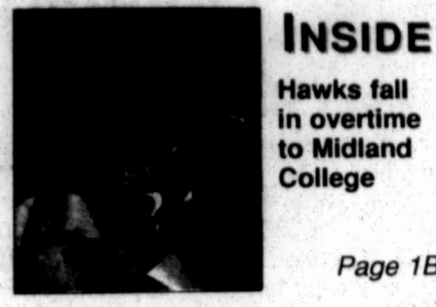


BIG SPRING HERALD



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 65

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2007

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Plug pulled for now on BSISD laptop proposal

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Big Spring school trustees decided the time is not quite right to pull the trigger on a million-dollar laptop program from students at Big Spring High School.

Trustees postponed plans to purchase laptops for BSHS teachers and students, putting

off a decision on the \$1.4 million plan until at least March.

In the interim, school officials will conduct a survey of parents of high school students to get their opinions on the proposal, while Principal Mike Ritchey and others from the high school conduct a tour of districts that already supply laptops to students to see how well the program works.

"We have information from administrators, teachers, staff and students," said Corey Wood, director of technology for the district. "What we need information on is how parents feel."

"The additional information ... will help us solidify the scope of the project," Superintendent Michael Downes said. "It may start as a small pilot project, a

medium-sized project or a full-scale implementation."

No clear consensus on how to proceed emerged during Thursday's meeting. Ritchey said his staff was split fairly evenly on the issue, and it was evident that board members wanted more information before putting the matter to a

See LAPTOPS, Page 3A

"Let's either jump into this thing all at once, or not do it at all. Technology is the future. We've got to move forward."



Robertson

Family tradition

Carie Dunnam named second in command at BSISD

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

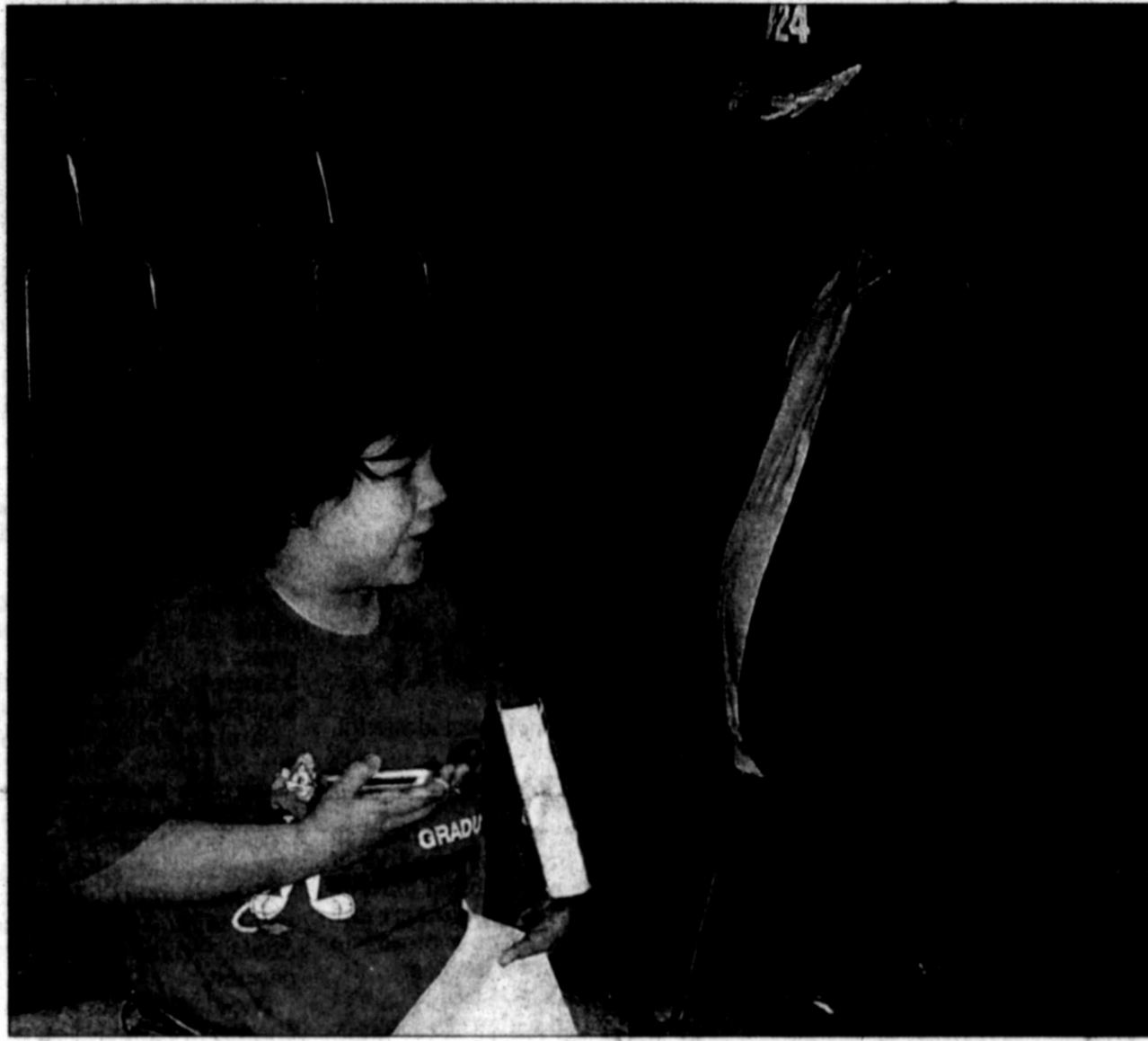
Carie Dunnam can credit several factors for her new job — including genetics.

Dunnam, the daughter of long-time Forsan school administrator J.F. Poynor, was named assistant superintendent of Big Spring Independent School District during the BSISD monthly board meeting Thursday evening.

She replaces Rey Villarreal, who was reassigned and recently left the district for a position in Pecos.

Dunnam, currently the principal at Marcy Elementary, assumes her

See DUNNAM, Page 3A



Goliad fifth-grader Michael Akin receives congratulations after winning the 2007 Big Spring Independent School District Spelling Bee at Big Spring Junior High School Thursday afternoon. Akin will represent the district at the March 9 Regional Spelling Bee in Lubbock.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Big kids have way at local bee

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The big kids had their day at the Big Spring Independent School District Spelling Bee Thursday.

After years of the event being dominated by entrants from local elementary schools, students from the larger local campuses proved themselves as the class of the competition Thursday.

And Michael Akin of Goliad Intermediate was the class of that class.

Akin, a fifth-grader, held off a determined challenge from Big Spring Junior High School's Blake Brorman over nine rounds to capture the local title and advance to the regional spelling bee in Lubbock March 9. The winner there advances to the national bee in Washington D.C.

Elementary school entrants had dominated earlier BSISD bees, but that was not the case Thursday. By the end of three rounds, a combination of difficult words and jittery nerves had eliminated the younger contestants, leaving the stage to Akin

See BEE, Page 3A

Legislation would increase PE requirements

Lawmakers call for more physical education in Texas schools to combat obesity

By APRIL CASTRO
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — A week after President Bush called childhood obesity a costly problem for the country, two lawmakers are calling for more physical education in Texas schools to help combat obesity related diseases like diabetes.

Their proposal would require moderate to vigorous daily activity for all students in kindergarten through eighth grade for at least 30 minutes a day.

"More than a third of our students in Texas are overweight, putting them at higher risk for numerous chronic diseases

including heart disease," said Sen. Jane Nelson, a Republican from Lewisville, who is leading the effort in the Senate. "We are seeing in adolescents the types of diabetes that we used to only see in the middle aged."

The legislation would require a physical fitness assessment of all public school students at the

beginning and end of each school year and reported to the Texas Education Agency, with students' names made anonymous. The TEA would be required to analyze the results by school district annually, comparing results to students' grades, attendance, obesity, disciplinary problems and school

meal programs.

Current law requires 30 minutes of physical activity per day or 135 minutes per week for children up to the sixth grade. But some critics say that no checks are in place and schools have too much wiggle room to

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EXIT LEVEL TAKS

Big Spring High School will be offering the Exit Level TAKS Retest, Feb. 20-23.

Please report to the high school library at 8 a.m. Bring a picture I.D. February 20, ELA (English Language Arts); Feb. 21, Math; Feb. 22, Science; Feb. 23, Social Studies.

For more information, call 264-3641, ext. 133.

CHORUS REHEARSALS

Big Spring Symphony Chorus rehearsals will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20.

They will be held at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room.

The rehearsals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.

Everyone is invited to participate, said Dr. Keith Graumann.

MOM: DRUGS AT FAULT



See Page 5A



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Obituaries

Lillian Manning

Lillian Manning, 98, of Big Spring, formerly of Hobbs, N.M. died Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007, in Big Spring. Graveside services will be 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, 2007, at Prairie Haven Cemetery in Hobbs, N.M. with the Rev. Benny Greenlee, officiating.

She was born Dec. 29, 1908, in Palo Pinto to Thomas and Jane Perry. She was a homemaker and a longtime resident of Hobbs before coming to Big Spring.

She is survived by one brother, James W. Perry and his wife, Ruth of Grand Junction, Colo.; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husband, Earl Manning; two brothers; and one sister, Betty Follis.

Local arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Joyce Adams

Joyce Adams, 72, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Margaret Wilson

Margaret Wilson, 73, of Big Spring, died Friday, Feb. 9, 2007, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

• **IMMACULATE HEART AND SACRED HEART YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS** are hosting a Valentine's Dance on Saturday from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Hall, 1009 Hearn. Cost is \$5 per person, adults only; no one under 18 will be allowed in. Joel Perez will be the DJ. Door prizes, donated by local businesses, will be given away. Funds raised will go to help the church's youth groups. For more information, contact Merlinda Moron at 816-1231 or Bonnie Loya at 213-1356.

• **THE 5TH ANNUAL RELAY RASCAL RAZZMATAZZ** will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 24, in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at KBST and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Entry deadline is Feb. 20.

• **SAY IT WITH CAKE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT RELAY FOR LIFE** orders are being taken through Friday. Personalized heart-shaped cakes in either 8-inch size for \$5 or 5-inch size for \$3.50. Your choice of chocolate or vanilla. Delivery is available. Contact Angel Sosa at 264-4108 or Georgia Torres at 267-1312.

• **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).

• **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.

Police blotter

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

- **ANDY LEE FLORES**, 36, of 203 Eighth Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of no driver's license.
- **MICHAEL HERNANDEZ**, 39, of 604 N.E. Ninth Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **FRANK HERNANDEZ**, 37, of 311 Aylesford, was arrested Thursday on four local warrants.
- **MARY ANN CARDONA**, 41, of 109 Algerita, was arrested Thursday on two local warrants.
- **JUANITA FLORES**, 23, of 603 Steakley, was arrested Thursday on two local capias warrants.
- **TRAVIS MELTON**, 26, of 407 Lancaster, was arrested Thursday on a local warrant.
- **JASON CAREY**, 25, of 1804 Settles, was arrested Thursday on four local warrants.
- **JOSE DELOSSANTOS**, 27, of Odessa, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **DANIEL TORRES**, 24, of 611 N.E. 10th Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **ERNEST CLARK**, 66, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Thursday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- **LARRY DALE JACKSON**, 23, of 205 Settles, was arrested Friday on charges of no driver's license, expired inspection certificate and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **CARLA PINEDA**, 21, of 1512 Main Street, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **JOEL FLORES**, 24, of 1705 Donley, was arrested Friday on charges of no driver's license, failure to control speed and duty on striking a fixture or highway landscape.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
 - in the 600 block of Third Street.
 - in the 100 block of Courtney.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
 - in the 1800 block of Settles.
 - in the 2500 block of Chanute.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 36 inmates at the time of this report.
- **KYLER RAY CANNADY**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon in a prohibited place.
 - **CHRISTOPHER WREN HAMBY**, 30, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of no motorcycle driver's license and an expired driver's license.
 - **ADRIENNE DANIELLE REYNOLDS**, 17, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond for failure to identify - giving false information.
 - **BENITO TORRES**, 24, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for failure to stop and give information.
 - **CHRISTOPHER DESHUN MINTER**, 35, was arrested Thursday by DPS on a charge of theft of service.
 - **TEODORO DIAZ**, 52, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense and possession of a controlled substance.
 - **MARCUS LAMON COLE**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 5400 block of Opal. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported near the 172 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Chickasaw. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8-14-33-34. Bonus Ball: 17. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-17-18-22-34. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
• The Big Spring Evening Lions Club will hold an adult eyeglass clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St. This provides recycled eyeglasses for adults who cannot afford to pay for an eye examination or buy eyeglasses. For information, contact Bob Noyes at 267-6095.

MONDAY

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.
• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.
• Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.
• The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7 p.m. at TravelCenters of America truck stop.
• Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.
• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
• Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacients meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.
• Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

Weather

Tonight...Increasing clouds. Areas of fog after midnight. Lows in the upper 30s. East winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Areas of fog in the morning. Highs in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Tuesday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Cooler. Highs in the lower 50s. Chance of showers 20 percent.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain and snow. Lows in the lower 30s.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Colder. Highs around 40.

Wednesday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Thursday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

BIG SPRING HERALD

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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.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1481, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1481-48

USPS 0055-940

ISSN 0746-6811

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"Remember...you deserve the best!"



Forsan High School claimed the top two spots at the recent district debate tournament. Clint Lockhart and Rachael Wheeler, at left, won the district title for the second year in a row. Alex Newsom and Michael Leal, at right, placed second. At center is FHS debate coach Jan Sims.

LAPTOPS

Continued from Page 1A

vote. Support exists for a variety of plans. Ritchey advanced the idea of a pilot program in which selected students and teachers would use the laptops, then compare their results to classes not using the computers. Trustees objected to that, however.

"There's a lot of information we need to get out to the public, and I don't think using a subgroup of kids would work," Trustee Ricky Robertson said.

Robertson was the staunchest advocate for a full-scale implementation during Thursday's meeting.

"This thing is going to be mandated within the next few years," he said. "The state is going to do away with textbooks ... so let's work our problems out now."

"Let's either jump into this thing all at once, or

not do it at all," Robertson added. "Technology is the future. We've got to move forward."

But Board President Tony Kennedy seemed to favor a more gradual implementation.

"I don't want to force any teacher to use a laptop," Kennedy said. "I don't want to mandate anything that people aren't comfortable with. If this proves to be a success, the others will come around."

If trustees decide to implement the laptop program at the start of the next school year, they will have to make the decision soon. Downes told trustees they likely needed to approve the project by early March if they want the program in effect by September.

In other business Thursday, trustees:

- Approved the 2007-2008 school year calendar.
- Approved the purchase of new telescopic bleachers for the high school gymnasium.

OBESE

Continued from Page 1A

avoid the physical activity requirement.

"I used to teach sixth grade and I always loved it when my kids came back from physical education because when they came back, they were alert and they were ready to learn," Nelson said. "Teachers know what happens when kids get stuck behind a desk all day: they get restless,

they aren't focused on learning and most importantly it is downright unhealthy."

More than 10 million school-age children in the United States — about 18 percent — are now considered overweight. The percentage of overweight children tripled among adolescents during the past 25 years, and nearly doubled for children ages 6 to 12. This increases their risk for adult heart disease and diabetes, lowers life expectancy and creates additional health

care costs.

An estimated one-third of the children born since the year 2000 will develop diabetes, said Rep. Rob Eissler, a Republican from The Woodlands, who filed the Legislation on the House side.

In Texas, surprisingly high rates of diabetes near the border have garnered national attention in recent years. Starr County, in South Texas, has been identified in national studies as having one of the highest rates of type two diabetes in the

nation. In that rural border area, more than 50 percent of the residents have been diagnosed with the disease.

Obesity in Texas children is "a severe problem," said Jesus Chavez, the superintendent of schools in Round Rock.

Health and wellness advocates applauded the legislation Thursday.

Former Texas state health commissioner Eduardo Sanchez said evidence has proven the benefits of healthy students.

"Fit kids are smart kids

... fit kids are better behaved kids," said Sanchez, now the director of the Institute for Health Policy at the University of Texas School of Public Health at Houston. "In a state where there's no denying that we have a challenge with childhood obesity and ... a challenge graduating some of our children from high school, what a perfect program to help our kids be healthier and smarter."

The Texas Medical Association also endorsed the legislation.

Nelson's "fitness initiative and call for accountability is a critical step toward curbing the escalating childhood obesity epidemic," said TMA President Ladon W. Homer.

DUNNAM

Continued from Page 1A

new duties effective Tuesday. Steve Waggoner, who has served as principal at Washington and Kentwood elementaries, was lured out of retirement to helm Marcy on an interim basis.

A permanent Marcy principal will be named in April.

"We had 17 quality applicants, and Carrie was our top choice," said BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes, who recommended Dunnam's hiring to the board. "She brings a great attitude and a strong educational background to the job."

Dunnam has 18 years educational experience, the last four as principal at Marcy. She is no stranger to superintendent's duties, having watched second-hand as her father helmed the Forsan school district for 18 years.

"This has been a goal of mine, and it's kind of a family tradition," she

said. "Dad is a retired superintendent ... and he encouraged me to do this."

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

BEE

Continued from Page 1A

and Brorman. For six more rounds, the pair had little trouble with the words, until Brorman stumbled on the spelling of "chocolate." Akin then correctly spelled "ambulance" and "portfolio" to win the championship.

Aside from being the first Goliad student in recent memory to win a local bee, Akin may also qualify as the most low-keyed winner in event history.

"I really didn't practice,

I just waited for the spelling be to begin," he said. "I was a little nervous at first, but when I started getting the words right, I got a lot calmer." Akin won a dictionary for his efforts Thursday, while Brorman was presented a thesaurus.

Other contestants were Ethan Morelion of Bauer Elementary; Matilda Irvin, Washington Elementary; Kattlin Long, Marcy Elementary; Tobyn Tannehill, Moss Elementary; and Ashly Smith, Kentwood Elementary.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331,

ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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James P. "Jim" Archer, 74, died Tuesday. Graveside services were at 11:00 AM Friday at the Coahomá Cemetery.
Lillian Manning, 98, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Prairie Haven Cemetery in Hobbs, New Mexico.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ronnie Cupstid
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- Big Spring Independent School District administrators, teachers and parents too, on lowering the rate of criminal acts during the 2005-2006 school year.

- Michael Akin, winner of this year's Big Spring Independent School District Spelling Bee. Congratulations also to finalists Blake Brorman, Matilda Irwin, Kattlin Long, Ethan Morelion, Ashley Smith and Tobyn Tannehill.

- J.D. Leach of Odessa and Mark Hancock of Midland, who made their way through Howard County this week on a 500-mile plus lawnmower trip to benefit the St. Jude's Ranch for Children.

- Big Spring State Hospital employees — way too many to mention here, though Tina Neel's 30 years is pretty special — on their service to a very special organization. Way to go, ladies and gentlemen!

- There's no haggling about who's the best, not anymore anyway. Hats off to Forsan High School students Clint Lockhart and Rachael Wheeler and Alex Newsom and Michael Leal, who comprised the first and second place teams, respectively, at the District 11-1A cross-examination debate tournament. As such, they'll advance to the state debate March 12 in Austin.

- Carie Dunnam, named assistant superintendent at Big Spring Independent School District.

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

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

May our actions not be meaningless, Lord, but mean a lot for You.

Amen

Southern Baptists on defensive

Former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter; Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth; and I have something in common. We're all Southern Baptists.

The fine print on what it means to be a Southern Baptist keeps evolving. Faith, and its expression, should be inclusive, welcoming all. But the Southern Baptist Convention is instead creating more ways to eliminate those who disagree with its conservative theology, and its politics, on behalf of the Republican Party.

The denomination keeps adding exception and exclusion clauses to its membership contract, redefining the image and tossing out members who don't meet the new criteria.

It appears some people just aren't holy enough, spiritually, or good enough, politically, anymore for SBC membership.

Chief among the apostates are Clinton, for his sexual indiscretions while in office, and probably Carter, whose views have shifted left of political center since he left office and who disavowed his SBC membership in 2000. That group also encompasses anyone who dares disagree with Patterson's fundamentalist Biblical worldview, which includes me.

And it includes Sheri Klouda, whose unpardonable, unforgivable sin, according to the SBC, is she was born the wrong gender — as

in she's not a man — not that she had any say in which chromosomes she got. Klouda is a woman, much to the chagrin of the current powers-that-be at Southwestern seminary, who recently gave her the Texas boot and an "Adios, Partner," out the door. Klouda taught Hebrew at the seminary since 2002 — to women and men — until it denied her tenure, presumably because of her gender.

Did seminary officials just have a revelation from a higher being that Klouda is a woman?

The apostle Paul wrote in the book of I Timothy in the Bible, "But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet." SBC leaders — the men folk — interpret that verse literally, and every other way conceivably that guarantees their control of the denomination's 16 million members.

It's heresy in the SBC for women to teach men, or to be pastors — to "lord over" men. It ain't-going-to-happen, not with the tight men-only cadre at the top, or not until Jesus Christ returns to earth to preach his gender equity message as a reminder to the same. No chance of women ripping that veil in two to penetrate the SBC leadership.

Logic will not reclaim Klouda's job (although a lawsuit damage award might help assuage her for the loss of it) nor will it change SBC denominational views on women in leadership.

Logic says that gender does not impact intelligence. Logic says that gender does not affect job performance or capability. Logic says women should not be excluded from professional positions — seminary professor or pastor —

solely because of gender. But Southwestern's leadership also has the privilege as a private institution — even if they are errant about Biblical inerrancy — to exclude women professors from its school of theology. Patterson is the decider.

SBC heretics could argue theology with Patterson and other Southern Baptist elitists, only to be told how and why we are wrong.

Or we could follow Clinton and Carter's lead, and find an alternate path to express our faith.

The former presidents recently joined together to create the "New Baptist Covenant," a coalition of small and medium-sized churches, both African-American and white — with an approximate membership of 20 million — to offset the religious, social and political influence of the SBC.

The coalition will put faith in action — some feet on the street, not just theologians in the ivory tower — working on social justice and public policy issues, including poverty, environment and immigration.

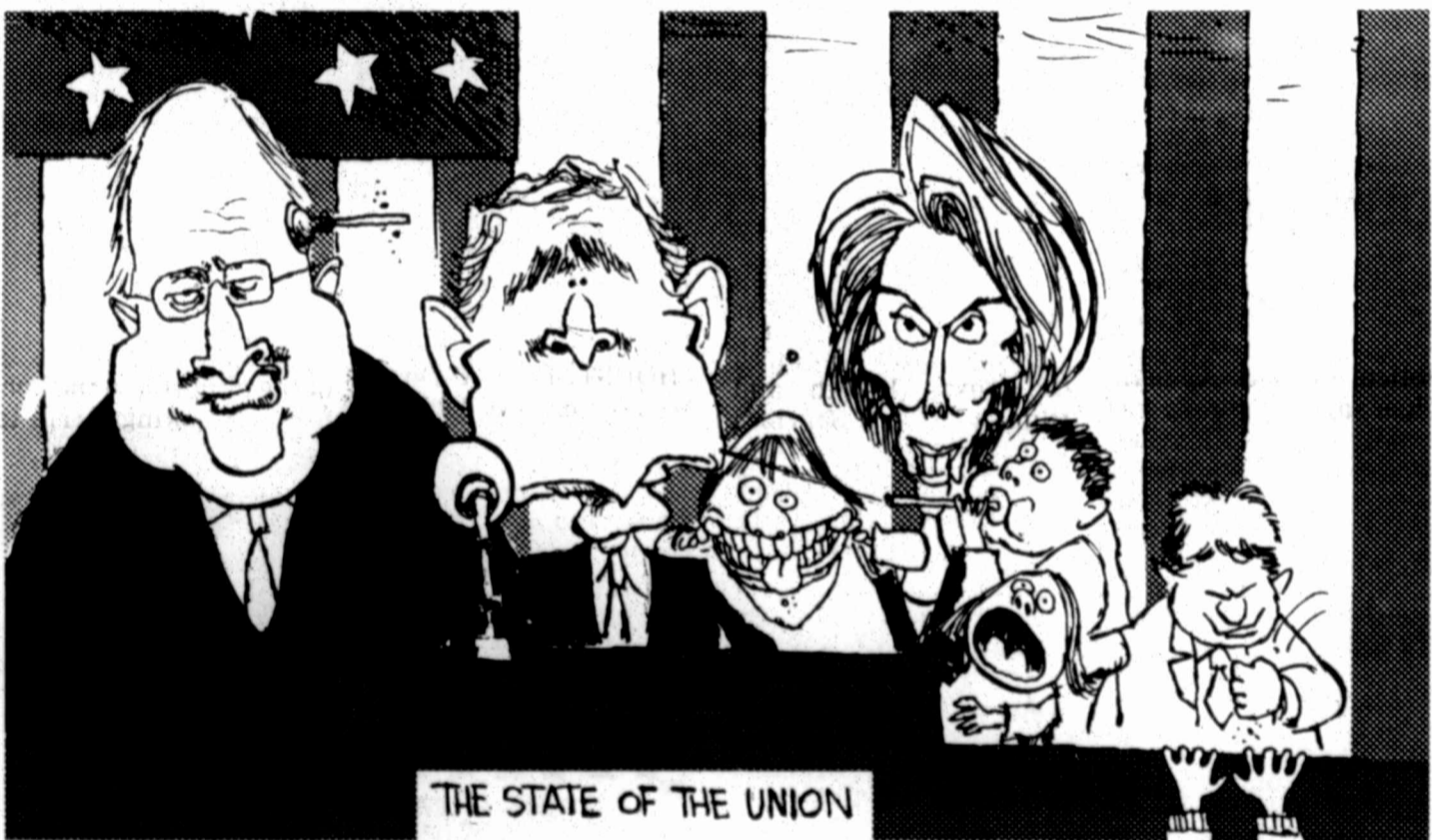
Faith should be expressed with works, not arguments about words, and faith shouldn't be used as a weapon to discriminate against women.

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the Lufkin Daily News. She is presently attending law school. She can be e-mailed at cynthiahallclements_mmm@yahoo.com

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CYNTHIA HALL CLEMENTS



Consolidating control of the Titanic

Is it safe to come out now? Is the Super Bowl finally over? Of all the over-hyped works of our hype-weary society, the so-called "Super Bowl" tops the list. It's a football game, for crying out loud. What's the big deal? Somebody wins; somebody loses. So what?

The best thing about it is that it means baseball isn't far behind. Good riddance to it. But on to more substantial fare:

Admit it, you were fooled. You listened to that wimpy State of the Union address and you thought President Bush was in full retreat before an angry electorate.

Yet again you underestimated the man. The retreat was merely tactical.

Less than a week after the speech, he returned to the fray, guns blazing. He signed a Presidential directive that, in effect, grants him effective control over all federal rules and policies developed to protect public health, safety, the environment, civil rights and privacy.

The directive, which does not need Congressional approval, requires regulatory agencies to have a policy office run by a political appointee who makes sure proposed regulations don't cost the regulated industries too much. (And by "too much," I would imagine, they mean "anything.")

In the past such regulations have been the responsibility of

career civil servants and scientists. From now on, political hacks will be running the show, preferably ones who don't believe in abortion, stem cell research or evolution. If you liked Katrina, you're going to love the next two years.

As Rep. Henry Waxman (Dem.) said: "The executive order allows the political staff at the White House to dictate decisions on health and safety issues, even if the government's own impartial experts disagree. This a terrible way to govern, but great news for special interests."

It occurs to me that what President Bush is doing, in his way, is resurrecting the administration of Richard Nixon. Like Bush Nixon tried to put his political operatives at key positions in virtually every department of the government, better to exercise power. Like Bush he wiretapped his enemies, opened their mail and spied on them. He also had a burglary team working for him and we don't know whether President Bush has one of those — yet.

The genius of Bush, however, is that while Nixon had to resign his Presidency and nearly went to jail for his crimes, Bush commits them openly and no one lays a glove on him.

It's the War on Terror, don't you know. Everything he does is legal because he's a war president and he says it's legal.

It's a terrific hustle and you have to give him credit for pulling it off. So he's down in the polls a little, so what? The people he's taking care of now will take care

of him down the road. I do worry about our Vice-president, however. He seems to have gone a little...I don't know...soft in the head I guess you'd call it.

A couple of weeks ago Mr. Cheney sat down with CNN's Wolf Blitzer and answered critics of the war in Iraq. "Hogwash." That's what he called the criticisms. The war, far from being a failure, has been a string of "enormous successes," he said. We got rid of Saddam, we got rid of his sons, we established a democracy in the Middle East, we gave Iraqis a constitution.

"The world is much safer today because of it," he said.

I don't know what else he said because I had to go lie down and put a cold cloth on my forehead.

He reminds me of Saddam's Minister of Information, Muhammad Said al-Sahhaf. All through the invasion he scoffed at reports of American successes. He rejected the validity of telecasts showing American tanks on Baghdad streets. His last press conference featured American tanks advancing on him in the background, even as he denied their existence. That's our boy Dick.

People worry about Iran getting the atom bomb. Not me. I worry about Cheney getting it.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. He can be e-mailed at dkaul1@verizon.net.

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Mom says drugs cause of death

Former Playmate Smith dead at 39

By SUZETTE LABOY

Associated Press Writer
HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — The mother of former Playmate and model Anna Nicole Smith blamed drugs Friday for her daughter's sudden death that ended an extraordinary tabloid life at just 39.



Smith
"I think she had too many drugs, just like Danny (Smith's late son)," her mother, Vergie Arthur, told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Friday. "I tried to warn her about drugs and the people she hung around with. She didn't listen."

"She was too drugged up."

Smith's attorney, Ron Rale, said the one-time reality TV star had been ill for several days with a fever and was still depressed over the death five months earlier of her 20-year-old son from what a private medical examiner determined was a combination of methadone and two antidepressants.

On Thursday, authorities say, a private nurse found Smith unconscious in her room at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino and called 911. A bodyguard performed CPR, Seminole Police Chief Charlie Tiger said, but Smith was declared dead at a hospital.

Later Thursday, two sheriff's deputies carried out at least eight brown paper bags sealed with red evidence tape from Smith's hotel room.

Edwina Johnson, chief investigator for the Broward County Medical Examiner's Office, said the cause of death was under investigation and an autopsy would be conducted Friday.

If Smith died of natural causes, the findings will likely be announced quickly, but definitive results could take weeks, said Dr. Jose Perper, who was to perform the autopsy.

"I am not a prophet, and I cannot tell you before the autopsy what I am going to find," he said.

Smith's son's death in the Bahamas on Dec. 10 came just a few days after she gave birth to a daughter, Dannielynn, whose custody remains in dispute.

The birth certificate lists Dannielynn's father as attorney Howard K. Stern, Smith's most recent companion, who Rale said was with Smith at the hotel and was too choked up to talk when he called Rale with the news. Smith's ex-boyfriend Larry Birkhead is waging a legal challenge, saying he is the father.

A hearing was scheduled in Los Angeles on Friday at which lawyers were expected to discuss an emergency motion filed by Birkhead's attorney seeking DNA from Smith's body.

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State news in brief

Senators push for more BRAC funding in spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas' senators pressed Thursday for more money in a sweeping spending bill to pay for the restructuring of military bases, but Democrats said additional money would come next month.

Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn, both Republicans, wanted to add \$3.1 billion to the spending bill. Democrats were resisting amendments to the bill because of a looming deadline for funding the federal government.

The senators predicted delays in the six-year plan to restructure military bases and economic consequences for communities wanting to develop bases closed in the latest round of Base Closure and Realignment Commission hearings in 2005.

More lawmakers ask Perry to rescind order

AUSTIN (AP) — Thirty-two state representatives sent a letter to Gov. Rick Perry on Thursday reiterating their plea for him to rescind his anti-cancer vaccine mandate for schoolgirls.

The letter, signed by 31 Republicans and a Democrat, said Perry's order "usurped the legislative process."

"While philosophic differences will dictate where our beliefs fall, no Texan would willfully abdicate their voice in the Legislature to a single office of their government," the letter said.

Perry's order required the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to adopt rules requiring the Merck & Co.'s new Gardasil vaccine for girls entering sixth grade as of September 2008. The vac-

cine protects girls against strains of the human papillomavirus, or HPV, that cause most cases of cervical cancer.

The governor has been widely criticized for mandating the vaccine without letting the Legislature hear from scientists, doctors and parents. But he has firmly defended his actions, saying the vaccine will save many lives.

DA seeks to have investigation stopped

RAYMONDVILLE (AP) — The Willacy County district attorney on Thursday filed an injunction to stop a state district judge from hearing cases on his docket.

District Attorney Juan Guerra filed the request against 197th state District Court Judge Migdalia Lopez, claiming she has "such a high degree of antagonism against the district attorney that it is most difficult to make a fair judgment possible."

Lopez recently launched an investigation into allegations that Guerra had rigged cases in exchange for money from defendants.

Lopez appointed Cameron County Justice of the Peace Gustavo Garza — one of Guerra's former political rivals — to head up the investigation.

Guerra denies any wrongdoing and said he believes the inquiry stems from his own investigation into a bribery scheme involving federal prison contracts in Willacy County.

14-year-old held in death of baby cousin

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities have detained a 14-year-old boy accused in the fatal beating of a 2-year-old cousin he was baby-sitting.

Paramedics found injured Daveon Adams at

a home where he and four other young children were under the care of the 14-year-old on Wednesday, authorities said. Daveon was helicoptered to a Houston hospital, where he died early Thursday.

The teenage baby sitter, whose name has not been released because of his age, admitted to investigators that he struck Daveon, police said. He currently faces injury to a child charges in the Harris County juvenile court system, police said.

Authorities said the Daveon suffered injuries including internal bleeding, chest abrasions and head contusions.

Estella Olguin, spokeswoman for Texas Department of Children's Protective Services, said Daveon and his 3-year-old brother were placed in the care of their aunt and uncle — the parents of the 14-year-old — because of their mother's drug use.

"We had been involved with their mother because of concerns of drug use and the condition of the home," Olguin said. "They had been placed with the relatives while we worked with their mom."

The couple already had seven children, but CPS determined the family could handle the two cousins, Olguin said.

A case worker had checked on Daveon and his brother two weeks ago. Olguin said there hadn't been any signs of danger.

"The 14-year-old had never exhibited any aggressive behavior," she said.

Daveon's aunt was in and out of the house Wednesday, taking some of the children to the doctor and making a trip to the bank, authorities said. The 14-year-old called his mother to say Daveon was not breathing. She called 911 then returned home, police

said. Olguin said Daveon's brother has been placed in a foster home. The teen's siblings are staying with family members until officials determine whether their home is safe, Olguin said.

County allowed to test tent jail

OLMITO (AP) — The tent is going back up at the Carrizalez-Rucker Detention Center in Olmito, but only to allow an electrician to take measurements for lights.

The Cameron County Sheriff's Department had erected the tent before the holidays and said at the time that it would be used to hold overflow nonviolent offenders. It was never used to house inmates and was taken down Monday.

The county judge's office asked that construc-

tion be halted Feb. 2 because the tent had not been approved by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. The state agency has now given permission for the tent to be set up to address electrical needs.

"We told them they could put the tent up only for that purpose. It was very specific," Adan Munoz Jr., executive director of the Commission on Jail Standards, said in a story in Friday's editions of The Brownsville Herald.

Sheriff Omar Lucio said an electrician would measure for the placement of lights.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South in each of the following bidding sequences, and in each case the question is whether your partner's last bid shows a minimum opening bid (13 to 15 points), an intermediate opening bid (16 to 18 points) or a very strong opening bid (19 or more points). If you think North has indeterminate values that might lie in either of two ranges, classify this ambiguous.

- | | North | South |
|----|-------|-------|
| 1. | 1♦ | 2♥ |
| | 3♥ | |
| 2. | 1♥ | 1♦ |
| | 3♦ | |
| 3. | 1♦ | 2♥ |
| | 3♦ | |
| 4. | 1♦ | 1♥ |
| | 1♦ | |
| 5. | 1♦ | 1♦ |
| | 2♥ | |
| 6. | 1♦ | 1NT |
| | 3♦ | |

1. Minimum. Since your heart response on the two-level promised 10 or more points, partner cannot be in the 16-18 range, because he would have jumped to four hearts rather than raise to three. His three-heart bid is not forcing.

2. Intermediate. With a minimum opening bid, partner would raise to two spades; with a maximum, he

would jump to four. Three spades is highly encouraging but not forcing, and can be passed with a bare six or seven points.

3. Intermediate. Partner's voluntary climb to the three-level in a new suit shows well above a minimum opening bid. With a 13- to 15-point hand, he would either rebid two spades, raise you to three hearts or possibly bid two notrump. Three diamonds is 100 percent forcing.

4. Ambiguous. Partner may have anywhere from 12 to 18 points, and there is no way of telling how many he has at this juncture. He cannot have 19 or more, as he would have jump-shifted to two spades rather than bid just one, which is not forcing.

5. Intermediate. Two hearts is a "reverse" bid and shows roughly 17 to 19 points. The reason for this is that your spade response may be based on only six points, and partner, by bidding two hearts, may force you to the three-level if you prefer clubs to hearts and cannot rebid your spades. By bidding in this manner, partner implies that he holds the extra strength necessary to make a nine-trick contract feasible.

6. Intermediate. Partner's jump rebid shows 16 to 18 points, at least a six-card spade suit, and is not forcing.

Tomorrow: The bidding tells the tale.

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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

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

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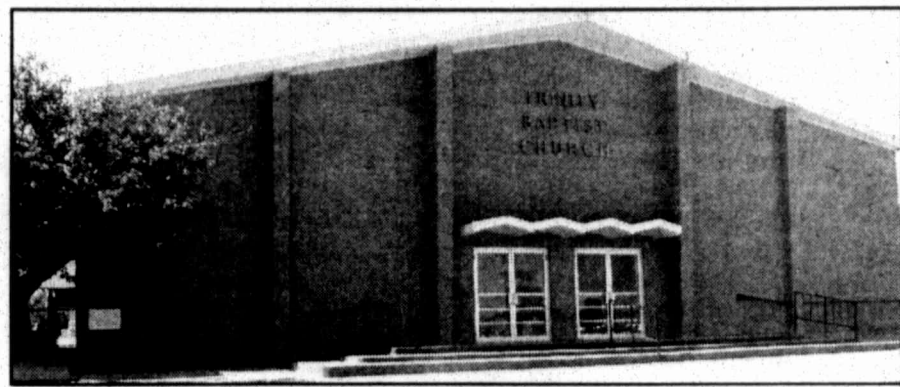
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STK# 5499A 2005 Ford Mustang GT 5 speed 41k Was \$21,000 Now \$18,995.00
STK# 923 2006 Chrysler 300c 21k (Hemi) 2 in Stock Was \$28,995 Now \$24,995.00
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STK# 28LL 2004 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4 V-6 Auto Only 33K Was \$18,995 Now \$16,495.00
STK# 883A 2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT V-6 Auto 4x2 21K Was \$17,995 Now \$15,995.00
STK# 969 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee 33K V6 4x2 Was \$18,995 Now \$14,995.00
STK# 5416A 2004 Ford F-150 SuperCrew XLT 4x2 V-8 Was \$19,995 Now \$16,995.00
STK# 979 2005 Ford F-150 SuperCrew XLT 4x2 34K Was \$19,995 Now \$18,995.00
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these is love.
I Cor. 13:13

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In The Beginning
God Created The Heavens
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Gen. 1:1

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First Baptist Church

Gospel Sunday has been rescheduled for 10:50 a.m. Sunday and will include the return of former pastor Dr. Kenneth Patrick to the pulpit. We will begin at 10:50 a.m.

In the evening, Mother's Day Out participants will present a program which will include all ages during the service at 6 p.m.

On Feb. 27, author and Bible teacher Beth Moore will speak to tens of thousands of women across North America in a live satellite simulcast based on her new book "Get Out of That Pit." In a special message titled "Straight Talk About God's Deliverance," Moore will discuss the fact that deliverance is for everyone — no matter how you got stuck, no matter how long you've been down, whether you think you deserve it or not. From her own personal experience, Moore will share the healing to be found in Jesus and will present a message of hope.

First Baptist Church will be a host church for this event. Call the church at 267-8233 for tickets, times and other information.

St. Mary's Episcopal

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

A Lector's Training Class will meet Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. St. Mary's Vestry meets at 6 p.m. Monday in the library.

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

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

If you are looking for a church home, consider us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. The soul exists for the sole purpose of glorifying Jesus Christ and being a blessing to you and your family. Services are informal with good gospel singing, plain Bible preaching and a friendly atmosphere. Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A nursery is provided.

Our Valentine banquet will be this Sunday night. A king and queen will be crowned along with food, fun and fellowship.

For further information



Courtesy photo
Wayne Frost, left, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, and Sara Bavin, church secretary, assemble special support boxes for soldiers serving in Iraq, part of the Ongoing Support effort being fronted by the church.

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

North Birdwell United Methodist Church

The delivery date for February Angel Food orders will be Saturday, Feb. 24, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at North Birdwell UMC, located at 2702 North Birdwell Lane.

Orders for March may be placed at that time. For more information, please call 267-2203 or 267-4082.

Wednesday evening Bible study, led by Pastor Joel Miller, will be finishing the Old Testament part of the Disciple Short Study and will be starting on the New Testament. If you would like to join this group, please come on the first and third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

The United Methodist Women meet the second and fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m. and are continuing the study of "Shalom, Salaam, Peace." The study is led by Jacque Mauch.

Regular worship services are scheduled Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school classes for all ages are at 10:30 a.m. You are invited to attend any of the services and programs offered by North Birdwell UMC. You will find it is a small church with a big heart filled with love for our Savior.

Baker's Chapel AME Church

Baker's Chapel AME Church will be celebrating Black History Month each Sunday of February. The church invites the

community to join them during the 11 a.m. services for a reading or lecture on Black history.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Please join us for worship Sunday at 401 N. Main as the Rev. Donita Lea leads us in our regular worship service "The Heart of God." Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m., followed by the worship service at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 14, the Youth will meet at 6 p.m. at the church for a Valentine party. There will be no Praise Band worship this week.

The ministry team will meet Thursday, Feb. 15,

at 7 p.m. at the church fellowship hall. Please continue to be in prayer for this newly formed team that will be working to share the message with our community.

The Community Choir has begun rehearsal of the Easter Cantata. Rehearsals are at the First Baptist Church of Coahoma. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the choir.

Call 394-4432 for more information.

Friends of Unity

The ministry at the Unity Center is expanding. It will be open weekdays afternoons with gatherings at 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of each

month.

Joel S. Goldsmith, a 20th Century teacher, healer and writer, taught oneness with God. Friends study with him, led by the Rev. Jim Sims on Tuesday at noon. All are welcome.

The Center is located in the beautiful downtown Railroad Plaza in the east boxcar. The phone there is 267-8783 (267-TRUE).

St. Paul Lutheran Church

A slate of nominees will be presented for a vote following the 9 a.m. worship services. The nominating committee has worked hard to bring these names for election. Everyone needs to be there.

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

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is asking for donations for transient bags which will be packed March 8. These bags are packed with easy to eat foods and given to those transients who

come by the church for help. Each bag has enough for one meal. Baby bags are also available. Please bring beanieweanies, etc. that do not require refrigeration.

The Relay For Life Committee is selling current items. There are catalogs available for your selections. There will be a garage sale in March to benefit Relay For Life. Please bring your items to the church or contact a committee member for help.

Everyone is encouraged to sign up for church cleaning. If you are unable to do this yourself there is someone we can hire to do it if you will donate to this fund.

Operation On Going Support is alive and well. February's care package items are: Small magnet-backed photo holders or photo albums, gel insoles for boots, dried fruit and fruit rollups, donations

See CHURCH, Page 8A

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Courtesy photo
The Lutheran Women's Missionary League of St. Paul Lutheran Church presented a check to the Howard County Bible Class Fund for \$1,266. The monies were raised through a bake sale held in November, and matched funds from Trivent Insurance (\$866 from bake sale and \$400 matched). A previous check of \$1,256 was donated in December from the cookbook sale, which is ongoing. The total donation is \$2,522 for 2006. The 14 members of the League would like to thank everyone who supported their efforts. The League meets on the second Thursday of each month. Pictured left to right are Hayes Stripling, Belle Schooler, Bob Underwood, Ramona Carter, Jaunell Roever, Doris Hicks, John Richard Von Hassell, Clarence Hawkins, Murray Murphy, Ron Osborne and Pat Simmons.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 7A

for AT&T phone card fund.

St. Paul Lutheran Church has been supporting our troops stationed in the Middle East with some interesting "war material" since June of 2006. As part of Lutheran Church Missouri Synod World Missions ministry to the Armed Forces, St. Paul has shipped just under 300 pounds of care packages. What began as summer support has become on-going support as we continue to ship these packages to our chaplains each month.

The LWML has cookbooks for sale for \$10.

Thursday, the LWML had its Valentine party at Just Peachy cafe. Prayer

pals were revealed and new names were drawn for the 2007-08 year.

Winter Revival at Berea Baptist

Berea Baptist Church will be in revival Feb. 9-11. The revival will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday evening, Feb. 9 with our



Valentine Banquet. The service will follow at 7 p.m. Tickets for the banquet are \$2.50 and are available through the Berea church office.

Bro. Micheal Summers is our guest for the banquet and will be the speaker for it and for the revival. He is director of the Office of Church Services at Wayland Baptist University in

Plainview. Bro. Summers will also be with our men at their monthly breakfast Feb. 10 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The revival services will continue on Saturday evening at 6 p.m. and then Sunday morning at 11 a.m. and Sunday evening at 6 p.m. We invite you to join with us for a time of encouragement and renewal.

If you have questions or need transportation, call the Berea office. Our office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday. At other times, leave a message, and we will return your call. Berea Baptist Church is located at 4204 Wasson Road. Our office number is 267-8438. Pastor Wheat can also be reached at bereabaptistchurch@ccom.net

Keep Big Spring Beautiful

Keep Big Spring Beautiful met Monday, Jan. 5, at the Howard College Cactus Room. Kathryn Wiseman, president, called the meeting to order with Barbara Brumley giving the invocation.

Minutes and financials were approved and our new president urged us to recruit more members

and commit ourselves to be active in all our projects.

Events we hope to sponsor and support are: Renovation of the Big Spring (in conjunction with the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the city), recycling project with PTK college students, Spring Community-wide Flea Market, our annual golf tourney, graffiti abatement, skits on recycling

for the schools, Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off April 14, Arbor Day planting and Love Our Lake Clean-Up.

Our newest event will be the Vocal Trash Concert at the Amphitheater April 14, along with the Trash-Off. This will be a fun activity for the whole family.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 5 in the Howard College Cactus Room.

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IN BRIEF

Former Texas A&M coach passes at 76

Shelby Metcalf, who set a record for Southwest Conference victories in his 27 seasons as head coach at Texas A&M, died Thursday at age 76. Metcalf died at a College Station hospital after battling a lengthy illness, the university said in a news release.

NCAA top 25 basketball rankings

AP Top 25 schedule

1. Florida (22-2) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Kentucky, Saturday.
2. UCLA (21-2) did not play. Next: at West Virginia, Saturday.
3. Ohio State (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Saturday.
4. Wisconsin (23-2) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa, Saturday.
5. North Carolina (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Saturday.
6. Texas A&M (20-3) did not play. Next: at Nebraska, Saturday.
7. Pittsburgh (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. Providence, Saturday.
8. Memphis (20-3) beat UAB 70-56. Next: vs. Tulane, Saturday.
9. Kansas (20-4) did not play. Next: at Missouri, Saturday.
10. Butler (23-2) beat Cleveland State 92-50. Next: at Wright State, Saturday.
11. Marquette (21-4) did not play. Next: at No. 22 Georgetown, Saturday.
12. Nevada (22-2) beat Fresno State 81-68. Next: vs. San Jose State, Wednesday.
13. Oregon (20-4) beat Arizona State 55-51. Next: vs. No. 24 Arizona, Saturday.
14. Washington State (20-4) beat No. 25 Stanford 58-45. Next: vs. California, Saturday.
15. Air Force (20-4) did not play. Next: at New Mexico, Saturday.
16. Duke (18-6) did not play. Next: at Maryland, Sunday.
17. Oklahoma State (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Tech, Saturday.
18. Alabama (18-5) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Saturday.
19. Southern California (18-7) did not play. Next: at No. 24 Arizona, Thursday.
20. Kentucky (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Florida, Saturday.
21. Southern Illinois (20-5) did not play. Next: vs. Creighton, Saturday.
22. Georgetown (17-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11 Marquette, Saturday.
23. Vanderbilt (16-7) did not play. Next: at Tennessee, Saturday.
24. Arizona (16-7) beat Oregon State 72-66. Next: at No. 13 Oregon, Saturday.
25. Stanford (15-7) lost to No. 14 Washington State 58-45. Next: at Washington, Sunday.

Hawks clipped in overtime by Chaparrals

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

In the first half of the season the Howard Hawks found a way to lose a few basketball games down the stretch. Thursday night, as the second half of the season began, they couldn't find a way to win one.

After losing a 1-point game to the Midland Chaparrals at home, the Hawks (17-6, 4-5) took the Chaps to overtime before falling 90-87 in the extra 5 minutes of play.

"We know we're a good team — something has just got to change for us. We just don't seem to know how to finish or close out games," Mike Johnson, the Hawks' starting point guard said after Thursday's loss.

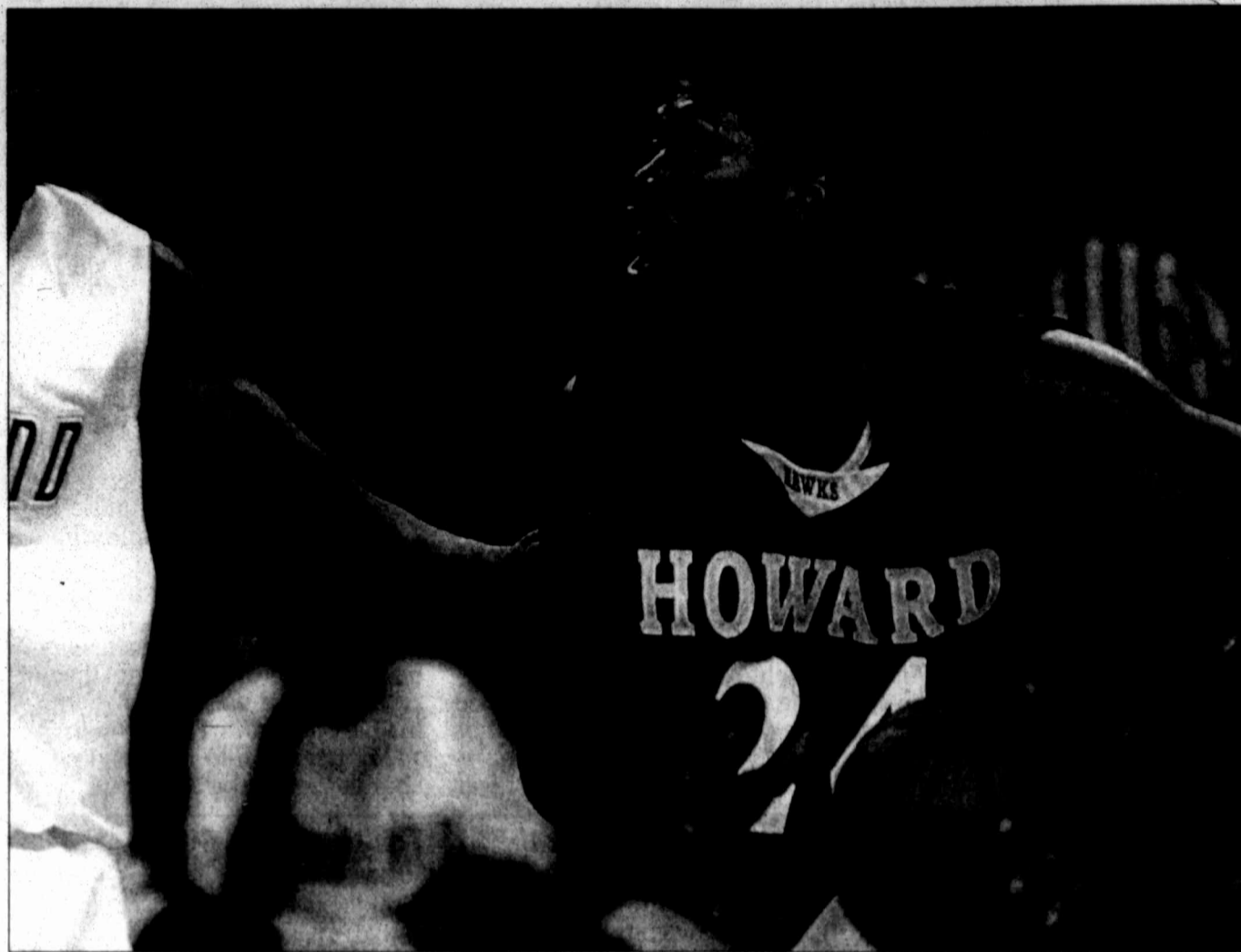
Sean Watson got things going early as he scored 6 of the Hawks first 8 points and Howard built an early 6-point lead.

After a 17-11 score 8:40 into the half, the Chaparrals charged back to get within 1 point of the Hawks. Once again Watson answered as he hit a 3-pointer and finished the first half by going 5-for-9 from the floor and scoring 15 points.

The Hawks' lead was pushed to 8 points and with 2:29 left before halftime, the visiting team held a 22-8 rebounding advantage.

"This game tells us that we're getting closer to where we need to be," Howard head coach Mark Adams said. "We are playing the top teams in our conference and we're playing right with them on the road."

Watson would lead the Hawks



Howard guard Terrence Hill drives to the basket and passes to a teammate in the first half of the Hawks' loss to Midland College Thursday night at Chaparral Coliseum.

with 18 points on the night and the 6-5 sophomore pulled down 7 rebounds. His backcourt battery mate, Terrence Hill, attempted only one shot in the first half and failed to score in the first 20 minutes of play.

Trotting to the locker rooms,

the Hawks were leading 41-38 and appeared to be in good shape — just like in the first meeting this season.

It took Midland 2:20 into the second half to take a lead the Chaps would not surrender. It came when Ryan McCoy let fly a

3-pointer that found the bottom of the net and gave the hosts a 1-point lead.

"We just make way too many mistakes. If the team can figure out how to correct those, then we

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B



Howard's point guard Veronica Wilson prepares to knock down a free throw in the 54-41 loss to the Lady Chaparrals Thursday night in Midland. The Hawks are now 11-13 on the season.

Lady Chaparrals throttle visiting Howard women

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

Poor shooting and missed opportunities led to a 14-point loss for the Howard women's basketball team in Midland Thursday night.

Not only did the Hawks shoot 25 percent from the field and only 50 percent from the free throw line, but the women had less than half the number of second chance opportunities as the Lady Chaparrals in the 54-41 loss.

"There's no question about it," Hawks coach Earl Diddle said after looking at the shooting percentages. "I thought we had a hard time shooting the ball and I thought we missed some easy baskets tonight."

Less than 10 minutes into the game the Lady Chaps (17-7, 6-2) had built a double-digit lead, one they would not surrender

and one that would not be contested on their home court.

Tori Slusher had 6 first-half points and ended the game as the Lady Chaparrals' leading scorer.

When the first 20 minutes of the half ended, the Hawks (11-13, 2-6) were in an 11-point hole, 29-18, at the Chaparrals Center.

Kandace Griffin, the Hawks' leading scorer before conference play began, was still in what she described as a "shooting slump." The starting guard was coming off a performance where she failed to score a single point and at the break she was 0-for-6 against Midland.

"I have spent a lot of time in the gym lately," Griffin offered. "It was a shooting slump — I don't know how else to describe it and I just had to

See **WOMEN**, page 2B

Phillips replaces Parcels

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — With two words, Wade Phillips showed how different he is from predecessor Bill Parcels.

Those words? "Terrell Owens," Phillips said, smiling wide. "I did say his name. Terrell Owens."

Parcels nearly always referred to Owens as "the player" this past season, their first and last together with the Dallas Cowboys.

Whether Phillips noted his full use of T.O.'s name to make a point or just to be funny

doesn't really matter — either way, the line symbolized the new tone surrounding this club.

Phillips became the seventh coach in franchise history Thursday, 17 days after Parcels called it a career.

In many ways, the two coaches are alike. Both have gray hair, could stand to lose a few pounds and are among the foremost authorities on NFL defenses, especially the 3-4.

And both can crack up a room — though not in the same way.

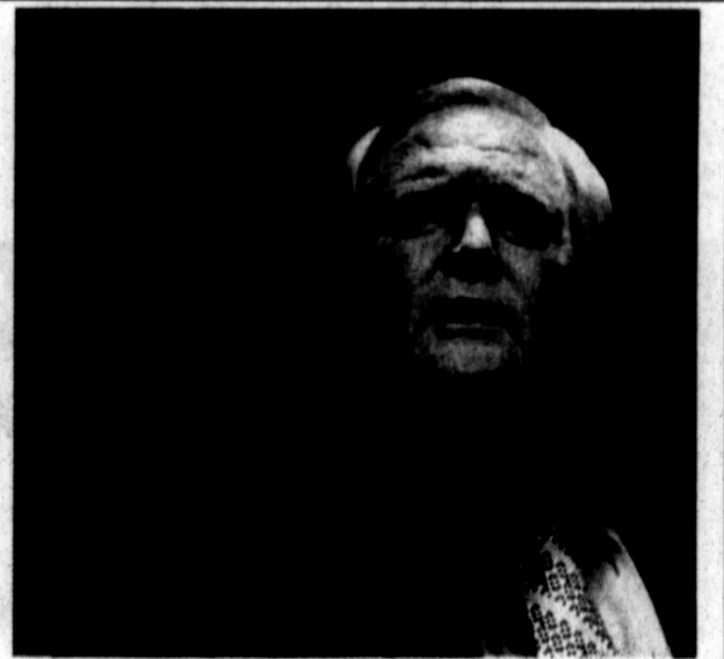
Parcels amused with

biting wit and sarcasm. Phillips is more self-deprecating and folksy. At his introductory news conference, he managed to do both at the same time.

Phillips, 59, spent the last three years as the defensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers, the latest stop in an NFL journey that began in 1976 as the linebackers coach for his dad, then-Oilers coach Bum Phillips.

Since 1981, Wade Phillips has been a head

See **COACH**, Page 2B



MCT photo/Tom Pennington/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
San Diego Chargers defensive coordinator Wade Phillips is named the new head coach of the Dallas Cowboys Thursday.

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Mickelson eagles 18th for share of lead

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Phil Mickelson finally showed signs of turning the corner Thursday.

Nowhere near the leaderboard since his collapse at the U.S. Open last summer, Mickelson hit 4-iron from 230 yards into 18 feet for eagle on his final hole at Poppy Hills for a 7-under 65 to share the lead with rookie John Mallinger and Nick Watney at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

"I didn't think it would take three tournaments to get to where I wanted to be," said Mickelson, playing for the fourth straight week. "But each tournament, I saw progress."

Mickelson and the rest of the 180-man field also saw a return of the notorious weather — known in these parts as "Crosby" weather as a tribute to when Bing Crosby was host of a tournament that featured every element just about every hour.

Cold. Windy. Wet.

It was better to be at Poppy Hills than the other two courses in the rotation, because it is the farthest from the Pacific Ocean and protected by tree-

lined fairways. That's where Mickelson and Watney played.

The best round belonged to Mallinger, who was on the wrong course, but at the right time.

Pebble Beach sits along the bluffs of the Pacific, bare to the wintry wind that was so strong at times it toppled a tree on the 17th fairway around the corner at Spyglass Hill.

"There's nowhere to hide there," Jim Furyk said after his 67 at Spyglass.

Mallinger, however, started his round on the 10th hole in the virtual calm of the morning. The wind didn't arrive until he had only five holes remaining, and by then he had done most of his damage.

Of course, it helped that he made 100 feet worth of birdie putts on his first three holes, starting with a 60-footer just off the green.

"I got 14 holes with good weather," Mallinger said. "Those are where you make your birdies, so when you've got good weather, you've got an advantage."

He should clarify "good" in this case, because sunshine has graced this picturesque peninsula the last six years. It was

good for 14 holes because the flags weren't bending sideways, the clouds had not released the rain and it didn't feel like winter.

"It was beneficial," he said.

Over at Spyglass, Furyk played his best golf in the worst conditions. His 2-under start was wiped out by a double bogey from two bunkers on the sixth hole, and he was even when the trees began to shake. Then he made five birdies on the back nine.

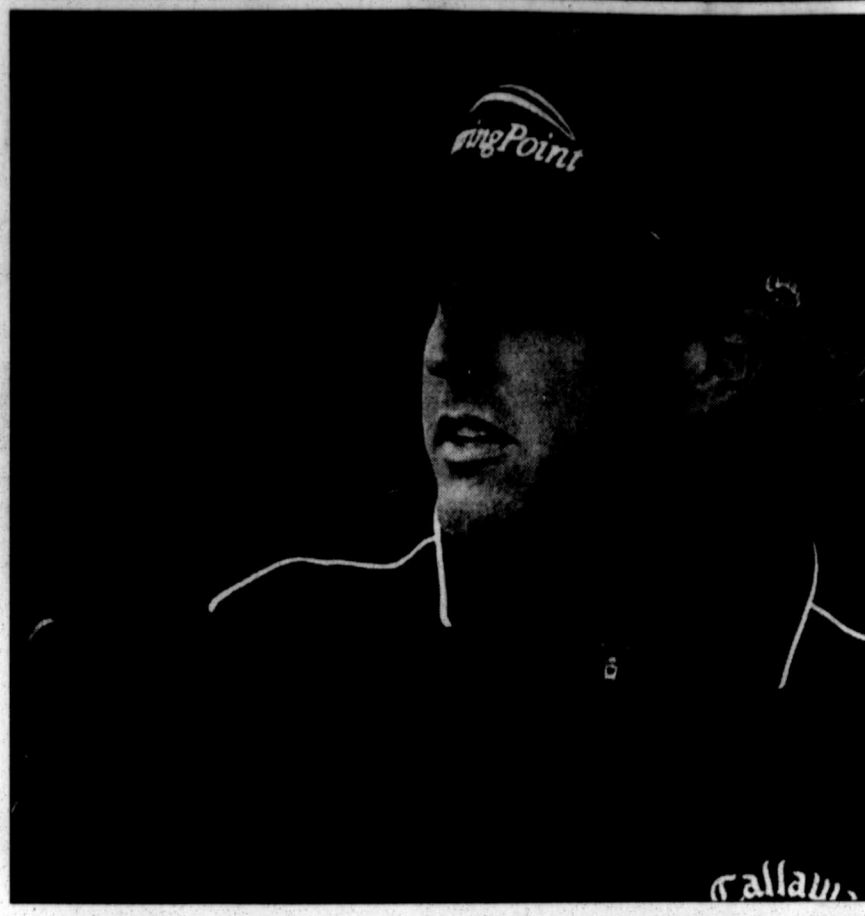
"I'm glad I got through there," he said.

But the place to be was Poppy Hills. It was the only course that averaged under par in the opening round at 71.73. Spyglass Hill, traditionally the toughest in calm conditions, averaged 73.17, while Pebble checked in at 74.98.

"It's the most shielded course of the three," Watney said. "I got a good break playing Poppy."

Watney's amateur partner was Jerry Chang, a former player at Stanford who hasn't played in this tournament since 2002 when he was paired with his best friend — Tiger Woods.

"My friends told me I had no chance to make an impres-



MCT PHOTO/Vern Fisher/ Monterey County Herald
Phil Mickelson walks up to the first tee during the first round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am at Spyglass Hill golf course in Pebble Beach, California, Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007

sion," Watney said. "But Jerry told me he upgraded his pro."

Mickelson got out of the celebrity rotation this year, which will put him at Pebble Beach on Friday instead of

third round. He has won twice at Pebble, the most recent victory two years ago when he opened with a 62 at Spyglass and was never challenged.

WOMEN

Continued from 1B

shoot my way out of it."

In the second half, the Lady Chaps opened up a commanding 20-point lead as the Hawks continued to try and find their offense.

The defense was solid and Howard ended the game with 15 steals and forced 22 turnovers. According to coach Diddle, the Hawks moved the ball around pretty well.

Candace Lambert, who has led the team in scoring for the past several weeks, ended the night once again as the leading scorer with 10 points on 3-of-14 shooting. Sarah Rondeau was 2-for-6 from the beyond the 3-point arc and Carole Bapoo led Howard's women on the boards with 5 rebounds.

"Offensively we were able to move the ball around much better than we did when we played them in January, but you still have to hit the shots and we just didn't shoot the ball very well," Diddle would reiterate from outside the women's locker room.

With 7:02 left in the game and the Hawks trailing 45-25, Griffin hit her

first shot of the night.

It did not take her long to accumulate 8 second-half points, as on the next two Hawk possessions she spotted up and drained 3-pointers.

Her shooting touch had returned.

"I hit that first jump shot coming off a screen and I thought maybe things would get rolling for me," Griffin, who finished the game 3-for-14, said. "The next trip down the court I spotted up for the three and made sure I squared my shoulders — got my feet under me — and let it go. It was nice to finally hit a few shots and now I am feeling much better."

Howard was able to dent the lead, but was not able to bring it down to single digits.

"We finished the game on a positive note," Diddle told KBST 1490. "Hopefully we can learn from this game this late in the season."

The Howard women will face the Odessa Lady Wranglers at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 5 p.m. Saturday. The Lady Wranglers are currently in second place in the WJAC and defeated the Hawks in Odessa in January.

HAWKS

Continued from 1B

have a good chance to get a whole lot better before the season end," Adams added, as he discussed the loss with his coaching staff.

Midland made 4-of-13 from beyond the arc in the second half and shot 41.2 percent from the field over the final 25 minutes of play.

Hill, the Hawks leading scorer on the season with 13 points per game, made consecutive baskets and kept the contest tight at the 8-minute mark. He ended the game with 16 points, all in the second half, and pulled down 4

rebounds.

With 2:10 left in regulation the Hawks trailed 71-68 and the Chap's began to struggle from the free throw line. They managed to shoot just over 60 percent from the line in the second half.

With 6 seconds to play, Johnson was fouled driving to the basket. He made both of his free throws attempts to tie the score at 77-77 and send the game into extra minutes.

From there though, it was all Midland.

"Everybody in the locker room is just trying to hold their head up right now," a visibly disappointed Johnson said. "I missed lay-ups, we had errant passes and we had

the ball bouncing off our hands. It's little things like that that are adding up and killing us right now."

The Chaparrals built a 5-point lead and held on to earn its 17th win of the season when Dan Sencanski's last second 3-point shot was waved off for not beating the blaring horn.

Benson Akpan led Howard with 9 rebounds on the night and scored 5 points by shooting 2-for-6 from the field.

The Hawks will return to the hardwood Saturday, hosting Frank Phillips College at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.

COACH

Continued from 1B

coach or a coordinator for all but one year. He's been a head coach four times, although twice on an interim basis.

Phillips is 45-35 over his five full seasons — three in Buffalo and two in Denver — and made the playoffs three times. However, he's yet to win a playoff game, with his last loss coming in the "Music City Miracle," when Tennessee used a trick kick return for the

winning touchdown in the closing seconds against the Bills in January 2000.

Dallas is headed into the 11th season since its last playoff win, the longest gap in the team's proud history.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he expects Phillips to bring immediate improvement, noting that the last six times Phillips changed jobs, his new team always made the playoffs in his first year.

Phillips, who was born in Orange, Texas, and

played college ball at Houston, added that all six had losing records the previous year. At his last stop, San Diego immediately went from 4-12 to 12-4, leading to another bit of Phillips humor.

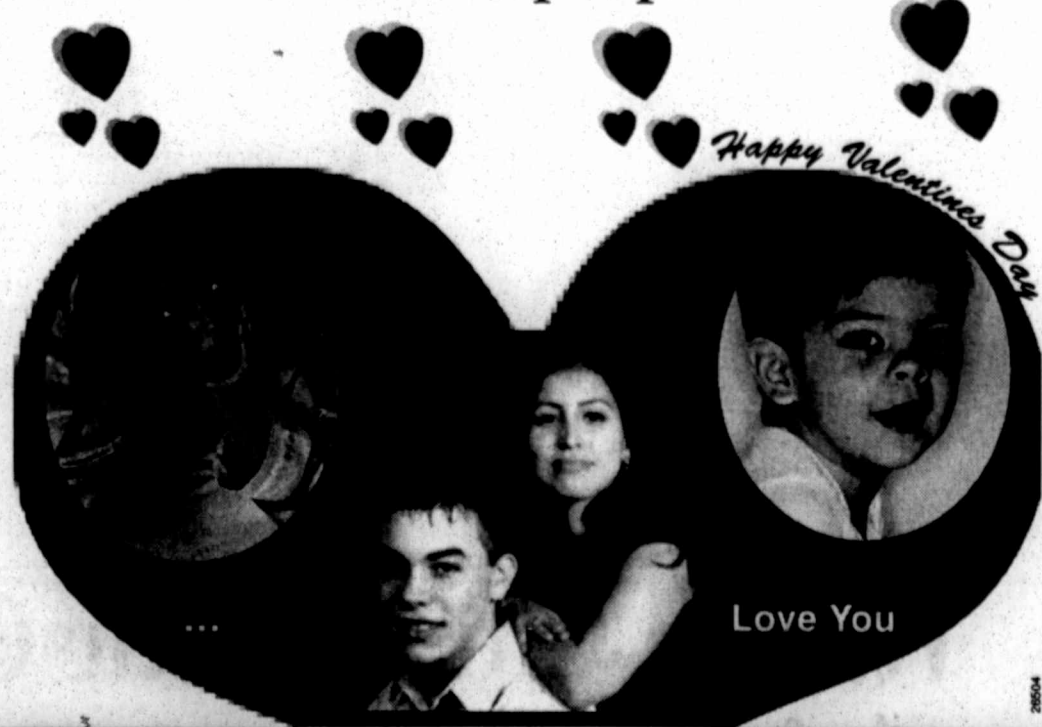
"Drew Brees made the statement I was the big difference," Phillips said. "I called him back this year and told him, 'I think you're the big difference in New Orleans.' But it takes everybody, the coaches and the players."

Phillips doesn't have a rebuilding job this time.



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WANTED EXPERIENCED electrician, must have a valid drivers license and be able to pass drug test. Must be willing to relocate to small West Texas town. Offering top pay and benefits. Send resumes c/o P.O. Box 1431/157, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

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.

WESTSIDE DAY Care needs a FT worker. Call (432)263-7841 for more information. Must be 18 yrs, GED/Diploma, 1 year DC experience, Child Development a plus.

WOODFOREST NATIONAL Bank is now hiring for branch manager, retail banker/teller positions at our Big Spring location. Please apply online at www.woodforest.com. EOE m/f/v/d

Items for Sale

A NEW QUEEN Pillow top mattress set. \$129.00 Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

Lost and Found

\$1000.00 REWARD for the return of a Weatherby Athena 28 gauge over and under shotgun. Disappeared while hunting the Muleshoe Ranch on 2/5/07. No questions asked. Call (432)553-5997.

FOUND RAT Terrier mixed on Gail Hwy. Call 263-4133 to identify.

LOST IN North 87 area, Toy Fox Terrier, black and white male, approx 10 lbs. Wearing brown collar. Call 432-264-0056.

Miscellaneous

\$199. KING/ Cal King Pillow-Top mattress set. In plastic, warranty. (806)549-3110

A BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set. Sacrifice \$175.00. In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. 432-349-4043.

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

A NASA MEMORY FOAM Mattress Set. List \$1399.00 Sacrifice \$350.00. Conforms to body. New in plastic. 432-349-4043.

A NEW CHERRY Sleigh bed \$259.00. Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

A QUEEN PILLOW TOP/ Orthopedic mattress set. Brand new. Sell \$175. (806)549-3110.

ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! Solid wood cherry sleigh bed. Came from manufacturer. Must forfeit. \$259.00 (806)548-3110.

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

CHERRY DINING room table, chairs, china cabinet, Boxed at factory. Sacrificed \$599. (806)549-3110.

DEMO- 5 to 6 person Hot-Tub \$79.00 a month. Delivery/Financing. 432-563-3108.

FULL MATTRESS and box \$129. Twin mattress set \$99. Brand Name, in plastic. (806)4549-3110.

MCKINNEY FUNDING GROUPS, INC. Pays cash for owner-financed mortgages. Professional service/fast-closing. Call anytime 800-816-7066 or visit www.mckinneyfundinggroup.com

MEMORY FOAM mattress set. Conforms to body. \$399. Never used. In plastic. (806)549-3110.

MICROFIBER SOFA, loveseat, & coffee table set. Stain resistant. NEW, lifetime warranty, \$489. (806)549-3110.

ONE A DAY Slim body/fat walle/energy FREE sign-up and sample www.celebritiesdiet.com/slenderness

SPECIAL REDUCTION- 8x8 and 8x10 Display/ Demo Buildings. Will Deliver. 432-563-3108.

Pets

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

ENGLISH POINTER, registered. 5 months old. All shots. \$350.00. Wanted chain link dog kennel. Call 832-233-4873.

YORKIE FOR Sale: Health guaranteed, shipping is available, delivery. Contact for more information: petsbreed01@yahoo.com

Real Estate for Rent

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

YESTERDAYS ELEGANCE, today's modern. 1 bedroom plus upstairs studio. Near post office. \$285. Nonsmoking, no pets. Credit qualification. McDonald (432)263-7615 or 263-4835.

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

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

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

Real Estate for Rent

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
• Swimming Pool
• Private Patios
• Carports
• Appliances
• Most Utilities Paid
• Senior Citizens Discount
• 1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
800 W. Marcy Drive
263-5555 267-5444

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid.
Senior Citizen Discounts
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444 263-5555

South Plains Apts
Efficiency, 1 & 2 Bdrms
New Appliances & Fixtures
Dish Network w/300+ Channels incl 34 Latino
Hi-Speed Wireless Internet
Picnic/BBQ Area
New Laundry & Vending
Ask about our Move-In Special!
3304 W Hwy. 80
(432) 714-4840

1608 SUNSET. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard. Newly Remodeled. \$410.00 Month, \$295.00 deposit. Call 432-263-8005 or 816-1330.

407 East 8th- 1/1 bath. Stove & refrigerator. \$275. month, \$175. deposit. CH/A. No HUD and no pets. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

712 GOLIAD. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$550. month, +deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

MIDWAY AREA. Two bedroom, one bath mobile home, private lot. Water & gas paid. (432)267-5952.

NICE 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home for rent or sale, in Coahoma School District. Call (432)263-2345.

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.

2600 CARLETON, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Central H/A, clean, new fence, & covered carport. Corner lot, quiet neighborhood, a must see. Call (432)213-2681 or 213-2688 for more info.

FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$41,200! Spacious Must See! For listing Call 800-544-6258 ext F906.

HOUSE for RENT/SALE- 1501 Hilltop. 3 Bed, 1 bath, \$600 m. deposit. Water included. Call (432)264-3976.

HOUSE to be moved. 3 bedroom 1 bath, brick. Call (432) 393-5517.

MOBILE HOME, 2 year old doublewide, great area, carport, storage buildings, hot-tub. Excellent condition! Owner transferring, priced for quick sale! Serious inquires only! (432)213-3235, (432)213-0917.

OWNER FINANCE, \$4000 down. Four to choose from. Call (432) 264-9907.

OWNER FINANCE. Newly remodeled two bedroom, one bath, corner lot. 1400 Mesa, Big Spring. Low down, low monthly. (432)556-7829. Se Habla Espanol.

REDUCED \$41,000.00. Nice 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, fireplace with CH/A. Call (432)268-1375 for appointment.

BASIC energy services
NOW HIRING
Due to our growth, we have a continuing need in our Big Spring field office for:
Rig Hands, Derrick Hands, Floor Hands & Operators
We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service, and paid holidays.
To learn more about specific opportunities, visit our Big Spring location at: Basic Energy Services 2206 North Highway 87 Big Spring, Texas 79721
EOE M/F/D/V Drug Free Environment

\$400 TO \$1,000 PROFIT PER MONTH

I've got a demanding boss. Me.
But the rewards are great! I work for myself and make a good living. I take responsibility for my performance - it's all up to me. A lot of people depend on me, and I wouldn't have it any other way.
Contracts are available now for motor route carriers. For information, call 432-263-7331.
BIG SPRING HERALD

NOW HIRING
Part-time Mail Room
Position demands standing in one pace for long periods of time and fast hand/eye coordination.
Must be able to work Saturday afternoons
Apply in person at 710 scurry
BIG SPRING HERALD

Real Estate for Rent
OWNER from \$400 of only 5 Open Sunday P.M. tou bad thing people. S track. S full home For a able. Ca or pick Texas A
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Real Estate for Sale

OWNER FINANCING- Homes from \$49,900. Down payments of only 5%. Open for Inspection- Every Sunday in February, 12 P.M.-5 P.M. tough credit OK. We know bad things can happen to good people. Get your credit back on track. Stop renting and enjoy full home ownership. For a listing of homes available. Call 432-887-2696, ext. 4, or pick up a list at 1611 W. Texas Ave., Midland.

Services Offered

HOW WOULD you like to decorate our home with high quality accessories for FREE!?! Call today and book your Home & Garden Party and I'll show you how! Host a party before 16th February and receive ANY item in the catalogue for only \$19.50! This is an opportunity you don't want to miss. Call Victoria at 432-264-6588 for more information.

RON'S HANDYMAN Roof Repair, don't replace it, fix it. 17 years exp. Please leave message if no answer (432)395-9486 or email: edwaw8@aol.com

Vehicles

Several New 2006 Models To Choose From
Huge Discounts!

Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 11th 267-7424

1988 MERCURY Cougar, V-6, 3.5L, white, 2-doors, auto, good running. \$1,200. Call (432)267-1962.

2002 MERCURY Villager Estate mini van. All power, one owner, garaged, leather, six disc CD, rear entertainment system. 49,000 miles. \$11,900. Call (432)270-2463 or 267-2463.

2002 Z71 Chevrolet Suburban, white with tan leather, 4x4 in great condition. Call 432-213-4647.

WANTED USED Gooseneck trailer. 20,000 GVW. Call Gary 209-606-3094.

Legals

AMERICAN SELF STORAGE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Self Storage which is located at 3314 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Saturday, February 17, 2007, at American Self Storage. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property may be sold item by item or in batches, or by the space. All sales are subject to Texas State Sales Tax. Sale is on the contents of:
Tenant: Patrick Gonzales
Consisting of: Miscellaneous items
#5224 February 2 & 9, 2007

PUBLIC NOTICE
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals until 4:00 P.M., February 20, 2007, on the following:
Cross Country Supplies
Volleyball Supplies
Football Supplies

Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office located at 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on March 8, 2007, at 5:15 P.M. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
#5226 February 2 & 9, 2007

AMERICAN SELF STORAGE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Self Storage which is located at 3314 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Saturday, February 17, 2007, at American Self Storage. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property may be sold item by item or in batches, or by the space. All sales are subject to Texas State Sales Tax. Sale is on the contents of:
Tenant: Lane Corley
Consisting of: Miscellaneous items
Tenant: Jennie Nix
Consisting of: Household items
Tenant: Stephanie Johnson
Consisting of: New bathroom fixtures, sink & cabinets
Tenant: Michelle Futrelle
Consisting of: Networking equipment
Tenant: Deborah Jones
Consisting of: Miscellaneous items
#5227 February 9 & 16, 2007

Do you have a service to offer? Place your ad in the Herald Classified Professional Service Directory Call 263-7331 Today!

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Just when we think we have it all figured out, the Scorpio moon intrigues us with the ongoing mystery that is life. Those who quest to know what's beneath the surface, what motivates an action and how things work on the inside will be rewarded with fresh insights. But these insights only lead to more questions.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The concept of surrender continues to be a theme. A key relationship is growing in power, practically absorbing you. It's safe to let go for a minute — see where this takes you if you don't resist.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Discern the people you should be doing business with from the ones who will waste your time. In a hundred small ways, you're being tipped off as to how someone will act in the future. Heed the signs.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Package deals are featured. While trying to grab an opportunity, you

could accidentally grab something not so opportune. There will be time later to remedy the situation. For now, go with it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you're not thinking big enough, the universe lets you know. Like today, for instance. Nothing meets your expectations — all your expectations will be surpassed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If you feel your love isn't reciprocated, take heart. Love is never lost. It'll always return to you from somewhere — maybe not from the direction you'd like it to come, but it'll return to you from somewhere.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The stakes are raised at work. You may feel your ideology is being challenged. If you're going to put yourself on the line for an idea, make sure the idea is true. A Scorpio person helps in this matter.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). One reason you're an expert at working with others is that you communicate thoroughly. Continue in this fashion today or expect a snag. The thing about standards is that you can't assume other people share yours!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). It's hard to be good now, as life offers so many enticements! When you flee temptation, you leave breadcrumbs in your wake, just to see if temptation will find you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Understanding is the theme, both at home and work. The people you work with are diverse. You may not share someone's humor, but you can appreciate his or her cheerful effort.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The rules are clear-cut, and you have an excellent grasp of them. Matters of simple math improve your life. For instance, your burden is lessened when you divide and share it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You enjoy the company of loved ones and make the most of the time you have together. Though loved ones are not like you in obvious ways, they have core values similar to yours, and there is a strong connection.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're transformed by the people you meet — you can't help but be. You're like chemical compounds coming together to create something wildly different from what you are on your own.

FORECAST: Venus and Uranus line up to throw some cayenne spice into the romantic realm of life. Passionate emotions make this weekend hot-hot-hot.

ARIES: Your deepest connection is also your oldest one.

TAURUS: When you're near a certain person, you get a funny feeling. Is it love? Admiration? Don't worry about naming it just yet.

GEMINI: You're getting to know a new side of a loved one. An interesting conversation tonight is only the start.

CANCER: Where there's music, there should be dancing. You go first.

LEO: You can be such a flirt! It seems you're rewarded for just batting your eyes.

VIRGO: Agreeing to a request puts you in good standing with loved ones.

LIBRA: You pick up the slack when others blow it. You'll eventually be rewarded for this.

SCORPIO: A partner has an almost parental influence over you.

SAGITTARIUS: You feel responsible for someone who is not technically your responsibility — that's compassion.

CAPRICORN: Others state what you're think-

ing because you're so easy to read.

AQUARIUS: You communicate brilliantly, striking the heart of an issue.

PISCES: Your social-self is inspired. You may even throw an impromptu party.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: The feelings between Sagittarius and Libra sizzle this weekend. If meeting for the first time, they get on like a house on fire. Libra will follow Sagittarius to the ends of the earth and many places in between that Libra would never have considered exploring alone. Libra appreciates Sagittarian values and helps Sagittarius find purpose in his or her roaming.

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.

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 21-year-old college student. I focus mostly on school, which I enjoy. I have close friends I can talk to about anything. I'm also lucky to have a large, loving family. I enjoy watching sports, going to movies, shopping, going to the beach, and just about anything a girl my age enjoys.

So what's the problem? I don't have a boyfriend. I don't see it as a problem, but others do. I wouldn't mind meeting a nice guy, but I'm not actively searching. I feel I will find him eventually. However, I am continually pressured by family and friends of my parents to find a boyfriend. I am constantly asked if I have a boyfriend, and when I politely say no, they ask why not, like there's something wrong with me.

Once people find out I'm unattached, they immediately try to find someone for me. They mention guys they know, guys sitting in the next booth at the restaurant, a cute guy they saw at the mall, etc. I appreciate the thought, but I don't need the help. I know a lot of nice guys,



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

but haven't felt compelled to date any of them. What can I say to these well-meaning but nosy people without seeming rude? — Happy But Annoyed in Florida

Dear Happy: We understand your frustration, and we don't want to join the nagging crowd, but guys are not going to fall into your lap. If you don't "actively search," they are harder to find, especially if you don't display any interest. And you will never find as many single men to choose from as when you're in college. We don't want you to have regrets down the road. OK, we're done with the lecture now. If you

don't want to be fixed up or pestered about dating, simply tell people, "Thanks. I'll let you know when I'm interested." Beyond that, ignore them.

Dear Annie: Please help settle a minor dispute that has arisen in our family over the proper protocol for inviting relatives to informal gatherings.

Whenever an occasion comes up, I call my brother to invite him and his family, and I call my father to invite him and his wife. My husband calls his brother and his aunt to invite them.

Recently, my father informed me that this is not correct. He insists the only proper way to extend an invitation is for me to call his wife directly, as well as my sister-in-law and my husband's aunt, because the hostess is responsible for inviting the other "women of the household."

I honestly never heard of such a thing. I have never been accused of having bad manners and want to do the right thing. — Minding My Manners in Massachusetts

Dear Manners: Your father is wrong. Invitations are often

extended to female relatives because women tend to be the ones in charge of the social calendar, but there is no rule to that effect. However, it's possible your father's wife prefers that you contact her directly, in which case, try to accommodate her.

Dear Annie: I have a dear friend who comes across "as bitter and angry." Nola can be judgmental and a real downer. The mutual friends who introduced us are no longer interested in spending time with her. As a result, when we all get together, she is excluded. I keep this from her so her feelings aren't hurt.

What's the best way to discuss her obvious unhappiness and how her negativity pushes people away without her taking it as an attack? Nola reads your column, so please sign this — Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: Invite Nola over and tell her you value her friendship and you know she probably is not aware how she comes off to others. Ask her if she's depressed, and if so, suggest she seek counseling. Otherwise, make it

clear that her negative attitude is making her life more difficult than it needs to be.

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.

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ANSWERS

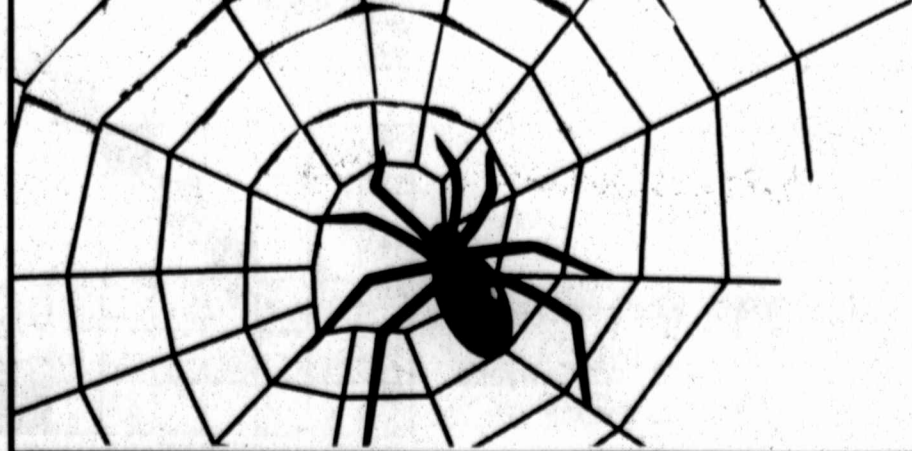
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The Spider

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

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

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



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.

Call today

(432) 263-7331

FRIDAY

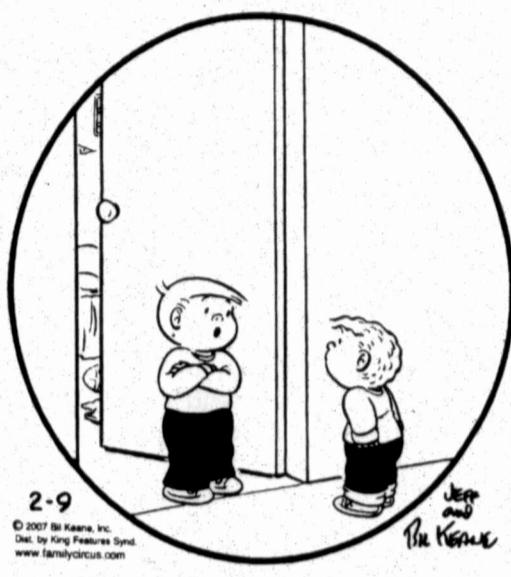
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6	PM News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Duelo de Pasiones	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Entertainment	Vida de Blanco	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Man vs. Wild (CC)	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene Investg	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Hotwired	Han: Montana Zack & Cody	Kickboxing: ISKA	NBA	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
7	PM Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	La Faa Mas Bella	Nanny 911 (CC)	Ghost Whisperer	Marina	1 vs. 100 (CC)	Movie: My Best Friends	Update/Israel Alan Granger	Wash. Week NOW (CC)	Futureweapors (CC)	Movie: North to Alaska	CSI: Crime Scene Investg	Movie: The Grudge (CC)	Movie: Tupac Shakur: Thug	Han: Montana Cory in House	Kickboxing: ISKA	NBA Basketball	Special Unit 2 (CC)
8	PM Brothers & Sisters (CC)	Brothers & Sisters (CC)	Mundo de Fieras	Trading Spouses	Close to Home (CC)	Amor Mio Amor Mio	Las Vegas (CC)	Wedding (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Ballroom Chal	Futureweapors (CC)	Movie: Most Amazing Videos	CSI: Crime Scene Investg	Movie: The Grudge (CC)	Comicview (CC)	Kim Possible: So the Drama	Boxing: Friday Night Fights (CC)	Miami Heat at Cleveland	Special Unit 2 (CC)
9	PM News (CC)	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noti-Telemundo Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Sign Off	Jeremiah Johnson	Wild World MXX	Movie: I Know What You Did Last Summer (CC)	Movie: In Living Color	Kim Possible Proud Family Sister, Sister	Kim Possible	SportsCenter (CC)	Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Golden State Warriors	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
10	PM The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Incognito	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	12 Corazones /Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night	Conan O'Brien Update/Israel CCM Ministries	12:15 Movie: The Net	Update/Israel CCM Ministries	Futureweapors (CC)	Movie: The Exorcist III	Game Head Inside the UFC	BET After Dark (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister	NASCAR Now Strongest Man	Gamenight NFL Live	SportsCenter (CC)	John Doe (CC)
11	AM Live (CC)	Mercury Media	Guereja y Algo																
12	AM News (CC)																		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"By the way, don't hesitate to be a stranger."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"You can't come in my room without a warrant."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



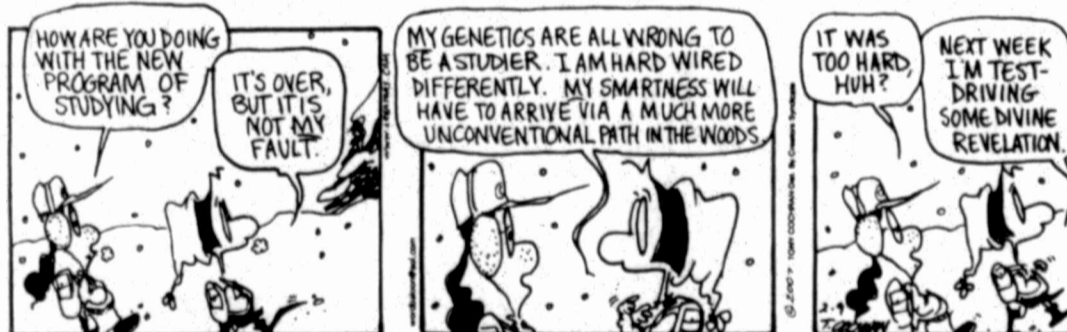
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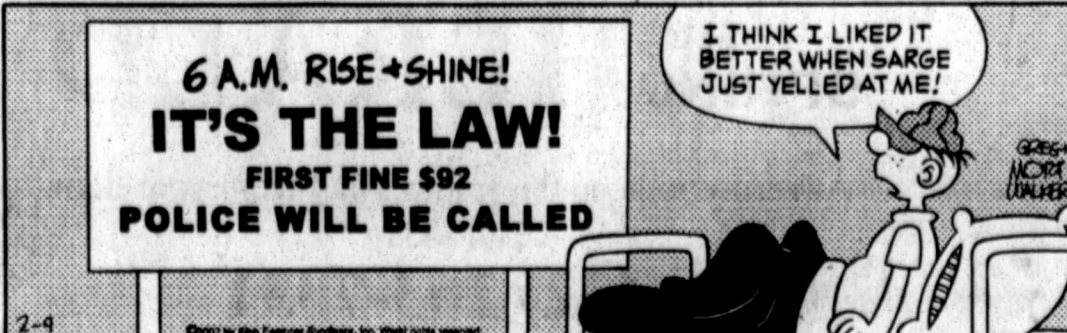
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Feb. 9, the 40th day of 2007. There are 325 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

- On Feb. 9, 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an Allied victory over Japanese forces.
- On this date: In 1773, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison, was born in Charles City County, Va.
- In 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.
- In 1861, Jefferson Davis was elected the provisional president of the Confederate States of America.
- In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau was established.
- In 1942, daylight-saving "War Time" went into effect in the United States, with

clocks turned one hour forward.

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, W. Va., Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., charged that the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1971, the crew of Apollo 14 returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

In 1984, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov died at age 69, less than 15 months after succeeding Leonid Brezhnev; he was succeeded by Konstantin U. Chernenko.

In 2001, a U.S. Navy submarine collided with a Japanese fishing boat off the Hawaiian coast, killing nine men and boys aboard the boat.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Kathryn Grayson is 85. Television journalist Roger Mudd is 79. Actress Janet Suzman is 68. Actress-politician Sheila James Kuehl ("The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis") is 66. Singer-songwriter Carole King is 65. Actor Joe Pesci is 64. Singer Barbara Lewis is 64. Author Alice Walker is 63. Actress

Mia Farrow is 62. Singer Joe Ely is 60. Actress Judith Light is 58. Rhythm-and-blues musician Dennis "DT" Thomas (Kool & the Gang) is 56. Actor Charles Shaughnessy is 52. Country singer Travis Tritt is 44. Actress Julie Warner is 42. Country singer Danni Leigh is 37. Actor Jason George is 35. Actor-producer Charlie Day is 31. Actress Ziyi Zhang is 28. Actor David Gallagher is 22. Actress Marina Malota is 19. Actress Camille Winbush ("The Bernie Mac Show") is 17.

Thought for Today: "If your neighbor is an early riser, you will become one."

— Albanian proverb.

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Answer to previous puzzle

ALISON	OUZO	WEB
TENURE	UNIT	OAR
BADGER	STATE	EVA
ASIA	DUG	ILLBET
THARP	ERA	LEE
RIDESHOTGUN		
ANSWER	WIE	SOSA
NOTE	PAD	TRAINER
OMEN	TUG	ORNERY
NEEDLE	POINT	
LIU	END	SMUTS
EBBEYS	ELS	AREA
ALL	HARRY	MORGAN
TAU	OMNI	ONDECK
SHE	REAL	GETISHA

Newsday Crossword

DOWN THE LANE by Raymond Hamel
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Measure of micrograms, maybe
 - 5 In theory
 - 12 Attribute (to)
 - 15 1971 King Floyd tune
 - 16 Devil's Dictionary author
 - 17 Character in Chinese, e.g.
 - 18 Equipment used by 4 Down
 - 20 Letters with 6
 - 21 En route via liner
 - 22 With no guarantee
 - 23 Nectar source
 - 24 '50s sitcom sidekick
 - 27 Giant ranch
 - 28 Attach, in a way
 - 29 He introduced chocolate to Spain
 - 30 Composer of ten symphonies
 - 32 Rubbed raw
 - 33 Traveled on a lake, maybe
 - 34 Same Time, Next Year playwright
 - 35 Continuously
 - 36 Coveted statuette
 - 39 FBI, for one
 - 40 One with visions
 - 41 General chicken
 - 43 Tom Sawyer's half-brother
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of Fred's yell
 - 2 Of no use
 - 3 Prepared, as tomatoes
 - 4 Pro athlete with 41 career titles
 - 5 Decree
 - 6 Year-end songs
 - 7 Tournament grouping
 - 8 MLB stat
 - 9 Fill the nooks and crannies of
 - 10 Effused
 - 11 Suckerfish
 - 13 Third-century starter
 - 14 Chicken Little's mother
 - 15 Cocktail with an onion
 - 19 Mangrove predator
 - 23 Ideal outcome for 4 Down
 - 25 Readied, as an alley
 - 26 Beatty's Reds role
 - 27 Bump sites
 - 29 First Asian-American Cabinet member
 - 30 Flugelhorn virtuoso
 - 31 Stand-up bit
 - 32 Convenience-store employee
 - 33 Biked without pedaling
 - 34 Midwest leaders
 - 36 Three-line stanza
 - 37 Tone deafness
 - 38 Maze paths
 - 40 Fence crossing
 - 42 Stand-up bit
 - 44 Tu-144s, e.g.
 - 45 UN currency org.
 - 46 Modern, in Munich
 - 48 Laotian money

