

BIG
SPRING

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

FRIDAY

December 12, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 27°-29° TOMORROW 51°-53°

BRIEFLY

Holiday contest

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is holding a Christmas Decorating Contest. Categories are residential and commercial, and include religious, lights, original and others. Judging will be held Dec. 16. Inside judging will begin at mid-afternoon; other judging will be held after dark. Entries must be made at the chamber, 215 W. Third.

GIVING



Each day through the holiday season, the *Herald* will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate. If your organization has an established program to help others and would like to be included in this list, call Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.

Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Herald (seniors)
- Gale's Sweet Shop
- Big Spring Mall
- Wal-Mart

Salvation Army Kettles:

- Post Office
- Wal-Mart
- Big Spring Mall
- Rip Griffin's Truck

Stop Giving Tree

- Wells Fargo Bank
- Western National Bank

Herald Toy Drive

- Big Spring Herald
- Canned Food Drive
- Big Spring Herald

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Vol. 100, No. 23

Find us online at:

www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Educators get a break from annual evaluations

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District teachers and principals may feel a little relief from the yearly evaluation process.

According to Superintendent Michael Downes, the Texas legislature passed new changes in the last session which allow teachers who meet the qualifications to be evaluated once every five years instead of annually.

During the BSISD Board of Trustees meeting Thursday night, Downes presented policy changes to reflect the new legislation.

"We're proposing they be evaluated once

"We're proposing they be evaluated once every third year."

Michael Downes,
BSISD superintendent



every third year," Downes said. "They have to have at least five years of experience, two of those in the district. They must have achieved at least a proficient rating on those two years of their evaluation."

Also, the teachers must not be on a proba-

tionary contract or district permit, they must be teaching in their certified area and be certified by the state board.

The district will not accept evaluations from outside the district, Downes added.

"Both policies that we're suggesting also include a clause that says the principal or the teacher can request that they be appraised," he said.

The state changes do not lessen the responsibility of evaluating administrators and paraprofessionals, Downes added.

"This is only for teachers," he emphasized.

See BSISD, Page 8A

TRIAL

Defendant receives probation in child sexual assault case

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Two years of pain and anguish came to a close in 118th District Court Thursday, as 23-year-old Benjamin Edward Moore was found guilty on three counts of sexual assault of a child.

The verdict, which came from the nine women and three men on the jury, was presented to the court after less than 30 minutes of deliberation, and came with little shock to the defense.

"From the jury's perspective, it was a difficult case because the law in the state of Texas says if you have sex with a girl under 17 years of age that you are guilty of sexual assault," said Defense Attorney Tim Yeats. "The jury didn't have a choice, honestly, and I respect that. It's a hard decision to make."

See TRIAL, Page 3A

Sparks says he's ready to meet challenges facing Senate District 31

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Midland businessman Don Sparks was in Big Spring Thursday making a campaign stop on his race for the Texas Senate District 31 seat.

"I believe this district desires a common sense conservative who can fight for the interest of our district in Austin, so today I am officially announcing my candidacy for the Texas State Senate," Sparks told a small gathering of friends, family and interested onlookers at the Howard County Library.

Sparks is one of five men who have announced their intention to run in the Jan. 20 election to fill the seat held by Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo.

Bivins, who has been nominated as the United States ambassador to Sweden, is resigning effective Jan. 12.

As a Navy veteran who served both as an enlisted man and an officer in the 1960s, Sparks said making sure veterans receive their entitled services is a priority.

See SPARKS, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Marsha Allen

A trio of Christmas trees dominates the grand room of the John and Cynthia Marshall residence, one of three homes on the Big Spring Tour of Homes, which will be held Sunday afternoon. The Big Spring Symphony Guild is sponsoring the event.

Tour of Homes blends elegance with some lighthearted enjoyment

By MARSHA ALLEN

Lifestyle Editor

Christmas is a glorious season. The more decorating one displays, the better. It's a season to be overindulged with dazzling tinsel and lavish, lucent lighting. It is an opportunity to decorate demurely or sumptuously.

Big Spring's Tour of Homes this year embellishes the season's decorating traditions with elegant, discerning and

The tour of homes is from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets, at \$10 each, are available at various locations in Big Spring.

lighthearted decor.

Three Big Spring household owners have volunteered for the tour this year. Households of Eddie and Vicki Cole,

Morris and Sandra Rhodes and John and Cynthia Marshall will open their festive doors to holiday guests for cozy journeys through their domiciles which are filled with surprise decorating ideas and lavish seasonal accentuations.

Already printed Tour of Homes tickets indicate a tour of the Bill and Kelly

See TOUR, Page 3A

Air terminal invites the public to celebrate 100 years of flight

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

Children and children at heart, aviators, history buffs and anyone who just likes to have fun is invited to the Big Spring Air Terminal on Saturday to help celebrate 100 years of powered flight.

To commemorate the Wright brothers' historic flight, the terminal will be hosting static aircraft displays, demonstrations of

the weather system and a special video.

Free hot dogs and soft drinks will be available until they run out.

"We're going to have fire trucks out here. McGruff, the crime dog, will be here as well," said Sheryl Harbour, airport secretary. "We'll have airplanes that people can look over. They can learn about the Wright

See FLIGHT, Page 8A

Mall will feature Santa, sales in 'shop at home' promotion

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Santa will be back in Big Spring on Saturday, courtesy of the fire department, as the Big Spring Mall celebrates the holidays.

"We're going to have events going on all day," said Mall Manager Kathy Lusk. "Radio personality Tumbleweed Smith will be here selling his new CD. We'll have extra booths set up along the mall that will be sell-

ing craft items and art. Our merchants will be having sales. You can spend the whole day here, or at least half a day."

The purpose for the event, Lusk said, is to encourage patronage of the mall's more than 20 merchants and to encourage residents to shop Big Spring first.

"We'd like people to consider our local merchants first in their shopping needs," she added.

See MALL, Page 8A

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She was "Granny" to Kevin and Nathalie McDonald of San Antonio; Greg and Apryl McDonald of San Angelo; Nicole and Chance Blythe of Waxahachie; Jena and Bill Price of Lampasas; Will and Wesley Davis of Abilene; Heath and Erin Hughes of Sterling City.

Big Spring, Texas
HENRY BACKES



BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

Continued from Pa

"As a small man who is involved in both farming and energy business

Continued from Page 1

In the Rhodes lighting is a cond Rhodes has emphasize areas of her he exquisitely has d with floral arran which include son's favorites, tias. In a foyer, in a large glass ceiling window, poly Santa form v guests to view t fish pond nestle patio respite just the window

ADDRESS

BIG SPRING HERALD

www.bigspringherald.com

Reflecting A Proud Community

432-263-7331
(Main switchboard)

432-263-7335
(Circulation calls only)

(Fax) 432-264-7205

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$6.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

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DUNLA
Your Fashion
Headquarter
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CORRECT
NOTICE

In the Sears advertisement in the 12/13, 12/14, and 12/20, the local players have sold beyond quantities and may be out of stock at local Sears stores: #57123 At Koss, and #57143 Koss. We customer orders for these as advertised, however we anted delivery before. Additionally, the following have sold out and will no longer be for sale: #222657 At Karasota, and #53616 HP DiBurdie. These were a special purchase by Sears and available while quantities last.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may caused our customers.

SEARS
Good Will Great Price

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

Howard County Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr said the message the jury sent with its verdict was clear. "The defendant was confronted with a situation in which he was told by the court, in its charge, that the fact that he didn't know the victim was under 17 years old didn't matter," said Orr. "It's not a defense... I think if there's something the general public would want to take away from this case, it's that a young lady who's under age is under age. She cannot consent, and the fact that the defendant didn't know that, or didn't want to know that, simply doesn't matter."

Moore's conviction

came following testimony from several law enforcement officers and a DNA analyst from the Department of Public Safety's laboratory in Lubbock, as well as the victim herself.

The victim, a 15-year-old high school sophomore at the time of the crime, took the stand for the prosecution early in the proceedings, recounting the night she was assaulted.

"I was in bed, and I felt someone turn me over," she told the court. "He told me to be quiet. I was scared and shocked. He had his hand over my mouth, then he removed my clothes."

She went on to explain the various sex acts she was forced to perform, and the things that he said to her.

"He told me he enjoyed what he was doing," she

said. "When it was over he told me not to say anything. He told me that he would be back... I was scared. I was shocked."

DPS Criminologist Angelina Reeves testified as to the results of a rape kit that was performed on the victim, with the exact nature of the DNA evidence striking an early blow for the prosecution.

"The DNA profile from the swab from the kit matches that of a sample taken from Benjamin Moore," she said. "In comparison, if you picked a man at random from a group of black men, you would have a one in 19.4 quintillion chance of finding a match. I can say with certainty that the semen sample recovered from the victim is a match with the DNA samples taken from the defendant."

Moore took the stand in

his own defense, telling a different story.

"She never told me to stop," said Moore. "She raised the blinds and even helped me in the window. She told me it was OK for me to come in. She had told me to come over earlier that day, and told me which window was hers."

Several character witnesses testified following the guilt-or-innocence phase of the trial as the jury prepared to decide the sentence. Sexual assault of a child is a second-degree felony and carries a punishment range between two and 20 years, as well as a possible fine not to exceed \$10,000.

"I didn't rape nobody and I got to go to jail for it?" Moore asked the jury through a steady stream of tears. "It ain't right. It just ain't right."

Also testifying during the punishment phase

was Chris Moore, the defendant's mother, and Chad Warren, his best friend.

It took the jury less than 30 minutes to come back with a sentence of two years probation and no fine.

"Going into this we had hoped that the jury would consider all of the facts and circumstances and if he was found guilty, to return the minimum punishment, and that's what they did," said Yeats. "For that we are certainly pleased and relieved."

"Juries have a terribly difficult job in making a decision in cases like this," said Orr. "Naturally I would have preferred that they sentence the defendant to time in the penitentiary. I have to believe that the people that served on this jury did their very best to weigh the evidence and

all of the circumstances that they had before them. As personally disappointed that I might be, I certainly can't quarrel with their verdict."

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson
267-8288

Mattie Taylor, 68, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 4:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

RITZ
401 S. Main 263-7480
Movie Hot Line: 263-2479
For Showtimes For Friday
Admission Adults: \$7.00
Child, Senior & Matinee: \$4.50
NEW DIGITAL PROJECTION
*Stuck On You (PG-13)
Daily: 7:00 & 9:30 Wed - Sun: 4:30
Gothika (R)
Daily: 7:10 & 9:30 Sat. & Sun: 4:40
*Pass Restricted

CINEMA 4
*Something Gotta Give (PG-13)
Daily: 4:40 & 7:10
Sat. & Sun: 2:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:40
*Haunted Mansion (PG)
Daily: 5:10 & 7:30
Sat. & Sun: 2:30 Fri. & Sat. 9:20
*Last Samurai (R)
Daily: 7:00 Sat. & Sun: 2:00
*Bad Santa (R)
Daily: 5:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:50
*Love Don't Cost A Thing (PG-13)
Daily: 7:20 Sat. & Sun: 2:20
*Honey (PG-13)
Daily: 4:50 Fri. & Sat. 9:30
STAR THEATRE
Under New Management
263-2300
ADULTS: \$6.00
\$3.50 ALL MATINEES,
CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS
*PASS RESTRICTED

SPARKS

Continued from Page 1A

"We've got to be sure that we provide the needs of the men and the women who are willing to put their lives on the line for this country and help provide the freedoms that we have," he said. "We can never forget the sacrifices that they and their families make. I am very interested to see that is done."

The District 31 seat race will boil down to choosing the candidate with the best qualifications, philosophy and background, Sparks said.

"As a small businessman who is involved in both farming and the energy business, I have

deep roots in both the northern and southern parts of the district," said Sparks, an Amarillo High School graduate. "I'm a West Texas conservative who believes in our bedrock values of faith, family and freedom which I learned as a boy in the Panhandle of Texas and obviously those values also exist in the Permian Basin."

The cornerstone of the West Texas economy — farming, ranching, oil and gas and small business — must be protected while the area searches for innovative ideas to revitalize the economy, Sparks said.

"As one who still manages the Sherman County family farm in the Panhandle, I've plowed, planted and harvest on

that farm," he said. "I understand the challenges faced by the farmers in our district. As a businessman, I started my first company with little more than a loan and a prayer. I know the challenges of meeting a payroll. I've felt the sting of government regulation and an every increasing tax bracket."

If elected, one of the first issues Sparks will face is a possible session to revamp school financing, an issue expected to be hotly debated.

"I strongly support our public school system. I am a product of public schools and for the sake of my grandchildren and your grandchildren we must find a fair and equitable solution," he said. "There are lots of ideas

being floated in terms of how we find equity in education and we'd better send someone to office who can defend the interests of our region."

"Let me make this perfectly clear. I don't care if they say the money will go directly to our schools, I will never support a state income tax and will fight those who do."

Other candidates who have announced they are seeking Bivin's post are Odessa businessmen Bob Barnes and Kirk Edwards, Midland Mayor Mike Cannon and former Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger.

Candidates who plan to run for the seat must file their applications with the Secretary of State no later than Monday, Dec. 22.

Early voting for the election begins Monday, Jan. 5, and continues through Friday, Jan. 16.

Contact Staff Writer
Lyndel Moody at 263-7331,
ext. 234, or by e-mail at
newsdesk@crcom.net

STAR THEATRE
College Park Shopping Center
263-2300
Matinee \$1.50 Evenings \$2.00
CAT IN THE HAT (PG)
Fri.: 5:30
Sat.: 2:10 4:00
THE MISSING (R)
Fri.: 7:20 9:30
Sat.: 7:20 9:30
ELF (PG)
Fri.: 5:15 7:15 9:20
Sat.: 2:20 4:30 7:15 9:20
**OPEN ALL
THRU CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAYS!!**

TOUR

Continued from Page 1A

Beauchamp house will be held, but due to a death in the family that portion of the tour will not be available.

In the Cole home will be seen delightful, light-hearted Christmas decor including a train set in an upstairs children's room. Vicki Cole is a collector of Santa Claus styles. Throughout the house are tucked small and large renditions of Santas in attires ranging from modern to earlier, original fashions of Gothic Santas known in Scandinavia as Kris Kringles. She said she has 80 Santa interpretations.

In the Rhodes dwelling lighting is a concept Mrs. Rhodes has used to emphasize particular areas of her home she exquisitely has decorated with floral arrangements which include the season's favorites, poinsettias. In a foyer, reflected in a large glass floor to ceiling window, a roly-poly Santa form welcomes guests to view the gold-fish pond nestled into a patio respite just outside the window.

In the grand room of the Marshall home stand three palatially decorated Christmas trees. They dominate the room, glimmering and gleaming as if awaiting an opportunity to dazzle a king. Mrs. Marshall's father, the Rev. Harland Birdwell, was an Episcopalian priest, the first rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Big Spring. Keeping with the influence of the Episcopal faith the Marshall's home displays noble religious statues. Along an upstairs wall are displayed crosses created in diverse designs and made from assorted materials.

The regal Christmas

home tours begin at 1:30 p.m. Sunday ending at 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Big Spring Symphony Guild sponsors the tours.

A reception will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Rannels and Eighth streets.

Tickets may be purchased at the two locations of First Bank of West Texas, Dunlap's, Faye's Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Museum and the Big Spring Symphony Guild office.

For more information, call 267-7683 or the Guild office, 264-7223.

Pizza Inn.
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Night Buffet
5:30 pm-9:30 pm
All The Pizza, Pasta, Salad &
Dessert You Can Eat.
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**CORRECTION
NOTICE**
In the Sears advertisements for 12/07, 12/13, 12/14, and 12/20, the following DVD players have sold beyond our expectations and may be out of stock in your local Sears store: #57123 Apex, #57133 Koss, and #57143 Koss. We will honor customer orders for these DVD players as advertised, however we cannot guarantee delivery before Christmas. Additionally, the following items may have sold out and will no longer be available for sale: #22967 American Idol Karaoke, and #53618 HP Digital Camera Bundle. These were a special, one time purchase by Sears and available only while quantities last.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our customers.
SEARS
Good Will. Great prices.

Saturday Night Dance 8:30-12:30
Come join the Eagles in celebrating the Christmas Season
RC Entertainment will provide the dance tunes
\$3.00
703 W. 3rd cover charge 263-6862
Eagles Bingo
Mon., Wed., Fri. 5:30 p.m. 806 E. 3rd

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year
December 12th thru December 20th
30%-50% off
All Christmas Items
Dakota's Flowers & Gifts
1110 E. 11th Place 263-8323

SANTA'S Favorite Gifts
Cherry Footstool \$149
Cherry Jewelry Armoire \$199
Cherry Planter Stand \$49
Cherry Game Table \$149
Victorian Oak Cedar Chest \$299
Cherry Jewelry/Vanity Armoire \$349
Also Accessory Items **25% OFF** Until Christmas
Elrod's Furniture
Big Spring's Oldest, Largest, Finest Furniture Store
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DECEMBER 12 2003

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.

Chuck Williams
Publisher

Susanne Reed
General Manager

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:

- The UNITED WAY OF BIG SPRING AND HOWARD COUNTY, for exceeding its goal of \$265,000 by some \$2,500. We've praised the volunteers and donors in an editorial, but the effort made was definitely good enough for an extra salute!

- BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL BAND, on a delightful Christmas concert.

- All of those who participated in the BIG SPRING HERALD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE, the judges, spectators and our employees who put it together. Thanks, everyone.

- Likewise, the many people who participated in the FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE. It's truly one of the best things going each Christmas season.

- The AMERICAN LEGION LADIES AUXILIARY, for organizing the annual gift shop in the VA Administration Hospital.

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.

LETTERS POLICY

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 jmoseley@crcom.net

How To CONTACT Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With joy and cheer, Lord, may we pray to you and thank you for all your help.

Amen

Just a few things I failed to mention

OK. Sheesh. About a half-dozen people who read my column of two weeks ago on tumbleweed hunting regulations wrote or called to say they felt like I left out some important stuff, so this an addendum, which is a fancy word for "extra stuff."

Actually, I'm mainly doing this to get Uncle Elber off my back. You all know Elber, he's the area official for TWEED, the Tumbleweed Welfare Educational Enlightenment Department.

As I pointed out, it's mating season for tumbleweeds. Well, the gestation period (another government-sized word that means "building a baby") is very short for tumbleweeds. Elber and a few other tumbleweed hunters out there thought I should have put in a warning about tumbleweeds and their newborn pups.

I personally was going to wait until after mating season, but that won't please them. So I'm doing this just to get them to leave me alone so I can get back to work and they can get back to cheating each other at dominoes and talking about the weather.

Anyway, they are concerned that because of the strong winds we've been experiencing, the possibility of tumbleweed attacks might be inflated (made to rise, as in "taxes").

Now we all know that tumbleweeds are generally pretty docile (lazy), except when they are spooked, separated from their young offspring, or, of course, when they are mating.

Fire and lightning are most likely to set a heard of tumbleweeds stampeding. While Howard County had a few pasture fires

this past summer, they had little impact on the county's tumbleweed population.

The big problem is usually strong winds, which tend to separate the younger tumbleweeds from their mothers. Tumbleweeds are very protective of their young.

And that is where the danger comes in, TWEED warns.

"Farmers and ranchers should use extreme caution during January and early February," Elber said. "Anyone who unwittingly gets between a young tumbleweed pup and its mother may be attacked."

While an attack from a Dry Plains Fence Flyer is almost never fatal, it can be extremely unnerving.

Be cautious when walking outdoors, particularly if you notice tumbleweeds about. Don't take a chance that they might be tumblebucks, who rarely stay around to care for the young.

Some old farm hands boast they can tell the difference between a male and female tumbleweed at a glance, but even experts are fooled occasionally. As more and more species blow through the area from Mexico and down from Canada, those age-old guidelines - tumbleweed females have lighter colored legs or bluer eyes - don't always hold true.

So be careful if you are out alone in a pasture.

A pickup is a safe place, but don't make the mistake of leaving your window down. Facing a frightened, angry tumbleweed in a confined space is a harrowing experience, especially if you're traveling down the road at 50 miles an hour.

Most Crossroads area folks will remember six years ago when a Great Plains Hopper and her two pups sailed through the window of Smithy Thompson's old pickup several miles southwest of Moss Creek Lake.

Smithy lost control of the truck, which went off the road, zig-zagged down two cotton rows, hurtled a terrace, rammed clean through a barn, plowed up two fences, smacked a clothes line flat and rolled over, coming to rest in a chicken coop.

The result was the loss of some \$2,967.42 in property, a half-acre row of cotton, Mrs. Johnson's dainty undergarments, six of Judge Slappy Bottoms' prize chickens, four bald tires and a Merle Haggard greatest hits cassette tape.

Smithy Thompson was almost scratched to death and Slappy claims his milk cow, Bessie, hasn't given a drop of milk since. That may not be relevant, since no one can remember Bessie actually giving milk before the accident, either.

No one was killed, unless you count the chickens.

Of course, there have been several recorded fatalities as a result of male Big Blue Jumper attacks, but to my knowledge, they have always occurred during mating season. Did I mention it's tumbleweed mating season right now? Well, I just did, so pay attention!

The best advice is to be careful. Remember, tumbleweed does rarely attack unless they feel their pups are being threatened.

One final word. In the event you are attacked, one trick is to make your arms real stiff and pump them up and down while shouting "chugga-chugga-chugga-chugga...whoooooo whooooo...chugga-chugga." It won't fool a really desperate or intelligent tumbleweed mother, but if the dust is blowing, she might just think you're a train.

Tumbleweeds are deathly afraid of trains 'ya know.

Bill McClellan is the Herald news editor. He can be reached at 263-7331, ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

Howard Dean goes for the 'Bubba' vote

If running away from problems could solve them, then Howard Dean's Southern strategy might not be so dangerous.

Dean announced this week on "Fox News Sunday" that if during this presidential campaign Democrats would stick to issues like "jobs, health care and education" and not get trapped into talking about things like "guns, God, gays, abortion and all this controversial stuff that we're not going to come to an agreement on," then the party would have a better chance of winning votes in the South.

(In his prepared remarks on this subject, Dean made more sense, but then Dean usually makes more sense in his prepared remarks.)

There is nothing new about Dean's dream. It was more than two years ago that I wrote about the Democrats Southern strategy, which I called a "high-risk attempt to attract rural voters."

"We are aggressively putting together a rural strategy," Democratic Chairman Terry McAuliffe told me back in June 2001. "Democrats are aggressively going after parts of this country that traditionally have been difficult for us."

Al Gore had won the popular vote the previous year with large margins in urban areas and came within 2 percentage points of George W. Bush in the suburbs. Bush easily carried rural America, however.

And some strategists identified a "cultural gap" between liberal, urban, Democratic America and rural, small-town Republican America. "The party that emerges victorious will figure out some way to bridge that chasm," said Stuart Rothenberg, editor of the non-partisan Rothenberg Political Report.

The trick, he said, was for each party to address its current weaknesses without sacrificing its strengths. In other words, the Democrats had to reach out to

rural voters, he said, "without risking their strength with suburban soccer moms."

That, however, is some trick.

And candidates who now advocate a headlong rush to get "NASCAR" or "Bubba" or rural voters forget that only 28 percent of the votes cast in the last election came from rural areas, while 29 percent came from urban areas and 43 percent came from the suburbs.

In the suburbs and cities, a lot of Democratic voters want to hear about protecting abortion rights and gay rights and strengthening gun control. They don't want their presidential candidates to run away from these issues - they want their candidates to stand up and fight for these issues. (And I suspect at least some rural voters feel the same way.)

One of the most significant divides between urban and rural America does come over guns, which many rural Americans tend to view as instruments of recreation and many urbanites tend to view as instruments of destruction.

And guns made a big difference in 2000, especially in some key states that Al Gore lost, like Tennessee and Arkansas. According to exit polls, some 48 percent of voters owned guns in 2000, up from 37 percent in 1996. (This did not necessarily mean that more people owned guns - it could mean rather that more gun owners went to the polls.)

Among those owning guns, 61 percent went for Bush. Among those not owning guns, 58 percent went for Gore. More significant, however, is what gun ownership did to other voting patterns: Overall, union households gave Gore 59 percent of their votes. But if there was a gun in that household, the vote was split 50-50 between Bush and Gore.

But the problem for the Democrats was not really one of guns, but of trust. When Bill Clinton advocated strong federal gun control laws, but told hunters he did not want to take their guns away, they believed him. When Al Gore said the same thing, they did not.

Terry McAuliffe's solution was

to get Democrats to stop talking about guns altogether, at least at a national level. "I believe we ought to move it out, let the individual communities decide their gun laws," he said.

Howard Dean believes in the same approach. He wants to duck the gun issue entirely. He wants to let the states decide their own gun controls laws. And, on Fox News, he applied this state's rights theory to "all this controversial social stuff," too.

It is an old dodge. If a presidential candidate wants to avoid dealing with a tough issue, he just says, "Let the states handle it." That way he doesn't have to take a position and risk offending anyone.

This was not the way Clinton approached tough problems, however. Clinton wanted to solve them. And one of his proudest political legacies was converting gun control from a from a left-wing to a mainstream issue.

Clinton did so by focusing on widely unpopular items like "cop-killer" bullets and assault weapons, and stressing that Americans needed neither for sport or protection. The issue resonated especially well with women, who rewarded Clinton in 1992 and 1996 with their votes.

Clinton could have said, "Let the states handle it." But that wouldn't have solved the problem.

You can't win over every voter on every issue. Sometimes you have to take a stand simply because it is the right thing to do. Sometimes you have to take a stand on a divisive issue in the hope that by doing the right thing, you will eventually unite people.

Howard Dean made his early reputation in this campaign by standing up and speaking out and fighting, not by ducking and weaving. He ought to remember that.

Roger Simon can be e-mailed at WriteRoger@aol.com. To find out more about Roger Simon and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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By Lyndel Moor
HERALD Staff V

Despite some technical and problems, the High School department's re-Rodger's Hammerstien's Pacific" is sure crowd pleaser.

The play, which at 7 tonight, is a romantic music South Pacific. It intertwines the romance, here racial prejudice, lowing the live military personnel island inhabitant. The product massive, unrequiring the large cast, se changes, an orchestra and of back stage te cueing up light sound.

Director Traci along with Director Reina has the difficult pulling the show through their

Tonight performance at 7 and the runs through Saturday. Ma will be held at Saturday. Sunday in the school audit 707 11th P

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'Some enchanted evening' is BSHS play production

A Herald Review

By Lyndel Moody
HERALD Staff Writer

Despite some obvious technical and timing problems, the Big Spring High School theater department's rendition of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" is sure to be a crowd pleaser.

The play, which opens at 7 tonight, is an epic, romantic musical set on a South Pacific island during World War II and intertwines the themes of romance, heroism and racial prejudice while following the lives of U.S. military personnel and island inhabitants.

The production is a massive undertaking requiring the talents of large cast, several set changes, an 11-piece orchestra and a number of back stage technicians cueing up lighting and sound.

Director Tracie Lindsey along with student Director Reina Cisneros has the difficult task of pulling the show together through their creative

Tonight's performance begins at 7 and the play runs through Saturday. Matinees will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the high school auditorium, 707 11th Place.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Some of the "South Pacific" cast members pose for a publicity shot. Pictured are from front left, Casey Moore, Tapley Holguin, Robbie Wilkinson, Brandon Herrera, back, Vicente Flores, Josh Plala, Tony Emerson and Bradley Blair. Performance times are set at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the high school auditorium, 707 11th Place. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens, and children 12 and younger is free.

vision.

Sadly, microphone issues masked what seemed to be strong vocal performances by romantic hero leads Tapley Holguin as Lt. Joe Cable and Zack Watkins as the French planter Emile De Becque.

One gem of the play is sure to be the performance of Tina Woodruff as the cockeyed optimist Nellie Forbush.

Woodruff's vocal performance of the crowd pleas-

ing "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair," along with her ensemble of female cast mates stole the show.

Throughout the play, Woodruff was able to sustain Nellie's small town, quirky character even when a slip in the talent scene almost left the ingenue on her back.

Other notable performances are Gloria Garibay's version as the enterprising, black-market vendor Bloody Mary

and the devilish rouse Luther Billis played by Tony Emerson.

During the practice, Garibay's performance was a little drowned out by the orchestra but sounded strong and mesmerizing.

If the technical crew is able to correct microphone problems, Garibay's performance of the romantic song "Bali Ha'i," just may become the show stopper of the evening.

One other notable aspect of the play is inventive scene introducing the audience to the mystical island of Bali Ha'i.

Its simplicity and again with the powerful performance by the female cast ensemble creates a romantic set up for the following love scenes between Cable and his Tonkense love interest Liat played by Stephanie Franco.

The high school's rendition of "South Pacific" looks to be a fun for the whole family, with the cast and crew interjecting an energetic feel to the play.

Hopefully a crowded theater will be the happy, entertaining evening out for the audience.

This is a fun play and deserves the support of the community.

Tonight's performance begins at 7 and the play runs through Saturday. Matinees will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the high school auditorium, 707 11th

Place. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens. Children 12 and younger will be admitted at no charge.

Life will review upcoming play production for publications in high school and college, churches or civic organizations. We prefer to review only plays which have multiple runs, and reviews will be done on dress rehearsals or opening night.

Shop gun and knife show for Christmas gifts

Texas Guns and Knife Association will sponsor a gun and knife show at Ector County Coliseum in Odessa from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 20 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 21. Collectors and exhibitors will have displays and items for sale for Christmas gifts. For more information call 830-257-5844.

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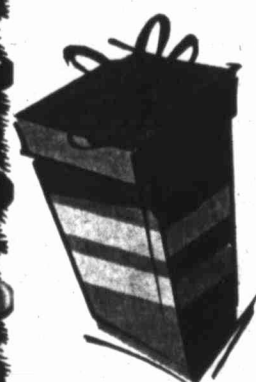
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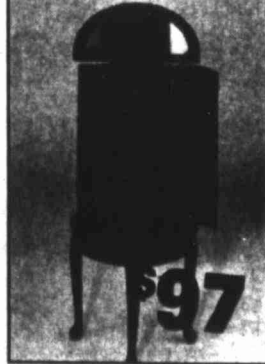
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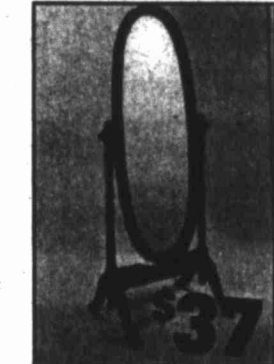
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Console & Mirror
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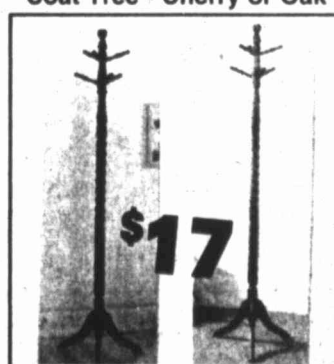
Cherry or Oak Jewelry Armoire



\$97

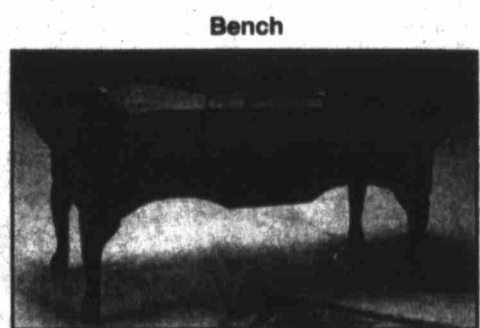


Cherry or Oak Cheval Mirror



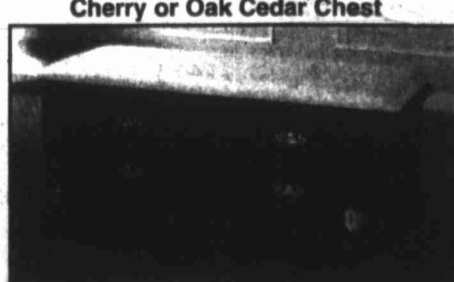
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Church news

First United Methodist Church

The third Sunday in Advent, Dec. 14, the congregation will celebrate the March to the Manger. This annual offering goes to the Methodist Children's Home, the Methodist Mission Home, and the local Salvation Army.

Dr. Dave Ring's sermon is "Jesus, Savior of the Faithful." The scriptures comes from John 3:16-17. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m., and worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Fran Ring is the featured soloist, singing "Bethlehem Morning." Noreen Bales and Joan Beil will play two selections of special music on the piano and organ.

On Saturday, three teams of carolers will sing to the elderly in the area nursing homes and senior citizen residences. Anyone wishing to sing with the carolers should meet at 3:15 p.m. in Garrett Hall.

Each Sunday during Advent, there is a baby shower for baby Jesus. Bring receiving blankets, diapers, sleepers, or other non-perishable or breakable baby items. The gifts will be donated to the pre-natal unit of MHMR.

Church youth will babysit in the Pardee Building on Saturday, Dec. 20, from noon to 4 p.m. for parents who need to go shopping. Children should bring a sack lunch and a pillow and blanket. Call Courtney Johnson for more information.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on the church or programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church

Worship at the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church, a Bible-based and family-oriented church located at 201 E. 24th Street.

Services are held at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. each Sunday and 7 p.m. each Wednesday in the fellowship hall. Elder David Machiavello is the speaker for the services.

December ladies luncheon is set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Gale's Sweet Shop. Christmas caroling is planned for the night of Dec. 22 with refreshments following at the fellowship hall. Contact Terri Machiavello at 267-7558.

The final business conference of the year will be

held immediately following the finish of morning worship service on Sunday.

Pictures have been taken and the church directory is being compiled. Any member not available during the Olan Mills photographer's visit and who have not turned in a photo should call 263-6217. The church hopes to include a picture of every member on the membership roll.

Anyone with Biblical questions or needing more information about worship services, call David Machiavello at 267-6543 or 267-7558.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Sunday school is held at 9:45 a.m.; service at 11 a.m. Sunday will be the Christmas program. Youth and leaders will be in charge of organizing. Any children and youth wish to participate are welcome.

Coahoma United Methodist Church is located at 401 N. Main.

Friends of Unity

The 18th annual World Healing Day prayer time is Dec. 31. At noon of the Greenwich time zone millions will pray at the same time for peace of God to heal our world. West Texas time is 6 a.m. The Unity Center at 100 S. Main will be open at 5:45 a.m. to be ready for this special hour in prayer and meditation. For further information, call 263-6311 or 267-8783.

Encourager's Support Group to hold Christmas party

Encourager's Support Group will meet Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. for a Christmas party. Meat entree is provided. Bring any dish to complete the dinner, and a wrapped gift not costing more than \$10 for a gift exchange. The dinner will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 7th and Runnels in Big Spring. Call 398-5522 for more information.

Berea Baptist Church

Sunday morning, Berea Baptist Church will present a Christmas program with the theme "Emmanuel, God With Us." In addition to continuing the Advent focus, the service will include readings, hymns, solos, choir specials and meditations. Following morning service will be a potluck Christmas lunch and handing out the Christmas bags for children. The day will conclude with a worship service after the meal.

Sunday morning Bible study begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 11 a.m. and includes a separate service for children ages four to nine. A nursery is available for children under age four.

Berea is located at 4204 Wesson Road. For more information or to request transportation, call 267-8438 or contact by e-mail at pdwheat@crcom.net. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

First Assembly of God

Sunday evening in the 6 p.m. service the choir will present a Christmas musical, "An Old Fashioned Christmas." Following the presentation a Christmas party will be held in the fellowship hall.

During the 10:40 a.m. service there will be special Christmas music and Pastor R.T. Havener will speak on "The Anthem That Announced Him", taken from Luke 2:14.

The public is invited. First Assembly is located at Fourth and Lancaster.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. Holy communion will be held at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

The next Inquirer's class meeting is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. The class is for those interested in learning more about the ways and teachings of the Episcopal Church and for

Episcopalians who want a refresher course.

St. Mary's second Advent Offering Concert featuring the Lone Star Brass Quintet is Thursday, Dec. 18. The concert begins at 12:05 p.m. in the church. A lunch of soup and salad will be served in the parish hall afterward.

The All Parish Christmas Caroling and Party is Friday, Dec. 19. Meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. Evening prayer is said Monday through Friday at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel. For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site, www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Living Hope Church

Living Hope welcomes anyone to be a guest this Sunday at 10 a.m. Sunday School is at 11 a.m. Nursery is provided.

Living Hope church is located at 1208 Frazier; a family for your family.

First Baptist Church

Worship at First Baptist Church this Sunday beginning with Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. followed by morning worship at 10:50 a.m. Our pastor, the Rev. Dennis Teeters' sermon is "Mary's Christmas Carol." Evening service will begin at 7 p.m. The music ministry will present "A Family Christmas." This

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presentation will include all level choirs from our preschool choir to Saints Alive Singers plus players of handbells. Share this message of Christmas with the congregation.

Baptist Temple Church

Sunday, Dec. 14 is "Ingathering Sunday" for Lottie Moon Christmas offering to Southern Baptist International Mission causes. The church goal for the offering is \$4,000. Sunday evening, at 6 p.m. the childrens choir of Baptist Temple will present a Christmas musical "Jesus Brought Us Love." There will be a cookie fellowship in the fellowship hall after the program. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come.

Baptist Temple Church

Sunday morning, Dec. 21, the adult choir will present the musical "Holy Child." There will be a candlelight Lord's Supper service at 6 p.m.

At Baptist Temple there is a Bible study class for every age group. For further information about these and other activities call the church office at

267-8287 or visit the Web site www.baptisttemplechurch.org.

College Baptist Church

Serendipity will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15 in the fellowship hall. Decorating gingerbread houses will be the special project for the evening.

Parent's Day Out, sponsored by CBC Youth, is set for Saturday, Dec. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is an opportunity for parents to spend a few hours Christmas shopping. While there is no set fee for the service, the money

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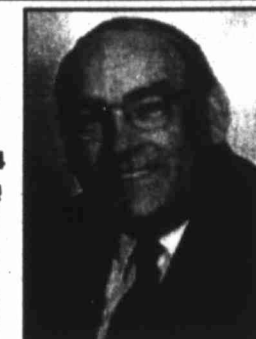
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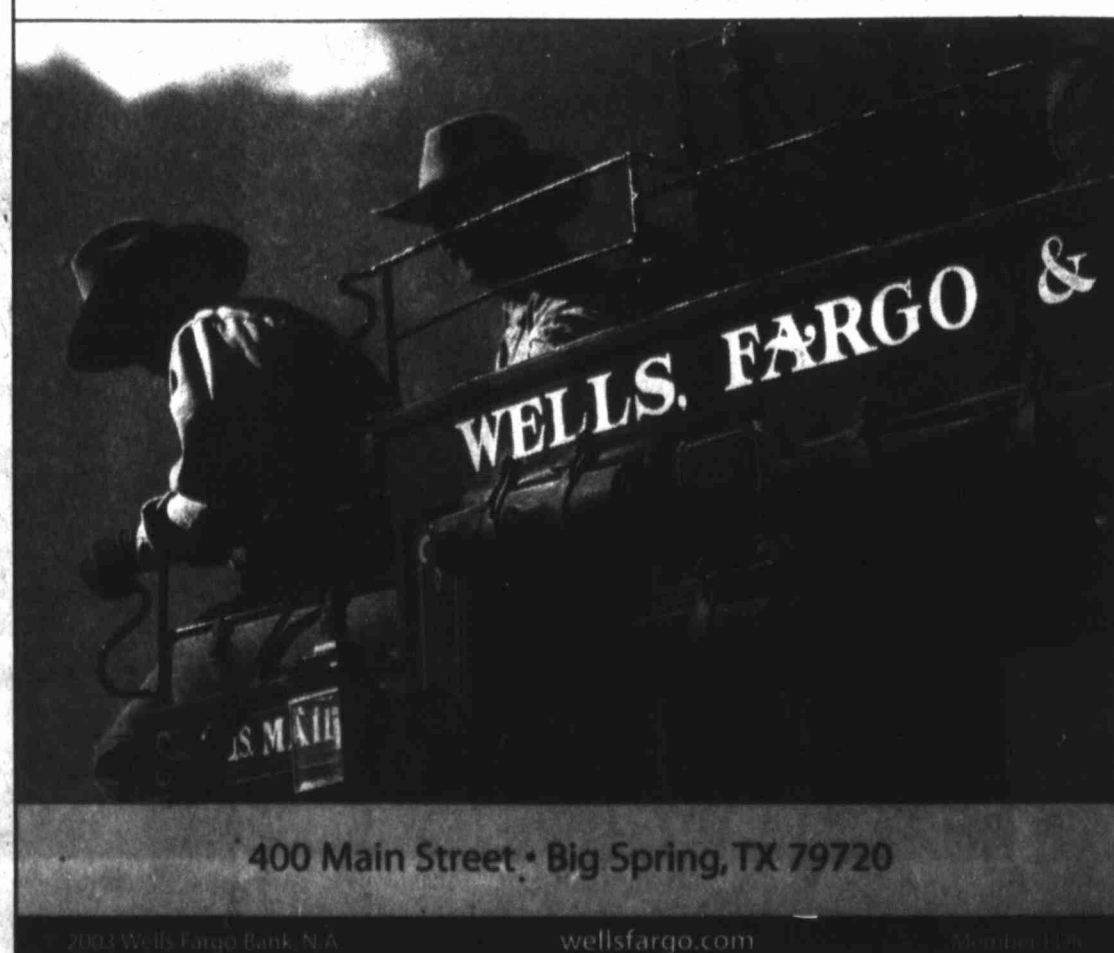
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Liberty K

What are the first three words of the United States Constitution? How long is one term of office of a member of the U.S. Senate?

Five teams of local fifth graders are hard at work learning the answers to these and 22 other questions about the Constitution.

It is all part of "Day Kids", a sponsored by the County Unit of Retired Teachers.

Students will have an opportunity to their knowledge Saturday morning at the Big Spring Office. After first permission, they adult postal patronage about the Constitution.



Celebrate and perform

SWEETWATER Celebration Singers Abilene with Dr. Martin, director, will present Christmas in 7:30 tonight at Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium.

The choir consists of approximately 55 volunteers performing a variety of styles and music. Featured include Palmer and Twila Nowell with several small ensembles. Lora Christensen, Tim and Betty Ann Blum will accompany them as they voice such as Caroling, and Little Drummer. The finale, Nativity Bethlehem, depicts the birth of Christ.

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Liberty Kids have answers

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SPECIAL
TO LIFE
JEAN
WARREN

Five teams of local fifth graders are hard at work learning the answers to these and 22 other questions about the our constitution.

It is all part of "Liberty Day Kids", a program sponsored by the Howard County Unit of Texas Retired Teachers.

Students will have an opportunity to display their knowledge on Saturday morning, Dec. 13, at the Big Spring Post Office. After first asking permission, they will ask adult postal patrons a question about the U.S. Constitution.

Each adult questioned will receive a copy of a pocket-sized booklet containing the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Participating in the event are three teams from Big Spring, one from Coahoma, and one from Elbow. The students will be wearing bright red "Liberty Day" T-shirts and will be accompanied by adult sponsors.

The five teams are sponsored by the Coahoma Lion's Club, the Sand Spring's Lion's Club, the Goliad P.T.A., and the Howard County Retired Teachers Association. Bo Fryar is "Liberty Day Kids" chairman.

Liberty Day was founded by a Lion's Club in Denver, seven years ago. Its goal is to foster understanding of our nation's founding documents. Today it is celebrated nationally.

Jean Warren is a frequent contributor to The Big Spring Herald.

Club news

Big Spring, Howard County Retired Teachers Association
The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, Dec. 15, in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. The Coahoma Kids Choir, under the direction of Sandy Wallace, will present a program of Christmas music. All retired school personnel are invited to attend the meeting. Call Jean Warren at 263-3643 for more information.

DAV to meet
The Big Spring Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will hold a special meeting of the Chapter body Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Chapter Home on the corner of 7th and Abrams streets. Business during the meeting will focus on 2004 DAV Transportation Network as it pertains to Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC). All members are encouraged to attend.



HERALD photos/Marsha Allen



The Spring City Stompers performed line dancing routines Thursday for veteran patients at the Veterans Administration Hospital. The dancing group's red and blue jean attires were accented with bells.

Above left to right, Thelma Ditto, Frances Loftis, Joy Dugan, Cleon Hanks, Dorothy Bailey, Socorro Correa, Sarah Kelley and 92-year-old Ruth Cook.

Left, the dancing girls dance to "Jingle Bell Rock". They will dance today at 2 p.m. at The Carriage Inn.



The Celebration Singers

Celebration singers to perform season's songs

SWEETWATER — The Celebration Singers of Abilene with Dr. J.G. Martin, director, will present Christmas in Song at 7:30 tonight at the Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium.

The choir consists of approximately 55 area volunteers performing a variety of styles and types of music. Featured singers include Palmer McCown, and Twila Nowell along with several small ensembles.

Lora Lynn Christensen, Tim Adcock, and Betty Ann Blackburn will accompany the choir as they voice melodies such as Caroling, Caroling and Little Drummer Boy. The finale, Nativity at Bethlehem, depicts the birth of Christ.

Celebration Singers have given concerts for many civic groups and conventions, including the Abilene Art Walk and City Lights program and Dyess Air Force Base personnel. Last year they were honored to sing at the National Convention of the American Legion in San Antonio before a crowd of more than 7,500 attendees.

Dr. Martin has served as pianist and conductor for choral performances in the United States, Europe and Asia.

Tickets can be purchased through the Sweetwater Chamber of Commerce by calling 235-5488. General admission is \$5, reserved is \$7.50. Proceeds will benefit the Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium.

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Obituaries

Sylvia Lopez

Sylvia Lopez, 42, of Chula Vista, Ca., formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 6, 2003, in California. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 15, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Big Spring with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring.

Mrs. Lopez was born on June 10, 1961, in Nebraska.

She worked in accounting most of her life. She was of the Catholic faith.

Her survivors include two sons, Ruben Juarez Jr. and Demas Juarez, both of Big Spring; five daughters, Angie Marquez, Laura Marquez, Roxanne Juarez,

Tracey Juarez and Nicole Juarez, all of Big Spring; her father, Gilbert Lopez of Big Spring; three sisters, Belinda Vela, Bertha Gutierrez and Rosemary Cortezall of Big Spring; four brothers, Fred Lopez of Snyder, Gilbert Lopez Jr. and Armando Lopez, both of Big Spring and Robert Lopez of Temple; and five grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Robert A. "Buddy" Meeks

Robert A. "Buddy" Meeks, 55, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

In other business, the staff received kudos from the Texas Education Agency and board member Kent Sharp for its hard work.

TEA sent a certificate of recognition to the district for early implementation of the sweeping changes by Governmental Accounting Standards Board on how governmental bodies report their financial statements.

In an unrelated item, Sharp personally recognized Business Manager Sandra Waggoner, Assistant Business Manager James McFarland and staff for their hard

work in producing a budget report under Government Finance Officers Accounting standards.

"GFOA is an attempt to make governmental budgeting more accessible to just the typical lay person on the street," Sharp said. "This is a document prepared by Sandra, James, Stephanie Waggoner and staff. This is absolutely one of the best documents I've ever seen. It's full of easily to understand information. It breaks it down to where the money is going and how it's going. I applaud the staff on it and congratulate them on a job very well done."

During the meeting, trustees also approved:

- A budget amendment of \$15,500 to purchase new computers for the business office. The purchase was made necessary, Downes said, because of an upgrade in software.
- The 2003 tax roll.
- An agreement with the Big Spring Country Club for golf course usage for the next 20 years. The district will pay an upfront, one-time payment of \$40,000. Currently the district pays \$1,500 to \$1,700 a month for use of the facility.
- Request for qualifications for legal services.
- The resignations of Kori Land, Big Spring High School special education teacher; and Janet Smith, Moss Elementary Title I teacher.

McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark entrance on Highway 80. Take a right and follow the road around. The terminal is located behind the Flightline Unit.

FLIGHT

Continued from Page 1A

brothers and we'll have a demonstration on the AWOS (Automated Weather Observation System).

There will be "goodie" bags for children and prizes for children and adults.

"There are T-shirts, a nice framed picture, a poster and some commemorative things we'll be giving away," said Harbour.

One of the highlights of the day will be a video titled "Kitty Hawk," which depicts the first powered flight.

"We think it will be a lot of fun," said Harbor. "We'll be commemorating 100 years of flight and also promoting our air terminal. A lot of people don't know where it is, or even that Big Spring has one."

The celebration will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To get to the Big Spring Air Terminal, go to the entrance to the

McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark entrance on Highway 80. Take a right and follow the road around. The terminal is located behind the Flightline Unit.

MALL

Continued from Page 1A

Would-be Christmas shoppers will find a variety of choices at the mall, Lusk noted, from fine jewelry, home decor items, electronics, appliances, holiday items, art and specialty clothing.

Santa will kick off the event at 11 a.m. by arriving in style, courtesy of a Big Spring fire truck.

He'll listen to children's wish lists and pose for pictures until 7 p.m.

Santa will continue to visit with children from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. until Dec. 20.

His hours will then change to 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20; 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21; and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 22-23.

FREE PREGNANCY TESTING

Available Daily from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
No Appointment Necessary

LABOR & DELIVERY DEPARTMENT (2nd Floor)
Scenic Mountain Medical Center

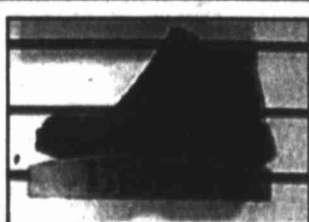
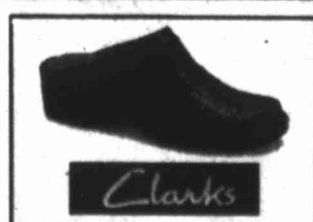
Our dedicated and customer friendly staff can confirm your pregnancy while you wait. They can also provide you with information regarding Prenatal Care, Childbirth Education, Understanding Labor and Delivery and even make your first appointment with a competent, local OB/GYN physician.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN
MEDICAL CENTER

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www.woods-shoes.com

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-10-14-22-33.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
8-9-5

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows around 30. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s. West winds around 10 mph.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. West winds 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday night...Mostly clear.

SANTA'S NOT THE
ONLY ONE WHO
DELIVERS...

SO DO
WE!



This holiday season, give yourself, or someone special, a gift that keeps on delivering all year - home delivery of the

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6 Months	\$51.90
3 Months	\$25.95

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Please order by DEC. 19 to ensure delivery in time for Christmas.

To Order, Call 263-7331

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How Are We Doing?

Is There A Business Or An Employee Of A Business That Has

Gone Above Or Beyond Providing You With Exceptional

Service?

If So, Nominate Them For The

Big Spring At Your Service

I am nominating a:

☐ Business _____

☐ Individual _____

If Nominating An Individual, Please Include Their Place Of Employment

- ☐ Received Polite Verbal Greeting
- ☐ Went Above & Beyond Your Expectations
- ☐ Knowledgeable Of Merchandise & Services
- ☐ Appearance & Inventory Of Store
- ☐ Product Availability

Your Name _____
Your Phone Number _____
Your Address _____
Mail Your Entries To:
Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1391
Big Spring, TX 79721
Or Bring It To The
Chamber Office At 215 W. 3rd Street
263-7641

- ☐ Made You Feel Welcome While In Their Establishment
- ☐ Served You With A Polite Verbal Closing Whether Or Not A Purchase Was Made
- ☐ Attentive & Prompt Throughout Transaction

MONTHLY WINNERS WILL RECEIVE MEDIA RECOGNITION AND A CERTIFICATE

☐ Reason For Nomination _____

REMEMBER!

Find It In Big Spring First!

IN BR

BSYBL regist
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Registration
Big Spring
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will begin Jan.

Adults intere
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7:30 p.m. Frida
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Coahoma Eler
School.

The fee is
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at 394-4232.

Quarterback C
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BSHS football b
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BSJHS Cafeteri

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Magers-Powell
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April 19.

BSHS JV to pla
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The Big Spring
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The Steers are
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6:45 p.m.

ON THE

Sports Broadcast Sch
Dec. 12
Event, Time
Mavericks vs. Lakers, 9 p.m.
Dec. 13
Event, Time
Spurs vs. Houston, 7 p.m.
Dec. 14
Event, Time
Texans vs. Buccaneers, 11:45 a.
Cowboys vs. Redskins, 2:45 p.m.
Dec. 15
Event, Time
Spurs vs. Memphis, 7 p.m.
Dec. 17
Event, Time
Spurs vs. Toronto, 7 p.m.

IN BRIEF

BSYBL registration now under way at 'Y'

Registration for the Big Spring Youth Basketball League is now under way and will run through Dec. 13 at the YMCA. Youths between the ages of 5 and 14 are eligible to participate.

Players will be divided into age groups based on the eligibility date of Aug. 1, 2004. The registration fee is \$20 per player. Financial assistance is available for those unable to afford the fee. Boys and girls must participate in a skills evaluation and player draft on Dec. 20. Games will begin Jan. 17.

Adults interested in volunteering as a coach or referee should apply at the YMCA.

Coahoma hoops sign-ups under way

Registration for the Coahoma Youth Basketball League is being held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Coahoma Junior High School gym. The league is open to fourth, fifth and sixth graders from Coahoma Elementary School.

The fee is \$25 per player. Try-outs and a draft will be held Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. For more information, call Loy Hahn at 394-4232.

Quarterback Club to sell banquet tickets

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is selling tickets to the BSHS football banquet, which is slated for 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 15, at the BSHS Cafetorium.

Only 350 tickets will be sold for the event. Ticket prices are \$10 each and can be purchased at the Sparenburg Building at 309 S. Main in Big Spring.

Basketball officials needed for season

Basketball officials are needed for the upcoming season.

Persons interested in officiating local games this fall should contact Adam Rodriguez at 263-8731 (home) or 517-0300 (cell).

Former Lady Steer to be enshrined in Hall

Former Big Spring High School standout Rose Magers-Powell will be inducted into the Huntsville Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame.

Magers-Powell is slated to be inducted on April 19.

BSHS JV to play Monday at home

The Big Spring Steers junior varsity team will return to action Monday at home in non-district action.

The Steers are scheduled to begin play at 6:45 p.m.

ON THE AIR

Event, Time	Station
Mavericks vs. Lakers, 9 p.m.	1490
Dec. 13	
Spurs vs. Houston, 7 p.m.	1490
Dec. 14	
Texans vs. Buccaneers, 11:45 a.m.	94.3
Cowboys vs. Redskins, 2:45 p.m.	95.7
Dec. 15	
Spurs vs. Memphis, 7 p.m.	1490
Dec. 17	
Spurs vs. Toronto, 7 p.m.	1490

Deactivation lets Ekuban know he won't be back

IRVING (AP) — Bill Parcells and the Dallas Cowboys showed what they thought of defensive end Greg Ellis by giving him a long, lucrative contract extension this season.

They showed fellow starting end Ebenezer Ekuban what they think of him by deactivating him last weekend.

The move was a clear message that Ekuban won't be back next season. That already seemed possible considering his low production and the time he had lost in a rotation with Eric Ogbogu and Kenyon Coleman.

Ekuban didn't know he wasn't

playing until last Sunday. He found out shortly before the Cowboys played the Eagles.

Not starting would've been enough of a demotion considering he had started 27 of the last 28 games. Standing on the sideline bundled in a parka, his uniform never even unpacked, made it far worse.

"I just think it was handled in a very classless manner," Ekuban said Thursday.

Parcells said he went with one fewer defensive lineman because he wanted an extra receiver. He also said Ekuban will "probably play again some more this year,"

which isn't exactly a ringing endorsement.

"It's a production game," Parcells said. "It's as simple as that."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he understood the decision to bench Ekuban against the Eagles.

"We felt like the makeup of the guys that were active gave us a better chance against the run," he said. "I'm disappointed for Ebenezer, but I know that his attitude has the will to get back in there and play well these next three ballgames, given the opportunity."

Ekuban is a friendly player who is active in the community. As popular as he might be, he hasn't lived up to the expectations for the 20th pick in the 1999 draft.

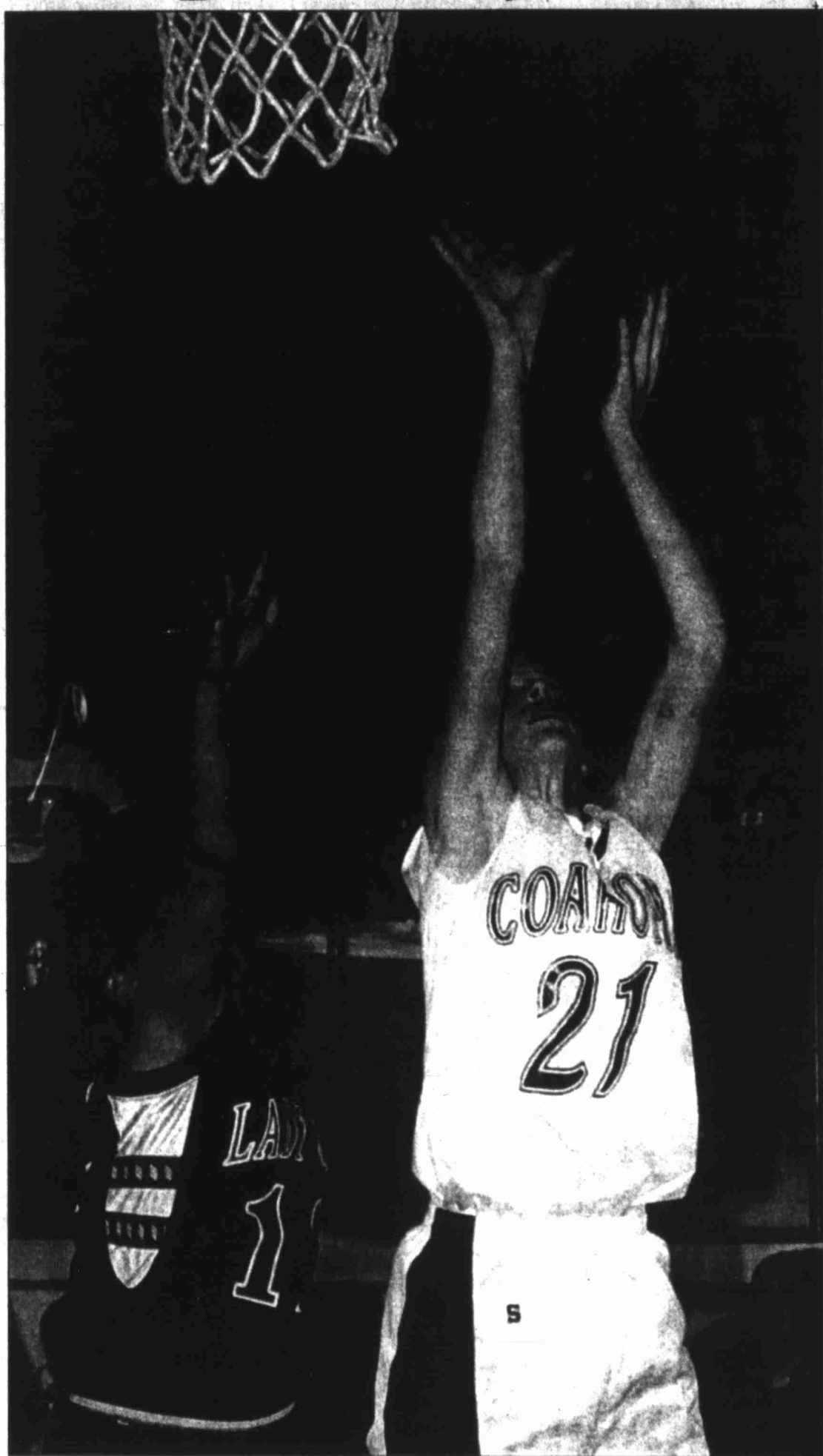
He says he has not given up on this season, but he believes the team has given up on him.

"You pretty much know what they're going to do," he said. "The decision has already been made."

Ekuban knows there are still 81 other teams that might be interested.

"I definitely think I can still play," he said.

Lady Buffs, Bulldogettes win



Coahoma junior Mendy Morgan shoots over the top of a Wink defender during the fourth quarter of the Bulldogettes' 58-43 win Thursday in the opening round of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton.

First-quarter run spurs Stanton to 47-20 win

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

STANTON — What a difference a week can make. Last weekend, the Stanton Lady Buffaloes were hot — as in angry after staging a lackluster effort in the last game at the Coahoma Invitational.

They were hot again Thursday night — as in unbeatable — in the first-round of the Stanton Hooptown Classic. The Lady Buffaloes used 12 first-quarter points from Kristi Bridges to open up a 20-6 lead and cruise to a 47-20 win over the Pecos Lady Eagles.

The win enables Stanton to advance to the quarter-finals of the 14-team tournament where they will face Interstate 20 rival Coahoma. The District 3-2A stablemates will square off for the second time beginning at 4 p.m. in the Stanton High School gym.

Pecos actually got off to a strong start. The Lady Eagles, who fell into a consolation bracket matchup with Wink, nailed two quick baskets to grab a 4-2 advantage before Bridges lick-started the SHS offense by burying a 10-foot jumper from the wing and igniting a 16-0 run that gave the Lady Buffs a commanding 16-4 cushion.

Bridges finished the contest with a game-high 20 points.

As hot as the Lady Buffs were in the first, they were just as cold in the second quarter and third quarters. Wink wasn't any luckier, either. The two teams were colder than the Grinch's heart at Christmas from the floor in the second, combining to convert only 15 percent of their shots (6-of-39) in the second and third quarters combined.

With Stanton holding a 34-9 entering the final eight minutes, the Lady Buffaloes' Shelby Harp started to heat the Stanton offense again, by draining a shot with 7:25 remaining. Following a basket by the Lady Eagles, Colby Ringner sank the back end of two charity shots and pushed the Lady Buffs' lead to 37-11.

Stormie Dugan got into the act as well, hitting a shot under the basket late to add to the Stanton's lead.

After a Pecos 6-3 run had trimmed the lead to 27, Stanton's Tina Harris fired the last salvo of the night. See REMATCH, Page 3B

Red Devils race to wild 39-33 win over Stanton

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

STANTON — The Stanton Buffaloes, thanks to a cold-shooting performance and a few questionable whistles, took it on the chin Thursday night in the opening round of the Hooptown Classic, dropping a 39-33 decision to the Rankin Red Devils.

The loss, which was marred by two Stanton technicals and a flagrant foul, pushed Stanton into a consolation round matchup today with the Sterling City Eagles at 5:30 p.m.

See FOUL, Page 2B

OU's White still a Heisman candidate

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason White appeared to be a lock to win the Heisman Trophy until he flamed out in the Big 12 title game.

Luckily for Oklahoma's quarterback, he was not alone.

Three of the four finalists for college football's most prestigious award had their worst games of the season with conference championships on the line.

In a sport where late losses often count much more than early ones in

the rankings, White, Pittsburgh receiver Larry Fitzgerald and Mississippi quarterback Eli Manning hope the same doesn't hold true when the Heisman is awarded Saturday night.

White threw at least two touchdown passes every game until wilting against Kansas State's defense Saturday in the Big 12 championship game.

White went 27-for-50 for 298 yards, no touchdowns and two interceptions in the 35-7 loss, turning what

looked like a Heisman runaway into a potentially close race.

"Some guys are sitting at home relaxing and not playing, and others are playing a championship game against one of the best teams you will play the entire year," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "I believe most people will take that into consideration."

White was the only finalist who played last weekend, after some of the 922 ballots had already been sent in.

Steers, Lady Steers open tournament play

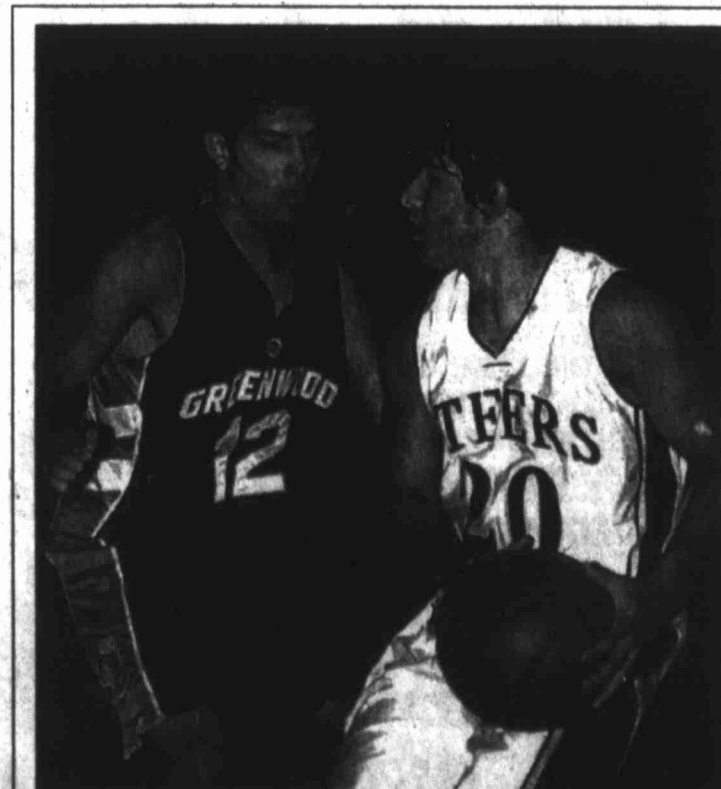
The Big Spring High School basketball teams will return to tournament play today when they hit the road to compete in two West Texas top hoops

tournaments.

The Big Spring Steers are scheduled to begin play in the West Texas Shootout at 8 p.m. at Odessa College against

the Odessa Broncos.

The Lady Steers, fresh off a second-place finish in San Angelo, played at 10 a.m. in Monahans' Sandhills Invitational.



Michael Ormales-Doporto and the Big Spring Steers will face Odessa High tonight at 8 p.m. in the opening round of the West Texas Shootout at Odessa College.

FOUL

Continued from Page 1B

Sterling City clipped Borden County in its first-round matchup, winning 45-40.

In addition to the technical fouls and flagrant charge, both teams had a player ejected in the third in a contest that, at times, became more like a prize fight than a basketball game.

After Stanton had pulled to within three, at 11-8, with 12 seconds remaining in the first, the Red Devils quickly moved the ball downcourt and managed to draw a foul with 1.3 seconds.

It also earned the officials the ire of the Buffaloes' bench.

The ensuing disagreement over the foul earned Stanton its first technical of the night and allowed Rankin four attempts from the free throw stripe. The Red Devils hit only two of the shots and left Stanton down by just five at the start of the second.

The two teams managed six points in the second stanza, and sent the Red Devils into the half holding a three-point cushion.

Stanton erased the deficit in the third. The Buffs tore off a 10-7 run with 1:05 remaining in the third to knot the score at 22-22.

Rankin hit a pair of baskets in the final minute and took a slim 26-22 lead into the fourth quarter.

Things got a little rough from there.

Michael Washington pulled the Buffs to 26-26 when elbows started flying, resulting in 11 trips to the line — of which Rankin received nine.

Moments later, After Rankin's Mitch Willis drew a foul, Stanton coach Ken Van Curren drew his first technical in 22 years of coaching when he questioned the call.

Willis converted two of the four ensuing free throw shots, putting the Red Devils on top for good, at 34-32.

With less than 10 seconds remaining, the Buffs were hit with a flagrant foul — bringing a chorus of boos down on the floor. **Colorado City 48 Reagan County 45**

The Colorado City Wolves battled back from a six-point deficit heading into the final quarter of play to hand the Reagan County Owls a 48-45 loss.

Angel Hernandez captured game-high honors as he poured in 15 for Reagan Co. Chris Spear pace Colorado City with 10.

Kermi 72 Midland Christian 66

The Kermi Yellowjackets outscored the Midland Christian Mustangs by an 8-2 margin in overtime and claimed a 72-66 win in the first-round of the Hooptown Classic.

The Yellowjackets fought back from a 49-43 fourth-quarter deficit by outscoring Midland Christian to the tune of 21-15 over the final eight minutes.

With the win, Kermi advanced to the second round to face the Grape Creek Eagles.

Grape Creek 64 Iraan 41

The Grape Creek Eagles used a 21-8 third-quarter run to blow open a tight game at the half and claimed a 64-31 win.

Alex Ramos hit for 17 for Grape Creek, while Justin White poured in a game-high 21 for the Braves.

Grape Creek held a slim 27-21 lead at the half.

Wall 53 Coahoma 38

The Wall Hawks took advantage of a cold-shooting performance by the Coahoma Bulldogs to claim a 53-38 win in the first round of the Hooptown Classic.

Pettitte would like Clemens to join Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Now that Andy Pettitte is heading home to Houston, he'd like Roger Clemens to join him.

Pettitte accepted a \$31.5 million, three-year contract with the Houston Astros on Thursday, leaving the New York Yankees after nine seasons and four World Series championships.

Now he'll try to convince his former Yankee teammate Clemens to come out of retirement and pitch for the Astros, too.

"We'll see what happens," said Pettitte, who still works out with Clemens. "I know the media's already hit him

up on that, and if I feel there's a chance, I'll hit him up on it, too."

The Yankees wasted no time in trying to fill the void.

The Yankees and Dodgers agreed to the outline of a trade that would send Brown to the Yankees for right-hander Jeff Weaver, two minor leaguers and \$3 million, two baseball officials said on condition of anonymity.

Brown, who turns 39 in March, has the right to block a trade and has not yet been asked about it, agent Scott Boras said. All players must pass physicals, and the Yankees want to review

Brown's contract before signing off on the swap, the officials said.

"We hate to lose Andy Pettitte," Yankees owner George Steinbrenner said in a statement. "We know the fans may be disappointed, but if you're counting us out next year, don't bet the house."

Later, as he left the Yankees' minor league complex in Tampa, Fla., Steinbrenner said that the pull of being close to his family seemed to sway Pettitte.

"It's obvious to a lot of us from the start that he wanted to go home," Steinbrenner said.

Houston first baseman Jeff Bagwell wasn't so

sure. "Never in my wildest imagination did I think we really had a chance," Bagwell told Houston television station KRIV.

Sounding wistful at times, the 31-year-old Pettitte said the Yankees' failure to pursue him aggressively allowed him to turn his attention to Houston, which wound up signing him for \$7.5 million less than New York offered.

"When I left there after (World Series) Game 6, I never really envisioned myself in a different uniform," Pettitte said. "I thought that they would try to make a serious push to sign me then."

Spurs help set futility mark in win over Rockets

HOUSTON (AP) — Tim Duncan helped San Antonio keep its longest winning streak of the season. He couldn't help the Spurs and the Houston Rockets avoid a dubious record.

Duncan scored 14 of his 22 points in the second half to lead San Antonio to its fifth win in a row, a 71-67 victory over Houston on Thursday night. The teams combined for the lowest first-

half point total in NBA history.

"It was two very good defenses running into each other," Duncan said. "They did one heck of a job on me. It seemed like three or four guys were

on me every time I got the ball."

The teams scored 55 points in the first two periods, the fewest two-team total since the shot clock was introduced in the 1954-55 season.

FRIDAY NIGHT FORECASTERS

This Week's Games		Antonio Sermet	Lyndel Moody	Chuck Williams	John Mosley	Thomas Jenkins	Mark Shady	Tommy Wells
The Woodlands vs. GP North Shore		The Woodlands	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	The Woodlands
Southlake Carroll vs. Allen		S. Carroll	S. Carroll	S. Carroll	S. Carroll	S. Carroll	S. Carroll	S. Carroll
North Crowley vs. Bay City		Bay City	Bay City	Bay City	Bay City	Bay City	Bay City	Bay City
Denton Ryan vs. Highland Park		Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan	Denton Ryan
Gainesville vs. Burnet		Gainesville	Gainesville	Gainesville	Gainesville	Gainesville	Gainesville	Gainesville
Vernon vs. Atlanta		Vernon	Vernon	Vernon	Vernon	Vernon	Vernon	Vernon
Jim Ned vs. San Augustine		Jim Ned	Jim Ned	Jim Ned	Jim Ned	Jim Ned	Jim Ned	Jim Ned
Panhandle vs. Bangs		Panhandle	Panhandle	Panhandle	Panhandle	Panhandle	Panhandle	Panhandle
Sunray vs. Windthorst		Sunray	Sunray	Sunray	Sunray	Sunray	Sunray	Sunray
Fl. Davis vs. Strawn		Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis	Fl. Davis
Memphis vs. North Texas		Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis
(14) Miami (OH) vs. Louisville		Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami
Atlanta at Indianapolis		Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis
Buffalo at Tennessee		Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
Detroit at Kansas City		Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City
Houston at Tampa Bay		Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay
Jacksonville at New England		New England	New England	New England	New England	New England	New England	New England
Minnesota at Chicago		Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets		Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh
Seattle at St. Louis		St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis
San Francisco at Cincinnati		San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco
Baltimore at Oakland		Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore
Cleveland at Denver		Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver
Carolina at Arizona		Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
Dallas at Washington		Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas
Green Bay at San Diego		Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay
N.Y. Giants at New Orleans		N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants
Philadelphia at Miami		Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami
		20-10, .667	21-9, .700	20-10, .667	22-8, .733	21-9, .700	20-10, .667	20-10, .667
		314-117, .728	284-147, .658	306-125, .709	307-124, .712	318-113, .737	299-132, .693	300-131, .696

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TOYS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SALVATION ARMY FOR DISTRIBUTION, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

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BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS AND CHRISTMAS ANGELS

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Susie You always make our Christmas special We Love You, Grandma And Grandpa Jones

Make their holiday even more special with their photo greeting in the Big Spring Herald's Christmas Edition, December 24th.

FOR ONLY \$25.00

Just complete the form below then bring the form and photo to the Herald no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, December 18th.

CHILD'S NAME: _____
YOUR NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY & STATE: _____
PHONE: _____
MESSAGE: _____

THE BIG SPRING HERALD
710 SCURRY
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REMATCH

Continued from page 1B with 1:20 left in the game hitting a 15-foot shot.

Harp also ended double figures. Stanton, pouring in 34 attempts for a Pecos paced by Stanton from Daniella and Adrianna dariz.

Coahoma 58 Wink 43

The Bulldogs were second-quarter rematch of the Wink Lady Thursday afternoon walked away with victory.

Wink cut the lead from 10 points to 8 in the first eight minutes, but the first eight minutes played to a mere 28-26 in the second.

The game was by fouls as both went to the charity line more than 30 times. Coahoma converted 34 attempts for a stripe while Wink only 13-of-30.

Four Bulldog double figures in with Mendi Morring the way Vickie Cortez put 12, while Sterlin and Kristi Hut tallied 11 and 10, respectively.

With the Wink Bulldogs' rematch of last third-place game Coahoma Invitational with rival Coahoma won the team's previous by a 58-51 clip.

Borden County 49 Sterling City 47

The Borden Lady Coyotes garnered points from Emily Thursday morning held off a late push by Sterling City Lady to claim a heart-stopping 49-47 win in the first round of the Hooptown Classic.

Erica Ro sparked Sterling City with a game-high 15 points. With the win, Borden County advanced to the Reagan County Hooptown Classic in the next round. Sterling City will either Alpine or Midland Christian at 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

Kermi 58 Midland Christian 66
The Kermi Yellow Jackets ran a 15-8 run in the second quarter and claimed a 58-53 comeback victory over Midland Christian Mustangs.

Kermi advanced to meet Rankin in the second round. Midland Christian fell into consolation match with the Alpine Lady Bulldogs. Midland Christian made an early run in the first eight minutes of the game.

Reagan County 40 Alpine 16

The Reagan Lady Owls poured in an 11-3 margin in the first quarter and ran an easy 40-16 win over Alpine Lady Bulldogs. Reagan County stifling defensive outscored Alpine of the game's foulers.

The Lady Bulldogs aged to score just two points in the second half, but cruised to a 64-28 victory over Presidio Lady Devils.

Greenwood 64 Presidio 28

The Greenwood Rangerettes opened the game with a 20-point lead at the half and cruised to the 64-28 victory over Presidio Lady Devils.

Landrie Johnson scored 12 points. Laura took game-high scoring 16 for Presidio.

REMATCH

Continued from Page 1B
with 1:20 left in the fourth
by hitting a 15-footer.

Harp also ended up in
double figures for
Stanton, pouring in 10.
Pecos paced by six points
from Daniella Garcia
and Adrianna Armen-
dariz.

Coahoma 58
Wink 43

The Coahoma
Bulldogettes weathered a
second-quarter rally from
the Wink Lady Cats
Thursday afternoon and
walked away with a 58-43
victory.

Wink cut the Coahoma
lead from 10 points after
the first eight minutes of
play to a mere 28-27 mar-
gin in the second.

The game was marred
by fouls as both teams
went to the charity stripe
more than 30 times.
Coahoma converted 21-of-
34 attempts from the
stripe while Wink sank
only 13-of-30.

Four Bulldogettes hit
double figures in scoring
with Mendy Morgan lead-
ing the way with 13.
Vickie Cortez poured in
12, while Sterling Gee
and Kristi Hutchinson
tallied 11 and 10, respec-
tively.

With the win, The
Bulldogettes set up a
rematch of last week's
third-place game in the
Coahoma Invitational
with rival Stanton.
Coahoma won the two
team's previous meeting
by a 58-51 clip.

Borden County 49
Sterling City 47

The Borden County
Lady Coyotes garnered 14
points from Emily Mayes
Thursday morning and
held off a late push by the
Sterling City Lady Eagles
to claim a heart-stopping
49-47 win in the first
round of the Hooptown
Classic.

Erica Rodriguez
sparked Sterling City
with a game high 18.

With the win, Borden
County advanced to face
the Reagan County Lady
Owls in the next round.
Sterling City will play
either Alpine or Midland
Christian at 2:30 p.m. this
afternoon.

Kermitt 58

Midland Christian 53

The Kermitt Lady
Yellow Jackets rallied for
a 15-8 run in the third
quarter and claimed a a
wild 58-53 come-from-
behind victory over the
Midland Christian Lady
Mustangs.

Kermitt advances to
meet Rankin in the sec-
ond round. Midland
Christian fell into a con-
solation matchup with
the Alpine Lady Bucks.
Midland Christian
made a early run by reel-
ing off a 14-5 clip in the
first eight minutes of the
game.

Reagan County 40
Alpine 16

The Reagan County
Lady Owls pounded out
an 11-3 margin after the
first quarter an rolled to
an easy 40-16 win over the
Alpine Lady Bucks.

Reagan County, led by a
stifling defensive effort,
outscored Alpine in each
of the game's four quar-
ters.

The Lady Bucks man-
aged to score just four
points in the second and
third periods — com-
bined.

Greenwood 64
Presidio 28

The Greenwood
Rangerettes opened up a
20-point lead at the half
and cruised to the easy
64-28 victory over the
Presidio Lady Blue
Devils.

Landrie Johnson led the
Greenwood charge with
12 points. Laura Olivas
took game-high honors,
scoring 16 for Presidio in
the loss.

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LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports.
Most Utilities Paid.
Senior Citizen Discounts.
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Call or 213-3864

1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

HELP WANTED

HILLS
Homes
2 - 3 - 4 -
Rent - Rent -
Swimming P
24 Hour
2501 Fair

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HELP WANTED

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

Executive 3 Bedroom 1/2 bath. 2 car garage Great location. \$850 mo. Call 432-263-2382

Rent to own. 3 bdr., bath, brick CHA, fenced backyard w/dog run \$350. mo. No down payment. 432-213-0536, after 5:00 432-267-1447

HELP WANTED

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1 bdr. 1 bath in Coahoma \$275/mo plus deposit 432-263-4528 or 466-1257

1312 Park. 2 BR 1 bath. CHA. \$350/mo. \$200 deposit. Call 432-263-3375 or 270-8665

1408 Donley Extra clean turn. 1 bdr. apt. Water & Gas paid. \$300/mo. \$150 dep. Sorry no pets. 432-263-4922.

1514 E. Hwy 350. Large building with 3 offices & lots of storage on fenced 4 acre lot. \$650/mo. plus dep. Westex Auto Parts, Inc. 432-263-5000.

1BR, 1 bath. 1102 Sycamore. No pets. Call 432-267-3841 or 270-7309

2 & 3 BDRM Houses for Rent. CHA. No Pets. No HUD. 432-263-5818 or 213-0820

2 bdr. 1 bath, 1524 E. 17th. CHA. fenced backyard. \$350/mo. \$300 dep. Call 432-267-4090 or 213-3864

HELP WANTED

Barcelona Apartments
"Call For Move-In Specials"
All Bills Paid
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REAL ESTATE
FOR RENT

2BR, 1 bath, 1102
Lancaster. No pets.
Call 432-267-3841 or
270-7309

3BR, 1 bath, 1307
Colby. No pets. Call
432-267-3841 or
270-7309

SPECIAL

One and Two Bedroom
Apartment home
available.
Starting from \$335.00
per month

*FREE CABLE
On site Laundry
Facilities

*Covered Picnic area
with BBQ Grills
*Playground for the Kids
Central Air & Heat

SUNSET RIDGE APTS
2911 W. HWY 80
432-263-2292

Executive 3 Bedroom, 1
1/2 bath, 2 car garage.
Great location. \$850/
mo. Call 432-263-2382

Rent to own, 3 bdr., 2
bath, brick, OHA, fenced
backyard w/dog run.
\$350. mo. No down
payment. 432-
213-0536, after 5:00,
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BEAUTIFUL
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•Swimming Pool
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•Carports
•Appliances
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COMPLEX

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Carports,
Most Utilities
Paid,
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Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD
APARTMENTS

1904 East 25th Street
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263-5000

REAL ESTATE
FOR RENT

3bdr., 1-1/2 bath, 2507
Chanute. \$450. mo.
\$300. dep. 616-9746.

REAL ESTATE
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\$11,000 Total Move
in Cost

On each remaining 3
New homes on 1300
Block of Marjio.
Reasonably good credit
required. Down
payment assistance and
lowered interest rates to
Qualified Buyer. No
Payments till Feb. 2004.
Call now 432-520-9848
Cameo Investments Inc.

1611 Runnels, 3 BR 2
bath, Central AC & Gas
Heat, many elegant
features. Nice area.
\$59,000. Sorry, No
Owner Finance.
432-264-9310

2 bedroom, one bath,
double garage. Newly
remodeled with brick.
Central Air. Has shop in
fenced backyard. Call
817-774-9935 and leave
message.

New Construction
Open House, Sat. Sun.
1-6 pm. or any time by
appt. 1308 Marjio. Call
432-520-9848.

Owner Finance
Low Down Payment
No Credit Check
3 bdr., 1 bath, 107
Miller B. Coahoma.
2 bdr., 1 bath on 1211
Lloyd, Big Spring.
4 bdr., 1 bath on 3215
Auburn, Big Spring.
Call Pam
(432) 631-5468
(432) 670-8178

Price Reduced 4
bedroom located 7
miles east at 1006 N.
Moss Lake Rd. \$300.
down pmt. Fantastical
Buy! Call Jared
Duncum,
1-800-766-1167 or
325-226-3337

For Sale By Owner
705 S. Lancaster
1811 State St.
2/1, \$188/mo. for 10 yrs.
Please call
Annette Arballo
432-413-0549 or
432-620-0380
Owner will Finance
Regardless of Credit

For Sale By Owner
Financing
Provided.
Low down payment,
low monthly.
3 Bdrm, 1 bath
Updated Kitchen & bath.
1103 Sycamore
Call Kelly
432-425-9994.

2908 Cherokee, 2
Bedroom, garage,
fenced yard. \$12,000.
No Owner Finance.
432-267-6667

3/2, corner lot, quiet
neighborhood, \$40,000.
Call 432-264-0833 after
5:00 p.m.

Crossroads Auction Co.

Located at 6607 N. I-20 Service Rd.
Two Miles East Of Refinery On
North Service Road At Exit 184, Big Spring, TX.

SAT. DEC. 13 • 7:00 PM
Computer Desk, Wooden Rocker, La-Z-
Boy Recliner, Twin Bed, Lamp Tables,
Lowrey Fun Machine, Kenmore Washer
+ 2 Stacking Dryers, Dearborn Heater,
Safe, Bread Maker, Small Dorm
Refrigerators, Cola-Cooler, Old
Campaign Buttons, Lots of Comic
Books, Christmas Decorations, Lots of
Pyrex Including Refrigerator Dishes,
Green Depression and Other Nice
Glassware, Surplus (Computers, Power
Supplies, Test Equipment), Snap-On
Tool Chest, Cutting Torch, Pipe
Threading, Chain Saw, Aluminum
Pickup/Toolbox, Push Mower, Lots of
New & Used Tools. New Gift Items.
Shop For Christmas Where You Set the
Price. Items Coming In Daily.
Lots of Miscellaneous.

Something For Everyone!
Come See For Yourself.
David Lefever - Auctioneer Lic# 13251
(432) 264-9900

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Homes With Alarm Systems

2 - 3 - 4 - 5, Even 6 Bedrooms Available

Rent - Rent-to-Own or Buy With Owner Financing

Swimming Pool - Basketball & Volleyball Courts

24 Hour Emergency Maintenance

2501 Fairchild Phone 263-3461

Get
Your
Holiday
Bonus

SELL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

By advertising your no-longer-used items in the
classifieds, you'll have extra cash to do
your own holiday shopping.

Holiday Special

10 Lines 7 Days

HALF PRICE

NOW ONLY \$30⁰⁰

PRIVATE PARTY ADS ONLY. NO REFUNDS

OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/03

The Big Spring
Herald

710 Scurry • 263-7331

By advertising your no-longer-used items in the
classifieds, you'll have extra cash to do
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Holiday Special

10 Lines 7 Days

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OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/03

REAL ESTATE
FOR SALE

Lake Thomas House
For Sale: 2 Story
w/balcony 2 bdrm 1 1/2
bath. Call 325-207-3372

GARAGE SALES

1808 Hamilton, Fri.
12-6 Sat. 10-6. New
items for gifts, Jenny L.
cradle, baby items.

3 Family Garage
Sale. Christmas decor,
clothing, drapes,
antiques. Sat. 7:30-2
2207 Brent (Kantwood)

302 Holley (off S.
Service Rd.) Fri. & Sat.
10-2. Clothes
Adults-kids, toys, misc.

Angels Fountain, 13
vol Louis Lamour, full
body massager, misc.
Fri. only 1811 Runnels.

Backyard/Inside Sale,
Sat. 8-1, 3610 Calvin.
baby crib, cradle,
clothes & more.

Garage Sale, 1603 E.
16th, in back, Fri & Sat
8:30-7. Lots of mens
clothes, & misc.

Garage Sale: 3614
Aspermont, Fri., Sat. &
Sunday 9-5. Too much
to list.

Garage Sale, Thur-
Sat. 9-4, 8601 N.
Srv Rd. Sand Springs.
Look for signs. Too
much to list

Inside: 3805 Connally,
Sat. 8-7. Furn.,
household goods &
garage full of tools in
rear.

Inside Estate Sale,
Saturday, 7:00-7:40 E.
11th St. off Goliad St.

Inside Sale: Lots of
misc. items. Gene Autry
cast iron gun, lamps,
toys, bicycle. N. Hwy.
87 across State
Hospital.

PJ's Inside Sale,
2210 Main. Fri & Sat.
10-4.

Sale: 2516 Ent., Fri.
Only 8-5. Refrigerator,
dryer, tools & + size
clothes, Furn.

MISCELLANEOUS

75 Year Collection, Fine
Glass Antiques,
Carnival Glass, Fenton.
3011 Herrod. Call
432-267-6578

ENJOY INTERNET for
Christmas without a
computer. This Compaq
Internet Appliance used
only a year, will be great
for you, for only \$399.
Call 806-756-4397
evenings.

Four Goodyear Eagle
LS Tires, P225/55R16
w/whims - \$225. Two
NXT 21 speed
bicycles - \$50 each.
Powerwheel Xtreme
machine/charger - \$125.
Playstation console w/2
games - \$60. Call
432-263-6641

Just In Time For
Christmas! Electric
Scooters. \$189. For
information call
432-268-1684

Nice Wooden Booths
with tables. \$300. Call
432-263-8126 leave
message.

One Large Upright
Deep Freezer (Avocado
Green). No Frostless.
\$100. Call 432-263-4642

Twin size bookcase
headboard with
mattress, springs, &
new sheet set. \$75. New
exercise bicycle, \$40.
432-264-1514, leave
message.

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\$25,000 cash grants
- GUARANTEED!
All U.S. residents
qualify! Money for
bills, business, school,
etc. Call 1-800-363-5222
Ext. 637

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Mortgage or in
Foreclosure?
Don't Sell or file
Bankruptcy. Services
Guaranteed.
1-888-615-8673 ext. 490
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To \$43,000 yr/Free Call
No Experience
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\$54,481 YEAR.
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	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	USA (30)	TMC (30B)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Celestas	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Dan's	Sports	Sports	New York	Premium
6	PM News (CC) Wheel-Forums	News Wheel-Forums	El Menorial	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes	News Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC) Friends (CC)	Nueva Vida John Hago	News-Laher	FBI Files		Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Uns. How I'm Living	Ther's-Raven Luzie McGuire	NFL Live NFL Matchup	NBA	JAG (CC)	(CC)
7	PM Billy Graham	George Lopez Manted-Kelly	Velo de Novia	TV's Naughtiest	Joan of Arcadia (CC)	Amor Desoado	Gaoline NIS (CC)	House Rules	Update/Israel Richman	Wash. Week Wash-Forums	More Than Human (CC)	Movies: Airport 77 (CC)	Movies: Call Me Clous (CC)	Parfums (CC) Parfums (CC)	Movies: Lio & Stich (CC)	The Sweet Science	NBA Basketball:	Law & Order: Special Victims	Movies: The Distinguished
8	PM Hope & Faith Life-Bonnie	Hope & Faith Life-Bonnie	Nina... Amada Mia	Boston Public JAG (CC) (DVS)	JAG (CC) (DVS)	La Virgen de Guadalupe	Miss Match (CC)	Movies: Swordfish	Light of the Southwest	Now With Bill Moyers (CC)	MythBusters		Movies: Airport 77 (CC)	Parfums (CC) Parfums (CC)	Movies: Lio & Stich (CC)	Boeing Friday - Marka vs.	Seattle Sonics at Detroit	Movies: Desert Heat (CC)	Gentlemen (CC)
9	PM 2020 (CC)	2020 (CC)	Casos de la Vida Real	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Hander (CC)	La Presencia de Anita	Third Watch (CC)			Great Projects: The Building	More Than Human	Movies: The	Movies: Jack Frost (CC)	Cornucopia	Lio & Stich (CC)	Oajiga	Patrons (CC) NBA		Movies: Swimming With
10	PM News (CC) Nightline	News Final Score	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Boxeo	News Tonight Show	Movies: Desperado	Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	More Than Human (CC)	Furhouse (CC)	Movies: Nightly News Music Special	Nightly News Music Special	Proud Family (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	Basketball: Mavericks at	Law & Order: Special Victims	Sharks (CC) 35 Movie:
11	PM Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Nightline Extra (CC)	Los Melches	Becker (CC) Spin City	(CC) Late Late	Telemundo	(CC) Late Night	(CC)	Rev. J. Hansen Carrie Davis	Sign Off	MythBusters	Crypt Tales	Movies: Midnight Love Smart Guy	Movies: Midnight Love Smart Guy	Outside-Lines NFL Live	Lakers	Karen Sisco	Daniel (CC)	
12	AM Live (CC) Coach Winfrey	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Angela	Blind Date Blind Date	Show (CC) Street Smarts	Falaba Corle-Familia	Presler (CC)	House Rules	Update/Israel Decker-LAG.	More Than Human	Movies: Pirata: Survival Island	Compuview	Lio & Stich Recess (CC)	Compuview	Rodeo: Wrangler	Movies: Street Fighter (CC)	Emmanuel the Series		

HAGAR



"Why? Are we takin' a Japanese plane?"



BLONDIE



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2003. There are 19 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 12, 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

On this date:
In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1897, "The Katzenjammer Kids," the pioneering comic strip created by Rudolph Dirks, made its debut in the New York Journal.

In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been

recovered.

In 1917, Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Neb.

In 1937, Japanese aircraft sank the U.S. gunboat Panay on China's Yangtze River. (Japan apologized, and paid \$2.2 million in reparations.)

In 1947, the United Mine Workers union withdrew from the American Federation of Labor.

In 1963, Kenya gained its independence from Britain.

In 1975, Sara Jane Moore pleaded guilty to a charge of trying to kill President Ford in San Francisco the previous September.

In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland.

In 2000, a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election, transforming George W. Bush into the president-elect.

One year ago: President Bush publicly rebuked

Senate Republican leader Trent Lott for his statement that appeared to embrace half-century-old segregationist politics, calling it "offensive" and "wrong."

Today's Birthdays: TV host Bob Barker is 80. Former New York City Mayor Edward Koch is 79. Singer Connie Francis is 65. Singer Dionne Warwick is 63. Rock singer-musician Dickey Betts is 60. Actor Wings Hauser is 56. Country singer LaCosta is 53. Gymnast-turned-actress Cathy Rigby is 51. Actress Sheree J. Wilson is 45. Singer-musician Sheila E. is 44. Actress Jennifer Connelly is 33.

WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



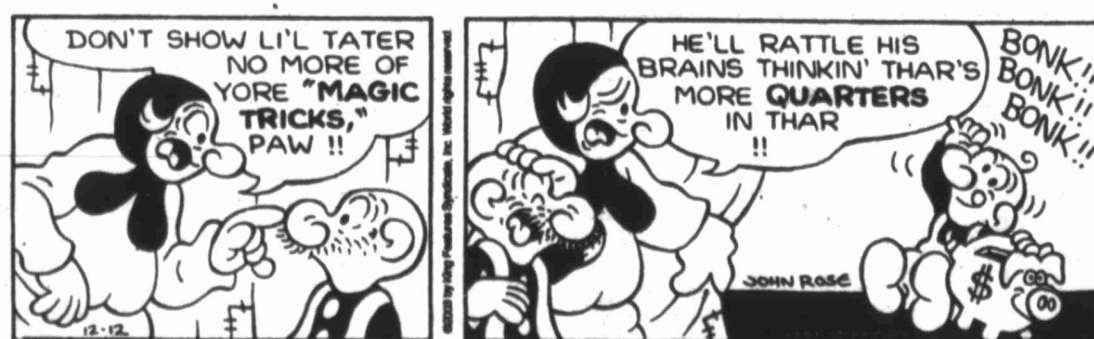
HI AND LOIS



MR. HOUSEWIFE



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

NICKEL AND DIMING by A.J. Santora
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS	58 Family member	8 Land measure	31 Norman Bates' hobby
1 1943 battle site	59 Family member	9 All of the above?	35 Look over
7 Owens	60 Kitchen item	10 Contestant's concern	36 Viacom owner
10 Jefferson's bill	61 Whichever	11 Olympic sport	38 Poker card
13 France of France	62 Western Indian	12 Dobbin's dinner	43 Talk or rally precursor
15 Safe place	63 Stand		44 Mimics
16 Gerry Adams'			45 Biblical spy

17 Nickles	DOWN	18 After	48 Pickpocket
'and dimes, maybe	1 Basketball shot	19 Morning line	49 ahead
19 Ran into	2 Battery	22 Sheepish utterance	49 Melted: Fr.
20 Inspiration	terminal	24 Bureau- crazy	50 High dudgeon
21 Gabler of fiction	3 Ran track	25 Informer	51 Tractor name
22 '40s first lady	4 Alaskan island	26 Wised up	52 West Point sch.
23 Actor Beatty	5 Misery	27 Tigger's friend	53 Vacuum target
24 Tears	6 Gibson of tennis	28 Palm tree	54 Real estate
25 Seafarer	7 Words of warning	29 Football-game fraction	56 Baton Rouge campus
26 Tossing choices		30 Hero worship	57 Coop bird

