it was like he was almost hoping that this was going to be the situation and for him to follow through, and make the plays he made, it was a really good feeling on the sideline."

On the go-ahead drive, Fields called his own number to convert a third-and-1. He later connected with Allen Robinson for a 39-yard strike down the right sideline on third-and-2 and found Darnell Mooney for a 16-yard touchdown pass on the next play, giving Chicago a 27-26 lead with 1:46 left.

"My mindset was like, it's time ... we're here," Fields said. "You can either be the guy who always gets put in that position and doesn't show up, or you can be the guy who shows up in big moments. I was calm and focused on just showing up."

Fields did more than that. Unfortunately for the Bears, they left too much time on the clock for Roethlisberger and the Steelers.

"We know we're on the brink of being a great offense," Fields said. "We just have to keep working."

Fields led the Bears on a 12-play drive that resulted in a 30-yard field goal at the end of the second quarter, but that was the lone bright spot during a difficult first half, as Chicago trailed 14-3 at the break. On that final first-half series, the Bears were faced with first-and-goal from the 10-yard

line, but couldn't punch it in after a short run and a pair of incomplete passes.

The Bears punted on their first two possessions and Fields threw an interception on the third drive, leading to Pittsburgh's second touchdown. After a three-and-out, the Bears moved deep into Pittsburgh territory, but a sack knocked the offense out of field-goal range.

It was a different story after halftime, as Chicago scored on three of six second-half possessions.

Cairo Santos kicked his second field goal on Chicago's opening drive of the second half, but the Bears had a touchdown wiped off the board following a low-block penalty.

Fields brought Chicago back within reach following another Pittsburgh touchdown. The rookie had a pair of completions that went for 20-plus yards, setting up Mooney's 15-yard touchdown run that pulled the Bears to 20-13 early in the fourth quarter.

The offense got help from the special teams unit when DeAndre Houston-Carson returned a fumble 25 yards for a touchdown that made it 23-20.

Boswell's 52-yard field goal made it 26-20 with 2:52 remaining, setting the stage for Fields' go-ahead touchdown toss to Mooney just inside the left sideline.

After the Steelers went back in front, the Bears got the ball back with 26 seconds to go and no timeouts. Fields got them to midfield before Santos' 65-yard field goal attempt fell well short.

"When you talk about the growth for him and the offense and our team in general, that's a moment," Nagy said. "But in the end, we lost and when you're in the locker room, this is a team game, and that's what we care about."

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