



# BIG SPRING HERALD

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Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring

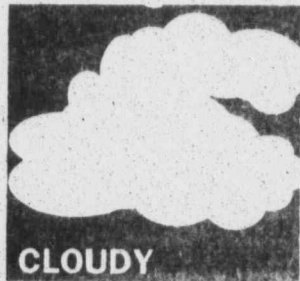
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY

November 17, 2004

## WEATHER

Tonight:



CLOUDY

TONIGHT 44°-46° TOMORROW 64°-66°

## BRIEFLY

### Blood drive set at Rip Griffins

Rip Griffin's Truck/Travel Center Community Blood Drive is set for 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Nov. 24. To register, call Sonya at 264-4444 or stop by the day of the blood drive to donate.

### Kennel club offers cookbook gift idea

The Big Spring Kennel Club's cookbook, Treats from the Country, is now available for Christmas gift giving.

The cookbook has 200 recipes from club members and friends, including appetizers, main courses, side dishes and desserts.

The book also includes 16 tail-wagging recipes for pet treats.

The cookbooks are priced at \$8 each and are available at Suggs Hallmark, the Western Hills Animal Clinic and at Kydees on U.S. Highway 87.

## COMING THIS WEEKEND



The comeback of the wild turkey is one of the most remarkable wildlife recovery stories in the nation's history. Hunted to near extinction by the 1930s, today wild turkeys number 6.5 million.

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Vol. 100, No. 305

Find us online at: [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. to noon Sunday.

## Flu vaccine to be available for young, elderly Thursday

By KENDRA WISS

Staff Writer

Don't let the flu bug get you! Even with wide-spread vaccine shortages, Big Spring residents now have time and resources available to receive this year's immunization.

"It looks like we're going to have plenty of vaccines available," said Sandy Samuels, LVN and immunization nurse for the local Department of State Health Services (DSHS). Immunizations will be available from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday at the DSHS office, located at 501 Birdwell Suite 28-B.

### INFORMATION

**What:** Flu vaccine.

**Where:** Department of State Health Services, 501 Birdwell, Suite 28B.

**When:** 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday.

**For:** Children 6 months to 23 months old; Adults 65 and older or who are at high risk; Families with children under 6 months old.

Immunizations are only available for those

See **VACCINE**, Page 3A

## Big Spring receives another 1.16 inches

According to the USDA-ARS, Cropping Systems Research Laboratory, Big Spring received 1.16 inches of rain Tuesday. The additional rainfall brings the city's yearly total to 33.90 inches.

The normal for this date is 17.53. A comparison of annual rainfall in years with more than 30 inches pro-

duced the following results:

1905 - 30.73 inches
1919 - 34.07 inches
1932 - 34.34 inches
1941 - 31.65 inches
1980 - 31.81 inches
1986 - 32.32 inches
1991 - 30.82 inches

The forecast calls for a 20 percent chance of moisture through the weekend.

## DAV mobile unit en route to Big Spring

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area veterans needing help with a disability claim will get their chance Thursday, as the Disabled American Veterans will put rubber to road to bring the Waco-based mobile service van to Big Spring.

Ed Meiser, commander of the local DAV chapter, said the van, which acts as a mobile information center for the DAV and the veterans the organization serves, will be parked in front of the Big Spring VA Medical Center from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Thursday.



MEISER

"The DAV regional office, which is located in Waco, is sending the mobile service van to help get the necessary information out to veterans that have disability claims or need to file them with the Veterans Administration," said Meiser. "They can walk the vets through the filing process, or help them with existing claims. They're there to help the veterans."

See **DAV**, Page 3A

## ROTARY DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS



Rotary District Governor Charles Cotten, center, with his wife Bonnie, visit with Hayes Stripling Jr. after the Rotary Club meeting on Tuesday in the Cactus Room.

## United Way extends deadline to end of the month

□ Penny a Day and 15 Minutes of Fame fund-raisers will continue.

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

With more than \$100,000 needed go before the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County reaches its 2004 goal, the agency is extending its deadline and offering a fund-raising shot at "15 Minutes of Fame."

"We've run into a few problems, so we're extending the deadline to Nov. 30," said Cynthia Scott, executive director for the local United Way. "Two of the rooms in the United Way

office have been flooded for the last several days because of all of the rain, plus we wanted to give our Penny a Day for the United Way and 15 Minutes of Fame fund-raisers more time."

Scott said the Penny a Day for the United Way consists of 5-gallon jugs that have been set up at area businesses for customers to donate their loose change, while the 15 Minutes of Fame fund-raiser takes a more glamorous approach.

"The tickets for the 15 Minutes of Fame are \$5, and one of the



SCOTT

participants will win just that — 15 minutes of fame," said Scott. "We have it set up so the recipient will receive a special article on them in the *Big Spring Herald*, a 15-minute spot on Lisa Brooks' KBST morning show, 15 red roses from Dakota's Flowers, a sash and their name on the billboard at the Big Spring Mall. They will also get to ride in the United Way sponsored vehicle during the *Big Spring Herald's* annual parade, which is set for Dec. 4.

"It's all in fun. We've had a lot of fun putting the fund-raiser together, and I think the recipient of the 15 minutes of fame will really enjoy it as well."

Scott said tickets are currently being sold by students at Big Spring High School and theater students at Howard College, with the results set to be announced.

"If someone's interested in purchasing a ticket, they can contact me or just get in touch with one of the board members," said Scott. "The students will also be selling the tickets, so we're hoping for a really good response from the community."

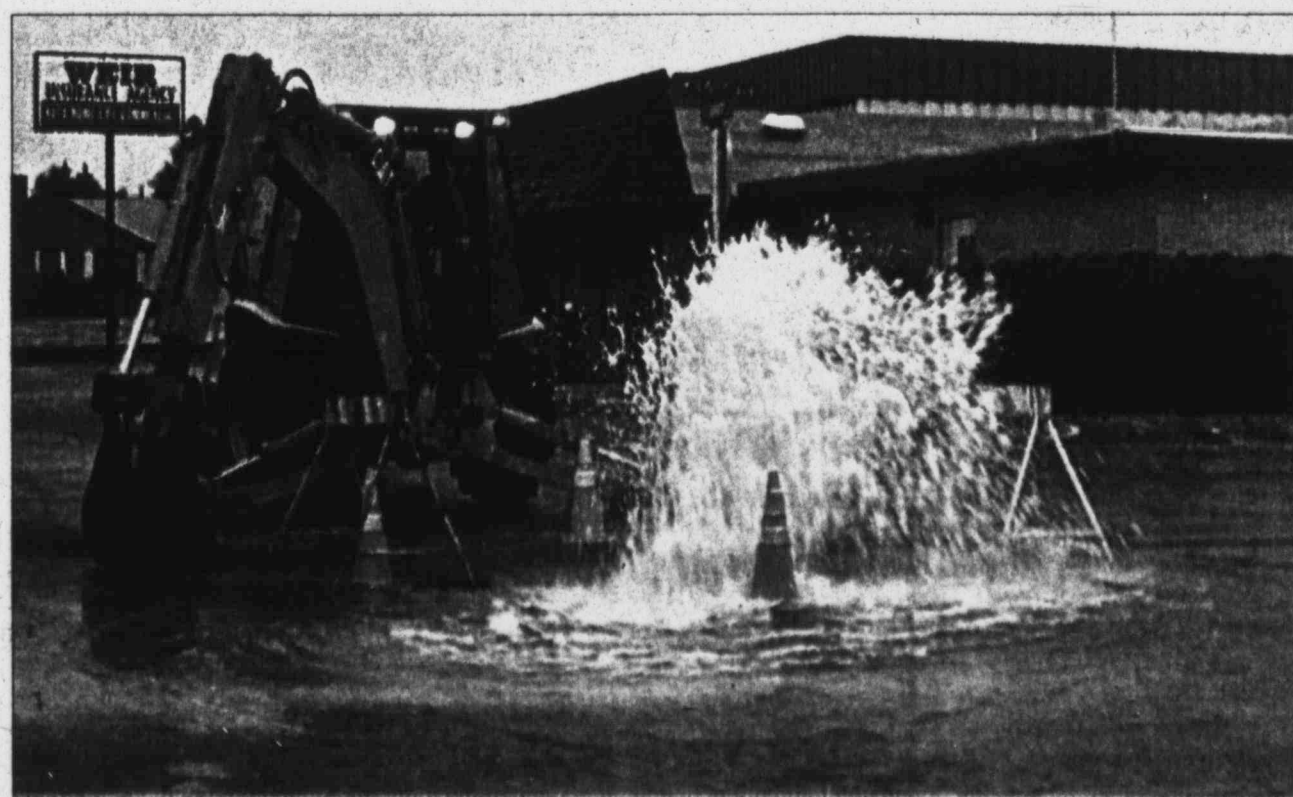
Scott said \$165,000 of the United Way's \$275,000 goal has been received, with many large contributors yet to ante up.

"We have a lot of really large

See **UNITED WAY**, Page 3A

## No MINOR LEAK

Johnny Gonzales, a senior crew technician for the city of Big Spring's Water Distribution and Collection department, prepares to begin repair efforts on an underground main water line break located at 16th Street and Scurry. The city crew repaired the break Tuesday.



HERALD photo/Kendra Wiss

## Moore Board set to convene

HERALD Staff Report

The Board of Directors of Moore Development for Big Spring will meet Thursday to consider routine items.

The agenda for Thursday's meeting, which is set to begin at 5:15 p.m. in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce board room located at 215 W. Third Street, includes the following:

- Consideration of October financials;
- Consideration of October investment report;
- Executive session to discuss financial or other incentive offers to a business prospect.

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## Obituaries

### Vicente S. Bustamante Jr.

Vicente S. Bustamante Jr., 68, of Artesia, N.M., formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday, Nov. 14, 2004, at Artesia General Hospital. A rosary is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Our Lady of Grace Church. Services are scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church with the Rev. Paul Murtagh officiating. Burial will be at Twin Oaks Memorial Park with veteran's graveside services.

He was born Aug. 23, 1936, in Presidio and married Eleanor Mae Wauneka Oct. 24, 1960, in Big Spring. He served in the Army and was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and eight brothers.

Survivors include his wife, Eleanor Bustamante; sons Silio Bustamante of Bend, Ore., Vicente W. Bustamante III of Artesia, Juan Bustamante of Artesia, Lucaz Bustamante of Okinawa, Japan and Alcario Bustamante of North Fork, Va; daughters Margaret Bustamante and Diana Bustamante, both of Artesia; brothers Francisco Bustamante and Pio Bustamante, both of Big Spring; sister Manuela Perez of Big Spring; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services are under the direction of Terpening & Son Mortuary. Online condolences may be made at [www.artesiafunerals.com](http://www.artesiafunerals.com).

### Phillip Burcham

Phillip Burcham, 80, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004, in an Odessa care facility. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Take note

□ **SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER IS SELLING KRISPY KREME DONUTS** for \$6 per dozen as a Relay For Life fund-raiser. Orders are due Nov. 24 and may be picked up Dec. 3. Also, pink ribbon car magnets are available for \$2.50. Call Amber Rich at 268-4960 for more information.

□ **LETTERS FROM SANTA ARE AVAILABLE FROM SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER** as a Relay For Life fund-raiser. Each letter will have a North Pole postmark for a \$5 donation. Contact Amber Rich at 268-4960 for more information.

□ **FISH FRY AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 506** begins at noon Saturday. Delivery and carry-out available. \$7 per plate. 3203 W. Highway 80. Call 263-2084.

□ **BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT RELAY FOR LIFE BUS BARN YELLOW DOGS TEAM** at the Big Spring Mall from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

□ **GARAGE AND BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT CIRCLE SIX RANCH IN STANTON** is set for Dec. 3-4 at the ranch, which is located six miles north of Stanton on Highway 137. Call 432-458-3467 for more information.

□ **TUMBLEWEED SMITH BOOK SIGNING**, "Under the Chinaberry Tree," and new CD, "Natural-Born Storyteller," at the Martin County Museum from 1-4 p.m. Friday. Contact Helen Thraikill at 756-2722 for more information.

□ **TALENT SHOW AND SPAGHETTI SUPPER AT CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1008 Birdwell Lane, at 6:30 Friday. Tickets are \$5 for each event, or \$8 to attend both. Proceeds go to fund missionary work of Janae Giles, who is attending the missions program at Lubbock Christian University. Contact Don Swinney, 263-9963, for more information.

□ **NEW HOPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** Thanksgiving Feast for students and parents at 10:45 a.m. Thursday. Call Karen at 263-0203 for more information.

□ **LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS (LULAC) CHAPTER 4791** is having an open meeting for the community from 6-8 p.m. Friday, in the Howard County Library Community Room. For more information, call Jennifer at 264-1297; Anita Marquez at 816-3226; Raul Marquez at 263-6351; Janey Tino at 268-9155; or Isabel Calderon at 213-4239.

□ **VENDORS NEEDED FOR CANTERBURY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** set for 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Dec. 4. Call Mandy at 263-1265. Space is limited.

□ **AN ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT TRISTAN RANGEL**, son of Ione and Tim Rangel, has been set up at the Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union, 2204 Gregg St., account No. 529903, to help with medical expenses. He has been diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia and is in a Lubbock hospital.

□ **BUFFALO COUNTRY FINA** is giving away an autographed photograph of Michael Jordan, along with two other Jordan magazine covers, to help with medical costs of 12-year-old Sage Gibson, son of Big Spring Junior High School assistant principal Tommy Gibson, who has been diagnosed with a tumor. For an update on Gibson's condition visit [www.carepages.com/ServeCarePage?cnp=Sagepage&uniq=923947](http://www.carepages.com/ServeCarePage?cnp=Sagepage&uniq=923947). For more information about the Buffalo Fina fund-raiser call 267-5050.

□ **THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL STEADHAM** is in need of help to pay for his funeral expenses. Friends of the family say he had no insurance and died suddenly. An account has been established at the Cosden Federal Credit Union for those wishing to help the family. For more information, call 264-0838 or 264-2600.

□ **MANNA RELIEF**, a non-profit ministry that provides glyconutritional supplements to critically ill children, is accepting donations for the program. Call Gene or Robbie Froman at 263-0385.

## Police blotter

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

- **GARY DEWAYNE BRADBERRY**, 33, of 21 Val Verde, was arrested Tuesday on an Ector County warrant for theft.
- **MARK WAYNE PERRY**, 25, of 2706 Monticello, was arrested Tuesday on local traffic citations and a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less.
- **MAEGHAN LEIGH SWINNEY**, 18, of 2706 Monticello, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less.
- **COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE**, 20, of 1408 E. Sixth Street, was arrested Tuesday and held for the HCSO.
- **LARRY GENE TEPERA**, 46, transient, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - 2 OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 1700 block of 11th Place.
- **THEFT** was reported:
  - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
  - in the 900 block of Willia.
  - in the 1700 block of FM 700.

## Sheriff's report

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

- **BOBBY R.V. CHURCHWELL**, 46, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to register as a sex offender.
- **MARGARET VIVIAN WELLS**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- **MAURICIO GARCIA HERNANDEZ**, 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for burglary of a habitation with intent to commit another felony.
- **JERRY DOPORTO**, 34, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by a public servant - more than \$1,500 less than \$20,000.
- **ELVIS EUGENE LANG**, 29, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check and contempt of court - disobedience of a court order.
- **DAVID CHRISTOPHER PETREE**, 20, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on a charge of theft of services.

## Support groups

**THURSDAY**  
□ Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

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

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. Call 263-8273 for more information.

□ Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

**FRIDAY**  
□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8-9 p.m.

**SATURDAY**  
□ Open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY**  
□ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5-6 p.m.

**MONDAY**  
□ All widows and widowers are invited to attend the Encourager's Support group meeting at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels streets. Thanksgiving covered dish dinner planned, and the turkey will be provided. Call 398-5522 for more information.

**TUESDAY**  
□ The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 12-14-18-24-26.  
Number matching five of five: 0.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-1-7

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## Bulletin board

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

**TODAY**  
• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.  
• Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.  
• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.  
• Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

**THURSDAY**  
• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.  
• Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.  
• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.  
• Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels.  
• American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.  
• Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.  
• Masonic Lodge 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.  
• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

**FRIDAY**  
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.  
• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.  
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.  
• Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

**SATURDAY**  
• Team Rustic Circle, an amateur paintball team, meets for practice between 3 p.m. and dusk at the Moss Creek Lake paintball facility. The public is always invited, whether to participate or just spectate. For more information contact Rick Boiles at 264-2395 or 393-5246.  
• Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.  
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.  
• Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

**MONDAY**  
• Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.  
• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.

## Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Areas of fog after midnight. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds.  
Thursday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Areas of fog in the morning. Highs in the mid 60s. Northwest winds near 10 mph. Thursday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds.  
Friday - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s. Light and variable winds.  
Friday night - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 40s.  
Saturday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs near 60.  
Saturday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows near 40.  
Sunday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s.  
Sunday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows near 40.  
Monday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the mid 60s.  
Monday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows near 40.  
Tuesday - Mostly cloudy. Highs near 60.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**  
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# Se

CHICAGO retailer Kmart combining venerable name, Sears, R surprise \$11 b create the na retailer.

The compar the combin Wednesday Sears Holding clearly orche chairman and Edward Lam new board th ed by Kmar continue to and Sears sto rent brand na Shares of surged on 1 Kmart climb cent, to \$117 Stock Market soared \$9.70, \$54.90 on th Exchange.

The deal m comeback known for "Specials," wh operations a ruptcy proteo roots date to it offered me order to farr first retail sto

# NEW

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**Pizza**  
Kids 1 with Each /  
Only Wednes

# Sears and Kmart merging

## VACCINE

Continued from Page 1A

CHICAGO (AP) — Discount retailer Kmart Holding Corp. is combining with one of the most venerable names in U.S. retailing, Sears, Roebuck & Co., in a surprise \$11 billion deal that will create the nation's third largest retailer.

The company being created by the combination announced Wednesday would be known as Sears Holdings Corp., but it was clearly orchestrated by Kmart chairman and Sears shareholder Edward Lampert, who will lead a new board that will be dominated by Kmart directors. It will continue to operate the Kmart and Sears stores under their current brand names.

Shares of both companies surged on news of the deal. Kmart climbed \$15.80, or 16 percent, to \$117.02 on the Nasdaq Stock Market while Sears shares soared \$9.70, or 21 percent, to \$54.90 on the New York Stock Exchange.

The deal marks a remarkable comeback for Kmart, once known for its "Blue Light Specials," which had scaled back operations after seeking bankruptcy protection in 2002. Sears' roots date to the late 1800s when it offered merchandise by mail order to farmers. It opened its first retail store in 1925 and even-

tually became the nation's biggest retailer.

The combined company is expected to have \$55 billion in annual revenues and nearly 3,500 stores. That means it will trail only Wal-Mart and Target among the biggest U.S. retailers.

It will have its headquarters in the northwestern Chicago suburb of Hoffman Estates, home of Sears, but will maintain a "significant presence" in Troy, Mich., where Kmart is based.

Under the agreement, unanimously approved by both companies' boards of directors, Kmart shareholders will receive one share of new Sears Holdings stock for each Kmart share. Sears, Roebuck shareholders can choose \$50 in cash or half a share of Sears Holdings stock. That portion of the deal values Sears shares at \$11 billion, a 10.6 percent premium over its value at Tuesday's close.

With Lampert as chairman, Sears CEO Alan Lacy will be vice chairman and CEO of the new company. The 10-member Sears Holdings board will have seven members from Kmart and three from Sears.

Lampert, Kmart's majority shareholder, is also Sears' largest shareholder, holding a 15 percent stake in Sears through his ESL

Investments Inc.

The merger, expected to close by the end of March, is subject to approval by Kmart and Sears shareholders and regulatory agencies.

Kmart filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in early 2002, leading to the closing of about 600 stores, termination of 57,000 employees and cancellation of company stock.

It emerged from bankruptcy in May 2003 and on Wednesday posted its fourth consecutive quarterly profit. Its stock price has risen to \$101.22 on Tuesday from \$15 a share when it emerged from bankruptcy.

Sears had long fallen out of favor on Wall Street after losing ground to competitors and enduring sluggish sales for years.

The company last fall introduced its Sears Grand stores, which offer grocery and convenience items besides traditional Sears fare such as clothing, home appliances and tools.

Kmart has been shedding many of its underperforming stores, a strategy that has helped it bounce back. In fact, it has sold 50 of those stores to Sears for \$575 million.

It has appeared that Sears

could be shifting toward a similar real estate strategy since the disclosure that Vornado Realty Trust, a real estate investment trust, had purchased a 4.3 percent interest in the chain. Since that Nov. 5 announcement, Sears' stock has jumped 25 percent, closing at \$45.20 Tuesday.

The merger will not affect agreements to carry home and fashion lines including Martha Stewart Everyday, Lands' End and Sesame Street, the companies said.

Wal-Mart dethroned Sears as the nation's largest retailer in 1991.

Sears dates to 1886, when Richard W. Sears started a watch company. Alvah C. Roebuck joined the company the following year as a watchmaker, and within a few years they expanded to a mail-order general merchandise business. The first Sears catalog was issued in 1896. The company opened its first stores in the 1920s.

The first Kmart discount store was opened in 1962 by the S.S. Kresge Co., the retail chain founded in 1899 by Sebastian S. Kresge. By 1976, with Kmart sales topped 90 percent of Kresge's total sales, the company name was changed to Kmart Corp.

age 6 months to 23 months, those 65 and older and those who are at high risk due to chronic illness.

DSHS also sees a need to provide immunizations to families with very young children.

"We want to give parents who have children younger than 6 months old the vaccine," said Samuels. "Since the child is too young to receive the vaccine, we want to immunize the family to keep the baby from getting sick."

The flu shots are \$10 each but free to those covered by Medicaid or Medicare. The vaccine will be offered to the public a second time from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 29.

Contact Staff Writer Kendra Wiss at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

## UNITED WAY

Continued from Page 1A

companies that we're waiting on at this point," said Scott. "Companies like Alon USA and Scenic Mountain Medical Center, who are traditionally very big givers. Once we get those numbers in I'm sure we'll be a lot closer to our goal."

The United Way helps 15 local agencies: American Red Cross, West Texas Chapter; Boy's Club of Big Spring, Buffalo Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America; CASA of West Texas (new agency for the United Way); Council on Again (Meals on Wheels); Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center; Howard County Humane Society; Isaiah 58; Northside Community Center; Salvation Army; Victim Services; Westside Community Center; Westside Day Care Center; West Texas Girl Scout Council and YMCA of Big Spring.

For more information on the United Way and the ongoing campaign — or to make a donation — contact Scott at 267-5201.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### House GOP looks to protect DeLay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving to protect Majority Leader Tom DeLay, House Republicans want to change party rules to ensure that DeLay retains his post if a Texas grand jury indicts him as it did with three of his political associates.

The House Republican Conference, composed of all GOP members in the chamber, was to vote Wednesday to modify a requirement that would force DeLay to step aside if charged with a felony requiring at least a two-year prison term.

Party rules require leaders to relinquish their posts after a felony indictment, but the change would eliminate the requirement for non-federal indictments.

A grand jury in Travis County, Texas, is investigating alleged irregularities in 2002 state legislative races. Republican victories in those contests enabled DeLay ultimately to win support for a congressional redistricting plan that resulted in the GOP's gain of five House seats in Texas in this month's elections.

There is no indication that DeLay faces charges, but the majority leader has called the investigation — led by a retiring Democratic prosecutor — a partisan attack on him.

### Rail crashes increase inspectors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal regulators added 10 inspectors in San Antonio in response to six area train accidents since May and gave Union Pacific Railroad another chance to improve safety.

But San Antonio officials were wary of the Federal Railroad Administration and some wondered why tougher sanctions weren't imposed.

"The FRA really needs to sharpen its teeth and bite a little harder," said Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff.

Three people died in a train derailment involving the release of toxic chemicals in June and another died when a rail car smashed into a building

Nov. 10. Other accidents have involved spills of hazardous materials. The additional inspectors raise the number in San Antonio to 14.

### Bush turns to education confidant

WASHINGTON (AP) — Margaret Spellings, who managed President Bush's school agenda from Texas to Washington, emerged as a natural to be next education secretary.

Bush plans to promote Spellings, his domestic policy adviser, to the Cabinet-level job of overseeing the Education Department and enforcing the nation's sweeping school reform law. She would replace departing secretary Rod Paige if she wins Senate confirmation.

The move, confirmed to The Associated Press by an administration official Tuesday, is expected to be official as early as Wednesday.

To the president, Spellings delivers exactly what he expects from schools: results.

As Bush's domestic policy adviser, Spellings has helped shape the news while staying out of it herself. Karl Rove, the president's political strategist, was quoted this fall as saying Spellings is "the most influential woman in Washington that you've never heard of."

### Convict in slaying set to die

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Robert Tate would visit his old Houston neighborhood to keep an eye on his mom and was known to hang out with some of his buddies at a nearby convenience store.

"People knew him and had good things to say about him," a Houston police investigator, Ken Vachris, recalled this week. "He was a big guy and probably was the neighborhood defender."

So it wouldn't be out of character for him to be drinking some beers with friends, then chase after a man who robbed the store of some beer and money.

But when he caught up with the holdup man, he was fatally shot.

Anthony Fuentes was convicted of killing Tate, 28, who became known as a slain good Samaritan.

## Consumer prices up 0.6 percent in October, biggest increase since May

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer prices heated up in October, rising by 0.6 percent, the biggest gain in five months.

The newest snapshot of the inflation climate, released by the Labor Department Wednesday, bolstered the chances that the Federal Reserve would push up interest rates for a fifth time this year on Dec. 14.

The sizable increase in the Consumer Price Index, the government's most closely watched inflation barometer, came after prices rose by 0.2 percent in September.

Sharp increases in energy and food prices were the main culprits behind the acceleration in consumer prices for October.

Excluding energy and food prices, "core" prices increased by a more modest 0.2 percent in October, following a 0.3 percent rise the previous month.

The pricing picture in October showed bigger increases than economists were forecasting. Some were expecting a 0.4 percent advance in overall consumer prices and a 0.1 percent rise in the core figure.

In a bid to prevent inflation from becoming a threat to the economy, Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues embarked in June on a campaign to raise short-term interest

rates. Economists said it is crucial for the Fed to move rates back to more normal levels after they were kept extraordinarily low to rescue the economy from the jolts of the 2001 recession and terrorist attacks.

Thus far, the Fed has ordered four quarter-point rate increases. The most recent one, last week, left the federal funds rate at 2 percent.

"The chances have clearly risen this month that the Fed will not take a holiday in December but rather continue on its program of quarter-point increases," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at LaSalle Bank.

Other economic news also added to the case for another rate increase:

— Industrial production shot up by 0.7 percent in October, up from a 0.1 percent increase in September. The Federal Reserve report suggested the industrial sector is gaining momentum.

— Housing construction jumped by 6.4 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.03 million, the Commerce Department said.

From an economic point of view, inflation isn't currently a major danger to the economy's expansion, analysts said.

## DAV

Continued from Page 1A

Meiser said no appointment is necessary, and those with questions need only bring a few articles of information with them.

"If they are filing a new claim, they need to bring their form DD-214 with them," said Meiser.

"That's their discharge papers. They also need to be sure to bring their Social Security number.

"If they are working on an existing claim, they need to bring their claim number and any other pertinent information or

records as well. This is also for the spouses of veterans as well, so we hope anyone with questions will come out and see us."

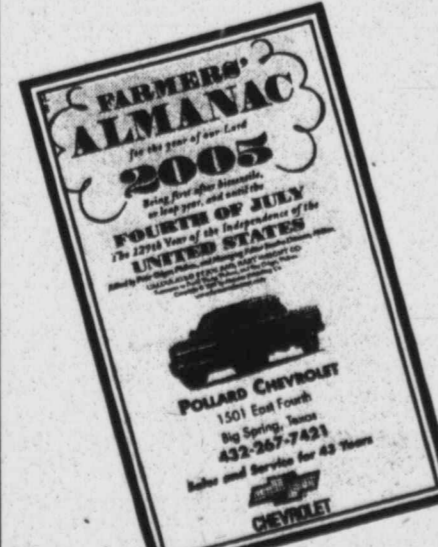
For more information, call the DAV regional office at 254-299-9932, or the local office located in

the VA Medical Center at 264-4825.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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## EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

## Deadline looms to register your parade entries

Two more days. That's right, just two days are left until the Nov. 19 deadline to get those entries in for the *Big Spring Herald's* 19th annual Crossroads Community Christmas Parade, a procession we believe will be the biggest and best Big Spring has ever seen.

This is, after all, the year we celebrated our 100th anniversary. So, this will be the 100th Christmas season that the *Herald* has served our community. And that is why the theme for this year's parade is "100 Years of West Texas Christmases."

Entry forms have appeared on our pages on a regular basis, and one is included in today's edition. So, it's time for individuals, businesses and organizations to begin registering entries for the parade which is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4.

The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. and follow its usual route up Gregg Street to downtown, arriving at the courthouse square in time for the Christmas celebration scheduled at Heart of the City Park.

Parade entries will be judged and plaques awarded to first-place winners in four categories: those sponsored by schools and churches; commercial and manufacturers' entries; those sponsored by civic organizations; and individual or family entries.

In addition, three entries will receive cash prizes — \$100 for the entry best expressing the parade theme; \$75 for the best lighted entry; and \$50 for the best costuming.

We're encouraging church groups, service clubs, riding clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts ... anyone and everyone to planning an entry and get registered. And don't forget to light those entries.

We want the Crossroads Community Christmas Parade to continue being known as one of the largest and best events of its kind. To do that, however, we need your help.

Please join us in making sure that this is not only an historic year for the *Herald*, but a very, very memorable Christmas season for us all.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

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

## A monument to community spirit

On the campus of the University of Texas at Odessa sits a replica of Stonehenge. It's 80 percent the size of the one on the Salisbury Plain in England. The monolithic wonder was built this past summer.

It all came about because a couple of guys, Dick Gillham and Chris Stanley, were shooting the bull about unusual monuments around the world and one of them said, "Let's build a Stonehenge." Chris Stanley teaches art at UTPB and decided the location of the monument should be next to the art building on campus.

The two men really got excited about the project and their enthusiasm spread throughout the area. People started donating things to make it happen. Geologists, historians, heavy equipment operators, architects, astronomers all got behind the effort. They wanted it to be in the exact relation to the sun and moon as the one in

England. They wanted the stones to be placed exactly the same distance apart as the original. They wanted it to be correct.

The stones came from a limestone quarry near Garden City owned by Connie Edwards. His philosophy is "If it ain't fun, don't do it." He donated the stones. They were shaped, hoisted onto trucks and hauled to Odessa. Forty trips were required to haul the huge stones, each weighing between 25,000 and 42,000 pounds. They are 16 feet tall. Limestone on the UTPB library and new apartment-style dormitories also came from Connie's quarry.

When Dr. David Watts, president of UTPB, first heard about building a replica of Stonehenge, he said, "Boys, we gotta get permission from the Board of Regents of the University of Texas system to build the thing." Dr. Watts was showing regent Robert Estrada around the campus last spring. When they got to the art building, Dr. Watts told the regent, "We're going to build a replica of Stonehenge next to the building."

Regent Estrada is a friend of the university and has visited the Odessa campus more than any other regent. He spoke at a recent commencement. He convinced the

regents the Stonehenge replica would be a good thing for Odessa and the UT system. The motion to build it passed with little discussion.

At the dedication ceremony in late September, Dr. Watts called the event a milestone in the history of the university. Dick Gillham recognized the donors and said, "Many organizations came together for this project because they realize the importance of UTPB to our area."

Regent Estrada, in his remarks, praised the people involved for their spirit of adventure in the massive undertaking. He pointed out that Stonehenge was the second monument to England in Odessa, the other being the replica of the Globe Theatre on the campus of Odessa College. "The UTPB Stonehenge will provide intriguing educational value for art, geology and math students and will also serve as a source of awe and inspiration to us all," said Regent Estrada. "It will become a premier attraction and has already received national media attention."

Odessa Mayor Larry Melton said, "Stonehenge is a welcome addition to our university campus and community."

## Why is Jack Kevorkian still alive?

Why is Jack Kevorkian still alive?

The assisted-suicide enthusiast, who says he helped some 130 people kill themselves, is in prison for the 1998 murder of Thomas Youk, who suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease.

While Kevorkian says that he never actively killed anyone before Youk — he instead helped the afflicted kill themselves — the death doc personally injected Youk with poison in 1998 and videotaped the procedure so it could be aired on "60 Minutes."

Kevorkian said at the time that he killed Youk on camera because he wanted to challenge Michigan's assisted-suicide law. He told the Oakland Press of Michigan he wanted a "show-down": "I want to be prosecuted for euthanasia. I am going to prove that this is not a crime, ever, regardless of what words are written on paper."

As the saying goes: Be careful what you wish for. Kevorkian got his trial — and to his surprise, a jury convicted him of second-degree murder and sentenced him to 10 to 25 years behind bars. Kevorkian promptly threatened to go on a hunger strike in prison. After prison authorities announced they would not force-feed the death doc, presto change-o, he decided to eat. And live.

Now, after losing appeals, Kevorkian's attorney Mayer

Morganroth is asking Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm to pardon Kevorkian or commute his sentence. According to the Detroit Free Press, Morganroth cites Kevorkian's health problems — high blood pressure, arthritis, hernias, hepatitis C, cataracts, heart disease, adrenal insufficiency suggestive of Addison's disease and lung disease — as cause for Granholm to release Kevorkian from the slammer.

The irony here is that, before prison, Kevorkian saw the above as reason to release others from the mortal coil. While he likes to portray himself as a man who helped terminally ill people to die, many of his victims were not terminal, and it's not clear that some were particularly ill. His first victim, Janet Adkins, had early Alzheimer's disease, but she was 54 and fit enough to play tennis days before she visited Kevorkian's death van.

If Kevorkian, now 76, felt comfortable helping a fiftysomething tennis player pull her plug, surely he should regard his own poor health as deserving the ultimate remedy — what he dubbed "medicide." Explaining why his early victims were women, Kevorkian once explained that females are "far more realistic about facing death and have got the guts to do it."

According to the Oakland Press, Morganroth said Kevorkian doesn't expect his client to live "more than a year." Truth be told, Team Kevorkian has a bit of a credibility problem. An appeals brief claims that Kevorkian injected Youk not so much to kill Youk as to relieve his pain. Bunk.

This is choice: The brief sought

an appeal because Kevorkian had incompetent counsel advising him. (Kevorkian served as his own lawyer but had attorneys advising him.) Now, according to Morganroth's brief, Kevorkian "was under the impression that he was represented by counsel throughout the trial."

Again, if Kevorkian is senile and sickly, shouldn't he be asking for deliverance instead of a commutation?

Think: Kevorkian has piled up 130 corpses. He helped kill people without really knowing their medical condition. He extolled the virtues of "death with dignity." When Michigan passed laws to prevent the carnage, he continued to participate in assisted suicides, even experimenting with sick new twists, such as the time he removed kidneys from a corpse — ostensibly for transplantation, except no real doctor would touch those butchered parts.

Now, Kevorkian's lawyer says he should be free because he is sick. There is no talk of "death with dignity." There is no talk of quality-of-life issues. There is no insistence on autonomy. To the contrary, while Kevorkian thought others should die if they lacked freedom of movement, he has survived some five years in prison.

When you're Jack Kevorkian, life is sweet. Even behind bars.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfcchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfcchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Back when the Big Spring City Council approved the ordinance to ban chaining dogs and requiring citizens to have fences with concrete pads, I knew it would create a problem for the citizens who live in the county. I had only hoped that it wouldn't have been so soon and had proven me to be wrong in my prediction.

A pit bulldog has been dumped at my residence. Since I have an extreme fear of dogs, do not own any dogs and do not wish to have any, this has created a problem for me. So on Monday I started trying to no avail to find someone to come and take this dog from my location.

It started with a call to the Howard County Sheriff's Office. "We don't have an animal control, can't help you," was the response I received.

From there I called the city's animal control number and was told,

"We can't come out unless the sheriff's office calls." They recommended I call Gary Pritchett for help, but when I tried to call him was told, "He's out for the week."

I then called my County Commissioner Gary Simer at his place of employment. "He's at commissioners court. You can call him at home after 3 p.m.," I was told.

I returned to work to ask our news reporter whom I can call to handle this. All the steps he named I had tried to no avail. e then tried to help in the matter. I finally learned that "a deputy will call, then come out. Will there be someone home?" I said that yes, my husband would be there. I then called my husband to have him take our portable phone outside with him so that when they called he would know. He left our residence, but left his employee there in case the sheriff's office called.

There was no call, just

an appearance by the deputy. Because the dog did not appear to be vicious, the deputy left. What constitutes being vicious, being bitten or mauled?

My co-worker, the editor, tried to get me help with the problem. This is what he was told, "If I shoot the dog on my property, the sheriff's office will have animal control come pick up the dead carcass for me. Otherwise they will not pick up the dog because he is not vicious, because the county commissioners have allotted only \$1,000 in the sheriff's budget for the year to pay animal control to pick up stray animals."

So at the time of this writing, the dog has been at my front door trying to get into my home. I've had to shoo and chase him away so that I may get from my front door to my car. But how long will it be before the dog does become vicious from lack of food, lack of attention

and being chased with a stick?

I don't wish to be a victim such as the Big Spring woman who was mauled. What happens if it is a child in a yard playing that the dog comes upon? What will constitute being vicious?

The city council did not punish just a select few who chained their dogs too tight, abused and neglected their chained dogs. It has punished all the people of Howard County. The commissioners have had the same three months that residents had to be prepared for this ordinance, yet the time has arrived and nothing was put into play for the dumping of animals in the county.

One thing is for sure. You know the elections are over. No one is concerned about helping you out when there is no vote to be counted on.

DIANNE MARQUEZ  
BIG SPRING

## WORLD

## U.S. Marines trying to snee

BAGHDAD, I battled insurg into the forme Fallujah on W militants as vic across Iraq's land.

Heavy machi rang out in Fallujah as U. still in the tur ern Jolan neig fought insurge sneaked back i across the Euph

Bullets snap body-collection the Marines sc and in buildir fighting, three Marine lightly cers said.

On Saturda declared the o completely oc after a nearly w ets of insurge Iraqi forces are

"Even as we struction, the f you can hear, civil affairs of Battalion, 5th Wednesday a grenade explos tance.

Also on We rrammed into a forces - battle Baghdad, leavi people dead, w

At least 20 car bomb and t 155 miles north

There was 1 from the U.S. and it was unc

## Famil aid w

BAGHDAD, I The apparent CARE head

Hassan by her deepened the c aid agencies al ful of operating Ireland, when was born, hu mourners p church Wedne final respects.

Political lead atives expres and anger over Hassan, w renowned for h of work in Iraq ing medicine, supplies to Ira ing under the s the 1990s.

British offic believe Hassa blindfolded w being shot in t a hooded mil video obtaine aired by the A sion station

She would be t eign woman to wave of kidn: Iraq. No g claimed resp

The 59-year-old director of CA ational in l abducted in B Oct. 16.

British and Ir condemned the killing and the Union said it w relief efforts almost impossi

Christian Ber the World Foo one of many re zations that h cally scaled b tions in Iraq security conc Hassan's dea make matters v

"That's realy; Berthiaume s very dangerou work, unfortu relief workers.

"If it's true, rageous," said Genderen. Sto woman for the Commissioner Refugees in Ar said Hassan even under the cult times in I good of the Ir

# WORLD NEWS

## U.S. Marines fight insurgents trying to sneak back into Fallujah

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. Marines battled insurgents trying to sneak back into the former militant stronghold of Fallujah on Wednesday, killing three militants as violence continued to erupt across Iraq's Sunni-dominated heartland.

Heavy machine gunfire and explosions rang out in south-central parts of Fallujah as U.S. Marines hunted fighters still in the turbulent city. In its northern Jolan neighborhood, U.S. Marines fought insurgents who officers said had sneaked back into the city by swimming across the Euphrates River.

Bullets snapped overhead as Iraqi body-collection workers supervised by the Marines sought cover behind walls and in buildings. After 15 minutes of fighting, three rebels were dead and one Marine lightly injured in the hand, officers said.

On Saturday, the U.S. military declared the one-time rebel stronghold completely occupied but not subdued after a nearly weeklong battle. But pockets of insurgents remain, and U.S. and Iraqi forces are still fighting.

"Even as we start Fallujah's reconstruction, the fighting is continuing, as you can hear," Capt. Alex Henegar, a civil affairs officer attached to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, told reporters Wednesday as heavy gunfire and grenade explosions sounded in the distance.

Also on Wednesday, a car bomber rammed into a U.S. convoy as American forces battled militants north of Baghdad, leaving a total of at least 10 people dead, witnesses said.

At least 20 others were injured by the car bomb and the heavy clashes in Beiji, 155 miles north of the capital.

There was no immediate comment from the U.S. military on the incident, and it was unclear whether there were

## any American casualties. Close relationship could put State Department front and center in U.S. foreign policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Condoleezza Rice has been both protege and mentor to President Bush in his first four years in the White House. So he is bound to feel comfortable with the former Stanford University provost running the State Department.

They chat easily and interchangeably, without a hint of divergence, about perceived threats to U.S. national security. There is no reason to expect that comity to falter.

The outlook is for a more secure Bush, spared Secretary of State Colin Powell's steady stream of reminders about the impact that a unilateral and aggressive foreign policy might have on friends and foes around the world.

"She is very able," Zbigniew Brzezinski, former President Carter's national security adviser, said of Rice on Tuesday.

But in a cautionary note, Brzezinski questioned whether the complexity of America's situation in the world should be reduced to "grand formulas" that are hostile to nuances.

"You cannot reduce everything to the global war on terrorism," Brzezinski said in an interview.

Rice, who mentored Bush on foreign policy and national security, has never indicated publicly any difference in view with him. She helped Bush respond to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks by declaring war on terrorism, and she had a hand in plotting the war on Iraq.

## Putin says Russia developing new nuclear missile systems

MOSCOW (AP) — President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday that Russia is developing a new form of nuclear missile unlike those held by other countries, news agencies reported.

Speaking at a meeting of the Armed Forces' leadership, Putin reportedly said that Russia is researching and suc-

cessfully testing new nuclear missile systems.

"I am sure that ... they will be put in service within the next few years and, what is more, they will be developments of the kind that other nuclear powers do not and will not have," Putin was quoted as saying by the ITAR-Tass news agency.

Putin reportedly said: "International terrorism is one of the major threats for Russia. We understand as soon as we ignore such components of our defense as a nuclear and missile shield, other threats may occur."

No details were immediately available, but Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said earlier this month that Russia expected to test-fire a mobile version of its Topol-M ballistic missile this year and that production of the new weapon could be commissioned in 2005.

News reports have also said Russia is believed to be developing a next-generation heavy nuclear missile that could carry up to 10 nuclear warheads weighing a total of 4.4 tons, compared with the Topol-M's 1.32-ton combat payload.

## Film industry files first wave of anti-piracy lawsuits

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Following the lead of record companies who curtailed rampant Internet piracy by targeting even small-time file swappers, Hollywood studios have launched a first wave of lawsuits against people who allegedly downloaded recent films such as "Spider-Man 2" and "Troy."

The seven major studios filed the lawsuits for federal copyright infringement on Tuesday in Denver, New York City, San Francisco and St. Louis. Lawsuits may have been filed in other cities, but the Motion Picture Association of America, which represents the studios, declined to say how many were filed and where.

"It's not important," said John Malcol, senior vice president and director of worldwide anti-piracy operations for the MPAA. "It doesn't matter if it's 10 lawsuits or 500 lawsuits. The idea

here is that there is no safe harbor."

Three lawsuits, obtained by The Associated Press, were filed in federal courts in Denver and St. Louis. Two lawsuits were filed in Denver against 22 defendants, while the one in St. Louis targets 18 individuals.

## Trying to lose weight? Sleep more and get a pooch, experts say

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Experts have this unconventional advice for dieters: Don't scrimp on sleep and think about getting a dog.

A very large study has found a surprisingly strong link between the amount of shut-eye people get and their risk of becoming obese. Researchers also found that dog owners who dieted alongside their pets did slightly better than their dog-less counterparts.

Both studies were reported this week at a meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity.

The sleep study found that people who got less than four hours of sleep a night were 73 percent more likely to be obese than those who got the recommended seven to nine hours of rest. Those who averaged five hours of sleep had 50 percent greater risk, and those who got six hours had 23 percent more.

"Maybe there's a window of opportunity for helping people sleep more, and maybe that would help their weight," said Dr. Steven Heymsfield of Columbia University and St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, who did the study with Columbia epidemiologist James Gangwisch.

They used information on about 18,000 adults participating in the federal government's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, or NHANES, throughout the 1980s.

It may seem odd that sleeping more would prevent obesity because people burn fewer calories when they're resting, but they also eat when they're awake. The effect of chronic sleep deprivation on the body's food-seeking circuitry is what specialists think may be making the difference in obesity risks.

# Family, colleagues mourn kidnapped aid worker believed to be slain in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The apparent slaying of CARE head Margaret Hassan by her kidnappers deepened the chill among aid agencies already fearful of operating in Iraq. In Ireland, where Hassan was born, hundreds of mourners packed a church Wednesday to pay final respects.

Political leaders and relatives expressed shock and anger over the fate of Hassan, who was renowned for her 30 years of work in Iraq, distributing medicine, food and supplies to Iraqis suffering under the sanctions of the 1990s.

British officials say they believe Hassan was a blindfolded woman seen being shot in the head by a hooded militant on a video obtained but not aired by the Arab television station Al-Jazeera. She would be the first foreign woman to die in the wave of kidnappings in Iraq. No group has claimed responsibility. The 59-year-old Hassan, director of CARE International in Iraq, was abducted in Baghdad on Oct. 16.

British and Irish leaders condemned the apparent killing and the European Union said it would make relief efforts in Iraq almost impossible.

Christian Berthiaume of the World Food Program, one of many relief organizations that have drastically scaled back operations in Iraq because of security concerns, said Hassan's death would make matters worse.

"That's really a shock," Berthiaume said. "It's a very dangerous place to work, unfortunately, for relief workers."

"If it's true, this is outrageous," said Astrid van Genderen Stort, spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Amman. She said Hassan "worked even under the most difficult times in Iraq for the good of the Iraqi people,

for 30 years." WFP and other U.N. agencies pulled their international staff out of Iraq after a deadly bomb attack on United Nations offices in Baghdad last year. Many other groups have done the same, leaving local employees in place to carry on work.

CARE said it was in mourning for Hassan. The group has closed its Iraq operations since she was abducted Oct. 19 in Baghdad while she was being driven to work.

In the southwest Ireland village of Kenmare, where Hassan's sister Geraldine Riney lives, hundreds turned out to mourn Hassan at a joint Catholic-Protestant service.

The Rev. Tom Crean, Catholic parish priest of Kenmare, told mourners that her killing represented "an unspeakable loss."

Hassan's four brothers and sisters said Tuesday that they believe she is dead. "Our hearts are broken," they said in a statement. "Those who are

guilty of this atrocious act, and those who support them, have no excuses."

A British, Iraqi and Irish citizen, Hassan had lived in Iraq for 32 years and was married to an Iraqi engineer, Tahseen Ali Hassan. She served as CARE director there since 1991.

Sunday, Marines found the mutilated body of what they believe was a Western woman on a street in Fallujah during the U.S. assault on the insurgent stronghold. The body, clothed in what appeared to be a purple, velour dress, was wrapped in a blanket, with a blood-soaked black cloth nearby. As of Tuesday night, the U.S. command said the body had not been identified.

Hassan's captors had issued several videotapes of her pleading for her life and asking for Britain to withdraw its troops from Iraq and for female Iraqi prisoners to be freed. Ireland, which has been critical of the U.S.-British

invasion of Iraq, issued several high-profile appeals for her freedom.

Irish President Mary McAleese said she was "greatly saddened."

"Margaret was remarkable in her love for and devotion to the Iraqi people," McAleese said. "It is a cruel irony that Margaret's captors did not show her the same humanity and kindness which she demonstrated daily to those around her."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair said he shares the family's "abhorrence at the cruel treatment of someone who devoted so many years of their life to helping the people of Iraq."

Hassan was the most prominent of more than 170 foreigners kidnapped in Iraq this year. At least 34 have been killed. Besides Hassan, eight foreign women have been abducted. Seven have been released. Teresa Borcz Khalifa is now the only one whose fate remains unknown.

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# Library News

The library will close at 1 p.m. Nov. 24 for the Thanksgiving holidays. It will reopen Nov. 29 at 9 a.m.

Golden Corydalis, Jimmifyern, Silktree (or mimosa) and Wild Onion: what is the common denominator? If a horse or cow ate any of these plants, then quite possibly they could die.

When Golden Corydalis is eaten, these symptoms appear within a few hours — uneasiness, rapid respiration, staggering and convulsions. When consumed in lethal amounts, the animal will die; in milder cases, the animal recovers quickly.

"Toxic Plants of Texas" (636.089 HAR C) edited by Charles R. Hart of the Texas Cooperative Extension, lists in some detail plants that, while they may look pretty, can be lethal to livestock. This is an excellent resource for both the experienced rancher or stockman and the amateur who keeps only a few head of stock.

On quite a different note, Katie Letcher Lyle has written "The Complete Guide to Edible Wild Plants, Mushrooms, Fruits and Nuts" (641.6 LYL K) Edible wild plants, mushrooms, nuts and fruits grow wild

along roadsides and in country fields.

But to enjoy them, you must know when to harvest and how to recognize, prepare and eat them. This book provides you with all that you would want to know about these wild treasures. Care must be taken, however, in correctly identifying each item you find.

This is a most interesting book for someone who likes to forage the countryside.

Have you been thrust into the situation of serving as an executor of an estate? Whether it is your own, your parents, or perhaps a close friend, it is still a task that must be done.

"How to Administer an Estate" (346.730 CHR S) by Stephen G. Christianson will take you step-by-step through the various stages. It takes into account the various states and how they view community property, how to inventory an estate and how to disburse funds. The appendices section is longer than the book portion and contains various forms for use of the administrator.

Jeff Belanger has written "The World's Most Haunted Places" (133.1 BEL J). Jeff is acknowledged master of American hauntings and his writing will appeal to any person who is interested in ghosts.

In 1999, he launched www.ghostvillage.com as repository for his writ-

ings. While I have not visited that site and am not familiar with it, it might be worth looking at.

While I wouldn't call it a cookbook or diet book, Sandra Woodruff has written "Secrets of Good-Carb Low-Carb Living" (613.283 WOO S). It contains guidelines for making the right choice for food, either at home or on the road, menu plans to keep your meals interesting and a quick-start plan to get you on the low-carb lifestyle.

Many of us may have aging parents or perhaps you are at an age where the responsibility of a single family home is becoming too much to handle.

Two books have arrived in the library that will help you or your loved ones choose the best option.

"Making the Right Move: Housing Options for Seniors" (363.594 TEL G) by Gillian Eades Telford will assist you in choosing the right home that will provide comfort and care and help you in making an informed decision for yourself or a loved one.

Ms. Eades is a registered nurse with an extensive background in gerontology, or the care of elderly.

The second book is "Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities" (362.61 CON L) by Linda H. Connell. Ms. Connell is a lawyer and looks at the subject from a different perspective. Her book parallels Ms.

Eades and covers much the same ground.

Ms. Connell's book has an extensive section with information from various states and also contains the Nursing Home Reform Act.

First copyrighted in 1942, George Sessions Perry's book "Texas: A World in Itself" (976.406 PER G) is an excellent informal guide to the history, traditions and folklore of Texas.

You will read about cowboys in East Texas who speak French, go to Central Texas to a "cemetery workin'" and how to get rich both legally and illegally. Again, this is an "old" book, not about contemporary times.

"The Pilates Edge" (613.71 ADA K) by Karrie Adamany and Daniel Loigerot have found a niche in the crowded Pilates book market by offering a volume specifically designed to address the needs of different types of athletes, such as cyclists, golfers, runners, skiers, swimmers and tennis players.

The authors, co-founders of the Pilates Edge Studio in New York City, provide detailed sequences of exercises intended to help each kind of sports enthusiast stay fit and recover from injuries.

The Howard County Library is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

The Internet/Video room closes one half hour

before the library and from noon until 1 p.m. Saturdays. The Library is located at 500 S. Main St.; the telephone number is 264-2260; the Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us; the online catalog should be

working; the e-mail address is howard-countylibrary@hotmail.com.

Hollis McCright is the Howard County librarian. She writes this column for the Wednesday edition of the Big Spring Herald.



HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



### The remarkable comeback

As late as the 1930s, North American wild turkeys were down to an estimated 30,000 birds. But, because of one of the most remarkable wildlife recovery programs in the nation's history, today's population is 6.5 million. Plus, Willie Nelson sings for Jimmy Carter and banana pudding.



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- "Ford F150 Supercrew 4-DR. Sell Down"**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat - Dk. green w/tan, tan leather, 5.4, V-8, all power, local one owner w/only 29,000 miles. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4X4 - White/tan, w/tan leather, 5.4, V-8, all power, fiberglass body, local one owner w/47,000 miles. **Was \$26,995** **NOW \$25,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Black w/cloth, 4.6 V-8, all power, local one owner w/only 17,000 miles. **Was \$23,995** **NOW \$22,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Black w/cloth, 4.6 V-6, all power, one owner w/35,000 miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X4 - Blue/Silver, 5.4 V-8, all power, local one owner w/37,000 miles. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Silver/gray tutone, 4.6 V-8, all power, one owner w/29,000 miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$23,995**
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Blue/tan tutone, 4.6, V-8, all power, one owner w/41,000 miles. **Was \$21,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/cloth, 5.4 V-8, all power, one owner w/40,000 miles. **Was \$21,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4X4 - Black w/leather, 5.4, V-8, fully loaded, one owner w/21,000 miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4X4 - White/tan, leather, moonroof, all power, one owner w/54,000 miles. **Was \$23,995** **NOW \$22,995**

## "1/2 Ton Pickups"

- 2004 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 Ext. Cab Z-71 4X4 - Beige w/cloth, like new, one owner w/4,100 miles. **Was \$28,995** **NOW \$27,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 SuperCab - Silver/gray, all power, one owner w/21,000 miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2003 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT - Black w/cloth, V-8, all power, local one owner w/37,000 miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2003 Ford F150 SuperCab XLT - White/tan, cloth, 5.4 V-8, all power, one owner w/36,000 miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2002 Dodge Ram 1500 Reg Cab SLT - White, V-8, air, automatic, extra clean w/55,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2002 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado Ext. Cab LT Z71 4X4 - Pewter, On-Star leather, one owner, loaded. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2000 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE Ext. Cab - Maroon, V-8, all power, locally owned. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**
- 1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Tan V-8, all power, locally owned. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$6,995**

## "3/4 Tons & 1 Ton Pickups"

- 2004 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT Diesel 4X4 - Red/Silver, cloth, short wheel base, all power, one owner w/22,000 miles. **Was \$35,995** **NOW \$34,995**
- 2002 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT Diesel - Red/silver, all power, locally owned. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2001 GMC Sierra 2500 Ext. Cab 4X4 L.S. - Pewter, cloth, all power, local one owner w/56,000 miles. **Was \$23,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2001 Ford F350 SuperCab Dually XLT V-10 - White w/silver, extra clean, w/87,000 miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2000 Ford F350 Crew Cab XLT Dually Diesel - White w/cloth, all power, manual trans., 7.3 diesel powerstroke, nice truck w/93,000 miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 1999 Ford F350 SuperCab XL Short 7.3 Powerstroke - White, clean truck. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**

## "Small Pickups"

- 2001 Ford Ranger Supercab Edge 4X4 - Yellow, V-6, loaded, local one owner w/only 20,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 1998 Nissan Frontier XE - Red, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$7,995**
- 1997 Chevrolet S-10 - White, V-6, automatic, only 63,000 miles. **Was \$7,995** **NOW \$6,995**

## "VANS"

- 2004 Nissan Quest 3.5 S - Tan, cloth, dual air, local one owner w/17,000 miles. **Was \$23,995** **NOW \$22,995**
- 2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, all power, one owner w/56,000 miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**

## "SUV's"

- 2002 Cadillac Escalade AWD - Sandstone w/sandstone leather, fully loaded, local one owner w/40,000 miles. **Was \$34,995** **NOW \$32,995**
- 2002 Ford Escape XLT - Gray, all power, local one owner w/52,000 miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**
- 2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser Limited - Plum w/leather, moonroof, all power, local one owner w/34,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2002 Mercury Mountaineer 4X4 - Blue w/leather, all power, local one owner w/40,500 miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2002 Mercury Mountaineer - Silver, cloth, all power, local one owner, w/54,000 miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - White/beige tutone, all power, local one owner w/51,000 miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**
- 2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, dual air, 3rd seat, local one owner w/58,000 miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2001 Ford Escape XLS - Silver, all power, automatic, local one owner w/29,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2001 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, all power, automatic, one owner w/33,000 miles. **Was \$16,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2001 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer - White/tan, leather, fully loaded, dual air, 3rd seat, local one owner. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR.4X4 - Blue w/cloth, all power, one owner w/51,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - White w/cloth, all power, one owner w/54,000 miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**
- 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Red w/cloth, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2000 Jeep Wrangler Sport - Black, 4.0, automatic, both tops, air, one owner w/42,000 miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$14,995**
- 2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer - Slate green/beige, leather, dual air, 3rd seat, all power, local one owner w/59,000 miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 1999 Ford Explorer Limited - Slate green, tan leather, all power. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$8,995**
- 1999 GMC Suburban LT - Dual air, all power, tan. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$12,995**

## "Cars"

- 2003 Ford Mustang V-6 - Yellow, cloth, automatic, locally owned w/31,000 miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2002 Buick Century Custom - Brown w/cloth, all power, local one owner w/67,000 miles. **Was \$10,995** **NOW \$9,995**

## "Cars"

- 2002 Nissan Maxima GLE - Tan w/leather, all power, local one owner w/28,000 miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$17,995**
- 2002 Honda Accord EX V-6 2-DR - Gold w/leather, moonroof, all power, local one owner w/21,000 miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2001 Lincoln Town Car - White satin, beige, leather, fully loaded and locally owned, w/20,000 miles. **Was \$22,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2001 Chevrolet Impala - Tan, all power, very clean car w/50,000 miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2001 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Silver w/leather, one owner w/39,000 miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2001 Nissan Maxima GLE - Tan, leather, moonroof, all power, locally owned w/41,000 miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2001 Ford Mustang V-6 - White w/cloth, automatic, all power, locally owned. **Was \$10,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 2000 Nissan Maxima SE - Red w/leather, locally owned, nice car. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$7,995**
- 2000 Cadillac Seville SLS - Satin pearl w/leather, like new, local one owner w/only 31,000 miles. **Was \$19,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2000 Ford Focus Wagon SE - Silver, all power. **Was \$7,995** **NOW \$6,995**
- 2000 Ford Taurus SE - Red, cloth, all power, 60,000 miles. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$6,995**
- 2000 Volkswagen Jetta GLS - Blue, all power, clean, one owner w/58,000 miles. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2000 Nissan Altima SE - Brown w/cloth, moonroof, all power, nice one owner car w/46,000 miles. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 2000 Lincoln LS V-8 - White w/leather, fully loaded, one owner w/56,000 miles. **Was \$17,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 1999 Buick Regal LS - White w/leather, super clean car, locally owned w/70,000 miles. **Was \$8,995** **NOW \$7,995**
- 1999 Pontiac Firebird - V-6, T-Tops, white, all power, 56,000 miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 1999 Chevrolet Prism 4-DR. - White, one owner w/61,000 miles. **Was \$6,995** **NOW \$5,995**
- 1999 Nissan Maxima GXE - Tan w/cloth, all power, local one owner w/44,000 miles. **Was \$12,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 1999 Ford Crown Victoria - White, all power. **Was \$9,995** **NOW \$5,995**
- 1997 Mercury Tracer GS - Green, automatic, air. **Was \$6,995** **NOW \$3,995**
- 1996 Mercury Cougar - Green/tan, 70,000 miles. **Was \$6,995** **NOW \$4,995**
- 1995 Ford Crown Victoria LX - White, cloth, extra clean w/72,000 miles. **Was \$6,995** **NOW \$5,995**
- 1995 Ford Taurus GL - Tan, all power, local one owner w/75,000 miles. **Was \$5,995** **NOW \$4,995**
- 1990 Lincoln Car Signature - Tan w/leather, nice car. **Was \$4,995** **NOW \$3,995**

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Bob Brock

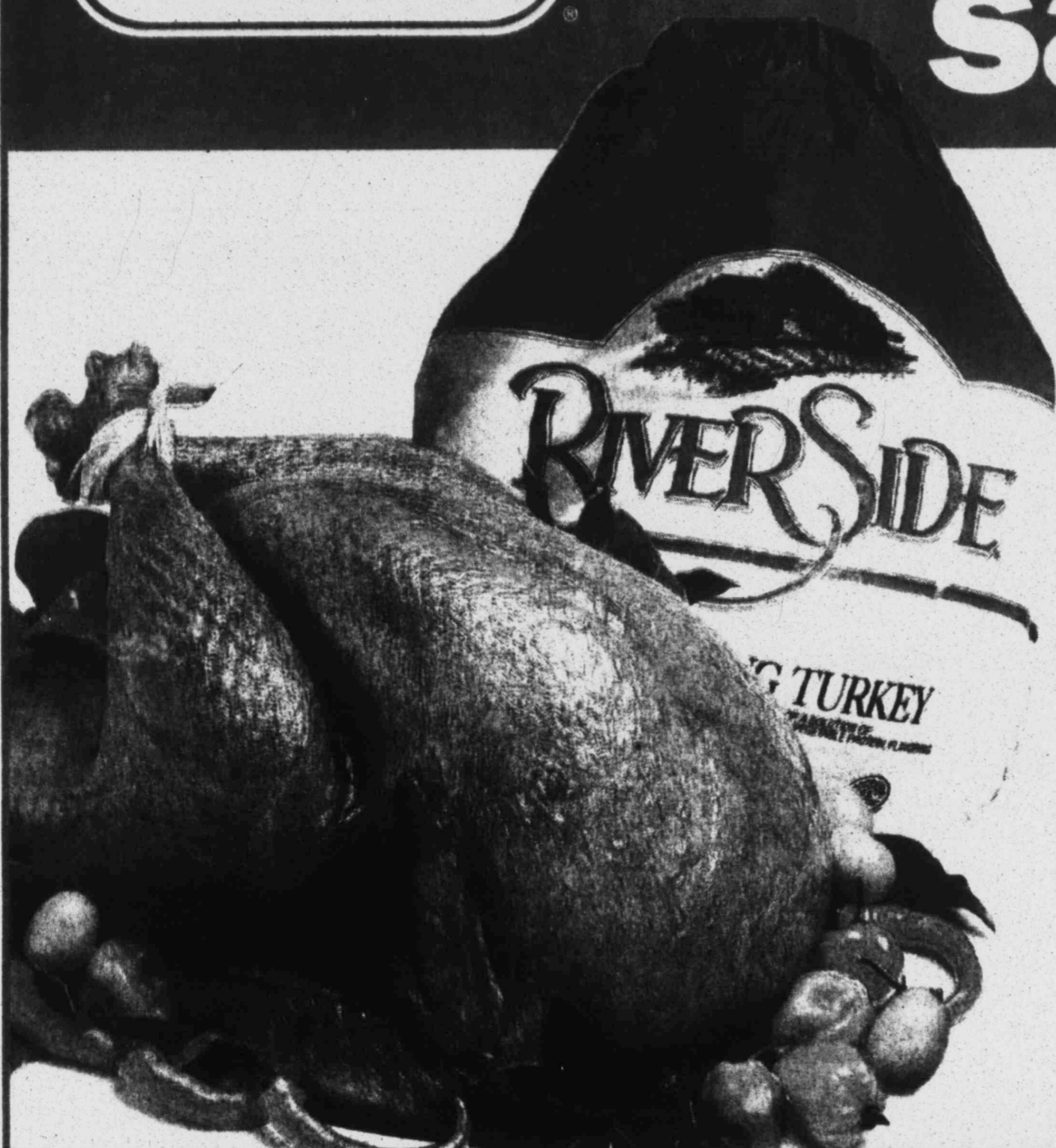
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lower sodium or no sugar added



**\$2.77** lb. **Boneless Beef Chuck Roast**  
USDA select

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**Boston Butt Pork Roast** **\$1.19** lb.  
sold whole in the bag

**Split Hog Head** **89¢** lb.

**Hog Head** **59¢** lb.  
frozen

**La Rancherita Masa** **\$2.69** ea.  
5 lb. bag, regular or blanca

**Fresh Boneless Skinless Chicken Thighs** **\$2.39** lb.  
Hill Country Fare, value pack



**\$3.79** ea. **H-E-B Natural Chunk Cheese**  
16 oz.  
American, cheddar, colby,  
mozzarella or monterey jack

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until 2 p.m. for your convenience

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## IN BR

### Youth basket set at B.S. Y

The YMCA announced the ball registration for the upcoming season will run through December 15. Boys and girls ages five through 12 can register to take one of four age groups. The registration fee is \$30 and all participants will take place at the YMCA.

There will be a fund-raiser for the team but financial assistance is available for families who need it.

An organizational meeting for the team would like to be held by a group coordinator. The meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 23, at 6 p.m. at the Saturday. Everyone interested in coaching must attend one of these scheduled meetings.

The games will be scheduled to begin on Jan. 8.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

### Basketball needed for s

The Crossroads is looking for basketball officials for the upcoming season. For more information, contact Rodriguez at 267-8234 or 517-0300.

The game played in last year such as Bill Forsan and will be a junior high school level.

### Big Spring Booster me

There will be a Spring Booster Club meeting at 6 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Center.

It will be an additional meeting ready for the 2005 season.

For more information, contact Sparks at 267-8234.

### Parker, Du Spurs to an

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan points and 10 and began a quarter burst in Antonio.

Tony Parker points and high nine the Spurs, 6 son.

New York 54-52 with left in the third on a tip-in. Mohammed Duncan made turnaround start a 13-4 Spurs, and rarely fell points there.

### Garnett's game leads

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota's Garnett had 21 rebounds and assists. He passed 14,000 points.

Wally added 21 points. Sam Cassell and Timberwolves Dwyane Wade 20 of his 22 the first Miami, who points and from Shaquille

### IN BRIEF

#### Youth basketball set at B.S. YMCA

The YMCA has announced that basketball registration for the upcoming season will run through Nov. 20.

Boys and girls age five through 12 may register to take part in one of four age groups.

The registration fee is \$30 and all sign-ups will take place at the YMCA.

There will be no fund-raiser this year, but financial assistance is available for families who require assistance.

An organizational meeting for adults who would like to be age group coordinators has been scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 4. Everyone interested in coaching must attend one of these two scheduled meetings.

The games are scheduled to begin Saturday, Jan. 8.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

#### Basketball referees needed for season

The Crossroads area is looking for basketball officials for the upcoming season.

For more information, contact Adam Rodriguez at 263-8731 or 517-0300.

The games will be played in local areas such as Big Spring, Forsan and Coahoma, and will be for the junior high and high school levels.

#### Big Spring Baseball Booster meeting set

There will be a Big Spring Baseball Booster Club meeting at 6 p.m. Monday in the Athletic Training Center.

It will be an organizational meeting to get ready for the upcoming 2005 season.

For more information, contact John Sparks at 263-8527.

#### Parker, Duncan lead Spurs to another win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tim Duncan had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and began a key third-quarter burst for San Antonio.

Tony Parker added 18 points and a season-high nine assists for the Spurs, 6-1 this season.

New York pulled to 54-52 with 8 minutes left in the third quarter on a tip-in by Nazr Mohammed. But Duncan made a 12-foot turnaround jumper to start a 13-4 run for the Spurs, and the lead rarely fell below 10 points thereafter.

#### Garnett's monster game leads Wolves

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minnesota's Kevin Garnett had 25 points, 21 rebounds and eight assists. He also surpassed 14,000 career points.

Wally Szczerbiak added 21 points and Sam Cassell 19 for the Timberwolves.

Dwyane Wade scored 20 of his 25 points in the first half for Miami, which got 20 points and 15 rebounds from Shaquille O'Neal.

## Steers fall to Merkel

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Merkel's Riley Lambert hit five 3-pointers Tuesday night to lead his team past Big Spring, 81-48, at the Steer Gym during the Steers' season opener.

The Badgers scored the first 14 points of the game and led 14-1 after the first quarter. The lone point of the quarter was scored from foul line by senior Brandon Boling.

Foul troubles plagued the Steers as sophomore Ryan Tannehill picked up his second foul less than two minutes into the contest.

Freshman Jordan Kinnear received his second with 3:44 to play in the first period.

Merkel was put in the bonus by the Steers at the 2:32 mark, as well.

The second quarter went better offensively for both teams. Big Spring scored its first basket from the field early in the quarter as junior Kalin Whitehead, who finished with five points, cut the Merkel lead to 16-3.

Then, Kinnear began drawing fouls and getting to the foul line.

His basket plus a free throw cut the Badgers' lead to 21-5.

Merkel continued to score from the field and took a 50-15 lead at the break as Lambert led the Badgers

with 26 points and four 3-pointers.

The Steers matched their entire first half scoring

effort with 16 points in the third quarter and outscored the Badgers by one, but Merkel still led, 65-31.

Boling hit a 3-pointer to start the fourth period and back-to-back buckets by Tannehill made the Steer deficit 69-38.

Then, Kinnear began drawing fouls and getting to the foul line.

His basket plus a free throw cut the Badgers' lead to 21-5.

Merkel continued to score from the field and took a 50-15 lead at the break as Lambert led the Badgers

with 26 points and four 3-pointers.

The Steers matched their entire first half scoring

effort with 16 points in the third quarter and outscored the Badgers by one, but Merkel still led, 65-31.

Boling hit a 3-pointer to start the fourth period and back-to-back buckets by Tannehill made the Steer deficit 69-38.

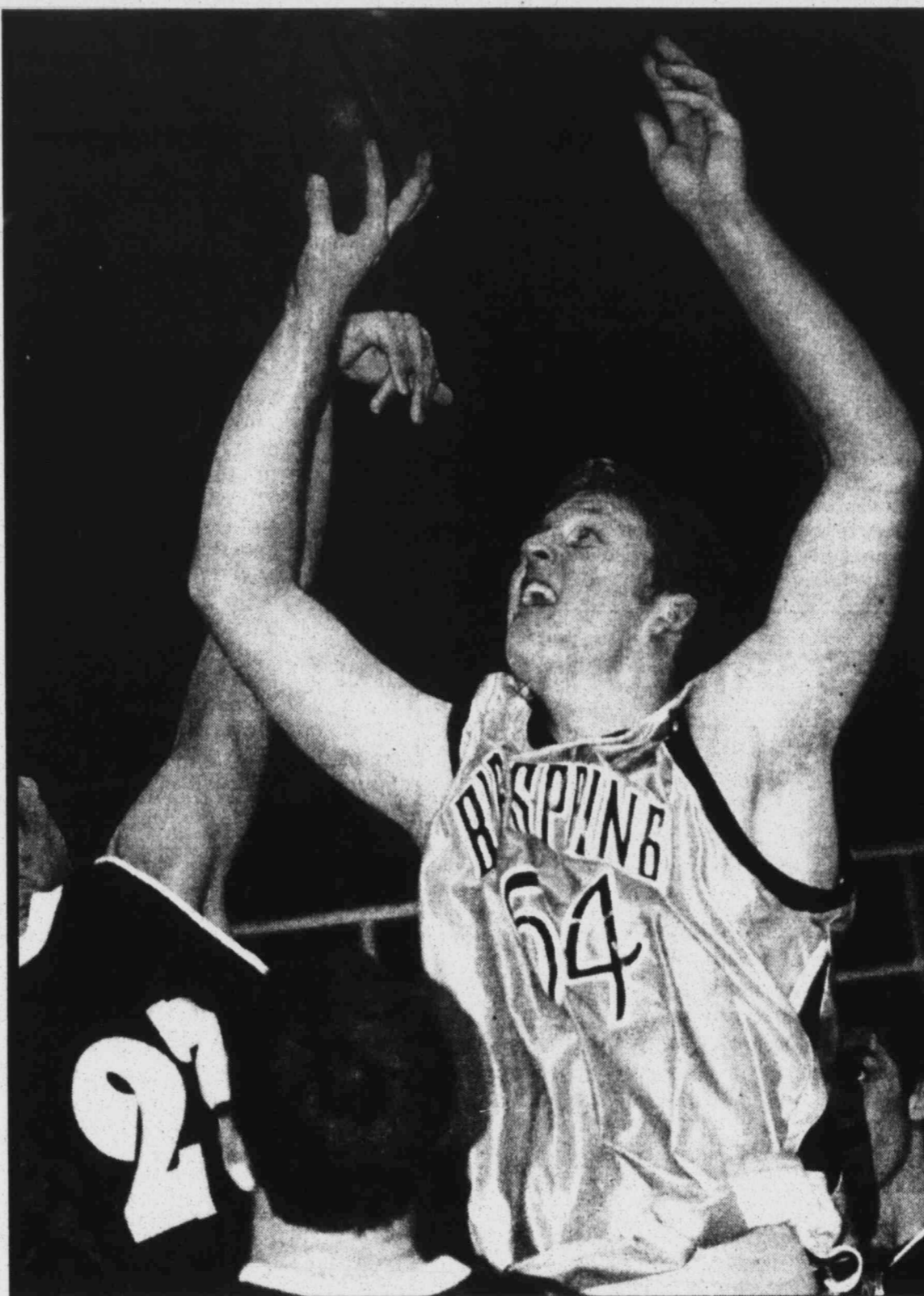
Then, Kinnear began drawing fouls and getting to the foul line.

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with 26 points and four 3-pointers.

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Big Spring freshman Jordan Kinnear attempts a shot in the lane over a Merkel defender during the Steers' home loss Tuesday. Kinnear was one of two Big Spring players in double figures as he finished with 13 points.

Tannehill's baskets triggered an 8-0 Big Spring run that also included two free throws by senior Brandon Gross and a three-point play by Tannehill.

Kinnear picked up his fourth foul with 2:41 to play, but remained in the game.

Merkel used the foul to go on an 8-0 run of its own to go back up 79-44 and the Steers wouldn't get any closer.

Tannehill led the Steers with 14 points and Kinnear finished with 13. The Steers shot 16-for-32 from the foul line.

Lambert led the Badgers with 35 points.

Big Spring (0-1) travels to Lamesa Friday as the varsity will begin play against the Golden Tornadoes at 8 p.m.

## Garden City stays unbeaten after win

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Meagan Niehues scored 20 points to lead the Garden City girls basketball team to another win Tuesday as the Lady Bearkats defeated Stanton by 20, 52-32.

Garden City improved to 3-0 after the win, while Stanton fell to 0-2.

Erin Hirt added nine points and one 3-pointer, while K'Linn Niehues added six points and Lauren Plagens poured in five.

Bonnie Kendall scored five points for Stanton including one 3-pointer.

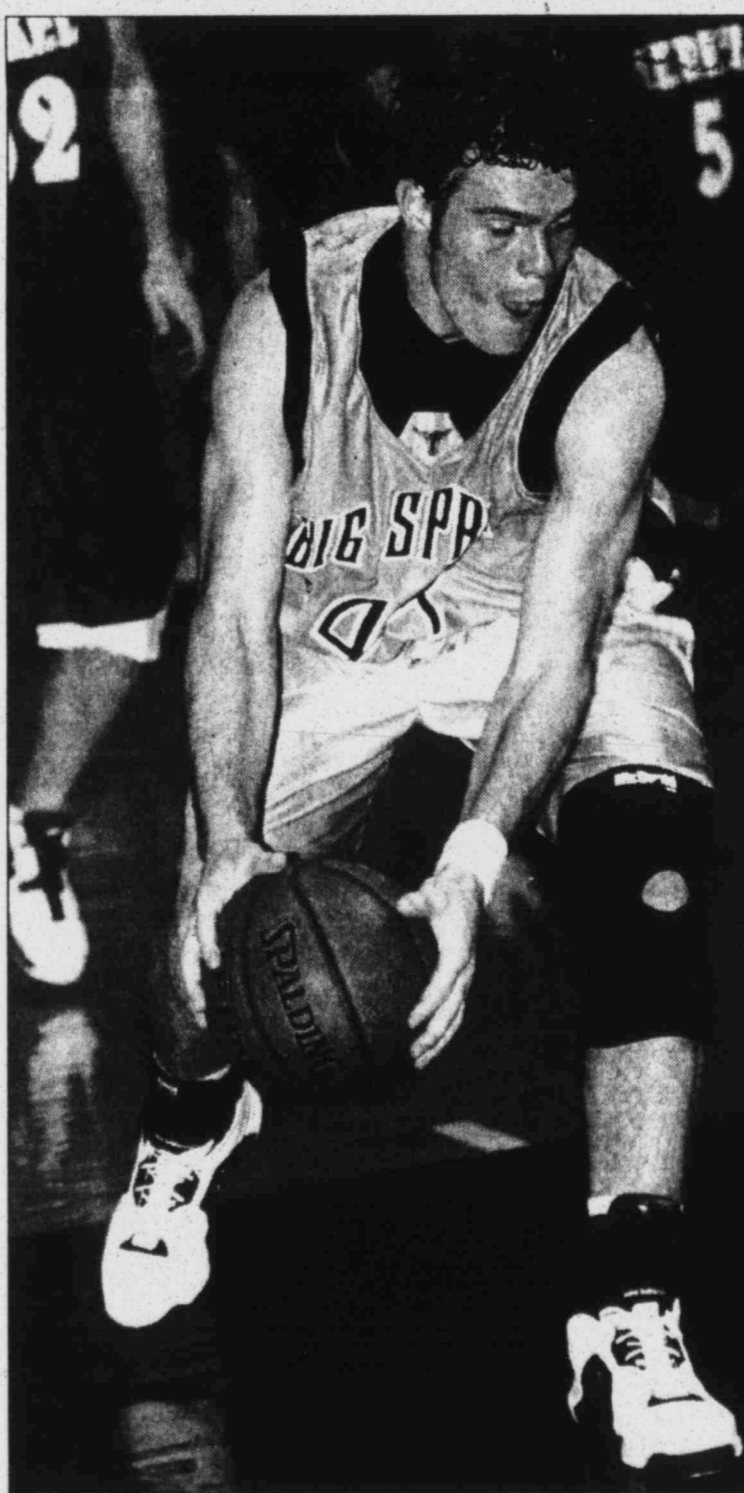
The Lady Bearkats' next game will be played Friday in Coahoma against the winless Bulldogettes.

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Big Spring junior Kyle Piercefield tries to find some space inside during the Steers' home loss to Merkel Tuesday at the Steer Gym. Piercefield finished with four points.

## Big Spring JH girls teams split in first action

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The Big Spring girls junior high basketball teams went 2-2 in their first action of the year as the eighth-grade "B" team and seventh grade "A" team came away with wins over Midland Christian Monday.

The eighth-grade "A" team and seventh-grade "B" team lost its two games, as well.

The eighth-grade "A" team lost 28-18 and were led in scoring by M'Lyn Swinney who finished with six points. Bri Downes and Shelbi Stewart added four points apiece.

Stewart and Ariel Johnson led the team in rebounds with seven apiece.

The eighth-grade "B" team won its game 31-25. They were led by Mirella Torres' 10 points and five rebounds. Leslie Leal scored five points and

grabbed five rebounds, while Dominique Green and Katie Tompkins added eight and six points, respectively.

The seventh-grade "A" team dominated its game and won 35-16.

They were led in scoring by Keonna Ward, who finished with 25 points. Kelly Sage added four points and Tiffany Garcia, Lauren Porras and Callie Shafer rounded out the scoring with two points each, respectively.

The seventh-grade "B" team lost its game 23-14 and they were led in scoring by Selena Gonzales, who finished with six points. Marina Trevino, Chaneel Dykes, Vanessa Salgado and Mischa Willard each scored two points, as well.

"All the girls played hard and did a good job in their first game of the season," said Big Spring junior high coach Karla Creger.

The eighth-grade's balanced attack was led by Crystal Balcazar, Camryn Herrera and Canyon Daniels, who each finished with four points.

## Coahoma JH teams start year off strong

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The Coahoma junior high girls basketball teams took on rival Colorado City Monday night and came away with three wins in four games. The seventh-grade boys' teams also won their games over Colorado City.

The girls eighth-grade "A" team, seventh-grade "A" team and seventh-grade "B" team were all victorious.

The eighth-grade "B" team did not play because Colorado City did not have a team.

The girls eighth-grade "A" team won its game 44-29. The team was led by Lacy Sterling's 16 points. Berkley Iden and Alex Moore added nine and seven points, respectively.

The Bulldogettes won the game despite shooting 35 percent from the foul line.

Coahoma led 12-10 after the first quarter, but pushed the advantage to eight at halftime.

The Bulldogettes outscored Colorado City by 10 points in the third quarter.

The girls seventh-grade "A" team won its game 56-2 behind 17 points from Kylie Gee. Heather Newton and Ashley Buske also reached double figures with 10 points apiece.

Coahoma led 30-0 at halftime before outscoring Colorado City 26-2 in the second half.

The girls seventh-grade "B" team won its game 8-6 and four players — Jackie Ruiz, Monica Cevallos, Alex Cordes and Katie Dunn — led a balanced attack with two points each.

The boys seventh-grade "A" team defeated Colorado City 25-18, while the "B" team took care of the Wolves, 48-10.

Josh Paniagua finished with a team-high 11 points to lead the "A" team to the win. Jake Owens added six points, as well.

The "B" team recorded the win by using a balanced scoring attack. Seth Mansfield, Mark Gutierrez, Brit Dickenson and Nick Sevey all had six points to lead the way for the Bulldogs, while Jared Ringener, M.J. Castillo and Co Campbell each added four points.

Coahoma's seventh- and eighth-grade "B" girls basketball teams also played against Midland Christian Nov. 11.

The seventh-grade squad came from behind to win 26-23, and the eighth-grade team lost 36-16.

"I was proud of the comeback by the seventh-grade team," said coach Coley Dobbs. "The eighth-grade team gave a valiant effort and we will learn from our mistakes."

The seventh-grade team was led in scoring by Katie Dunn, who finished with 10 points.

Monica Cevallos also pitched in with eight points.

The eighth-grade's balanced attack was led by Crystal Balcazar, Camryn Herrera and Canyon Daniels, who each finished with four points.

NOV 17 2004



*courtesy photo*  
Seven-year-old Justin Mayfield collected his first two deer recently during the first day of the 2004 deer season. Mayfield is the son of Carla and Steve Derouen and Jeff and Laurie Mayfield all of Groves. Justin is the grandson of Harold and Janette Bentley of Big Spring.

## Nash's monster game leads Phoenix past Mavs in Dallas

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Steve Nash made the strange walk to the visitors' locker room, relieved at having his first game against the Dallas Mavericks out of the way.

And thrilled with how it turned out.

Nash scored 17 points and had 18 assists, many setting up Amare Stoudemire's 34 points, leading the Phoenix Suns past the Dallas Mavericks 107-101 on Tuesday night.

"I can't think of a more emotional game that I've had than this one," Nash said. "I didn't have any tears, but I was definitely nervous. I think it's just natural. There were so many memories here."

Nash's assists were the most this season in the NBA, topping the 17 he had in an overtime loss at Cleveland last Wednesday.

It also was one shy of his career best. The only downer was that he had the wrong kind of triple-double — points, assists and turnovers. He gave the ball away 10 times, four in the third quarter, after doing so just 18 times in the first six games this season.

"They're trying to get used to me and I'm trying to get used to them — as you can see by my 10 turnovers," Nash said.

Although Nash broke into the league with Phoenix, he's best known for the last six years in Dallas.

With him pushing the offense, the Mavs became one of the NBA's top teams and he became one of the most popular play-

ers in town. He was a free agent last summer and wanted to stay, but couldn't resist when Phoenix offered \$60 million guaranteed in July.

The locals didn't hold a grudge. "Thanks Steve" and "Welcome Back Nash" were among the signs waived by fans and there were plenty of kids wearing his No. 13 Dallas jerseys, including one youngster holding a poster that said, "Nash has been to my house."

After a nice ovation during pregame introductions, Nash made his way along the Dallas bench shaking hands, slapping backs and embracing coaches Don Nelson and Del Harris and former teammate Michael Finley.

Then Nash made himself right at home, scoring or assisting on 12 of Phoenix's first 17 baskets. He opened the second half with a 3-pointer and another jumper and soon after the Suns were up by 15.

But the Mavericks rallied to tie and even led by five early in the fourth quarter, despite losing center Erick Dampier (strained hip) and backup point guard Jason Terry (sprained ankle) in the first half and being without Dirk Nowitzki for about 10 crucial minutes after he picked up his fifth foul with 3:39 left in the third quarter.

Nowitzki tied it at 93 with 4:28 left, then Stoudemire put Phoenix up for good with a driving layup.

Nash fed Shawn Marion for a jumper that stretched the lead and the Suns were off on a 10-2

run that sealed the victory.

Stoudemire scored his most points of the season and four shy of his career best. It was a nice way to spend his 22nd birthday, but he knew this was Nash's night.

"I still have a lot to learn, that's why I'm glad Steve Nash is here to teach us the ropes," Stoudemire said. "Steve's one of the best in the league as far as getting you the ball in the right spot."

Marion and Quentin Richardson each scored 18 points. Marion had 14 rebounds, and Richardson 13 as the Suns capitalized on Dampier's absence to pull down 10 more rebounds than Dallas.

The Mavericks lost at home for the first time this season on their fourth try. They won their first 12 at home last season and finished with a league-best 36 home wins.

Nowitzki, who went to dinner with good buddy Nash the night before, finished with 20 points and 16 rebounds. He never fouled out but was so frustrated that he got a technical foul in the closing minutes, sending Nash to the line for his final point.

"I'm used to playing with him, but we've got to move on and put it behind us," Nowitzki said. "I guess we've got to get used to him in a purple and orange uniform."

Jerry Stackhouse, who had 28 points each of the last two games, scored 21, including buzzer-beaters at the end of the second and third quarters.

## Bulldogettes fall to Roscoe

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Roscoe's balanced scoring attack and better efficiency from the free-throw line played large roles in its 41-32 win over the Coahoma Bulldogettes Tuesday in Coahoma.

Coahoma led 6-5 after the first quarter and 11-8 at halftime, but got outscored 16-5 in the third quarter and lost. They were also outscored 17-16

### Coahoma boys

The Bulldogs were also scheduled to play Roscoe Tuesday, but the game was postponed due to the football playoffs.

in the final frame.

Roscoe made 14 of its 23 free throw tries, while Coahoma was 11-for-28 from the charity stripe.

The Bulldogettes were led in scoring by Mendy Morgan, who finished

with 14 points. She also pulled down a team-high seven offensive rebounds. Sterling Gee finished with eight points and a team-high 10 defensive rebounds.

Liz Conley and Vickie Cortez each finished with four points and Cortez led in assists and steals, as well.

Roscoe's top four scorers had at least eight

## Forsan starts season with win

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Forsan's boys basketball team began its season with a home victory Tuesday night as the Buffaloes knocked off Grady, 43-41.

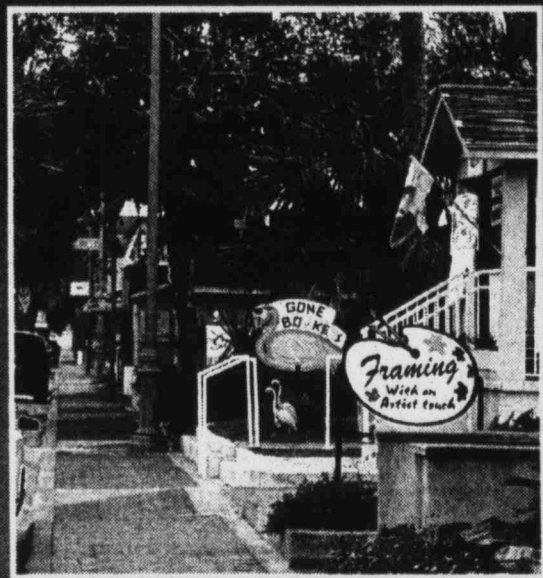
"It was a great defensive effort from the entire team," said Forsan head

coach Terry McDonald. "It was a good way to start the season and work towards getting better for the district competition in January."

Clay Kuykendall and Adam Bailey led the Buffaloes with 11 points, while Tye Baker added eight points and seven

rebounds. Senior Trey Paredez scored seven points and Jeremy Johnson and Bryce Lopez added three points each. Johnson also pulled down a team-high eight rebounds.

Forsan's next game will be played Friday at Winters.



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**BY HOLIDAY**  
The tender and float like doing what your fancy. The phone rings, the e-mail icon bounces up and down, and there's a steady stream of distraction served up with a pleasant smile. Do at least three quantifying. Then, you'll be dering at the day. "What accomplish?" ARIES (Mar 19). It's fantasy both financial and socially to track of something menting you you feel pres motivated - when you lose those scribbles. TAURUS (Apr 20). Even if hard evidence are good thi

**Ann**  
Dear Annie in a wonderf for five yo months ago who is a he moved in dov smoke drift apartment, e have my w patio door cl Last mont was so bad, apartment her. She ap promised to less ashtray, has changed a senior cit know it wou impossible fo I have gone because the smoke is a health. He allergy medi am still suf feel the smol my throat ar so concern started wea mask to fil smoke. I have ta management was told the they can checked my although th tion regar sances," cig isn't listed. me. I am patience and to have a this woman. Do I hav rights to against he smoke? I d move. Can out? - Trou in San Lean Dear San There are laws, even that prohi from smoki own apartm have a hea it's possible redress t California Employment Commission try adding tion to you perhaps a tem, that v breathe eas looking for soon, prefer a no-smokin Dear Ann "Roger," a very much Roger has jealous won ed on him, living in th he neglects me to some who it is, h conclusion ous. If I am are schedul where, he v out me. How behind sche to see if he

**"LOOK"**  
Auto Collectible Real Estate Employment  
Apparel Jewelry Baby Items  
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The tendency is to flit and float like a butterfly doing whatever catches your fancy.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

The phone rings, the e-mail icon bounces up and down, and there's a steady stream of distraction served up with a pleasant smile. Do at least three quantifiable tasks. Then, you'll avoid wondering at the end of the day, "What did I really accomplish?"

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's fantastically lucky both financially and socially to keep written track of your time. Something about documenting your life makes you feel present, able and motivated — especially when you look back on those scribbles later.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Even if you have no hard evidence that there are good things to come,

you're somehow filled with anticipation. Connections with Virgos and Sagittarians are lucrative, though you'll be paying dues for a while.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Loved ones affect you strongly. You'll spend the day alternately enthralled and baffled. Let them have their own dramas. Fortuitous meetings are featured in the evening. Something that starts out all business turns into riotous fun.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you're wondering whether a loved one's sweet gesture is enough to erase this person's wrongdoings from your memory for good, here's the answer — no, it won't. Getting to the heart of the problem is imperative.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends urge you to disclose the scintillating details of recent goings-on. Some facts about your life are no one's business but your own! The secret you keep inside grows in power, giving you fuel to do what you must do next.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you believe in your talent, you teach others how to believe in you as well. It's not arrogance — really! Confidence is a necessary component of being an artistic visionary. Put in the necessary hours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Romantic feelings are thick and engulfing. It makes you long for the days when love was as light as a sheet of fabric softener. A change of environment will help you get back your levity and therefore your productivity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Knowing more will change how you act. But extrasensory information can only come through when you're using your usual five senses to the fullest. Clue in to the details — a crack of the voice or the squint of an eye.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Events seem to line up for the sole purpose of recreating a past shock. This gives you a chance to review how you

felt in the past and see if you'd like to choose a new feeling this time around. You do control your feelings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your heart is yearning. Getting more variety into your life is one key to finding love. The other is believing that you have enough love already and seeing it in the people around you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Discipline becomes an issue. The "d" word doesn't have to be such a big thing. In fact, discipline is mainly about your small, daily habits. Someone you would do almost anything for will ask for a lot now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Matters of faith arise at work. Use that strong moral compass to cherry-pick your business alliances. Tonight, you're quite easy to please. You're happy to make someone else happy.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "When my relationships end, they end very badly, not on my part, but the men are

always very angry and bitter. For me, there has been no such thing as staying on good terms. I would, but they don't want anything to do with me. Other people I know remain friendly with their exes. Why not me? I was born Jan. 27, 1954."

Aquarius is used to being able to be friendly with everyone, so the fact that your exes are not hurts you almost worse than the breakup itself. I think the reason your exes have reacted so strongly and negatively is that your breakups have a tendency to catch your partner off guard. You may know that things are going badly, and perhaps your friends and family know it, too, but the men in your life are the last to figure it out. Your amiable Aquarian nature allows you to detach without giving others the usual warning signs. But there's hope. After a cool-down period of about one year, you can reapproach an ex-love with an extended olive branch, and in many cases, you'll be able

to win him back, as long as you keep things non-sexual and non-romantic.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: At one point in Owen Wilson's career, he played several characters that died during the course of a film, about which he commented, "By the time I die, I'm usually tired of working on that particular movie, so I look forward to it." Born under the sign of death and rebirth, such a remark is fitting — as is Wilson's drive to unravel, dissect and portray characters that are, in his words, "slightly cracked."

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have lived in a wonderful apartment for five years. Three months ago, a woman who is a heavy smoker moved in downstairs. Her smoke drifts into my apartment, even when I have my windows and patio door closed.

Last month, the smell was so bad, I went to her apartment to confront her. She apologized and promised to buy a smokeless ashtray, but nothing has changed. Also, she is a senior citizen, and I know it would be nearly impossible for her to quit.

I have gone to my doctor because the secondhand smoke is affecting my health. He put me on allergy medication, but I am still suffering. I can feel the smoke burning in my throat and lungs. I am so concerned that I've started wearing a dust mask to filter out the smoke.

I have talked to the management office and was told there is nothing they can do. I also checked my lease, and although there is a section regarding "nuisances," cigarette smoke isn't listed. Please help me. I am losing my patience and do not want to have a blow-up with this woman.

Do I have any legal rights to protect me against her cigarette smoke? I don't want to move. Can she be forced out? — Trouble Breathing in San Leandro, Calif.

Dear San Leandro: No. There are no current laws, even in California, that prohibit someone from smoking inside her own apartment. Since you have a health condition, it's possible you can seek redress through the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission. Otherwise, try adding some ventilation to your own place, perhaps a filtration system, that will help you breathe easier. And start looking for another place soon, preferably one with a no-smoking policy.

Dear Annie: I am dating "Roger," a man I love very much. In the past, Roger has dated overly jealous women who cheated on him, and now I am living in their shadow. If he neglects to introduce me to someone and I ask who it is, he jumps to the conclusion that I am jealous. If I am late when we are scheduled to go somewhere, he will leave without me. However, if HE is behind schedule and I call to see if he is on the way,



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

he thinks I am checking up on him and becomes very angry.

Roger currently is not speaking to me because I called to ask where he was. I just don't know what to do. — Confused in Freeport, Ill.

Dear Confused: It is unhealthy to walk on eggshells in a relationship because you fear upsetting the other person. Roger is insecure, childish, suspicious and inconsiderate. Get out while you can. He's not right for you (or anyone else).

Dear Annie: As a Navy wife and a vet, I appreciate all that is done for our servicemen and women, especially during the holidays. I would like to ask you and your readers to take it one step further.

Many of these deployed young men and women have young spouses and small children who live

on military bases, far from family members and with little money to afford a visit home. Being away can be difficult, and there is the added stress of helping the children cope without the other parent.

I would like to ask that people consider opening their homes, or asking their places of worship, civic groups, etc., to invite this often-overlooked group of people to your holiday events. Just contact the nearest military installation and ask for their Public Affairs Office. They will help you advertise your event so families can RSVP. It could make a world of difference. — M.A.

Dear M.A.: Thank you for reminding our readers that the holiday season can be lonely and stressful for military families. Please consider inviting them to your holiday festivities and making this time truly special.

Dear Annie: Our 14-year-old son, "Kirk," has been going without his underpants since he returned from a school program three weeks ago. I learned this when his 11-year-old sister tattled during a sibling squabble. When pressed, Kirk said all the other guys were doing it and they dared him to do it, too.

I think this is very weird and worry that Kirk may get an infection or injure himself. His dad,

however, sees nothing wrong with leaving the underwear off and admitted doing the same at Kirk's age. In fact, my husband has given Kirk permission to continue doing this. After a little father-son chat, my husband also found out that Kirk now sleeps naked. (Another dare from his classmates.)

I am not too concerned what he wears around his bedroom, but I do worry that he will be embarrassed or hurt by the lack of underwear. Do many teens go without underpants? Does it mean that he's gay or having sex? On top of those worries, I am concerned that Kirk is so susceptible to "dares."

We want to pick our battles, and I'm not sure if this one is worth fighting. What do you say, Annie? — Wear Underwear in Colorado

Dear Colorado: "Going commando" is not unheard of, although it is not exactly hygienic. His slacks would have to be washed daily. It has nothing to do with being gay or sexually active. Yes, Kirk can be injured if he zips up (or down) too quickly, and he's certain to be embarrassed if he should tear his pants in the wrong place (not to mention insect bites if he wears shorts in the summer).

This is not worth a fight. Mention the conse-

quences and let Kirk decide. (It doesn't help your position when Dad is on Kirk's side.) Then talk to Kirk about how kids often use dares to intimidate and humiliate those they perceive to be susceptible, weak or none-too-bright. He should develop the backbone to ignore them.

Dear Annie: I am a 33-year-old woman, married, with two children. My friend "Barb" asked me to baby-sit for her 2-year-old son full time (about 45 hours a week). However, I was shocked when she offered me only \$25 a week. I was thinking more along the lines of \$75-\$100. Barb said she couldn't afford that.

Barb and her husband both have full-time, decent-paying jobs. They just spent quite a bit of money to "super size" their truck, but somehow don't have enough to pay me to care for their son.

I love Barb and her little boy, but I think 45 hours is a lot of time for so little money. Am I being selfish to ask for more? — Crying Baby Blues

Dear Crying: Of course you aren't being selfish. She expects you to be a full-time baby sitter for part-time wages. If Barb truly has financial problems and you can afford to help her out for \$25 a week, go ahead and do it, but otherwise, she is taking advantage of you.

Dear Annie: This is in response to the woman whose husband's family got drunk and became belligerent during social gatherings. I, too, was married to a man whose family became drunk and obnoxious.

After a few of these get-togethers, I finally had enough of the insults and name calling. I videotaped one of these gatherings on the pretense of taking family movies.

At the next dinner, before anyone had time to get drunk, I showed them the video and they saw firsthand how badly they behaved. Not only were they embarrassed by their obnoxious behavior, but several actually apologized to me. — In a Much Better Relationship Now

Dear Much Better: Good for you. We say, whatever works.

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

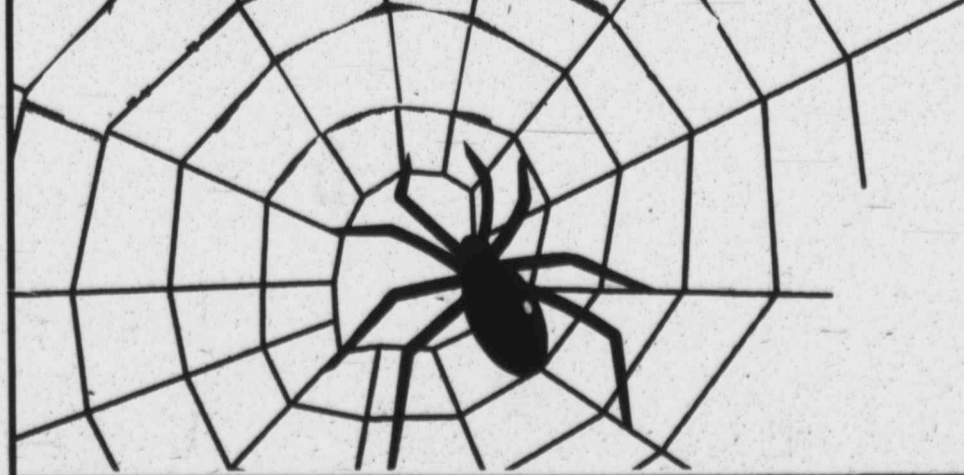
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The Spider

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

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

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



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.

Call today

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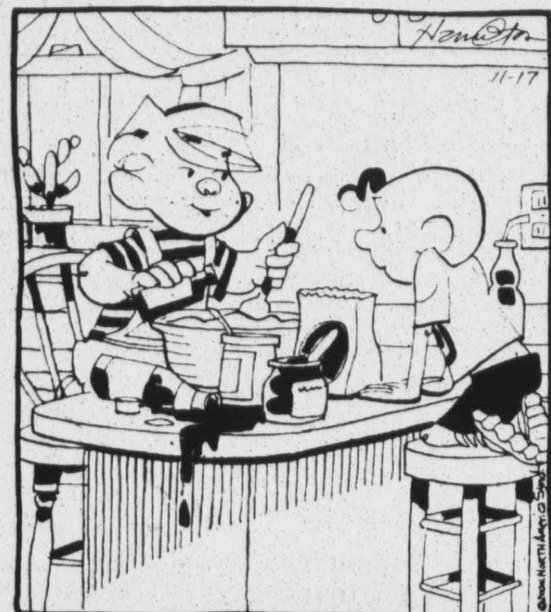
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WEDNESDAY

NOV. 17

Table with 25 columns representing different TV channels and their respective programming for Wednesday, Nov 17. Columns include WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, and TMC.

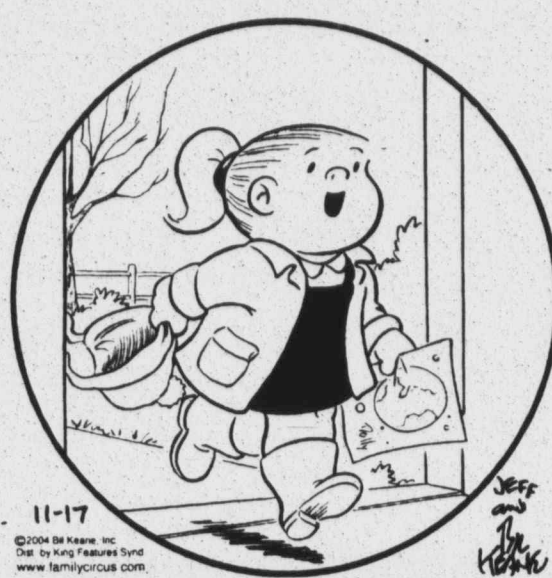
DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY GRANDPA SAYS THAT LIFE IS LIKE MASHED POTATOES... ONCE IN A WHILE, THERE'S GONNA BE A LUMP."

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Today we learned we live on a planet. Tomorrow I hope we'll find out which one."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



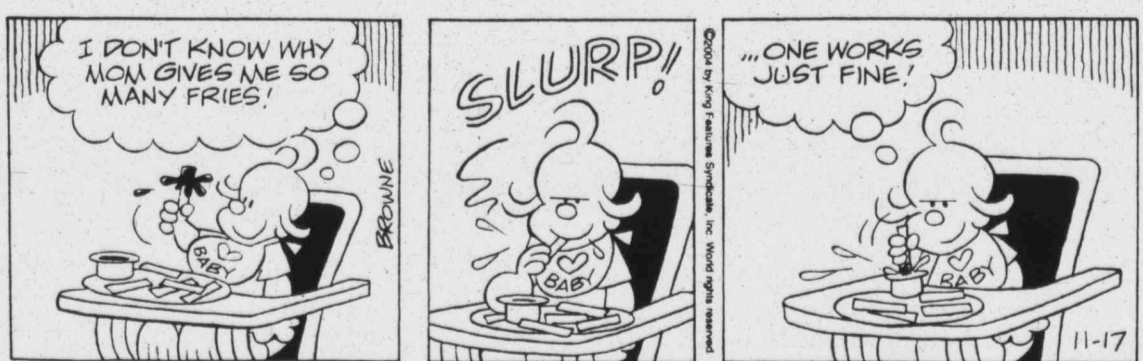
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 17, the 322nd day of 2004. There are 44 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 17, 1800, Congress held its first session in Washington in the partially completed Capitol building.

On this date:

In 1558, Elizabeth I ascended the English throne upon the death of Queen Mary.

In 1869, the Suez Canal opened in Egypt.

In 1917, sculptor August Rodin died in Meudon, France.

In 1925, actor Rock Hudson was born in Winnetka, Ill.

In 1934, Lyndon Baines Johnson married Claudia Alta Taylor, better known as "Lady Bird."

In 1962, Washington's Dulles International Airport was dedicated by President Kennedy.

In 1970, the Soviet Union landed an unmanned, remote-controlled vehicle on the moon, the Lunokhod 1.

In 1973, President Nixon told Associated Press managing editors meeting in Orlando, Fla.: "People have got to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook."

In 1979, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini ordered the release of 13 female and black American hostages being held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

In 2002, Israeli statesman Abba Eban died near Tel Aviv at age 87.

Ten years ago: Francisco Martin Duran, the Colorado man accused of an assault-rifle attack on the White House, was indicted on a new charge of trying to assassinate President Clinton. The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical "Sunset Boulevard" opened on Broadway with Glenn Close

as faded movie star Norma Desmond.

Today's Birthdays: Olympian-turned-politician Bob Mathias is 74. Singer Gordon Lightfoot is 66. Movie director Martin Scorsese is 62. Actress Lauren Hutton is 61. Actor-director Danny DeVito is 60. Saturday Night Live producer Lorne Michaels is 60. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Tom Seaver is 60. Movie director Roland Joffe is 59. Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean is 56. Actor Stephen Root is 53. Actress-producer-director Yolanda King is 49. Actress Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio is 46. Actor William Moses is 45.

Answer to previous puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in for the previous puzzle.

Newsday Crossword ASSUME THE POSITION

by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Single-celled critter, 6 Canterbury coppers, 11 "By the way..."
- DOWN: 1 Ararat lander, 2 "Look hands!", 3 All tied up

Newsday Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for clues.