

THURSDAY

November 18, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY 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. Wednesday. To register, call Sonya at 264-4444 or stop by the day of the blood drive.

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 South.

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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Rains finally reaching parched area lakes

By BILL MCCLELLAN  
News Editor

Despite near-record rains throughout West Texas this year, the three major lakes in the Colorado River Municipal Water District system were experiencing only minimal benefit. That all began to change over the weekend and early this week, when runoff began finding its way to Lake J.B. Thomas, E.V. Spence Reservoir and O.H. Ivie Reservoir. "What we were so excited about this morning is that we have 12,000 more acre feet than we did a year ago. And we've still got a lot more water on the way," John Grant,

*"The bottom line is that as of this morning, we have 33,900 acre-feet more water than we did a year ago, with more on the way."*



—John Grant, CRMWD district manager

CRMWD general manager, said Wednesday. "You cannot ask for more than that in the middle of West Texas in the middle of a drought."

The prognosis today was even better. "As of this morning, our total inflow from this rain event is more than 60,000 acre-feet and the water is still flowing," said Grant. Early today, Lake Thomas had gained 8.16 feet in elevation and captured 25,030 acre-feet, bringing the total stored water there to 53,790 acre-feet with inflows still pouring into the lake. At the FM 1205 Colorado River crossing just above the lake, the United States Geological Service (USGS) gauge showed the flow was still 953 cubic feet per second (cfs). Water was still flowing in from

See LAKES, Page 3A



Big Spring Herald Holiday Cookbook contest winner Regina Sledge is awarded the Pulaski curio cabinet from Allan's Furniture owner Allan Johnson and Herald Assistant Advertising Manager Christy Hernandez on Wednesday.

Strawberry bread wins 5th annual Herald Holiday Cookbook Contest

HERALD Staff Report

After plates and plates of scrumptious goodies Tuesday, Big Spring Herald Holiday Cookbook Contest judges declared that a strawberry bread won over its competitors.

For almost two hours, the judges carefully toiled and tasted their way to a decision for each category while contestants and spectators closely followed with plates in hand.

Gloria Bain, Verna Davis, Bonnie Franklin, Ann Hollandsworth, Debbie Jensen, Gale Pittman and Kendra Wiss judged the entries in the contest sponsored by Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

*The Holiday Cookbook, featuring all recipes entered in the contest, will be inserted into the Herald's weekend edition.*

The difficult task of selecting winners was left up to the judges, who were overheard saying, "Be sure you don't make any faces if you don't enjoy a recipe and keep down the cheering if you love it!"

The strawberry bread was named best overall recipe and

Regina Sledge was its celebrated cook.

Sledge received the grand prize, a Pulaski curio cabinet from Allan's Furniture.

"I just can't believe I won," Sledge said. "I entered the contest on a lark. I didn't expect all three of my recipes to win." "Congratulations to all the winners," said Christy Hernandez, the Herald's assistant advertising manager.

"We appreciated everyone's entries in the contest. The dishes were delicious. I want to thank our judges and thank Gale's Sweet Shoppe for sponsoring this year's cookbook contest."

See CONTEST, Page 3A

Parade entries trickle in

Deadline to enter for prizes is 5 p.m. Friday

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Entries for the 24th Annual Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade have been trickling in, and with the Friday deadline looming, it appears the 2004 parade may be smaller than usual.

"We've received only 20 entries at this point," said Elizabeth Flores, Herald parade coordinator. "We usually have at least half of the entries registered by now. In the past few years, we had approximately 40 entries by this time, so it's going really slow."

Flores said she expects some last-minute entries, but the idea of having more than 50 entries like the parade flaunted in 2003 seems to be fleeting at this point.

"I don't know if people are just really busy and waiting until the last minute or what," said Flores. "We'll continue taking entries here at the Herald office until 5 p.m. on Friday, and then it's going to be time to get ready, no matter how many there are."

Flores said there will be a new category for floats to compete in this year, including a nice holiday prize. "This year we will have a new category," said Flores. "We'll have the Herald's Best of Show award, which will be judged on who has the best interpretation of this year's theme, which is '100 years of West Texas Christmases. The winner of that competition will get \$100 in cash.'"

Flores said the event is a favorite among area residents trying to get into the Christmas mood, and

See PARADE, Page 3A

RCCI associate director praises effort under way by Big Spring leaders

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

The Howard College division of the Rural Community College Initiative (RCCI) is a shining model among more than 20 similar teams across the nation.

That's the opinion of Alan Barefield, associate director of the RCCI Southern Rural Development Center, who spoke to the local group Wednesday afternoon at the Howard College Student Union Building.

Barefield, who oversees the eight teams currently in the RCCI southern region, brought words of praise to the meeting and

encouraged the group to continue through what he called the toughest phase of the program — implementation of the plans and ideas they've developed. "We went through every team going through RCCI," Barefield told the team members. "There are 20 teams in the South and North — 14 in the North and six here in the South. We use the Howard College team as a model for the rest. This team has grown and accomplished as much as teams that had a tremendous head start on them."

See RCCI, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins  
Alan Barefield, associate director of the RCCI (Rural Community College Initiative) Southern Rural Development Center, praises the Howard College RCCI Team during a meeting held Wednesday afternoon at the school's campus.

Man pleads, gets 10-year sentence for manslaughter

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

A 31-year-old man pleaded guilty to two counts of intoxication manslaughter in 51st District Court in San Angelo Tuesday, receiving a 10-year sentence and bringing to a close the June 15, 2003, accident that took the life of a 47-year-old former Big Spring resident.

Cynthia "Cindy" Sue Ogden-Clanton and 51-year-old arts teacher Willie Zuniga were killed when the motorcycle they were riding in San Angelo was struck by a pickup truck driven by Andrew David Read.

According to police  
See PLEA, Page 3A

Obituaries

Phillip Marrion Burcham Sr.



Phillip Marrion Burcham Sr. came into this life May 13, 1924. He was the third son of Jesse and Mary Burcham of Hico. He left this life to begin his new one Nov. 16, 2004.

He is survived by his wife, Jewel Jones Burcham; six children, Phillip M. (Skip) Burcham Jr. and his wife, Donna of Big Spring, Beth Betus and her husband, Sandy of Big Spring, Velinda Bethea and her husband, Noel of Monahans, David Burcham of Big Spring, Tammi Huddleston and her husband, Doug of Monahans and Jeanette Mataalii of Torrance, Calif.; 19 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren; a sister, Loyce Jones, of Big Spring; three brothers, Alfred Burcham of Rising Star, Anthony Burcham of Big Spring and Louis Burcham of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, J.L. Burcham, who died in the Korean War.

Phillip joined the military at the age of 17 and served his country throughout World War II. He served in the Navy, attached to the Marines as a medic. He saw extensive action at Guadalcanal, Guam, Okinawa and Saipan, China and was there to witness the end of the war.

He married Mary Jewel Jones Feb. 6, 1948, and they made their home in Big Spring for most of their life together. He worked for Cosden from 1952 through 1979, when he retired to begin preaching full time. He began preaching at Knott Church of Christ in 1971 and served there through 1984. He has also preached at Knox City Church of Christ, Anderson Street Church of Christ and Sand Springs Church of Christ.

Phillip was loved and respected by all that knew him, he will be truly missed, but we know that he can say, just as his inspiration, Paul the Apostle said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Noel Bethea officiating and Royce Clay and Billy Reed assisting. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. today at the funeral home.

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

*Paid obituary*

Dorothy Lee Salmon



Dorothy Lee Salmon, 87, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Orville Salmon and the Rev. Walter McCall officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 13, 1916, in Mabank and married James Edward Salmon Sept. 14, 1941, in Tahoka. He preceded her in death May 8, 1994.

Mrs. Salmon had lived in Big Spring since 1942 and was a homemaker. She enjoyed family gatherings and cooking for the family. She was a member of First Christian Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Vicki Dahmer of Big Spring; a grandson; one great-granddaughter; and two great grandsons.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, six sisters, one brother, a son-in-law and a grandson.

The family suggests memorials to the St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn., 38105.

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

Margaret Stubblefield



Margaret Stubblefield, 80, of Lubbock, died Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004, at Garrison Center after a lengthy illness. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Bell-Cypert-Seale Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring, minister of First United Methodist Church and the Rev. K.C. Blacketter, grandson-in-law, officiating. Visitation will be 6:30-7:30 p.m. today at the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home in Snyder.

She was born Dec. 29, 1923, near Mineral Wells and married Jeff Stubblefield Jan. 31, 1943. He preceded her in death Dec. 6, 2002. She worked as a respiratory therapy technician for about 15 years at Cogdell and moved from Snyder to Big Spring in 2000. She was a long time member of the First United Methodist Church in Snyder.

She is survived by her daughters, Ann and her husband Paul Townsend of Big Spring and Sue and her husband Ben Maben of Spur; seven grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Garrison Challenge Grant for Alzheimer's Research in care of Sears Methodist Foundation, One Village Dr., Abilene 79606, or to a favorite charity.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home in Snyder.

Police blotter

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

- **LUZ MARTINEZ JUAREZ**, 39, of 602 N.W. Seventh Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **ANTHONY DAVID FRENZEL**, 21, of 906 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **LAPAU ERIC SCAGGS**, 28, of 4001 Dixon, was arrested Wednesday on a local capias warrant.
- **SHEILA MARIE EISENBACH**, 21, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- **GLORIA LORRAINE ARGUIJO**, 20, of El Paso, was arrested Wednesday and held for the HCSO.
- **ERIK SCOTT HENDRICKS**, 20, of 1601 Indian Hill, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving under influence of alcohol by a minor and minor in consumption.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 800 block of 16th Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
  - in the 1700 block of Wasson.
  - in the 200 block of Gregg Street.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1700 block of Wasson.
- **THEFT** was reported:
  - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
  - in the 1400 block of Robin.

Sheriff's report

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

- **GARY DEWAYNE BRADBURY**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- **MARK WAYNE PERRY**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less.
- **MICHAEL VELINDA ROBERTSON**, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for second-degree felony robbery.
- **MAEGHAN LEIGH SWINNEY**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less.
- **AMY MONIQUE WEBBER**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of speeding and driving while license suspended/invalid - enhanced.
- **KAY-LYNN CAWLEY**, 17, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less.
- **BRADLEY KYLE HILDEBRAND**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to register as a sex offender.
- **MOISES LUNA**, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of credit card/debit card abuse.

Lottery

The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: 13-32-14-7-17 Bonus Ball: 37 (Bonus Ball: thirty-seven)  
Estimated jackpot: \$13 million  
Next Lotto Texas game: Saturday night.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 23-36-16-35-37.  
Number matching five of five: 2.  
Prize per winner: \$18,462.  
Winning tickets sold in: Houston; San Antonio.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-4-6

Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds..Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. West winds near 10 mph in the morning shifting to the south in the afternoon.

Friday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday - Partly cloudy. Highs near 60. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night - Mostly cloudy. 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 showers. Lows near 40.

Monday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs near 60.

Monday night - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows near 40.

Tuesday - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the mid 60s.

Tuesday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 30s.

Wednesday - Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs near 60.

Bulletin board

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

**TODAY**  
• 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 Rannels.  
• 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.

Take note

□ **HOLIDAY TEA FUND-RAISER TO BENEFIT CORNERSTONE CHURCH BUILDING FUND** is set for 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday in the YoungLife building, 12th and Owen streets. Holiday gifts and personal care items, including skin care, wellness, fine kitchenware and aromatherapy products will be available through independent consultants. Door prizes will be awarded and all proceeds go to the building fund. The event is free and the public is invited. Contact 816-3082 for more information.

□ **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 Thrailkill 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.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**  
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Susanne Reed	Publisher/Advertising Manager.....Ext. 250
John A. Mosley	Managing Editor.....Ext. 230
Angie Worley	Circulation Manager.....Ext. 240
Tony Hernandez	Production Manager.....Ext. 256
Dianne Marquez	Business Office Manager.....Ext. 255

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

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LAKES

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RCCI

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Results of th Annual Cookbook Co follows:

- Grand Prize**  
Regina Sledg bread.
- Herald's Choi**  
Tina Butler, g mushrooms.
- Appetizers**  
First place, golden stuffed second place, salmon mouss third, Regin Jalepeno Cockt
- Breads**  
First place, R strawberry bri place, Mamie cranberry pun and third pla Borel, Mexican
- Cakes, Cc**  
**Desserts**  
First place Hodnett, Italian

PARAD

Continued from  
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**Coron**  
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Big Spr  
Pool, Private  
& Washer - C  
2-3 Bedroom

**LAKES**

Continued from Page 1A

Bull Creek, as well. "At the E.V. Spence Reservoir, we have only seen a rise of 0.79 vertical feet. It had captured 2,380 acre-feet by this morning but there is a significant amount of run-off that is just beginning to reach the lake," Grant relayed. Total water in storage at Spence is now 44,160 acre-feet with USGS gauges showing flows of 136 cfs at

Deep Creek and 1,610 cfs at Beals Creek near Westbrook. The gauge at Silver, just above the reservoir, was still rising this morning with a reading of 4,620 cfs.

"Lake Colorado City began spilling yesterday and that water will also end up in the Spence Reservoir," said Grant, going on to relate the gains downriver at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir, which has captured 33,400 acre-feet in this unusual November rain event.

The Ivie Reservoir has risen 3.77 vertical feet, bringing its total water in storage to 202,300 acre-feet. USGS gauges still show the flows that feed the reservoir to be 1,790 cfs on the Colorado River at Ballinger, 437 cfs on Elm Creek at Ballinger and 1080 cfs on the Concho River at Paint Rock.

"Rain has subsided over the watersheds, but we should continue to see inflow into the lakes for several days," Grant said.

"The total inflow as of this morning was 60,810, which brings our yearly inflow total to approximately 132,620 acre-feet and total storage to 300,250 acre-feet.

"The bottom line is that as of this morning, we have 33,900 acre-feet more water than we did a year ago, with more on the way," Grant said. "This rain event has been very good news for our water situation in West Texas."

He said there are several reasons why the recent

rains are contributing significantly to the lakes, while previous rainfall was only of minimal benefit.

"Those rains were really widespread and not very hard," Grant reasoned. "They were really good for pastures, agriculture and stuff, but what we look for is an intense rain. Every once in a while you have an imbedded storm and it will put one and a half or two inches on the ground. These rains were still

widespread, but we had those imbedded storms that really helped out.

"You have to remember it took us 12 years to get into the drought. To get out of it, No. 1, the rain has to start. Number 2, the ground has to get wet. Then you have to have good rains after that. The ground finally got wet enough and we got some good rains," he added.

CRMWD Public Information Coordinator Carla Harrold contributed to this article.

**RCCI**

Continued from Page 1A

While Barefield praised to the group, he also brought a reminder that funding for the local RCCI project, which is provided by the Ford Foundation, is not only limited — it's finite.

"Funding for these teams and projects is very limited, and each team is

going to have to find a way to become self-sufficient," said Barefield.

"We've secured funding for the coming year, and we'll be providing several \$10,000 grants for teams in the southern region. I feel like there's no reason Howard College won't be able to compete for and win one or more of those grants, which will help fund whatever projects they decide on. But as far as long term funding

goes, that's going to be up to the different groups and teams."

Barefield said he hopes to see the number of teams grow in the future, a concept Dick Walsh, provost for South Plains College in Lubbock, was very interested in during the meeting.

"We're just getting started on this, and our goal is to be able to do some human resource training in 19 rural community

colleges in the state," said Walsh. "We know the RCCI model is extremely successful at doing that, and we know you can't do it without the community. So if we can put some people who are with the community college that have some of those skills in that training, and put that together with the community, we think we can do it.

"In our area we have 14 counties to work with,

and doing something significant for those 14 counties is very important. We're not sure how to get things going, but we're certainly looking forward to it."

Jan Foresyth, Howard College's RCCI organizer, said the level of enthusiasm shared by the team is amazing.

"They're excited about their goals and making them happen," said Foresyth. "I've lived here

all of my life and this is the most enthusiasm I have ever seen in this community. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to improve on our community. I'm very encouraged by this meeting and the meetings we'll be holding in the spring."

**PLEA**

Continued from Page 1A

reports, Read turned left onto Knickerbocker Road, blocking the lane Zuniga's motorcycle was traveling in. Both Clanton and Zuniga were thrown from the vehicle and killed instantly.

Department of Public Safety blood analysis revealed Read had a blood alcohol content of .12 percent. The legal limit in Texas is .08 percent.

The couple was return-

ing from Lake Nasworthy. Zuniga was a former art supervisor for San Angelo's high schools.

Read took the stand during the proceedings and admitted to being intoxicated when the accident occurred near the intersection of Knickerbocker and Beaty Roads in San Angelo.

Though he admitted to being intoxicated, Zuniga told the court he didn't "feel drunk." He was sentenced to 10 years in prison Wednesday by

District Judge Rae Leifeste.

Clanton was a graduate of Howard College, where she earned her degree in nursing. Having worked

for Dr. James Mathews at Malone-Hogan Clinic until May 2002, she moved to San Angelo to attend operating room technology school at

Howard College's campus there and graduated in May 2003.

Read had two previous DWI charges on his record.

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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**CONTEST**

Continued from Page 1A

Results of the 2004 Fifth Annual Holiday Cookbook Contest are as follows:

**Grand Prize**  
Regina Sledge, 'strawberry bread.

**Herald's Choice**  
Tina Butler, golden stuffed mushrooms.

**Appetizers**  
First place, Tina Butler, golden stuffed mushrooms; second place, Helen Partlow, salmon mousse cups; and third, Regina Sledge, Jalepeno Cocktail Pie.

**Breads**  
First place, Regina Sledge, strawberry bread; second place, Mamie Lee Dodds, cranberry pumpkin bread; and third place, Veronica Borel, Mexican cornbread.

**Cakes, Cookies and Desserts**  
First place, Theresa Hodnett, Italian cream cake;

second place, Patsy Self, preserve cake; and third place, Sherry Hodnett, 1-2-3 peach cobbler.

**Casseroles**  
First place, Shirley Gay, speedy green cream enchilada casserole; second place, Ruth Jamison, one pan breakfast; and third place, Regina Sledge, sweet potato comfort casserole.

**Entrees**  
First place, Kim Crowley, golden chicken spaghetti; second place, Shirley Gay, creamy pasta primavera; and third place, Maxine Hensley, rice-stuffed Cornish hens.

**Miscellaneous**  
First place, Loma Jean Wynn, squash dressing; second place, Carole Peterson, pumpkin bars; and third place, Verla Paige, banana split pie.

**Vegetables**  
First place, Sue Tindol, Christmas chicken salad; second place, Joyce Ditto, Chinese salad; and third place, Sue Tindol, red fruit salad.

**PARADE**

Continued from Page 1A

although there are fewer entries scheduled to appear this year, it's still expected to draw quite a crowd.

"I first started at the Herald in 1986," she said. "That was the first year we had the parade. It's certainly gotten bigger since then. By mid-summer each year we'll have groups contacting us wanting to know what the theme of that year's parade is going to be.

"One year we had more than 100 entries for the parade. That was back in the early 1990s. Although the number of entries has changed each year, the parade itself has really

remained the same."

The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the corner of 24th Street and Gregg Street and will roll north to Sixth Street, east to Scurry, north again to Third Street and into the downtown area for a celebration at Heart of the City Park.

The parade competition features four categories: individual or family, school or church, commercial and civic organizations. "100 years of West Texas Christmases" is the theme of this year's presentation and the parade will feature Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

For additional information concerning the parade, including entry forms, contact Flores at 263-7331, ext. 246.

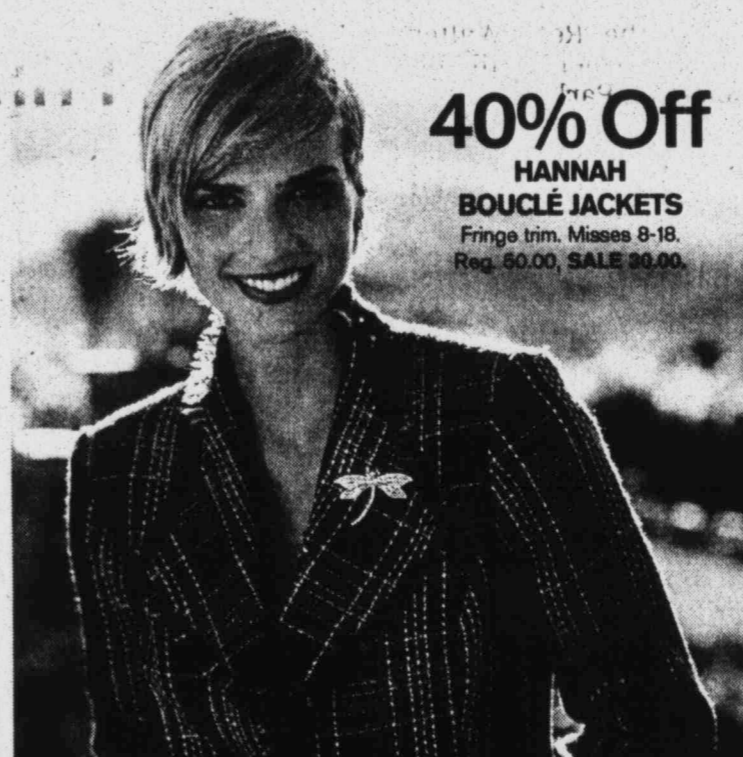
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Wood and metal designs with four to ten openings. Fit most standard size photos. Reg. 19.99.



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Tall and short; fashion, casual and outdoor styles. Reg. 44.00-79.00, SALE 29.99-59.99.

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By Kiki!, Designers Originals, Hannah, more. Reg. 30.00-40.00, SALE 21.00-28.00.

**Sale 19.99**  
**MEN'S FLEECE HOODIES**  
By M.J. Softe. 100% cotton. Fall colors. Sizes M-XXL. Reg. 28.00.

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Leather, wool, nylon, microfiber and more. Reg. 40.00-160.00, SALE 19.99-120.00.

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**SUNDAY 12 PM - 6 PM**

**N O V 1 8 2 0 0 4**

# 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 contributing author of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Susanne Reed

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan

## OUR VIEWS

# Bill to ban gay marriage not needed in Texas

During the recent election, voters in 11 states approved amendments opposing same-sex marriage.

So it is no surprise that Texas Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, rushed to prefile a bill proposing a constitutional amendment defining marriage in Texas as only between a man and a woman.

Even though state law already defines marriage that way, Chisum's bill calls for a vote on the amendment in the November election.

The measure would make it a crime for anyone to perform a ceremony that defines legal relationships between two people who can marry to religious institutions where it belongs.

This uproar began in November 2003 when the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that same-sex marriage is legal. The amendments passed on Nov. 2 were designed to prohibit state courts from doing the same.

Civil unions have been proposed as a legal decision, which are limited to married couples. They should be available to anyone who wants to bind themselves to another person.

Marriage is a religious and civil right in many faiths and should remain under the authority of churches.

Most Americans oppose discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace. The same equitable treatment should apply to those who choose stable, long-term relationships.

In the closing days of the campaign, even President Bush said he was not opposed to civil unions.

"I don't think we should deny people rights to a civil union ... if that's what a state chooses to do," Bush said.

Government should get out of the marriage business, leaving the faith community to decide which unions can go before God and be called holy matrimony.

Government should instead provide equal civil rights to all Americans through civil unions.

Surely, conservatives who want limited government, and liberals concerned with civil rights, can agree in this common-sense measure.

That is better than continuing a highly emotional, divisive debate over who is allowed to be considered married.

THE EXPRESS-NEWS  
SAN ANTONIO

## LETTERS

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we always turn our lives over to you, Lord, instead of trying to control it ourselves.

Amen

# CIA: "Dysfunctional" and "Rogue"

After President Bush nominated him to be Director of Central Intelligence (DCI), Rep. Porter Goss walked across the Capitol to meet with a senator he hardly knew and who had criticized him: John McCain. There he received advice confirming his determination to take a course that soon became the talk of Washington.



ROBERT NOVAK

McCain told Goss the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is "a dysfunctional organization. It has to be cleaned out." That is, the CIA does not perform its missions. McCain told Goss that as DCI, he must get rid of the old boys and bring in a new team at Langley. Moreover, McCain told me this week, "with CIA leaks intended to harm the re-election campaign of the president of the United States, it is not only dysfunctional but a rogue organization."

Following a mandate from the president for what McCain advised, Goss is cleaning house. The reaction from the old boys confirms those harsh adjectives of "dysfunctional" and "rogue." The nation's capital has become an echo chamber of anti-Goss invective with CIA officials painting a picture for selected reporters of a CIA long ago, provoking high-level resignations and dismantling a great intelligence service.

Veteran CIA-watchers such as McCain regard the Agency as anything but great and commend Goss for taking courageous steps

that previous DCIs avoided. George Friedman, head of the Stratfor private intelligence service, refers to Goss's housecleaning as "long overdue."

That cleansing process has been inhibited by the CIA's fear factor as an extraordinary leak machine. Its efficiency was attested to when Goss appointed Michael V. Kostiw, recently staff director of the House Intelligence Subcommittee on Terrorism, as the CIA's executive director. Before Kostiw could check in at Langley, the old boys leaked information that Kostiw was caught shoplifting in 1981 after 10 years as a CIA case officer.

Kostiw then resigned the Agency's third-ranking post, though Goss retained him as a special assistant. Kostiw's treatment has enraged people who have known him during a long, successful career in Washington — including John McCain. The senator called Kostiw "one of the finest, most decent men I have ever met."

The story fed by Goss's enemies in the Agency is that dedicated career intelligence officers have been replaced by Capitol Hill hacks. Their real fear is that Goss will put an end to the CIA running its own national security policy, which in the last campaign resulted in an overt attempt to defeat Bush for re-election (intensifying after George Tenet left as DCI).

I reported on Sept. 27 that Paul R. Pillar, the CIA's national intelligence officer for the Near East and South Asia, told a private dinner on the West Coast of secret, unheeded warnings to Bush about going to war. I learned of this because of leaks from people who attended, but many other senior

Agency officials were covertly but effectively campaigning for Sen. John Kerry.

That effort seemed to include "Imperial Hubris," an anonymously published attack on Iraq War policy by CIA analyst Michael Scheuer. He has since left the Agency, but he was still on the payroll when the CIA allowed the book to be published. The Washington Post on Election Day quoted Scheuer as saying CIA officials muzzled him in July only after they realized that he was really criticizing them, not the president. "As long as the book was being used to bash the president," he said, "they gave me carte blanche to talk to the media."

Traditional bipartisanship in intelligence has been the victim, with Democrats cheering the CIA Bush-bashing. Rep. Jane Harman, ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, abandoned pretense of bipartisanship, and Sen. Jay Rockefeller, the Senate committee's vice chairman, never pretended. Both are attacking their former colleague who is now DCI.

McCain's use of the word "rogue" carries historical implications. A long, debilitating time of troubles began for the CIA in 1975 after Sen. Frank Church called it "a rogue elephant" that is out of control causing trouble around the world. The current use of the word refers to the intelligence agency playing domestic politics, which is an even more disturbing aberration.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## YOUR VIEWS

for the interview

Thanks to all the merchants that let me put posters in their windows. I appreciate it so much.

As usual, the old Stampede was wall to wall with people of all ages. We had people from Big Spring, Coahoma, Colorado City, Snyder, Abilene, Pampa, Ropesville, O'Donnell, Stanton, Marble Falls, San Antonio, Midland, Odessa, Garden City, Garland, Weatherford, Chico, Gatesville, Sweetwater and San Angelo.

Thanks to all of you for making this event a success. Thanks for the good times, good memories and good music.

JODY NIX  
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I just wanted to write and let the public know what a great community we have.

On Nov. 9 I gave birth to my little boy. I have been under the care of Dr. Byerly. He has given me the best care through two of my pregnancies, both of which were high risk.

I was also under the great care during labor and delivery of our exceptional staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. All of the nurses there were great to me. I had a great delivery and then they proved their experience to an even higher level. After delivery, my son he had some complications. Through their love and hard work and Dr. Ahmed's call, my son had to be transported to NICU in Odessa. He is now on a road to progress and I am looking at him coming home by Thanksgiving.

I have had the support from wonderful people that also serve us every day. I have a special thanks to send out to Cindy Pittman and Christie Ontiveros of West Texas Title and Louis Dunnam of HNB Mortgage. They have made it possible for my husband and me to be at our son's side during his stay in Odessa.

It is a community like this that makes me love Big Spring.

JEANNIE COX  
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Small cities all over the country are luring citizens out of larger places with much less to offer than we have here in Big Spring.

Anyone with a good income should be a prospect, no matter

where the income is derived from. There are millions of retired persons with good, stable incomes and with good medical insurance. Just a few of these would help Big Spring.

Here are some ideas that might influence a person to look at us. None of these ideas are earth-shaking. None are really expensive. I am asking for your thoughts on this and asking for any ideas you might offer along this line.

First, Big Spring is a nice place to live. It is basically a safe place to live. We have great weather, lots of affordable housing, clean air and are very close to lots of shopping and to a nice airport.

Second, we could make every person who went for our plan a "super citizen" and we should treat them as such.

And third, as a "super citizen" they would be eligible for the following things: help in moving here; help in finding and buying a house, if necessary; some sort of tax abatement in addition to the Texas abatement; free golf at the municipal course and discounted golfing at the country club; free fishing at Moss Lake and Comanche Lake; free ambulance service; free tuition for children or grandchildren at Howard College; "super citizen" discounts at local stores; free passes to the state park; free or discounted passes to all events in the auditorium or amphitheater; free passes to high school and Howard College events; and anything else we can think of to put into a package and advertise.

We need more bodies and they are not going to wander in here on their own. Let's make an effort.

BOOSIE WEAVER  
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

On behalf of the West Texas Producer's and Farmer's Market I would like to say thank you.

Thank you for your support. Thank you for your kindness and thank you for your patronage.

I know all of the farmers and producers who participated in the Farmer's Market feel they were truly blessed to serve such an appreciative group of people as we have here in Big Spring.

Until harvest time comes again, you'll be in our thoughts and prayers.

KELLY DEAR  
BIG SPRING

The Big Spring Club honored standing area Wednesday part of its ce Youth A Week.

These students selected by based on academic curricular and community service.

Each area principal was comment on their student above the rest.

Chosen from High School v Brennan B Reagan Cresw

"Both Brennan are 1 percent of the said BSBS Pri Ritchie. "The students who determined, bically and They, as well ents, are to be lated for the ing achievement

Bailey, the Craig and J describes he determined, ate individual become a ger tioner with a tion in medic ary work.

She is a me National Hor National Leadership Medicine, Ju Championship nament men Bureau spee state finalist, the Governor Excellence A and second w prose and po of the Foreign Festival, win Dwight D. People to Pec winner of Leadership A winner of ac government a

## BSHS

Special to the

The Big S School Speech Team defende as reigning cl the Abilene C School Speech Tournament in a domina mance this ye

Team mem first in eigh events, contri landslide S win.

"You have ends, then you thing like this Adams, speech team co-coach

"We know t are some of th area, but a w this this is a lievable."

The fir Sweepstakes the third for this year. sweepstakes w

Museum's pan holiday exhibit

Heritage M having a I Herald Christmas Pa Dec. 4 with punch.

The Winter Christmas an exhibit is set t day as well.

Also, Gingerbread set for Dec. 6.

Contact the 267-8255 for mation.

Big S Brew 3103 Gregg

# Optimist Club announces outstanding senior students for 2004-05 school year

HERALD Staff Report

The Big Spring Optimist Club honored eight outstanding area seniors last Wednesday morning as part of its celebration of Youth Appreciation Week.

These students were selected by each school based on academics, extra curricular activities and community service.

Each area high school principal was asked to comment on what makes their students stand out above the rest.

Chosen from Big Spring High School were seniors Brennan Bailey and Reagan Creswell.

"Both Brennan and Reagan are in the top 5 percent of their class," said BSHS Principal Mike Ritchie. "They are model students who are very determined, both academically and athletically. They, as well as their parents, are to be congratulated for their outstanding achievements."

Bailey, the daughter of Craig and Julie Bailey, describes herself as a determined, compassionate individual aspiring to become a general practitioner with a concentration in medical missionary work.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, National Youth Leadership Forum for Medicine, Junior Tour Championship golf tournament member, Farm Bureau speech contest state finalist, winner of the Governor's Academic Excellence Award, first and second winner in the prose and poetry section of the Foreign Language Festival, winner of the Dwight D. Eisenhower People to People Award, winner of the HOBY Leadership Award, and winner of academic and government awards.



BRENNAN BAILEY



REAGAN CRESWELL



LAUREN YEATER



GENE CORSE



CASI GRAVES



LEVI JOHNSON



KANDIS CARSON



MARCELO BARRAZA

This impressive list is joined by the Who's Who award, participation in all-region choir and placing first in solo and ensemble contest.

Bailey currently works at Prescription Services, while still finding time to participate in the community with the Texas Trash-off, co-chairing the Alzheimer's Memory Walk and being a precinct chairman during the election.

Adding to her schedule, Bailey also is involved with Spanish Club, Key Club board of directors, varsity golf, independent study mentorship program, Key Club and 4-H.

Bailey plans to graduate with honors in May of 2005, then plans to pursue her undergraduate degree at Texas A&M University, majoring in biomedical engineering.

Creswell, son of Ricky Creswell and Wanda McDaniel, is a member of the National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students and the National Honor Roll. He also received the Governor's Excellence Award.

Creswell plans to attend Texas Tech University where he will seek to major in coaching and minor in business.

Also honored at the event were Coahoma seniors Lauren Yeater and Gene Corse.

"These are great students and great leaders," said CISD High School

Principal Charles Adams. "These students are very motivated. They see challenges and take them head on. It's going to be neat to watch them go on to success," he said.

Yeater, daughter of Mike and Susan Yeater, is involved in organizations such as student council, where she serves as president; band president and drum major; choir; UIL, where she earned third individual and top chemistry in the science division; Future Farmer's of America; Color Guard; Spanish Club, National Honor Society vice-president; Yearbook editor-in-chief; Drama Club; Homecoming Court nominee; and Fighting Heart Tennis.

She has won many awards for academic excellence, including Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Yeater is a four-year letterman in basketball, track and tennis. She also competed in cross-country. Her community service projects include canned food drives for the Salvation Army and Relay for Life. She plans to pursue a career in the field of law.

Corse, son of Eddy and Sarah Corse, has been named the most outstanding student during his high school career in world history, biology, algebra, Spanish I, Spanish II, honors chemistry and pre-calculus.

In addition, he is

involved in FFA, Drama Club, athletics, Student Council, National Honor Society, Spanish Club and Howard County 4-H, where he was awarded Senior Showman-ship for showing pigs.

He is currently ranked No. 1 in his class. His community service projects include food drives for the Salvation Army and Relay for Life.

Forsan seniors Casi Graves and Levi Johnson were also recognized as outstanding youth.

"The faculty picked these two students; that says a lot about what great students they are," said FISD High School Principal Keith Stone. "Levi will do very well at whatever school he chooses. He is an excellent student with many talents. I have no doubt that he will succeed in whatever avenue he takes."

"Casi has always achieved excellence in everything she's done. She's an asset to both the community and the school," said Stone.

Graves is the daughter of Glenn and Cindy Graves and is currently ranked No. 3 in her class.

She is the National Honor Society vice-president as well as class secretary and A honor roll recipient. Graves participates in varsity basketball, cross country, one act play, band and student council. She is an active member of the Baptist Temple youth group.

Levi Johnson, son of

Randy and LaDonna Johnson, is ranked No. 1 in his class.

Johnson is the band's brass lieutenant and band president.

He is a National Merit semifinalist and a member of the National Honor Society.

He is a cross-examination debate state qualifier for the second year, an all-state band member, solo and ensemble state qualifier and all-region band member, each for the second time.

Johnson is involved in one-act play and has earned medals in headline writing, number sense, mathematics, calculators and science. He is the third-place medalist in number sense and the regional medalist in number sense, calculators and headline writing. Johnson also is state champion and Tops in Texas for headline writing.

Outstanding Sands High School seniors Kandis Carson and Marcelo Barraza rounded out the list of honorees.

"These are great kids," said SISD High School Principal Zelda Bilbo. "I've known them all their lives and they are outstanding students who will go very far in life."

Carson is the daughter of Douglas and Katricia Carson.

Carson's extra-curricular activities include basketball, track and field, cross-country, tennis, golf, cheerleading, year-

book staff, one-act play, UIL poetry, UIL writing skills, student council and FFA.

She has won many awards and honors including one-act play honorable mention and all-star cast, homecoming queen nominee, fall festival nominee, football sweetheart, UIL poetry, fifth place, UIL writing, sixth place, citizenship awards and area qualifier for the 100-meter dash in track.

Carson is an active member of the Ackerly First Baptist Church Youth group. She is also involved as a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, local nursing homes and Acteens.

Barraza is the son of Robin and Debbie Barraza and has the highest grade point average in his class.

Barraza is the president of the National Honor Society, class vice-president, is active in UIL, is a regional qualifier for the Lincoln-Douglas Debate, is active in FFA and was the Senior Creed speaker. He has also been the Greenhand president, Junior Creed speaker, part of the Junior Quiz team, Texas Education Association Celebration of Excellence and Who's Who Among American High School students.

Barraza's list of athletic achievements include district championships, regional qualifications and state quarterfinalist status in cross-country, track, basketball, football and tennis.

He has been active in the honor society's canned food drives for the past two years.

Barraza also helps his grandfather and father during summer and Christmas breaks at his family's cotton farm.

## BSHS speech and debate team sweeps tournament

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring High School Speech and Debate Team defended their title as reigning champions of the Abilene Cooper High School Speech and Debate Tournament by turning in a dominating performance this year.

Team members placed first in eight of the 12 events, contributing to a landslide Sweepstakes win.

"You have good weekends, then you have something like this," said Clint Adams, speech and debate team co-coach.

"We know that our kids are some of the best in the area, but a weekend like this is almost unbelievable."

The first place Sweepstakes award was the third for the squad this year. Previous sweepstakes wins came at

Museum's parade watch, holiday exhibit opening set

Heritage Museum is having a Big Spring Herald Lighted Christmas Parade watch Dec. 4 with cake and punch.

The Winter's Blessings Christmas and Hannukah exhibit is set to open that day as well.

Also, Gale's Gingerbread Houses is set for Dec. 6.

Contact the museum at 267-8255 for more information.

the Lubbock Coronado tournament and the Odessa High School Tournament.

In the recent meet, Big Spring High School was led by Manoj Thangam, who placed first in foreign extemporaneous speaking, original oratory, dramatic interpretation and humorous interpretation.

Thangam also placed third in impromptu speaking and fifth in the Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Manoj and Corey Green placed fifth in Brown Bag Improvisation. Thangam was named the outstanding speaker for the tournament.

Josh Acuff qualified for the Texas Forensic State Tournament by placing first in both the Lincoln-Douglas Debate and United States extemporaneous speaking.

Tapley Holgin placed first in poetry, second in

dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, duet acting with James Clark and Tapley placed third in prose. Tapley's placing earned him the Interpreter of the Tournament Award.

Clark also placed third in foreign extemporaneous speaking, dramatic interpretation and fourth in humorous interpretation.

Freshman Amber Simer was undefeated in route to a first place finish in the Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Corey Green placed fourth in United States extemporaneous speaking, fifth in humorous interpretation and Brown Bag Improvisation with Thangam, and Green and Logan Churchwell placed second in cross-examination debate.

Courtney Hecker placed seventh in dramatic interpretation and sixth in

Brown Bag Improvisation with Laura Breckenridge. Breckenridge also placed third in the Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Rebekah Horton placed sixth in dramatic interpretation.

Conor Phillips placed sixth in the Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

And Matt Soto placed third in poetry.

Others contributing to the win were Malle Carrasco, Laura Fitzgibbons, Leah Hughes, Roger Kauss and Victoria Walker.

The team now has 14 qualifications for the Texas Forensic Association State meet held in March.

The team will next travel to Seminole High School Dec. 3-4 and will host the Big Spring Invitational Tournament here Jan. 7-8, 2005.

### Community-wide blood drive

Rip Griffin's Truck/Travel Center Community Blood Drive is set for 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Wednesday.

To sign up please call Sonya at 264-4444 or stop by the day of the blood drive to donate. The travel center is located at I-20 and North Highway 87.

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# Pride of America

## 'Great American Car' returns with Chrysler '05 300 sedan

It's been heralded as the return of the "Great American Car."

Without question, the 2005 300 sedan has been rolling out of dealer showrooms as fast as Chrysler can build them and get them shipped. In fact, demand for the all-new, full-size, rear-wheel drive (AWD available) sedan has been so intense, many of the dealerships have a waiting list.

After spending a week behind the wheel, I can see why.

The '05 Chrysler 300 is an incredible vehicle.

It has a classic, distinctly American look reminiscent of the grand touring sedans of years past.

It is refined, with an extremely roomy and comfortable cabin.

It is elegant — loaded with an abundance of standard amenities and comfort features.

It has a smooth, comfortable ride and a powertrain lineup that includes the 5.7-liter HEMI V-8 capable of powering the 300 sedan from 0-60 mph in 6.3 seconds.

It also has a base price

that starts below \$24,000 — keep in mind the 300 sedan is designed to compete head-to-head against the Cadillac STS, BMW 745i, BMW 545i, Jaguar XJ8, Infiniti Q45, Toyota Avalon and Acura TL.

The 300 sedan can hold its own.

For the 2005 model year, the Chrysler 300 is available in four trim lines.

The 300 is powered by a 2.7-liter V-6 (190 horsepower) and includes 17-inch wheels, 8-way power driver's seat, tilt/telescoping steering wheel, cloth interior. It

has a base price starting at \$23,595.

The 300 Touring is powered by 3.5-liter High Output V-6 (250 horsepower), and adds fog lamps, four-wheel

ABS, all-speed traction control, electronic stability control, emergency brake assist, chrome accents and leather seating. It has a base price starting at \$27,395.

The 300 Limited adds 17-inch chrome clad aluminum wheels, electrochromic mirror, automatic headlamps, heated seats, power passenger



The 2005 Chrysler 300 sedan.

seat, dual zone climate control and reconfigurable information center. It has a base price starting at \$29,890.

The 300C is powered by 5.7-liter HEMI V-8 (340 horsepower) mated to a five-speed automatic transmission with AutoStick. It also adds dual exhaust tips and tortoise shell interior highlights. It has a base price starting at \$32,995.

And yes, there are all kinds of packages and features that can be added on, ranging from premium sound systems, self-sealing tires, headlamp washers, navigation systems, power sunroof, SIRIUS satellite radio, hands-free communications and like.

And while this is a distinctly American sedan, in the interest of full disclosure, I would be remiss to omit the fact you can see (and feel) the Daimler-Benz influence in the design, fit and finish of the vehicle. And,

it's also made at Chrysler's Brampton Assembly Plant in Ontario, Canada.

That said, a great car is a great car, and the 2005 Chrysler 300 sedan certainly fits into that category.

I highly recommend it for a test drive for consumers in the market for a full-size, upscale sedan.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at [neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com](mailto:neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com).

### ON THE ROAD



By NEAL WHITE

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Rules change becomes Loyalty Day for Tom DeLay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Whether it's flying to small towns to help Republicans raise money or engineering a redistricting plan giving his party control of the Texas congressional delegation, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay delivers for his members.

Now the members have delivered for him.

House Republicans on Wednesday changed a party rule so DeLay, R-Sugar Land, could remain as leader if indicted in a Texas campaign finance investigation that he calls political.

The old rule required GOP leaders and committee chairmen charged with a felony to relinquish their positions. The new language orders a case-by-case review, with the leaders retaining their posts until all House Republicans decide their fate.

Along with legal argu-

ments for protecting those who might be charged but not convicted, there clearly was another message for DeLay: "thank you."

### Houston animal shelter rejects pet adoption offer

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's animal shelter, which put 94 percent of its animals to death last year, has rejected an outside group's offer to help find homes for it dogs and cats.

The city's Bureau of Animal Regulation and Care rejected the offer by Spay-Neuter Assistance Program because the

adoptions would not be profitable.

John Nix, division manager of the city shelter, said the \$25 sterilization fee, a \$7.50 heartworm test and other costs might exceed the \$35 the city charges residents who adopt animals.

The Spay-Neuter Assistance Program also said it would lend its truck to volunteers to take up to 30 animals to malls on Saturdays.

However, Nix said the city shelter does not have enough veterinarians to spay or neuter the 30 pets that would be sent out in the SNAP truck and can't afford to pay SNAP for the service.



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## IN BR

### Youth basketball set at B.S.

The YMCA announced the upcoming season of youth basketball registration will run through the end of the year.

Boys and girls basketball will be held at the YMCA. The registration fee is \$30 and all participants will take place in the YMCA.

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

An organizational meeting for the group will be held Tuesday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. at the YMCA. Everyone interested in coaching or being coached should attend the meeting. The games will begin on Jan. 8.

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

### Basketball needed for...

The Crossroads is looking for ball officials for the upcoming season.

For more information, contact Rodriguez at 267-8234 or 517-0300.

The game played in the school such as Big Spring and will be at the junior high school levels.

### Big Spring Booster meeting

There will be a Spring Booster Club meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, at the Athletic Center.

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

For more information, contact Sparks at 267-8234.

### Jones practice return uncer...

IRVING — Cowboys running back Julius Jones practiced for the first time in almost two months Wednesday. Jones isn't expected to return this week.

Jones has since he broke his shoulder in the debut of the Cowboys on Sept. 19.

Coach Bill Parcells listed Jones for Sunday's game in Baltimore. Jones wasn't sure if he would play.

"I don't know if I'm right now," Jones said. "I have to see how he does. It looks like he's with and able to play." Parcells said Jones had worked out well during his return.

Jones had to pass for 16 yards on two passes against the Redskins. He missed the opening play but was picked for the last play.

### 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.

#### Jones practices, return uncertain

IRVING — Dallas Cowboys rookie running back Julius Jones practiced for the first time in almost two months Wednesday but isn't expected to play this week.

Jones has been out since he broke his left shoulder in his NFL debut, the Cowboys' 19-12 win over Cleveland Sept. 19.

Coach Bill Parcells listed Jones as "out" for Sunday's game at Baltimore. He said he wasn't sure when Jones would play.

"I don't have a time right now," Parcells said. "I have to get him out there and just see how he does, what he looks like he's familiar with and able to do."

Parcells said Jones had worked hard physically to stay in shape during his rehabilitation.

Jones had five carries for 16 yards and caught two passes for 14 yards against the Browns. He missed the season opener because of bruised ribs.

Jones was the first pick for the Cowboys last April.

## Buffaloes land six on all-district team

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Six players from Forsan's 2004 football squad were named to the all-District 10-1A second and honorable mention teams recently.

Senior Tye Baker and Tye Paredes are juniors. Mitchell Murray, Adam Johnson and Tye Baker all made the second team for their respective offensive positions, while Johnson and Tyler Phillips made the honorable mention team at linebacker and offensive lineman, respectively.

Paredes was voted to the second team as a



PHILLIPS

wide receiver after hauling in 11 passes for 238 yards and five touchdowns.

Murray made the team as a running back after compiling 852 rushing yards on 174 carries. He also scored 10 touchdowns.

Baker was voted as a second team quarterback for his passing and running ability. He ran for 203 yards and scored two touchdowns on the ground this year, while throwing for 424 and six touchdowns through the air.

On top of being an honorable mention linebacker, Johnson was also voted onto the second team as a punter after averaging 23 yards per punt. He punted 39 times for 899 yards.

### ALL-DISTRICT 10-1A FOOTBALL TEAMS

#### First Team Offense

Quarterback: Aaron Colburn, Winters  
Running Back: Daniel Ruiz, Roscoe  
Joe Posey, Roby  
Utility Back: Nick Joy, Roscoe  
Chris Cooks, Sterling City  
Fullback: Mathew Pippin, Roby  
Wide Receiver: Max Harrison, Winters  
Brent Scherwitz, Roby  
Mitch Pope, Roscoe  
Tight End: Kyle Nevins, Roscoe  
Center: Tate Mayfield, Roscoe  
Offensive Line: Julian Saavedra, Roscoe  
Jacob Bridgman, Winters  
Hunter Stuart, Roby  
Offensive Newcomer: Logan Rawls, Bronte

#### First Team Defense

Defensive Line: Mathew Pippin, Roby  
Eloy Thomas, Roscoe  
Tate Mayfield, Roscoe  
Jacob Bridgman, Winters  
Brandon Jobe, Roscoe  
Colton Long, Sterling City  
Josh Moffett, Roby  
Linebacker: Devon Deleon, Roscoe  
Daniel Ruiz, Roscoe  
Cody Pritchard, Winters  
Stetson Rasberry, Roby  
Jaylon Saunders, Bronte  
Frankie Gonzalez, Roby  
Cole Hord, Sterling City  
Daniel Drake, Roscoe  
Josh Hernandez, Winters  
Defensive Newcomer: Josh Villalueva, Roscoe  
Punter: Cale Smith, Roscoe  
Kicker: Josh Moffett, Roby

#### Second Team Offense

Quarterback: Tye Baker, Forsan  
Joshua Fitchett, Sterling City  
Running Back: Jaylon Saunders, Bronte  
Mitchell Murray, Forsan  
Frank Perez, Winters  
Utility Back: Brian Cooks, Sterling City  
Fullback: Cody Moore, Bronte  
Wide Receiver: Garrett Jackson, Bronte  
Keenan Garcia, Hermleigh  
Trey Paredes, Forsan  
Tight End: Josh Moffett, Roby  
Center: Ryan Rives, Roby  
Offensive Line: Dakota Rasberry, Roby  
Colton Long, Sterling City  
Justin Frazee, Bronte  
Matt Tekell, Winters

#### Second Team Defense

Defensive Line: Caleb Gressett, Sterling City  
Blaine Dyess, Bronte  
JR Valenzuela, Roby  
Art Flores, Roby  
Chance Grantham, Winters  
Max Harrison, Winters  
Mitch Pope, Roscoe  
Linebacker: Pete Griffin, Winters  
Dakota Rasberry, Roby  
Seth Haviah, Sterling City  
Curtis Moore, Bronte  
Neal Anthony, Roscoe  
Garrett Jackson, Bronte  
Brent Scherwitz, Roby  
Nick Joy, Roscoe  
Aaron Colburn, Winters  
Secondary: Adam Johnson, Forsan  
Punter: Cale Smith, Roscoe  
Kicker: Cale Smith, Roscoe



#### Coach of the Year

Wes Williams, Roscoe  
Craig Bales, Winters

#### District MVP

Cale Smith, Roscoe

#### Offensive MVP

J.W. Chick, Roby

#### Defensive MVP

Joe Posey, Roby

#### Honorable Mention

Adam Johnson, LB  
Tyler Phillips, OL

## NFL gets mixed reviews for 'desperate' locker room intro

By The Associated Press

If ABC hoped to generate a little bit more buzz for "Monday Night Football" and "Desperate Housewives," its steamy intro to the Dallas-Philadelphia game sure did the trick.

Two days after the network aired the segment featuring Eagles star receiver Terrell Owens and actress Nicollette Sheridan, coaches and players were still talking about it.

Reaction ranged from amusement to anger. Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy found it racially offensive.

"To me that's the first thing I thought of as an African-American," Dungy said Wednesday.

"I think it's stereotypical in looking at the players, and on the heels of the Kobe Bryant incident I think it's very insensitive. I don't think that they would have had Bill Parcells or Andy Reid or one of the owners involved in that," he added, a reference to the coaches in the game.

ABC's intro showed Sheridan wearing only a towel and provocatively asking Owens to skip the game for her as the two stood alone in a locker room.

She drops the towel and jumps into Owens' arms. Owens is black and Sheridan is white.

"If that's what we have to do to get ratings, I'd rather not get them," Dungy said. "I realize that ratings pays us in this league, but if that's what we have to do, I'm willing to take a pay cut." Philadelphia quarter-

back Donovan McNabb wasn't quite as vocal, saying he didn't find the segment offensive and believed people were overreacting. (Owens wasn't at practice Wednesday, excused for what the team said were personal reasons.)

"Some people do different things," McNabb said. "Not saying that my wife would allow me to do that, but it's just something that was done, and you move on."

Michael Powell, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, had a different view, questioning ABC's judgment in airing the scene.

"I wonder if Walt Disney would be proud," he said.

ABC is owned by The Walt Disney Co. The FCC will review complaints and decide whether or not to open an investigation that could result in a fine against the network.

"It would seem to me that while we get a lot of broadcasting companies complaining about indecency enforcement, they seem to be continuing to be willing to keep the issue at the forefront, keep it hot and steamy in order to get financial gains and the free advertising it provides," Powell told CNBC.

The segment drew complaints from viewers and the NFL. ABC Sports apologized for using the introduction to promote its show, "Desperate Housewives." Dungy's comment, however, was the first that mentioned race. He also said the segment played off stereo-

types of athletes.

"That athletes are sexual predators and that that stuff is more important than what's going on on the field. That a guy was more concerned with that than the game, that's a terrible message to send," Dungy said. "I'm particularly sensitive to that. It could have been any player and I would have been outraged, but being an African-American, it particularly hurt me."

A decade ago Dungy was outspoken about the lack of black coaches in the NFL. There are currently five, including Dungy and Lovie Smith, whose Bears will face Dungy's Colts Sunday.

"It shouldn't have happened, and I couldn't believe it did happen," Smith said.

Dungy said ABC had asked the Colts, who played on Monday night last week, "to do some things I thought would make our players look a little bit silly (although) nothing like that."

"We kind of declined," he said.

Some players were also shocked.

"My mouth dropped when I saw that," said Washington tight end Mike Sellers, who was watching the game with his wife. "I said, 'Did they actually plan this on TV?'"

But at least one of his teammates wasn't bothered.

"I thought it was kind of cool, myself," linebacker Marcus Washington said. "I enjoyed the skit."



courtesy photo

The Under-8 Longhorns soccer team in Big Spring finished its season with an 11-1 record and a second place finish. Front row, from left: Tyler Martin, Mark Montez, Abby Del Toro, Joshua Gutierrez, Kaleb Rankin, Caleb Benson and Natanie Mlears. Back: Coach Brandon Boling, Madyson Gartman, Alexandria Gibbs, Dylan Ross, Tyran Sealy, Charlie Boling and Coach Christine Boling.

## Pittsburgh's turnaround due to effort of offensive lineman

By ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — When the Pittsburgh Steelers vote for the team's most valuable player this year, a lot of ballots might be split five ways.

Even with so many players enjoying big seasons — Ben Roethlisberger, Duane Staley, James Farrior and Troy Polamalu — the Steelers agree almost unanimously that the offensive line is the main reason for their dramatic turnaround.

One season after the Steelers endured their worst season running the ball since 1967, they are No. 2 in rushing — with only 20 fewer yards in nine games than they had in 16 last season. They're well down the list in sacks allowed, too, with only 15 — 25 fewer than the New York Giants.

Massive personnel changes aren't the reason for the upgrade; each of the five regulars started at least nine games last season except left tackle Marvel Smith, limited to six starts by a neck injury.

So how could a line that played well below expectations on a 6-10 team last year be performing at such a high level this season on an 8-1 team?

"There's been a big emphasis on the run this year from the start," former All-Pro guard Alan Faneca said Wednesday. "We've been running the ball a lot and getting a lot of chances, and the running backs have been doing a good job of getting through the holes."

Last year, the Steelers

abandoned their longstanding commitment to the running game to emphasize quarterback Tommy Maddox's throwing, a byproduct of Maddox's strong production once he became the starter in 2002.

This season, the Steelers have emphasized the run since the opening week of camp, when offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt didn't call a single passing play during the first three goal-line scrimmages against the defense.

It's also helped that there have been no injuries since right guard Kendall Simmons (knee) was lost for the season early in camp. Keydrick Vincent stepped in for Simmons after making nine starts last season and, along with an ever-improving Oliver Ross at right tackle, has stabilized what appeared to be a shaky right side of the line.

"We're all anchored in our spots for a couple of months now, and that helps," Faneca said. "It helps to know what the guy next to you is thinking. It makes life a lot easier out there when you can just let it rip."

The results are obvious. The line was so dominating during a 27-3 victory over the Eagles on Nov. 7 that television repeatedly showed replays displaying holes big enough for a bus to drive through — or for the Bus, Jerome Bettis, to run through.

"We realized that we're going to run the ball six, seven times in a row and you just run it," Faneca said. "Just pounding it and driving it."

## North Texas' Thomas key for Arkansas State

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) — North Texas' Jamario Thomas will have a figurative bull's-eye on the front and back of his jersey when he takes the field Thursday against Arkansas State.

The best way for ASU to end its season on a high note with an upset of North Texas: Stop Thomas.

The Mean Green freshman running back has had more than 200 yards in the last five games and is the nation's leading rusher, playing in place of the injured Patrick Cobbs, last year's leading

rusher. Arkansas State coach Steve Roberts and his team have noticed.

"We have a tremendous challenge trying to stop Jamario Thomas ...," Roberts said. "He's got great speed, great vision, makes people miss and is a tremendous back. Obviously their offensive line, fullbacks and wide receivers are doing a great job in their blocking in order to spring him on a lot of those runs where he's untouched."

North Texas (6-4, 6-0 Sun Belt Conference) has already wrapped up the Sun Belt title and hasn't

lost a conference game in recent memory. Arkansas State (3-7, 3-3) is coming off a home win over Utah State.

If Arkansas State is to pull off an upset, the home field advantage should help.

Four of the Indians' six wins over the Mean Green have come in Jonesboro (North Texas leads the series 7-6, 3-2 in the past five years).

"It's going to be tough Thursday night because Arkansas State is very good and plays well at home," said North Texas coach Darrell Dickey.

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Help Wanted

Covenant Home Health Care of Big Spring is currently hiring for the following position:  
**Registered Nurse- Full-time**  
Home health experience preferred but not mandatory. Interested individuals should call Vicki Golleher at (432)263-6816 or send resume to 2000 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**DO YOU** enjoy working with the elderly and want to be part of a growing challenging industry? If so, we invite you to inquire about a position in our nursing department.

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EXCELLENT Starting pay Health Insurance Retirement Plan Great Vacation with a Flexible Schedule.

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**SECURITY FINANCE** has a seasonal cashiering/collector position available. We are offering \$7.50/hr with the potential to develop into a permanent position. Please apply in person at Security Finance, 501 East 3rd, Big Spring, TX 79720.

**SHELL STAR STOP** looking for new team members. Full and part time cashiers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

Taking applications for Counter Help. Must be very enthusiastic. Duties include filing, computer, phone, and etc. Benefits include paid vacation, health insurance & retirement. Apply in person, **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

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**WANTED: IMMEDIATE** opening for an experienced gang truck pusher. Apply at Rusty's Oilfield Service in Stanton. (432)756-2821.

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**LOST GAIL** area multi-colored goats, 3 don't have ears. Last seen Luther area. Call (432)399-4477 or 264-2997.

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**1309 LAMAR**. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. CH/A with fenced yard. \$350. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

**1311 TUCSON**. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath, one car garage, CH/A, washer/dryer hookup. Fenced yard. \$410. month, \$295. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

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**1408 DONLEY**. Clean. Furnished 1 bedroom 1 bath Apartment. Water & Gas Paid. \$300. month, \$150. deposit. Sorry No Pets. (432)263-4922.

**1409 MT. VERNON**. Newly remodeled. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard with washer & dryer connections. \$515. month, \$395. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

**1610 STATE**. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 car garage, workshop, fenced yard, new carpet & paint. \$335. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

**2523 DOW**. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with CH/A. \$385. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

Real Estate for Rent

**2604 ENT.** 3 Bedroom 2 bath, New paint/ carpet. References. \$450. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)267-7449.

**3202 AUBURN.** 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, in-close garage, fenced yard, central evaporative A/C, nice neighborhood. \$500. month, \$500. deposit. No inside pets. References required. Call (432)267-6667.

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**4002 PARKWAY.** Clean three bedroom, one bath, CH/A, fenced yard, stove & refrigerator furnished. \$425. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

**605 EAST 15TH.** Two bedroom, one bath, CH/A. \$375. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

**612 GREGG,** 800 square feet. Strip/Center Location. \$450.00 month plus deposit required. Call (432)267-7449.

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**\$1,000 TOTAL** Move in Cost. On 1306 Marijo. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Reasonably good credit required, lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. Call now (432)520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

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Real Estate for Sale



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**FOR SALE** by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1321 Mulberry. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

**FOR SALE** by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1216 Ridgeroad. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

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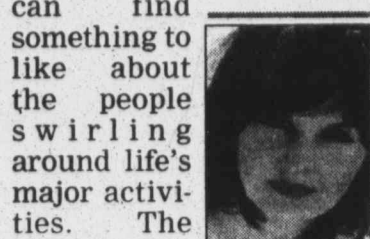
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS**  
The Aquarius moon is the Miss Congeniality of the lunar pageant. Even the most misanthropic can find something to like about the people swirling around life's major activities. The idea is that as long as we have to work, we may as well do it with a cheery attitude. Anyone who doesn't wish his or her fellows well sticks out like an Omarosa.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The horse race is on. This is the day for which you've been training. Strategy works for you, so take the time to plot out your next move. Be careful not to give answers to questions that are not asked.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). When faced with authoritarian leadership, you're bold enough to ask, How about diplomacy? How about give and take? How about listening to input from the group? OK, maybe you don't ask it out loud — but maybe you should.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You're in the right but could be coming across too strong for sensitive people around you. Avoid anything that could be construed as arrogant, especially masked as humility. Find the path of least resistance.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your curiosity drives you to learn. You'll be stronger, more decisive and more influential because you take the time to read. Perfect dates fall on the intellectual side of the spectrum — go see a movie with subtitles.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). What's fair comes into focus. When others don't do their job, the extra work piles onto your load, and that's clearly not fair. But as an enterprising creature, you can accomplish more than others, and this is an opportunity to do so.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You might think that your guardian angel has inexplicably fled, but later, you'll see how your feelings of vulnerability actually allow you to reach out and make new connections with people. Find the fantastic in the ordinary!

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Everyone's got his or her particular neurosis, but some of the folks you run into today are truly clinical. Your remarkable compassion will not only get you through situations; it will allow you to elevate your spiritual status.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Money is an emotional topic. You want security, but you fear being corrupted by riches. By asking the right questions and listening, you can gain knowledge vicariously through other people's financial experiences.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The frothy meringue of pie-in-the-sky ideas cloud your vision of reality — but so what? You're able to stay upbeat instead of letting negative people steal your energy! And one of these ideas will be a winner.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Big doings involve you in ways you didn't expect. If only you could steal away, research, decide exactly what to say, and then execute the mission next week. But alas, the moment is now: Relax, and then, speak up.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your popularity brings with it an array of social choices. Be judicious. Don't allow crummy office politics to spoil your productivity. Close your door to complaining co-workers and conversations that clearly aren't constructive.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You're called on to be the protector. Take your role seriously. If you don't stick up for the underdog, others could attack. Tonight, your mind visits a land far, far away. What you'll learn on this "journey" will help your love life.

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.

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THURSDAY

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6	:30	News (CC)	Wheel-Fort
7	:30	Extreme	Makeover
8	:30	Primetime	Special Ed
9	:30	PrimeTime	Live
10	:30	News	Nightline
11	:30	Ent. Tonight	Jimmy Kim
12	:30	Live (CC)	Oprah Winf

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THURSDAY

NOV. 18

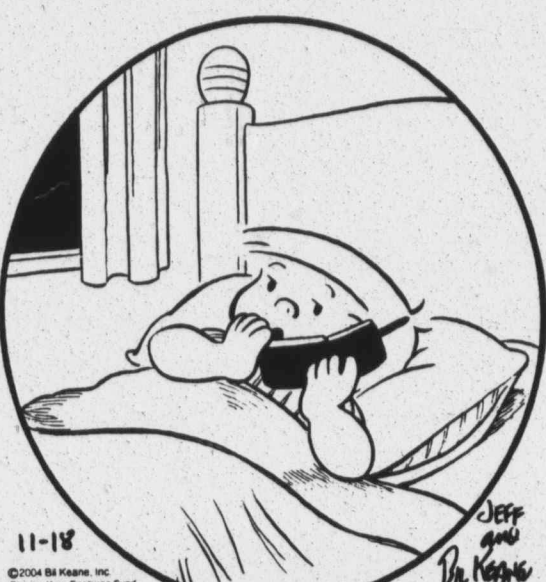
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6:PM	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	La Mujer de Madera	Malcolm-Mid. Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Anita No Te Rajes	News Serfield (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Monster Nation		CSI: Crime Scene Invstg.	NBA Basketball	Live BET Style	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	College Basketball	College	Evelyn (CC)
7:PM	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Rubi	The O.C. (CC)	Survivor: Vanuatu	Prisionera	Joey (CC) Will & Grace	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Michal Ratliff	West Tex Jmi TX Mnthly Tak	No Opportu- nity Wasted	Movie: North to Alaska	CSI: Crime Scene Invstg.	Spurs at 76ers	The Parkers Girlfriends	Movie: Smart House (CC)	Coaches vs. Cancer	Football: Maryland at	Movie: Wild at Heart
8:PM	Primetime Special Edition	Primetime Special Edition	Amor Real	North Shore (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstg.	Gitanas	The Apprentice (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	To Be Announced	Tracking the Terrorists		Spring of Trivia Spring of Trivia	NBA	Soul Food (CC)		College Basketball	Virginia Tech (CC)	?
9:PM	PrimeTime Live	PrimeTime Live	Aqui y Ahora	Malcolm-Mid. 70s Show	Without a Trace (CC)	Te Voy a En-senar a Querer	ER (CC)	The Mansion		Farming the Seas (CC)	American Chopper	Movie: MXC MXC	MXC MXC	Basketball: Knicks at	Comicview	Lizzie McGuire Sister, Sister	Coaches vs. Cancer	SportsCenter	:05 Movie: Footloose
10:PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	Movie: Jumanji (CC) (DVS)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	No Opportu- nity Wasted	Cogburn	Prince-Persia V-Spot	Rockets	Nightly News L-Bow Room	Even Stevens Boy World	Teams TBA ATP Tennis	(CC)	(CC)
11:PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	El Recuento de los Danos	Becker (CC) Becker (CC)	(CC) The Late Late Show (CC)	Al Rolo Vivo- Maria Celeste Corte-Familia	Show (CC) Late Night (CC)		Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Sign Off	Tracking the Terrorists	:45 Movie: Guns for San Sebastian	Widest Police V-Spot	Inside the NBA (CC)	Midnight Love	Proud Family That's-Raven	Tennis Masters Cup -- Round-	Rome-Burning Outside-Lines	Movie: My Tutor
12:AM	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) PGA Tour	Mujeres Enganadas	Spin City Dharma-Greg	Show (CC) The Insider			The Mansion	Update/Israel Michal Ratliff		American Chopper		Blind Date Blind Date	Movie: Renaissance	Comicview	Kim Possible Lizzie McGuire	Robin (CC) Season	SportsCenter (CC)	:45 Movie:

DENNIS THE MENACE



"So how come we have air bags in this car if we never use them?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I can't watch it now. I'm in bed, sound asleep."

HAGAR



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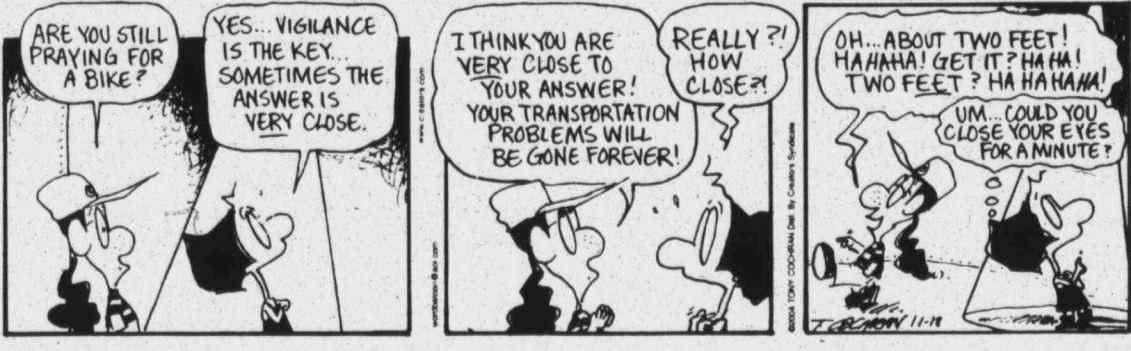
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEFLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Nov. 18, the 323rd day of 2004. There are 43 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 18, 1928, the first successful sound-synchronized animated cartoon, Walt Disney's "Steamboat Willie," starring Mickey Mouse, premiered in New York.

On this date: In 1820, U.S. Navy Capt. Nathaniel B. Palmer discovered the frozen continent of Antarctica.

In 1883, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time zones.

In 1886, the 21st president of the United States, Chester A. Arthur, died in New York at age 56.

In 1903, the United States

and Panama signed a treaty granting the U.S. rights to build the Panama Canal.

In 1936, Germany and Italy recognized the Spanish government of Francisco Franco.

In 1964, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover described civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. as "the most notorious liar in the country" for accusing FBI agents in Georgia of failing to act on complaints filed by blacks.

In 1966, U.S. Roman Catholic bishops did away with the rule against eating meat on Fridays.

In 1969, financier-diplomat Joseph P. Kennedy died in Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 81.

In 1978, California Congressman Leo J. Ryan and four other people were killed in Jonestown, Guyana, by members of the Peoples Temple; the killings were followed by a night of mass murder and suicide by 912 cult members.

In 1987, the congressional Iran-Contra committees issued their final report,

saying President Reagan bore "ultimate responsibility" for wrongdoing by his aides.

Today's Birthdays: Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, is 81. Actor Brad Sullivan is 73. Actress Brenda Vaccaro is 65. Actress Linda Evans is 62. Actress Susan Sullivan is 60. Country singer Jacky Ward is 58. Actor Jameson Parker is 57. Actress-singer Andrea Marcovicci is 56. Rock musician Herman Rarebell is 55. Singer Graham Parker is 54. Actor Delroy Lindo is 52. Comedian Kevin Nealon is 51.

Answer to previous puzzle

A	M	E	B	A	P	E	N	C	E	S	A	Y
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Newsday Crossword

HIGH FINANCE by Robert H. Wolfe  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Fried corn bread
- 5 Driving hazard
- 8 Construction piece
- 13 God of love
- 14 Actress Gardner
- 15 Like some mammoths
- 16 Tennis officials
- 18 Mame, for one
- 19 Soup chef's guide?
- 21 One who acts
- 22 Shop \_\_\_\_ You Drop
- 23 Before, to Blake
- 24 Travelers' havens
- 25 Oil alternative
- 28 They move about
- 31 Stately horse
- 33 Walkman batteries
- 34 Orange or Indian
- 38 Like some biographies
- 40 Screamed out
- 42 Really like
- 43 Farrow or Hamm
- 44 One, in Weimar
- 45 Like some pens
- 49 Midmorning
- 50 Design detail
- 53 Start of this century
- 54 Mr. Ziegfeld
- 56 Door sign
- 57 Cattle destination?
- 62 Of bears
- 64 Entree
- 65 Scythe carrier
- 66 Feel ill
- 67 Additional
- 68 Secret meeting
- 69 Nautical dir.
- 70 Home division
- 9 The latest 007 Magazine?
- 10 John of music
- 11 Sci-fi being
- 12 Austin Powers portrayer
- 15 Pale in color
- 17 Defat, as milk
- 20 Big time
- 25 Way out
- 26 Yard measure
- 27 Table item
- 29 Square-dance participant
- 30 As well
- 32 Exotic snacks?
- 35 Very busy
- 36 Unit of heredity
- 37 Garden spot
- 39 Busy IRS month
- 40 Sis or bro
- 41 Four furlongs
- 43 Letter carrier
- 46 Yellow color
- 47 Dallas coll.
- 48 Spirit
- 50 Geysers do it
- 51 More chaste
- 52 English assignment
- 55 Military command
- 58 Rested
- 59 European weight
- 60 Standard Oil successor
- 61 Yonder folks
- 63 It might come between Venus and Serena

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NOV 18 2004

# That's Racin'

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Go online and check out [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com) for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

## Who'll be taking the victory lap?

### The Nextel Cup title is up for grabs as the circuit enters the year's final race at Homestead

Matt Kenseth celebrates his 2003 title with a lap around Homestead-Miami Speedway. Kenseth had the title wrapped up before the year's final race.

BY CAMMY CLARK  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

After 35 races covering 10,484 laps for 14,056.6 miles, NASCAR's first Nextel Cup championship all comes down to Sunday's season finale Ford 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Hang on. Five big-name drivers have a shot. And it could come down to the last turn on the last lap.

Will the champion be NASCAR's villain turned choirboy Kurt Busch, who has let his driving do his talking this season?

Or Californian Jimmie Johnson with his Madison Avenue appeal and propensity to find Victory Lane?

Perhaps four-time champion Jeff Gordon, who helped drive NASCAR into the national spotlight during the past decade?

Or maybe NASCAR nation's favorite son Dale Earnhardt Jr., who would turn Homestead upside down if he pulled out the victory?

Or sentimental favorite Mark Martin, who at 45 has finished the championship four times as runner-up and four times in third and will retire after next season?

One thing is for certain: NASCAR is the big winner.

#### CLOSE FINISH

About the only way new CEO Brian France could have made the finish any more dramatic is if five points separated the top five instead of 82 — and if Tony Stewart was still a legitimate contender instead of just a mathematical one.

Only one other time in NASCAR's modern history, dating to 1975, has a season finale been this close.

In 1992 six drivers were separated by 113 points. The late Alan Kulwicki made up a 30-point deficit on the late Davey Allison and won the title by only 10 points over Bill Elliott.

It was the closest points finish in NASCAR history.

Sunday's season finale has the potential to rewrite history.

"[Sunday] is one race — go for broke," Gordon said. "We have nothing to lose but to go out there and give it all we've got and hope we come out on top."

"I don't want to do it by somebody having bad luck."

#### MORE SUSPENSE

Last year, fans at the Ford Championship Weekend were treated to two thrilling championship battles with five to six drivers still in contention in the NASCAR Truck and Busch Series races. It came down to the last turn of the last lap in both races.

Travis Kvapil pulled out the truck championship and Brian Vickers, who had just turned 20, won the Busch title.

But the final Winston Cup championship already had been decided a week earlier in Rockingham, N.C., when Matt Kenseth made it official after using consistent performances to lead the standings much of the season.

There was no suspense, and the Ford 400 didn't sell out until race day. This year it's been sold out for nearly a month.

Last season marked the fifth time in the past six seasons that the final race was meaningless in the championship battle. Imagine knowing before kickoff at the Super Bowl which team will win the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

France, who had taken over the helm of NASCAR from his

father, Bill France Jr., last September, was adamant about implementing a new points system that would create a sort of playoffs as opposed to a marathon grind.

France announced the new 10-race Chase for the Nextel Cup in January. The majority of drivers, teams and fans liked the format about as much as rain on race day.

"I wasn't that big a fan of it in the beginning," Martin said.

"But in my opinion now, it is probably the single best thing that has happened for race fans in my era."

#### NO SAFE ROUTE

Only twice in NASCAR's 55-year history has the points leader been overtaken in the final race. Richard Petty leapfrogged Darrell Waltrip to win the title in 1979 and Kulwicki overtook Allison in 1992.

The biggest deficit to overcome on the final day was Kulwicki's 30 points.

Busch's lead is 18 points on Johnson, 21 on Gordon, 72 on Earnhardt and 82 on Martin.

To put that in perspective, if Johnson won the race, Busch would have to finish second to claim the Nextel Cup. Busch also could win the crown if he finished third and led a lap or placed fourth and led the most laps.

But all the drivers in contention, even Busch, know they can't play it safe. Busch figures he likely will have to win at Homestead to win the title because of the number and quality of contenders.

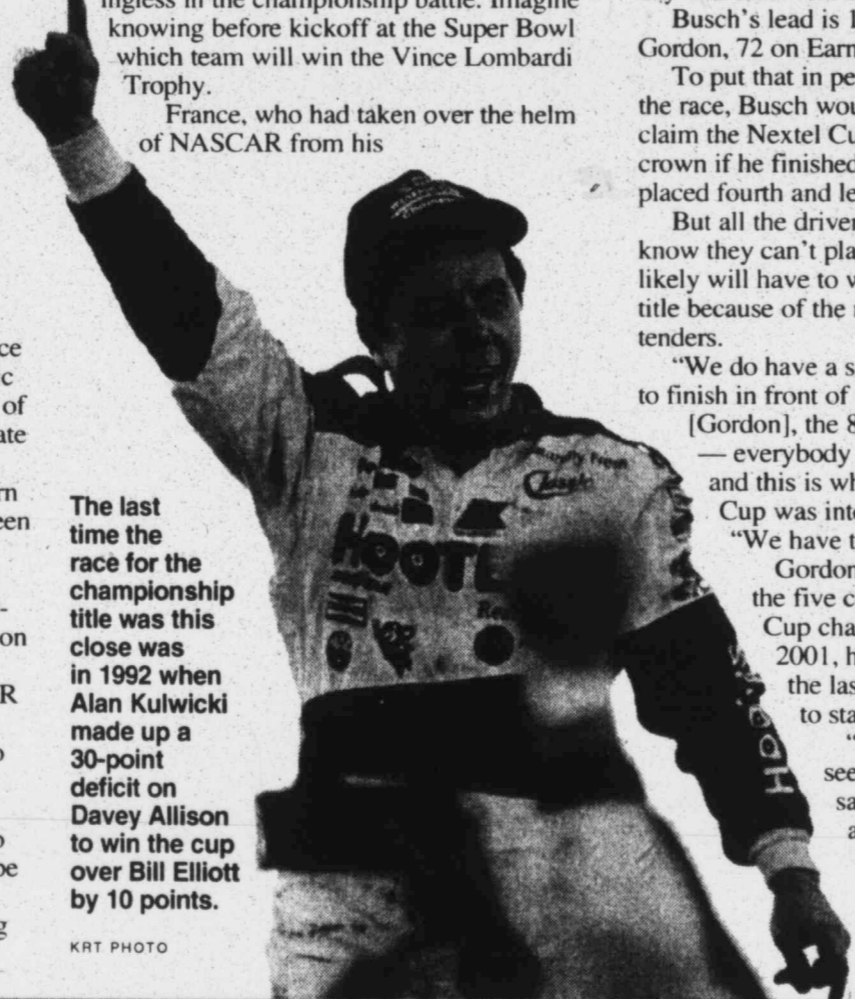
"We do have a slight advantage, but we need to finish in front of the 48 [Johnson], the 24 [Gordon], the 8 [Earnhardt], the 6 [Martin] — everybody is running competitively and this is what the Nextel Chase for the Cup was intended to do," Busch said.

"We have to go and win now." Gordon is the only driver among the five contenders who has won a Cup championship. But in 1998 and 2001, he clinched the title before the last race. In 1995, he only had to start his engine to win it all.

"The focus of the Chase seems to be greater," Gordon said. "The stakes of the accomplishment and what it's worth — not just monetarily [about \$5.5 million] — but what it means to be the first Nextel Cup champion."

The last time the race for the championship title was this close was in 1992 when Alan Kulwicki made up a 30-point deficit on Davey Allison to win the cup over Bill Elliott by 10 points.

KRT PHOTO



### RANKINGS THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

- 1. Kurt Busch (car No. 97):** Sixth-place finish at Darlington was an outstanding clutch performance to maintain Chase lead. Last week: 1.
- 2. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):** Speaking of clutch, a win this week would be five of the season's final six. Last week: 3.
- 3. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24):** Hasn't won a Chase race nor an event at Homestead. Needs to end both streaks to get his fifth title. Last week: 2.
- 4. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8):** Could still win title, but all three of the guys ahead of him need to finish outside the top 20. Last week: 4.
- 5. Mark Martin (car No. 6):** Could win the race at Homestead but still fall short of making up his 82-point deficit. Last week: 5.
- 6. Jamie McMurray (car No. 42):** Earned top 10s in 12 of the past 16 races. It'd be fitting for him to close the season with a win. Last week: 8.
- 7. Tony Stewart (car No. 20):** You get the feeling that Joe Gibbs Racing will have long work days this offseason. Last week: 7.
- 8. Ryan Newman (car No. 12):** A tale of two seasons. He won eight races in '03, but has eight did-not-finishes in '04. Last week: 6.
- 9. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38):** The goal for this team is to make sure it doesn't regress from the success it enjoyed this season. Last week: 9.
- 10. Joe Nemechek (car No. 01):** Had three top-10 finishes in the first 26 races but has twice that many in the past nine. Last week: 12.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com).

## Chase has given NASCAR what it was looking for

Even though the race for the Nextel Cup championship is all but over going into the final race, there'll still be things to watch for in the Ford 400 Sunday at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

There has been no first-time winner this season, so this could be the first year since 1993 a season has gone without one. No rookie has won this year, either, and a first-year driver has won a race every year since 1997.

Bored yet?

Folks like me usually have needed compelling tidbits like those to try to drum up interest in the waning days of NASCAR seasons.

Trust me, it can't be done.

Five times in the past six years, the championship had already been determined going into the last race. The smallest difference between first and second with one race to go in those five years was 211 points in 1999.

Only in 2002, when Tony Stewart

went to Homestead-Miami Speedway leading by 89 points, was there even a mathematical chance of the lead changing hands on the season's final day.

In the 29-year history of the previous championship system, the average margin between first and second with one race to go was 185 points. The difference between first and second was less than 100 points only 14 times.

Third place was within 100 points just four times, and fifth place was that close only once, in 1992.

So even though you don't have to like the new Chase for the Nextel Cup format, after Sunday's Southern 500 at

Darlington Raceway you simply cannot argue that it hasn't done exactly what it was designed to do.

Get used to reading these numbers, because you're going to see a lot of them this week. Kurt Busch leads Jimmie Johnson by 18 points, Jeff Gordon by 21, Dale Earnhardt Jr. by 72 and Mark Martin by 82 going into Sunday's Ford 400 at Homestead.

If you don't think all five have a shot at the title, you're nuttier than pecan pie.

It's true that for Earnhardt Jr. or Martin to win, they'd have to win at Homestead — or at least come close — while Busch, Johnson and Gordon would all have to falter. But two weeks ago at Atlanta, that's what happened.

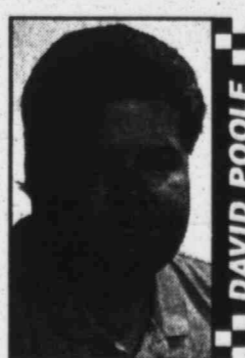
Busch, Gordon and Earnhardt Jr. were the top three in points going into that Oct. 31 race, and they all finished 33rd or worse.

If Johnson wins at Homestead and closes with five wins in the final six races, it'd be a shame if he doesn't win the championship. It also would renew calls to make winning a race worth more points, a criticism that's as valid in this system as it was in the former.

Busch, however, should not be underestimated. He got a few good breaks as he recovered from a difficult day to finish sixth at Darlington, but he and his race team made some of that "luck" by battling their handling problems tenaciously and ripping off a couple of good late-race pit stops to gain positions — and points.

Then there's Gordon, who already has four championships and is just 21 points back despite the fact he hasn't won a Chase race. Could it be that the other title hopefuls have let him and his team hang around too long?

We'll know soon enough.



DAVID POOLE

### THIS WEEK'S RACE

**FORD 400**  
Where: Homestead-Miami Speedway, a 1.5-mile banked paved oval located in Homestead, Fla.  
When: Sunday at 1 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 1:35 p.m. Friday.  
TV: NBC.  
Radio: Motor Racing Network.  
Purse: \$5,130,338.  
Last year's winner: Bobby Labonte.  
Worth noting: Tony Stewart is the only driver to lead at least one lap in four of the five Cup races held at Homestead. Stewart has led 296 of the 1,335 laps raced at the track.

### POLL POSITION

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**  
Five drivers are within 100 points of the lead with one race left. Who will win the championship?  
Cast your vote at: [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com)

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION**  
Four drivers are within 100 points of the lead with two races to go. How many will have a legitimate shot at the title at the start of the series finale at Homestead?  
Number of votes: 4,498

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
Three drivers	1,712	38%
Four drivers	1,640	36%
Two drivers	1,024	23%
One driver	122	3%

### STOP 'N' GO

**INSIDE HOMESTEAD**  
Things to look for as the Nextel Cup circuit concludes its season at Homestead:

- SUCCESSSES**
- Jimmie Johnson** has scored two top-10 finishes in three races at Homestead.
  - Jeff Gordon** has four top 10s in five races at the track. Only **Bobby Labonte** has tied his record. Gordon has never won at Homestead, one of four tracks that has eluded him.
- STUMBLERES**
- Kurt Busch** has competed in four races at Homestead with one top-10 finish, a victory in 2002. He finished 19th or worse in the other three races. His 19.75 average finish is seventh among the top-10 drivers.
  - Dale Earnhardt Jr.** has finished 13th or worse in all four of his races at Homestead.
  - Matt Kenseth** has finished 21st or worse in all four of his races at the track, including failing to finish his past two races there.
- Jim Utter



Johnson

### BY THE NUMBERS

**NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS**

The top-40 drivers as of Nov. 14:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. K. Busch (97) ...	6346	21. G. Biffle (16) ...	3712
2. J. Johnson (48) ...	6328	22. C. Mears (41) ...	3605
3. J. Gordon (24) ...	6325	23. R. Gordon (31) ...	3570
4. D. Earnhardt Jr. ...	6274	24. R. Rudd (21) ...	3362
5. M. Martin (6) ...	6264	25. T. Labonte (5) ...	3449
6. T. Stewart (20) ...	6161	26. B. Vickers (25) ...	3412
7. R. Newman (12) ...	6102	27. S. Wimmer (22) ...	3074
8. M. Kenseth (17) ...	5963	28. B. Gaughan (77) ...	3015
9. E. Sadler (38) ...	5963	29. J. Green (43) ...	3002
10. J. Mayfield (19) ...	5942	30. S. Riggs (10) ...	2972
11. J. McMurray (42) ...	4451	31. K. Schrader (49) ...	2944
12. K. Kahne (9) ...	4225	32. W. Burton (0) ...	2929
13. B. Labonte (18) ...	4145	33. K. Petty (45) ...	2811
14. D. Jarrett (88) ...	4123	34. J. Craven ...	2086
15. K. Harvick (29) ...	4094	35. J. Spencer ...	1969
16. J. Burton (30) ...	3847	36. J. Sauter (09) ...	1430
17. R. Wallace (2) ...	3813	37. D. Blaney ...	1307
18. J. Nemechek (01) ...	3796	38. C. Edwards (99) ...	1343
19. M. Waltrip (15) ...	3766	39. B. Hamilton Jr. (32) ...	1171
20. S. Martin (40) ...	3742	40. D. Cope (50) ...	1058

**BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS**

The top-20 drivers as of Nov. 13:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. M. Truex Jr. ...	5030	11. D. Stremme ...	3611
2. K. Busch ...	4773	12. K. Kahne ...	3604
3. G. Biffle ...	4434	13. M. Waltrip ...	3514
4. R. Hornaday ...	4107	14. R. Pressley ...	3513
5. D. Green ...	4045	15. S. Compton ...	3496
6. M. Bliss ...	4033	16. T. Fedewa ...	3380
7. J. Keller ...	3964	17. M. Wallace ...	3373
8. A. Lewis ...	3771	18. J. Sauter ...	3362
9. K. Wallace ...	3745	19. C. Alwood ...	3130
10. J. Leffler ...	3661	20. R. Gordon ...	3053

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Ford 300, Homestead, Fla.

**TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS**

The top-10 drivers as of Nov. 12:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. B. Hamilton ...	3509	6. D. Starr ...	3133
2. D. Setzer ...	3439	7. T. Kvapil ...	3046
3. T. Musgrave ...	3379	8. S. Park ...	3044
4. C. Edwards ...	3361	9. J. Sprague ...	3021
5. M. Crafton ...	3219	10. C. Chaffin ...	3004

NEXT RACE: Friday, Ford 200, Homestead, Fla.